



## Review

Leah Kaye reviews music by Slow Motion Reign, expressing her disappointment over their once eagerly anticipated release.

See **A&E**



## Letter

Dean Stackman writes a letter commenting on last semester's incident during the Black Student Association's Kwanzaa Celebration.

See **Opinion**

VOL. XCI. NO. 12

1.26.05

## Rhodes celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. Day

*Dr. Leslie Burl McLemore gives talk to honor Dr. King*

By Ellen Moore

On Tuesday, January 18, members of the Rhodes and Memphis community gathered together to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. The keynote speaker at the event was Dr. Leslie Burl McLemore, the Director of the Fannie Lou Hamer National Institute on Citizenship and Democracy. Dr. McLemore began his lecture by reminiscing about the occasion on which he was privileged to hear Dr. King speak. He noted that Dr. King's powerful words have stayed with him since and were the motivation behind his talk.

Dr. McLemore spoke about Dr. King's central question: "What are you doing for others?" For King, love and grace were the two most

important qualities a person should strive to possess. Dr. McLemore believes these qualities can best be demonstrated through public service. He also believes Memphis has made progress since Dr. King's death, but that there is room for improvement. In a society where 12% of the African American male population between the ages of 20 and 34 are in jail or prison (as compared with 1.6% of white men in the same age bracket), it is important for those in the community to work together to improve the racial problems plaguing Memphis.

Dr. McLemore challenged those in the audience to find projects that reach out to the members of the Memphis community, especially to the youth in the area. He believes it is especially important for

Memphians to carry on Dr. King's legacy of love and grace because it is here Dr. King took his last breath. Although Dr. King's life may have ended over 40 years ago, his views on service and love still ring true today.

In addition to urging the audience to participate in public service, Dr. McLemore asked that people remember those names not often mentioned, but who contributed to the civil rights struggle alongside Dr. King. He briefly spoke of E. D. Nixon, a man who helped organize the Montgomery Bus Boycott and who later became the leader of the NAACP. Dr. McLemore also referenced Ella Baker, a woman who helped start Dr. King's organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). These were only a few examples of people who contributed to the civil rights struggle, but who often go unnoticed in history classes. It is people like E. D. Nixon and Ella Baker, people who have dedicated their lives to public service, who can serve as role models for children today.

Dr. McLemore stressed the importance of Dr. King's quote, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve." Dr. McLemore reminded the audience that the importance of celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. day is to remember the legacy of peace and grace Dr. King spoke of, and to continually strive to make Dr. King's dreams a reality in the Memphis community.

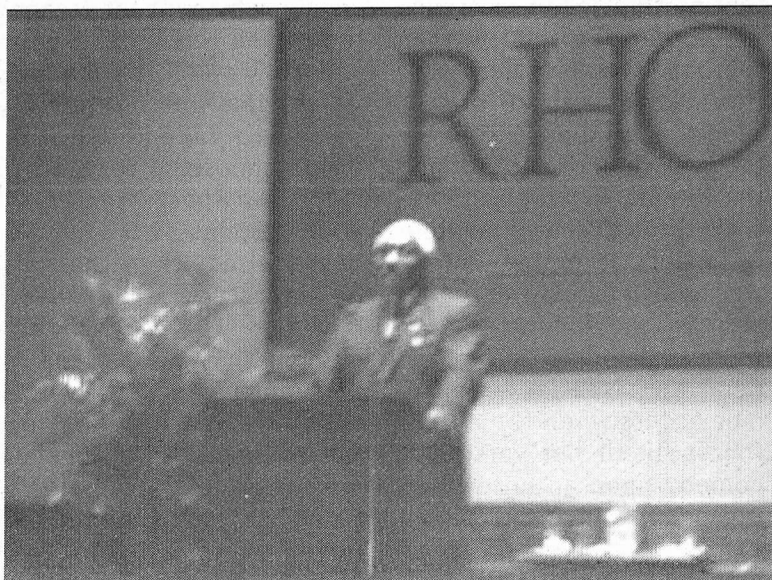


Photo by Ellen Moore

**DR. McLEMORE SPEAKS AT MARTIN LUTHER KING TRIBUTE**  
Dr. McLemore speaks on the application of Martin Luther King Jr.'s philosophy to the modern day world.

## 2005 Peyton Rhodes Physics Lecturer visits Rhodes

*Dr. Fischer delivers talk on "Hunting for Other Worlds"*

By Elyssa Rubertino

On January 20, 2005, Dr. Debra Fischer delivered her speech entitled "The Search for Other Worlds." She aimed to answer three main questions: what is a planet; how do we identify planets; and is there life on other planets.

Dr. Fischer received her Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Cruz and is currently working as a member of a NASA Management Oversight Working Group. She is also an assistant professor of astronomy at San Francisco State University.

Dr. Fischer began her lecture with a brief discussion of our solar system which contains nine planets orbiting around the sun in virtually circular orbits. The shape of these orbits is key to identifying whether a body is a planet or asteroid; asteroids typically have more elliptical orbits. This fact is particularly pertinent to recent research surrounding Pluto. Indeed, astronomers now believe, due to its more elliptical orbit that Pluto is not a planet but rather an asteroid. In addition, Fischer noted how the majority of the planets have moons and our "closest twin" planet is Venus.

Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system at about 317 times the mass of earth.

Recent evidence has shown that areas of space previously thought to be empty are in fact densely populated. For example, the space between Mars and Jupiter is the asteroid belt. Besides asteroids and comets exists a recently discovered 'Sedna.' Sedna is said to be either a new moon, minor planet, or simply just another astronomical body in orbit around our same star, the sun. Sedna has only recently been discovered due to its apparently long orbit; it takes this body hundreds, perhaps thousands or years, to orbit the sun therefore it has only just appeared within view of earth.

Over the years, Dr. Fischer has been credited with the discovery of several planets. However, the astronomers are not the only ones to receive credit for discovering new planets; three primary observatories and telescopes, Keck, Lick, and Anglo-Australian, also are tremendously important to their research. The researchers spend various nights in different observatories to

*Peyton, continued on Page 6*



Wednesday, January 26, 2005



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 founded 1848

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## Letter to the editor

Now that everyone is back on campus and the semester is off to a good start, I wanted to share my thoughts about an incident that occurred in December. Maybe I do it too much credit to call it an incident, but here's what happened: someone chose to deface fliers inviting the campus community to the BSA's Kwanzaa celebration by scrawling hurtful and insulting comments on it.

I thought about this for much of the holiday season. Why, I asked myself, would someone engage in such a spiteful and cowardly act in response to an invitation to a campus-wide celebration? What would provoke such a reaction? The only answers I have been able to come up with are prejudice, misunderstanding, hate, and fear. How I would love to eradicate all of these from this community!

But I don't want to end this on a negative note. Instead, let me offer a challenge to the authors of the cruel graf-

fiti and to anyone else who feels tempted to engage in similar behavior. If you find yourself in disagreement or at odds with another member of the Rhodes community, I urge you to engage that person in dialogue—dialogue that is respectful and invites the other person to educate you about his or her point of view. I also encourage you to take responsibility for educating yourself about different cultures and backgrounds by attending campus sponsored events, and enrolling in a variety of wonderful classes and academic opportunities. You are almost guaranteed to come away from these experiences with information you did not have before. You may not find yourself in complete agreement with others, but you will have hopefully gained a new level of awareness and understanding. And the chances are good that you will have made a few new friends.

Can't we all benefit from more of those?

RYAN CALL

## Response letter to the editor

Dear Editor of *The Rhode'ster*,

Before I begin my response, let me appropriately situate this incident in the social landscape of our quaint college. There are more pressing issues than our disagreement on humor. If we keep that in mind, perhaps we can maintain an honest discussion without the theatrical antics that often characterize the more uncivilized arguments on this campus. Therefore, the observations within this letter are not meant to harm your person, but merely to criticize your theory.

What I did for *The Rhode'ster* is probably the funniest thing that has ever happened concerning your newspaper. However, I performed it in the spirit of a joke, and therefore I did not expect my actions to elicit such an aggressive scolding. But because you responded with such heavy-handed sarcasm and moral superiority, I feel it necessary to explain myself and to take responsibility for my actions, which, as you say, is expected of everyone on this campus.

