



## Rhodes makes the Princeton Review's Green Campus book

Article Courtesy of rhodes.edu

Rhodes College is one of the schools appearing in The Princeton Review's Guide to 286 Green Colleges.

Just in time for the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day (April 22), the free guide profiles some of the nation's most environmentally-responsible campuses and is based on a survey of hundreds of colleges nationwide. The U.S. Green Building Council partnered with The Princeton Review to produce the guide.

Rhodes' "green" profile is included in the guide and also is accessible on USA Today's website.

"Our research has shown that students and their parents are becoming more and more interested in learning about and attending universities and colleges that practice, teach and support environmental responsibility," said Robert Franek, senior vice president and publisher, The Princeton Review. "We created this guide to help them evaluate how institutions focus on environmental responsibility so they can make informed decisions as they move through the college assessment and application process."

Rhodes has an Environmental Planning Cooperative to create and maintain a collaboration of environmental stewardship on campus, and it also participates in the Green Power Switch, Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership, and American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. In addition, students have conducted environmental audits and research projects on sustainability, and they run a campus bike program and participate each year in the nationwide Recyclemania.

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## Pyramid slotted to become Bass Pro

Alex Yu  
Staff Writer

Ever since the Memphis Grizzlies moved to the FedEx Forum in 2004, and Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band performed the last concert in the complex, the Memphis Pyramid has been sitting vacant. Over the past year, there has been much debate as to what the Pyramid should become. During the mayoral campaigns last year, each candidate had their own view on what the pyramid should become.

One candidate wanted to give the structure to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in the form of a United Nations for Children to help further the worldwide fundraising. Another candidate wanted to turn it into a Memphis Music Hall of Fame venue while another thought that the University of Memphis' Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology should relocate to the building and host international symposiums as well as have international food res-

taurants.

The deal between Bass Pro and the city of Memphis has been in the works since 2005 according to media speculation, and was supported by the current mayor, A C Wharton, during his campaign. In 2009 the agreement became reality as the Springfield, Missouri based company signed a long term lease with the city to commit to the project. Since signing the lease, Bass Pro has paid the city \$35,000 per month and have agreed to pay a \$500,000 penalty if they decided to back out of the deal.

With an agreement with the standards for "seismic and adaptive reuse of the building" having been reached, the final negotiations between the city and Bass Pro can now be underway. The proposed project is hoped to bring many new jobs to the city as well as shoppers and tourists. The mayor met with Bass Pro Shop official on April 20 to work out the final con-

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## Greenline project will connect Shelby Farms to Midtown

By Anna Meyerrose  
Editor-in-Chief

Two months ago was witness to the official groundbreaking for a new, multipurpose trail that will connect the already existing Midtown Greenline to Shelby Farms Park. Shelby Farms is a 4,500 acre conservatory park located between East Memphis and Cordova, just off of Walnut Grove. Everyday activities at Shelby Farms include paddle boating, horseback riding, fishing, walking and jogging, as well as Frisbee golf. The Park is also home to a herd of American Bison, each of which can be adopted and supported by members of the Shelby County community.

The project to extend the Greenline from Midtown out to Shelby Farms Park, which is projected to be completed by August of 2010, was originally begun a year ago when Shelby County purchased an abandoned 100-foot-wide railroad corridor; all of this land cost around \$5 million. Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, a private nonprofit organization that has been in charge of the maintenance of Shelby Farms since 2007, funded this

project with the aid of federal grants. Shelby Farms Park Conservancy is also responsible for the upkeep of the Greenline itself.

Upon its completion, the trail will be seven miles long, spanning from Tillman, just east of Midtown, all the way to Shelby Farms Park. The path is designed to be a ten foot wide walking, jogging, and biking path. Additionally, the path will incorporate spaces for gardening and greenscaping, and will also serve to connect several Memphis neighborhoods. The entire trail will be asphalt except for a few sections of bridges along the path that will be made of wooden decking. There will be distance markers every half-mile along the path.

Before this project can be completed, the estimated 90 year old trestles of the CSX railroad near the Wolf River in East Memphis must first be refurbished. In their long life span, the wood of these trestles has rotted considerably. This particular part of the Greenline project is being overseen by Chris-Hill Construction Company. The land surrounding these railroad tracks has been considerably neglected

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# Sleeping Beauty

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# Trying to fence in the Fat Cats

By Patrick Harris  
Staff Writer

Now that the imbroglio over health reform has devolved from apoplexy to mere bitterness, the Senate has turned its attention to the next item on President Obama's policy agenda: new regulations for the financial sector. Thus far, the contours of the debate have taken on a depressingly familiar form. Senate Democrats are attempting to press forward with a financial reform bill against uniform opposition from Senate Republicans. The former accuse the latter of obstruction, the latter accuse the former of arrogance, and the casual observer will be forgiven if he succumbs to despair, unless that observer happens to hold a great deal of Goldman Sachs stock.

The Senate standoff over banking regulation is all the more dispiriting due to the broad agreement between the two parties over the objectives of reform. Both sides (if they know what is good for them) want to avoid a repeat of the bailouts of 2008 and 2009. Republican criticism of the bill itself centers on a provision that sets aside \$50 billion as an "orderly liquidation fund" to help regulators take over failing firms that might pose a threat to the entire financial systems. Senate Minority leader, Mitch McConnell, has called this fund an implicit guarantee of government assistance to struggling financiers, despite the fact that the money is intended to facilitate the closure of the companies in question. In fairness to Senator

McConnell, neither the Obama administration nor Bernie Sanders, a junior Senator of Vermont and self-described socialist, favor the fund. Nevertheless, the major issue dividing the two parties seems more procedural than substantial, with Republicans complaining they have been shut out of the bill's formative process. It is difficult to know how seriously to take this complaint; Democratic hubris and Republican intransigence are not, in any case, mutually exclusive.

