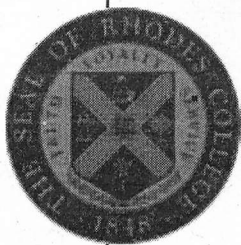


THE SOU' WESTER

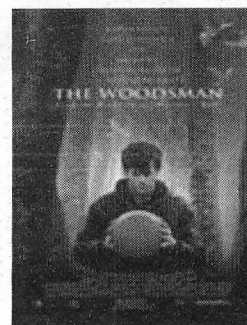


VOL. XCI. NO.14

2.9.05

Review

Molly Chapman re-views the Kevin Bacon movie *The Woodsman*, directed by Nicole Kassell.



SeeScene

Opinion

Casey Conley and Kevin McCormack write in response to Alison French's Letter to the editor.

SeeOpinion

Thefacebook comes to Rhodes

Students weigh the advantages and disadvantages of the new addiction on campus

By Dane Wendell

"I'm a junkie and I need help" Craig Cooper ('05) exclaims, after losing five hours of his life one afternoon. Rachel Waterfill ('07) has tripled the time spent at her computer and loses three hours every day to her newfound addiction. Patrick Rhamey ('06), a serious case, no longer remembers what courses he is enrolled in and missed three classes last week.

Craig, Rachel, and Patrick are not alone. The first week of February 2005 marked a

procrastinating revolution on campus with the introduction of Rhodes to Thefacebook. Thefacebook.com is an online directory designed to help Rhodes students get connected with each other. Through shared interests, groups and message boards, students are able to find each other and link up electronically.

Some students like Kelly Forehand ('05) use Thefacebook as a networking tool. "I use facebook to establish connections for networking in the future," Kelly

states, pointing to her list of 732 connections. Thefacebook allows students to create a list of friends through e-mail invitations. From these friends, Thefacebook allows students to surf the social scene at Rhodes College.

While a powerful networking tool, most Rhodes students just use Thefacebook for fun or to catch up with old friends. Hazami Barmada ('06) made twelve new friends through Thefacebook. "They just started messaging me asking me weird questions. Some are friends of friends. Others are people I was interested in talking to or getting to know and had no other means to do so," she said. Many students have noticed more smiles and an increasing overall friendliness while walking from class to class. Indeed, as Chrissie Hendrickson ('06) observes, "I do feel more comfortable talking to people I didn't know that well if they ask me to be their [facebook] friend!" In this way, Thefacebook has entered everyday life for participating students. In addition, it allows for a more playful, less

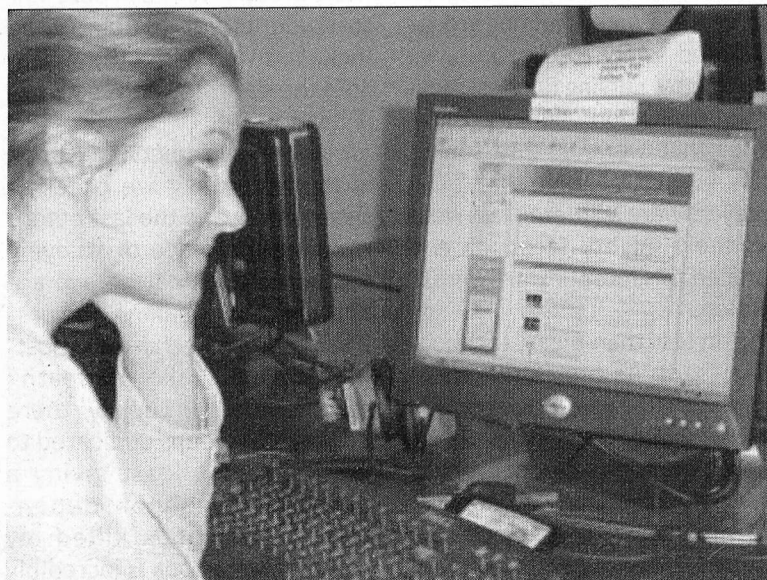


Photo by Ginny Arnold

STUDENTS INDULGE IN NEW FACEBOOK ADDICTION
Since Rhodes joined Thefacebook more students have signed on. Students can be found in dorms and in the library checking their accounts.

Facebook, continued on Page 4



Photo by Molly Fitzpatrick

CHI OMEGA GRANTS A WISH

The Rhodes community gathered to present three-year-old Annie with a wish. Chi Omega raised \$5000 to send Annie and her family to Disney World, FL.

Rhodes Make-A Wish grants wish

By Molly Fitzpatrick

Early Saturday afternoon Annie was greeted by a team of wish granters, at which time her attire for the day was unveiled—a beautiful Cinderella dress, an exact replica of the one her favorite Disney character dons in her movie. After getting her movie star makeover, Annie was escorted in her limousine, donated by Raiford's Hollywood, to catch her Cinderella carriage ride around the town.

The fairy-tale experience did not stop there. Annie was later brought to campus to experience a Disneyworld fantasy that had been arranged especially for her. Greeted by the Rhodes' cheerleaders, Annie made her Annie's life.