I did not vandalize your newspaper because I felt offended by its content. Nor did I mean to start a personal

battle. I did not vandalize your newspaper in order to disrespect my fellow students' "intellectual property," though I'll admit that a slight jab of criticism was intended. I'm somewhat disappointed that one who claims to "put a lot of stock in the power of comedy" would react so violently to my joke. It seems contradictory that a jokester, who is free to criticize "the prevailing mores of the dominant discourse," and is above apologizing for writing it if her humor happens to offend several readers, would condemn the citizen who criticizes her own methods. With that said, I sincerely apologize for offending you and your colleagues. I erred in not explaining my criticism when I vandalized your newspaper.

You and I both consider ourselves to be humorists. We strive to make people laugh, to evaluate human existence, and to show others a variety of attitudes. Humor, since its beginning, has mutated into countless modes, all of which seek to expand our perception of reality. In my opinion, humor's most common form is sarcasm, which, incidentally, is not funny. Sarcasm is overused, often poorly delivered,

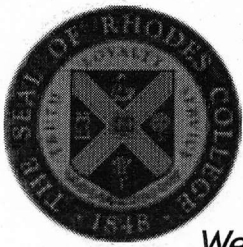
and quite masturbatory. It's a boring gesture, at most warranting a weak laugh or empty sarcastic remark in return. Sarcasm is onanistic because people use it in order to cut down their opponents, thus brashly glorifying themselves as the supreme jokester. Unlike more acceptable forms of humor, sarcasm does not invite the audience to take part in the joke; rather, the joke is on them.

This brings me to humor in general. I criticize *The Rhode'ster* (and your letter) because I feel it immaturely deals with humor. Rather than creating new humor, it seems to me that *The Rhode'ster* comfortably cranks the handle of formulaic comedy, which is then delivered to us with the guarantee that it is indeed funny stuff because it comes from a newspaper published in *The Onion's* image. I believe this process alienates the reader and allows you, the author, to become lazy in your search for all things funny. Humor that solely proceeds from the author's side of the author/reader relationship becomes stagnant. Similarly, humor that glorifies the author must consequently treat the reader as dumb, as one in need of an explanation. As

your letter generously proves, if one feels a need to call attention to a joke's existence as a form of expression, then it probably isn't a funny joke. Ultimately, good humor should rely upon a connection between the author and the reader, in which the author, through subtle manipulation of his or her unique worldview, meets the reader halfway and encourages him or her to momentarily suspend all disbelief. Bad humor occurs when the author forces his or her version of comedy upon an unsuspecting reader in order to elevate his or herself as an artist.

Therefore, this vandal would like to see *The*

*Rhode'ster* utilize a more intelligent, experimental, and engaging humor that escapes the boring realm of sarcasm and irony and instead allows its readership to sincerely laugh with it, and not at it. If you choose to respond to me in *The Rhode'ster*, and if your response attempts to degrade me, then that will be unfortunate because I have tried to return this discussion to a politer realm, and more importantly, you will have learned nothing. However, please do not ask me for original examples of what is funny, because I never explain my jokes. I imagine this will be my last public communication on this subject.



Wednesday, January 26, 2005

PAGE 3  
**OPINION**

## The Sou'wester celebrates Black History Month

In preparation for Black History Month, *The Sou'wester* will republish student articles written during the Civil Rights Movement. At a time when Rhodes, then Southwestern, was still segregated, the articles effectively created a forum where racial issues affecting the school, the region and the nation could be discussed and debated. Southwestern students of 1962 knew well the efforts to integrate higher education as The University of Mississippi, just 90 miles south of Memphis, was being forced to integrate its first African-American student, James Meredith. A handful of Southwestern students even traveled to Oxford; some to support Meredith, others to join in the violent segregationist mob.

Modern readers will find some articles argue in support of segregation and seem quite racist. The editors' intention is not to incite anger against student writers of yesteryears, but

to reveal the sentiments of the day and convey a sense of the challenges Civil Rights proponents faced. Several student writers, as you will read, fully supported and participated in the Civil Rights Movement and integration efforts at Southwestern and in the community.

Reflecting on the past is not a passive act if the issues of today demand its careful consideration, and they do. With the recent defacement of a BSA flyer, students are reminded that racism has not disappeared. Rhodes seniors remember years ago when a few students' cars were keyed with racial slurs and other racist notes posted on doors of African-American students. The editors believe these articles, written over 40 years ago, still have relevant lessons to teach the students of today. Read them as both testaments of the past and departure points for our own actions as we all celebrate the achievements and struggles commemorated in Black History Month.

## A Southwestern Student Prays

O God, thank you for Southwestern and this wonderful educational opportunity.

God, help James Meredith to see the error of his way. Help him to understand that he must not stir up trouble. Help him to understand that although he is as clean as we are, as intelligent as we are, for he is an outstanding member of his race, that he is not white and should remain in his place. May someone help him to go outside Mississippi to a school that will suit his capacities, and so he will not cause trouble. Help him to understand that we are not used to sitting next to niggers in school and that he should retain a Christian attitude in accommodating this old custom, although he may have to give up his chance for education to do so.

Dear God, help the Negro doctor and the Negro lawyer to

retain his Christian humility when he has to go to the back door of a restaurant to be served.

Dear God, please don't let the Communists or wicked NAACP tempt Negroes to come to our church for we have some very rich members who are very touchy on this situation, and we have this new combination gym, tennis court, swimming pool, and club meeting building going up so that's going to be so much fun, and the niggers would spoil everything.

Dear God, I know I'm kinda on one subject tonight, but I'm so worried about the Negro race. Would you please help them.

Thank-you for everything. Keep my family well. In Jesus' name. Amen.

KGB

## Open Letter To Roger Hart

You believe that the Negro in the South should not be denied the benefit of a good education in a *white* institution. Why, Mr. Hart, must a Negro come to a white school to get a good education? You stated that Negro schools are academically inferior to the white schools. They are inferior because they lack proper funds, administrative know-how, good teachers, and, until a few years ago, enough ambitious, industrious students. Now Negroes are waking up. The building of the Negro Educational system has just begun. And the Supreme Court is trying to put a stop to it at its birth. True, this system has a long way to go, but this fact only presents a bigger challenge to conscientious Negro citizens and educators if the Supreme Court will stay out of it. More Negroes every year want a higher education, and some are willing to pay for one themselves. There are better Negro teachers every year. These teachers have gone back to school or on to school to learn more about their subjects and to discover new methods of teaching. Increased funds have been provided for schools. New schools and more teachers have been added to the system. Fine Negro colleges exist here in the South. LeMoyné College in Memphis, Arkansas A and M in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, are two of the many good Southern Negro colleges. The Southern Negro high schools and elementary schools are improving curriculum steadily.

The Negro in the South honestly desires more and more to learn more, to obtain a higher

education. This desire is of definite proof that Negro schools are doing an increasingly good job, for these Negroes have been challenged and encouraged in their secondary schools to go on to college or trade schools. Why don't you, Mr. Hart, give credit to the Negro schools?

It is true that the Negro schools and colleges need more money for

As I stated previously, Negro secondary education in the South is in a sorry state; for this reason there would not be a large number of Negro applicants qualified to enter Southwestern. Those who are academically prepared should not be disqualified because of their race. I do not advocate that Southwestern lower its standards one inch. Rather, I advocate that Southwestern raise its standards to recognize that all men should be treated as individuals, each considered only in the light of his own merits and abilities.

Roger Hart

operations and growth. The need for money is being recognized. It will be recognized more as the Negro shows his willingness to accept the responsibilities of leadership and his thirst for training of his mind. He will show these traits as he becomes increasingly aware and ambitious.

You believe, Mr. Hart, that the Negro, in awakening ought to attend the white schools. If I were a capable Negro I would be insulted by this suggestion. I would want to pour all of my energy, all of my talents, all of my spirit into build-

ing up *Negro* schools, not white. What an opportunity! What a frontier! I would seek to make the Negro educational system equal to or better than that of the white. I would seek to preserve the best parts of my own race's culture and to improve other parts of it, not to mix it with another. I would work hand in hand with the white educators, citizens, students, profiting from their experience, mistakes, and successes. I would know the work and time involved in this project would mature and purify Negro character.

If I were a strong Negro, proud of my race and heritage, I would want to stand apart as a Negro and I would expect Caucasians and Orientals to stand apart as Caucasians and Orientals.

I would not want to be where I was not wanted by Caucasians in intimate society. I would, with dignity, humility, and faith join forces with the Caucasians and Orientals, but not join races. I would join forces with them to keep America American, knowing that we were all Americans under the Constitution and all equals in the eyes of God.