Democrats, led by Majority Leader Harry Reid, have counterattacked by claiming the Republicans are in thrall to Wall Street donors. While anyone who has paid attention to Harry Reid's career ("The Underperformin' Mormon" seems an apt moniker) may find it difficult to take his eruptions seriously, the Republican case was not helped by a recent meeting of hedge fund managers in New York that McConnell and Senator John Cornyn of Texas attended. On the other hand, federal records show the majority of political contributions from the financial sector going to Democrats, not Republicans. Prominent among them is Chris Dodd, the main author of the reform bill. In addition to close ties to his state's hefty banking industry, Dodd has the good sense not to be running for reelection this fall.

Republicans are nonetheless playing a dangerous game in their unified opposition to the Democratic attempts at reform. Unlike in the case of health reform, where Republicans could plausibly claim

public opinion was on their side, support for greater regulation of finance is broad and deep. McConnell is attempting to play to this sentiment by portraying the reform bill as encouraging more bailouts, but given this evasion won't save him and his cohorts from portrayal as intractable opponents of the only credible attempt at reform in the offing. Rightly or wrongly, Democrats will continue to beat the drum of accusation in regard to Republican ties to Big Finance. As midterm elections approach, Republicans will want to avoid even the appearance of chumminess with the banks, given that the popularity of Wall Street firms currently falls somewhere between the Ku Klux Klan and syphilis.

Beyond the pure politics of the situation, there is a strong case for a more pliable attitude from Senate Republicans. The reform bill would allow regulators to take charge of "systemically important" financial institutions in much the same way as the FDIC is currently empowered to dispense with the assets of troubled garden-variety banks in order to protect depositors. In light of the chaos the resulted from various exotic financial ventures in the recent crisis, it is difficult to grudge the government this authority. The vitality of the free market is hardly served by the capability of a few badly managed firms to wreck the entire economic system. While the Democratic bill is undoubtedly imperfect, Republicans will never have legislation entirely to their liking while they remain in the minority. If the latter are at all serious about timely reform, they will have to give ground.

Fortunately financial reform appears to offer somewhat more room for compromise than was the case with the Democratic health bill. Yet given what President Obama's new era of "post-partisanship" has brought thus far, there is a distinct possibility of further gridlock. This would be a shame. While both parties could afford to be more accommodating, the onus will be on Republicans to ensure passage of meaningful reform. The GOP must make a choice as to whether it wants to be a pro-market party, or merely pro-business.



Photo courtesy of Google Images

The U.S. Senate is currently debating over new regulations for the financial sector.

## THE SOU'WESTER

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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 Media Board, a consortium that includes the editors of all student media outlets, 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 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.

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ASSOCIATED  
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PRESS



# Maine's transsexual law causes controversy

By: John Ayers  
Staff Writer

We've hit an interesting stage in the fight against discrimination in this nation: bathrooms and soccer teams. That's right, the despicable act of have different bathrooms for the sexes and all female and male school teams is now under fire by the Maine Commission of Human Rights. It recently made a proposal (to be later voted on and made into law if approved) to ban schools from enforcing gender divisions in sports teams, school clubs, bathrooms, and locker rooms. It even seeks to outlaw jokes and teasing from graduate school down to pre-school on any sexual basis.

If you are not at least a little cautious about this proposal then you are one of the hopefully few people who believe this to be not only a good idea, but a righteous one. Personally, I think it sounds ridiculous. This is not discrimination against transgenders or bisexuals. There are basic biological differences that should be respected. It is doubtful too many women would be on board with the idea of having their first grade daughters share a bathroom with boys. Nor are women in their 20's going to be particularly thrilled having a male sharing their bathrooms with them, even if it is because he feels uncomfortable with his sexual orientation. The same goes for men, as well. Men, for the most part, would feel uncomfortable with females, of whatever sexual orientation, being allowed into the male restroom and showers. There comes a point where the line must be drawn and society must respect the overwhelming majority's discomfort because someone is going to feel uncomfortable regardless.

Another point of contention is sports. Forcing the mixture of genders in sports seems ridiculous. If you accept that varsity sports should allow female/male teams of football, soccer, and basketball, then would not colleges also need to desegregate? Should we fuse the NBA and the WNBA because they have all male and all female organizations? No. Basic biological differences of the body and in general personality exist between the sexes and we shouldn't try and cover our eyes and pretend that it's society's fault. Sexual orientation and possibly medical changes should not change this. We must recognize the differences exist and respect them. Can a woman, a former woman, or a woman that wants to be a man play in the NFL? Yes. Should we amend the rules on how the rest of the NFL can play in relation to them? No. We can force change based on racism because the only biological difference there is melanin levels. But change should not be forced on little league baseball teams because there are definite biological differences, regardless of what a person wants their sexual orientation to be.

Before we start screaming sexism and discrimination, let us get one thing straight. There are basic biological differences between the sexes. If a man or woman feels uncomfortable, most likely sexually, at having someone of the opposite (or formerly of the opposite) gender in their shower room or bathroom then it should not be forced on them. If we do not accept certain differences that should allow for basic privacy, then what kind of a society are we? Certainly not a tolerant one for any act of teasing would be punishable by law. Any feelings of discomfort at having the opposite sex share a bathroom are squelched. And any same sex team is an abomination unto basic humanity itself. I cannot say that I am on board with this one.

