

## Committee Appointed To Recruit Minority Faculty

by Grady Tollison

In an effort to increase the number of black faculty members, President Daughdrill has appointed an ad hoc committee to develop a strategy in the recruitment of black professors. Daughdrill stated that he did "not want to de-emphasize the importance of recruiting faculty who are Hispanic, Asians, women, or other categories whose contribution to our educational process and our community would be important."

He explained that it should be the first priority of Rhodes to attract black faculty, since a large percent of the population in Memphis is black. This will strengthen the relationship between the city and the college—one of many potential gains if Rhodes increases the number of black faculty members.

The committee's initial action will be to ask the chairperson of each department to submit a list of qualified candidates in their respective field. This can give the committee some direction in prospective black faculty to target and attempt to lure away from their present position.

The committee will also examine other methods of recruitment, salary and compensation levels, the condition of employment, and other factors that have an impact on making appointments of minority faculty. A final report of proposed strategies will be submitted to Daughdrill by April 10.

The low percentage of black professors at Rhodes is not unique to this institution. According to a report in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the number of black professors has decreased at a number of institutions across the country. The decline has been caused by several factors, which include the failure of enough blacks to receive Ph.D's, an absolute necessity for professors. Also, many black Ph.D's chose to enter the private sector or government service than pursuing a career in the academic world.

Another setback in increasing the faculty with black professors involves the selection process. The committee that generally selects a candidate for a position on the faculty is predominantly white males. This type of committee is more likely to prefer a white male for the

position over a black male. This has been referred to as "institutional racism". The failure of affirmative action has also attributed to the decline of black professors on college campuses.

The consequence of this problem could lead to several misconceptions. The failure of white students to come in contact with blacks in a position of authority, such as in a professorship, will influence the way in which they perceive blacks in the private sector. "When white students look at their professors and see few, if any, blacks among them, they could erroneously conclude that those blacks are the only ones who have the appropriate measure of scholarship to merit a position on the faculty." An increase in black faculty would assist in eliminating any sense of disrespect that white students may have developed toward the black community, because of their lack of contact with blacks.

Black students also lack role models in a college with few black faculty members.

The new committee is a step in the right direction for this school. Now, all we need to do is increase the percentage of black students.

## Deadline For Resident Advisor Applications Friday

Friday, February 14, is the deadline for Resident Advisor applications, due in the Dean of Student's office, according to Frayna Goodman acting Dean of Students. "We will hire about 25 men and women with approximately a 50-50 split between men and women."

RA responsibilities include dorm duty, administrative duties, security stints, and Commons Activities preparation. Dorm duty is a scheduled number of nights each week, where RA's are required to be in

their rooms from 10:00 PM until they leave for class the next morning. Administrative duties include enforcing all administrative and college policies and for the condition of the residence halls. The RA also works with the Security Department and dorm attendants to maintain the safety and security of all the residence halls. Each RA is involved with commons activities for at least 2 or 3 hours each week. This involves publicity, cooking, etc., whatever it takes to make the Com-

mons event successful.

A list of additional responsibilities will be distributed at the time of assignment of positions. Acceptance of the position of RA implies that the person will accept all RA responsibilities. The Resident Advisor is a representative of both the student body to the Dean of Students office and the Dean of Student's office to the student body.

Applications are available in the Dean of Student's office.

## Cowardy Custard Enters Competition

by KATHERINE BRES

We at the McCoy Theatre would like to express our apologies to those members of the Rhodes community who tried to see COWARDY CUSTARD but found it to be:

"Sold Out"

What an exciting experience at the theatre, though! COWARDY played to full houses every night and received rave reviews from all the right people -- including two judges from the American College Theatre Festival. Anastasia Herrin (Shelby State Community College) and Josie Helming (Memphis State) were present at last Friday's performance. Part of the ACTF

adjudication process requires that the judges meet with the cast and production crew after the performance and give them informal "notes", or critiques of the show. We're proud to say that they had to dig deep (down to the shoes the girls wore on their feet!) to find something wrong with the show.