I honestly believe that most Negroes in the United States feel the way I say I would. Many of them are conscious that Negroes have been pushed into this ghastly integration promenade in order to create internal strife between groups of our countrymen.

Sandra Sanders

## Response to Southwestern Prayer

I would like to take this opportunity to express the alarm with which I read "A Southwestern Student Prays" in your most recent issue.

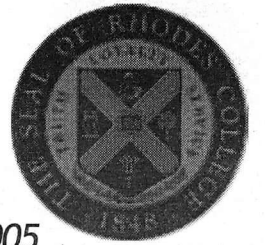
I am very appreciative of good satire but I'm afraid that "prayer" missed the boat. To me, it was nothing more, nothing

less, than a feeble attempt at humor that turned out to be a poorly written sacrilege. It may have produces a few laughs, but in so doing has lowered to a great extent my opinion of our college newspaper. Your publication should be a champion of what our great college stands for and should defi-

nately refrain from articles which tend to degrade the newspaper, the student body, and Southwestern.

Michael G. Simmons

Additional articles will be featured in upcoming issues.



# A HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE.

**(You'll want to wear gloves.)**

## **Volunteer at a Baptist ER. Experience Critical.**

No one said it would be pretty. But the valuable, real-life know-how you get in the Experience Critical ER volunteer program looks good on a resume, and may even add hours to your college transcript. To learn more, visit [www.experiencecritical.com](http://www.experiencecritical.com).





## Campus Safety

1.15.05-21.05.05

1/15 6:43 a.m. Five female students are escorted by Campus Safety from Alex Tavern back to campus and dropped off at East Village.

1/16-1/17 NOTHING UNUSUAL TO REPORT

1/18 9:00 a.m. Refectory, student reported that her backpack was stolen while she was eating breakfast. Report was filed by Campus Safety.

1/19 NOTHING UNUSUAL TO REPORT

1/20 6:55 p.m. Briggs Student Center parking lot: student car is keyed while parked at Briggs; a report was filed.  
7:00 p.m. Stewart parking lot, student's car is involved in a hit and run, report is filed, accident is still under investigation.

1/21 NOTHING UNUSUAL TO REPORT

### STATS:

ACCESSES: 73 VISITORS: 872  
CITATIONS: 110 PROPPED DOORS: 1  
ESCORTS: 10 TOW: 0  
BOOT: 0 JUMP: 4

**Got a head for business?**

**Looking to get more involved on campus?**

**The Sou'wester is looking for an assistant to the Business Manager.**

**Email Frances Rabalais at RABFJ if you are interested.**

**Want to know what's going on as is happens?  
Want to build your resume?  
Looking for an edge with graduate schools?**

**If so, write News for The Sou'wester.  
Email HOPMR for details.**

## Career Week to come to Rhodes

### Careers Service facility not just for seniors

*By Meg Sizemore and Amy Oakes*

Career Services, located behind McCoy Theatre, is an often overlooked faction of the Rhodes community, and one which actually does serve a purpose! A common misconception about CS is that it's only there for seniors trying to find a job or to apply to graduate school, but with the job markets changing at a rapid rate and grad schools growing more restrictive in admissions, it's important that students start thinking about what you want a little earlier in the game. Career Awareness week, beginning February 14, is the perfect opportunity to set the process in motion.

Career's Services can be extremely valuable to all students regardless of their year or post-graduation goals. They provide several programs to help first year students think about what areas they're interested in exploring as a major and what type of career paths they might want to take. The Career Tracks program is an excellent program among these to attend. First years learn about their personality traits and the wide variety of careers available to them. They then spend lunch with several local employers to learn about the jobs in which they are interested. Some of the employers attending this year include Sharon O'Guin from the Memphis & Shelby County Film & Television Commission and Wes Meador from Archer Malmo Advertising. Wrapping up the day, Rhodes faculty will conduct panel discussions in all the different major areas.

The Sophomore Career Success Seminar is a career-planning program designed specifically for second year students. Through participation in this program, they will develop an increased awareness of yourself and the world of work. In effect, students will be better prepared to choose a course of study and career path that is an appropriate "fit" for you. Participants will also learn how to develop a resume, succeed in an interview, and find out what it takes to conduct an effective job/graduate school search.

Though Career Services does not have any programs specifically targeted towards juniors yet, there are plenty of opportunities to take advantage of all the resources CS offers. It's recommended that students keep their eye on the calendars posted in the Rat and online to keep abreast of the various resume clinics, internship opportunities, and career awareness seminars; this will also give students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the employers who interview on campus.

CASS, Career Service's newest program, is a 6 week seminar that will be held on Monday evenings, for those students who plan to move directly into the workforce. Professionals will instruct students on developing the perfect resume, refining their interviewing skills, tapping the hidden job market, as well as negotiating job offers and making the move from student to professional. Confirmed employers for this seminar include David Norton, Recruiting Manger for Robert Half Finance and Accounting and Naseera Lewis, Human Resources Generalist with AutoZone.

If students have any questions about Career Services or any of their programs they should call at ext. 3800.

### Useful numbers...

**Campus Safety  
x3880**

**Emergency  
x3333**

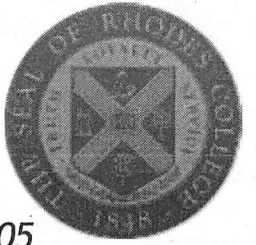
**Health Center  
x3895**

**Counseling  
Center  
x3849**

**Dean of  
Students  
x3815**

**Non-Emergency  
Police  
545-2677**

**UT Bowld  
Hospital  
448-4000**



## Week in Review

### International

**Baghdad-** Another American hostage pleaded for his life in a video released Tuesday. The video showed American Roy Hallums with a rifle about six inches away from his head. Hallums claimed that he had been kidnapped for cooperating with American forces. Hallums appealed solely to Arab leaders for aid, saying, "I'm not asking for any help from President Bush because I know of his selfishness and unconcern for those who've been pushed into this hellhole."

**Germany-** German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder expressed shame Tuesday over the horrors of the Nazi era, acknowledging that Adolf Hitler's regime enjoyed wide support among Germans and promising that his country will always try

to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust. Schroeder's remarks were in anticipation of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Red Army's liberation of the Auschwitz death camp on January 27, 1945. Across Europe, there are fears that the lessons of the war have been forgotten and that anti-Semitism lives on. Some six million Jews were put to death by the Nazis in World War II.

**Japan-** With no boy having been born to the royal family since the 1960s, a government panel has convened in order to revise Japan's laws of succession to the throne. A spokesman for the panel said Tuesday that public opinion, which strongly supports female reign, would be the most important factor in the decision.

### National

**Washington D.C.-** Leading Democrats attacked National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice's role in planning the war in Iraq and said that they would vehemently oppose her appointment as Secretary of State. Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) claimed that Rice provided America with "false reasons" for going to war while Sen. Mark Dayton (D-MN) said that he was voting against her confirmation as a way of trying to stop mistruths. Sen. Evan Bayh (D-IN) summed up the democrats position, saying, "We have a moral obligation to provide better leadership."

**Washington-** As The Bush Administration asks for another \$80 billion to finance their war efforts around the world, Congress's top budget analyst projected Tuesday \$855 billion in deficits even without the costs of the war and

Bush's social security plan. Adding in the costs of Bush's proposed social security re-vamping nearly triples the figure, as it is projected to cost \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion in of itself. Congressional Republicans have offered meager support while Democrats openly mock the absurdity of Bush's claim to be a fiscal conservative.

**Rhodes-** On Thursday, January 20, members of the Black Student Association conducted a non-violent protest against plans to re-structure the deanships at Rhodes. The students staged a sit-in in the Office of Student Activities in hopes to bring about changes and ensure better minority support within the school. BSA was also present at that night's RSG meeting to discuss the matter further with Dean Stackman. While at the meeting, BSA adopted the cause of Floyd Howard, staging further protests throughout the week-end in hopes of keeping him in school.

*Peyton, continued from Page 1*

gather information and track planetary movement.

Dr. Debra Fischer then moved on to discuss the fact that the universe is made up of many galaxies, which are made up of many solar systems. A solar system is defined as a group of planets orbiting a star. As a result, new solar systems are continually being discovered as astronomers continue to identify new planets. One such discovery found three planets are orbiting around another star, Upsilon Andromedae. This amazing find not only broadens current knowledge of our galaxy but is evidence that many other potential solar systems, like our own, could be out in space awaiting discovery.

