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Anti-war movement begins at Rhodes

By Andrew Medlin

Organized by a handful of students interested in channeling the anti-war sentiment that exists on campus, a movement against the United States' potential war with Iraq is beginning at Rhodes College. The organizers, Chris Alexander ('03) and Andrew Medlin ('03), are responsible for the seven-page lists of United States sanctions against Iraq that have been posted on the doors of Briggs Student Center and Palmer Hall.

The campus anti-war movement has begun rather late, in that President Bush's approval rating has already dipped 15 to 20 points since his record-breaking showing no more than a year ago. Anti-war sentiment is now at its high point, which is evidenced by the 200,000 people who showed up in Washington D.C. last Saturday to protest, and unless these protests are cut off by the United States movement into Iraq, anti-war sentiment seems ready to swell to levels unseen since Vietnam.

According to an Internet article by Jeremy Hardy about United States involvement in Iraq "sanctions (by the United States against Iraq) have contributed to the deaths of 500,000 children since the Gulf War, and 800,000 are chronically malnourished." This information comes from UNICEF, an agency of the United Nations.

From the book *War on Iraq*, William Rivers Pitt and former United Nations Inspector Scott Ritter state that "since 1998, Iraq has been fundamentally disarmed: 90-95% of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction capability has been verifiably eliminated. This includes all of the factories used to produce chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons, and long-range ballistic missiles; the associated equipment of these factories; and the vast majority of the products coming out of these factories."

Pitt and Ritter also state that "in the aftermath of the war, the economic sanctions against Iraq were held in place. Over a million Iraqi civilians have died since as a result of the deprivations created by these sanctions."

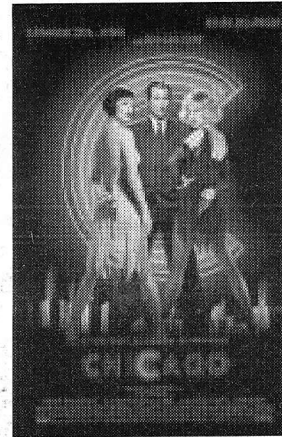
In reference to ex-*Washington Times* military analyst Philip Gold, who has openly questioned and criticized US involvement in Iraq, Bruce Ramsey writes, "Gold comes into his arguments loaded with historical facts. He asks: What was the last time US forces took a major city that was seriously defended? Manila, in 1944." Recalling United States interventions into Beirut and Mogadishu, Gold states, "Since Vietnam, whenever we've been hit, we run."

In the following weeks, the first goal of the campus anti-war movement is to organize a preliminary meeting during which the movement will be

NFL

Stu Johnston and John Zeanah offer their picks for Super Bowl XXXVII between the Oakland Raiders and Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

SeeSports



Review

Amanda Moshier and Sarah Clark review the Golden Globe award-winning musical Chicago.

SeeA&E

formally organized based on level of support. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, and information is forthcoming concerning times, dates, and places. All of campus is encouraged to attend, if only to hear the arguments of the movement. Ultimately a "teach-in" will be organized for the purpose of bringing speakers to campus to educate listeners concerning the anti-war effort. For more information about the movement, contact either Alexander or Medlin.

Board discusses Rhodes vision

By John Zeanah

The spring meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday for the purpose of organizing into committees to determine the focus of Rhodes in the coming months. The theme for the meeting, phrased by President Troutt, was "Affirming Our Vision" of the future of Rhodes College.

In President Troutt's opening speech to the Board, he highlighted in his vision statement the campus goal to graduate students who hold "passions for learning, compassion for others" and can translate "academics and personal concern into effective leadership and action in their communities and the world." He reemphasized the four student imperatives of student access, student learning, student engagement, and student inspiration.

The goals of many of the committees addressed the imperative of student access, attracting a talented, diverse student body. The imperative of

