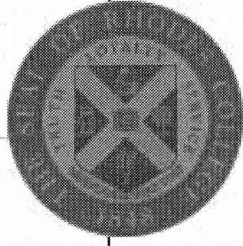


# THE SOU' WESTER

VOL. LXXX, No. 15

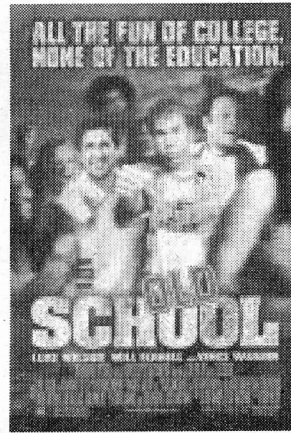
2.19.03



## Women's Basketball

Lady Lynx sweep weekend games, defeating Centre and Sewanee.

SeeSports



## Movies

Christian Masters reviews the new comedy Old School, starring Will Ferrell, Luke Wilson, and Vince Vaughn.

SeeA&E

## Mike Tyson to light-rail transit: current news of the city

By John Zeanah

Of the current news from Memphis, the most talked about event has certainly been the heavyweight boxing match between Mike Tyson and Clifford Etienne at the Pyramid. The fight, scheduled for Saturday, was called off Monday by Tyson, who claimed to be suffering from the flu.

The following day, Tyson announced he was fighting on Saturday, boarding a plane for Memphis. However Etienne has now decided he will not be fighting, although fight promoter Brian Young has affirmed that he is not officially out.

If Tyson had not recommitted to Saturday's bout, promoters would have lost between \$1.25 million and \$1.4 million and a deal with Showtime. If Etienne officially withdraws, he will be replaced this week by another fighter to face Tyson on Saturday.

Midtown business owners have organized to resist Memphis Area Transit Authority's light-rail transit plan running along Madison Avenue and Cooper Street. The group, called the Midtown Light Rail Oversight Committee, met at Zinnie's East last week, to organize their position that the project is too costly and would hurt business for months due to construction.

Mike Cooper, a spokesman for the group, stated the group proposed to take "alternative one off the table" at a Tucker-Jefferson Community Association meeting

on Monday, where officials from MATA presented plans for the light-rail.

William Hudson, President and General Manager of MATA, and Tom Fox, director of Planning and Capital Projects, presented maps of projected routes for the rail, construction impact mitigation plans, and long-term projected ridership statistics for the two route alternatives. Although the representatives from MATA repeated no decision had been made, Cooper and other Madison Avenue business owners reiterated that a light-rail line on Madison would decrease parking and deter traffic since Madison would be two lanes instead of four. He argued that Overton Square and Cooper Young are not pedestrian areas that would be suitable for a light-rail line with stations separated by an average of nine-tenths of a mile.

Business owners also expressed anger with MATA because the project is already in the late stages of planning. The project is estimated at \$400 million, with between \$100 million and \$200 million coming from Memphis taxpayers.

Downtown dance club Hollywood Raiford's will reopen after owner Robert Raiford entered a consent order with prosecutors. Raiford agreed not to hire anyone with a drug conviction in the last five years and to oppose and report drug activity that may occur in his club. After General Sessions Criminal Court Judge Larry Potter

agreed to let Raiford's re-open, the owner painted "No Illegal Drugs" along the wall of the club, and announced he would open on Friday.

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati and local housing finance partners have announced an award of \$5 million to create 400 units of affordable housing in Memphis and West Tennessee. The Affordable Housing Program funds were presented to Habitat for Humanity programs in West Tennessee, Alpha Omega Veterans Services, local counseling centers, and The Works, a community development corporation serving South Memphis.

The funding announcement was made by Carol Peterson of the Federal Home Loan Bank at a reception held on Monday at St. Andrew A.M.E. Church's community life center in South Memphis. Recently named Tennessee Health Commissioner, Reverend Kenneth Robinson, pastor of St. Andrew and CEO of The Works, opened the reception. Representative Harold Ford, Jr. was in attendance to congratulate the recipients and to encourage banks to continue affordable housing investment in Memphis.

*Some facts compiled from "Tyson-Etienne fight is off; flu gets blame," "Now it's Etienne who says he won't fight," and "No-drugs vow lets Raiford's reopen" from The Commercial Appeal.*

## Pro-peace rally held in Memphis

By Andrew Medlin

At noon on Saturday, February 15, an ugly and rainy day in Memphis, a modest crowd of two or three hundred pro-peace activists gathered at the federal building downtown to hold a rally. Speakers took their turns standing atop a ceramic plant, as if it were a



Photo by John Zeanah

## DISCUSSING WAR

Students and faculty gathered Tuesday night for one of the many recent panel discussions on the potential war with Iraq. Kim Hendrickson, a professor in the Political Science department, participated in a similar panel sponsored by the College Democrats on Wednesday, February 12.

soap box, and yelled to the crowd which was made up of, among others, about twenty Rhodes students and five Rhodes professors. A small crowd of "Thursday protesters," a group of Catholic ladies dressed in black and not skipping the funeral veils, also stood watch over the proceedings. One of them held a sign that read, "Grief is more powerful than hate."

There was a flurry of speakers, many of whom did not speak for more than a few minutes. One of these speakers lived in a neighborhood in which a "dirty bomb" had been stored, and as a result of the bomb's leakage, many people in her community had become sick. She related to the crowd that, as a result, the war was for her a "personal issue." Later, her mother, who had also been affected by this "dirty bomb" came to the middle of the crowd and announced a meeting at First Congregational Church on Saturday.

Around the world, however, pro-peace rallies surged. This was especially true in Europe, many of whose major cities experienced record-breaking droves who were in support of allowing U.N. inspection teams more time to gather information about Iraqi weapons capabilities. In London alone about 750,000 people showed up to protest the stance of their own government. In Paris about 300,000 gathered. Millions more gathered, even in Asian and African nations to protest American involvement in Iraq.

