

RHODES WEEKLY

Campus News And Information

Volume I, Number 24

April 3, 2000

Noted journalist Juan Williams to give Seidman lecture at Rhodes

Juan Williams, author, commentator and political analyst for *The Washington Post*, will speak at Rhodes Tuesday, April 18, at 8 p.m. in Hardie Auditorium. Admission will be free and open to the public.

Williams' lecture, "Where Do We Go From Here? A Look at Race in a Fast-Changing Nation" is part of the annual M.L. Seidman Town Hall Series.

One of the best known journalists in America, Williams is the author of *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965*, companion book to the acclaimed PBS series of the same name. He also authored the biography *Thurgood Marshall: American Revolutionary*.

Williams has been with *The Washington Post* as an editorial

writer, columnist and White House correspondent since 1979, having started at the *Post* as an intern in 1976.

Williams is host of National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation*. He has been guest commentator on CNN's *Crossfire*, ABC's *Nightline* and other broadcast programs. His articles have appeared in publications such as *Fortune*, *The New Republic*, *The Atlantic Monthly* and *London Sunday Times*.



Juan Williams

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Williams has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Haverford College.

The late Memphis businessman and philanthropist P.K. Seidman established the M.L. Seidman Town Hall Lecture Series in honor of his brother, founder of an international accounting firm who maintained an active interest in public issues. ■

Practice courtroom for mock trial team becomes reality

Rhodes alumnus Paul Guibao '96 has helped make a long-held wish come true for political science professor Marcus Pohlmann.

A former member of Pohlmann's mock trial team, Guibao will be on hand when Rhodes' brand-new mock trial courtroom in Room 307 of Buckman Hall officially opens Tuesday, April 11, at 4 p.m. Presiding will be Joe Brown, judge for Shelby County Criminal Court Division 9 and the leading character of *Judge Joe Brown*, a courtroom TV show that airs on the ABC network.

A jury composed of faculty will complete the scene as the Rhodes mock trial team practices before departing for the national tournament in Des Moines on Friday, April 14. Rhodes has placed in the top 10 teams in the country each

year since 1989, and won national championships in 1990, 1991, 1994 and 1995.

Guibao, a recent graduate of Emory University law school, worked with the Arthur and Elise Adams Foundation, a charitable trust based in Miami, to provide a \$35,000 grant to fund construction and outfitting of the courtroom. Guibao's great-grandparents founded the Adams Foundation. Guibao's wife, the former Cristina Dias, is a 1996 graduate of Rhodes, and his mother,



Political studies professor Marcus Pohlmann surveys the trappings of the new mock trial courtroom at Rhodes.

Renee Clark Guibao, graduated from Rhodes in 1967.

"Mock trial was a cornerstone for me at Rhodes," Guibao says. "With the constant high level of success of the mock trial teams, it became necessary to provide a proper venue to help them get started in their careers.

"The premier mock trial team in the country should have the premier mock trial courtroom in the country. That's my goal."

see Practice courtroom, page 3

Moss lecture series to present maverick art historian

The Moss Endowment for the Visual Arts at Rhodes will present a lecture by art critic and historian James Elkins Tuesday, April 11, at 8 p.m. in Hardie Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.

Elkins, an associate professor of art history, criticism and theory at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, will discuss "The Unrepresentable: The Concept of the Sublime in Painting, Astrophysics, Genetics and Particle Physics."

Elkins' preference to erase the distinction between visual imagery that is considered fine art and images that are not labeled as art has earned him the label of "maverick" among his peers. In his prolific writings, he calls upon scholars to widen their view beyond museum walls.

Elkins has published eight



James Elkins

books since 1994. In 1999 alone, he published *Pictures of the Body: Pain and Metamorphosis* (Stanford: Stanford University Press), *What Are Our Pictures Puzzles? On the Modern Origins of Pictorial Complexity* (New

York: Routledge) and *The Domain of Images* (Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press). Four books are forthcoming.

Elkins has 51 published articles to his credit and has contributed numerous book reviews and commentaries for catalogs. He has lectured extensively across the United States and in Canada.

Elkins has M.A., M.F.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago and a B.A. from Cornell University.