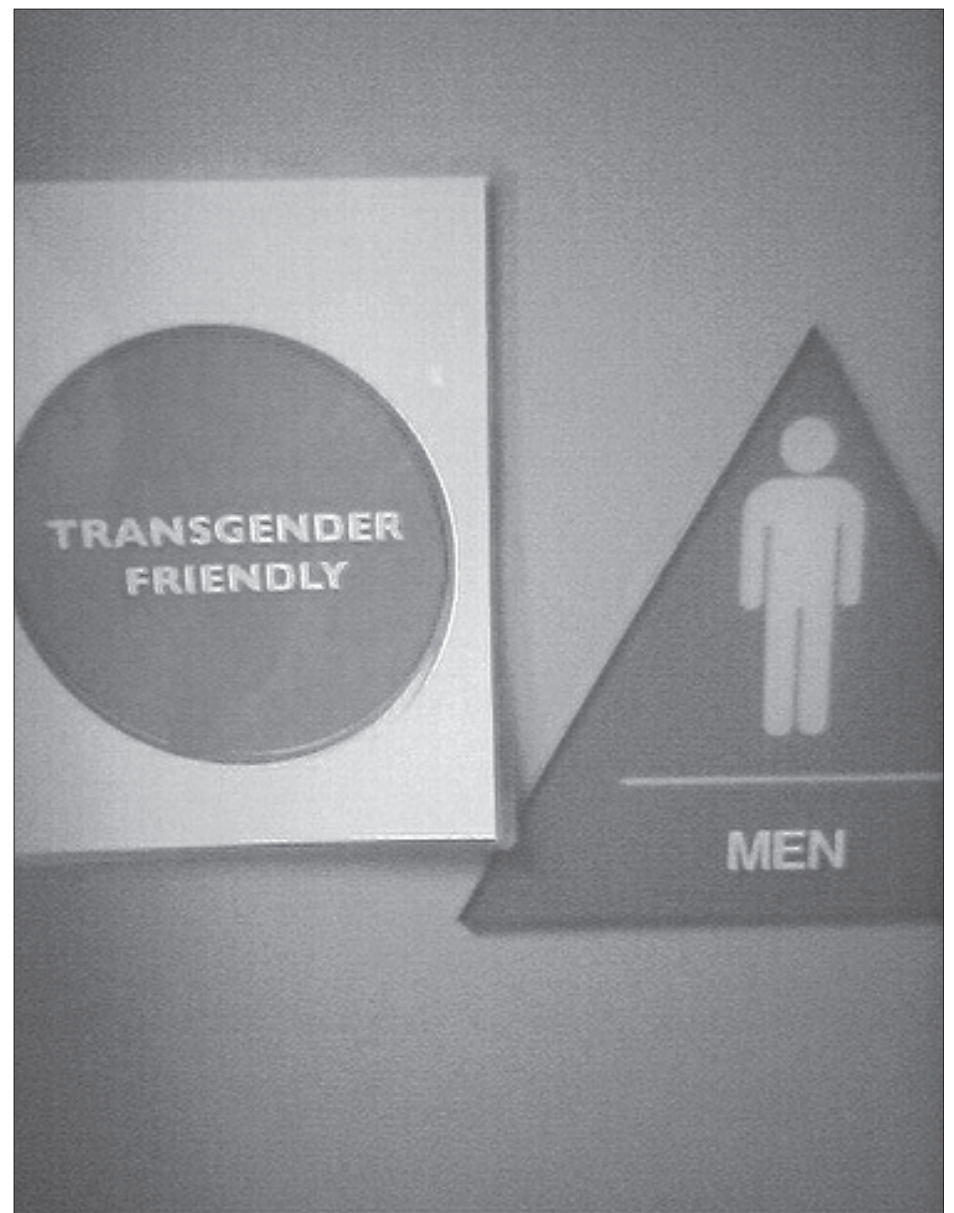


Photo courtesy of Google Images

Division of public bathrooms between "men" and "women" has led to controversy that this designation is discriminatory to transgender individuals.

## College is not the right choice for everyone

By William Smith  
Staff Writer

After four years at Rhodes, if I have learned anything, it is that I love being in college. Though I certainly enjoyed the social aspect, my favorite part was undoubtedly reading, discussing, and writing about a wide variety of topics. In fact, I enjoyed it so much that I realized there was no way I could ever stop doing it, and as a result, I decided that I wanted to become a college professor. As I thought more and more about my most recent career aspiration, and as my time at Rhodes has come closer and closer to its end, I have started to think about the nature of our society's views about college. The liberal arts model is still quite healthy, but there is a common belief that the purpose of college is to make oneself more competitive in the job market; to put it bluntly, you go to college so you can get a good job. While this is an accurate depiction of the way our world works, it encourages a mindset that creates unreasonable expectations and a great deal of unhappiness.

Despite all of the positive reinforcement and feel-good treatment that our parents and teachers gave us, not all of us can do anything we want; college is just not appropriate for some people. I realize that in the eyes of many, to say this is blasphemous (and coming from someone who

hopes to teach, no less!), and though it may come across as insensitive, if not downright mean, I believe it is actually the more accurate and thus more ethical view.

Some children will simply not thrive in college no matter how much training, accommodations, or program placements we give them. There are various reasons, some having to do with intelligence, some with personality, and some with the preferences of the child. Our current system causes our children a great deal of stress because it portrays college education as the only path to a happy, successful life. Children are raised to believe that college is a normal part of life, but if it somehow does not happen, then something has gone seriously wrong. If a student does not get into college, it is as if the world has ended. Though all too often students who should have gotten into schools do not get in, there are times when it makes sense for someone to not attend college.

What exactly is to be done about this trend? The fact is that whether you attend college or not—indeed, where you attend college—has a major role in determining a person's career opportunities. Let me be clear: I am in no way saying we should give up on students who may seem like they would not do well in college. Parents and certain community leaders (teachers, school counselors, religious leaders) have a duty to act in the best interests of

the youth. Part of this duty is to try all we can to prepare students for college, but we also have a duty to watch for those for whom college may not be the best choice. What needs to be done is for parents, educational leaders, and community leaders to work together to remove the stigma of not going to college. This will undoubtedly be hard, both because we rightly believe that college is a wonderful experience and, all other things being equal, is preferable to not going, and because the realities of the job market make a college degree an almost necessary requirement. Nevertheless, we do our children a great disservice when we refuse to consider that not going to college may not be the sign of failure...