However, on Tuesday President Bush told the American people that he will not be swayed by the hordes of protesters, saying that they are irrelevant to his duty to protect America. Bush stated, "Size of protest, it's like deciding 'Well I'm going to decide policy based upon a focus group.' The role of a leader is to decide policy based upon the security...of the people."

"Some people in the world don't view Saddam Hussein as a risk to peace," he added. "I do."



Wednesday, February 19, 2003



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founded 1848

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**CARSON WEITNAUER** THE PERIPATETIC GADFLY

## Mr. Advice: Questions that hit home

To the Rhodes community: advice articles seem to be all the rage these days. You can get the right answer to important questions of etiquette, learn how to get a date with Mr. or Ms. Right, and what to do when your mother-in-law visits. All of those are important matters, in their context, and none of them are issues I find myself being asked about. Then again, none of the following letters are real either, but I think they have something important to teach us. If they hit close to home, I encourage you to ask yourself why.

Dear Mr. Advice,

Why do all the black kids sit together in the Rat? Do they not like the white people?

Sincerely,  
I. M. Colorblind

Dear Mr. Colorblind,

Why do all the white kids sit together in the Rat? Do they not like the black people? I encourage you to give "the black table" a shot, and see if it isn't one of the most welcoming, friendly tables in the entire Rat. Or, if that is not particularly convenient, come along to a BSA meeting.

Also, I happened to notice your name. I hope you can realize that to be "colorblind" is to miss the richness of eth-

nic and cultural differences. The goal of multiculturalism is not to increase sameness but to appreciate the beauty of unified diversity.

Yours,  
Mr. Advice

Dear Mr. Advice,

Why is that we have to have a Black History Month? I find it grossly unfair that there is no White History Month, when whites have been responsible for most of the progress in the modern world. Is this just another instance of the ultra-left PC movement pushing their warm fuzzy agenda?

Sincerely,  
—Bob President, White History Month Movement (WHMM)

Dear Bob,

As it turns out, the importance of Black History Month derives from neither the ultra-left PC movement or for the sake of warm fuzzies.

While it may be hard to believe now, before Black History Month, and its precursor, Negro History Week, most scholars actually thought there was no important black history worthy of discussion! Given that Caucasians currently have a disproportionate amount of cultural influence, the important contributions blacks have made to all areas of so-

ciety continue to be unfairly minimized in the classroom, the media, and in daily life.

For instance, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, W.E.B. Dubois, Booker T. Washington, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., and many others played a crucial role in American history by helping to rescue Americans—both black and white—from the moral evils of slavery, segregation, and racial injustice. Even so, Alabama did not manage to repeal laws against interracial marriage until 2000. In other words, we have a long way to go until we reach a truly integrated, harmonious society that values and appreciates all ethnicities and cultures (we barely mention here First Nations people, Chinese-Americans, Mexican-Americans and so on).

So before investing too much time in WHMM, consider that January, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December, as well as February in all probability, are already unofficial White History Months. Since black men and women are often not mentioned or, when noticed, not given fair attention in "traditional" historical studies, one important function of Black History Month is to help rectify this inequality. The

focus on underappreciated segments of culture and history serves as a corrective to our biased traditions and restores dignity to people who have falsely been told that their culture and ethnicity has made little to no impact on world history.

Yours,  
Mr. Advice

Dear Mr. Advice,

Why do those blacks get so worked up about affirmative action? Do they need the extra help? It just seems unfair to throw hard-working whites out of work, or deny them admission to a college because some black wants a hand-out. My dad is always telling me that the quotas he has to fulfill are really hurting business.

In pursuit of fairness,  
A Citizen For Social Justice

My fellow citizen,

I heard a great story once and I only wish I could give credit to the person who first thought it up. Apparently there was once a football game about two years ago in which the coach of one team used some particularly dirty tricks to help his team out. So at halftime they had racked the score up to 56-9. Well, as that coach went into the locker room, he was overcome with remorse at how he had cheated, so he went and confessed the error of his ways to the other team. The other team generously offered to put the mistakes of the past

behind them, and asked that the next half be played fairly. The coach of the first team had thought an apology was sufficient, so it took some time for him to realize that he also needed to stop cheating. As the other team grew more insistent, he finally realized that was the thing to do. Shockingly enough, the team that was cheated on then asked to have the score made even! Now, some might call that affirmative action—and others would properly consider it the just and right thing to do. I've also heard that some radicals, reflecting on this story, apparently went so far as to suggest that both teams would both be a lot stronger and effective if they weren't always competing but also sharing their distinctive strengths with each other.

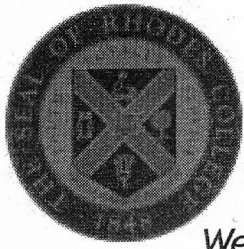
Let me conclude by encouraging you to look beyond the stereotypes you may have of black men and women. Intentionally engage yourself in some cross-cultural friendships. Not cross-cultural projects (they really don't need the Great White Messiah riding in to help them), but friendships. While I am not a prophet, I do predict that the great majority of black men and women are not looking for handouts, but a leveling of the playing field and maybe even some teamwork.

Yours,  
Mr. Advice

*Here at The Sou'wester,  
we always want to know  
what you're thinking.*

So we can publish it.

**EMAIL HALMN WITH SUBMISSIONS.**



Wednesday, February 19, 2003

PAGE 3  
**OPINION**

CHRISTIAN MASTERS STAFF COLUMNIST

## *Morality dangerous in political agenda*

I want to warn you beforehand that I am not particularly aware of societal theory, so my opinion might read as nothing but cynical rehash. What little I do know of our history and political agenda has me worried, and perhaps the more enlightened of you can clear things up for me. Judging by the way the United States has established itself domestically, and continues to do so, I am afraid that our country can never become stable, or for lack of a better word, safe.