Wish, continued on Page 4



THE SOU'WESTER
 founded 1848

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Letters to the editor

CASEY CONLEY

I found Alison French's article, titled "Taking the Lord's Name" problematic for several reasons. First, French's interpretation of the president's usage of God as homage to a secular God is utterly without merit. For the past four years we have seen the president make reference to God, not in secular terms, but in unabashed allusion to the evangelical Christianity which he so fervently believes.

His rhetoric, when dealing with religious issues, has consistently been far right Christianity. The best evidence is that his political decisions often stem from his belief system. The most obvious examples are his crusade to prevent gay marriage and his creation of a new government bureaucracy, the Office of Faith-Based Initiatives. Given the president's tendency to speak of God within a Christian context, why should we believe that his repetitious references to God in his inaugural address are toward an inclusive secular God, one that also embodies Buddhist or Muslim values?

Despite the long tradition of presidents who have referenced God in speeches, rarely has there been more than superficial mention. The

president's speech was certainly not the first time we have seen him pull the faith card. His repeated, high-profile mention of God is a de facto endorsement of his fundamentalist and divisive brand of Christianity. With each mention of God and each taxpayer dollar that goes into government-subsidized religious programs, the separation of church and state is replaced with a blurry, increasing ambiguity.

Bush's faith has dictated his decision to limit federal funding of stem-cell research, effectively handcuffing a promising scientific program that seeks to revolutionize medicine. He has also pushed abstinence-only education. Studies show that abstinence is not an effective means of teaching kids about the dangers of unprotected sex, as well as failing to demonstrate the importance of using contraception. The net result of this is the fact that abortions rose dramatically under the Bush administration. Furthermore, his administration has pushed abstinence programs in AIDS-ravaged Africa rather than practical and crucial education in the lifesaving effects of condoms. These decisions made on the basis of faith act as an impetus of gov-

ernment policy. Worse, using antiquated ideas about contraception, and given the failure of abstinence education, faith is creating a series of ill-fated policies.

Beyond this simple invasion into our lives through his language, the president has admitted, even boasted, that faith has been his sole source of guidance on a number of issues central to the safety and prosperity of the state. As quoted in *Time*, Bush told Bob Woodward that he "could trust Vladimir Putin because he looked into his soul, could not consult his Secretary of State about going to war...because he was consulting a higher father." This presents a problem of immeasurable proportions when our president fails to operate through the normal channels on issues as instrumental to our national well-being as starting a war. Little did we Liberals know that the war was not concocted by a shadowy group of neo-cons or a hidden Dick Cheney, but actually by a kneeling president in his bedroom. God may not be a four letter word, but its place in the Bush administration as a driving force for policy make it just as improper in the public sphere.

KEVIN MCCORMACK

Alison French wrote an article in the February 2nd edition of *The Sou'wester* defending President Bush's use of "God" in his inaugural address. She asked, "If 'God' is a neutral term among religions then why is it so controversial?" To answer her simply, I say both that "God" is not a neutral term, and that President Bush's past use of it has been cause for controversy.

On the same page as Alison's article was one by Paul Carls, a member of Rhodes Atheist Fellowship. I would be hard pressed to assume that the members of that group see "God" as a neutral term in their religious persuasion. Further, a great number of organized religions (Taoism, Shintoism, Hinduism, Buddhism, to name a few) either have a belief in multiple gods or do not focus on any god at all.

Bush's history also brings into doubt the question of his being inclusive. From proclaiming a "Jesus Day" in Texas to claiming that "God told me to strike Al-Qaeda" as the beginning of a "Crusade" (Bush used the term for the Christian holy wars against Muslims), Bush has made clear that he uses "God" in a Christian sense.

What is wrong with this? The First Amendment was intended to create a "wall of separation between Church and State," a phrase Thomas Jefferson used to signify absolute separation. That Bush has used, and is using religion to gain political power, and has used political power to support (even if by proclamation alone) a religion, violates the separation of church and state, alienates a substantial portion of this country's citizens, and further isolates America from the rest of the world.

JEFF KNOWLES OPINION EDITOR

Enter Thefacebook

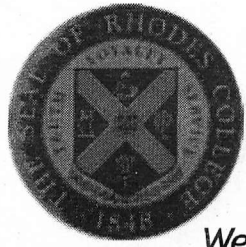
Facebook has come to us like manna from heaven, or more aptly, like cocaine to its addict. For years we have heard about this mysterious facebook from high school friends fortunate enough to be on the coveted list of participating institutions. Unable to discuss the interworkings of adding friends, writing on someone's wall or joining groups devoted solely to the O.C., we sat idly by, cursing Rhodes' meager population. "Poking, how does that work? It sure sounds fun, I wish I could do that." Our prayers were answered last week as the almighty facebook embraced this most unworthy institution.