Established in 1984, the Lillian and Morrie Moss Endowment for the Visual Arts brings to Rhodes each year guest lecturers and visiting scholars in the fields of art, art history and criticism for the benefit of Rhodes students and the Memphis community. ■

Adventurer Richard Halliburton was a real-life Indiana Jones

A new display in the Burrow Library celebrates the life of world traveler, author and lecturer Richard Halliburton, for whom the bell tower at Rhodes is named. This year is the centennial of Halliburton's birth.

The Richard Halliburton Tower, a gift of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Halliburton of Memphis, was dedicated in honor of their son on October 17, 1962.

Shortly before he set sail from Hong Kong on March 3, 1939, Richard Halliburton wrote to his parents in America telling them how

excited he was to be embarking on a long-dreamed-of expedition.

Halliburton and a crew of 12 were sailing the Pacific Ocean in the Sea Dragon, a 75-foot Chinese junk especially built for the journey. After

calling on ports in the Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, the Midway Islands and Honolulu, the Sea Dragon would end its 9,000-mile journey at San Francisco and the

Golden Gate International Exposition.

Halliburton told his parents to begin making travel plans to meet him in San Francisco.

The letter arrived in the U.S., but Halliburton's expedition did not. A typhoon hit the Sea Dragon near the Midway Islands, and the craft's captain sent a final radio trans-

mission on March 24 reporting that the junk's lee rail was under water. It was presumed that the Sea Dragon sank and all were lost.

When he disappeared, the 39-year-old Halliburton left a legacy of

derring-do for generations to enjoy. Beginning in his college days at Princeton when he spent a summer crewing a freighter in the Gulf of Mexico, Halliburton built a career that was the stuff of dreams.

He traveled the world in search of

see Halliburton display, page 4



Richard Halliburton

Correction: A March 27 article in the *Weekly* mentioned that Southwestern changed its name to Rhodes College in 1984 following the death of Dr. Peyton Rhodes. Dr. Rhodes was living when the college changed its name. ■

Rhodes Weekly is published by the Rhodes College Office of Communications.

Design by Larry Ahokas.

Please submit news items to Ginny Davis, editor,

128 Palmer Hall, or fax 843-3553, or e-mail weekly@rhodes.edu. Include complete information and a contact name and phone number.

People Profile

Sandi George Tracy

Position: Director of Career Services since September 1990.

Family: Husband Joel; daughter Alexa, 5; and twin boys, Ben and Will, 3.

People who had an influence on me: My grandmother had a big influence on me. She moved here from the country of Macedonia when she was a young girl. She was always very proud of her heritage and wanted to share that. She was such a loving and caring individual.

She and my mother were two of the most important role models in my life. From the time I was little,



Sandi George Tracy

my mother never let me believe for one second there was something I could not do. That's important in the formative years.

Advice to others: I share this with many students: Find the thing you're most passionate about and do it, so you don't look back at life and say "I wish I would have or could have..."

Favorite book: In recent times, my favorite has been *Tuesdays with Morrie*. I borrowed it from a friend to read, but it was such a powerful book, I bought it for myself and have given it to others as a gift. Also, I've enjoyed *The Reader*.

Favorite music: I have eclectic

tastes in music. I like ragtime, Barbra Streisand, The Nylons, Phil Collins. And I'm excited that they are bringing back '80s music. It makes me think of happy times in my college years.

Favorite comfort food: Starbucks Coffee almond fudge ice cream

What I enjoy doing in my spare time: Since I work full time, I spend all my spare time with my children. During the nights there's not much time to play, when you throw in getting dinner and baths after getting home at six. So the weekends are their time. When the children are in bed, I love to watch college basketball.

What I like best about Rhodes: It's a very stimulating environment. It gives you a chance to be creative, to try new things. There's a lot of support for that. I feel like my job is always changing; being some place for 10 years is something I never imagined would be right for me.

I love working with the students. I live vicariously many times through their experiences and dreams. They have such interesting summer jobs and aspirations. It's wonderful to hear back from them after they graduate.

And I never take for granted how beautiful the campus is. Every time I drive on campus, I feel a moment of peacefulness.

