

# THE SOU'WESTER

Vol. XCII. NO. 20

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The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College



Your peer's opinions about  
the Duke scandal and more...  
See Page 5

## Memphis in May brings renowned artists to Bluff City

By CATHERINE BLOOM

Every May, the city of Memphis hosts the annual Memphis in May International Festival in Tom Lee Park, along the Mississippi River. Running four consecutive weekends, Memphis in May, as it is commonly known, celebrates all things Memphis. Consisting of the Beale Street Music Festival, the World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest, the International Festival, and the Sunset Symphony, Memphis in May typically falls directly after the end of school.

Started 30 years ago, Memphis in May officially opened in the month of April. The very first Memphis in May activities took place on April 30, 1976. The start of the festival was indicative of a budding interest in urban renewal, which was also evidenced by the founding of Memphis Magazine, then City of Memphis Magazine, in the same month.

One of the most prominent events for Rhodes students is the Beale Street Music festival held on the first weekend of the celebration. The music festival consists of three days of concerts and typically draws a number of popular artists. This year it falls on May 5-7, and will be headlined by B.B. King, a Memphis legend.

On Friday, May 7, some well-known artists are playing, including Three 6 Mafia, Puddle of Mud, Train, and Jason Mraz. On Saturday, May 6, Cake, Jerry Lee Lewis, and the Disco Biscuits are some of the bands playing. Shinedown, Yellowcard, Blues Traveler, and Staind are a few of the bands performing on Sunday, May 7.

The lineup for the concert is eagerly awaited each year, and students often have varied opinions on the bands chosen for the music festival.

"The lineup isn't so great this year, though I am looking forward to seeing Cake," said Ashley Mitchem, 06.

A three-day pass for the music festival costs \$49.50 before April 30 and \$60 after that. Tickets can be purchased from Tick-



photo courtesy of memphisinmay.org

Crowds fill downtown Memphis each year to listen to popular artists play at the Beale Street Music Festival.

etmaster.

It may be difficult for Rhodes students to attend the festivities, however, due to the adjusted term calendar implemented this year. Move-out for freshman through juniors will take place the weekend of the music fest.

The World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest is also a popular event. In 2005, the Championship garnered a Silver Grand Pinnacle award, bestowed by the International Festival and Events Association, second only to the Kentucky Derby, beating Disney World and other prominent organizations. The 2005 Memphis in May took home 10 Grand Pinnacle awards in total, which helped draw more media attention and attendees.

There is also an educational aspect to the festival. Each year the festival honors a foreign country, and high school students from the Memphis area are given the chance to travel to that country. The country honored at this year's festival is Costa Rica, the first Central American nation

to be recognized at the festival.

"They send eight or ten high school students to the country they're honoring each year," reports Leigh Bonner 06, a Memphis native and firm advocate of the value of international education.

The month of festivities drew approximately 250,000 people in 2005, a 10% increase over 2004. This is good news for Memphis because, according to the Commercial Appeal, tourism is declining nationally. Though still a \$1.3 trillion market in the U.S. alone, and one of the nation's largest employers, the increase in Memphis' festival attendance is a reassurance for the city and the event's planners. It has also become part of the appeal for the new residential complexes being built all over downtown Memphis.

For those interested in attending the festival, information and calendars, including a complete lineup of the Beale Street Music Festival, can be found at [www.memphisinmay.org](http://www.memphisinmay.org).



GWEN WEIL/ The Sou'wester

The Rhodes Development office, working with President Troutt, is currently in the opening stages of the capital campaign.

## Behind the Scenes : Fundraising at Rhodes

By FORD PORTER  
Editor-In-Chief, 06-07

One of the most pivotal departments of a reputable college is that of fund development. Especially prevalent at a private school of Rhodes' caliber, fundraising is necessary for the provision of facilities and services, as well as paying faculty salaries and subsidizing costs to students. Led by President Troutt and Vice President for Development, Jenna Goodloe Wade, the Rhodes Development Office approaches fundraising in a number of ways.

Now in his seventh year at the College, President Troutt has a very specific vision for the future of

Rhodes, regarding fundraising potential. Obviously pleased with the completion of the Barret Library and its transforming effect on the Rhodes Campus, President Troutt looks to go a step further.

"Keeping with the ideals behind the construction of the Barret Library, I now hope for a similarly transformative effect regarding students and faculty," said Troutt, elaborating, "We need to increase our scholarship support and be prepared to tell the best students, 'We'll meet your [financial] needs, whatever they are.'"

Fundraising, continued on Page 5

## Class times changed, benefits questioned

By JONATHAN WIGAND  
News Editor, 05-06

When the class of 2008 arrived on campus almost two years ago, there were many complaints heard about the new class times. Class periods had been reduced in length since the spring of 2004 so that, in the fall, Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes lasted 50 minutes and Tuesday/Thursday classes were 75 minutes long. These times were down from a full hour and an hour and a half, respectively.

After about two weeks the course loads picked up, and professors were racing through their syllabi and receiving no feedback. It was only occasionally mentioned as a professor's excuse for running over time with his or her lecture.

But The Sou'wester has decided to briefly revisit the topic en lieu of the new soon-to-be-implemented curriculum. While shortening the duration of the class periods might be a smaller change than restructuring the curriculum, there are parallels to be drawn.

Both changes were voted on in an attempt to make life easier for both students and faculty. Current members of the Rhodes community can see that shortening the class times did not completely solve the problems this action was meant to address, and both administrators and professors have admitted that the new curriculum will improve, but not perfect, the Rhodes experience.

"There were several reasons for the

Class, Continued on Page 5

# Student Government requires power check

By JEFF KNOWLES  
Former Editor-in-Chief

The process of allocating student funds is a difficult, often controversial practice that takes place each semester. Through dialogue, deliberation, and secretive—prejudicial—logic, a board of students decides how best to divide the general student activity fund among organizations. Some organizations have seen their budgets greatly reduced, like the Kinney Program, which seeks to “engage all students in service and social action in Memphis and the broader community.” With 83 percent of graduating seniors having participated in some form of community service or outreach endeavor, why have our representatives punished this organization?

While esteemed groups like the Kinney Program have seen cuts, other groups enjoy the protection of having their budgets written into the Allocations By-Laws. The Lecture Board, for instance, is guaranteed \$50,000 and is not required to stand before Allocations Board for any financial accountability. The Student Government automatically takes 3.5 percent of the Student Activity Fund. Additionally, the Publications Board receives \$35,000 to operate *The Southwestern Review*, the *Lynx* (yearbook), *LynxTV*, and *The Sou'wester*. Unfortunately, the cost of printing has risen considerably in the last few years and the *Lynx* has been forced to publish a soft-cover yearbook due to inadequate funding. Advertisements, a legitimate form of organizational fundraising, help off-set the cost of printing, but even this fundraising tool has come under attack by the Allocations Board, upon receiving pressure from Rhodes Student Government.

With pride, I believe *The Sou'wester*

has brought independent scrutiny to bear on the forces affecting students at Rhodes. News and Opinion pages in *The Sou'wester* have investigated and commented on sexist discrepancies in anti-hazing education, the hidden costs behind wireless technology, the administration's decision to downplay its ties with newly established Rhodes Women's Center, the appropriate role of political cartoons, and the adoption of an unclear, unpopular new curriculum. While

students, faculty, and staff. While acting in separate capacities, these organizations have at times collaborated to educate the student body on pressing concerns, such as the two election issues printed this semester. On other occasions, the organizations have enjoyed less than friendly relations, which I believe stem from conflicting personalities and unreasonable expectations by RSG.

When requests to print RSG press releases or purely propagandist literature

“With pride, I believe *The Sou'wester* has brought independent scrutiny to bear on the forces affecting students at Rhodes.”

I am pleased that organizations and individuals have been introduced to a level of accountability sorely needed, I feel the organization requiring the most scrutiny—RSG—has been largely ignored.

The Rhodes Student Government has benefited from student apathy for far too long. Senators enjoy a false sense of self-importance by enthroning themselves in a labyrinthine bureaucracy. However, there are strong leaders, like incoming executives Andy Greer and Doug Lensing, who are committed to enacting sweeping reforms. Unfortunately, I feel their genuine commitment to student concerns remains a rare sentiment.

*The Sou'wester* and Rhodes Student Government are instruments that hypothetically advance student concerns and expect responsible decision-making from all

came across my desk this year, I was forced to deny these requests because they violate the underlying ethical standards of a free, independent press. When members of this staff encountered language from senators like, “we control you,” or “you will print what we say,” I worried about the autonomy of this newspaper and became increasingly nervous about the delusions of power these senators think they enjoy. While Senator Ackerman ('06) has held paternalistic attitudes about this paper for some time, it is Senator Mullins ('06) who has led the charge against the *The Sou'wester*. The latest decision from the Student Senate to cut a writer incentive program that uses fundraised (not student activity) money represents the latest conflict, a product of emotion rather than logic.

Unnecessary antagonism, seen from Senators like Ackerman and Mullins, demonstrates a concern in the Student Senate for issues that take on personal significance and detract from the issues of the student body in general. To help keep RSG accountable to their constituents, *The Sou'wester* has pledged itself to educating the student body on the activities of RSG and providing much needed transparency in the Student Government. The minutes from meetings read as if they were written by a ten year old and are difficult to locate. Reportedly, some senators have even asked to remove their names from minutes when discussing controversial topics, displaying a disturbing degree of cowardice. A correspondent will now attend every RSG meeting to report on the actions or inactions of your representatives. Incoming President Andy Greer, incoming Editor-in-Chief of *The Sou'wester* Ford Porter, and I spoke last week and came to a clear understanding about the relationship of the student press and student government. As a graduating senior, I hope that these leaders will be able to return to a level of civility that is much needed and that will benefit both organizations and the student body in general. It would be a shame to perpetuate needless hostility, distracting both *The Sou'wester* and RSG from addressing each organization's primary function.

## THE SOU'WESTER

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## How to Reach Our Authors and Us

As the official newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by 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.

*The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a three-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives, and at-large representatives from the student body.

All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in *The Rhode'ster*, opinion columns, and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged, but cannot exceed 350 words; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

Staff meetings take place every Sunday at 8:30 p.m. in Barret 214 and are open to the public.

## Reaching *The Sou'wester*

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ASSOCIATED  
COLLEGIATE  
PRESS

## A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I do not know if you can imagine my dismay at opening up a copy of the *Sou'wester* and finding an article of hate on the second page. I realize that the newspaper is an outlet for student opinions, but I think the choice to include the article titled “A Brief Commentary on *The Rhode'ster*” was in poor taste. Considering the circumstances and the rational explanation of the issue on page 3, the authors of this article have the right to be upset. It is perfectly reasonable and appropriate that they publish an article proposing a split between the *Rhode'ster* and the *Sou'wester*. While the authors of this article feel that the *Rhode'ster* editor and author in question personally attacked them in the parody articles, they do not have the right to publish their own personal attacks in the *Sou'wester*. I agree that journalistic integrity and ethics were breached in what amounts to a bad judgment call. That is no reason to let the angry plaintiffs belittle those who made the mistake. The *Sou'wester* should not allow the propagation of hate through a school-sanctioned media. If individuals want to divide the school or stir something up, let them be civil about it or spread anger through other means.