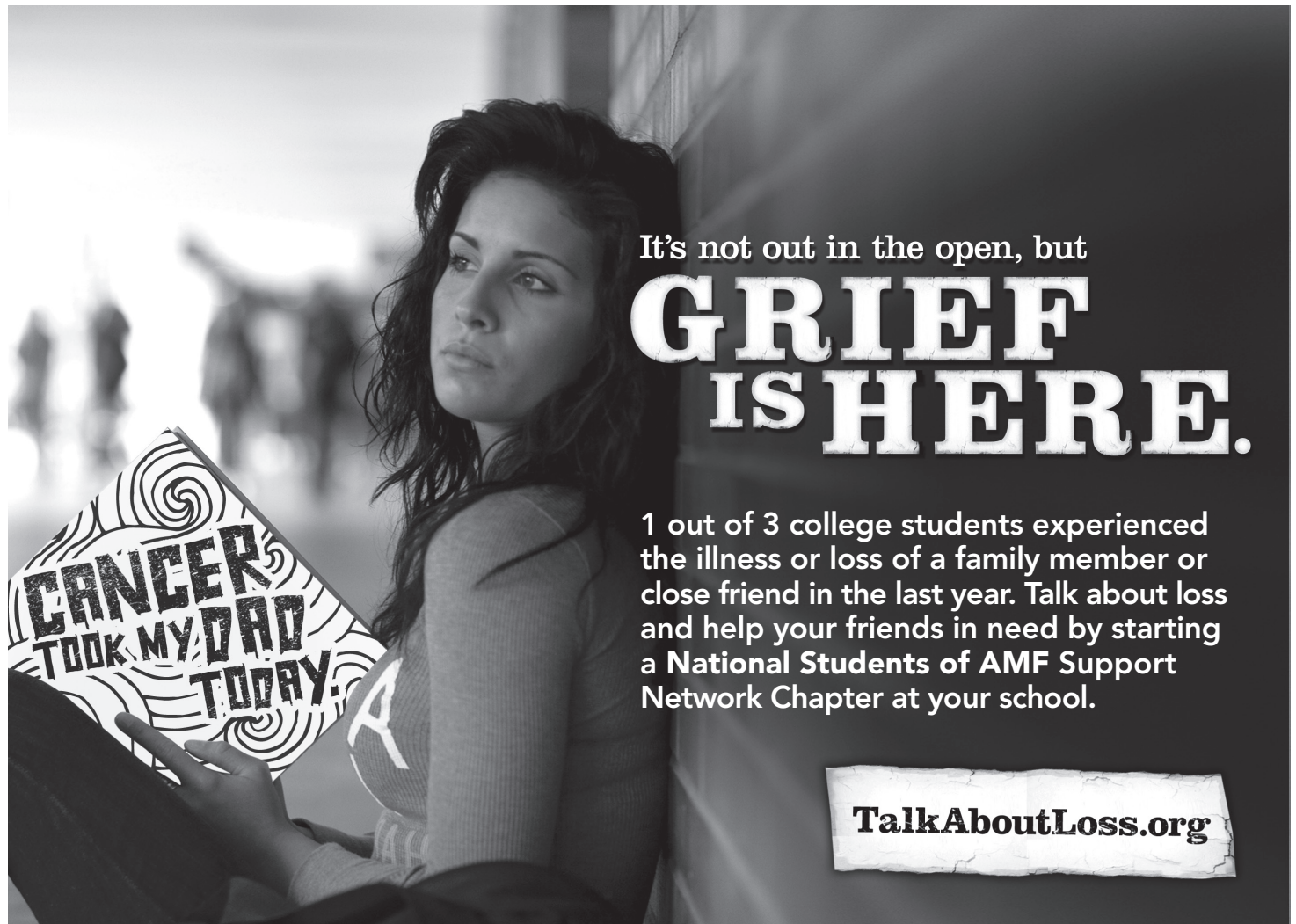
The past four years have easily been the most enjoyable time of my life, and I hope as many people as possible can attend college and have a rewarding experience. While we should encourage everyone to attend college and work with those who need help, we should not let that blind us to the fact that there are those—there may be a few, there may be many—for whom college is not the best option. The "college at all costs" mindset exacts a heavy price on those for whom college is not a good fit and must be abandoned.



Pyramid, continued from Page 1

tract. The tentative grand opening is set for November 2011.

One concern about the Bass Pro Shops is the thought that using an iconic Memphis building as a retail store might be a waste. Freshman Matthew Burnick thinks that the idea of turning the Pyramid into a Bass Pro Shops is great. He says, "It's not a waste. I think it's better to use for something than nothing at all." Freshman Jess Newman thinks otherwise. She says, "There are much cooler things that could go in there, like the city museum in St. Louis for example." Freshman Megan Lee is also hesitant to excitement over the Bass Pro Shops. She says, "While it is better to make use of the structure rather than let it sit vacant, I feel like the city could have done something more creative with it, something cooler." She suggested jokingly that it should be a Louvre-esque museum for the city, although we wouldn't have the caliber of art which is contained in the world renowned Paris museum. Regardless of the final fate of the Memphis Pyramid, at least it is closer to becoming something, than remaining nothing at all.



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## The Peabody Rooftop Parties

**April 15 .** Lord T & Eloise *with opening act* Ryan Peel & a special guest appearance

**April 22 .** Rhoney G

**April 29 .** Party Planet

**May 6 .** Dr. Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster

**May 13 .** Kevin & Bethany Paige

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# CAMPUS SAFETY

April 11-18, 2010

04/11

9:10 am: Mid South Snacks representative on campus to repair damaged vending machine in Williford Hall; all contents of this machine returned.

04/13

2:40 pm: Theft reported in FJ, individual responsible was identified and referred for behavior.

04/14

10:47 am: MPD officers on campus for courtesy patrol.

5:35 pm: Two individuals in a black Corvette claiming to be guests of a student were trying to gain access to the campus and to the BCLC basketball courts; access denied.

04/16

3:03 pm: Report of marijuana smell on 1st floor Glassell; officers located the room; report filed.

7:00 pm: Ambulance called to assist a student in the trainer's room suffering from illness; student transported to local hospital for observation.