In less than a day, facebook had made its presence known, spreading far and wide by simple word of mouth. For days, conversations have centered on facebook, either to confirm membership or avow resistance. Although received positively by most, the facebook phenomenon has stirred deep resentment in others—the nonconformists. The

speed at which nearly every student joined facebook and the lack of thought put forth into that decision spurred some students to question the facebook agenda. They wondered, should I join merely because everyone else at Rhodes is on this system of friends, profiles, groups? To those dozen or so students yet to join, good luck. You won't last the week. Join the dark side and see what it has to offer.

To fellow addicts, facebook is the first thing we check in the morning and the last before we sleep. In place of studying and sometimes eating, we are absorbed in tweaking our profile, confirming friends, posting on the "Cake or Death" message board. Luckily, there are several groups dedicated to solving, or at least giving a voice to facebook dependence—"facebook killed my g.p.a.," "facebook is incredibly addicting...please help me

Thefacebook, continued on Page 3



Wednesday, February 9, 2005

PAGE 3
OPINION

The Sou'wester celebrates Black History Month, part III

In this third special issue, the editors have included an article from an anonymous gadfly known only as "The Seeker." His satirical approach to segregation proved too much for some more conservative Southwestern students. Their angry responses were sent to *The*

Sou'wester editor of '62, Allen McKee Jr. His editorial attempted to clarify ongoing debate and offer his own opinion on the matter. How should a Christian institution, especially its newspaper foster a healthy discussion of highly controversial attitudes on racial equality?

The Seeker (Oct. 12, 1962)

And the Lord spake saying, "Let this be the eleventh commandment, go into all the world and form great bands of the rich and influential people of society, let no one who is poor or sick or dirty or has no money enter. And having formed these bands it will be your duty to convince the world that you are the finest, most upstanding group in the world, and let no one be a member who would taint the reputation of all the fine people here gathered."

"The twelfth commandment will consist of the duties of this great organization. The chief purpose will be to build giant air-conditioned mausoleums, with leather lined seats, and choruses, and eloquent dainty-voiced speakers to console the people and tell them how good they are. And the chief purpose of the speaker will be to not tell the people anything they don't like, but rather to thrill them with his eloquence so that they will donate larger, and larger, and ever growing amounts of money, all for the 'Kingdom of God'". And this last phrase was filled with overtones of brilliance and glory and we all saw visions of the times to come when the lands would be filled to overflowing with beautiful churches with white steeples pointing to our reward which of course we would not deserve, but which Christ and God an the Spirit would give anyway because we had tithed all our lives. And we could see the steeples, blazing and white and all lit up with

beautiful spotlights—ahh, beautiful white spotlights.

He spake again saying, "The thirteenth commandment will be to love one another if he is the same color, race, and nationality as you are. The most favored race in God's eyes will be known as the pure white European stock. Let all other races bow down to this race and worship them. The other races should band together however and seek to improve themselves, for a corollary to this commandment is that there should always be strife between the races and where there is strife there will be hatred and where there is hatred I am also. And let the whites show their superiority. Let there be separate schools, and separate churches, and separate hotels. Woe to the evil black one who dares to enter therein. Let him be hated unto all the ends of the earth, and let him be stoned, and beaten and rendered limb from limb, for he has committed the most horrible sin of holding himself equal to the white gods." And having spoken in this manner the Lord rested.

Thefacebook, continued from Page 2

stop," and "Thefacebook ate my homework!" I encourage facebook abusers/addicts to seek out these fine support groups and learn how to take back their computers and their lives.

In all seriousness, facebook has several positive attributes that I think will make Rhodes a stronger community. Unlike big

Education in Controversies

We have received a number of letters and have heard discussions to the effect that this paper has used poor judgment in the printing of "A Southwestern Student Prays" and "The Seeker." In addition to this complaint, there has been the one that we are printing articles concerning political and social events that seemingly are not the concern of the general Southwestern student; this complaint has also been leveled at the student council. These same people go on to say that the things that student sponsored organizations discuss should be confined to matters directly related to the campus, such as the refectory, social regulations of the college, and things of a like nature.

The writer of a letter found in this issue stated that he can not see why we printed "The Seeker" because it presented no news and that if it was meant to be amusing, it missed the boat. We do not wish to pick on this writer personally, but we do think that his letter is a primary example of a tendency not only on this campus, but in society generally, to forget the fact that words are mere symbols and that they are used only for the presenting of thoughts and impressions. These people tend to take words, forgetting their status of being symbols, and place the value on them rather than on what they represent. Perhaps its just laziness, perhaps it just indicates the inability to think rationally beyond things evident; at any rate it is appallingly evi-

dent that many of us are unable to think in terms that seemingly have no direct and immediate effect on us as individuals in our concentrated scopes of experience.

The writer goes on to say that Southwestern was founded for the purpose of fostering Christian higher education and that "The Seeker" does not support that foundation. "The Seeker" refers to a great social problem of our time that of the relationship between races of men. Nothing could possibly be more in keeping with higher Christian education than this.