One of my problems is the fact that American identity rests on a paradox. We are all different, and yet, at certain times, we're the same. This standard perplexes me. Being in a state of confusion, people are naturally forced to find some external moral determinant. In this case, it is the government. Being part of a democracy, why shouldn't we turn to those whom the majority has deemed 'capable of ruling' to be our ethical gurus? The answer is simple; such action affords the governing body a power which can be too easily abused.

Unity has always been the most efficient method of getting things done. By lulling the population into a moral dependency, in being able to influence what is right and wrong, the political body is more likely to enact whatever its agenda might be. This is not some conspiratorial attempt at grabbing world power or domination; it is a matter of logistics, of being able to act without being tied down in negotiations and bureaucracy. Because of the comfort behind getting things done with less justification, the government perpetuates

the American existential paradox. Unfortunately, were our foreign and local policy to become slightly more selfish on the politicians' behalf, there would be no restraining buffer. All they need to do is add a moral spin to the situation, and they will have found warrant.

And so today the patriotic call to arms has again

---

*"We cannot perpetuate the roles that have so long cemented people into their respective social standings."*

---

been sounded, and the citizenry is reduced to a uniform mass. The Iraqis, the terrorists, are the bad guys, determined to extinguish peace, so we must eradicate them. We will annihilate conflict with conflict. But what of individualism? Perhaps I can stand here, alone, and negotiate this homogeneous hurricane or, better yet, fight it with every fiber of my being. I can annihilate conflict with conflict. No, now all I've done now is imposed my personal moral views in the place of the ruling power's. And anarchy? Now the great mass is reduced to nothing but chaos; every individual's voice is just as important and, unfortunately, just as worthless. Inactivity? No, because then the people being active will continue to have their way with history. At any rate, I have just pitted myself against the greatest economic power on Earth, and my comic gesture will very likely be repressed in some

form or another before I affect any change.

Is there a practical solution? I do not know what is practical, because any change will have to move against two hundred years of political inertia. As long as there is a dialectic, between a robotic 'collective' and radical individualists, there will be a stalemate. One supports sameness, the other irreconcilable difference. Perhaps part of the solution will be to question our notion of unity; since when did this have to connote sameness? Is there a possible dimension in which we are all unified in an American identity that still allows for cultural, religious, and ethnic differences? I believe so, but only as long as we do not demarcate them as differences, but rather as preferences or characteristics.

We cannot perpetuate the roles that have so long cemented people into their respective societal standings, even if we put a positive spin on it. When we have any structure that supports people as being fundamentally different for whatever reason, America calls for homogeneity. Our aversion towards the "other" causes conflict between these random cells. As long as these systems are maintained, any efforts at racial and/or gender symbiosis will result in implosion. We must declare a foundational American morality, one that caters to the majority while at the same time allowing the minority a voice; in a sense, we create a hybrid, fluctuating force. We can be unified without being uniform. So what if this idealist fantasy makes things difficult and slows things down in a planet that rewards speed and efficiency. Isn't peace worth it?

TED STONBELY I DON'T WANT A BYLINE

## *The Bush administration: a dangerous regime*

In reviewing President Bush's actions, I am once again truly saddened by the state of affairs. His new tax cut will lead to huge deficits that will sink our economy into the ground, leaving people jobless and capital concentrated in closed hands. The claim that it will benefit most Americans is an outright falsehood, seeing as most Americans do not directly invest in the stock market, and any new dividends they might receive from pension funds would only be put away into savings accounts. How will this benefit the economy?

Bush's environmental policies have been proven to be beneficial to the oil, automobile, and utility companies. He has abandoned a pledge to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, pushed to open ANWR to oil drilling, weakened the standards for arsenic in the water, rolled back power plant pollution standards, and repealed rules requiring older factories to cut pollution emissions. The U.S. was also the only major country not present at the UN Summit on Sustainable Development and has rejected the Kyoto Protocol without offering alternatives. This is only a slice of the environmental damage he is willing to put into his policies.

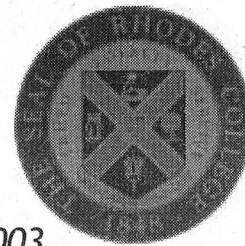
The president has come out officially against affirmative action, is breaking the divide between state and church, is alienating our long-time friends and allies, and is ultimately killing what little democracy this country has enjoyed during its existence.

Foreign policy is another matter. Bush and his crackpot team of aces in the White House have really made a total mess of the current geo-political scene. France's wines were almost banned in our country because Speaker of the House Hastert believes they don't lend enough support to our country's thirst for blood. Not to worry, we have secured new comprehensive partnerships with Italy, Spain, Latvia, and Romania. Not to downplay these countries, but they are not quite the solid allies

we should be depending on. Donald Rumsfeld has relegated Germany to the same realm as Cuba and Libya, for which he should be fired. Granted, Schröder is a political animal that won a campaign based heavily on anti-American rhetoric, but that does not mean we shouldn't listen to the people, who, with or without Schröder, were going to oppose this war. However, they have their own problems that will have to be dealt with, seeing as their economy is failing as well.

Hans Blix has basically refuted most of Colin Powell's speech to the Security Council, yet the administration continues to think that there is clear evidence supporting an invasion. I believe that the major point which was to sell the world on our military action, Hussein's link to Al Qaeda, is false. I believe this primarily because the goals of Osama Bin Laden include removing the present regimes that control the Arab world, so I would not think that Saddam would willingly aid and arm Bin Laden for fear that he would destabilize his own rule. We have offered no peace initiative for the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and refuse to believe that the two are interconnected. The American administration also believes that invading and, for all intents and purposes, colonizing an Arab state will reduce terrorism, abate anti-Americanism, and diminish fundamentalism. They also believe that "liberating" (invading) Iraq will be short and easy; yet have reduced the threshold for use of nuclear weapons, and the Pentagon has made plans for mass graves for victims of chemical or biological weapons.