10:29 pm: Four alcohol violations for underage drinking cited at the Pike house.

04/17

12:49 am: Noise complaint in East Village A; information collected.

3:29 am: Individual located on Phillips Lane claiming to be a Rhodes student; subject transported to the Bailey Lane gate for identification where subject fled out of gate on foot; Director of Campus Safety has been notified.

6:40 am: Report of broken glass in a fire extinguisher door in Glassell; work order sent.

11:55 am: Accident on University; non-Rhodes persons involved; no injuries; both parties exchanged insurance information.

6:33 pm: Student reported his bicycle missing from the north side of Clough Hall; report filed.

4/18

12:14 am: Alcohol violations cited in the Glassell parking lot; reports filed.

12:42 am: Intoxicated CBU student observed in the middle ground; subject transported back to CBU and turned over to their security.

*Greenline*, continued from Page 1

for a number of years; however, according to Criag Christenbury of Chris-Hill Construction, this actually works to the advantage of the ongoing project.

"It's overgrown," he said, noting that tall trees line the corridor. "Once it (the trail) is done, it'll be like driving through a tunnel. There's so much greenery growing over it."

Despite the restructuring of these railroad trestles, it is important to note that the new seven mile trail will be closed off to all vehicular traffic. Automobiles will be kept from driving on this path by the installation of heavy posts near each point where the trail crosses a roadway.

Though viewed positively by many Memphians, a Greenline project such as this one is by no means unique to Memphis and Shelby County. According to some representatives of Shelby Farms Park, projects similar to these in other cities have often served to benefit their surroundings by increasing property values, reducing crime, as well as promoting a stronger sense of community unity between the neighborhoods that they connect. More practically, such paths also serve as safe routes for any individuals who are not traveling via automobiles.

Other positive contributions being attributed to this project are in connection to Memphis' recent classification as one of the unhealthiest cities in the United States. Many argue that this Greenline will provide an opportunity for more Memphians to get out and exercise more often.

Although no definitive actions have been taken toward this end, future plans hope to further extend the Greenline all the way out into Eads, which is located in the eastern part of Shelby County.

## Calendar of Events

**April 21st**

Auditing Standards Presentation for Students and Audit Practitioners  
Location: Blount/Buckman  
Time: 5:00pm-10:00pm

KA FIFA Tournament

Location: Lair  
Time: 9:00pm-11:30pm

**April 22nd**

Silk Screening and Paper Making Workshop

Location: BCLC Lawn

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Guest Lecturer Brian Daniels: "The Legal and Moral Dimensions of Cultural

Location: Orgill

Time: 5:00pm-6:30pm

Rhodes Rainy Day Film Festival Location

Location: FJ-A

Time: 8:00pm-11:00pm

**April 23rd**

Class of 2012: Lawn Party

Location: Buckman South Lawn

Time: 4:00pm-6:00

Opening Reception for the 2010

Senior Thesis Exhibition

Location: Orgill

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

**April 24th**

Shakuntala Reductia

Location: McCoy

Time: 7:00pm-10:00

**April 25th**

Shakuntala Reductia

Location: McCoy

Time: 2:00pm-6:00pm

Rhodes MasterSingers Chorale at Idlewild Presbyterian Church

Location: Off Campus

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm

**April 26th**

African American Studies Brown Bag Series

Location: Orgill

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Islamic Awareness: The Muslim Woman. "Sisterhood of the Traveling Scarf"

Location: McCallum Ballroom

Time: 5:30pm-8:00pm

**April 27th**

Rita Harris Lecture on Environmental Justice and Health

Location: Blount/Buckman Lobby

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm



Photo courtesy of Google Images

An ongoing project to be completed in August of 2010 will connect Midtown the Shelby Farms Park by extending the already existing Greenline trail.



# Fall 2010: some but not all TV shows to return

By Jasmine Gilstrap  
A&E Editor

As the summer months approach, those in the television industry assess the success of current shows and prepare for the new seasons in the fall. While some new shows have been a hit and will be renewed by their respective networks, some shows are not in the best of conditions and others are destined to be canceled. TVGuide.com provided a list of shows in all three categories and how their fate was determined.

Remaining On the Air:  
*The Cleveland Show*-FOX

Known as the spin-off to Seth MacFarlane's other raunchy animated series *Family Guy*, *The Cleveland Show* will keep its spot on Fox's "Animation Domination" airing Sunday nights. Similar to the series that gave birth to the patriarch of the family, the show features satirical humor, parodies, and like *Family Guy*, will have celebrity guests. Despite negative feedback from critics claiming the show is "basically *Family Guy* in blackface," Fox has signed on to do another season of *The Cleveland Show*, making MacFarlane the mastermind behind three-fourths of the "Animation Domination" line-up and displaying that semi-crude comedic cartoons will always have a place in the hearts of Americans.

*Cougar Town*-ABC

Inspired by the life choices of 34 percent of American women over 40 dating younger men, the show displays the journey of recently divorced single mother Jules Kiki Cobb, played by Courtney Cox, as she explores the truths about dating and aging leading to her self-discovery. Though the name

*Cougar Town* threw many critics off, the show was well received and earned a People's Choice Award nomination and a Golden Globe nomination for Cox as Best Actress in a Television Series, Musical, or Comedy. ABC signed on for another season of the series, mostly likely for the fall 2010 season, but no return date has been set yet.

Not Looking So Hot:

*Melrose Place*-CW

Attempting to do another blast from the past series, the CW aired the new *Melrose Place* on September 8, 2009 where the remake resumed the role as a prime time drama about young adults living in West Hollywood. After spending the first half of the season watching the West Hollywood police attempt to solve the murder of Sydney Andrew, Laura Leighton's character from the original series, the episodes have developed into ones more reminiscent of the 1992 show. However, due to the late start of an interesting and complex plot, critics are skeptical of whether CW will be the show up for another season. As of now, the show will continue to air the scheduled episodes and any future plans are up for discussion.