Many people, both students and supporters of this institution feel that the primary concern here should remain in the realm of text books and formal class discussions of the arts and sciences. They feel that the realm of current controversial issues has no place in the efforts and concerns of either the college or the students. They usually say that we are here for an "education" and that we should refrain from being involved in controversial issues.

These people show an obvious lack of knowledge of the meaning and goals of education. They seem to have a rather schizophrenic view of life; that is, it is subdivided into a number of different categories (religion, education, politics, business, society), and it is unnatural for any of these to directly involve itself with any other. This is of course absurd, for they are each a small part of that total experience, life, and they are very much interrelated and interdependent.

Education is looked upon by these people as a means of learning how to become successful in life and to become familiar with some of the bits of information that everyone refers to in normal conversations. We disagree emphatically with this view, for we believe education to be the study of the arts and sciences, of the experiences, of the endeavors of men who have come before us, and of the interpretations other men have given to life. The only reason that these things are important is that they help us gain our perspective as we go through much the same experiences, as we endeavor to live with men, and to give a reason and meaning to our lives.

Southwestern, then, should not only be involved in the current events, and yes, controversies, but it should try to help students become involved that they may see and interpret as many aspects of life as possible, that they may truly be educated to face life in its entirety and to respond to it according to their ideas and interpretations.

This paper is an organ of the student body, which is supposedly dedicated to attaining the higher goals of education; it will continue to do everything possible to help carry out this endeavor, even to the point of prodding where it feels this to be necessary.

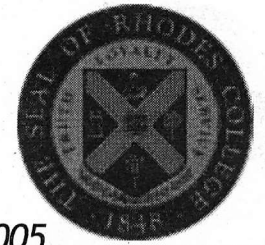
-Allen A. McKee Jr.
(Oct. 12, 1962)

universities, where facebookers can shroud their public information in the anonymity of a large enrollment, we cannot escape being seen. A truthful accounting of yourself and your interests is checked by those who know you well— your friends. Facebook seems to be a cohesive force, allowing unknowing individuals to find others with matching fascinations. Whether

or not facebook results in more communication among individuals who have never met, leading to actual "offline" meetings rests with the students themselves. So, what do we want: friendship, dating, a relationship, random play, whatever we can get? None of the above? Maybe we just want to stay in touch with high school friends or maybe we like the birthday reminder. Whatever the reason for

joining facebook, I hope it does more than send our collective g.p.a. down the toilet. Can any possible good come of it?

I suspect after the newness wares and email inboxes recede, we will fully return to our favorite source of indirect communication—Instant Messenger—and facebook will be less of a marvel and more of a nuisance.



Week in Review

International

London- The Scientist who cloned Dolly the Sheep is about to take another major step for medical research: cloning human embryos and extracting stem cells to unravel the mysteries of muscle-wasting illnesses like Lou Gehrig's disease. Ian Wilmut, the leader of the 1996 team that cloned Dolly, was granted a cloning license Tuesday by British regulators for the purpose of studying malfunctioning nerve cells.

Iraq- A suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowd of Iraqis outside an Army recruiting cen-

ter Tuesday, killing 21 and injuring 27. It was the deadliest attack since last week's elections. Elsewhere, three policemen were killed in clashes in a west Baghdad neighborhood and gunmen killed an Iraqi chef employed by U.S. forces on Monday.

Jordan- Snow showers, heavy rain and high winds ripped through the Holy Land and Middle East countries on Tuesday, disrupting life in some areas as well as bringing welcome relief to drought-hit regions. The rainfall was seen as a godsend in Jordan, one of the world's 10 driest countries.

National

Idaho- A 16-year-old girl was tied up and scalped on Tuesday in an act of revenge by another woman, 26-year-old Marianne Dahle. The victim had a punk-style Mohawk haircut before the attack. Surgeons were unable to reattach the scalp, which was found near a hot spring.

Illinois- The smallest baby ever born went home Tuesday after six months in the hospital. The child is weighed 8.6 ounces at birth, less than a soda can, and was just 9 1/2 inches long. She requires around the clock oxygen and attention, but is expected to have normal mental and physical development.

Memphis - FedEx agreed to help streamline the way Tennessee tests drivers and grants licenses. Gov. Bredesen asked the Memphis-based company to use its expertise to shorten the long lines at service centers. Bredesen said FedEx technical and logistics experts will observe the driver-licensing process and suggest improvements.

Oklahoma City- Judge Donald Thompson resigned last August and now faces criminal charges for masturbating during trials, using a penis pump. Jurors and members of the court often heard 'wooshing' noises coming from Thompson's bench, but the Judge always said he didn't hear anything. Thompson's court reporter testified that he used the pump almost daily during a 2003 murder trial.

West Hollywood, CA- leaders in this generally progressive area are rallying to ban cosmetic surgery for pets. Mayor John Duran introduced a motion Monday that would prohibit ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, defanging and other surgical procedures performed on animals for "noncurative" reasons. Supporters of the motion say that such procedures hurt animals only to satisfy their owner's tastes.