When they send in their formal, written evaluations of the productions, both Ms. Herrin and Ms. Helming will recommend that COWARDY CUSTARD be selected to perform at the ACT. (Region IV) Festival XIX. Selection would mean that come next February, 1987, director Tony Lee Garner would gather together his twelve

cast members to rehearse again, the running crew would pull the set out of storage (only to re-pack it), and we would "truck it" to the Festival site (location

TBA) for five days of workshops, seminars -- and performance competition. If COWARDY CUSTARD can surpass its level of "virtual perfection" (Edwin Howard, *Memphis Business Journal*, 3 February 1986) and make everything planned, and still nothing obvious, then we may be on our way to the national ACT Festival in Kennedy Center, Washington, DC; what a "marvelous party" that would be!



After unseasonably warm weather last week, Rhodes received a blanket of two inches of snow Monday. Senior Darby Elsberry cleans the ice from her car, one of the negative aspects of a snowfall.

## SGA Corner

by BETSY HAMILTON  
SGA/Sou'wester correspondent

Student Government Association meetings are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM (usually in 200 Clough); everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

Thanks to the SGA Welfare Commission, many Rhodes students will be heading to Destin, Florida for Spring Break. For those of you who have reserved a six-person condominium, don't forget that the \$100 deposit on each condominium is due before Winter Break, Feb. 14, to either Ahad Mahootchi (3328) or Allen Bacon (3523). Contact them for further details.

If you still need a ride for Winter Break, check Welfare Commission Ride Board. They will also be providing transportation to the airport for those of you flying. Again, you should contact Ahad or Allen at the preceding numbers.

Jamie Pilcher was appointed by unanimous decision to be the new Social Commissioner. If you have any suggestions about campus wide events (i.e. Pub parties or Rites of Spring band requests) contact him.

The SGA Food Committee, directed by Vice-president David Dubard, will hold meetings at 5 PM on Wednesdays in the Refectory (probably in the Bell Room). Please come and voice your concerns. The committee is there to serve you.

The Religion Commission encourages all interested members of the Rhodes Community to come to the Tuesday morning chapel services at 10 AM in the East Lounge and the "Bible Study Luncheon with A.B. Scott" at 12:15 also in the East Lounge.

The new English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta, plans to present, with the help of the SGA, the English film "Tis Pity She's a Whore." A specific time and date are to be announced later.

Here's hoping everyone enjoys a safe and productive Winter Break!

## Inside:

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# The Nation

## The Enigma Of The Infamous Shuttle Disaster

Anne Verbiscer

Tuesday, January 26, 1986, along with December 7, 1941, is a day which in the words of Franklin Roosevelt, will live in infamy.

We mourned deeply the deaths of the seven astronauts who, to most people, were virtual strangers, with the possible exception of Christa McAuliffe, the schoolteacher from New Hampshire. As an avid follower of the U.S. Space Program for seventeen years, the astronauts were not strangers to me, so my immediate reaction was disbelief and shock. It was very difficult to accept the horrible reality, yet I was surprised with the reaction of the people who had seemed to have lost interest in the shuttle, those to whom launches were boring and commonplace. 1985 saw more aviation deaths than any other year, yet none of them evoked such grief from the entire nation.

For over 25 years, NASA had proudly held a perfect record: 56 manned flights with not one loss of life. Astronauts Girsom, White, and Chaffee died in a count-down rehearsal of Apollo 1 on the pad, not during an actual flight. We came perilously close to witnessing disaster in 1970 when an oxygen tank aboard Apollo 13 exploded. Instead we witnessed a miracle with the safe return of the astronauts after the four-day ordeal. Since the first man to orbit on the moon (Apollo 8), the U.S. has logged a string of space-firsts from the first man on the moon (Apollo 11) to the recent (1984) untethered spacewalk of Bruce McCandless where a human being became an orbiting satellite. We had become accustomed to such technical triumphs and less aware of the dangers and risks involved.