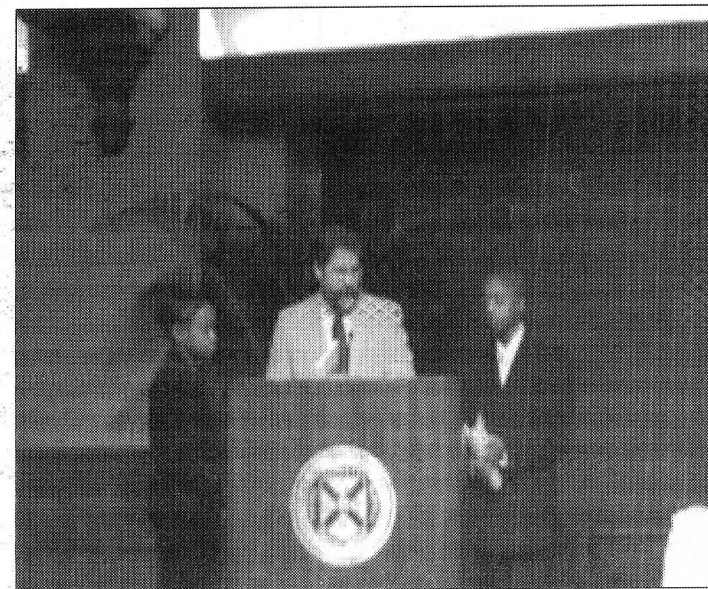


Photo by John Zeanah

ESSAY WINNERS

Rhodes Chaplain Billy Newton presents \$50 awards to the winners of the Dr. Martin Luther King essay contest at Snowden School. The winners were Jasmine McCreight, a fifth grader at Snowden Elementary, and Cordera Woodard, an eighth grader at Snowden Middle. The essay topic was "If Dr. King were alive today, what would he say to Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton?"

student engagement is focused on increasing opportunities for student learning and participation in the city of Memphis. Student learning addresses the need for faculty and staff resources, such as more funding for student research, and student inspiration seeks to assure integrity and value in the Rhodes education, campus environment, and community.

The committees that met on Friday include the building and grounds committee, enrollment, faculty and educational programs, finance, development, student and campus life, investment, information technology, Christian commitment and church relations, and an ad hoc committee on diversity.

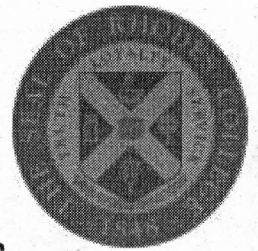
The main issue at the center of discussion for building and grounds was the new library, while committees such as enrollment and student and campus life were focused on ensuring a

diverse student body in the future classes of Rhodes. The recently declining endowment and how to find new sources of funding were main points for the development and investment committees. The investment committee also addressed the establishment of partnerships with local and national businesses.

Only a tentative budget proposal was passed during Friday's Board of Trustees meeting. Other executive decisions will be made later in the semester by President Troutt and the Board of Trustees.

Thirsty Thursday is back on January 30 at 8:00 p.m. in the Lynx Lair. Specials are \$1 beers and \$9.99 pizzas. Spend this semester's 50 Lynx bucks in one night!

This event sponsored by The Sou'wester and Aramark.



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◆From A&E page 6

life? What puts any of us in a position to judge and condemn a fellow human being? The system is such that one man's innocence puts him in a position of considerable power over another man. A criminal trial presents a reasonable method by which to ascertain the guilt or innocence of the accused. By the sentencing phase, the convicted criminal is subject to the judgement of others because it has been proven that he has broken the rules of the society. All of this is done within the context of the society. It stands to reason, then, that the presumably law-abiding citizens of the jury may deprive criminals of certain societal privileges. Personal freedom, perhaps, is one of those rights that may be denied to a criminal. Life, however, is not bestowed by a social system, and thus it is not the place of the social system to take it away.

George Ryan's blanket commutation was neither entirely good nor entirely bad. In many ways it served to undermine rather than uphold our justice system—a fundamental error for a public official. In addition, it is a short term solution to a long-term problem.

State death penalty statutes must be examined and changed if the death penalty is ever to be eradicated. However, the decision saved over one hundred lives. For all of the ill it may have done, for all the change that is still elusive, it seems to have been a worthy step.

Chali 2na also deserves special mention. While all of the group members are lyrical wizards, the bass snap of his voice lifts his solos to a fine art.

All of the above traits make Jurassic 5 special, but the true genius of this album shines through in the frequency of its hidden gems. One such jewel is the track "Remember His Name." The entire piece takes place on the phone, with the DJs splicing in atmospheric static. The emcees converse, trying to remember a person whose face they can all place, but a name is lacking. Satisfaction in a contemporary rap song is often possible after one superficial listening, but it was not until after I had placed every segment of "Remember His Name" together that I could bask in a deeper, more rewarding, contentment. It is a magnificent puzzle, and no, I will not ruin the surprise.

