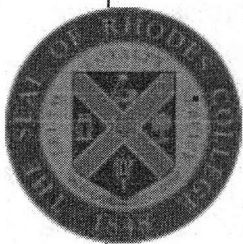


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Rhodes College

THE SOU' WESTER

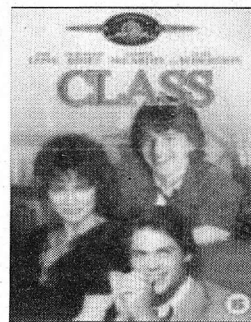


VOL. XCI, NO.4

9.29.04

Review

Wes Lawrence re-views the 1980's classic *Class*, starring The West Wing's Rob Lowe and Jacqueline Bisset.



SeeScene

News

Assistant Director of Residence Life Marianne Luther offers a spotlight on the services offered by Residence Life.

SeeNews

Graduate School Week comes to Rhodes

By Meg Sizemore

Monday September 20, marked the beginning of the 2004 Rhodes Graduate Awareness week. For yet another year, the Rhodes Graduate School Awareness Week assisted Rhodes students in understanding life after graduation. Weeks of preparation by Career Services staff resulted in a highly successful program of events, which included a seminar by Don Asher, the Graduate School Expo, and a graduate school Test Drive fundraiser (with proceeds going to the Rhodes Chapter of Habitat for Humanity.)

A brief seminar on Tuesday night informed students of the post-graduate scholarship opportunities available. Career Services' Melissa Butler spoke briefly on the best way to research post graduate financing opportunities before the students split up in to separate groups to study specific areas in which financing is available. Given the wealth of information, students were assured that all the information was available on the Rhodes Website. She added that while a few of the deadlines have passed, there are still many opportunities including the Gates, Watson, and Mellon Grants. In particular, students were urged to begin their consultations immediately as the preparation for applying can often

take longer than most undergraduate scholarships.

One of the biggest events of the week was Don Asher's seminar on Wednesday night. Asher spoke last year during Graduate School Awareness Week to a very small student audience. This year, however, the turnout was bigger with over 70 students and professors in attendance in Blount Auditorium to hear the "witty repartee" and advice of Mr. Asher. Asher spoke on many subjects including graduate schools in other countries, writing an impressive essay and personal statement, the reasons for attending graduate school and safety schools versus reach schools. Asher began his hour and a half by asking for questions from the students, not believing he would know best what students biggest concerns were. Before beginning to answer students' questions, he prefaced his advice with a maxim reiterated throughout the seminar: "Never self-select out; if you don't belong, they'll reject you." Tips for choosing a graduate school included listening to gossip ("Gossip is valid research", Asher explains) researching the staff to make sure they're studying the sort of things within your field of interest that would strengthen your studies throughout grad school, and considering which field of study most interests you. Many

prospective graduate school students don't consider how their field of interest will affect their ability to gain entrance to certain programs. For example, most of the clinical psychology programs are harder to get in to than Harvard medical school, and IS majors will have a difficult time gaining entry to certain programs without having experienced an internship of sorts.

Benefits of graduate school include a low unemployment rate (the unemployment rate for PhDs hitting a high of 1.3% only recently, up from .8% in '99) and a salary of up to 1.3 million dollars more than a career with a bachelor's degree. Outside of the simple monetary upsides of attending grad school, children of those with higher degrees are more likely to enter and graduate from college and graduate school. Not only will the graduate's IQ rise, but their children will also show a greater inclination towards learning. Besides, Asher adds, "people like to have sex with smart people, so if you don't want to think about providing for your future children, you can at least think about the making of your future children."

When considering schools, Asher advised students to consider why they want to go. He states "You shouldn't go if you don't want to, and furthering your education is pointless and



Photo by Ford Hafford

BILLY COLLINS COMES TO RHODES

Former Poet Laureate Billy Collins signs copies of his book after a reading of his works.

Poet Laureate Billy Collins reads from his works

By Jonathan Wigand

On Wednesday, September 22, 2004, former U.S. Poet Laureate, Billy Collins came to a Rhodes hosted reading of his work. The event drew people from across the college and the community, some of whom were diehard fans, while others were just curious to here what the poet had to say.

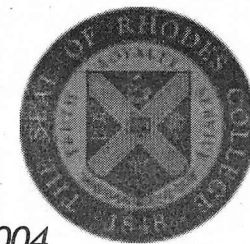
Collins has been compared to Robert Frost for his popularity and the diversity of his audience; his fans range from students to teachers to anyone who happens to walk in on something like a poetry reading at a local college. He has attracted the attention of such noteworthy figures as John Updike, who has been quoted as

saying, "Billy Collins writes lovely poems...limpid, gently and consistently startling, more serious than they seem, they describe all the worlds that are and were and some others besides."

According to Cynthia Magriel Wetcher of the *New York Times*, Collins' work transcends conventional boundaries and appeals to a wide variety of readers because of its simplicity and its humor combined with seriousness. "Luring his readers into the poem with humor, Mr. Collins leads them unwillingly into deeper, more serious places, a kind of journey from the familiar or quirky to unexpected territory, sometimes tender, often profound," says Wetcher.