Best memories: There could be nothing more memorable than the births of my children and my wedding, although that was a blur. I remember going to my grandmother's house when she was still alive. She would go to such efforts – the smells, the food, the warmth. She always wore an apron and a babushka. And she always wanted to teach me to cook. ■

Practice courtroom

continued from page 1

Pohlmann says he has wished for a practice courtroom at Rhodes for several reasons.

"I think it's impressive for students who are considering participating in mock trial to see a facility like that, particularly in an undergraduate institution that doesn't have a law school," Pohlmann says.

"Also, the courtroom will be a help when our students practice. It will give the students a lot of experience working in a courtroom as opposed to just in a classroom."

In previous years, as the students prepared for the national mock trial tournament, they had to transport everything to downtown Memphis to be able to use a courtroom for practice. Making arrangements, parking

and setting up were a "logistical hassle," Pohlmann says.

"Now it's great to have logistical expediency," he says.

Because of a shortage of classroom space on campus, part of the courtroom will still function as a classroom. However, it's clearly a courtroom on the west end, with a custom-made wooden jury box and wooden judge and witness benches. A low wooden bar and gate separate the court area from the rest of the room.

When furnishings are complete, the carpeted courtroom will have full-sized attorney tables and matching upholstered chairs with casters for the attorneys. Upholstered chairs will be in the jury box as well.

Pohlmann is already visualizing a second phase of the project. He would like to see a videotape system installed. ■

Rhodes News Notes . . .

The Department Of Student Affairs and ARAMARK will hold a Wellness Fair on Tuesday, April 4, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in front of the Burrow Refectory. The fair will feature information booths, giveaways, free massages, and demonstrations of kickboxing, aerobics, tai chi and yoga.



Reminder: Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa will give a reading from his works Wednesday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m. in Blount Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.



The LifeBlood Bloodmobile will be located next to Kennedy Hall at Rhodes Thursday, April 13. Hours for blood donations will be from 9 to 11 a.m. and from noon to 3 p.m. To make a reservation to donate blood, call 843-3895.



Rhodes' TIAA / CREF representative, Laurie Williams, will visit campus Monday, April 3, and Tuesday, April 4. Call Gus Logan at 843-3750 or e-mail logan@rhodes.edu to make an appointment. ■



Casey Williams, secretary of the Rhodes circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, is shown tapping President Troutt for membership in the organization. Dr. Troutt will be inducted at the ODK initiation ceremony on April 4. Joining him as new members of the organization will be 17 seniors and 25 juniors. Selected for membership from the faculty and staff are philosophy professor Pat Shade and ARAMARK director Tim VanderMeersch. Dr. Scott Morris, founder and director of the Church Health Center, has been chosen from the Memphis community.



The Juried Student Art Exhibit at Clough-Hanson Gallery runs through April 7. Jamie Ziebarth created *Self Portrait While Watching Dawson's Creek* (above) with a black marker.

Little Shop of Horrors director Greg Krosnes (top left) and actor Paul Murray try to keep bloodthirsty plant "Audrey II" from swallowing cast members (from left) Shelley Stenshol, Dave Hurt and Matt Reed. Unaware of the danger lurking behind are performers (from left) Jasmine Crockett, Joe Vescovo, Chris McKenzie and Kristjen Lundberg. For tickets to the musical about an aberration among the vegetation, call 843-3838. The show runs April 6 through April 16 with dollar night on April 5.

Halliburton display

continued from page 2

adventure and romance and wrote about his experiences.

Halliburton's first book, *The Royal Road to Romance*, was an account of a year and a half of global wanderings after his graduation from Princeton. The book and its five successors sold hundreds of thousands of copies worldwide.

On one of the book jackets, a quote from the *Chicago Post*

described Halliburton as "impetuous to utter recklessness, laughing at hardships, dreaming of beauty, ardent for adventure."



Richard Halliburton also wrote hundreds of letters to his parents detailing his exploits. After his presumed death,

a collection of those letters was published in a book, *Richard*

Halliburton: His Story of His Life's Adventure.

The book is part of the display in the Burrow Library along with a copy of Halliburton's last letter to his parents, several of his books, photos and a pocket Kodak special camera owned by Halliburton. Not on display but included in the library's Halliburton collection is film footage of the construction of the Sea Dragon.

The display will remain in the library and its contents will change throughout the year. ■