The loss of Challenger's

crew came as such a blow to the nation because of the beautiful cross-section of Americana which boarded the orbiter that morning; black, white, Asian, male, female, Catholic, Jew, Protestant, and Buddhist. Nearly everyone can say that they lost one of their own; all can say that we lost someone to whom we can directly relate, a school-teacher.

Christa McAuliffe's presence on the mission attracted more attention than would normally be given to a shuttle flight these days, particularly from schoolchildren who were anxiously awaiting her lessons from space. She was the first non-politician citizen to fly, and in representing the American people, she carried the hopes and dreams of all of us with her that morning.

No plane crash will so profoundly affect the course of human history as will the

deaths of these seven heroes and the loss of Challenger. Although Christa McAuliffe's lesson plans were never carried out as she had prepared them, nonetheless she achieved and exceeded her goal and purpose for venturing into space; the education of the American people about space and space travel. Because of the tragedy, we have all learned more about her subject. Most importantly, we have learned to appreciate the achievements of man in space.

The tragedy of Apollo 1 resulted in a total redesign of the Apollo crew capsule, requiring a twenty month setback of the space program, but allowing the safe landing and return of man on the moon in 1969. It is unlikely that this disaster will delay launches for that length of time, but as before modifications will be made so the space program as a whole will be strengthened

**Coordinated by ALAN HARRIS**

The tragic explosion of the space shuttle Challenger took the nation captive on January 28. Television networks spent most of the day covering the event. **The Commercial Appeal** published its first extra edition since the Kennedy assassination. And **The Sou'wester** alone included three articles on the shuttle last week.

For several nights following the accident, in which seven people died, network news broadcasts were devoted almost exclusively to the shuttle. But a plane crash killing over 100 people received no more than passing comment.

This week, we ask: in the midst of other disasters involving greater loss of life, why has the shuttle event captured so much of our attention? Junior Katherine Murphy and senior Anne Verbiscer pondered the question.

and better prepared to move to even greater achievements. The deaths of the courageous seven warrent re-dedication rather than abandonment of man's need and desire to explore firsthand the universe in which he lives. We have already chosen to commemorate the lives of the astronauts in our immediate universe. The Soviets have named two craters on Venus for Judy Resnick and Christa McAuliffe, and U.S. Congressman Bill Nelson, the last shuttle passenger, suggested that seven of the ten newly-discovered moons of Uranus be named for the Challenger seven. From the inner solar system to near its outer edge, we have given an immortal tribute to seven whose deaths changed this world.

## Katherine Murphy

Why has the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger received so much of our attention in comparison with our concern with and coverage of earthquakes, plane crashes, epidemics, etc., that involve many more casualties?

The explosion of the Challenger has received the attention that it has because the print and electronic media covered the story from the moment the incident occurred, and the degree of attention the media gives to an event influences the de-

gree to which we are likely to consider the event significant. We ought to keep in mind that media coverage does not always cover events in proportion to their importance. The shuttle disaster merits our concern, but why did the media react to it as it did, with continuous coverage in the early hours afterwards when there was little to say other than it occurred? It is possible to condemn the media for their heavy coverage of the event in proportion to the attention given to other disasters as a tendency on their part to cover tragic events whose

spectacular footage and potential for human interest stories will give them good ratings and pull many viewers. Every network ran replays of the explosion throughout the evening, and **THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL** ran a photo of the smoke from the craft on its front page.

The shuttle disaster involved federal funds, the first civilian to be selected for a space program, our ambitions for the future of the space program, our faith in technology, our fascination

with exploration of the unknown and the futuristic nature of the shuttle program. The disaster was unexpected, dramatic, sudden, horrifying, and took the lives of seven people chosen for their scientific ability and their potential contributions.