Graduate, continued on Page 5

Collins, continued on Page 5



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JEFF KNOWLES

Theft and unsound ownership

Why does the absence of something occupy our attention more than when we actually possess it? When things are stolen do we value those items more than when carried them in our pockets or on our backs?

This week I became a statistic in the weekly crime report as victim of another BCLC theft, marking the third or is it 18th theft from that building in the last five or so days. Messenger bag with a notebook, gum, highlighters, cell phone, car keys, Sartre and Joyce all gone—I would have gladly given away the Sartre and Joyce to anybody who really wanted it, gum too.

What I find most disturbing when things get stolen, besides the aggravation of the property violation, is the alteration of trust we display towards our community. Whether we are making a wiser choice in locking things away and viewing strangers with suspicion or simply recoiling from a preventable crime, I dislike displaying an attitude of distrust for my fellow man where I once held faith, albeit naive.

Realizing a theft has occurred is an interesting, although frustrating series of

events. We first experience loss as something being out of place. We leave things physically and mentally stationary, expecting those things to remain just as they were when we next encounter them. When our expectation of being reacquainted with our

This week I became a statistic in the weekly crime report as victim of another BCLC theft, marking the third or is it 18th theft from that building in the last five or so days.

messenger bag fails, we instantly think we were mistaken—maybe we left the bag somewhere else. So we start searching as if it had grown legs and walked away. We look in the most insane hiding places, spots so ridiculous

that we actually think them logical, blinded by our rising sense of desperation. Finally we are forced to concede that our bag has been stolen and that we are helpless in reacquiring it.

After anger and frustration subside we attempt to argue with our cerebral image of the thief. In our mind we reason with this abstract thief; we explain the meager value of his loot—our possessions—that a cell phone is no good after it has been deactivated, a car too risky to steal (especially with The Club™ in action), books virtually useless in a pawn shop, highlighters...

We are also foolish to think maybe someone, probably not too bright, picked up the bag on accident and took it home and is yet to realize the switch-up. This option, while optimistic, only happens in those teen after-school t.v. shows, not so much in real life.

Although the theft occurred but a few days ago I have come to terms with my loss, moved on, as some people say. I think Thoreau said something fitting about how if you cannot immediately leave everything you

own then you have an odd view of what you possess. Echoed by Tyler Durden in Fight Club, "the things you own end up owning you." American capitalism and indeed the American notion of property ownership is something we hold as a sacred right. The ability to possess something intrinsically defines who we are and has become one of the greatest criticisms of our culture. It is true that I owned

those books, but I did not write them, I did not cut the trees that provided the paper for them, and I did not bind the pages together, yet I controlled its destiny. Maybe we should think of ourselves as merely stewards of the things we collect. We recognize that in our life we own books, highlighters, car keys, but we did not have a hand in their creation and when we die, they remain.

The Stoics look at objects in the material world and know that everything is fragile—this is a vase and vases can break. The only thing we can control is how we react to the broken vase, or stolen

bag. How much will we let it affect us? How will this theft affect how we view our surroundings, our community?

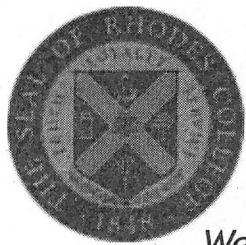
A new bag will be purchased, books checked out from the library, and keys remade,

and I will eventually forget this incident. To the shock of some, I will continue to leave my dorm room unlocked and retain a sense of obtuse, but comforting trust even in the wake of this episode. Lesson of the day: Things get stolen, but never should those things or the theft modify the value you place on people or your possessions.

American capitalism and indeed the American notion of property ownership is something we hold as a sacred right.

Friendly reminder from Campus Safety

The campus safety office, located across the street in the Spann-Stewart residence complex, is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please come by to register your vehicle and pick up your free vehicle decals if you have not done so.



Wednesday, September 29, 2004

PAGE 3
OPINION

EVAN VOLGAS

Staging debates: two party system perpetuates self

As the upcoming presidential debate looms nearer, it is appropriate to consider the question: what is the purpose of the candidates engaging in a debate? The natural answer would say something about the importance of letting the candidates define themselves against their opponent. Or it might stress the value in affording viewers an opportunity to learn more about where the candidates stand on the issues. There is also the cynical answer to the question: Presidential debates exist only to allow the two parties to showcase their candidates. The debates are, in reality, nothing more than bipartisan press conferences. I admit my bias in favor of the later response, and hope to use this opportunity to explain it.

Backing up a few steps, presidential debates, as you may or may not be aware, are currently moderated by the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD). The CPD was created in 1986 by an agreement between the two major political parties in this nation, Republican and Democrat. At one time, the League of Women's Voters was responsible for moderating the debates. The League of Women's Voters, which allowed a third-party candidate to participate in the debates, was replaced by the CPD after former President Carter and others voiced disapproval. The commission's purpose, said the agreement that created it, was "for the parties to take over presidential debates."