See America, Page 5



## Week in Review

### International

**LIBERIA** Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), a group of rebels opposed to President Charles Taylor, are within 24 miles of capital city Monrovia battling government troops from all sides. The heavily-armed insurgents, who displayed their power by firing into the air, are helped in their cause by the fact that many government soldiers are occupied in Monrovia. The Liberian Defense Minister plans to impose a severe penalty on those caught wasting ammunition.

**SOUTH KOREA** Soon after a North Korean threat to break from the armistice which ended the Korean War in 1953, South Korean President Kim Daejung insisted there is no possibility of a new war in Korea. Kim, however, strongly urges diplomatic talks between the

U.S. and North Korea to help curb the country which White House officials consider full of empty threats. Next week President Kim ends his five-year term, passing the torch to newcomer Roh Moohyun.

### National

**TEXAS** Officials in the Department of Transportation have confirmed that the space shuttle *Columbia* was losing as-yet unidentified chunks even over California, a full six minutes before it crashed over Texas and Louisiana. Unfortunately, officials worry that the pieces would have been so small that they feasibly might have burned up before reaching the ground. The exact cause of the crash is still in debate, but information about these fragments could be a missing link.

*All news compiled from CNN.com*

## College Democrats sponsor panel on Iraq

*By Ted Storbely*

Last Wednesday the College Democrats presented a forum on the possible war on Iraq. It was a five-member panel that included Professors Hendrickson, Cullen, and Wirls from the political science department and Professors Kaltenthaler and Wiktorowicz from the International Studies department.

Brett Ramsey ('03), president of Rhodes College Democrats introduced the panel to the hundred or so audience members consisting of mostly students. Dr. Cullen acted as moderator for the panel which delved

into the topics associated with the possible war. Discussion ranged from the justifications for the action to the aftermath of invasion.

Both a pro- and anti-war opinion was expressed at the panel, but all agreed that war was almost surely going to happen.

The public forum portion was lively with debate and strong opinion. One student expressed her dismay that oil was not mentioned in the debate about motives for the war. Others brought up North Korea and Iran, while others addressed historical precedents that show America's support for Saddam Hussein before his invasion of Kuwait in 1991, even while he used chemical weapons.

It was apparent that many of those who voiced their opinions were con-

cerned about how the war might affect our relations with our allies and the multilateral institutions that America was instrumental in establishing. People were eager and willing to criticize the rush to war and the hushed debate this administration has imposed on its citizens.

Overall, the audience participation revealed deep sentiments in the student body, mostly against military action for fear of its aftermath and its imperialist overtones.

After the discussion people stayed behind to engage the panelists directly about some of the issues that were raised. This panel is part of the beginning dialogue on campus about the war with Iraq. Other panels were held Tuesday, February 11, and Tuesday, February 18.

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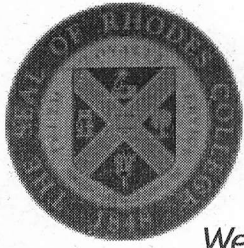
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Wednesday, January 22, 2003

## Campus Safety

2.10.03-2.16.03

2/10		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
2/11	2:50 p.m.	Refectory - Larceny of a company check and forgery. Suspect has been identified. Prosecution pending.
	6:05 p.m.	Intimidation/Suspicious Person: Unwanted phone and email contact from non Rhodes person. Subject contacted and warned to cease all further contact with student.
2/12	1:25 p.m.	University Street North of Phillips Lane: Car broken into, stereo system stolen. No suspects. No video evidence at this time.
	6:55 p.m.	Alley in the rear of Stewart Hall: Indecent Exposure: Male exposing himself to resident, ran west through the alley. Searched area, unable to locate suspect.
2/13		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
2/14	11:45 a.m.	East Drive - Vehicle Accident
2/15	2:31 a.m.	Fraternity Row - Suspicious persons. Two subjects stopped from entering fraternity houses. Non Rhodes persons, stating "they were looking for a party". Escorted off campus.
	11:00 p.m.	White Hall - Fire alarm: Okay, no fire.
2/16	1:30 p.m.	BCLC - Suspicious persons (3). Escorted off campus.

### STATS

ACCESSES:	101	VISITORS:	1,074
CITATIONS:	117	PROPPED DOORS:	4
ESCORTS:	17	JUMPS:	2
BOOTS:	0	TOWS :	0
AVs:	0		

**Want people to think you are cool?**

We did not think so.  
Write for *The Sou'wester*.

**EVERY TUESDAY**

## 2 Free Sides!

Sides include:  
• Ind. Washed Potatoes with Gravy  
• Ind. Cole Slaw

With the purchase of 2 or 3 pieces of chicken and a biscuit at regular price.