One way that scientists identify new planets is with a principle called "The Doppler Effect." Dr. Fischer and her colleagues used this theory to measure light wave frequencies coming from the sun. This measurement helped them calculate various density measurements, and formulate size estimations of unknown orbiting bodies.

In one specific instance, Dr. Fischer and her team of

researchers wanted to know if they had found a new planet orbiting a star. They measured the brightness of the sun reaching the Earth and precisely calculated when and how that brightness would change, assuming there was a star orbiting the planet. Their prediction was confirmed when the brightness of the sun dropped, indicating a planet was orbiting the star, obstructing some its light from reaching earth.

Finally, Fischer addressed the topic of life on other planets. She made reference to the "Drake Equation," which calculates the probability of life on other planets and noted how given the vastness and potential that space has to offer, it is likely that primitive life on other planets does exist.

When questioned as to the intelligence of these "other life forms" she emphasized the word "primitive," stating that while intelligence was not easy to measure, species with technological abilities would be rare.

To close, Dr. Debra Fischer shared her hopes of discovering life on other planets, She concluded by asking, "how is it possible that life isn't elsewhere?"



Photo by Michelle Hope

#### **DR. FISCHER GIVES THE 2005 PEYTON PHYSICS LECTURE**

Dr. Fischer from San Francisco State University talks about the discovery of other worlds. She discussed the nature of planets, the process of discovery and the possibility of life on other planets. Fischer also works as a member of a NASA Management Oversight Working Group.

**Coming soon to Rhodes ...**

**January 29,  
Up 'Till Dawn  
Final Event;  
BCLC.**

**February 7,  
V-Day Candle-  
light Service;  
8 p.m.**

**February 10-12,  
Vagina  
Monologues.**

**February 14,  
Career  
Awareness Week  
begins.**

**February 18,  
Peace Jam  
comes to  
Rhodes.  
Lecture by Nobel  
Prize Laureate  
Mairiad  
Corrigan  
Maguire;  
7 p.m.;  
in the BCLC  
Ballroom**



Wednesday, January 26, 2005

# Dinner & a Movie

This week, Erin Kitchell does the Do, the midtown sushi restaurant, and Andrew O'Brien reviews *The Assassination of Richard Nixon* playing at Studio on the Square.

## The Assassination of Richard Nixon falls short against a tough comparison to Martin Scorsese's *Taxi Driver*

By Andrew O'Brien

In Niels Mueller's *The Assassination of Richard Nixon*, Sean Penn stars as the would-be assassin Sam Bicke, a man coming apart as his marriage crumbles, his job as a furniture salesman goes nowhere, and he begins to alienate himself from the people and world around him. The actual political and social context of the events in the film in 1974 are almost beside the point. The real stuff of this film is contained in Bicke's pleading narration, which is actually composed in the form of a letter to conductor Leonard Bernstein - a curious device - but since this is based on a true story, I guess you have to go with it. Overall, Bicke strives for honesty and justice in the world, but as he becomes more and more disillusioned, he slips further into madness. While Bicke might have a point about the social injustice in our world and the corruption at all levels in the ruling class of society, some viewers might find Bicke's plan to crash an airliner into the White House problematic, the perceived epicenter of social injustice and corruption.

Sean Penn has the right mixture of madness and anxiety.

Thoreau says, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation," and Penn's performance is the fulfillment of that notion. The material lends itself to overacting, but Penn is in control of this performance, and he never spills over into a raving lunatic. It is a carefully controlled performance, and his moments of implosion are far more effective than when he actually lashes out at the moral degradation around him.

It's worth mentioning the film's similarities to Scorsese's *Taxi Driver*, another film about a man disgusted by the world around him and who is moved to violent, desperate acts. These are two different films with different intentions, but I think that they can be compared. Not every film is *Taxi Driver*, of course, but where *The Assassination of Richard Nixon* stumbles, Scorsese succeeds. Whereas Travis Bickle's inexorable descent into madness comes with a feeling of doom and inevitability, the viewer never quite sees what's going on in Sam Bicke's mind. He is a loser, a 1970s Willy Loman, but Arthur Miller's play doesn't end in a bloodbath, and so it's

hard to surmise whether Bicke was disturbed from day one or if his troubles pushed him over the edge. Although one gets the impression his grip on reality has always been a little dubious and we naturally don't want it all spelled out to us, the filmmakers nevertheless keep him at too great a distance from the viewer. I sensed Bicke lost some members of the audience when he shot a dog.

In the end, the pieces are there, but the film never really comes together. It's too much buildup for a climax that doesn't seem appropriate. I'll leave it to you (or your good friend Google) to find out how exactly Bicke's plan unfolds, but it's not quite the ending I think the character deserves. The film switches what it really needs - an emotional resolution for the character - with an ending as inevitable as it is disappointing. But then again, maybe that's the point - this is who we are in the universe, isolated and adrift. It's hard to say.

Oh, and the Most Sensational Title of the Year Award goes to *The Assassination of Richard Nixon*. Since *Death of a Salesman* was taken and since a film called *Furniture Salesman* probably wouldn't sell, the filmmakers felt they needed something a little punchy. I find fault also with the movie's tag line, "The mad story of a true man," which seems too self-conscious of its cleverness. These melodramatics don't properly describe what this movie is really about - one man's effort to prove his worth and take a stand in these harsh, cynical times.

## Sushi in the South may be daring enough, but Do takes it a step further

By Erin Kitchell

Finding really good sushi in Memphis is about as difficult as one might expect this far inland. But you can leave all those fears of mushy, grayish (tainted?!) tuna rolls behind. Luckily Do, the new sushi place in Cooper-Young, has made the hunt a whole lot simpler.

The newest innovation of Karen Blockman Carriers, chef and owner of the Beauty Shop, Do combines a fabulously laid back, artistic atmosphere with sushi prepared with a creative twist. The interior is small and softly lit; couches, comfy chairs, and loads of overstuffed pillows fill the two seating areas in the front windows. Gauzy white curtains provide an intimate setting for the tables filling the left side of the restaurant opposite the bar.

Do's menu can best be described as New School Sushi. Expect to be surprised by the unusual combinations in the rolls. Melding Eastern tradition with modern flavor combinations, fare from the sushi bar ranges from a crispy scallop roll served with a jalapeno remoulade to a crab roll topped

with glazed strawberries. Even the classic salad with ginger dressing has been reinvented here; the ginger vinaigrette was more complex and the wasabi peas sprinkled on top have become a near obsession for me. A full menu is also available with funky gourmet takes on Japanese cuisine, but the sushi list was too unusual for me to be tempted to try anything else.

Do also boasts a pretty decent wine selection, as well as sake. It is an excellent date restaurant and a must for every sushi lover in Memphis.

Open only for dinner, the prices are ridiculously low for the amazing quality and ultra cool setting. It's on par with Sekisui; rolls range from four to a high of eight dollars, cheap for an especially delicious morsel.

Genre: Japanese  
Location: 964 S. Cooper  
Hours: Dinner only  
Price: Under \$10  
Phone: 272-0830

Had a horrible experience at a local restaurant and want to warn others? Write for the Sou'wester!  
Contact Leah Kaye at  
KAYLA@rhodes.edu for more information.

### How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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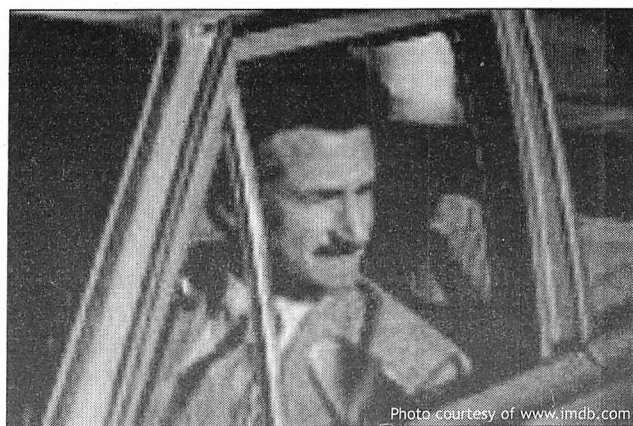
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#### REACHING THE SOU'WESTER

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The Sou'wester  
2000 North Parkway  
Memphis, TN 38112-1690



### A MAD STORY

Sean Penn as Sam Bicke struggles against the world and resolves to assassinate the President.

Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com



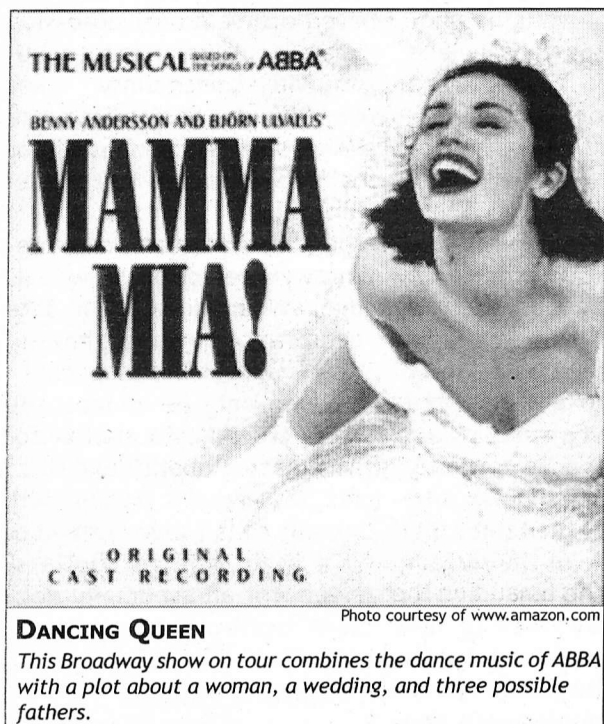
Wednesday, January 26, 2005

## Busy schedule of song and dance hits The Orpheum stage

By Leah Kaye

An enormously busy season is approaching for The Orpheum. If you have no money, much like myself, be sure to check on the internet for student ticket prices as well as student rush information for the Broadway shows.

comedy but a discussion of serious issues. *Madea Goes to Jail*, the third in his Madea series, features emotion, family, and change. While Perry himself is not in *Meet the Browns*, his typical style remains in the retelling of life's trials through the use of comedy.



**Wilco** – Feb. 12; \$27. If you are of college age, or will be, or recently were, Wilco is a band that you are supposed to be into, as is further evident by the fact that it is sold out. Maybe tickets can still be found illegally on the internet. Wilco combines an instrumentally

**Jill Scott** – Feb. 25; \$52.50. A ghetto success story, Scott's career has culminated into a performance of her own music. Recipient of the Aretha Franklin Award as "Entertainer of the Year" at the Lady of Soul Awards, Scott has made contributions not only to soul, but to hip hop, soundtracks, and theater as well.

**Ailey II** – Feb. 26; \$15-\$45. This dance performance by the junior company features youthful dancers and promising choreographers to make for high-energy entertainment. This show is sponsored by the Cultural Development Foundation of Memphis.

**The Merry Widow** – Mar. 18 - Mar. 19; \$30-\$70. Opera Memphis presents this operetta (sung in English) featuring a Parisian widow faced with the possibility of rekindling an old affair.

**Mamma Mia!** – Mar. 29-Apr. 3. ABBA and Broadway? Sounds fabulous! If you, like me, had a much older sibling or very young parents and you have been singing these songs since you could talk, then plot really does not matter anyway. It promises to bring out the "Dancing Queen" in all.

**Say Goodnight Gracie** – Apr. 19-Apr. 24. Starring Frank Gorshin as George Burns, this musical autobiography has left sell-out Broadway performances to hit the road this season.

See the website for information and shows not included in this listing, [www.orpheum-memphis.com](http://www.orpheum-memphis.com).

upbeat feel with the extreme vocal mellowness that is vaguely categorized as indie. But chances are you know them better than I do.

**Little Shop of Horrors** – Feb. 15-Feb. 20; \$15-\$55. We all know this one, though it is doubtful that the dad from *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids*, childhood hero Rick Moranis will be in this one. Singing plants and the nerd triumphs: worth seeing once.

## MUSIC REVIEW

Slow Motion Reign ~by Leah Kaye

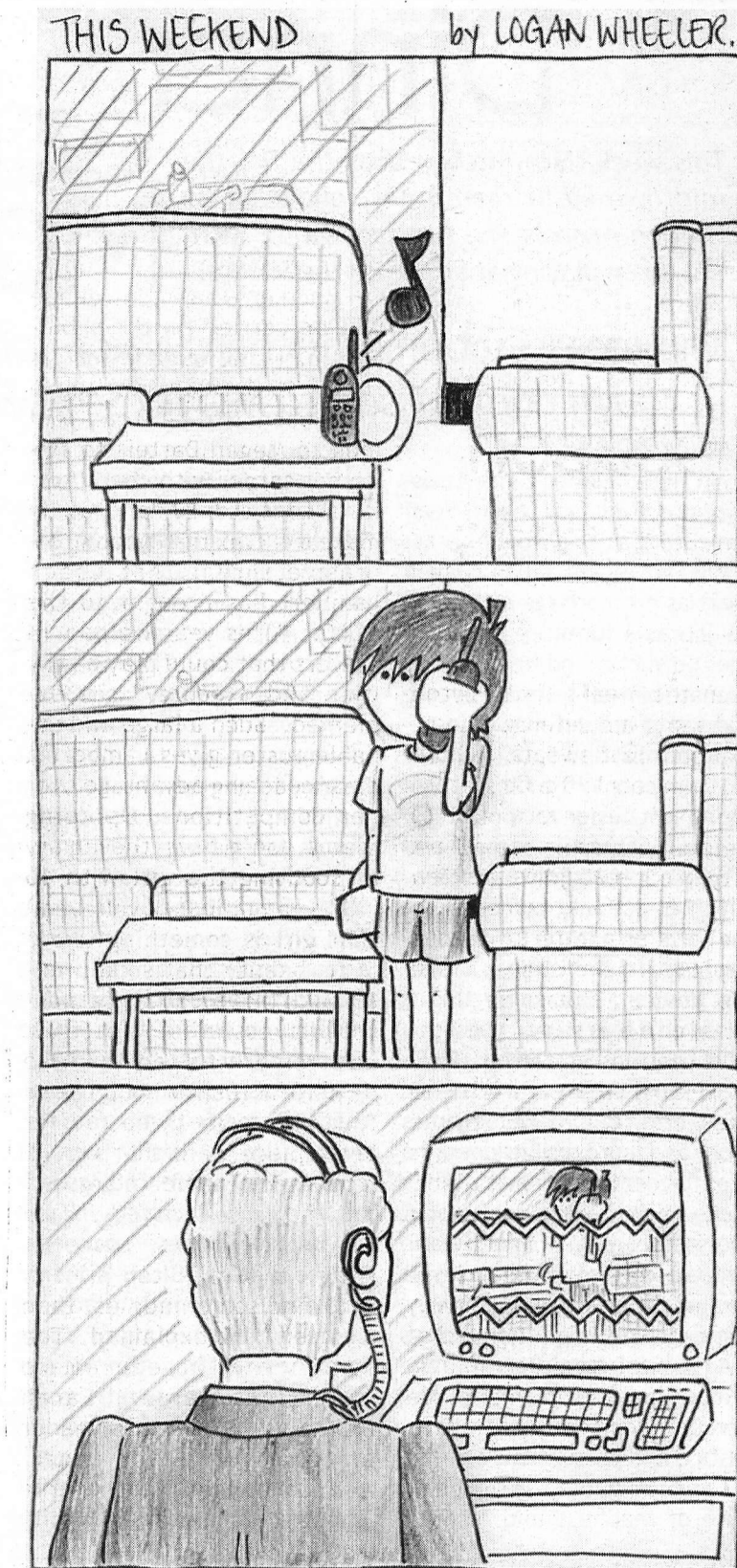
Slow Motion Reign released an EP last year that somehow came across my desk. With a name like Serj Tankian, their producer and lead singer of System of a Down attached to the band, I anticipated the promise of a dark and angry group, and to be honest I got a bit excited. After popping in the album, it did not take long before I popped it right back out again.

The first track began mellow, very dissonant, and I was just

waiting for the breakout of a pumping, hardcore chorus that would complete the sound for me. This never happened, much to my disappointment. As it turns out, the creepy, melodic vocals are a feature of this band, and they make no attempt to cover them up or even incorporate an instrumental variation. The simplicity of the lines is supposed to create a frame of sorts for the lyrical pictures, but they mostly just haunted me instead.

The remainder of the tracks sounded equally dissonant, equally glossy-eyed, and equally intolerable.