Yet other tragedies are unexpected, horrifying, and may involve many more casualties. Did the media consider the shuttle disaster to be more graphic and exciting than events to which it gives less time or space? Was Tuesday the 28th merely a slow news day? Are the lives of seven scientists a more significant loss than the lives of victims of terrorism or natural disaster or some other type of

disaster? Is an explosion in space (our program's first) more horrifying (ie, interesting or exciting for TV or print than an airplane crash or an earthquake that takes thousands of lives?

These possibilities make me cynical about our media. Perhaps, though, as human beings, our concern with the shuttle explosion has less to do with selling advertising time than it has to do with each of our daily desires to test our limits, use our abilities to explore and grow, and to pursue our ambitions, to use what we have in the best way. It seems also that the shuttle explosion reminds us very disturbingly that we face grave danger frequently

without much consideration (there is not enough time and we cannot always pause in our pursuits merely because something is dangerous), and that life, while we have it, is precious and must be appreciated and utilized to its furthest extent. Each of us has experienced close to us needless, tragic death, sudden and deeply disturbing. Through media coverage we have witnessed such a tragedy together. The shuttle explosion graphically reminds us of some very basic human fears and concerns; our interest in the event and the emotions of those close to it seems finally to manifest our humanity as we try to understand the directions that each of us pursue throughout our lives.

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Staff Meetings are held Wednesday at 6:30 PM in The Sou'wester office. Everyone interested is invited to attend. Editorials reflect the policy of The Sou'wester as determined by its editors.

## Letters

To The Sou'wester:

(In a more general sense, to the Rhodes College Community:)

Well, here I am on a rainy Thursday night at Rhodes College. I am due to go to a concert tonight, and it appears as though I will get wet because I do not have an umbrella. Not that I do not own one; I do, or, at least, I did. If you have not guessed by now, I am the one who "lost" an umbrella in the Refectory and wants it back.

An umbrella may not seem like much, but to me the incident is important in two ways. First, the umbrella was a gift from someone

special to me. Secondly, it concerns me that someone thought he or she could just pick up my umbrella and walk off with it with complete impunity. It seems to me that this is an Honor Code violation, and I have checked all available lost and found centers at the college for a few days now; therefore, I can be reasonably sure someone intends to keep it.

This is, by no means, an isolated incident. I have heard several cases in which people leave an umbrella, or some other object, (with complete faith in the Honor Code) at the door only to

return and discover it missing. The Refectory apparently has been some type of exception to the jurisdiction of the Honor Code. If it is, and I know it is not, then I certainly was not aware of it, and I will wager no one else did either.

I suppose I will eventually give up hope of ever recovering the wallet I "lost" in the gym two weeks ago. That is another story, but I will continue to carefully scrutinize every orange and white golf umbrella I see on a rainy day.

Daniel R. Lane

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## Ewing Directs Emotionally Draining Drama

by PAMELA M. McINTOSH

Memphis has been called the rape capital of America and contrary to popular belief, the number of rapes in this city is rising. It is for this reason that William Mastrosimone's play *Extremities*, a poignant drama about a rapist and his victim, is such an appropriate piece for Memphis theatre. The show opens Thursday, February 13 for a month's run at Circuit Playhouse. It has been marvelously directed by McCoy's own Julia "Cookie" Ewing and includes the talents of Maggie Greer and the rape victim, Jim Manning as the rapist, and Allison Pace and Janie Paris as the victim's roommates.

Cookie Ewing has spent the last year in concentrated research with the Rape Crisis Center of Memphis, the Shelby County Sex Crimes Squad, and with individual rape counselors and actual rape victims. Cookie said she knew two years ago that she wanted to direct *Extremities* and she wanted to do it in Memphis. When asked why Cookie said,

"Because it [*Extremities*] shows both human beings (rapist and victim) turn the other into an object, but we, as an audience, always see both of them as humans. This helps to look at the situation closely, and want to gather more information and ask more questions."