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**EVERY THURSDAY**

## 3 Crispy Strips \$1.99

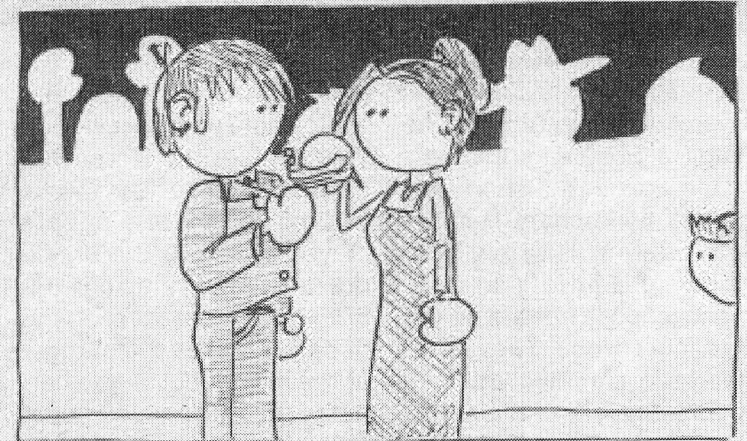
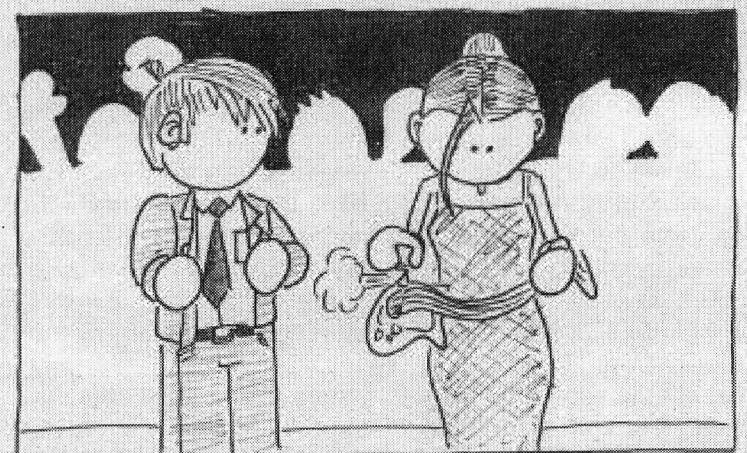
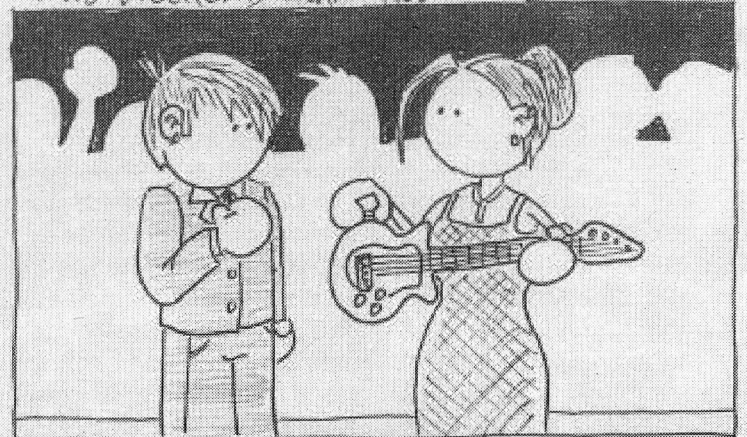
Meal includes:  
• Ind. Washed Potatoes with Gravy  
• Ind. Cole Slaw

America, continued from page 3

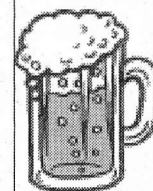
Where do they get these ideas? Why do they think that this is the only viable means of providing security? Don't they listen? Did they not hear the millions of protesters around the world marching to stop this coming war? I know that Bush did, and his response was, "We don't make policy based on focus groups." That seems like a silly thing to say when you look at the small interest groups for whom he is constructing policy. It is not in the best interests of this country to increase (?) emissions, roll back environmental protections, purport unilateral and imperial actions, and give tax cuts to the rich while people are jobless and struggling in this country. Where is the common sense in this administration?

Any citizen, black, white, rich, poor, and all the other divisions that make up this country should be frightened by what is happening to our government, our country, and the world. All citizens should push their hardest for a world that can engage in dialogue and debate and should consider how the actions of one or a few affect the many because our war is going to lead to more war.

THIS WEEKEND LOGAN WHEELER.

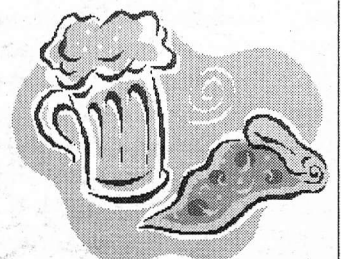


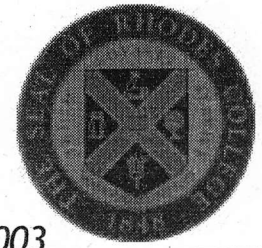
Looking for a way to spend that new \$50 on your Lynx card?



You are in luck; Thirsty Thursdays are back.

This Thursday, February 20, *The Sou'wester* and Aramark present Thirsty Thursday featuring \$1 bottled beer and whole pizzas for \$9.99.





## REVIEW

*Losing at the dating game: a look at  
How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*

By Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier

This Valentine's season Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson star in the new romantic comedy *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*. The idea for the movie came from a picture book by Michele Alexander and Jeannie Long outlining the dos and don'ts of dating.

Andie Anderson (Hudson) works for a top-selling woman's fashion magazine and takes on the unique assignment of studying the dating game between men and women by vowing to lose a guy in ten days by doing everything women do wrong in a relationship. Her unassuming, but not completely innocent victim Ben Barry (McConaughey), a sports advertising agent, has his own secret. If he can make a girl of his rivals' choosing fall in love with him in ten days he lands a prestigious advertising account. His rivals, played by Michael Michele and Shalom Harlow, who know of Andie's assignment, choose her as the girl Ben must woo. The games between the two doomed lovers ensue and the result is something neither of them expects.

*How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* should have been entitled *How a Woman Can Lose Her Self-respect in 10 Days*. Yes, we agree that this movie is entertaining and laugh out loud funny, and it features the added pleasure of the occasional topless visual of Matthew McConaughey; however, we also had some problems with the issues addressed in this film. Andie plays out every stereotypical and unbelievable action that women do when dating a man. Yes, her assignment

is to take all of the stereotypes and push a man away, but the movie makes it seem that most women actually make composite pictures of herself and her boyfriend to predict what their children will look like after they have been dating for only a week, or that most women call their new boyfriend in the middle of the night to tell him, in detail, what she ate that day. The film portrays women as overemotional, controlling psychos, which fits well with Andie's mission; however, most normal women, who do not have serious emotional issues, do not act this way in real life.

Although both characters are involved in major deceit, Ben gets the brunt of the blame for his part in the lie, while Andie plays the victim. This displays the stereotype of men being the "liar," while in this case both people played a part in the breakdown of the relationship. Bringing out the stereotypes of dating serves the purpose of the movie, but it also perpetuates those stereotypes that are often not true.

Despite the problematic issues in the movie, it was highly entertaining. The pairing of Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson was practically unstoppable and it was for once a romantic comedy both men and women can enjoy. In some ways the film is true to life, illustrating that dating between men and woman is a messy, unpredictable game. Even though we may not like to admit it, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* exposes some that come with the harsh realities of trying to find a mate in this world of uncertainty.