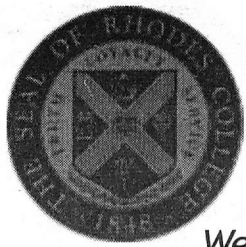
While some (namely Columbia Records) may call this "hypnotic", my word for it is "boring". Tankian says, "[Slow Motion Reign] [a]re great songwriters in the tradition of the Beatles and Pink Floyd." I would say that the Beatles is a bit of stretch, in part because the Beatles can be said to have



a legitimate "pop" feel that spans decades, while Slow Motion Reign can only claim to be "brimming with sun-dappled pop choruses and harmonies that could part clouds," according to Columbia Records. I found very little "pop-py" about the record, unless we are referring to opium, in which case the Pink Floyd reference does ring true.

Think back to the days of head-banging in the car on the way school, back when "Chop Suey" by System of a Down was the big thing, especially when you wanted to "WAKE UP!" Now erase any hope of reliving those memories through this band. I could not even listen to the whole album, and it was only five songs. Sorry Serj, better luck signing your next band.





# Lynx Volleyball confident of next season success

By Evan Elliott

In the weeks that Peyton Manning gives defensive coordinators night sweats, Auburn and Utah count 13 good reasons they each deserve a shot at Southern Cal, and the nastiest lefty in baseball joins the New York Deep Pockets, here in Memphis, Samantha Lambert is mapping a game plan to take Lynx Volleyball team to a Conference Championship, a goal she is confident her girls can achieve next season. The 12 week trip was cut short of the conference tournament this year by rivals Trinity and Southwestern Universities. Of five conference losses, Trinity and Southwestern were each responsible for two, leaving Rhodes with a 3rd place conference finish, two games ahead of the 4th place team.

"We need to build on this season's successes," explained Coach Lambert. The team's efforts will center on adjusting to the loss of a major offensive threat. Senior Middle Blockers Kathryn Giovannini and Rachel Novotny provided much of the Lynx front attack. "You can never replace them, Kathryn and Rachel did a great job," Coach Lambert fondly bragged of the two, but coolly added, "these rising seniors are a dedicated bunch of young ladies, and they know what it takes to win." And it's

the mental aspect that she feels will give her team an edge next season. After hanging in close matches with Division-III powerhouse Trinity, Lambert sees a confidence in her girls that will be critical to clutch wins next season.

Much of that confidence will be carried on the shoulders of rising outside hitters Hallye Hall ('06) and Megan Thompson ('07). They will look to Megan Bartels to finish her career with characteristic consistency, and again make the Lynx the dynamic offensive threat that Coach Lambert has brought to the SCAC. "This year we had 14 players that could play at any time and execute," she explained. Such a large and capable roster gives Lambert a clear coaching advantage over her competition. Opposing teams don't have the luxury of scouting the girl with 15 kills a game; in D-III volleyball that girl is something like a 5'11" beauty that spikes volleyballs like a career carpenter drives nails. Instead, coaches are forced to make sense of a team with three or four girls with three or four kills a piece, "and that's tough to defend," Lambert argues.

Of the team's upcoming recruiting goals, Lambert stated that the "top priority is to find some middles, then a setter," she explained. The setter she will have to replace is rising senior Sarah McAdams, an obvious leader on and off the court. McAdams anchors the middle of the court and skilfully serves up assists, placing the ball anywhere on the net for her teammates to finish off.

That same description often can be heard in reference to Sarah's teammate and close friend Gretchen Bufe ('06). Coach Lambert has had the unique opportunity to coach Gretchen on two courts, also serving as her assistant coach on the Lynx Women's Basketball team. Lambert likes the duality of her position; she argues that it has made her

more accessible. In her role as a volleyball coach, Lambert says she is more forthright in her interaction with Bufe as a captain and in helping her improve, while playing a secondary role during basketball season. "Our relationship is strong enough from volleyball that she can feel comfortable coming to me at any time, during any season. She's a great kid."

McAdams briefly mourned the loss of Novotny and Giovannini, but quickly showed that she hasn't lost sight of the larger objective. She adds that "beating Trinity and Southwestern are going to be two major goals we have next year." Beat them or not, Rhodes has a better chance of playing in the national tournament, as the NCAA has expanded entrance from 48 to include 63 teams, creating more at large bids to the tournament.

When asked how she expected her veterans to influence the reorganization of the team, Lambert said that returning players' roles more reactive than we might think. "Actually the freshmen and sophomores lead by example; they come in fired up and ready to compete," she has noticed. The effect, she says, is an upward flow of intensity. Older players cannot afford to slack while several other girls are working to take their spots. "They build competition among each other," Lambert emphasized.

McAdams does not foresee any slacking from her teammates. "I mean, it is our last time to all play," she said, and that "pushes everyone a little harder to work for an even more successful season than we had the last two years." Predicting that everyone on the team will step up their play next season, it is safe to assume McAdams shares her coach's opinion of the conference. When asked if a conference championship was a realistic goal, Coach Lambert simply smiled, "Absolutely."

# Swimmers and Divers compete at Delta State

By Mike Clary

The first weekend back from winter recess, the Lynx traveled to Cleveland, Mississippi to compete against Division I Tulane and UALR and Division II national power Delta State. Eddie Han ('08) continued his assault on the record book by posting new school records with a 55.66 in the 100 back and 1:59.61 in the 200 back. Jazmin Miller ('08) was just off her season bests in the 50 free (25.15) and 100 free (55.47). Taylor Casey ('07) and Will Corvey ('06) both posted season bests in the 500 and 1000 free. Colleen Armstrong ('08) recorded a season best 1:17.81 in the 100 breast.

"Our men's captains, Will Corvey and Wyatt Franks ('07), have exhibited strong leadership the entire year," said head coach Mike Clary. "Alison Lohse ('07) is battling a mild case of mono, yet she works hard every day in practice. She's been great." The Lynx divers performed well,

with David Hammond ('07) placing 3rd in the one and three meter competition, and Megan Etz ('08) (4th), Katey Orr ('08) (5th) and Leah Hirsch ('08) (3rd) also performed well. "David and Katey practiced four hours a day while in Florida and worked with the diving coach from Brown. Their hard work really paid off," said Coach Clary.

"First-year swimmers Mike Lallemand and Eric Schumacher continue to improve. Their performance at the SCAC Championships in three weeks will be key to the men's team moving up in the conference rankings," said Coach Clary. "The same holds true for Mary Helen Solomon ('07), Hollis Freeman ('08) and Casey Derbes ('08). They must swim well for our women's team to score well."

## Reminder:



January 28,  
DeSoto Civic  
Center,  
tickets \$3  
from ResLife by  
the 26th.

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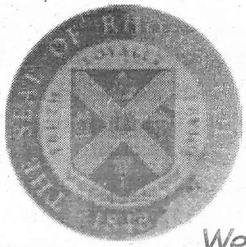
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Wednesday, January 26, 2005

# PAGE 10 RHODE'STER

## Christ takes a coffee break *Son of God enjoys the fuller flavor of Starbucks brand roast*

Chelsea Ashworth  
Rhode'ster Caf-fiend

Last week, everyone's favorite reporter for *The Rhode'ster* (that's me, of course) had the opportunity to have a sit down with Jesus Christ, a.k.a. J-Dog, Captain Miracle, God, Jr.—well, you know who I mean. He suggested coffee, so we headed over to Starbucks. Well, after ordering my usual tall white mocha, and getting over my amazement that J-Christle would actually order something from such a monopolistic establishment (a venti quad ristretto nonfat dry cappuccino), we sat down to chat about issues at Rhodes.

CA: Dude, J-Man, what's up with the ferocious drink order? I would definitely have thought that Starbucks fell on that famous "Enemy of the Man" list. What gives?

JC: Actually, I'm opposed to the Starbucks syndicate, but to tell the truth, I'm a huge fan and couldn't give up an opportunity to speak with you. Also, you may not realize this (since it's really beyond your feeble human comprehension), but there is an amazing amount of work that I must accomplish each day. Believe me, caffeine is completely necessary, and

Java City just wasn't cutting it. Starbucks is the only place capable of satisfying my cravings with its near coma-inducing caffeine levels.

CA: Fair enough. But do you intend to allow Starbucks to continue its caffeine cartel indefinitely?