*Miami Medical*-CBS

In the *CSI: Miami* meets *Grey's Anatomy* show, *Miami Medical* follows a team of expert surgeons who thrive on the adrenaline rush of working at one of the premiere trauma facilities in the country. Premiering a little less than three weeks ago, the show has succeeded in capturing the intense, edge-of-your-seat feeling associated with Jerry Bruckheimer's other shows by displaying what those in the medical field refer to as the "golden hour," the 60 min-

utes after being critically injured when a patient's life hangs in the balance. Overall the show's pilot and three episodes to date have been well received by critics, but have failed to have sufficient ratings due to the timeslot at 8 P.M. on Friday nights. If CBS wishes to pick the show up for a second season, a time change would be greatly encouraged and would have a great impact on the show's ratings.

Gone Forever:

*Eastwick*-ABC

Based on the novel *The Witches of Eastwick* by John Updike, the show followed the lives of three strangers who meet at a wishing well and go on an adventure ending with them moving to Eastwick where their supernatural powers are unleashed. After opening with mixed reviews, partially due to the legacy left behind from the film with the same name as the novel and the components that made it an awkward mash-up of *Gilmore Girls* and *Charmed*, ABC eventually declined to order additional episodes of *Eastwick*. ABC executives announced the show's time slot would be taken over by *Ugly Betty* in January 2010, essentially ending the series.

*Three Rivers*-CBS

Set in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, *Three Rivers* was a medical drama about a hospital specializing in transplants and the complex lives of organ donors. Aside from a slightly unappealing premise, the show was destined for failure as CBS executives aimed to use the medical show to fill the void left by the longstanding and award-winning show *ER*. After only eight episodes, CBS pulled the show from the schedule and confirmed in early 2010 *Three Rivers'* cancellation.

## A 'Musical' experience for 'youthful music lovers'

By Jasmine Gilstrap  
A&E Editor

Upon my arrive at the Abbey, a venue that essentially meets in the basement of running church, I was immediately taken back to the time in March that I first experienced the music of the Nashville based band Parachute Musical.

Conceptualized in 2003, the piano-fronted indie rock quartet now consists of lead vocalist Josh Foster on piano, the guitar playing background vocalist Tom Gilbert with drummer Ben Jacoby and Andrew Samples on bass. Originally a trio of the DC-natives Foster, Gilbert, and Jacoby, Parachute Musical relocated to Nashville in 2008 shortly after releasing their second album, *Everything is Working Out Fine in Some Town*, a title which foreshadowed the success the band would have in finding bassist Samples and a U.S. tour that followed.

The chemistry between Foster's strong vocals and out of control piano playing combined with the drive of Jacoby's drumming style, the artistry of

Gilbert's shredding skills and Samples master bass playing, the composition of the band results in a sound noted by prestigious newspapers and independent publications alike. The band's latest single "No Comfort," released in January 2010, reached the number six spot on the OurStage, a website featuring undiscovered artist, indie pop chart and has sold numerous copies on iTunes. On Sunday night, Parachute Musical opened with the single and followed it with the song for which they made a music video titled "Drop Me a Line."

The stop in Memphis marked the beginning of the band's west coast tour which will last a little over a month. Anticipating an increase in their already solid fan base, the kick off show in Tennessee was semi bittersweet for the band with Foster stating, "we don't like to be gone from home for too long" before launching into the band's appropriately titled song "Hometown." The band debuted two new songs at the show as well following the Tennessee tribute with "You Could Take a lot From Me" and ending

the set with "Nothing Wrong."

Having experienced the musical styling of Parachute Musical before, I was not surprised when the band worked their own merchandise table following their performance. The description of themselves as a band with "song-crafted, highly energetic performances, and a hearty work ethic" is an understatement. In addition to being hard working, the guys are extremely humble, thanking myself and Allison Yu for the flyering of the Rhodes campus for the show and talked to both us and all the other new Parachute Musical fans after their set. I felt as though I had come to see my good friend's band play with the level of comfort the guys had with the fans and the realness of their conversation.

To see what the guys are up to as they continue their West Side Tour-y or to listen to their music, visit their website [parachutemusical.com](http://parachutemusical.com) and experience the comfort of this driven and energetic band.

## Shakuntala Reductia mystifies the McCoy

By Marjorie Demaria  
Staff Writer

I had no idea what I was getting myself into on Friday night, when I stepped into the McCoy theatre for the opening night of "Shakuntala Reductia." What I experienced was a pleasant surprise.

The plays title character Shakuntala, a beautiful maiden with mystical origins meets Dushyanta, the King of Hastinapur while in the forest, talking to animals- one of her favorite activities. Captivated by her beauty, Dushyanta courts her in royal style and marries her, meaning they get to know each other in the Biblical sense of the word. Before leaving to

attend to his affairs, Dushyanta leaves a ring to be presented to him when she appears in court, thereby claiming her place as a queen. Unfortunately, she misplaces it, launching her on a journey with an unpredictable ending.

Adapted from Kalidasa's "Abhijnanasakuntala", David Mason's version of the classic Hindu legend comes with a dash of the Supremes and the Beach Boys and a good dose of humor, making it irresistible. Mason completely rewrote the play to make it more modern which create his personal touch one can feel throughout every minute of the play. The over-the-top legend of Shakuntala meets sarcastic American humor adds a twist in the play that I have never experienced

in theatre before. I found idea to include the audience in the performance to be ingenious, inviting everyone to dance on-stage at the end.

Kudos to William Bruce, Dushyanta 1, for his moves on the dance floor, to Maia Henkins, the fisherman, who cracked me up whenever she spoke, and to everyone else for the craziness and creating a show you should definitely experience. Words cannot describe the fun I had at the show and I encourage all to go see the performance. Shakuntala and the rest of the Hastinapurans will continue to rock McCoy until the last show Sunday April 25 at 2 PM.