Partisanship is central to the operations of the CPD. The board members of the CPD are openly partisan. Many of them have actually

campaigned for the Republican or Democratic parties while serving on the board. The chairmen of the CPD - Misters Fahrenkoph and Kirk - are also quite partisan, and have publicly stated their desire to maintain a two-party system of democracy. Perhaps illustrative, Mr. Fahrenkoph is on record as saying that "The purpose of [the CPD], it seems to me, is to try to preserve the two-party system that works very well, and if you like the multiparty system, then go to Sri Lanka and India and Indo-

Partisanship restricts movement and only the designs of the party can factor in to a politician's actions-- the stakes of political deviation are too high.

nesia. I think it's obvious that independent candidates mess things up."

Partisanship is an important issue, and shall be returned to in a moment. First, a few notes about the CPD must be registered. To participate in the debates, the CPD requires that a candidate be either nominated by one of the two major parties or be a third-party candidate polling over 15 percent of the national vote. Fifteen percent is not a low barrier (to receive federal matching funds, a candidate needs to poll five). In the past hundred years,

only one third-party candidate could have met the commission's criteria. That candidate was John Anderson, the same third-party candidate whose inclusion in the 1980 debates prompted the two parties to create the CPD.

As it regards the CPD format, the debates do not resemble debates in the ordinary sense of the word. The candidates' responses are prefabricated. Questions taken from the audience are screened before factoring into the debates. Follow-up questions and clarifications are disallowed. Candidate-to-candidate questioning is explicitly outlawed by the CPD. The candidates are allowed to veto a question from being asked, and even the debate moderators and panelists are picked by the two candidates. The result? Spontaneity plays no role in the CPD debates. They are literally a contest to see which candidate hired the best speech writers.

But why are presidential debates important, anyway? And how is it that the CPD fails to fulfill whatever role a debate is supposed to perform? These questions can only be answered by injecting values into the response. I shall leave the reader to answer them. But in answering them, the reader is encouraged to consider the function of partisanship in the CDP debates.

Partisanship is a fairly common phenomenon. It can be a dangerous one. It is for reasons of partisanship that Democrats refuse to consider banning partial-birth abortions, or tampering with the train wreck that we call welfare. It is for reasons of partisanship that Republicans unanimously vote for lower

taxes, even when they know that such an action pumps steroids into the growth of the national debt. Partisanship restricts movement. Only the designs of the party can factor in to a politician's actions; the stakes of political deviation are too high.

Partisanship is also pessimistic. The two political parties operate within the approval of the majority. Although important concerns exist with respect to the future of the environment, the economy, and America's role in the world, the two political parties are too attached to the status quo to devise any sort of meaningful change to the way things are now. Columnists write that partisanship has crippled the operations of Congress. Senators and Representatives from both parties complain that partisanship is so prevalent on the Hill that it is impossible to get anything done.

As it regards presidential debates, partisanship prevents difficult questions from being asked. Are our current policies towards the Middle East leading us towards painful consequences in the future? Are our taxation or welfare policies bankrupting the future generations of Americans? Don't expect these sorts of questions to be asked in the debates on Thursday. The CPD has no interest in helping Americans select a good president. It doesn't really care if people learn something useful about the candidates by watching the debates.

The only reason the CPD exists is so that the two parties can maintain control. And in this sense, the CPD is high on the list of those things that encourage political inaction with respect to America's future.

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speech here***

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***Submit to box 3010 or
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***Letters must be signed and will be edited for
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Wednesday, September 29, 2004

PAGE 5 NEWS

Campus Safety

9.18.04-9.24.04

9/18	5:30 p.m.	Campus Life Center, student wallet is stolen while playing racketball; report filed; MPD notified.
9/19	1:46 a.m.	Glassell dorm, two students cited for alcohol violations; also cited for aggressive behavior and fighting. Campus Safety officer and the ADRL were on scene.
	2:50 p.m.	Campus Life Center; student reported a stolen wallet. Report filed.
	3:33 p.m.	Voorhies social room; Campus Safety Officer detained and questioned two off-campus teens for trespassing.
9/20	10:38 a.m.	Rhodes Tower, vandalism of personal property; report filed.
9/21		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
9/22	7:32 a.m.	Resident at 719 University upset with construction workers, parking along the curb at Lyndale street, causing resident's garbage not to be picked up by the city. MPD was called.
	2:30 p.m.	Rhodes Tower, suspicious person reported in the hallway, trying to buy textbooks. Campus Safety officer responded and escorted subject off campus.
9/23	6:15 p.m.	Solomon field, football player injured at practice. Student was transported by ambulance to Baptist East emergency room.
9/24		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

STATS:

ACCESSES: 80
CITATIONS: 81
ESCORTS: 17
BOOT: 0

VISITORS: 1,614
PROPPED DOORS: 7
JUMP: 1
TOW: 0

Collins, continued from Page 1

The reading was followed by an autograph session with the poet, and a few of his books, including *Sailing Around the Room*, *Questions About Angels*, *The Apple that Astonished Paris*, and *Nine Horses*, were sold to those interested in owning a copy. Collins has published nine books of poetry to date. Collins was named Poet Laureate of the United States for 2001 - 2003, and he was named New York State Poet Laureate for 2004 - 2006 in

January. His honors have included fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. He has also served as a "Literary Lion" for the New York Public Library and as a writer-in-residence for such institutions as Sarah Lawrence College in New York and the Burren College of Art in Ireland.