By printing this article, the *Sou'wester* has become a forum for personal vendettas. The editor should have asked the authors to tone down their article. Even better, it would have behooved the *Sou'wester* to instead include an apology written by the offenders, if they were willing to write one. I hope the *Sou'wester* handles such sensitive issues better in the future.

Jane Metters

# Duke, rape, and the psychology of racism

By WILLIAM CORVEY  
Opinions Editor '05-'06

The now notorious Duke Lacrosse Team looks to have DNA on its side. The almost all-white, mostly upper-middle-class, privileged team, at least from a media perspective, for a time seemed all but exonerated of criminal charges of rape. It remains to be seen what charges of rape and kidnapping now facing Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann might reveal. The scandal has cost the school its coach, its funding, its credibility, and its sense of authenticity. Duke as an institution responded the way any school might, and it was a response that I believe will cost them dearly in the future, both in enrollment diversity and in quality of play in the lacrosse program.

Perhaps rightfully, in favor of covering accusations of rape and assault, the media has largely ignored the implications of the circumstances surrounding the al-

leged attack. The largely white, largely upper-middle-class Lacrosse Team purposefully chose an African-American woman to strip for a party. I believe the team members, particularly in light of one young man's disturbing, racist email, sought to establish a hierarchical environment in the house in order to reenact a now centuries-old, stereotypically white male fantasy: to take an African-American woman as a sexual object. The team, utilizing their unwarranted privileges of money and upbringing, for a brief moment brought slavery back to the South. I do not believe the men arbitrarily chose a black woman over a white one, and I do not believe any of the team's actions were merely the product of youthful desire or a lack of judgment.

I understand the coach's motivation to resign; I would not want to engage with students so violently ignorant or violently knowledgeable of racial politics, nor with a uni-

versity that so blindly declares the innocence of its constituents. Duke stands as a wealthy bastion of education in a city that is, to a great degree, neither wealthy nor educated. The students' separation from the people of the surrounding neighborhoods allowed for the exploitation of a woman not deemed part of Duke Society - the 'real world' of students and faculty.

Although ending the lacrosse season might be seen as a form of punishment, it does nothing to negate the inherent racism evident in the team's behavior, nor does it do anything to alleviate fears that such racist tendencies might spread across the institution. Duke must react in a more meaningful way, not only to the standing criminal allegations, but to the motivations that led a group of mostly white student-athletes to buy, degrade, humiliate, and allegedly rape a woman of a historically subjugated race.

## A letter from the Office of the President and the Vice President

Dear Fellow Students  
of Rhodes College,

We want to express our gratitude for electing us as leaders in Student Government for the upcoming academic year. Since the election, the two of us have been hard at work. You have seen many things come from the Student Body leadership of the past. This past year, Rhodes Student Government coordinated with student volunteers to produce a report on how the new curriculum, effective fall of 2007, would affect student's majors and minors. We also produced a Discount Card, which was full of money-saving discounts at local businesses. Next, in conjunction with the Publications Board, RSG revitalized LynxTV and created a state-of-the-art way to publicize events and creative content. Next, RSG worked with ITS to communicate student library needs during final exams and lobbied for a library that remains open 24-hours during exams. Finally, we etched out an area of student-only storage space in the old Burrow Library for student organizations. We hope to accomplish even more in the upcoming year.

First, Andy and I will improve comfortable eating and socializing space on campus in conjunction with our plans to improve student space. We will focus on the Lynx Lair and will

work with the administration and the student body in a plan to make that space a more student-friendly area during the week and on the weekends.

Second, Andy and I will involve more students on decision-making processes around campus. We will accomplish this goal by truly giving students a say regarding decisions through committees on areas important to our academic work - such as the Educational Planning Committee, and in areas important to our student experience, such as the Food Services Committee - which oversees menu creation and food selection.

Third, Andy and I will try to make you better aware of events and policies on campus. We will accomplish this goal through more advertising and publicity by leveraging the new outlet of LynxTV, compiling substantive announcements that don't just crowd your inbox but tell you something you want to know about, and by holding forums and discussions open to the campus community on issues that matter. We never want a student to be angry that he or she did not know about a policy change or a new program. Rather, we want to be proactive in our engagement with the administration and relay our work to the student body quickly and informatively.

Fourth, Andy and I will bet-

ter Student Government's relationship with the administration. We will strive to accomplish this goal because it assures us success in our third goal. We will do so by demonstrating the success that can be enjoyed by the College when plans that are not yet finalized are vetted before elected leaders and brought before students during their formulation. Student involvement matters, and is mutually beneficial for the College in the implementation of its policies, and for students through the dialogue, debate, and thought that constitute meaningful involvement in the decision making process.

Over the course of the next year, we are going to do our best to manage the future of the Student Body in an inclusive and progressive manner. To do so, we need your help and involvement. When the time comes to apply for committee positions or assistance is needed from the Rhodes Student Government of the College in general, we are asking for your input. Thank you so much and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Douglas Lensing  
Vice-President  
Rhodes Student Government

# Student Voice

What is your reaction to the Duke Lacrosse scandal? Do you think something of a similar nature could ever happen at Rhodes? Why or why not?

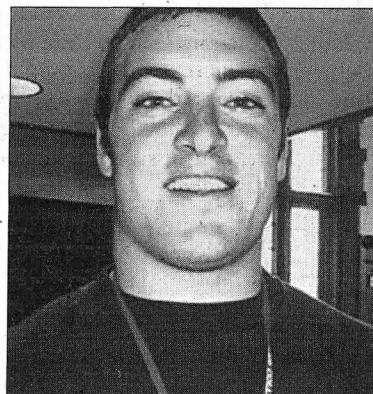


I doubt that students on campus would hire strippers and then rape them. But I do believe that similar situations -- in which women are seen in a sexual context but NOT NECESSARILY wanting to or agreeing to have sex -- exist on campus all the time.

-Amy Gray ('06)

It's not surprising considering the campus climate of athletes. It absolutely could and has happened here - rape, and intimidation of the victims happen at every college in America.

-Laura Dallas ('06)

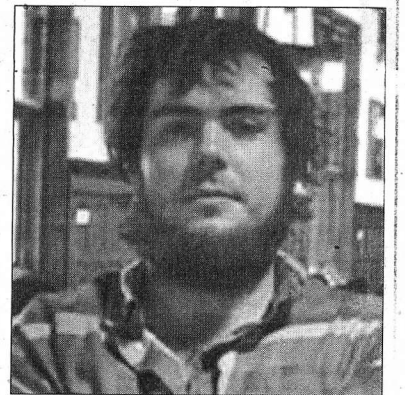


Yes, it is possible, but highly unlikely, since all Rhodes Athletes, especially the football team, are gentlemen of the highest character.

-Charles Hoggard ('09)

Fraternities here get hookers for bid day sometimes. Of course, it could happen here, but not with lacrosse, because our lacrosse team isn't mean or strong enough.

-Aaron McNutt ('07)



I find it disappointing that the image of the entire team will be ruined for years to come, regardless of the outcome.

-Nicole Walker ('06)

# Is Rhodes too sexually conservative?

By MICHELLE HOPE  
Managing Editor '05-'06

For the past four years I have watched *The Sou'wester* slowly become a dedicated and consistent forum for thought and discussion; I have watched our campus become increasingly more liberal, at least in theory; and for the most part I feel good about the changes I have witnessed. Until this past weekend, it never occurred to me that there is still one area where Rhodes, its students, and its administration remain ultimately conservative: issues of sex and relationships on campus.

I'm not suggesting that discussions of sex on campus are absent, just limited. Thankfully, rape is no longer a taboo subject (thanks to work by the Women's Center and V-day leadership team), but we still fail to talk about relationships as a whole, about sexuality, or about sexual health (which is about more than just discussions of safe sex). Sure, we talk amongst ourselves; we all know who is doing what with whom and where, but we seldom talk to each other, at least not about sex and relationships.

This past weekend, in what was essentially my last act as Managing Editor before I graduate, I attended a College Editors' Roundtable in Boston, Mass. The conference, sponsored by Trojan Condoms, aimed to discuss issues surrounding relationships and sex on college campuses, and the relationship that each respective college newspaper had with these issues. In attendance were, among others, Princeton, Boston University, Maryland, Harvard, University of Virginia, Rutgers, Duke, UNC, and the University of

Pennsylvania. All but two of the colleges, one of which was Rhodes, have sex and relationship columns in their college newspapers, giving them a forum for discussion that is seriously lacking at Rhodes.

It is the absence of communication about these issues at Rhodes that creates the closed and shallow culture about which many students complain. A culture where it is impossible to maintain any kind of privacy; a culture where it's hard to meet new people; a culture where it is almost impossible to obtain any kind of closure on failed relationships to the point where it becomes hard to move on; and a culture that breeds ignorance and intolerance. I, for one, was embarrassed by the fact that we were the only college without condom machines in all the dorms and the only college which does not embrace issues of a sexual nature with its students through discussion, especially regarding LGBT issues. To me, it seems strange that we cannot address these issues with each other and yet can still host talks on "how to please your man/woman."

The roundtable revealed some interesting insights into the sexual activity at Rhodes. Perhaps most enlightening for me was the fact that when asked if we could publish words such as "clitoris" or "vibrator", I responded with a resounding "no." But I wonder, is this really true? Has *The Sou'wester*, have I, as Managing Editor, despite my own personally liberal views on the subject, been its own worst censor? Certainly, in hindsight, I don't think that there was any reason why we couldn't have had a column about sexual health and relationships save for my own fears of

political repercussion.

According to roundtable moderator, Dr. Drew Pinsky, co-host of Loveline and host of a sex advice talk show on the Discovery Health Channel, 90 percent of college age women are unhappy with their social-sexual relationships. This is because these women feel like there are only three options open to them: to hook-up; to enter into an exclusive and ultimately co-dependent relationship; or to have a "friends with benefits" relationship. I see clear evidence of this at Rhodes.

So why the prevalence of the hook-up? Why is dating a lost art at Rhodes? And why is it that alcohol and sex, especially on small campuses like ours, go hand in hand?

The general consensus was that women drink for three main reasons: it lowers their inhibitions; they feel pressured to do so because everyone else is; and because it gives them an excuse to behave in ways they may not otherwise. In other words, women, and men, use alcohol as a way to excuse their sexual behavior. In this atmosphere, men no longer have to work for their conquests, and as a result no longer feel the pressure to form committed relationships. Thus the hook-up, at least when born out of the absence of the potential for relationships, perpetuates its own cause.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying that there is anything wrong with the hook-up, at least not in theory. And I do not think that's what the conference intended. Even I cannot deny that attention from the opposite sex, even if it is the wrong kind of attention, is affirming in its own little way.

The conference was, however, in some ways, an advertisement for safe sex. Trojan were interested in how they might encourage condom use among college age students; the goal of which is to prevent unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, including AIDS and HIV, and HPV (the STI which causes cervical and anal cancer and which around 40-60 percent of sexually active women carry as the result of unprotected sex).