# An out-of-Memphis experience

By Carolina Sanchez  
Staff Writer

For sushi connoisseurs, Bluefin Edge Cuisine and Sushi Lounge is definitely a spot to check out. The chefs of Bluefin take pride in using real wasabi root to make their wasabi earning them Opentable.com's Diner's Choice Winner for 2010 and number five on Opentable.com's list of Most Booked Restaurants in Memphis. Its fusion of American, Asian, and European cuisines makes it a very unique venue.

As you walk down South Main, you will pass by several restaurants bubbling with clientele sitting on outdoor patios, Bluefin included. But once walking inside, we were captivated by its hip décor that quickly set it apart from its seemingly average façade. There is a small waterfall as you walk up the steps to the dining area and as the restaurant name implies, there is a blue theme throughout. The lighting and tables are both blue while the tables and some of the lights around the restaurant take the shape of the Bluefin logo, a grouping of blue hexagons. With mirrors lining the walls and a variety of seating including traditional booths, round booths, long couches with low tables, and even party rooms to accommodate large groups of twenty or more, the space of the restaurant is enhanced. The techno/house music helps create a chic European club atmosphere which may cause you to forget you're still in Memphis.

If you aren't a fan of sushi, the eclectic menu will surely have something for your taste. The creative selection of flatbread pizzas includes a traditional Fresh Mozzarella Pizza, \$11, with tomato sauce, imported mozzarella, and parmesan. For the more adventurous, there is a tuna tataki pizza, \$13, with spicy mayo, basil, cherry tomatoes, pancetta, scallions, sesame seaweed, and seared tuna.

To start, we had the Miso Soup, \$4, a traditional Japanese soup with tofu, scallions, and wakame and shitaki mushrooms. The mushrooms and tofu were generous and the broth was smooth and flavorful with umami. Umami, the fifth taste, is described as savory and the miso paste from the soup combined with the umami rich mushrooms further accents the soup's savory taste. Next came the tricky part, deciding between all of the wonderful sushi creations. We had the Smoked Salmon Roll, \$7, with smoked salmon, blue crab, cream cheese, and avocado. The smokiness of the salmon and the lightness of the crab combined with the smoothness of the avocado and cream cheese made for a well-crafted sushi roll. We also had the Blue Fin Roll, \$10. We figured if the roll was good enough to be named after the restaurant, it was good enough for us to give it a shot. The Blue Fin roll has blue crab, asian pear, cream cheese, cucumbers, and avocado all wrapped in soy paper and topped with sweet chili sauce. The soy paper is a bit thinner than the traditional seaweed used to wrap sushi. Don't let the sight of "soy paper" turn you off; the only resemblance it bears to paper is its thinness and transparency. The crispness of the pear and cucumber and the creaminess of the cream cheese and avocado was accented by the slight kick of the sweet chili sauce. We also had the Veggie Roll, \$5, with sweet tofu, lettuce, radish, bell pepper, cucumber, and avocado. The Smoked Salmon Roll and the Veggie Roll brought eight pieces and the Blue Fin Roll brought six slightly larger pieces.

For desert we tried the Nashi Pear Crisp, \$9, with Cinammon Crumble and House-made Buttermilk Ice Cream. At least a whole pear was sliced for the dish and was topped with a subtle cinnamon brown sugar topping, baked in a cast iron bowl, and plated with the ice cream on the side so the heat from the pears would not melt it.

The service was a bit slow, but it was a Saturday night and the restaurant was full. However, our waitress was very friendly and attentive despite the packed house. She even turned up the AC twice for us because it was pretty cold. Pricing wise, sushi ranges from \$3-\$15 and entrees from \$18-\$28. Overall, our experience was very pleasant and we plan on returning to Blue Fin to try some more of their creative menu items. Blue Fin is the perfect place to celebrate a birthday or just to go out to dinner for a fun night out.

## THIS WEEK in ENTERTAINMENT

### New Movie Releases:

4/23/10  
*The Losers*  
*The Back-Up Plan*  
*Oceans*

### Television Highlights (4/21-4/27):

*Mercy*, Wednesday, 7 pm, NBC. Veronica continues her therapy sessions while Chloe tracks down an ER patient

*American Idol: Idol Gives Back*, Wednesday, 7 pm, Fox. Celebrities join the contestants to raise money for charity.

*In Plain Sight*, Wednesday, 9 pm, USA. An FBI informant refuses Witsec protection

*Community*, Thursday, 7 pm, NBC. Troy and Jeff take on the chicken finger shortage gripping Greendale Community College.

*Bones*, Thursday, 7 pm, Fox. Brennan and Booth are asked to identify human remains found inside the belly of a shark.

*Supernatural*, Thursday, 8 pm, CW. Sam and Dean are kidnapped by a group of gods

*Smallville*, Friday, 7 pm, CW. Former DA Raymond Sacks threatens Lois after he is released from prison.

*Miami Medical*, Friday, 9 pm, CBS. A woman injured in a balcony collapse refuses treatment and a patient arrives at the hospital with a large sum of money.

*Chefs vs. City*, Sunday, 8 pm, Food Network.

*Chuck*, Monday, 8 pm, NBC. Chuck and Sarah travel to Europe.

*24*, Monday, 8 pm, Fox. President Taylor asks a private security firm to complete a sensitive task while Jack asks an old friend for a favor

*Glee*, Tuesday, 8 pm, Fox. Kurt sets his dad up with an unexpected partner and April returns to save the glee club.

*V*, Tuesday, 9 pm, ABC. Eric, Father Jack, and Hobbes realize the Vs know the names of the Fifth Column members.

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# Preview of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa

By Andrew Mullins-Williams  
Sports Editor

On June 11, the eyes of the world will be focused on South Africa for the start of the 2010 World Cup. The schedule for the World Cup was decided on December 4 by drawing qualifying nations into eight groups of four teams. From these groups, the top two teams will advance and begin a single elimination tournament with the top teams from the other groups.