Graduate, continued from Page 1

painful if you're doing it for anyone but yourself." Honors and awards, faculty achievements, and recent studies done by the program are a good way to measure interest in it and if high interest is noted, students are advised to be wary of their eagerness as it may sometimes be construed as arrogance. "It's all in how you say things," Asher tells his audiences "If you say 'I know I would be an excellent addition to your program,' they're not going to pay any attention to you. If you say 'I feel I would be an excellent addition to your program,' then you won't be thought of as arrogant." The most important piece of advice Asher offered was to practice your admissions test as often as you can, but only take the test once unless you know for a fact the score can be improved.

On Thursday, graduate schools from around the country set up in the BCLC to educate students on their programs. Most of the visiting schools were either law or seminary schools, and though that was disconcerting to some students, the representatives were all very pleased to be there.

Career Services offer their own advice to students: "Expand your horizons; don't look to the same schools your best friends attend, but as long as the school fits you, go somewhere new and exciting. Graduate school is the perfect place to continue growing as a student and person, even if you will spend most of it in the library."

The week ended with Saturday's Test Drive (formerly Test the Test), raising over \$300 for the Rhodes chapter of Habitat. Garrett Honea ('06), a Habitat participant and proctor for the test, said that he thought it was an excellent program and was pleased to be a part of it. "Thanks for doing this, guys," he said on Saturday afternoon, "It's great for Habitat to have the support of the campus community; we really appreciate it."

Careers Services is on hand throughout the year to offer students advice and information regarding graduate study, careers, and internships.

Spotlight On . . . Residence Life

By Marianne Luther

Living in the residence halls is an important aspect of the Rhodes college experience. This year over 75 percent of students live on campus. The residence halls are the place to hangout, meet new people, play video games, eat pizza at 2:00 a.m., but more importantly they are a safe place to study and to sleep. Tucked behind the Trezevant and Williford tunnel is the Residence Life Office. It is the place that works to make all this happen. The office is responsible for a variety of functions and services but most notably housing assignments, and coordinating the resident assistant program. The mission of the Residence Life Office is to provide a safe and comfortable environment in which students can achieve academic goals and to educate students to respect one another in order to be responsible members of their communities. This is not always an easy task as each resident on campus plays a role in working towards this mission.

The most visible feature of the office is the resident assistant program and the resident assistants themselves. Every year the Residence Life Offices hires, trains and evaluates 36 resident assistants to live in the halls. Each RA is responsible for building community within their hall or building, and to form relationships with their residents. Jennifer Brooks ('05) serves as an RA for the 1st floor and basement of Voorhies. She has found that what she enjoys most about being an RA "is the variety of people I have met. Being an RA [has] provided me an opportunity to meet people I wouldn't have met otherwise". Ultimately RAs are responsible for the health and safety of each resident. This includes helping assess the physical aspects of the building-conducting smoke detector checks, following up with hall damage, completing RCRs and entering work orders as well as addressing more psychosocial issues of roommate

conflicts, mental health and personal issues, alcohol, noise, and inappropriate behavior.

In addition, the Residence Life office works towards achieving six goals. One goal is to "educate students about expectations of living in a residential community." This is mostly carried out through hall meetings, individual conversations, and enforcement of residence hall and campus policies.

There are two assistant directors and one associate director who live on campus in Williford, Glassell, and Stewart. By living in close proximity to the students, they are able to respond to student concerns and emergency situations. ADRLs are responsible for the training and supervision of the RAs. They work to build relationships with students and provide personal guidance and awareness of campus resources. In addition, they are responsible for adjudicating noise, alcohol and other residence hall and campus policies.

The Residence Life office plays a role in co-sponsoring programs with other offices as well as sponsoring educational and social programs focused on diversity and student issues. Each RA is required to organize programs for their hall.

In addition to working with roommate situations, adjudicating conduct meetings, and programming, the RLO is responsible for all residence hall keys. The office also has punk pins, 6ft cable cords, tools to adjust beds and information about voicemail.

One other off shoot of the office is Residence Voice. ResVoice is an independent student organization that attempts to address the concerns of residential students. Res Voice President, Katie Jameson ('05) feels that "it serves as a bridge between Aramark, Physical Plant, Campus Safety and the Deans. Our goal is to make campus living enjoyable experience for all parties involved by raising the concerns of residents to the staff at the college."



MUSIC REVIEW

Velvet Revolver: Contraband ~By John Hunter Duesing

Over the summer, I was rocking out in my car to one of my favorite hard rock albums, Guns N' Roses' *Appetite for Destruction*, when a question suddenly entered my skull: What the heck happened to the old line-up of GNR? Instead of having my question grimly answered through a VH1 *I Love the 80's* or "where are they now?" special, my query answered itself with the release of the new band Velvet Revolver's debut album, *Contraband*. From the former GNR lineup is the guitar hero Slash, bassist heartthrob Duff McKagan, and drummer Matt Sorum, who join forces with the former Stone Temple Pilots frontman and ex-heroin fiend Scott Weiland, and a rhythm guitarist named Dave Kushner thus forming Velvet Revolver, a gathering of some of contemporary rock's biggest heroes (and ex-junkies) in one band.