There is a time and place for all hip hop. Jurassic 5's *Power in Numbers* caters to what was good in old school but also adds an intellectual modern, undercurrent. To truly feel this music, the listener needs the freedom to wade through some ensnaring spots, as well as time to absorb their lyrical commentary. The album is not perfect, this fact noticeable only because Jurassic sets their sights that high. They want to "take rap back to its primitive state" not by replicating the style, but by taking it away from guns and sex, taking the focus away from distractions. In my opinion, *Power in Numbers* is a brilliant effort.

BETH PURVES

George Ryan: humane, but wise?

The sentences of 156 death row inmates were commuted on Saturday, January 11 by then-Governor of Illinois, George Ryan. Ryan did not seek re-election and left office on Monday, January 13. He announced his unprecedented decision in a speech at Northwestern University with many prominent death penalty opponents in attendance. Most of the commutations reduce the sentences from death to life without parole.

Ryan cited concerns about the United States' capital system, including racial and socioeconomic bias. The system, he said "is haunted by the demon of error: error in determining guilt and error in determining who among the guilty deserves to die." The announcement was applauded by death penalty opponents, but met with much criticism from Illinois officials, as well as relatives of the victims. Peoria County State's Attorney Kevin Lyons told CNN NewsNight that he believed that Ryan was placing his own judgement above that of the juries and courts. Many of the victims' families expressed anger that they have been denied the retribution of seeing convicted killers die.

This decision seems to have been made in good faith. However, it is problematic in numerous respects. It was an abuse of power on the part of the former governor. Ryan, in his lame duck

period, was no longer checked by public opinion. Thus, he was able to make this largely contro-

"LIFE...IS NOT BESTOWED BY A SOCIAL SYSTEM, AND THUS IT IS NOT THE PLACE OF THE SOCIAL SYSTEM TO TAKE IT AWAY."

versial decision. I find it worrisome that the opinion of one man can outweigh and overturn the opinions of so many juries and justices. Whether they are part of a flawed system or not is immaterial—Ryan's decision still subverts many opinions, deferring them to his own. This cannot be right.

Although his method was questionable, Ryan's commutations were certainly a good statement. The administration of the death penalty in this country is in desperate need of attention. Statistics suggest that poor or minority convicts are more likely to receive the death penalty than their white, upper- or middle-class counterparts. The error-prone justice system is also a concern—we will never know how many individuals are erroneously convicted and executed.

The numbers are not conclusive—statistics can be manipulated to tell nearly any story, depending on the aims of the storyteller. International opinion, however, is increasingly clear on the matter. Many of the most economically developed countries in the world have abolished the death penalty for all crimes. Among developed countries, only the United States and Japan continue to administer the death penalty for what Amnesty International terms "ordinary" crimes. The Russian Federation is the only European country that upholds the death penalty. The European Union, which does not offer membership to any country with a death penalty, has fewer murders than the United States. The death penalty has not proven to be an effective deterrent. It remains in effect only as an "eye-for-an-eye" approach to justice. This might be satisfying, but it isn't right.

Why is it that so many other nations have eliminated the death penalty, no longer using it as a sentence for any crime? Why has the United States continued to institute it? My objection to the practice is simple: it is inhumane, and I don't find that it withstands moral criticism. What right have we, as human beings, to deprive someone else of his

HAVE AN OPINION?
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Email halmn to write for Opinion
 or
 email holsb or shaan with comments
 about the new design of *The Sou'wester*.



REVIEW

Chicago will dazzle • By Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier

"Pop. Six. Squish. Uh-uh. Cicero. Lipshitz." These six words are part of one of the several musical numbers in the new musical sensation *Chicago*. The movie has recently been sweeping the country, delighting audiences with its combination of music, drama, and a bit of comedy.

The plot itself is based on true events. Set in the 1920s it is the story of Roxie Hart (Renee Zellweger) and Velma Kelly (Catherine Zeta-Jones). Velma, an accomplished singer, is now in prison for killing her cheating husband and sister. Roxie is an aspiring singer who killed her lover before she got her big break. Little did she know that the murder was her big break.

The press goes wild over the new, young, innocent murderess, and Roxie gets all the fame she ever wanted. Much of that fame is due to her slick-talking lawyer, Billy Flynn (Richard Gere). Velma, jealous of Roxie's new position in the spotlight, strives to come up with a way to get back on the front page, even if it means joining forces with Roxie.