The United States finds themselves in group C, along with England, Algeria and Slovenia. While many applauded the draw the United States received, opening the World Cup against England may prove to be a difficult task. Fabio Capello, the England head coach, has helped the team win over 70 percent of its international matches.

They qualified for the World Cup by scoring 34 goals—allowing only 6. The main question with England is always consistency and how well their top caliber players can mesh together to form a unit. Even so, England looks to be the toughest competition for the United States (in the group stage). Algeria and Slovenia are outside looking in, but will still prove to be tough matches. Algeria has an up tempo style and have beaten the likes of Egypt (winner of the last three African Cup of Nations). If they can score some goals quickly, they will be hard to stop. Slovenia is a very different team that prides itself on defense. Having given up only four goals in 10 matches during qualification, Slovenia could cause some problems for a team needing three points to advance late in the group stage.

While the United States are expected to advance, they are by no means favorites to win it all. Here is a look at some of the big names and some you might not know about.

**Brazil**—They are always a trendy pick to win the World Cup and this year is no different. This Brazilian side is filled with a combination of individual greatness and team chemistry. They will prove to be a difficult opponent to any opposition. If Kaka can control the midfield and play to the feet of Luis Fabiano and Adriano, this team will have plenty of opportunity to score goals. The main concern with this team is their defense. When playing at their best, they can stop anyone. However, in qualifying there were times when they would fall asleep and if this happens, Brazil could see an early exit.

**Argentina**—based purely on talent this team would be a lock as a quarterfinalist. However, despite Lionel Messi and Carlos Tevez, This team does not play particularly well together. Diego Maradona was a great player, but his team backed into the World Cup losing five games during qualification. Nonetheless beware, because if Argentina figures out this thing called chemistry they can go a long way in the tournament.

**Spain**—This is the world's number one ranked team (according to FIFA rankings), and have their only blemish being a loss to the United States in the Confederations

Cup. Even so, they won the other fifteen matches they played and had a goal differential of +35. With strikers David Villa and Fernando Torres this team can score often and quickly, but also provide the necessary defense that must accompany a champion.

**Mexico**—Usually a standard at the World Cup, this team stumbled early during qualification only to win late and get second in the qualifying stage (behind the United States). The Mexicans are more than capable of scoring, but their defense has not been as strong as previous years. They will benefit from a weak group, and a win over France will see them into the next round, but it is hard to say if they will go much further.

**Germany**— This team is usually forgotten when top contenders are being spoken about. However, the German's won eight out of 10 qualifying matches conceding only five goals. The German team is not flashy nor do they place all their resources into any particular area. They have world class players at every position, and make very few mistakes. This combination allows them to be contending in most every World Cup— so expect them to be there at the end of this one as well.

**Netherlands**— This team is playing some of its best soccer at the right time. They did not lose a qualifying match and gave up only two goals. The major concern with the Netherlands is not talent or ability, but it is the continuing trend of losing to teams they shouldn't in big events. Even so, in a tournament that will likely have plenty of goals, the Netherlands focus is defense with a timely goal to supplement. This formula will often bring success and the Netherlands will certainly advance at least to the quarterfinals.

**Cameroon**— Being Africa's highest ranked team Cameroon has a lot of pressure to succeed in this World Cup. The outcome of this team rests on the shoulders of forward Samuel Eto'o. He had nine goals in 11 qualifying matches and if he can find the net, Cameroon will have a great change to advance.

**Portugal**— This is another team loaded with talent. However, they barely succeeded in making a World Cup. Nonetheless, this team has the ability to make the run, even if they may not have the will. Cristiano Ronaldo is one of the highest played athletes in the world and his ability to finish will reflect the outcome of Portugal. Their match against Brazil will be one of the best of the group stage.

**Ivory Coast**— While not the highest ranked African team, I believe this team is the best. They have a well balanced attack led by Didier Drogba. Salomon Kalou will provide relief from teams hoping to pay extra attention to Drogba. They made the tournament back in 2006, and have a battle tested team that can cause problems to anyone.

While these teams are some of the bigger names in the sport, it is hard to not cheer for the underdog nations. All 32 teams are top notch contenders and have well deserved a spot (maybe not France) in this event. Soccer is an unpredictably beautiful game and on June 11 South Africa will hope to continue the tradition of the World Cup.



World cup is coming to South Africa on June 11.

## Thoughts on the beginning of the NBA playoffs

By Andrew Mullins Williams  
Sports Editor

The NBA playoffs have started in less-than-dramatic fashion, but hopefully the best games are still to come.

Unlike last year's thrilling Boston-Chicago matchup, this year's first round has not provided us with any thrilling overtime, or buzzer beating shots. Denver had a chance at a three point shot to tie (Tuesday April 20), but outside of that, no game has been decided by three points or less. Perhaps it is the hangover from the NCAA tournament, or perhaps the NBA season is too long, but for whatever reason, the NBA playoffs have only produced a yawn thus far.

Not to worry.

If the Atlanta-Milwaukee matchup does not satisfy your appetite, perhaps the Dallas-San Antonio matchup will. The problem with the first round this year is that there are just not enough good teams to make quality matchups. In baseball and football, all teams that make the playoffs are good

quality and can potentially beat the number one seed. In the NBA, Chicago is a .500 team that is the definition of mediocrity. The good news for the average sports fan is that after the first round, the matchups become much more intriguing. I do not personally care for a Cleveland-Chicago matchup, but a Cleveland-Boston series would be very intriguing and would provide plenty of excitement. In the West, a Lakers-Denver matchup looms in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round (only if Denver stops losing to Utah).

While the first round of the NBA playoffs really is just weeding out the teams that don't really belong, this year's NBA playoffs could be one of the most exciting to date. No team is a dominant force without flaws, and even the Lakers and Cavs have their issues. Will Kobe's finger continue to bring down his shooting percentages? Will Dallas not choke? Can Boston win one more before they spoil of old age? These questions and more will all be answered in the next few weeks. So if you're bored by the first round, you are not alone.

Just know that help and entertaining basketball is on the way.