Honolulu - The median resale price of a single-family home on Oahu has passed the half-million-dollar mark for the first time. The median price in January was \$505,000, a 26% increase over one year earlier.

Facebook, from page 1

threatening form of communication between students. One example of this is 'poking.' Poking is a tag-like feature, "Drunk poking is the new drunk instant messaging, which was clearly the new drunk-dial," says Anna Ivey ('06). To most students, Thefacebook is new, fun, and a great way to communicate.

So what finally brought Thefacebook to Rhodes? After months of contact with the website, a small group of dedicated students finally convinced thefacebook.com to add Rhodes College to their database of over 300 schools nationwide. It took seven days for 1106 Rhodes students to sign up for the free service. At the time of this writing, Craig Cooper was connected to every person at Rhodes who had signed up for an account. "It's a small world, especially at Rhodes, and Facebook just affirms it," Craig Cooper notes.

While faculty are eligible for participation, Thefacebook has not yet caught on with most of the faculty. Rebecca Finlayson, a professor of English, logged on in preparation for teaching a New Yorker article about collegehumor.com for her 151 class, but eventually deactivated her account because the number of friend requests in her inbox was becoming excessive. This is certainly a drawback. However, by forcing friend requests to be approved first, Thefacebook is able to offer students some degree of protection. In addition, it gives students access to information about hundreds of students, which can be very useful. Indeed, one student commented on how she found out that a guy she thought she was going to date had a girlfriend by looking him up on Thefacebook. Even Finlayson admits that Thefacebook has its benefits. "Thefacebook seems like a

fun way for the students to get to know each other, find common interests, and connect with friends from other schools," Finlayson says.

Thus, it seems that, late assignments and lost sleep aside, students are excited about Thefacebook, which obviously means that it is here to stay.

Wish, continued from page 1

way down fraternity and sorority rows with her own entourage consisting of volunteers from several of the fraternities decked out in black suits and sunglasses. Upon arrival, Annie was honored by performances from the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and their *Lion King* reenactment, followed by Alpha Tau Omega's rendition of *Mary Poppins'* chimney sweepers. She then made her way to the Delta Delta Delta house, where *Lipstick on Your Collar* sang to her. In addition, she was serenaded by Woolsocks at the Kappa Delta house before moving on to East Village Lodge where she was greeted by the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority. Along with the Disney performances, Annie was given clues as to what her ultimate surprise may be, which included the completion of her Cinderella regalia, for which she was given a crown and a wand.

Upon her arrival to the Chi Omega house, not a word was spoken as all held their breath in anticipation of her entrance. Then the room broke out in song. In what was to be the finale of Disney performances, the women of Chi Omega sang "When You Wish Upon A Star," "Part of Your World," and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." Looking across the faces during this performance was incredible. The tears that formed in the eyes of Annie's family, as well as the joy and excitement visible in her own enchanted response will never be forgotten. After the singing ended, Annie sat upon her throne waiting anxiously for the moment when her wish would be revealed. Make-A-Wish Chair, Rebekah Miller, and Wish Grant-

ing Chair, Caitlin Sullivan, unveiled a cake which was about three times the size of Annie, depicting her favorite Disney characters, Snow White and Cinderella. Written upon this cake was her wish. Annie was beaming.

All who had the opportunity to meet Annie know how remarkable and beautiful a little girl she is. Those who were able to contribute to the magic of her special day went away feeling as though they were the ones receiving the true reward simply by virtue of their contact with her. The entire experience was tremendous proof that "dreams really do come true."

Have you got a head for business?

Are you looking for a way to get more involved on campus?

Want to build your resume?

The Sou'wester is looking for a Business Manager to train for next year's position.