The story of these two murderesses is intertwined with countless musical numbers. Some of the highlights include "The Cell-Block Tango," "Mr. Cellophane," and "When You're Good To Mama," performed by Queen Latifah, who plays Matron Mama Morton.

The level of talent in the film is astounding. Catherine Zeta-Jones' former career as a dancer proves useful in this film. She gives an amazing performance not only by dancing, but also singing the most recognizable song from the show, "All That Jazz."

The entire cast spent a month rehearsing and learn-

ing the songs as well as taking voice and dance lessons. Their hard work becomes apparent when Richard Gere tap-dances down a staircase or Renee Zellweger belts out "Nowadays."

The road to making *Chicago* was a long one. *Chicago* started as a Broadway musical almost 20 years ago. After several attempts at adapting it into a screenplay, Bill Condon and Fred Ebb were able to find the right combination of story and music for the screen.

The Broadway version is able to tell the story and interject the musical numbers as vaudevillian acts, which is difficult to do on screen. Rob Marshall took on the task of directing the film version, and his vision gave *Chicago* the ability to succeed in the box office and among critics. His accomplishment is being hailed not only for the movie itself, but also because this is his first film.

Seeing Marshall's work on the big screen has gotten many film viewers and critics eager to see what he creates next. The ensemble cast has also garnered praise and recognition for their efforts; they won the Critic's Choice Award for an ensemble cast and five members of the cast were nominated for Golden Globes.

Richard Gere and Renee Zellweger took home the awards for Best Actor and Actress in a Musical or Comedy. *Chicago* won the award for Best Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy. All of these accolades make the film a big contender for the Academy Awards.

This film is simply well crafted, end of story. So, go see the movie and find out just why audiences across the nation are singing *Chicago's* praises.

Flaming Lips triumph with unique sound

By Amy Barnette

Though far from new to the music scene—their first album was released in 1985—The Flaming Lips finally step fully into the limelight with their latest album *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots*. The band's previous, brief flirtation with success, a surprise Top 40 hit in 1993 with "She Don't Use Jelly," is outshined by the incredible response to *Yoshimi*. Incredible critical response, Top 50 album sales, and a gig playing the single "Do You Realize?" on a recent Hewlett Packard commercial highlight the album's achievements thus far. *Yoshimi*, though just as trippy and distinctive as earlier albums, gains definition from a more mature sound and better-engineered recording.

Throughout, the album fuses the band's digital experimentation with surprisingly uplifting poetry about life, love, and the triumph of good over evil. The thumping bass and bouncy hook which begin the first track, "Fight Test," give way to the lyrics, "I don't know where the sunbeams end and the starlight

begins; it's all a mystery." The song's title proves accurate: At the end of the track, a booming voice declares, "The test is over now," making way for a track more essential to the album, "One More Robot/Sympathy 3000-21," the tale of a robot learning how to love. The two title tracks chronicle the adventures of a young Japanese girl, Yoshimi, who must fight the robots to save the world from machinery; part one is the narrative, while part two is an auditory adaptation of the battle itself, where background voices cheer Yoshimi on alongside the synthesized beats which represent the fight. The result, though druggy and almost comical, is an intense mental workout from the pounding tunes and thoughtfully crafted storyline.

Other highlights on *Yoshimi* include "Ego Tripping At the Gates of Hell," "Are You a Hypnotist?" and "Do You Realize?" The ethereal vocals, well-placed animal onomatopoeia, and ceaseless bass of "Ego Tripping" make the track difficult to ignore. The mellower "Are You a Hypnotist?" offsets its

confusion with angelic choirs and bubbly pinging. Meanwhile, the album's single "Do You Realize?" gives the bass a rest in favor of a string section and impossibly optimistic yet death-affirming lyrics: "And instead of saying all of your goodbyes / Let them know you realize a life goes fast / It's hard to make the good things last / And you realize the sun doesn't go down / It's just an illusion caused by the world spinning 'round."

The Flaming Lips' sound is wholly unique. While influence can be heard from the likes of Radiohead and the Velvet Underground, the Lips' style is psychedelic, digital, dreamy, and altogether different even from Beck, with whom the band recently toured. *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots* is the result of nearly twenty years spent honing this unique style, and the effort pays off. The album perfectly follows up the acclaimed *Transmissions from the Satellite Heart* and *The Soft Bulletin*, affirming The Flaming Lips as music gods. Look for increased publicity when the band releases the narrative video for the album's title track.