## Old School presents an entertaining look back at college life

By Christian Masters

Movie studios know the guaranteed market for movies like *Old School*, and usually end up regurgitating a boring, exploitive "comedy" for a quick dollar (*Out Cold* and *Saving Silverman* come to mind). *Old School*, however, is different, thanks to an excellent cast and a refusal to adhere to a tired formula. While the movie does slow down in some areas, mostly where it reverts to cliché, almost all of the director's experimentation works great, and the level of comedy is almost as consistent as the inevitable classic, *Animal House*. *Old School* more than earns the price of admission and will definitely find its way into many students' future movie collections.

The basic premise of the movie involves a disillusioned trio of men trying to reclaim the spontaneity they had during their college years. Worn down by family obligation and employment,

they find an opportunity for escape when Mitch (Luke Wilson) moves into a house a few blocks from the local campus. Beanie (Vince Vaughn), throws a Mitchapalooza party, complete with a rather extended Snoop Dogg appearance, to commemorate Mitch's new bachelordom (his last girlfriend turned out to be more liberal than anticipated). Their friend Frank (Will Ferrel) pushes the party to legendary status by reverting into his alter-ego, "Frank the Tank." The morning after Mitchapalooza, the gang decides to form a fraternity, much to the dismay of their former schoolmate Dean Prichard (Jeremy Priven), who antagonizes their every step.

Will Ferrel's rather quirky antics dominate the movie, even though the spotlight focuses mostly on Wilson. Instead of a Belushi-esque chaos, Ferrel plays the part straight; his character will explode in a random outburst, but it's immediately followed by a near-schizo-

phrenic attack of conscience. The uncertainty in Ferrel's eyes gives him great charisma, which seduced me into watching his every suspenseful twitch as I waited for the next breakdown.

Both Vaughn and Wilson handle their roles well, though perhaps the certainty that they will never go "too far" reduced my investment in their story. The predictability in Wilson's wounded ego and Vaughn's machismo forecasts a few of their scenes, and the pace drags as we move towards the unavoidable outcomes of the individual predicaments. They each have their moments; however, Vaughn's two-faced angst provides most of the initial humor, and Luke Wilson's rise to become the "Godfather" is quite amusing to watch. Priven's portrayal of the enemy, Dean Prichard, is perfectly one-dimensional; he basks in the sarcastic storming demanded of his character. Also provid-

*Old School, continued on Page 7*

## International Blues Challenge rocks Beale Street

By Margie Hall

From January 30th to February 1st, audiences on Beale Street laughed, cried, sympathized, and generally enjoyed the show as 68 acts competed in the 19th annual International Blues Challenge. Atlanta, Georgia's Delta Moon, characterized by their double-slide guitar sound, took top honors in the final round of competition on Saturday night. Finalists competed before a crowd of 1200 that filled the New Daisy Theatre to capacity.

In order to compete in the IBC, each band contended in regional competitions sponsored by blues societies that are affiliated with Memphis' Blues Foundation, which presented the competition. Delta Moon represented the Charlotte Blues Society. Representing Nashville's Music City Blues Society was second-place finisher Stacy Mitchart. Teeny Tucker and Drivin' Wheel, who finished third, appeared on behalf of the Columbus Blues Alliance. Also participating in the finals were the Bad News Blues

Band (Phoenix Blues Society), the River Babies (Louisiana Blues Preservation Society), Mojo and the Boogiemens (Detroit Blues Society), the Alex Maryol Band (Sonny Boy Blues Society), and Mike Guldin Rollin' and Tumblin'.

The winners of the competition received \$20,000 in cash and prizes, coveted gigs, and radio airtime. As well they are now the possessors of the unofficial title of "Best Unsigned Blues Band" as the event is

*Blues, continued on Page 7*

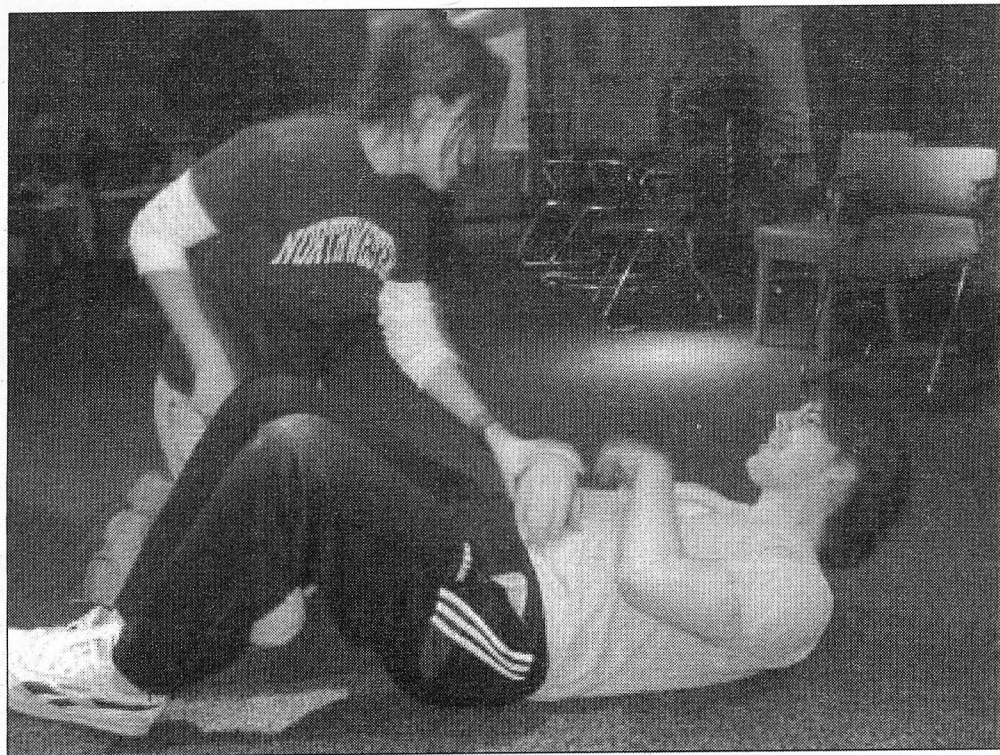


Photo by Adam Richardson

**REHEARSING FOR "THE BARD"**

Above: Erin McGhee ('06) and Travis Williams ('05) rehearse their parts of Ophelia and Laertes, respectively, in the upcoming McCoy production of Hamlet. Directed by Cookie Ewing, this production of Hamlet will come to life April 10-12 and 24-27.