While many "supergroups" like Velvet Revolver crumble away as soon as they start due to crappy music (Anyone remember Bowie's effort with Tin Machine? Didn't think so),

BACK IN THE SADDLE

Former members of Guns N' Roses and Stone Temple Pilots join forces to create standout tracks like "Slither," "Fall to Pieces," and "Big Machine."



Photo courtesy of www.rcarecords.com

Velvet Revolver is thankfully an exception. I was really pleased to see how well the late-'80s/early-'90s GNR-style riffs and rhythms from the instrumental portion of the group meshed with Scott Weiland's howling vocals. I got hit with GNR nostalgia when I listened to songs like "Do It For The Kids" and "Fall To Pieces," a ballad reminiscent of *Appetite's* "Sweet Child O Mine." Weiland serves up some of his trademark drug-soaked lyrics in grooves like "Big Machine" and "Set Me Free," while thankfully venturing outside those themes in tunes such as "Fall to Pieces." While most of the tracks are

great fun to groove to like "Big Machine" and the hit single "Slither," some of the songs are as forgettable as the come, "Illegal i Song" being a great example.

While *Contraband* is not destined for cast-iron greatness like *Appetite for Destruction*, it is still a fantastic album and is light-years ahead of most the garbage I see on the new release shelves at the music store these days. In a world where truly enjoyable rock albums seldom come out anymore, *Contraband* is a refreshing, nostalgic, six-shooter release from Weiland and the rosy gunners of Velvet Revolver.

Students cure broken hearts with suggestions from expert on music and heart-break

By Brian London

Well, Rhodes students, as of right now we are a bit over a month into the fall semester. This span of time, by my judgment, suggests that many of

your "back to school romances" or for many of you, your standard one-month romances are quickly coming to a bittersweet end. I suppose that many of you may be wondering how you

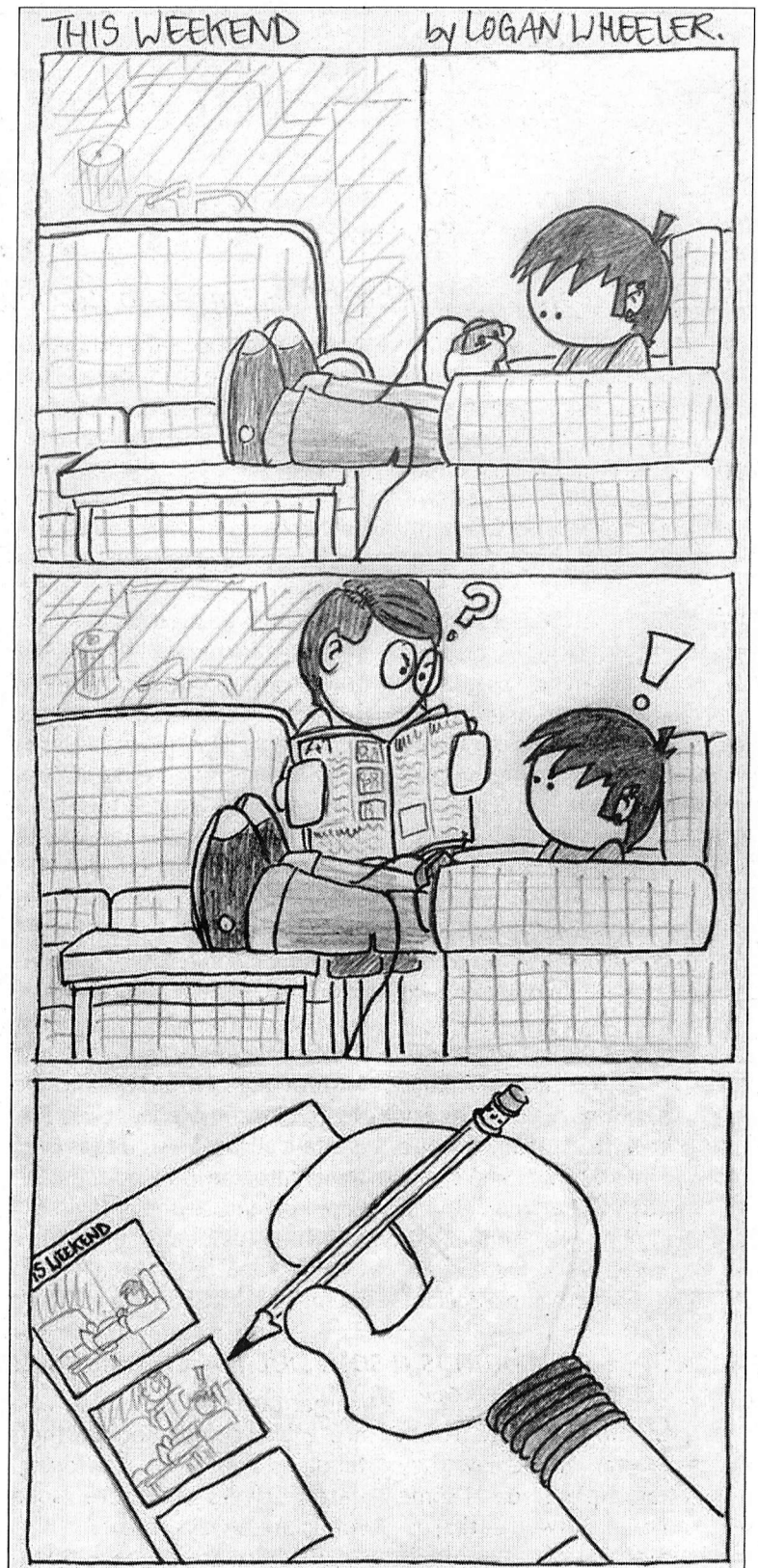
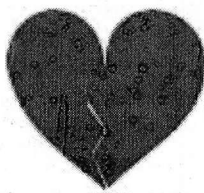
will ever be able to love again, and with the next swap being only a week away, you desperately need to heal your poor broken heart. So, here is a list of tunes I have compiled that should help you cure those broken-hearted blues.