Jurassic 5 puts forth brilliant effort

By Christian Masters

Jurassic 5 is an excellent hip hop group that is often surrendered to the tired category of 'old school.' After all, their DJs' disjointed scratchings are very reminiscent of Grandmaster Flash and Jam Master Jay. Their rap style emphasizes words and syllables, rather than a more contemporary, laid-back, flow. There is, however, something rather unique and vibrant coursing through their style, something buried in their lyrics, and in the beatbox rhythm. Their latest album, *Power in Numbers*, has been in stores since October, but Jurassic 5's new release is definitely hard to appreciate. It took me several listening sessions to truly encounter their effort.

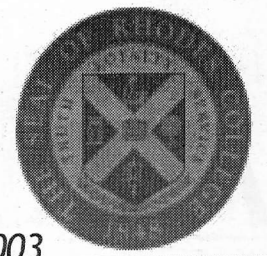
That is not to say they are without immediate appeal. It is like reading a great poem; I know something great is going on, but it is located somewhere out in my periphery. The tracks "A Day at the Races" and "What's Golden" are written as singles, and their mass appeal helps draw the uninitiated listener into Jurassic's raw style. "Races" features a gangsta approach with lyrics designed more for aural pleasure than intellectual, whereas "Golden" is a fun romp through the playgrounds of old school rap. Both are sure to give your neck plenty of exercise.

Another plus to Jurassic's style is the fact that they do not resort to played out lyrical combinations. This manages to keep the listener alert and is crucial

to conveying the band's message. A lot of the tracks would be redundant if the listener were not completely submerged in the dense verbal battling. Sometimes, the music does get bogged down in its poetic aspirations; it spends too much time showing what kind of hip hop it is not, rather than setting up what it is.

One of the few lighter tracks, "Thin Line," features Nelly Furtado in a surprisingly effective exploration of the paper barrier between friends of the opposite sex. The raw quality of her voice slides seamlessly into the chorus, allowing her quiet solo even more effect. Throughout the album, the DJs masterfully blend their samples with the vocal stylings of Jurassic's diverse troupe.

◆see Opinion page 2



Wednesday, January 22, 2003

Raiders offense too good for league's top defense

By John Zeanah

With Super Bowl XXXVII approaching on Sunday, it is only appropriate that Stu and I return with our picks for this year's winner. Hopefully this year one of us will manage to get it right. I said the Patriots would beat the spread. Doesn't that count for something?

This season's finale involves the best offense in the NFL against the best defense, truly an exciting matchup. I guess when the Buccaneers offense gets on the field, that might be the time to get anything you need because you probably will not want to miss a single snap when the Raiders possess the ball.

Last Sunday the Bucs shut down the Eagles in Philadelphia, and with Coach Gruden's play-calling, they put up 27 points against the second best defense in the NFL. The Eagles scored ten early in the game, but the Bucs defense outlasted the potent Eagles offense. The question for the Super Bowl is whether the greatest defense will be slowly run down, chipped away by Rich Gannon's west-coast offense.

In the AFC championship game against the Titans, going into the fourth quarter, I was sure that the Titans would come back. But for fifteen minutes, the Raiders continued to push the Titans defense backwards to score two touchdowns and seal the game. Although a comparison between the defenses of the Bucs and the Titans cannot be made, if Rich Gannon is allowed time to choose through his numerous passing targets, receptions will be made, and the Bucs will be pushed back. Every time the veteran quarterback gets the ball, you know some gain is going to be the result. If he does not pass to Jerry Rice, Tim Brown, Jerry Porter, Doug Jolley, or Charlie Garner, he might run with it. If the Raiders offense can spread the Bucs defense like they did against the Titans, Gannon will be able to find holes for passes or for his own

rushing attempts, that in the Titans game led him to five or six-yard runs resulting in first downs. His backfield of Charlie Garner, Tyrone Wheatley, and Zack Crockett will be good for a few runs to push the ball into the end zone or keep the Bucs unsure of the Raiders play-calling.

The Oakland Raiders' defense does carry the burden of stopping Gruden's offense. But as long as their defense plays up to the seasonal standard, the key for the Raiders to win the game is putting points on the board against such a tough defense. The Raiders have faced few defenses that rank close to the Bucs, namely only the Dolphins and Titans. The Raiders only scored 17 in their loss to Miami, but scored 52 and 41 in their two wins over the Titans.