Interested? Email Elizabeth Maxey at maxel@rhodes.edu



Wednesday, February 9, 2005

PAGE 5

NEWS

Campus Safety

1.30.05-2.5.05

01/30	5:30 p.m.	A suspicious person was reported in the library by the library attendant. Suspect was located in the refectory. Suspect was questioned and advised that if he returned to campus without authorization that he would be subject to arrest for criminal trespassing. Subject escorted off campus.
	11:15 p.m.	Maintenance personnel found an envelope containing \$50.00 to campus safety. The owner of the money was located and the money returned.
	11:19 p.m.	At the request of ADRL Chris Willenbrock, an ambulance was called and escorted on campus to transport a student to Methodist Central. Director of Resident's Life, Carol Casey, was notified.
01/31	7:45 a.m.	Theft: Larceny from East Village Social Room - property taken: 2 black and golden wooden chairs with the Rhodes emblems, estimated cost \$800.00.
	3:45 p.m.	Report from neighborhood residents that there was a suspicious car driving in the alleyways. Campus safety and MPD did a thorough search of all streets and alleyways. Suspicious vehicle had already left the area.
	6:20 p.m.	A former Aramark employee escorted from campus.
02/01		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED.
02/02	3:00 p.m.	Commercial Appeal on campus.
	11:30 p.m.	All fire drills completed successfully. In Glassell Hall, Robinson and Blount Hall.
02/03	11:26 a.m.	Fire alarm in Voorhies Hall. Students burned popcorn, setting off the detectors on the 2nd floor. Alarm reset.
02/04	12:07 a.m.	Faulty smoke detector in East Village A. Alarm reset. Work order has been issued for repairs.
	9:50 a.m.	Southwest gym gate contract officer reported an individual coming over the fence at Jackson Avenue. Suspect escorted off campus.
02/05	1:33 a.m.	Call from a student reporting that the washing machine on the 1st floor of Elliot was making a loud noise and that smoke was coming out of it. A student had at tempted to wash a bed comforter that the tub would not accommodate.
	7:30 a.m.	Campus open to accommodate 5K runners.
	9:17 a.m.	Report of a vehicle being struck on Phillips Lane. At this time no vehicle matching the description has been found. Incident still under investigation.
	11:38 p.m.	Glassell RA called requesting an officer to assist him in what he suspected was marijuana use.
02/06	1:01 a.m.	MPD called to alert campus safety that a black male, approximately 200 lbs., wearing a dark hooded jacket and black pants was last seen close to Rhodes College, possibly in a drainage ditch. The suspect was armed and had shot at police officers earlier.
	1:11 a.m.	MPD on campus searching campus fence line and parking lots. Administrator on duty, Dean Stackman made aware of the situation.
	2:51 a.m.	MPD notified campus safety that the subject was still at large. Officers still on high alert.
	4:40am	No new information on the suspect. MPD has departed campus. No other information available at this time.

Stats:

Visitors: 1746
Accesses: 71
Propped Doors: 5

Escorts: 17
Citations: 67
Jumps: 2

A World of Photos: A photo contest for students, staff and faculty

*Submit your favorite picture from your
international travels!
Fabulous prizes will be awarded!!!*

To: Dept. of Modern Languages and Literatures
(319 Rhodes Tower)
By: Feb. 23, 2005, 5:00 p.m.

Prizes announced Monday, Feb. 28, 2005

Rules:

- Matted photos only
- Sizes starting at 4"x 6"
- Color or Black & White prints accepted

For information, contact Michelle Mattson
(mattsonm@rhodes.edu)

V-DAY Rhodes IS COMING!

**V-Day Rhodes 2005 is
a benefit production of Eve Ensler's
"The Vagina Monologues"
as part of the V-Day College Campaign
THREE PERFORMANCES
ONLY!**

In Blount Auditorium (Buckman)

On February 10, 11, 12 2005

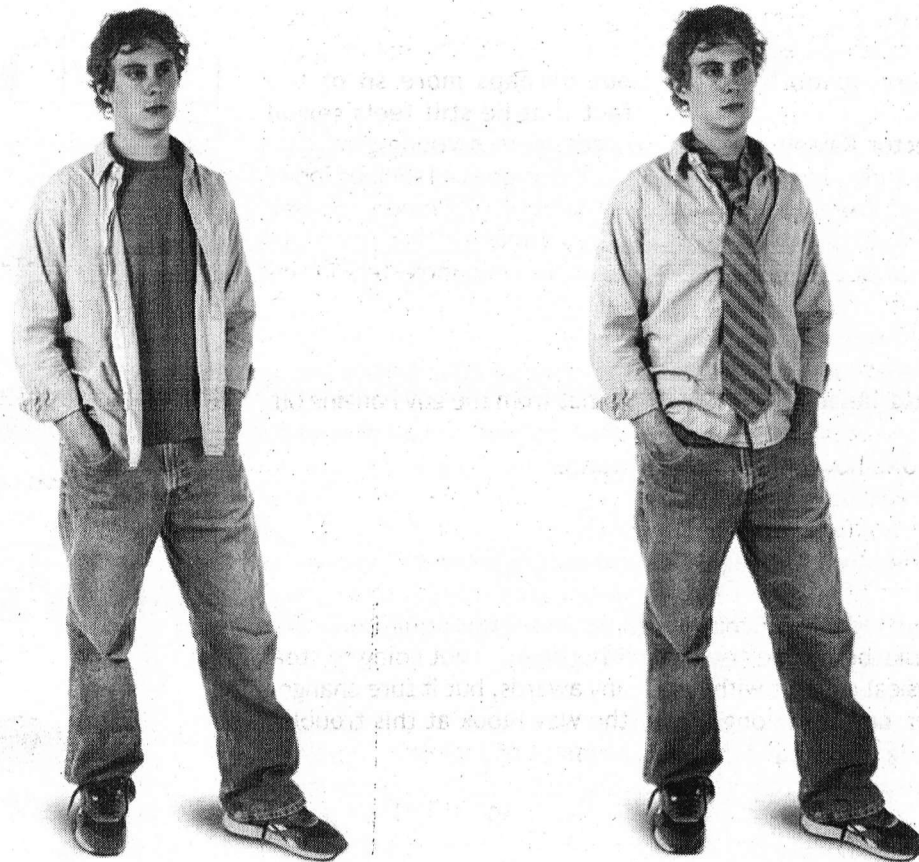
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Wednesday, February 9, 2005

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Dinner & a Movie

This week, Krista McClain dines at Washington Street Bistro in Collierville, and Molly Chapman reviews the Kevin Bacon movie *The Woodsman*.