But for me, the conference spoke to the fact that changing times require changing attitudes, and that communication, especially regarding issues of relationships and sex, is essential. It seems tragic that so many women on this campus could be unhappy with their social lives. I don't claim to have an answer; I just know that I see it in my own relationships where the choices always seem limited.

Ultimately, the advantage of a roundtable, of college newspaper sex columns, of the forum as an entity, is the possibility for discussion. And I think that's what we need here at Rhodes. To not only to talk to each other, but to in doing so to encourage discussion within ourselves; to ask ourselves what we really want and what we need to do in order to get it. The college experience should encourage personal and social growth, physically, emotionally, and yes, if appropriate, sexually. How can this happen if we refuse to enter into a discourse with the subject, our peers, or ourselves?

# Jesus' Crucifixion...a laughing matter?

By MICHAEL TURCO  
Opinion's Editor '06-'07

Lately, gospels seem to be rising from the dead. The Gospel of Judas is an important find in light of the Gnostic tradition; disregarded by Orthodox Christianity, and subsequently lost, its discovery and translation has been exciting for scholars. Alluded to by Iranaeus, the Bishop of Lyon, but lost for nearly two millenia the Gospel contains passages that clearly transmit the Gnostic world view: that Christ was of two natures, trapped in a fleshy form, and that Judas would be his means to salvation. The implications for the Orthodox conception of Christianity are disturbing; is Judas the real hero of Christianity? Is Jesus really God? Regardless of these questions, the Gospel of Judas should be consid-

ered by Christians today.

Personally, I find it quite endearing that Jesus laughs. I can't recall any passages in the New Testament that refer to Jesus smiling, so from one point of view, the Gospel of Judas gives Jesus a little bit more personality than say the timeless Christos Pantokrator. In one sense, it makes Jesus a bit more human. However, that's not to say that he's just laughing to laugh—he's laughing at people. In other words, Jesus finds that the disciples are just a gas. In some respects, I hope that if God is out there, that God is also amused at creation (hence the saying "Well, God certainly has a sense of humor - after all, God made me"). If God can laugh, there is good cause to "lighten up" a little about these serious matters of theological perspective.

One of the other exciting things is the continuation of the Passover story, in which Jesus gathers his disciples and eats with them. It's surprising how much Gnostic writing incorporates and accepts some of the Orthodox tradition. Many of the "heretics" of the day accepted the canon with slight variations or reductions, supplementing that material with other Gnostic literature. Essentially, this means that Christians had similar views about the historical events surrounding the life of Jesus, even if they differ in interpretation and content. The divergent stories about Jesus in Gnostic tradition seem to hold to certain stories and historical events, linking the transmission of Gnostic and Orthodox Christianity closer together. In other words, we don't have a Gnostic Jesus who is dissimi-

lar from the Jesus that has been transmitted through established Christianity.

This being said, I don't think that the Gospel of Judas changes much of our present knowledge about Jesus. For Christians, it is not necessarily a threat so much as an addition to the larger body of Gnostic works; the Gospel of Judas being more of the same train of thought. In light of these texts, I believe that we should study them, critique them, and digest how they can compliment, rather than detriment, the knowledge we have of Jesus. Whether it disturbs you, amuses you, or doesn't get cross your mind, the Gospel of Judas is a simply big blip on the history of Christianity.

# It's Hard Out Here For A Student . . .

By ED STANTON

Higher tuition. Cuts in aid and student loans. The statistics are staggering. Overall, 39% of college students graduate with unmanageable debt. In Tennessee, the average student borrower in school during the 2003-2004 term had federal loans of over \$17,000. On average, loan payments consume more than 10 percent of a graduate's income after he or she enters the workforce. In addition to cuts in student aid, Congress is considering increased interest payments for Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) and a

new fee for loans that will further increase the cost of borrowing. All the while, students and parents face skyrocketing tuition costs brought on by deeper and deeper cuts to federal education funds. Cuts and funding and aid mean that, in each year the U.S. nearly 200,000 high school graduates do not go to college because they cannot afford it. Unless someone stands up for students and parents across this country, those numbers will only increase. Currently, students are facing the largest federal cuts in the history of the student loan program. We can do better. We

must do better. The future of our nation depends on expanding educational opportunities for all Americans.

I believe the people of Tennessee should not bear the burden of misplaced priorities. Tennessee students should not be denied access to a quality education in order to pay for 70 million dollars in tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy. Providing the opportunity for a college education for young Americans is like contributing to a national pool of knowledge that will pay huge dividends in the future. We owe it to our youth

to make that investment.

I am Ed Stanton. I'm running for Tennessee's Ninth Congressional District and I'm asking for your support. Stand with me on August 3rd and I promise I'll be standing up for you in Washington.

To learn more about my campaign, visit [www.edstanton.com](http://www.edstanton.com) or Join me for Pizza and Policy this Thursday at 4:30 pm in the Orgill Room at Clough Hall.

# WEEK IN REVIEW

## International

**Balkans** — Thousands of people have fled their homes or were facing evacuation in Bulgaria, Serbia, and Romania as emergency workers struggled to hold back record floodwaters along the Danube River Tuesday morning. Authorities fear the worst may be yet to come, with the river swelled by heavy spring rains and melting snow to its highest level in more than a century. More than 3,000 people from the Romanian village of Rast were evacuated after a dike collapsed, leaving 600 homes underwater.

**Chad** — Chad said on Tuesday that it was confident that it could solve a dispute with the World Bank and a U.S.-led consortium over oil revenues by the end of the month after the U.S. government offered to help broker a deal. The central African country has threatened to stop oil output by the end of April unless the World Bank unblocks frozen production royalties or the Exxon Mobil-led consortium in the country pays at least \$100 million. President Idriss Deby postponed the deadline for shutting off oil output until the end of this month after the U.S. offered to help mediate the deal.

**Egypt** — Police fired live ammunition into the air and lobbed tear gas into rioting crowds of Christians and Muslims on Sunday, the third day of sectarian violence. One Muslim man reportedly died of his wounds, and police said 40 people had been wounded in clashes and 80 had been arrested over the weekend. The riots were sparked by knife attacks at three Coptic Christian churches, which killed one man and wounded up to 16 other people. A mentally ill man is being held for the stabbings.

## National

**California** — An Oildale man is at home recovering in good condition after his truck plunged into a sinkhole filled with scalding hot water Friday morning. Just after 4 a.m., Mark Essary, 42, crashed into the 180-degree water that filled the sinkhole. He managed to escape to the bed of the truck, but not before the water reportedly caused third-degree burns to his back and legs. The hot water is used to push oil out of the ground, and the steam is later cleaned and pumped to surrounding fields for agricultural use.

**Texas** — Due to rising temperatures, firefighters suited up to combat a large bee swarm Friday evening in Central El Paso. Hundreds of bees were swarming in and around a tree on private property, and two women, one of whom was pregnant, had already been stung. The firefighters coated the tree in a foam-based pesticide similar to the kind they use on flammable liquid fires. The two women did not have allergic reactions and did not have to be transported to the hospital.

**Florida** — Broward sheriff's detectives are investigating the theft of 33 remote control cars and trucks valued at over \$17,000 from a Pompano Beach hobby shop. At least five suspects broke into RC Hobbies, stealing 25 remote control trucks, eight remote control cars, and one motor-sports gas truck, the total value of which was \$17,532.79. The burglars left behind a crow bar and screwdriver, both of which are being processed for evidence.

*Reports were collected by Matthew Marker from CNN.com, TurnTo23.com, KFOXTV.com, and Local10.com.*

Class, continued from Page 1

change in class times. Two were prominent: to create an additional class period on days of the week to help avoid course conflicts, and to recognize that significant educational opportunities take place outside of formal classroom and laboratory work for both students and faculty in a course," said Dean Llewellyn.

Shortening class times freed up more time during the day to add an additional period at 8 a.m. each morning. With more class times available, scheduling was made easier so that students could take more of the classes they wanted.

The change also created time between each class period so that students don't need to worry about overlap when scheduling classes.

The only problem that Llewellyn has sited so far as having arisen from the change is that students and professors find the 8 a.m. time slot to be a less than desirable time to hold class. He says that right now there is no other monolithic sense of discontent surrounding the changed times.

"Honestly, the verdict right now is mixed. There are a number of adjustments currently underway, and it is clear that some do not yet see how to

package course work within the new time frames. This is a part of the process of change. It is a challenge for some students and some faculty, and this is to be expected," said Llewellyn.

Dean Llewellyn does not deny that such changes can bring about complications; earlier this semester he was honest in saying that there will also be problems to work out once the new curriculum goes into effect.

"There would be a different environment at Rhodes if we could take seriously the issue of time-management," said Llewellyn, in regards to complications that may have arisen from changing the class times.

Fundraising, continued from Page 1

In order to achieve high standards as a college, Rhodes must have enough money and resources to attract top students. A financially stable institution requires multiple sources of annual revenue. These sources include income generated by tuition and other fees, annual giving, and the endowment.

According to Wade, Rhodes' annual fund is remarkably successful. "For the past several years, Rhodes has been a national leader in terms of alumni participation," said Wade. With just under 50% of alumni giving on average, the annual fund earns approximately \$2.6 million each year. According to Wade, Rhodes' numbers compare quite favorably to comparable schools such as Centre College (\$1.2 million), Furman University (\$2.3 million), Rollins College (\$2.2 million), and Wofford College (\$2.5 million). In fact, Wake Forest University, a larger school with an endowment three times the size of Rhodes', only averages \$3.8 million from its annual fund.

Rhodes' endowment is currently listed as \$223 million, which, while impressive compared to the \$118 million endowment of Hendrix College, is leagues behind schools like Wake Forest, which reported its endowment as \$906,803,459 in 2005. An endowment is similar to a savings account; the money is invested and the interest, or return, is allocated to the budget every year. With a large endowment, an institution is less dependent on annual fund gifts and can guarantee more money for scholarships and meeting student needs.

The final major tool of the development office is the capital campaign. During Rhodes' last capital campaign, completed in 1998, the school raised approximately \$150 million dollars. Several years ago, the administration announced internally that the College would undergo another, even larger campaign. This current campaign is still in its quiet phase, a period before the public announcement during which roughly half of the money is raised.

President Troutt would not give a definitive goal for the campaign, saying that the Board of Trustees would vote on a goal at their meeting next October. However, the preliminary goal is listed in a document entitled, "Becoming the Best, The Campaign for Rhodes," as roughly \$230 million, and is

allocated as such: \$103,105,000 for student recruitment, \$47,565,000 for faculty development, \$24,460,000 for learning opportunities in Memphis, and \$52,470,000 for campus renovation and development.

According to President Troutt, "the final goal for the campaign will probably be somewhere between \$230 and \$260 million. We've already raised \$102 million, including more cash than the entire 1998 campaign."