Gannon is the key player for the Raiders on Sunday night, but he depends on so many other players. If the offensive line can give Gannon the amount of time on each passing play that he had against the Titans, that will allow him to throw close to 40 passes and run down the defense. If receivers like Rice, Brown, and more importantly Jerry Porter can get open against the Bucs secondary, the Raiders will be able to get the points they need to win the Super Bowl.

The offensive and defensive match-ups seem to predict that this will be a low-scoring game for both teams, but that bodes well for the Raiders who can usually score a lot of points. Even though the defensive element of the Buccaneers is dominant, the Raiders have the best all-around team, built from experience, great talent, and excellent coaching. I think this year will go to the Raiders, but the Bucs will put up a good game and could turn around to win the championship next year.

Upcoming Sports Events

Men's:

BASEBALL:

-Feb. 7- Oglethorpe University, Away, 1 p.m.

BASKETBALL:

-Jan. 24- Oglethorpe University, Home, 8 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD:

-Jan. 25- Arkansas State Invitational, Jonesboro, AR.

TENNIS:

-Feb. 15-16- Hendrix Invitational, Hendrix College.

Women's:

SOFTBALL:

-Feb. 22- Mississippi College, Home, 1 p.m.

BASKETBALL:

-Jan. 24- Oglethorpe University, Home, 6 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD:

-Jan. 25- Arkansas State Invitational, Jonesboro, AR.

TENNIS:

-Feb. 15-16- Hendrix Invitational, Hendrix College.

The Bucs will prevail in San Diego

By Stu Johnston

This year's Super Bowl promises to be everything a Super Bowl should be — a great football game filled with superstars and colorful personalities. Oakland brings the league's top-rated offense into the contest, while Tampa Bay possesses the NFL's most stifling unit on the other side of the ball.

MVP quarterback Rich Gannon, a precision passer having a breakout season, and the best (and most prolific) receiver ever to don pads, Jerry Rice, lead the Raiders down the California coast, while stalwart linebacker Derrick Brooks and the agile, verbose Warren Sapp are the frontrunners for the Buccaneers.

To make matters even more interesting, Bucs coach Jon Gruden is one year removed from a relatively successful, yet tumultuous stay in Oakland. Needless to say, he has both professional and emotional ties to the Raiders organization.

This sets the stage for several classic battles within the war. Dynamic offense versus punishing defense. Can the Bucs stop Oakland's precision passing attack? Gruden versus the Raiders. The two parties know each other well. Will one use the knowledge better than the other? Volatile players versus the media. Will someone

slip up and say something he regrets, stoking the opposing team's competitive fire?

Conventional wisdom says that a great defense will always take down a great offense. I am not sure this is always the case, but given the choice, I would take a great defense nine times out of ten. For this particular Super Bowl, I think the Buccaneers' defense has the edge. It seems as though the Bucs have been on the verge for the past five years, dating back to Tony Dungy's tenure and Sapps' and Keyshawn Johnson's early years with the team. They have paid their dues. Gannon is an amazing quarterback and a gifted athlete to be sure, nearly becoming the first since Dan Marino to throw for 5000 yards in a season, but I think he is largely untested in games of this magnitude, and he has exploded onto the scene in large part this season. The Bucs' defense will give him all he can handle and then some.

Gruden has several things going for him as a coach: his youth, his work ethic, and most of all, his relationship with his players. Although winning football games helps, he has teamed with veterans to channel the energy of his supremely talented, but at times emotionally volatile superstars. His confidence

in much-maligned quarterback Brad Johnson has helped propel Johnson to a great season, and that confidence was validated when Johnson when down for three games midseason. During that stretch, the Bucs were able to muster just one offensive touchdown.

Gruden's squad has relied much more on the pass this season than Buccaneer teams in recent memory. The addition of talented receivers and the release of Warrick Dunn, a great back but one whose talents did not fit the Bucs' scheme, were wise personnel moves that enabled Gruden's offense to flourish. The Raiders organization made a mistake in letting Gruden go, and they may pay the price next Sunday.

And much to everyone's surprise, the media volatility will be a wash. It is just a side show, and what is said before Sunday will not be a factor in anyone's mind — anyone significant, that is, which does not include television commentators and newspaper reporters. These players and coaches are seasoned professionals, on both sidelines. The game will be settled on the field (as it always is, in the end), and the Bucs' athletic defense and much-improved offense will ultimately prevail.