For those of you who realize that that your lubricious lover was so fickle that he or she could throw away the *whole month* you spent together without reservation, tracks 3, 6, and 10 are a bit more bitter in nature and will help you focus all your resentment.

For those of you more wistful and heavy-hearted, tracks 4, 5, 9, and 12 are for you.

Brian London's Broken Heart mix

Track	Artist	Title
1.	Jeff Buckley	"Lover, You Should've Come Over"
2.	Beck	"Lost Cause"
3.	Cake	"Friend is a Four-Letter Word"
4.	Coldplay	"Amsterdam"
5.	Eels	"It's a Motherf***er"
6.	Jeff Buckley	"Last Goodbye"
7.	Jackson Browne	"Fountain of Sorrow"
8.	Wilco	"Via Chicago"
9.	Lucinda Williams	"Reason to Cry"
10.	Weezer	"Why Bother"
11.	Wilco	"Far, Far Away"
12.	Jeff Buckley	"Forget Her"



The remaining tracks are a bit more complex, exploring a greater depth and range of emotion in very poetic ways.

If you are looking for a single, cohesive album that explores love, death, and freedom in really divine ways, then you will find nothing better than Jeff Buckley's masterful *Grace*. It is certainly my favorite album by far, and for good reason. Tracks

1 and 6 come directly off this album, indicating its appropriateness for occasions such as that week between the big break-up and the much anticipated rebound.

In any case, cheer up Rhodes students, while I resign myself to the position of Andre Maurois in believing that "In literature as in love, we are astonished at what is chosen by others."



Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Dinner & a Movie

This week, Krista McClain and Kelly Forehand team up to review the well-known restaurant Chili's, and Wes Lawrence reviews *Class* starring Rob Lowe.

Class, straight out of the 1980s, offers a Blockbuster cure for boredom

By Wes Lawrence

I submit to you that everything Rob Lowe has ever done is awesome. Each scene, each take of each scene, each cinematic moment exists as a frozen instant of perfection. Be they cuts from his political drama *The West Wing*, or his clear homage to the hard-nosed world of Canadian junior hockey, *Youngblood*, for those of you scoring at home, Mr. Lowe has littered his career with high profile success the likes of which only Charlie Sheen might possibly mirror. Nowhere is this uncanny knack for the right script more prominent than in his portrayal of Franklin 'Skip' Burroughs IV in Lewis John Carlino's prep-school opus *Class*.

Lined up alongside '80s movie icon Andrew McCarthy (*Weekend at Bernie's*, *St. Elmo's Fire*), Lowe phones in a vintage performance as the same socialite senior seemingly atop every prep-school food chain anyone has ever heard of. As Skip's new roommate, McCarthy delivers Jonathan Onger, a scholarship-earning, wet behind the ears import from nowhere in particular.

Lowe and McCarthy exhibit almost immediate chemistry as Skip, hoping to gain the upper hand on his new roommate, launches a series of lingerie-based assaults on Jonathan's mental health. Onger, for his own part, responds with class and a faked suicide, cementing a bond which dominates most of the film's opening sections.

Exiled from school social functions as a result of an outrageous social faux pas and the film's only exposed breast, Jonathan, at Skip's urgings, heads into nearby Chicago on the night of the school's big dance. With \$50 in his pocket and a supposedly surefire fake I.D., Jonathan barhops like any good high school senior, throwing lines at random women, failing miserably until reduced to a wretch.

The real meat and potatoes of the film, however, arrives in the form of the timeless Jacqueline Bisset, as the mysterious Ellen. Pity and fate align marvelously as Ellen walks into the bar, notices the poor kid, and, as she is obviously drawn to his deplorable condition, it is only natural that within moments she is sharing Jonathan's

first-through-seventh sexual experiences. What follows is a classic, May-December romance, full of weekend vacations and shared hotel rooms.

Things, however, never seem to work out, and as Jonathan and his sugar momma enjoy a weekend shopping spree in New York City, an unfortunate slip exposes his tender age and brings an end to their passionate encounters.