*Extremities* does just that. After watching a rehearsal last week I felt emotionally drained. I became so involved in the intensity of emotion and feeling on stage, it was difficult to separate myself from it after the final black-out. The play opens with a tremendously violent scene in which the attempted rape occurs. The struggle is played so realistically by Maggie Greer and Jim Manning I found myself flinching in my seat. The rest of the play is less violent but no less powerful. In the second scene the victim, Marjorie, has turned the tables on her rapist and cages him in her fireplace like an animal. The rest of act one and act two deal with Marjorie's treatment of and feeling toward her "animal" and with her roommates' attitude and feelings

toward Marjorie and the rapist.

A scene perhaps more frightening than the rape scene occurs in act two when Marjorie's roommates turn on her and accuse her of inviting the rapist's advances. They begin to believe him instead of Marjorie. Allison Pace and Janie Paris are very convincing as the first shocked, then frightened, confused, doubtful, accusing, and finally horrified and ashamed roommates. They paint a painfully accurate picture of society's general attitude toward rape victims.

*Extremities* is a powerful drama about a subject we as citizens should be aware of and concerned with. It is at times a graphic, violent play but it carries an extremely important message about rape and rape victims. Our society's attitude toward rape is shamefully neglectful. We would rather pretend it doesn't exist. But it does and *Extremities* addresses it in an effective manner. The play is not to be missed.

If your group is interested in having a picture in the organizations section of the yearbook, please contact

Melissa Colvin  
(No. 3294)

Due to a limited amount of space there will be a charge of \$25.00 per picture.

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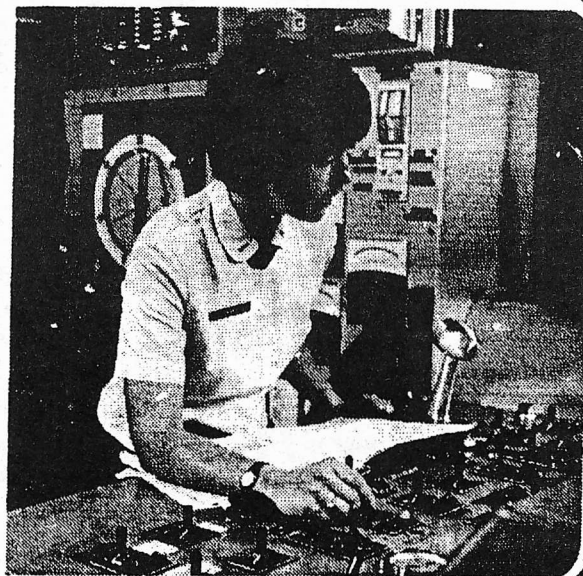
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# Sports

## Commentary

### In The Midst Of A Struggle

by TODD DOOLIN

A young man approached me two days ago and asked if Rhodes College had a soccer team. He is a sophomore at the college.

Did you know that varsity soccer exists at Rhodes College? Believe it or not, annually a small group of athletes meet two weeks before school starts, run, exercise, and drill the fundamentals of the game into their daily routine. On the side, they listen to the Athletic Department bark about how much that additional freshman from Atlanta is costing the school during those preliminary two weeks, they shrug off the 'you're-not-real-athletes' cries from the football players, and they accept a 'work-study' trainer who himself has been widdled out of 130 hours of work - approximately \$435 - from the man himself. However, these subtleties are just that - subtleties.

As Coach Huber hits the field at 6:00 AM, the players are there with a purpose. That's the way athletes are. It is hard to be compatible with rigorous training; but, before the season starts, to win means more than anything. No one groans about the non-existent budget that seems so prevalent among 'secondary' sports at Rhodes. No one thinks about the changes that have taken place the previous summer. All that counts is what is happening then. Earlham is the first game - and the CAC championship may soon follow.