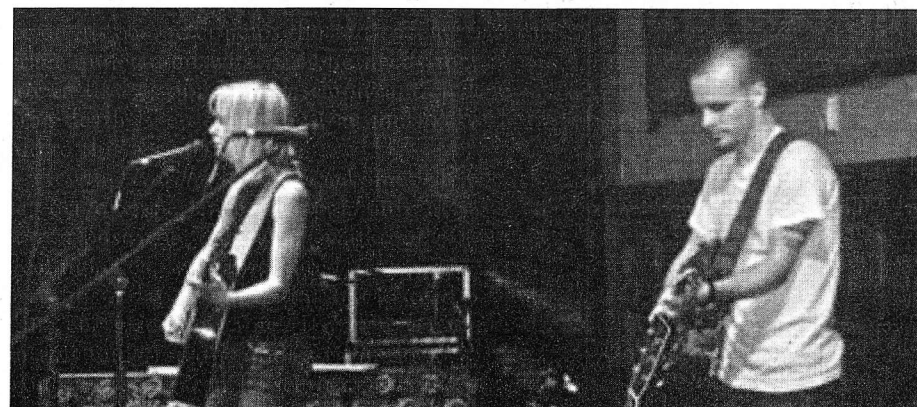
These numbers come as a surprise to many on the campus who hear very little from the development office and are concerned by the department's frequent turnover in recent years, including four development vice-presidents since 2000. Both Troutt and Wade feel that this lack of communication between the development office and the rest of the campus needs to be addressed.

President Troutt explained, "While the development office is merely located across the street, it often appears to students and faculty to be totally separated from the rest of the administration. This is not the case." One reason for the communication gap, according to Wade, is the nature of the business. "If I'm on campus all the time, then I'm not doing my job. My position forces me to travel and meet with donors, and I am often not available." However, Wade did say that she hopes to begin attending faculty meetings with updates from the development office.

As for the development office's turnover in recent years, President Troutt claims, "there is a relatively small talent pool for the crucial job fundraising." He continued, "We're trying to get people to invest in the college, as people as well as financially. It's very important that a development officer be the right fit for the institution."

Despite formerly conducting national searches for development officers, as the school did before hiring Mark Whitaker in 2001, Jenna Wade had been at Rhodes for the past seven years before being promoted this past year. However, President Troutt feels that the development office contains "true fundraising talent," and has full confidence in Wade.

President Troutt hopes that his legacy at Rhodes includes guaranteeing the school's financial security in years to come and being able to offer a world-class education to any student who wants one. In order to achieve those goals, however, he will count solely on the success of the fundraising endeavors of himself and the development office.



GWEN WEIL/The Sou'wester

**Derek Webb, a Christian folk singer sponsored by Greek Fellowship, played on April 18 in the Lair. Webb is currently traveling around the country on his Mockingbird Tour, also featuring Sandra McCracken.**

# CAMPUS SAFETY

4.9.06-4.16.06

4/09	12:30 p.m.	Pike fraternity member requesting equipment from physical plant to remove sand. Grounds notified, equipment issued.
4/10	12:18 a.m. 12:40 a.m. 1:02 a.m. 1:56 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:13 a.m. 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 4:04 p.m.	MPD on campus for courtesy patrol. Noise complaint, Voorhies basement. Officer dispatched. Students asked to quiet down, all complied. 2nd noise complaint, Voorhies basement. Campus safety officer and RA responded. Group of students asked to leave, all complied. Ambulance on campus to transport ill student to Methodist Central. ADRL notified. Barret emergency door breached. Alarm reset. City code inspector on campus for routine inspection. Jackson street gate open for Pike house to move sand. Suspicious person on bicycle going door to door. Campus Safety followed until out of area. Student stuck in library elevator. Physical plant notified, situation resolved.
4/11	2:38 a.m. 7 a.m. 3 p.m. 4:16 p.m.	Student locked in Barret Library between the computer lab doors. Campus Safety responded and assisted student out of the library. White male, wearing dark gym pants and a white t-shirt observed climbing the Charles St. gate from campus to the Hein Park area. Campus Safety dispatched. Individual was identified as a resident of Hein Park. Report of someone stuck in the southwest elevator in Barret Library. Maintenance responded. Otis Elevator notified. MPD on campus for courtesy patrol.
4/12	12:02 a.m. 3:56 p.m. 5:40 p.m. 11:27 p.m.	Report of loud music coming from 2nd floor Stewart. RA responded. Water is back on in Stewart, except Stewart #4. Water will be on later tonight. Mother of ill student called and informed Campus Safety that her daughter had been transported to the hospital from the clinic, but did not know which hospital. ADRL notified. Burglar alarm, Clough Gallery. Gallery door found locked but not secured. Door secured, alarm reset.
4/13	1 p.m.	Stop sign on Glassell's north side down. Sign retrieved, maintenance notified.
4/14	3:33 a.m. 7:31 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:24 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 2:36 p.m. 6 p.m.	North Parkway entrance gate malfunctioning. Campus Safety dispatched, gate reset. Intrusion alarm, east side Barret Library. Maintenance working in building, alarm reset. Simplex on campus to install a panel in McCoy Theatre's new addition. Student's door lock in Robinson malfunctioning. Maintenance responded. Larceny theft from building. Report filed. MPD notified. Snowden track team on campus. Freshman parking lot lights are out. Maintenance notified. Lights may be out until Monday. Extra patrols will be made after dark until lights are back on.
4/15	5:18 p.m. 5:43 p.m.	Fire alarm BCLC, MFD responded. Pull station by the docks pulled. Alarm reset. Fire alarm BCLC, MFD responded. Faulty pull station. Maintenance notified. Alarm reset.
4/16	12:35 p.m. 3:30 a.m.	Fire extinguisher in Ellett dorm discharged by unknown person. Report filed. Call from Parkway Apts. about an alarm going off in the rear of the church. Campus Safety dispatched, no problem found.

?

## The Puzzler

?

Find a number whose double exceeds its half by exactly 99.

Send your answers to LAPSE@Rhodes.edu. Responses are due Monday at 1 PM. In the case of multiple winners, a drawing will be held for the week's movie tickets. You can find answers to this week's puzzle in next week's Sou'wester.

Answer to last week's Puzzler:

It's 9:00 PM.

Be sure to congratulate Jason Hansen, last week's winner!!

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NASHVILLE SCENE LIGHTNING 100 VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

# The Medicine Factory: delightfully strange

By JENNY ROGERS

When Phillip Andrew Lewis agreed to let me bartend for the inaugural exhibit opening of his new gallery space, the Medicine Factory, he had no idea that I was in collusion with *the Sou'wester* to write a tell-all exposé of what really happens at these art openings. The mFac 001 exhibit proved to be a classic example of the free drinks, good company, and wonderfully bizarre art that makes up a contemporary exhibition opening in Memphis.

The adventure got off to a rocky start when I accidentally drove to Arkansas, but eventually I arrived at the proper 85 West Virginia address. Built in 1913, the space has served as everything from a coffee bean-roasting house to a potato chip factory, so it's full of all those old building charms like quirky railings and a prehistoric-looking drinking fountain. The premise of the mFac 001 exhibit was to let fifteen artists chose spaces within the building and then respond to that space with installation pieces, including works of sculpture, sound, performance, and video.

I was able to tour the exhibit solo, which is always a plus, because then no one can see you make confused faces when you don't understand the artwork. It must be said—I found some of the work a bit baffling. If it wasn't for the cute little map identifying each piece in the space, I'm not sure I would have been able to pick out what was art and what wasn't. Particularly puzzling was a series of wooden cubes placed throughout the building. I was informed that they were intended to "draw attention to the space," but as far as I could tell, they only drew attention to my inability to fully understand contemporary art even after four years of college.

Still, the show was full of delights, including a gorgeous back room completely covered in brown paper (installed by our very own sculpture instructor, Melissa Vandenberg), which cascaded from ceiling to floor in a sort of Baroque-curtain style. I was charmed by Don Estes' piece, a wire that wove in and out of the wall and bloomed into a little metal flower, as well as by the decoratively cut paper and floral wall composition installed by another Rhodes faculty member, Erin Harmon. The Terri Jones installation upstairs, which consisted of a table piled high with bubble gum and a ceiling full of balloons, was a crowd favorite. Jones's piece invited viewers to play with the balloons, and rearrange, chew or even spit the gum down a shaft to the basement of the building. Drury Morris ('08) was on the scene

and later described sticking some of the balloons together with pieces of chewed gum, prompting a fellow art-goer to inquire if he was the artist behind the installation.

I descended into the black basement of the Medicine Factory to find the star of the show. In the darkness hung a dozen bare lightbulbs, suspended from the ceiling and hanging just inches off the ground, creating a grid of soft glowing circles on the concrete floor. In the otherwise totally dark, cold, damp basement, I couldn't decide if I felt the peaceful tranquility of being at a candlelight vigil or the eerie unease of being alone in an alley about to be murdered. Still, the piece, installed by Anastasia Laurenzi, was a rich experience that I fear might not have been felt by viewers who arrived in the thick of a noisy crowd.

Overall, the art fascinated, and the space exhilarated. Peering around corners, climbing up and down stairs, and stumbling upon secret spaces was thrilling and made me feel quite mischievous, especially since I was alone. Phillip Lewis has created a unique exhibition space in the Medicine Factory that will hopefully remain a part of the Memphis art scene for many years to come.

Once visitors began arriving, I was reminded yet again that attending a Memphis art opening is about more than just looking at the art—it is about looking at all the people. While most were in the typical art enthusiast's uniform of black on black, there were plenty examples of outrageous fashion, including one striking fedora on the head of Rhodes art history professor David McCarthy. We even had a minor celebrity on hand. The entire Stewart family, former owners of the Stewart Potato Chip company and the Medicine Factory building, made an appearance, led by the wiry Mr. Stewart. The patriarch explored the place and gestured with his cane to various points of interest, while his middle-aged son snapped photos, and his granddaughter and I ate cookies.

With enough wild characters on hand to keep even the most ardent people-watcher fascinated, the opening was a rowdy little affair and proved once more that contemporary art openings are Memphis's best kept secret. Sure, you'll have no clue what half of the work means, but just keep sipping on your free wine, turn to the pink-haired person next to you, and say "Great piece, very fresh." Voila, a cool gallery-goer is born.

# A summer of sound

By WES BARKER  
Staff Writer

Summer sees heat-stricken consumers flock to cinemas and malls for the season's newest films and fashions, but, as film releases seem meager and fashions remain mostly the same, the music industry surprises fans with summer releases that should not disappoint — as many lackluster summers have done in the recent past. This summer will see the debuts of the year's aspiring talent, the sophomore and junior efforts of this decade's finest, and the belated return of some of music's legends. This year has already proven its merit, and the summer seems to continue the year's already stellar releases.

April shall end with the American debut of much overlooked Brit post-punks, The Rakes, whose *Capture/Release* is a perfect beginning to a season of releases from fellow Brits, The Futureheads, Bloc Party, Maximo Park, and the highly anticipated American release of Art Brut. American indie rockers, Fiery Furnaces and Secret Machines, will also follow up last year's debuts with new efforts that will surely amaze. Everyone must also not forget The Streets' sophomore *The Hardest Way to Make an Easy Living*, which will begin a stellar lineup of summer Hip-Hop releases.