Blues, continued from Page 6

considered to be the preeminent showcase of unsigned talent in the industry. Accolades were also given out to solo acts; Australian traditional Delta stylist Fiona Boyes won the solo/duo competition on Friday, and Stacy Mitchhart of Stacy Mitchhart received the prestigious Albert King award for the most promising guitarist.

The International Blues Challenge was a part of a larger weekend put on by the Blues Foundation. The weekend is entitled BluesFirst, and consists, in addition to the IBC, of panels in which

experts interact with audiences on matters of concern to blues professionals and enthusiasts. Numerous networking opportunities for blues societies associated with the Blues Foundation occur throughout the weekend, as blues performers and fans come from around the world to participate. Another highlight of the weekend is the Keeping the Blues Alive luncheon, at which the prestigious KBA awards are given to non-performers who contribute significantly behind the scenes.

BluesFirst was even more consequential this year due to the Congressional designation of 2003 as the "Year of the

Blues." The IBC kicked off the celebrations; other highlights include a concert that took place at Radio City Music Hall on February 7th and the upcoming PBS documentary series *The Blues*, which will run in September and will be produced by Martin Scorsese.

The Blues Foundation's next large event will be the W.C. Handy Music awards, which will take place on May 22nd. For more information on the Blues Foundation and the Handy awards, visit [www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org).

For more information on the IBC winners, Delta Moon, visit [www.deltamoon.com](http://www.deltamoon.com).

**AOII Heartthrob Winners**

Male Student  
**Mills Ramsay**

Female Student  
**Kathlene Caldwell**

Faculty/Staff  
**Officer Humphries**

*Thank you to all of the participants!*

Yusef Komunyakaa's reading originally scheduled for Thursday, February 20th at 7:30 p.m. in McCallum Ballroom has been postponed. *The Sou'wester* will announce the new date and time when it becomes available.

Old School, continued from Page 6

ing some interesting variety are Andy Dick (as an eccentric guru of sorts) and Sean William Scott (a petting zoo manager, Oscar nomination sure to follow). For fans of *The Daily Show*, Rob Corddry is cast in this movie as a pledge, but all he does is hover in the background! He stands out in every scene and never says even a single word, which is frustrating to anyone aware of the comedian's talent.

To best situate this movie in the genre I would call it a cross between *Animal House* and *Office Space*. It is not quite as good as *Animal House*, or as ready for classic status, but the laughs are more consistent than in *Office Space*, and this makes for a more entertaining experience. There are several memorable moments, especially involving a bread machine that assumes a near fruitcake-like worthlessness and Vaughn's use of ear

muffs to protect his child from the vulgar proceedings of the house.

*Old School* also borrows from the subtlety of the National Lampoon series. A careful eye can pick up hilarious background moments, the most notable of these being a rambling wedding singer who provides several beautiful, heartfelt, love songs. The climax is abrupt and too tidy; if they are attempting to introduce some kind of morality, the preaching comes a little too late in the movie.

The good far outweighs the bad in this movie, however, and I walked away with a smile. There was plenty of chuckling discussion leaving the theater, especially among those who stayed for the credits, which treated us to a few extra scenes. This is a movie to catch with friends, especially on a weekend afternoon!

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**How to Reach Our Authors and Us**

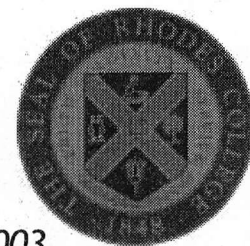
As the official student newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by the students on staff. It functions independently of faculty and administration. The newspaper is published weekly throughout the fall and spring semesters, except during exam periods and breaks.

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, February 19, 2003

## Lady Lynx sweep final home weekend, defeat Centre 74-71

By Lane Young

On Sunday, February 16, the Lynx hosted Centre College in a pivotal SCAC match-up to determine final SCAC standings and post-season conference tournament pairings. In an extremely physical and competitive contest, Rhodes defeated the regionally-ranked Colonels by the final score of 74-71. The win secured a top-three SCAC finish for the Lynx, marking their best conference finish since the 1996-97 season.

Lynx freshman forward Taylor Cook, from Randolph, NJ, continued to dominate offensively, scoring 28 points. She went ten for 16 from the field to lead all scorers. Senior guard Anna Kizer, from Chapel Hill, NC, finished the game with 15 points and senior guard Rosemary Boner, from Stone Mountain, GA, added 12 points and seven steals to help lead the Lynx to victory.