The Woodsman sheds new light on disease of pedophilia

By Molly Chapman

As if *The Sleepers* wasn't enough pedophilic action for one career, Kevin Bacon has done it again. Except this time, he is after little girls, not Catholic school boys. Thankfully, rather than unknown director Nicole Kassell has taken a less traumatizing, pointlessly graphic route of depicting the child molester instead of the child. Unlike the "curl up into a ball and cry" sensibility as seen in flicks such as *Happiness* (1998), this film delves into the psyche of Bacon's quiet, uncomfortable character, Walter, after he returns to society from his 12-year prison sentence on molestation charges.

Instead of deeming sex offenders as ruthless monsters, *The Woodsman* seems to say, "Hey, this guy's only human like you... the only difference is that he used to have sexual relationships with nine year old girls."

He proves to be a "normal" human in almost every other arena of his life including his job, his girlfriend, his apartment, which is right across the street from an elementary school? Wait a minute...

If director Kassell had chosen to include a molestation scene, the power of this film would have plummeted. We are allowed to see glimpses of Walter's past urges, and though he comes all too close to repeating his former behavior with young girls he meets and/or stalks, it is easy to see that Walter knows how dangerous it might be to act on those impulses. He claims to have never harmed any of his victims, and as in the case of his new, pretty, eleven-year-old friend Robin, he at least asks before he tries to make physical contact with her.

Walter comes a long way with his disease (as it is de-

icted), and he comes to understand that perhaps what he fears the most is the part of himself he cannot erase. He is ultimately shameful of his past, but perhaps more so of the fact that he still feels sexual urges toward young girls.

Bacon does a fabulous job of not being overly creepy, as well as reminding us that there are far more child molesters in this world than are ever caught. Intra-familial molestation is far more devastating than when it comes from the guy hanging out at school with a bag of gummy worms.

In the end, Walter heroically fights the evil force of child molesters by beating those urges out of a fellow pedophile, and in a sense, out of himself. *The Woodsman* is not going to steal any awards, but it sure changed the way I look at this troubled segment of society.

Romance at Bistro makes the long traveling worthwhile

By Krista McClain

Washington Street Bistro is a quaint café, perfect for a romantic evening away from Rhodes campus. The atmosphere is warm and comfortable, and the décor offers a mood more like that of a French countryside hideaway than a restaurant in rainy Memphis. Washington Street Bistro offers interesting food items, but the menu is very simple and straightforward, combining pastas, meats, and seafood.

Though not listed on the menu, the chef is happy to make accommodations for vegetarian diners. We sampled one such vegetarian dish, as well as the filet mignon, the roasted lamb, and



Genre: American
Reservations: Highly recommended
Price: \$20-25 per person
Location: 170 Washington St., Collierville
Phone: 850-1470

the shrimp pasta in a tomato vodka crème sauce. All of the items were delightful, as was the restaurant's extensive wine menu.

Though the entrees were wonderful, it is the exquisite dessert menu that makes any visitor want to return. They offer hot chocolate that is made tableside with warm milk and fresh ground choco-

late. We also sampled the tiramisu and the key lime pie, both of which exceeded our expectations.

Washington Street Bistro is located just off of the old Collierville square, and is surrounded by many charming shops. The whole area offers a great romantic getaway that is definitely worth the drive out of the city.

THIS WEEKEND by LOGAN WHEELER.



How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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

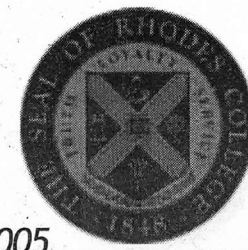
Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in the second floor of Briggs Student Center every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives, and at-large representatives from the student body.

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

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Lynx basketball brims with talent

By Evan Elliot

Basketball fans were pleased this Super Bowl weekend, as Rhodes hosted to four round ball matches this weekend. Both the men and women faced Centre on Friday night. The men's game started the way it went all night: the colonels couldn't miss a three. Up by 20 at the half, Centre went on to win 97-59, shooting better than 61 percent from behind the arc and holding Rami Almefty ('06) to 13 points. Three point land belonged to the Lynx in the women's game though, as Taylor Cook led Rhodes to a 75-55 win over Centre with 26 points, 15 came from three pointers.

Sunday afternoon was all execution against Sewanee. The men won by 17, the women by 13. Joe Thompson ('08) led the Lynx with 20 points, and Sewanee watched in disbelief as Joey Daly ('07) kept knocking down threes. Lynx fans responded well on Sunday; a band of black and red clad Mallory Maniacs came out in force, made some noise, and rallied behind their team. The women continued their trend of tough defense behind Amy Cahill ('07), Taylor Cook ('06) had 17 points, and Crystal Jessee ('07) extended her post prominence with 16 points and 9 boards.