Depressed, Jonathan is thrown back into the welcoming arms of his buddy Skip, and even manages an invitation to Skip's families' Thanksgiving celebration. Imagine his surprise when none other than the lovely Ellen opens the door, finally revealing the zany twist of the movie's plot. And while a good friend once told me how important it was to maintain a positive relationship with your roommate's parents, nowhere in anyone's guide to gentlemanly habits does it mention word one about sexing up your buddy's mom.

Class doesn't promise much. For anyone who ever wondered where the Brat Pack got their start, *Class* is as good a place as any.

Chili's Grill chain is a safe bet for chips and camaraderie in Memphis

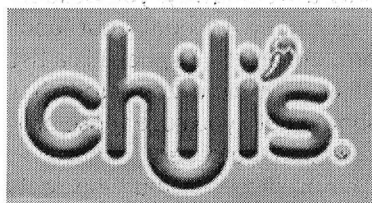
By Kelly Forehand and Krista McClain

When most people think about a restaurant review they think of an explanation of some small hole-in-the-wall eating establishment that only locals know about. What do we have to say about that? *Au contraire mon frere!* Chili's, yes the chain restaurant with locations around the globe in over 22 countries, is our choice for the restaurant of the week.

Chili's offers a great place to chat with friends over daily drink specials and a bottomless basket of chips and salsa. We recommend the Presidente

Margarita for those of you who are 21, accompanied by their fabulous queso. For the designated drivers out there, soda refills are always free.

If chips aren't your thing, Chili's also offers an extensive menu including their signature Baby Back Ribs, Citrus Fire Chicken and Shrimp, and Big-Mouth Burgers, for that friend, who just won't shut up. The laid-back atmosphere is a great place to wind down after a long afternoon in the biology lab, or to take a break from wishing that political science paper would write itself.



Chili's is also very active in the community, and is currently sponsoring a nationwide fundraiser for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Be sure to donate that extra dollar to decorate your very own chili pepper. So if you are looking for an afternoon delight, a service hour, or more chips than the World Poker Championship, Chili's is definitely the place to go!

NEED A GREAT DATE?

By Leah Kaye

Many students, like myself, have been in Memphis for three full years now and have not yet been to Graceland. There is no shame in this, for many of us can make up for our lack of "The King" trivia with great advice about where to eat or how to get liquor on a Sunday.

My particular specialty happens to be wooing, or so I like to think. So many students have found that perfect guy or girl, but they just do not know how to get his or her attention, especially since slipping on the wet stone in front of the Rat entrance no longer counts because *everyone* is doing it. When you finally do get the nerve to ask him or her out, then what? Where do you go? You wish you could have something stellar planned to knock his or her socks off, and face it: Huey's ain't gonna cut it. So, take some advice.

It is a Saturday. Begin with a picnic lunch at the river. Nothing says sincerity like a well-planned picnic of fresh fruit, crackers and brie, and Kool-Aid (or homemade sweet tea, take your pick). Do NOT take that special someone to Channel 3, where all the other Rhodes' students will be. Do you really want her eyeing that guy from your English class who you know is way hotter than you? The riverfront area along Mud River is typically a lot less crowded and offers some shade. Pack a blanket and watch out for the dog droppings.

Next up, what could be sexier than sculpted metal? From

mid-afternoon until 5 p.m., visit the National Ornamental Metal Museum. Admission for students is only \$2, well worth the effects of the twisted metal melting your soon-to-be lover's heart. Plus, there is a riverfront view as the sun begins to sink toward the Mississippi. The current artist is master metalsmith Harriette Estel Berman; that just *sounds* hot. It can be tricky to find, so get more information at www.metalmuseum.org.

Early thoughts of dinner have come around since the entire round of brie cannot hold you over any longer. So you go back to the Lair to save yourself some money, but (here is the clincher) you put his or her meal on your Lynxbucks, eh? I am out of food ideas, refer to the restaurant reviews.

At 7 p.m., don't miss the showing of Autumn Nights at the planetarium of the Pink Palace. It is often quite empty, always very dark, and honestly pretty interesting. The starlit sky of Memphis is not exactly accessible like it is out in the country back home, so this is the next best thing. And really, nothing says, "Awwwww," like taking that special someone to a museum.

The necessary final stop is The Cheesecake Corner open until 11 p.m. on Saturdays, located at 113 G.E. Patterson downtown. Slices of incredible homemade cheesecake are \$5.50 apiece, which also pays for a friendly baker, a baby grand piano, and an intimate setting for you and your sweetie to end the night right.

How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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

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All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in *The Rhode'ster*, opinion columns, and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

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Cross Country defeats Division I teams in Louisville

By Ryan Call

Saturday, September 25th dawned cool and cloudy with temperatures hovering in the mid-70s. That morning, the Rhodes Women's and Men's Cross Country teams warmed up and prepared to race in the Greater Louisville Invitational.

The women's squad ran to a seventh place finish against 38 teams, most of which were Division I schools.

Jennifer Emo ('07) led the women over the fast course with a career record of 19:01 for 5k. She finished 24th out of 357 runners.