Well, Earlham came to Memphis a confident soccer team and left very confused. Rhodes defeated the defending CAC champs 3-1, and good times were definitely approaching. Favored teams came to Memphis and left just as Earlham did - defeated and knowing why. Rhodes saw Division I opponents Tennessee, Vanderbilt, Alabama-Birmingham,

and Florida State come in and leave defeated. And each of the teams knew why. The CAC slipped away from the hungry team, but the 13-7 year marked a time when Rhodes soccer had earned its spot in competitive college soccer.

It's a shame you did not get a chance to see them excel. Did you know that, as a student of Rhodes College, you can say that you have a soccer program that included the all-team CAC scoring leader in Ian Jones? Yes, Ian broke the mark set by Kyle Rote, Jr. during his days at Sewanee. Did you know that the soccer coach at Rhodes, Sepp Huber, has been named youth coach of the state more than once in his illustrious soccer career? Did you know that a graduate of Rhodes College, Greg Volgas, plays professional soccer in Wisconsin? I would hope that it matters to some extent. Thanks Scott, Dave, Les, Ian, and Sepp for the inspiration that it takes to be a competitor. Hey, next time you happen to be in the neighborhood, glance at the soccer practice field. You may just see enough inspiration and dedication to touch you.

### Lady Lynx Topple Mountaineers

by JULIE BROWN

Friday Feb. 7 the Berea College Lady Mountaineers battled our Lady Lynx. It was the Lady Lynx who came out on top once again by a score of 57-45. With this victory they have beaten everyone in the Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) at least

once. Thus, they are in prime position for being first seed in the conference tournament. High scorers in the contest were the captains, Darlene Jordan with 19 and Michelle Henkel added 13. Henkel was also high rebounder pulling down 7.

Trinity University came in

town on Monday only to drive back in the snow with a 70-47 loss. The Lady Lynx came out firing, building a 16pt lead going into half-time. Becky Womeldorf contributed 22pts., 14 of which came in the first half. Henkel was not far behind with 18pts., and Jordan added 16. These wins bring

the Lady Lynx' record to 11-9.

The last home games for the women are Feb. 14-15 when they host Rhodes College Invitational Tournament. They travel to Marysville College in Maryville, TN for the WIAC Tournament on Feb. 20-22.

### Rugby Survives Mardi Gras

by JOE D. WELDON

This past weekend the Rhodes Rugby Football Club traveled to Baton Rouge, LA to play in the Mardi Gras Rugby Invitational Tournament, which included some of the best Rugby talent in the nation.

Rhodes opened the tournament Saturday with an impressive showing against the host team, the LSU Tigers. Defense is Rhodes forte and defense is what held this year's SEC champions to only four points in

the first half. Early in the second half, LSU had a couple of long runs for scores to extend their lead and went on to an 18-10 win.

This was their lowest point game since the 1985 tournament.

Rhodes next opponent, St. Olaf of Minnesota, felt the wrath of Rhodes' revenge. From the opening kick-off, Rhodes pounded St. Olaf's with hit after hit. Sean Abel scored his first career points on a tackle-breaking jaunt to give Rhodes a 4-0 halftime

lead. Rhodes next score came as John Sherrrod scampered up the middle, leaving defensive men in the wake, and pitched back to a streaking Jerry Kennon for his first ever points. Mark Gries closed the scoring as he took a pass and galloped in for the score. Rhodes shut-out St. Olaf's 14-0 and they were off to Mardi Gras in New Orleans Saturday night.

The low point of the tournament came Sunday morning when Rhodes took on

Western Kentucky. Rhodes lacked the spirit and energy they had in the two previous

games. They did jump out to an early lead when Joe D. Weldon took a Drew Klein

pass and had a cakewalk to the goal line. Andy Smith added the two conversion

points to put Rhodes up 6-0. Rhodes became complacent and W.K.U. came back to win it 16-6.

Rhodes certainly enjoyed the Mardi Gras Tournament both on and off the field, and felt the trip was very successful. Their next game is February 22 at 1:00 PM on the Back 40 against Ole Miss. The club would also like to remind everyone that new members are always welcome.

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