In a first half that included several lead changes and five ties, the Colonels held a slim 37-35 lead at half-time. The Lynx led 24-14 with

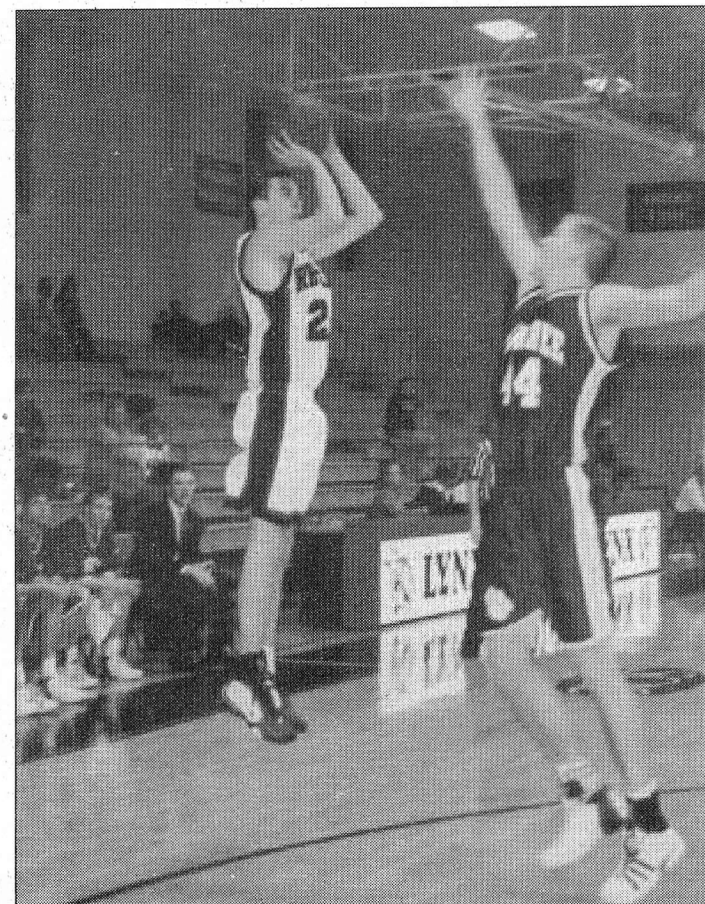
10:55 to go in the first half as Kizer and Cook each scored nine points to help Rhodes to the early ten point lead. Centre battled their way back through strong free-throw shooting; the Colonels went 15-17 from the line in the firsthalf, Rhodes was only able to get to the line four times, going two for four.

The second half was no different than the opening period, as the score was tied four times, and neither team was able to gain a lead larger than six points. Trailing 64-61 with 5:02 to go in the game, Boner knocked down her second three-pointer of the game to even the score at 64-64. Centre would then knock down two free-throws; however sophomore guard Jayna Kelly, from Memphis, TN, knocked down a jumper off of a Lindsey Spellings ('05) pass to knot the score at 66-66.

Following a missed second free-throw by Centre's Virginia Lowrey, Cook knocked down a jumper to give the Lynx a 68-67 lead. Centre answered with a jumper of their own, but Lynx freshman

guard Rachel Hettinger, from Leawood, KS, grabbed two offensive rebounds and knocked down a jumper of her own to give the Lynx a 70-69 lead they would not relinquish over the final minute of the game.

The win marked Rhodes' ninth win in their last 12 contests and improved their overall record to 13-8 on the season (9-4 SCAC). Rhodes will host Central Baptist College this Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. before traveling to Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas to conclude regular season conference play. The 2003 SCAC Women's Basketball Tournament kicks off the following Thursday, February 27, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. on the campus of Rhodes College with opening round match-ups. For more information about the 2003 SCAC Women's Basketball Tournament visit: <http://www.scac-online.org/bballtourney.htm>.



**MEN'S BASKETBALL TAKES ON SEWANEE**

Photo by Miriam Dolin

Senior forward Justin Myers attempts a three-point shot during the Lynx's game against Sewanee. The men's basketball team nearly won, losing to the Tigers by a score of 77-76 on Friday, February 14.

## Rhodes defeats Sewanee 72-54 on Senior Night

By Lane Young

On Friday, February 14, the Lady Lynx hosted The University of the South (Sewanee) and came away with a victory over the visiting Tigers on Senior Night at Mallory-Hyde Gymnasium. Rhodes held a slim 35-30 lead at the half; however, an Anna Kizer three-pointer with 10:20 to go in the game started a 20-7 run by the Lynx that would ultimately secure the 72-54 win for Rhodes.

Freshman forward Taylor Cook, from Randolph, NJ, led all scorers with 22 points. She went seven for 12 from the field, two for two from three-point range, and six for six from the free-throw line. Cook also added four rebounds, three steals, one assist, and one block in 27 minutes of play. Senior guard Anna Kizer, from Chapel Hill, NC, added 19 points to go along with her three assists and three steals.

Junior guard Lora Filsinger, from Bartlett, TN, added ten points to help lead Rhodes to the win.

The night was much more than another victory for Rhodes College women's basketball; it was also a celebration of the outstanding accomplishments of the 2002-2003 seniors: Rosemary Boner, from Stone Mountain, GA, and Anna Kizer.

Kizer, a four-year starter at shooting guard for the Lynx has had a huge impact on the women's basketball program since her arrival in Memphis. Kizer recently became only the seventh member of the Lynx 1000 point club. She is currently the fifth leading scorer in Rhodes women's basketball history and is 20th in the SCAC in career points with 1,111. An All-SCAC selection in 2002, Kizer also holds the Lynx record for single season free-throw percentage at 85.1 percent, which she set last season and is currently third in

the SCAC in scoring with 15.7 points per game. She was named captain this season and has been a part of three consecutive Lynx winning seasons.

Boner has been a fixture at the point guard position for the Lynx since her first collegiate game. A four-year starter at the point guard position, she has become the most versatile player on the team, sometimes being asked to play all five positions in a single contest. The three-year captain holds the SCAC record for career and single season steals, and recently tied the conference record for steals in a game with ten last week at Rose-Hulman. In addition to her impressive defensive records, she also holds the Lynx record for career assists. Boner was voted the league's Defensive Player of the Year in 2002 and All-SCAC in 2001. She currently leads the Lynx in steals per game at 5.3 and ranks fifth in steals per game for all of NCAA Division III basketball.



**SENIORS HONORED IN PRE-GAME CEREMONY**

Photo by Miriam Dolin

Seniors Anna Kizer (third from right) and Rosemary Boner (second from left) pose for a photograph with their families during the Lynx basketball team's annual Senior Night on Friday, February 14. The ceremony was held to honor these seniors' contributions to the Lynx basketball program during their athletic careers at Rhodes.