May 2nd will see the collaboration of Cee-lo and Danger Mouse with Gnarl Barkley's *St. Elsewhere*, Danger's newest effort since last fall's *The Mouse and the Mask*. Cam'ron also follows up 2005's *Purple Haze* with *Killa Season* on May 16, and two weeks later will see Ice Cube's newest album, *Laugh Now, Cry Later*. The true anticipation, however, is for Outkast's film/music masterpiece, *Idlewild*, which will hopefully see a July release. J Dilla will also follow up *Donuts* with July 11's *The Shining*.

May 2nd, however, will be the true beginning of a restless summer release schedule. The first Tuesday of May will see the much anticipated return of Tool, Pearl Jam, Ministry and the resurgence of 90's Britpop with new albums from World Party and The Charlatans. Such returns of classic bands will continue with the slated summer releases of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Primal Scream, Dinosaur Jr., shoegazers Mojave 3, New York Dolls (albeit without the original lineup), Roxy Music, Pixies, and Sonic Youth. Like 2005, this year will see the return of many of the bands that have been influential on today's debuts.

Of course, the summer would not be complete without new releases from everyone's favorite Nordic music scene. America shall see the release of Radio Dept.'s moody sophomore *Pet Grief*, a new album, *Writer's Block*, from Peter Bjorn & John, a new EP from last year's wunderkind Sambassadeur, and this summer's Shout Out Louds, *The Envelopes*, a cross-cultural debut that truly amazes with its jangle pop and indie dancefloor anthems.

Despite these already fantastic releases, the summer would not be complete without a few albums that will surely be among this year's most important and finest. The Walkmen, NY's finest, return with *A Hundred Miles Off: Bows & Arrows*, The Walkmen's second album, was among 2004's greatest releases; it combined late 70's/early 80's NY post-punk and punk and sixties legends The Velvet Underground. *Hundred Miles Off* will show a different side of The Walkmen as they toy with their American music roots and provide an album that will return the quintet to the forefront of American music. Jack White also returns, but under the guise of The Raconteurs, featuring Third Man label mate and fellow Detroit native Brendan Benson, who comes off his essential 2005 *Alternative to Love*, and members of the Greenhornes,

Ohio's alt-country icon and fellow collaborators with White on Loretta Lynn's *Van Lear Rose*. Sweden's finest, The Legends, will return with the American release of *Public Radio*, which is far off from its predecessor, *Up Against the Legends*, with its distinct Joy Division/ Cure influence replacing the first album's Jesus and Mary Chain/ The Pastels C-86 sound. Hopefully, The Legends will finally make their splash with their sophomore effort and a promised US tour from Johan Angergaard. Finally, American balladeers Faris Nourallah and Richard Swift will soften the summer mood with releases that will exhibit their best songcraft and songwriting to date, as evident in Nourallah's new single, "Move On", and Swift's "Songs for National Freedom" and "Dressed Up for the Letdown".

The summer has just begun, and with these new releases comes a continuance of this year's fine new albums. Other releases may occur as dates remain unconfirmed, and the summer, therefore, may see new efforts from The Shins, The Rapture, Arcade Fire, Yo La Tengo, and Radiohead. Nevertheless, the summer will provide a wide variety of releases — that cater to both the fans of the newest scenes, as well as diehards of music's past. As these releases are any indication, this will, indeed, be a summer of sound.



## Full of bones and not much else

By SUSAN WESSEL

Bari is the kid in your class that wears Gucci sunglasses and Prada shoes, which although expensive and beautifully designed, they offer little more than the satisfaction of saying, "I own a brand name." For Bari, the brand name is the guise of "authentic Italian" food. The midtown restaurant aims to serve the traditional fare of Chef Jason Severs' family hometown of Capurso, Italy. Unfortunately for diners, "authentic" actually means over-priced, miniscule portions. It may have been less expensive to book a flight and fly over to Italy than to eat a three course meal at Bari. Granted, I grew up in the Wal-Mart generation of mass consumption, but I became a little suspicious when the waiter, a theatrically phony fellow, offered us the presumptuous disclaimer that the food is prepared in the traditional style. In case you were wondering, the "traditional" style means painfully small portions.

Upon entering the restaurant, I was greeted by a dimly lit room with high ceilings, which contained the small bar, complete with a friendly bartender and a flat screen TV showing the latest basketball game. Connected to this room is the compact dining room, in which each table is carefully situated in the room like a card into a house of cards. What results is a pleasant and compact environment in which you can easily listen to other tables' conversations and watch the cars drive by as you wait for your food (which you will be doing a lot of). Throughout my two hours spent dining there, I heard people discuss their childhood sexual abuse, all whilst enjoying the *frittella di melanzane*-fried eggplant and pecorino fritters.

I thought that eating at this restaurant would give me a chance to exercise my rudimentary knowledge of Italian cuisine. Unfortunately, my experience proved that I

must know nothing about Italian food, since I was disappointed with every dish I ordered (except one that I will mention later). I will admit, I was immediately disappointed when I did not see pizza Margherita on the menu, which is arguably the nation's best export. Sadly, it must not be part of Bari's "traditional" cuisine. Luckily, one of my dining companions ordered the taleggio cheese, which had a nutty taste and was served as a nice accompaniment to the *bruschetta*-grilled rustic bread rubbed with garlic and topped with tomatoes, extra virgin olive oil, and sea salt. The handmade meatballs were reminiscent of those which an Italian *nonna* would cook. Unfortunately, after this point, the rest of the food fell flat-very flat. The restaurant's *pièce de résistance* is supposedly its fresh seafood. As for the *Bronzino al forno*, baked whole bronzino stuffed with fennel and orange, it coyly started up at us, full of bones and not much else.

Dissatisfied, I was convinced that my time spent at Bari was wasted, until I tasted *Nocciola Boconotti*, home-made cream puffs with hazelnut cream and chocolate drizzle. The sight of it alone incited my taste buds to wildly flail around in my mouth. It was, in a word, perfection. If they know how to do anything, it's how to cook up a good dessert. Also quite impressive is the bar's selection of European beers and wine. The *enoteca* serves everything from chilled Peroni to a fine chardonnay (or so I've heard).

Ultimately, this restaurant just tries too hard to be unique and authentic. I'm no epicurean but I know good food when I taste it, and at this pricey joint, it pays to know what's good. If I were you, I would order a drink from the *enoteca*, a sample of cheeses, and a dessert, since that's all this poor college student can afford at Bari.

## Harold and Maude: a positive viewing experience

By JOHN HUNTER DUESING  
A&E Editor ('06/'07)

Looking at cinema as of late, one can't help but notice that there seems to be a culture of death surrounding movies. I'm not really talking about horror films or action flicks, but message movies that don't really have anything positive to say. Call me old-fashioned, but after the initial gimmicky emotional manipulation I was subjected to by *Million Dollar Baby*, I realized just how negative and one-dimensional the movie really is. Given that rolling over and dying when life deals you a lousy hand isn't exactly a philosophy I adhere to or respect, I usually find myself searching for something else that feels more life-enhancing, something that I can get something positive out of. I was surprised to find this element in an overlooked film recommended to me entitled *Harold and Maude*.

Released in 1971 during the artistic zenith of the New American Cinema era, *Harold and Maude* was directed by grizzled counter-culture icon Hal Ashby, the quintessential hippie film director. The movie's story follows a morbid young man named Harold—a boy from a wealthy family who obsesses over death in a borderline psychotic way. When Harold isn't attending funerals for fun or jetting around in his personal hearse, he is faking his death daily, be it by hanging himself, setting himself on fire, or violently committing harakiri in front of a potential date. However, Harold's outlook on life begins to change when he befriends a happy and active old woman named Maude (Ruth Gordon). Despite her age, Maude is far more vivid and lively than Harold could ever hope to be. She steals cars, creates music and art, and enjoys what the great outdoors has to offer. Maude's uninhibited lifestyle begins to rub off on Harold, who slowly begins to appreciate what life has to offer through Maude's fearless and fancy-free philosophy and lifestyle. The pair ultimately fall in love with one another, forming a serious relationship despite their enormous age difference.

Hal Ashby's direction is spot-on in *Harold and Maude*, showing a great understanding of painting in his use of depth-of-field and color. Visually, you can see this film as a source where contemporary directors like Wes Anderson frequently draw their inspiration from (the similarities between *Harold and Maude* and *Rushmore* are striking, to say the least). Complimenting the richness of the film's visual elements is a wonderful and vibrant soundtrack by none other than Cat "Yusuf Islam" Stevens.



photo courtesy of undergroundhumor.com

The chemistry between Ruth Gordon and Bud Cort is a joy to watch, mainly because these two actors are able to pull off such an outlandish and odd relationship so well that they manage to make it completely, one-hundred-percent believable.

What I like so much about *Harold and Maude* is how it views subjects like death and suicide, choosing to boldly laugh at them instead of commiserating over them the way most films do. The usually stone-cold serious theme of suicide is given a wonderfully whimsical treatment. The scenes where Harold scares off the women his mother fixes him up with are comedy gold, as he'll do something quite simple (such as hacking his hand off with a butcher knife) or something a tad more elaborate (dousing himself in gasoline and setting himself on fire during an apparent meditation). Harold's bizarre suicide attempts come off as nothing more than silly juvenile cries for attention. Maude's influence on his character helps the audience to further understand what it is he needs to enjoy in life, as opposed to simply anticipating death like drones the way most of us do to this very day.

Viewing *Harold and Maude* comes off as a sort of experience that can only affect you positively. You won't walk out of it feeling cheaply manipulated (the way most films today set out to do), but instead feeling energized and alive. If you haven't seen this underrated gem of a film, do so. If you've already seen it, see it again. It's one piece that merits multiple viewings to remind ourselves as to why life is (believe it or not) worth living!

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# Easter weekend explosion ignites Rhodes baseball

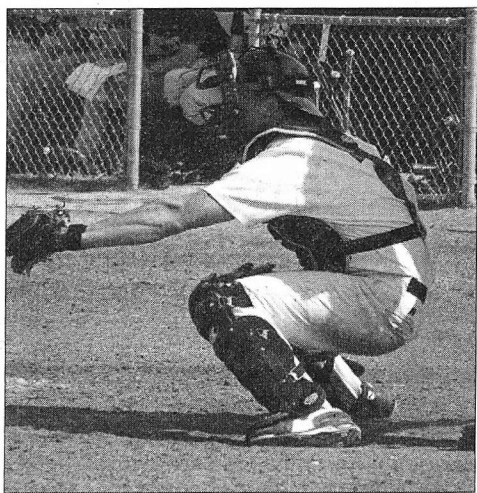
By ED LANE  
Sports Editor

Last Friday proved to be more than just Good Friday for the Rhodes baseball team; it was one hell of a Friday. The host Lynx took both games of a double header against Hendrix and qualified for the SCAC baseball tournament with 29-12 and 22-8 triumphs over the Warriors.