[At this point the Son of God rubbed his hands maniacally, in a manner disturbingly similar to Monty Burns]

JC: Oh no, they will get what is coming to them eventually. I won't say when, and I won't say how, but their downfall will be even more amazing than when Medieval Lit professor Susan Uselmann wooed her husband, fellow English Professor Stephen Schottenfeld, with her famous Middle English readings.

CA: Wow! You really do know what's going on at Rhodes.

JC: Yes. I've been fascinated lately by the progress of the Standards and Standing Council's deliberations over the Floyd Howard case.

CA: Yeah, that's a pretty hot topic now. What do you think?

JC: The Council will come to their senses soon. At least

they'd better, or I'll send my boy Jesse down there to straighten things out.

CA: Jesse Jackson? You still support him after the whole adultery scandal?

JC: Don't forget, Chelsea, no one is beyond forgiveness. He's pledged the rest of his life to serving the good African-Americans of this country. Besides, I told him I'd forgive him if he'd raise more trouble for those nasty ex-slave owners.

CA: Uh, that seems a little racist.

JC: It's really my only shortfall. Don't tell anyone, but I'm completely biased. I just can't stand to see another one of my brothers get screwed by a white man.

CA: I'm confused. You said that as though you are black, but I've seen you in stained glass windows, dude, and you're definitely white.

JC: I am now, but I was much darker when I was younger. The problem is, I developed that skin

disease that Michael Jackson has. Now I look like another boring whitey. Come on, you can't tell me you don't notice a semblance between the persecutions.

CA: Are you saying he's not a pedophile?

[Christ does a spit-take]

JC: Who told you that? That's classified. But it does remind me of a particularly good story...

CA: Hey, don't get off the subject! We were talking about people at Rhodes. Have you got any juicy gossip?

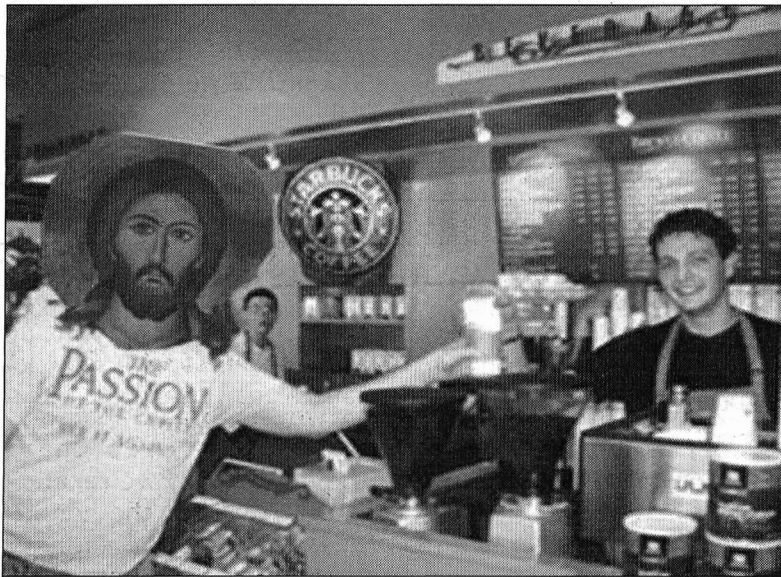
JC: Well, I could bring up that time that you [Censored by Editor]

CA: Hey King of the Juice, I didn't invite you down here to chastise me for that! It's bad enough that I can't enter the State of Alabama for a year and have to evade the police when traveling through Humphries County!

JC: All right, but just remember, I've got my eyes on you.

CA: Ugh, it must suck to be you. It's a good thing that you don't have to worry about going blind!

[At this point Christ actually did go blind, and the interview ended.]



**THE COFFEE OF THE CHRIST**  
Iconic figure Jesus Christ, pictured above, accepts his favorite coffee beverage from an overly-excited barrista. Photo by Satan

## The Rhode'ster Horoscope: Often Mistaken for Astronomy

**Aries:** (March 21–April 19) When you ordered the Magic Ring Aioli Burger, you were not aware of the significance of the "magic ring" part, but when the dwarves show up next week, you will have no other explanation.

**Taurus:** (April 20–May 20) Last time you decided to forgive and forget, but this time when you receive a single latte in lieu of an extra-strong skinny cappuccino, it's going to be personal.

**Gemini:** (May 21–June 21) You will finally come to realize that your black armband and blue ribbon do not match, but by then

Stacy and Clinton will have already broadcast your shame on cable television.

**Cancer:** (June 22–July 22) You will be bewildered this week to learn that the bookstore does not offer refunds on stapled-together pages of erotic fanfiction, no matter how much you claim it is your textbook for Boswell's class.

**Leo:** (July 23–Aug. 22) Joining the Anime club seemed like a good idea at the time, but when you wake up in chains you will realize that when they said he was the Dungeon Master, they weren't being figurative

**Virgo:** (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) They all laughed when you self-published an expose about President Troutt being an actual trout, but after the fishing competition next week, you'll be the one laughing.

**Libra:** (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) You will receive a surprise when, so worn out by protesting various causes, you will sleep through both Black and Women's History month, not awakening until April, White Dead Men's History Month.

**Scorpio:** (Oct. 24–Nov. 21) The fact that the photographer for the *Commercial Appeal* just happened by in time to capture your look of

surprise will be the best part of discovering that you are the love child of an as-yet-anonymous Dean of the College.

**Sagittarius:** (Nov. 22–Dec. 21) At first you will be excited to find out that you made it into the Campus Safety Log, but you will soon realize that, despite their promises that none of the details would be divulged, they still mentioned the gerbil.

**Capricorn:** (Dec. 22–Jan. 19) You've always thought the striking resemblance between you and a certain English professor was just a coincidence, but on Friday you'll

learn that Dr. Jeter's been messing around with cloning again.

**Aquarius:** (Jan. 20–Feb. 18) You thought you were so cool, but your ignorance concerning the conversion of Newtons per meter into pounds per nanometer will make you the laughing-stock of the SPS, and, by proxy, the entire school.

**Pisces:** (Feb. 19–March 20) Don't worry, the injuries will heal fairly quickly, but the knowledge that you were talking to your roommate on AIM and not CrAzYsExGoDdeSs19 will be harder to erase.

# RHODE'STER

Wednesday, January 26, 2005



**THE RHODE'STER**  
founded 753 BC

**THE MONARCH**  
Caroline Bishop

**BROCK SAMSON**  
Chelsea Ashworth

**DR. ORPHEUS**  
Susannah Young

**DEAN VENTURE**  
Laura Owensby

**DR. VENTURE**  
Frances Rabalais

The Rhode'ster would also like to thank:

**HANK VENTURE**  
Jack Leslie

**DR. EX-GIRLFRIEND**  
Jamie Groover

**TRIANA ORPHEUS**  
God

If you submit, your name could be here, too!

**Why do we hate The Rhode'ster?**

- 17%: Don't realize it's a parody newspaper
- .0013%: Articles "too funny"
- 9%: Statshots are impossible to read
- 22%: Jesus told us to
- 15%: Boycotted when mockery of Clifton Bryant disappeared
- 4%: Chelsea Ashworth doesn't respond to fan mail
- 13%: Not enough mentions of Anime Club
- 29%: Own roadster, suing for defamation

## Bush Delivers Second Inaugural Address Kerry Cries Bitter Tears, Delivers Pizza

John Smith  
Rhode'ster Pseudonymity

After a close presidential race, incumbent President George W. Bush was sworn into office for the second time at noon on January 20. After taking the oath, he proceeded to give his inaugural address to the nation, a stirring piece of patriotic oratory.

Because Rhodes College loses funding if it does not provide services to different ethnic groups and the handicapped, and because the Publications Board threatened to shut us down if we kept running incendiary parodies without providing any recognizable service to the greater campus community, *The Rhode'ster* has been required to provide translations of the address for those amongst us who may not have understood it completely.

Since we obviously did not have room to run the content of the entire speech, the following is a small sampling of what our vastly skilled linguists came up with. Remember, these translations have been made by trained professionals. Please do not attempt on your own.

*The hearing-impaired:*

VICE PRESIDENT CHENEY! MR. CHIEF JUSTICE! PRESIDENT CARTER! PRESIDENT BUSH! PRESIDENT CLINTON! MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS! REVEREND CLERGY! DISTINGUISHED GUESTS!

AND, OF COURSE, MY FELLOW AMERICANS!