The depth of each roster deserves much credit for this weekend's success. Whether it was Rene Orth ('07) with a big three or Davis Bonham ('07) showing a new look down low, the supporting cast stepped up in a big way.

Swim teams travel to Sewanee

By Mike Clary

The Lynx swimming and diving teams traveled to the University of the South this past weekend for a triangular meet with Lambuth and Sewanee. Both the Rhodes women's and men's team defeated Lambuth, but fell to Sewanee, one of the stronger teams in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Eddie Han ('08) captured the 100 breast and 200 back, and Jazmin Miller ('08) placed first in 50, 100 and 200 free. Wyatt Franks ('07) swam season best times in the 100 fly, 100 free and 100 back. Hollis Freeman ('08) set personal records in the 100 back (1:06.92) and 200 back (2:22.19). Eric Schumacher (08) went 24.1 in the 50 free on the 200 medley relay. Will Corvey ('06) swam a season best 5:44.78 in the 500 free. Colleen Armstrong ('08) lowered her 200 breast time by six seconds to 2:55.95.

"Our team has been training very hard the past four weeks. We swam very well at Sewanee considering the intensity of our training in January," said head coach Mike Clary.

The Lynx diving squad also had a good warmup meet for the SCAC Championships beginning February 17 in San Antonio. "The points our teams can accumulate in the diving events will be huge in how well our teams score in the SCAC meet," said Coach Clary. David Hammond ('07) will be looking to improve on his 8th place (out of 17 divers) finish at the 2004 meet and first-year divers Katey Orr Megan Etz and Leah Hirsch (08) will be seeking to score points for the women's squad.

Editorial: Tell me more

By Will Corvey

Fellow Student-Athletes, As Sports Editor at *The Sou'wester* it is my job to compile articles on Rhodes varsity, intramural, and club teams and present a complete picture of the portion of student life centered at the BCLC and surrounding fields.

Some programs have been diligent in submitting articles,

but there are many I haven't heard from. Although some coaches have been willing to write, this isn't the responsibility of the coaching staff, it's yours. If no one is writing for your team, take the initiative to report on tournaments, games, or achieving players. If you don't do it, no one will, and you will have no recourse when your team seems grossly under-represented in the paper.

SCAC Athletes of the Month

Courtesy of Sports Information Office



Photo courtesy www.rhodes.edu

Lundy Plash

Senior Lundy Plash (Mobile, AL) has been voted the Student Athlete of the Month for January by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. On January 29th, at an indoor Track and Field Meet at Rose-Hulman, Plash broke the Rhodes pole vault record of 8'11.75" with a vault of 9'2". Lundy also finished 4th in the high jump with a jump of 4' 9.75" and 3rd in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 9.85 seconds.

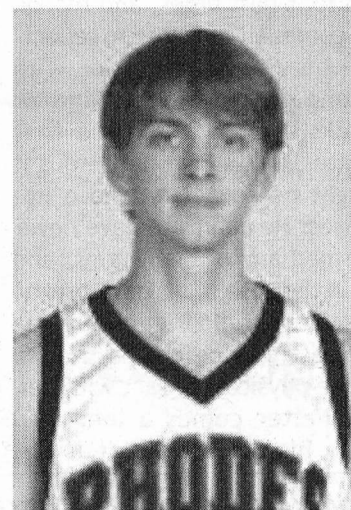


Photo courtesy www.rhodes.edu

Matt Jakes

Junior Matt Jakes (Springfield, TN) has been voted the Student-Athlete of the Month for January by the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Jakes has been an excellent player and provided a dominant inside scoring presence for the Lynx all year long. Jakes helped lead the Lynx to three SCAC victories in January, averaging 16 points and five rebounds per game while shooting an outstanding 56 percent from the field. For the season, Jakes is averaging 14 points, 4.5 rebounds, and shooting 52.5 percent from the field. These marks are good for 6th, 15th, and 8th respectively in the SCAC.

ROO Rock Wall Survey

Please answer all questions as realistically as possible.

How would you rate your level of interest in seeing a rock wall on campus?

- a) I think it would be unnecessary
- b) It would be a good addition to the current options at the BCLC
- c) How can I help?

Do you have any past experience with rock climbing?

- a) Me? Rock Climbing?
- b) I've been a couple of times.
- c) I have my own equipment.
- d) Campus Safety has had to pull me off of the buildings.

How often would you use the facility?

- a) Never
- b) Once a month
- c) Once a week
- d) More than once a week

Would you prefer a full-scale rock wall with belay or a bouldering wall?

- a) Belay
- b) Bouldering
- c) A wall is a wall.

Would you be willing to have one of the three racquetball courts converted, or would you rather it be constructed elsewhere?

- a) Convert a racquetball court.
- b) Find another location.

Please return results to Daniel Large: mailbox 1893 or email LARDJ@rhodes.edu