Rhodes used the momentum from Friday's victories to finish the sweep of the Warriors (6-24 overall, 1-16 SCAC) with a 10-5 win on Saturday afternoon. Last weekend's success helped Rhodes improve to 26-11 overall and 11-6 in SCAC competition.

In game one of the Friday's twin-bill, the Lynx bats warmed up with two runs in the first inning. Third baseman Daniel Vanaman ('08) triggered the first major spurt of offense, as his three-run triple helped propel the Lynx to a five-run second inning and a 7-1 advantage over Hendrix. Amazingly, the bats were just getting warmed up at that point. Vanaman hit a solo homerun, and right fielder Rory Faver ('06) belted a two-run blast as part of Rhodes' eight-run third inning.

After laying the explosives in the first three frames, the Lynx finally detonated the explosion in the fourth inning. Unlike the previous inning, when he came to the plate with just one man on base, Faver stepped into the batter's box with the bases loaded. The result was the same, however, as Faver hit another home-run, a grand slam which put the Lynx ahead 20-2.



Evan Elliot/The Sou'wester

**Catcher Matt Beesley's defense has helped the Lynx qualify for the SCAC tournament.**

Rhodes would go on to score eleven runs that inning and 29 total.

The back-end of the double-header merely continued the trend which Rhodes set earlier in the day: ample offensive output. While failing to match the 29 runs scored in the first contest, the Lynx managed to score 22, which was more than enough to support the pitching staff.

Before browsing the offense's totals, it should be noted that left-handed pitcher Robert Flanagan ('08) deserves some recognition for his efforts. Flanagan surrendered only one run on a mere three hits and did not issue a walk, as he improved his mark to 9-2.

In returning focus to the offense, it is clear that the Rhodes wasted no time getting on the scoreboard. Richard Hurd ('08) took Hendrix starting pitcher Wheeler Gnat over the fence for a lead-off homer and a 1-0 Lynx lead. The left-fielder's solo blast set the offensive tone, as catcher Matt Beesley ('08) had a two-run single and second-baseman J.R. Bizzell ('09) had a 2-run double, helping the Lynx to a 7-1 lead after the first inning.

Center fielder Drew Hubbard's ('09) two-run homerun in the second inning pushed the lead to 9-1, and that score remained until Adam Keckler ('06) stepped to the plate in the bottom of the third. With the bases loaded and no outs, the first-baseman belted a grand slam which put the game well out of the Warriors' grasp.

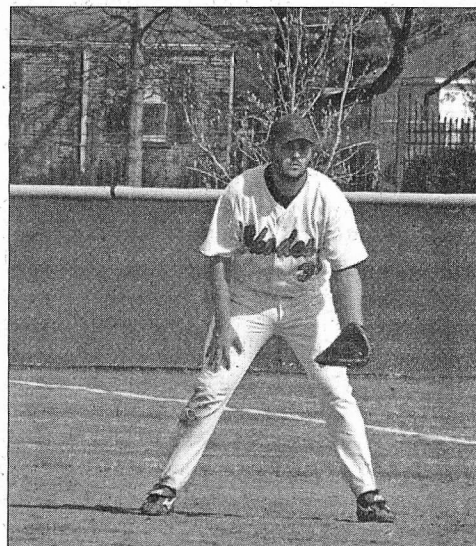
Rhodes went on to score two more in the third and were in control for the rest of the game; they took second contest in similar fashion to the first.

Dominant in Friday's games, Rhodes found themselves in an unfamiliar position Saturday, trailing the Warriors 5-2 after the top of the fourth. Faver and Keckler both scored on an errant throw by Hendrix catcher David Foley, and Hurd had an RBI single to knot the game at 5. Faver's RBI base-hit in the fifth inning put the Lynx ahead 6-5.

In the last half of the seventh, the Lynx padded their lead with Keckler's RBI-single and Faver's two-run triple, and Rhodes went on to win 10-5 and complete

the three-game sweep.

The Easter weekend explosion gives the Lynx momentum as they conclude their regular season next weekend on April 22 and 23 with a three game series at Millsaps—who just beat #1 Emory. Such a result would help Rhodes improve its seeding, as they trail the Majors by two games. More importantly, victories will provide additional confidence as the Lynx prepare for the postseason, which begins with the SCAC tournament on April 26 at Sewanee.



Evan Elliot/The Sou'wester

**First Baseman Adam Keckler currently holds a .290 batting average.**

# Winning streak dispels early concerns

By ED LANE  
Sports Editor

Recapturing the competitive juices can be challenging after returning to the field from the off-season. Although they practiced throughout the winter, the Rhodes men's soccer team had not played a competitive match since their 3-0 loss to DePauw on November 6, 2005.

When they took the field on March 26, 2006 in the annual Memphis Cup tournament, the Lynx looked slightly rusty, as Lambuth University (from Jackson, TN) defeated them 4-1. As bad as that loss was, it proved to be Rhodes' only stumbling block this spring.

In the consolation match of the Memphis Cup, the Lynx defeated Christian Brothers University 2-1 and used that win to generate some momentum. Down 1-0 following an early Buccaneers goal, Matt Grosmann found the back of the net to even the contest at 1-1. The score remained tied until the final minute of the contest, when Tyler Rosser took a cross-over pass from Patrick Deveau and scored the game-winning goal. Coach Andy Marcinko summarized the Lynx' rebound performance as a "Real big win for us. They

are a scholarship program and we're not supposed to beat them. It's turning into a pretty fun rivalry."

Rhodes' triumph against their cross-town nemesis helped prove that offensive persistence and tenacious defense can carry a team to victory. The Lynx heeded those lessons in the following contest, a scrimmage against Coaliste Ide—a European team which travels to Memphis each spring.

Persistent defense kept Ide out of goal, yet the Lynx had not mustered any offense either and the match was scoreless as time wound down. Finally, with just over a minute left in the game, freshman midfielder John McMann tapped in a corner kick to give Rhodes a 1-0 triumph. The Lynx played hard-nosed defense throughout the contest and were rewarded for their persistence with a last second goal.

Of the exhibitions in the spring, Coach Marcinko believes that the contest against Coaliste Ide was the most beneficial.

"That game gave the guys a first-hand look at what to expect when we travel to Europe [in August]. It's a little more competitive against the European clubs than

in normal scrimmages."

The victory might not count in the win-loss column for the 2006 year, but it proved that Rhodes can defeat stout competition.

This past weekend, spring scrimmages concluded with a pair of contests against more "home-grown" opponents. Saturday afternoon, the current seniors crossed over to the Alumni squad, but could not thwart the 2006 group's momentum. The alumni fell 3-2, as Tyler Rosser led the ball past Jon Nelson ('04) for the decisive goal.

The following day, Rhodes concluded the spring season, doubling up Division II Harding University, 4-2. Less than ten minutes into the contest, Rosser's shot ricocheted off the goalpost and across

the line for a 1-0 lead. That lead lasted through half-time, and the Bison managed to even the score at 1-1 when the ball slipped past goalie Alex Margolin ('09). Harding's comeback ended there, as Douglass Atkinson ('09) and Matt Averill ('09) scored goals to give Rhodes a 3-1 lead. The Bison managed to trim the lead to 3-2, but Atkinson scored the game's final goal shortly thereafter.

Rhodes began their spring season on a rocky note with the loss to Lambuth, and this posed a reasonable cause for concern. The four game winning streak that followed quickly erased those concerns. Now the Lynx must take the momentum from those contests with them when they leave for Europe in August.

## Varsity Athletic Scoreboard

Softball  
vs. Hendrix  
L 11-0; L: 18-4; L: 18-2; L: 7-5  
Final Record: 3-25 (0-12 SCAC)

Baseball  
4/22 @ Millsaps (DH)  
4/23 @ Millsaps  
4/26-4/30 SCAC Tournament @ Sewanee

Point/Counterpoint continued from Page 2

will prescribe Operation Apollousaurus as I stated before, you boisterous, babbling buffoon. You are right in the fact that they don't want the United States to collapse. They will commence the moon strike and then administer the vaccine to the remaining Americans on Earth who weren't killed in the attempt to exterminate the Moon-o-saurs, thus continuing their clandestine operation.

J: I don't know why I bother. You're hopeless. We're supposed to be discussing Mumps and you're flabbing on about the CIA and dinosaurs. Let's try to rein this in before the "Point/Counterpoint" offices are set on fire. I think we can safely say that (a) Mumps are no good, and (b) people

should do what they can to ensure that they remain healthy. I suggest seeing a medical professional, you suggest an unholy concoction of over-the-counter pills ground into paste. I suggest we need to avoid infection because of national security and productivity, you suggest that civilization stands on the brink of laser destruction that may or may not have anything to do with Mumps. All right, then. I think this has been productive.

In the event that we have any readers left, I invite you all to join Adam and me for next issue's round of "Point/Counterpoint"

If you have suggested topics for future Point/Counterpoint debates, email them to [teeap@rhodes.edu](mailto:teeap@rhodes.edu)

# Tragedy and Scandal Strike The Rhode'ster

Meg Sizemore  
Rhode'ster UAP Writer'ster

Memphis, TN—Sources reported early this morning that Chelsea Ashworth ('06), the editor of the notorious *Rhode'ster*, was missing from her four bedroom apartment in East Village. A few hours later Ashworth, under investigation for libel, was found dead in a ditch stripped of her journalistic integrity and other personal items. Authorities commented that Ashworth's kidnapping and subsequent murder appear to have been politically motivated. The scene in EV 305 barely showed signs of disturbance, which alerted her roommates to her absence in the first place. Catherine Bloom ('06), contributor to *The Rhode'ster*, had the following to say about the incident:

"It's a very sad day for satirical publications around the world—Chelsea was an innovator, she knew how to take risks and wasn't afraid of the consequences. Perhaps, in the end, there was a little irony in her death. I'm sure that being murdered, stripped naked, urinated on, and left in a ditch with a dead armadillo would have really struck Chelsea as funny."

The fate of *The Rhode'ster* is currently unknown, as incumbent editor Laura Owensby ('08) went missing shortly before her predecessor. Owensby's neighbor made a frantic 911 call at about 2 A.M. reporting a breaking and entering which resulted in a broken lamp, crushed blinds, scattered mold, and Owensby's kidnapping by two men in black ski masks. "I walked out to get a drink of water and there they were, dragging Laura down the hall! I threw something at one of them, but he just kept running!"

Though there are no solid connections, the two kidnappings are suspected to be related. When asked about the difference in crime scenes, a Campus Safety officer (who wishes to remain anonymous) attributed the disheveled look of Owensby's room to the general state of Bellingrath

Hall. "It's hard to not make a mess in Bellingrath, really. You sneeze, and mold goes everywhere. You try to put more than one person in a room, much less three, and everything just goes to hell."

Owensby has since been found in north Alabama tied to a tree, incidentally also stripped of her journalistic integrity. She is currently being held at Guantanamo Bay Detention Center and is considered a dangerous criminal by authorities. "Women like Chelsea Ashworth and Laura Owensby are a danger to Rhodes' campus," said one representative of the administration. "They spin webs of lies and portray them as the truth, they are un-American and stand for the opposite of everything we as a community represent."