Nicole Goette ('08) and Lizzie Phillips ('07) followed, finishing 36th and 53rd with times of 19:19 and 19:33. Both ran for personal bests for the season.

Courtney Cockerell ('07) broke 20 minutes for the first time this season as

well, setting a personal best of 19:52 for a 77th place finish.

Behind her came Nici Thomas ('08), who crossed the line just behind at 20:05 for a 96th place finish and the last scoring position on the girls' team.

Katie Selby ('08) and team captain May King ('06) finished as Rhodes' number six and seven runners, with overall places of 144th and 176th.

Coach Dan Schofer, after seeing the times, excitedly said, "Rhodes' spread of 64 seconds between the first and fifth positions was the team's smallest gap of the season thus far. We, on the coaching staff, are very excited."

Southeast Missouri State won the overall women's team title with a combined score of 120 points and an average time of 18:57 per runner for 5k. Samantha

Maat ('07) took the individual title, running 18:09 for her time.

On the men's side, the team ran to a 15th place finish out of 41 schools. Colin Strickland ('06) led the squad, finishing with a season's best time of 26:33 for 85th place.

Team co-captain Matt Wood ('05) crossed the line shortly afterward and shouldered his way to a season's best time of 26:36, placing 88th.

Following Wood, Nick Lewis ('08) and co-captain Matthew Sauter ('05) completed the course, finishing 104th and 110th, respectively. Sauter just nosed his way beneath the 27 minute barrier with a time of 26:56, while Lewis was well under the time with 26:51 for 8k.

Sophomore runner Will Sheftall closed out the Lynx top five scorers with a personal best of 27:02 and fin-

ished with an impressive place of 117th.

Again, when asked about the results, Coach Schofer looked up and said, "I'm just so excited." Coach Shankman jumped in and explained that "the 29-second spread shows that our top five are grouping remarkably well. We are very excited." Coach Schofer added, "Ecstatic."

John Harrison ('06) launched to a 145th place finish with a time of 27:27, while Ryan Call ('05) ran 27:29 to take 149th place. Both posted personal bests for the season to round out the Lynx top seven.

The University of Louisville captured the men's team title with a combined score of 40 points and a team average of 25:00 for 8k. Wesley Korir ('08) of the University of Louisville was the overall individual winner, running a time of 24:22.

This Saturday, October 2nd, the Rhodes Cross Country team will host the Rhodes Invitational, which will feature 20 cross country teams from all over the South, at Plough Park in Shelby Farms. The team will face conference nemesis Centre College, who are 2-0 against the Lynx this season, along with local squads from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the University of Alabama at Huntsville.

Following the next week's home meet, the Lynx have an off week and will then travel to Kenosha, Wisconsin, over Fall Break to compete in the University of Wisconsin at Parkside Invitational. The Rhodes runners will compete against Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference rivals DePauw University in a pre-conference meet showdown.

Volleyball finishes 2-2 at first SCAC tournament of season

By Michelle Petter

The Lynx volleyball team headed to Conway, Arkansas, for their first conference tournament of the season.

First up for the Lynx were Texas powerhouses Trinity University and Southwestern University. Although the Lynx fell short against Trinity, they gave the Tigers a run for their money.

Sarah McAdams ('06) led the way with 22 assists and 18 digs. Amanda Swanstrom ('06) had 15 digs while Hallye Hall ('07) and Michelle Petter ('06)

had eight and seven kills, respectively.

The Lynx also were defeated by the Pirates. Emily Sadtler ('08) had nine kills, McAdams had 30 assists, and Swanstrom posted 15 digs.

The second day of competition was controlled by the Lynx as they swept their two remaining matches against Hendrix and Millsaps.

Against the Millsaps Majors, Kathryn Giovannini ('05) led the way with 13 kills and McAdams posted 40 assists. Swanstrom also recorded 21 digs as the Lynx

dominated the floor earning Coach Samantha Lambert her 100th career win.

From the opening serve, Hendrix never had a chance against the Lynx. The middle attacks were too much for the Warriors to handle. Giovannini and Rachel Novotny ('05) dominated the net with nine kills each. Swanstrom had 27 digs, and McAdams had 43 assists.

The Lynx are now 2-2 in Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference play and have an impressive 10-5 overall on the year.

Jonathan Nelson player of week

By Duncan Howell

Lynx goalkeeper Jonathan Nelson ('05) of Little Rock, Arkansas has been selected as SCAC Defensive Player-of-the-Week for games played September 13 through September 19.

Nelson recorded his third shutout of the season when the Lynx defeated NCAA ninth-ranked Dominican by a score of 3-0. Nelson recorded three saves and cut off several dangerous Dominican crosses. He also earned an assist on Rhodes' second goal when he

distributed the ball over Dominican's defenders to forward Justin Sampson ('05), who scored an impressive breakaway goal.

This season Nelson leads the league in goals against average (0.98 GAA) and is fourth in total saves with 21.

The men's soccer team defeated the University of the South this weekend with a final score of 2-1. Sampson was credited with both goals for the Lynx, who are now 2-0-0 in SCAC play and 7-1-0 overall.