*Yoda-Americans:*

This day on, law prescribed by and ceremony marked by, the wisdom that is durable of our Constitu-

tion we celebrate and the commitments deep that unite our country we recall. Grateful am I for the honor of this hour, mindful am I of the times consequential in which we live, and determined am I to the oath fulfill that sworn have I and witnessed have you. At this second gathering, defined not by the words I use are our duties, but by the history together we have seen. Standing watch on borders distant, America our own freedom defended for half a century.

*Cave Dwellers:*

Me see vulnerability, me see deepest source. For long as world simmer resentment, tyranny, me know prone ideologies feed hatred, excuse murder, violence gather, multiply power, cross borders, raise threat. One historica force,

breaks resentment reign, expose tyrant pretension, reward decent hope. That human freedom.

*Pirates:*

The lot o' us, by land-lubbers' sense, have anchored at one idear: The livin' of liberty in our ship depends on the livin' of liberty in Davy Jones' locker. The goodest hope for peace in our port is the shipping of freedom to scallywagged parts o' the sea.

America's prize booty and 'er deepest beliefs is now one. Ere the morn of our foundin', we have proclaimed that every lad and wench on the seven seas has treasure and heartiness and matchless luster. Across generations, we have proclaimed the bountiness of self-government, because no one is fit

to be cap'n, and no one smarts to be a bilge rat.

*And finally, for all the Rhodes Illiterate:*

sfsaSF sAAgmf  
rtretirmvqwew rperu  
ew274238 osffalkhsgoluiht  
alkjsgkljsg wq3t0892w70  
alkshlkskj rhodesiskewl387w  
s d l k h s l k j s g a g 0 8 9  
agouisgs82308  
agoiydlhaglkh 94t  
ifksfjksdf....

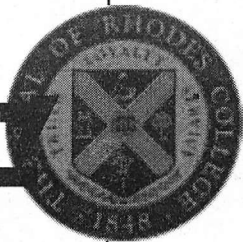
**IT'S 2:00 IN THE MORNING AND I'M LOCKED IN THE PUB CENTER BY MYSELF, LISTENING TO THE SONG "LEBANESE BLONDE" BY THIEVERY CORPORATION FOR ABOUT THE NINTH TIME. ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT THIS. SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO BISC@RHODES.EDU, ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT.**

The Parody Student Newspaper of  
Rhodes College

# THE RHODE STER

VOL. XV

NO. 4



## Dining

Lack of regret sweeps campus as Triscuit consumption reaches all-time high.

SeeReviews



## Protest

Editor of The Rhode'ster simultaneously burned and hanged in effigy.

SeeNews

## Rhodes presents Dave Matthews with honorary degree *Rocker tells Troutt to "lay down on him" what he's got*

Caroline Bishop  
Rhode'ster Rock'ster

In a gala ceremony this past Saturday, Rhodes President Bill Troutt presented Dave Matthews, lead singer and front man of the Dave Matthews Band, with an honorary degree from Rhodes College. The ceremony was attended by many prestigious members of the faculty and staff, Matthews and his eponymous band, and 99.9% of the student body.

"Mr. Matthews, for your honor and dedication in providing homogeneous pop-alternative rock songs, as well as covers of such greats as Bob Dylan, we present you with this degree, conferring upon you the title of Doctor of Catchy Four-Minute Radio-Ready Music. You have changed the face of Rhodes College—indeed, of every college and university in this great land—and we will forever be grateful to you," announced Troutt in his opening address.

Over the past few years, the topic of providing Matthews with some material proof of the great impact he has had on the school has been under consideration by the Board of Trustees. It was clear to the administration that Matthews played an important role in the Rhodes experience, but there was no hard evidence. Fortunately,

a study conducted earlier this year by bored Anthro/Soc. majors finally determined once and for all that the vast majority of the student body owns at least one Dave Matthews Band CD, poster, or fan club sticker. Even the infinitesimal minority that did not own any of these items admitted with bitterness that they were well aware of the existence of Dave Matthews and "his unfortunate band."

Indeed, the campus was proven to be inundated with Matthews-related items. "If you want to know how much Dave Matthews has influenced this campus, just look around you," explained sociology professor Tom McGowan. "I mean, can you even find one SUV in a Rhodes parking lot without one of those fan club stickers on its back windshield? What that contorted female body has to do with the Dave Matthews Band is anyone's guess, but does it really matter? It should be clear that Dave Matthews and his band of the same name have taken over this campus."

Having realized the magnitude of Matthews' influence upon Rhodes, the Board of Trustees decided that it was finally time to formally recognize his presence on the campus. With the help of a student-run poll, it was agreed that the best course of action was to present

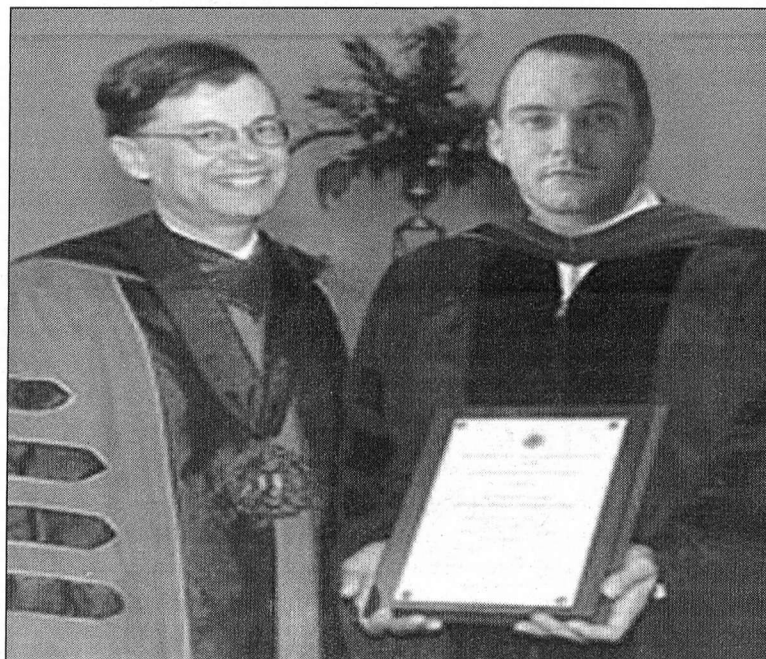


Photo by Hootie and the Blowfish

### MATTHEWS DECLARED KING OF RHODES' SATELLITE CASTLE

Rhodes President Bill Troutt poses with legendary rocker Dave Matthews, who holds his honorary degree. Matthews was pleased by the ceremony, asserting that in all of his years in the music industry, he had never seen such interesting academic regalia.

Matthews with an honorary degree.

However, not everyone on campus was pleased by the administration's decision to bestow this honor upon Matthews. Rhodes' indie music fans—all twenty-five of them—decided to protest the ceremony. While Troutt was giving his opening address to the campus community, the protestors drove around Fisher Garden in their cars with their windows down, blasting indie favorites from the like of Guided by Voices, Sleater-Kinney, Hot Hot Heat, and every Radiohead album be-

sides *OK Computer* and *The Bends*.

"This whole idea is ridiculous," said indie aficionado Molly Chapman ('05). "Instead of giving our support to the peddlers of bland feel-good rock, why can't we be urging people to rediscover forgotten greats such as Neutral Milk Hotel's 1998 release *In the Aeroplane Over the Sea*? Or introducing people to last year's minimal house masterpiece by Chilean artist Ricardo Villalobos, *Thé Au Harem d'Archimède*? God, this display is even worse than the fact that The Postal Service

has lost their indie cred. The only thing that could calm me down right now is The Walkmen's seminal sophomore album *Bows + Arrows*." She then wandered off, muttering to herself about Interpol and the Pixies' reunion tour.

But the ceremony continued despite the protests of the well-versed Chapman, and Matthews was presented with his degree without any further interruptions. As Matthews rose to accept the award, the Rhodes Student Orchestra, accompanied by the Rhodes Singers, broke into a medley of his greatest hits. This pleased the half-drunk crowd, who brandished their lighters and began to sing along.

"I'd like to thank everyone who's made this possible by buying my albums," said Matthews in his acceptance speech. "You should be proud of yourselves. Thanks to you, pop sell-outs just like me can have an inflated sense of self-worth. What would this great country be coming to if a half-talented group of semi-attractive and racially integrated people couldn't make millions covering the great hits of the '60s?"

A reception following the ceremony featured the musical stylings of Modest Mouse, who were forced to accept the gig due to near starvation.