Owensby is expected to be prosecuted to the full extent of the law for kidnapping, libel and slander, murder, and obstruction of justice, though her trial date remains hazy. Authorities cite DNA analysis of the urine found on Ashworth's body as evidence.

Ashworth's campus-wide funeral has been postponed as well due to a conflict of interest between that which she was to call her alma mater and, well, that which she was to call her alma mater. She has been cremated and had expressed previously to this reporter that she had wished to live on in the souls and bodies of Rhodes students in whatever manner possible; though no official statement has been made, sources indicate that the ashes, the current location of which is unknown, may have been included in the mixture for Monday's white chocolate mousse at the Rat.

# An (Open) Letter from a (Dead) Editor

Caroline Bishop  
Rhode'ster "Why won't you die?" 'ster  
Dear Rhodents,

I remember when I was just like you, toiling along in my daily life as a Rhodes student, spending five minutes a day on homework, and debating whether I loved the fence and campus safety more than my friendly, easygoing professors. Now I live in the arctic wasteland known as the "Mid-Atlantic States" where I endure 18 inches of snow, open-face sandwiches, and tolerance of other people's basic beliefs. Also, I have a 25 page paper due on Tuesday, and I haven't even started it yet, because I've been doing 10 hours of Latin and Greek a day for my angry, bitter professors as I toil through an Ivy League graduate program.

So believe me when I say I know how it feels to be a Rhodes student. And as someone who has so recently escaped the gaping maw that has now become the Barret Library, I'd like to tell you a bit about my discoveries in the, as they say, "real world." I've learned a lot since I moved to Philadelphia, but I believe it can be summed up in two simple statements:

1. Ben Franklin did not have syphilis.
2. Apparently, people in the real world make "jokes."

I know! I'm sure you're as dumbfounded as I was! I went to see this Tim Allen movie, *El Shaggy Dog* I think it was called, and it was—what's the word, again?—"funny!" Sure, no one else in the theatre was—I think they call it "laughing," but it was way "funnier" than anything that I ever experienced at Rhodes. Sorry if I keep putting that word in quotes. It's just that it's so new to me!

So maybe you think you've heard of this word before, like, in your Shakespeare class with Brady that was about his "comedies" (whatever those are!). And some people have told me that they thought *The Rhode'ster*, which was a newspaper that I edited when I was at Rhodes, was supposed to be "funny."

Well, I have this to say to you. *The Rhode'ster*, funny? Everything in the paper is legitimate, 100% for serious, real journalism!

Believe me, I'm not trying to get all uppity and arrogant because your ivy's in a league of its own, while mine's actually in a league. I just know that everyone at Rhodes takes everything in *The Rhode'ster* as actual fact.

Why, even this year, they've been keeping you up-to-date and informed on serious, campus-threatening issues, such as Patrick Callihan tapping your phones and the complexity of rap lyrics. Those rappers! Who can understand them? Seriously, guys. And when I say serious, I mean serious. I don't know how it could be more obvious that *The Rhode'ster* is a real, serious newspaper.

But anyway, I've totally digressed. I was supposed to tell you about my recent discovery of "satire," "parody," and "humor," but I guess I've run out of room. What? Really? You want me to give you some examples of this crazy new genre?

Well...okay.

Four examples of statements that do not contain humor

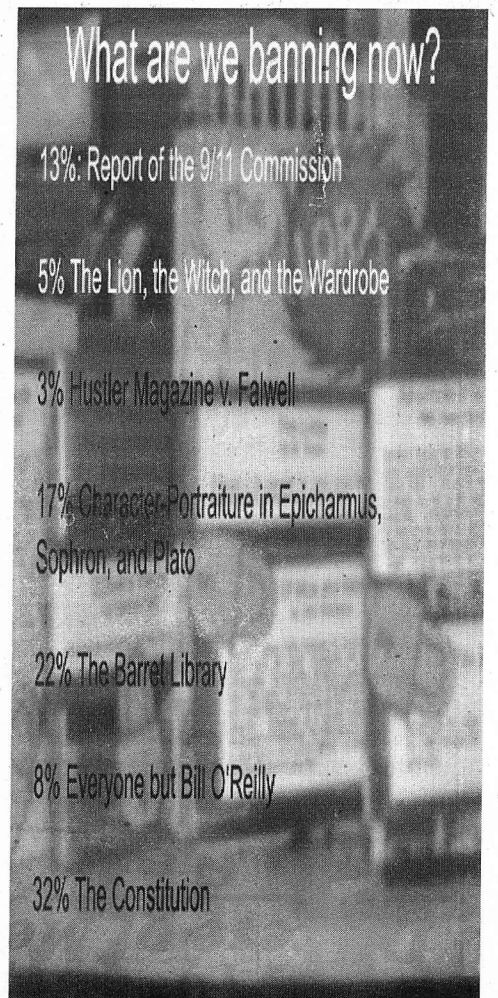
1. The Barret Library has no books.
2. Dave Matthews Band is, like, the best band ever.
3. riverrun, past Eve and Adam's, from swerve of shore to bend of bay, brings us by a commodius vicus of recirculation back to Howth Castle and Environs.
4. James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake* is not, like, an important book in the history of literature, so it's totally fine, and don't feel stupid at all if you didn't get that last one.

Four examples of things that contain humor

1. Tim Allen
2. Larry the Cable Guy. Take that, David Cross (he is SO unfunny).
3. "Yo mama" jokes
4. Hypocrites!

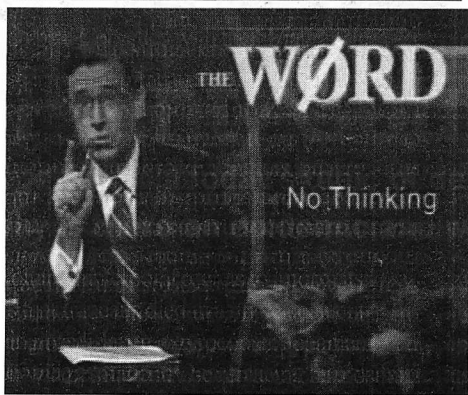
Well, I hope that helped. If you still don't get it, don't worry; graduation can't be more than three years away, so you'll find out what humor is in no time at all!

Amorem et oscula hiantia,  
Caroline "Smack My" Bishop  
P.S. "Smack My" is my for serious real preferred name.  
P.P.S. Smack me one at [cbishop@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:cbishop@sas.upenn.edu) if you don't know what humor is. I'd be glad to enlighten you!



Send in your articles to [OWELM@rhodes.edu](mailto:OWELM@rhodes.edu). The "M" stands for "Michelle," if that makes it easier to remember. Although "owelm" sounds like a Welsh curse word, it's nothing too memorable for English speakers. Which makes us wonder – what is the Administration's policy for students whose initials spell potentially-obscene email addresses? What if we admitted a student named Ian Sean Pennington? Or Christine Hannah Bitterman? Or Rose Elizabeth Whorton? This issue interests us more than, say, the search for a new provost. Anyways- [OWELM@rhodes.edu](mailto:OWELM@rhodes.edu), which, we're fairly certain, contains no obscenities.

# THE RHODE'STER



Stephen Colbert  
Laura Owensby

## Ramblings of Rage

Taking on Pop-Culture One Issue at a Time

Adam Teer  
Rhode'ster Rant'ster

I was having trouble finding a topic that enraged me enough to rant. I'm not very angry these days. But I found inspiration while visiting my aunt over the long weekend.

You'd be surprised at the number of ridiculously modified cars in Minnesota. However, my faithful readers, this infection of "tricking your ride" is not just found in the Land of A Thousand Lakes. People are crappifying their "rides" in any given town in this nation. Before I move on, I must mention that I do not use the term "ricer" in an offensive or disrespectful way. Ricer is an accepted term that describes the modifying of automobiles, usually in an extremely hideous way.

The first horrible thing about ricers is the paint jobs. How do people decide that the color they chose looks good? The combination of sea-foam green and vermillion doesn't make people say, "I wish I had that car." Sometimes it honestly looks like they picked the most obnoxious color they could find in their little sister's Crayola box. There is a reason manufacturers don't offer electric-pee-yellow as a standard color choice.

Fun Fact #1 for all of the ricers reading this: primer is not a color. Maybe you don't have enough money to paint your car after spending your paycheck from Circuit City on some crappy body kit, but whose fault is that?

And if having a car that's the color of construction cones isn't bad enough, some owners decide that decals will add "flair" or "enigma" to the car that'll make it *just* right. Believe me, flair and enigma are not accomplished by pasting a six-foot anime head or a dragon on the side of your car. People will rightfully think of you as a tool.

A second category of offense is exterior alterations. Nobody wants to hear you take a speed bump at 60 miles an hour when you have your car fitted with skirts, not to mention a body kit and lowered to about half an inch off the ground. Also, ricers can't believe it when their grill and bumpers are mangled and their neon lights don't work anymore (aw shucks). Surely it wasn't caused by their crappy driving.

Fun Fact #2: Painting your car the color of snot and throwing a larger plastic bumper on your car will not make you a better driver. It will make

you a douche.

Spinners and flashy rims are the new craze for ricers. I can't think of a better way for you to waste money than to throw a pair of spinners on your Daewoo. Perhaps you can pay for them by driving your car over lawns and getting paid to cut grass. Since your car is probably dropped, you'll be close enough to the ground. And with a muffler about the same size as Heineken Mini-Keg dragging in the back, it'll probably sound like a weed-whacker. Most have about the same horsepower. But rims are pricey, and what does a cash-strapped teenager do until he gets enough money for a full set? The answer: Buy one at a time.

Fun Fact #3: Driving around without a matching set of rims makes you look like an idiot. If you don't have the money for a full set, go to Wal-Mart and get those plastic spinners, which look better than anything else that you've added to your car.

A second exterior alternation that pisses me off is hoods. The hood of your car is a necessary part of the automobile that really shouldn't be messed with. Car hoods are like your genitals: they are necessary pieces of equipment. Adding "upgrades" can lead to serious problems. If you expose them and draw attention towards them, people will laugh, and they will laugh hard. And *please* don't put holes in them. Some of the hoods that I've seen on cars have more holes than Peter Weller in the opening scene of Robocop.

Fun Fact #4: Carbon fiber hoods do not, in fact, make your car bulletproof or indestructible. Running into a tree or pole will probably shatter your hood, hopefully sending shards through both your windshield and both of your eyes.

Ricers do not realize that putting a bunch of crap on cars will not make them faster. A 140 horsepower Honda Civic loaded down with junk will probably move as fast as my grandmother's Yugo. And when they start adding subwoofers that won't fully fit in the trunk, it might go as fast as a riding lawnmower. If you're ever feeling down, there is no better pick-me-up than witnessing a Ford Focus coated with primer creep along the freeway, with subs so large the trunk won't close. You can laugh at them as their license plate shakes so hard from the bass that it almost falls off.

There really is no cure for ricers; all we can do is point and laugh. I urge everyone to help ridicule

them by being a RiceCop. Go to <http://www.rice-cop.com/tickets.php>. Print off a ticket, and slap it onto the next ricer you see. Apparently, the ricers are happy with their decision. And they still think they can beat Corvettes with their Viagra Blue

Eclipses that they trick out in order to compensate for their small genitalia.

## Point/Counterpoint

Today's topic of debate is Mumps:

Why is there an epidemic and what should be done about it?

[Point/Counterpoint regrets to inform its loyal readers that Iraneaus died in a tragic accident involving basilisks on a gyrocopter. Jonathan Cashion will permanently be replacing his position as Point/Counterpointer]

Adam Teer: Recently, there has been an outbreak of the Mumps childhood disease in 8 states. Experts are saying that it is due to increased air travel and the cesspool of the college dormitory. This disease has been around for years, and had been all but eliminated until now. Why did this happen? The college pigsty cannot be the true reason for the outbreak. People are getting sick and it's all the CIA's fault. It is an attempt to control the American populous by seeing if the Mumps can be used as a practical biological weapon. Conspiracy's afoot.

Jonathan Cashion: What are you talking about? Is there something wrong with you? The CIA? That's your grand thesis? This is a pressing matter and you're babbling about conspiracies?

A: Jon, think about it. This is not the Oregon Trail. People don't just get sick and die of dysentery or scarlet fever. There has to be a reason behind it. And the reason is the CIA is trying to create Mump-infected super-soldiers in order to go to the Moon and exterminate the dinosaurs that NASA is breeding there. It's a real-life *Jurassic Park* up there. I don't know about you, but I sure as hell don't want to go to the moon and have one of those dinosaurs that spit crap hawk a loogie in my face. No sir.

J: You candy-striped simp! Of course people just get sick! Mumps are a common childhood virus - that's why vaccinations are mandatory for children. What is most likely happening is that the mumps immunity is wearing off. This could potentially lead to a nationwide epidemic of the disease among people who think that they are safe. I call out to those at risk to receive booster shots as soon as possible. I'm not even going to respond to the dinosaur comment.

A: Fine, believe what you want. But you believe exactly what the CIA wants you to believe. You are pushing their agenda and you will end up sending us to the grave. Also, did you ever happen to think that the Mumps really isn't detrimental to the health of children, but that we were in fact lied to by our own government? They are infecting as many people as possible in order to make them infertile, which is a side effect of the mumps in adults. Once people can't reproduce, they'll follow the government prescribed course of action, which will be a "colonization of the moon," where they can live in harmony and not infect the world. But this is all just a ruse; in fact, it is an incursion to stop the rampaging dinosaurs dubbed Operation Apollosaurus. These are the facts.

J: You...you loggerheaded paperweight! You're not even trying to make sense anymore, are you? Fine. You know what, believe what you

want. The CIA did it, all right? F\*\*\*\*\*' A, CIA. Regardless of the cause of the current outbreak, people need to get treatment. The nation just isn't prepared to handle a Mumps epidemic—a "mumpidemic," if you will. Imagine a nation of swollen-jawed sufferers. There would be a run on painkillers and orange juice. The juice issue is especially worrisome. Prices will skyrocket, and the Orange-based Plutocracy will increase their wealth tenfold. But the pickers will be left out of this new-found wealth. This, of course, will exacerbate the tensions between owners and immigrant labor. The workers will stage a walkout. The nation's orange supply will plunge. Then, the striking workers will contract mumps from the union-men coming down from the north. Now, even with pay raises to entice laborers, no one will be physically able to harvest the oranges. The United States will crumble as Mumps and scurvy run rampant through the country. You fool. Your talk of moon-o-saurs will doom us all.

A: You are absolutely correct! The "mumpidemic" must not spread. People need to seek treatment. But not from doctors! The doctors will be paid off by the government, so they will not help our cause. My solution: mix a box of jello, paprika, a Gatorade, half a bottle of Tylenol, Dramamine, and Midol together, and you will be protected from this "mumpidemic." It's like making bathtub gin, except that it's not gin, and hopefully, it's not potentially lethal. I've been perfecting this formula for years. In order to stop the Orange Riots, we must concoct my bathtub antidote, and fast. Because there is only one disease other than Mumps that plays greater into the CIA's hands, and that is scurvy!

J: You malfeasant bullpizzle! I apologize for my language but I just can't contain myself. The last thing we need is a panic. Furthermore, if anything, the CIA is on our side. The Agency is a collection of men and women, all susceptible to mumps. They don't want swollen jaws and potential infertility, and neither do we. Besides, if the United States collapses, who will pay them? They're government employees, for goodness sakes! Seeing that immigrant labor is intimately tied to the health of our nation, I propose increased pay and the creation of an avenue to citizenship for the laborers, so that they may have a stake in this Republic and do everything in their power—as we ourselves must—to prevent the crashing end of this democratic experiment we call "America."

A: You pinko commie! Your focus is yet again on the wrong thing. Things go on behind closed doors in the CIA. Just because we can't see them doesn't mean that they aren't happening. All of the employees of the CIA that aren't expendable have been given the antidote. Swollen jaws and potential infertility is exactly what they want! They want us to rely on them for action. And they

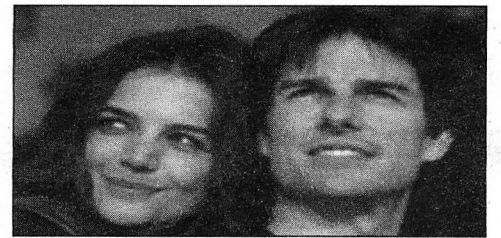
Point/Counterpoint continued on Page 3

# THE RHODE'STER

Vol. XVI. NO. 6

April 19, 2006

The \*\*\*PARODY\*\*\* Newspaper of Rhodes College



Cruise plans to eat Holmes' placenta. (THIS IS TRUE.)

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/article/0,,2-2006170680,00.html>

SeeNews

## Bush sues *The Rhode'ster* for mocking Bush

Jamie Groover  
Rhode'ster Alumni Chapter Adviser'ster

Earlier this month, current American President George W. Bush expressed his intent to sue Rhodes College's parody newspaper, *The Rhode'ster*, for alleged defamation of character and further "libelous and mockulatory actions." On the list of the President's claims that he is bringing against *The Rhode'ster* are such charges as: referring to the President as the Anti-Christ, criticizing his administration, insinuating that he might not be the best President ever, or even the best President this century, and quoting Bush with statements that were "clearly falsificated."

Many questioned why he was taking the trouble to sue a small school's parody newspaper that, though it has campus-wide distribution, has a readership of, like, six or seven people—*maybe*—when the President has also been lampooned by more popular venues such as *The Onion*, *Saturday Night Live*, and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*.

However, the President seems to be getting a lot of support from the entire Bush family. Brother Jeb Bush recently posted on his blog, [CantSpellFloridaWithoutJeb.com](http://CantSpellFloridaWithoutJeb.com), that he would certainly like to "hit that b---h." To whom he is referring is unclear, but it is possible that he meant an anthropomorphic projection of the abstract concept of the paper. Also, possibly Chelsea Ashworth ('06).

Mr. Bush clarified his points concerning misrepresentation of his character in the media: "At this juncture of the ongoing war against terror, it is very important that we maintain the moral high ground over those Islamo-fascists. Recently they burned down some Dutch buildings and some KFCs over in the Middle East because of some cartoons drawn of their version of Jesus. That's not cool, Muslims. Not cool."

"We have to prove that we are better than those Muslims. We don't get mad if people make fun of our important people, like me, and Jesus. And the only way I know how to show that is to make sure that nobody makes fun of me, and to destroy them if they try."

Some concern was raised regarding infringement on the student publication's right to free speech and press. The President replied, "It has been brought to my attention that parody has been declared protected speech in such court decisions as *Suntrust v. Houghton-Mifflin* and *Campbell v. Acuff-*

*Rose Music, Inc.*, and that public figures are legally open to parody and satire, and that opinions expressed against them are difficult to make stick because of fair comment on matters of public interest, and that even if I were just some idiot who said something that made it into the public attention, that my comments are ripe and legally protected by parody adjudication, because within the terms of the publicity generated within that narrow area of public interest, that person becomes a 'limited public figure.'

"But am I worried about them being protected by the right to parody? No ma'am. I have been guaranteed by my contacts within the school administration that that paper hasn't even been funny since the late 1990s."

Rhodes College legal contact and professor from the Fictitious Department of Spurious Law, Professor Don Sumi Thisisafakename, commented on Bush's case. "I think the President has a very firm case to stand on here. Besides the obvious facts that his family is very rich, white, and politically connected, there are other factors to consider. The fact is, middle America is becoming decreasingly literate. They are no longer able to understand that what they see written might possibly mean something other than what is literally stated. This change in public consciousness began with the decision of *Morissette v. Knowing What Words Actually Mean* in 1995."

"The effect of this inability to separate words from denotative meaning is that if an American turns on the television and sees someone dressed up like George Bush saying stupid things, they get confused and think the President actually says stupid things. And if they read something similar while eating a Rat steak, they have no choice but to think that the President literally, actually, for seriously said what they say he said, no matter how ludicrous it might seem."

"As for the question of whether or not this sets a dangerous precedent of censorship in student publications, all I can say is, I don't see what's so dangerous about that."

Given the chance to have the last word on the matter, President Bush said, "To be absolutely honest, I just don't trust those middle coast intellectuals out at Rhodes College. Getting rid of *The Rhode'ster* is just a step in the positive direction of turning that



Photo by Anderson Cooper

### President Bush soothing the worries of Hurricane Katrina Victims

flip-floppy liberal arts college into a solid, neo-conservative-crypto-fascist arts college.

"You talk about the Bill of Rights, but what about the Students' Bill of Rights? Correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the First Amendment of *that* particular document states that students have the right not to be exposed to any opinion contrary to what their parents taught them at home."

"And finally, to my detractors, the answer is, no, I don't have to know how to take a joke. My family is very rich."

*Real Americans v. The Rhode'ster* is expected to be heard by the Supreme Court within a few weeks.

Staff of *The Rhode'ster* were forbidden to say anything to anyone at anytime about anything.

Jamie Groover is not ashamed to say he wrote this article, even in the face of

## RETRACTION

"*The Rhode'ster* would like to retract and apologize for the "Samuel Alito" and "Resident Assistants are Scum" articles from our March 29th issue. These parody articles were written in response to previous *Sou'wester* editorials, and were not written in the spirit of slander, but Colin Strickland and David Tyler's names were improperly attached to them. For the record, Colin Strickland and David Tyler did not write those articles. Since that issue the Publications Board has issued sanctions against the now former editor, Chelsea Ashworth, and newly instated editor, Laura Owensby, citing violations of Publications Board bylaws Article X, Section 1 and Article VII, Section 4. These bylaws refer to the Publication's Board's libel and fair play policies. In *The Rhode'ster's* tri-semester efforts to bring humor to the members of this campus, we made a mistake and greatly offended two fellow writers. Paramount to any form of journalism is responsibility for one's words, and though *The Rhode'ster* is a parody newspaper, even we can overstep our boundaries. Apologies."