

RHODES WEEKLY

Campus News And Information

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California software firm's gift to help students train in GIS

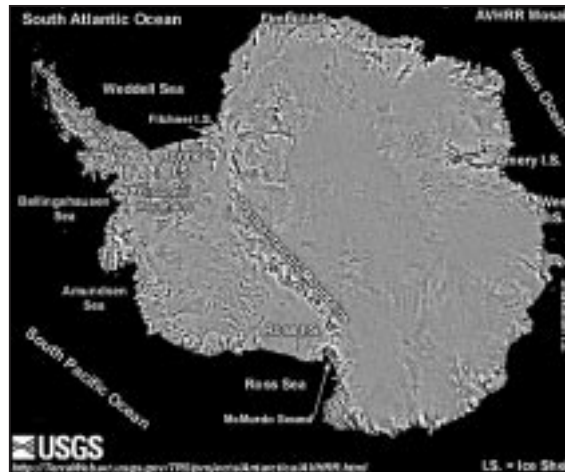
Rhodes College is the recipient of a gift worth \$102,900 from Environmental Systems Research Institute, a leading developer and manufacturer of Geographic Information Systems software and tools.

ESRI has donated 31 licenses of the computer software named ArcView GIS and Spatial Analyst for Windows to Rhodes.

GIS allows one to visualize information in new ways that reveal relationships, patterns and trends not visible with other systems. The powerful computer mapping system is used by a variety of businesses, researchers and government agencies.

Using GIS, one can keep track of where customers are, decide where to locate businesses, manage wildlife habitats, optimize delivery routes, track the spread of infectious disease and follow demographic trends, among other applications.

"Students with GIS training are very marketable, and we are fortunate to now give them some exposure to this technology," said David



The U.S. Geological Survey uses ESRI's Geographic Information Systems software to map the continent of Antarctica

Kesler, Rhodes associate professor of biology. "We are most indebted to ESRI's far-sighted approach to higher education."

Projects at Rhodes currently using GIS center in international studies, political science, biology, geology and mathematics and computer science, according to Kesler.

ESRI spokesman Michael Phoenix says the company is excited about its

part in sharing the GIS technology with higher education institutions.

"We believe that our colleges and universities are serving a very important role in facilitating the technical education that is so necessary for the growth of the economy," Phoenix wrote in a letter to Rhodes.

"GIS can play an important role in solving some of the social, environmental and economic problems that this country faces today, and the key to suc-

cessfully implementing this technology lies in training the workforce to use the latest tools."

Headquartered in Redlands, Calif., ESRI was founded in 1969 as an environmental consulting firm. It later moved into designing and building software tools and products, introducing its first commercial product in 1981. The company now employs more than 2,000 people worldwide. ■

Sgt. Terry receives award for his lifesaving efforts

On Oct. 14, Campus Safety presented Sgt. Joseph Terry with a Lifesaving Award for helping save the life of a Rhodes student.

Sgt. Terry was summoned, along with Officer Jeff Ward and campus nurse Beth Hayes to the McCoy Theatre last January for a medical emergency.

When the officers and the nurse arrived at

McCoy, a student in Julia Ewing's class appeared in a life-threatening situation. An ambulance was called, and CPR was begun when the student went into full cardiac arrest.

Sgt. Terry took control of the scene, gathered witness information and assisted paramedics.

The student was taken to the hospital after paramedics were able to stabi-



Sgt. Joseph Terry

lize her condition. She has been at home recovering since then.

"Campus Safety officers are often called upon in the worst of circumstances," says Director Ralph Hatley. "We expect them to make sense out of chaos, reason out of suspicion and even, it seems, life out of certain death. They all make me very proud." ■

PHOTO BY RALPH HATLEY

Fencing enthusiasts are rattling their sabers at the BCLC

Late on a Thursday afternoon, orders to "advance" and "retreat" punctuate a pick-up basketball game at the west end of the Bryan Campus Life Center's multi-purpose forum.



Members of the Rhodes College Fencing Club practice moves in the BCLC multi-purpose forum.

The commands are not meant for the basketball players. Swordsmen clad in protective pads and masks and brandishing foils are sparring at room's east end. The Rhodes College Fencing Club (RCFC) is conducting a class.

What impels students and non-students to attack and defend each other with foil, épée and saber?

"I enjoy fencing because it involves a lot of mental strategy and deception along with physical execution," says Seth Jones '01, president

I think, at one time or another in their childhood, everybody has wanted to be Zorro or Luke Skywalker or Inigo Montoya from *The Princess Bride*. In fencing we get to whack at each other with big metal sticks, and personally, I can't think of anything that's more fun than that.

of the club. "You don't have to be big and strong to fence, but intelligence and quickness are important."

Jones says many of the members of the club enjoy fencing because it's a unique sport, offbeat and interesting. Fencing is also a good cardiovascular workout, he says. In addition, it's fun.

"I think, at one time or another in their childhood, everybody has wanted to be Zorro or Luke Skywalker or

Inigo Montoya from *The Princess Bride*. In fencing we get to whack at each other with big metal sticks, and personally I can't think of anything that's more fun than that," Jones says.

Jack Coleman '99 and Brad Kroeker, Rhodes instructor of music, started the RCFC in January. It now has a constitution and officers, boasts more than 20 members and meets on weekends in addition to Monday and Thursday classes. RCFC is the only competitive fencing club in Memphis, says Kroeker, who is coach and faculty adviser to the club.

Jones says there are a couple of other fencing clubs in town, but what makes the RCFC special is that it's on campus. "The other clubs have to borrow floor space, while we have the very nice BCLC," Jones says.

"We also have the best coach in town. Apart from being a genuinely nice and friendly guy, Brad is a wonderful coach who is always willing to give extra lessons to anyone who asks. And he's an out-

standing competitive fencer who wins medals at national and divisional levels."

The club has won 15 medals in competition since its inception. Kathryn Kroeker, daughter of Brad, won a national championship medal in the Youth/Cadet North America Cup (Youth 10 and under category in women's épée) in Minneapolis in September. In addition, the club claimed six medals in first, second

and third places at the Nashville Fencing Academy Tournament in September.

RCFC sponsored its first foil tournament for its members in October and plans to host another in December, when it will invite fencers from other Memphis clubs to compete.

To find out more about RCFC, check this Web site: <http://www.students.rhodes.edu/~fencing>. For additional information on fencing in general, check <http://www.fencing.net>. ■

Media Matters

- Jay Mason, assistant professor of political science, wrote an opinion piece comparing Memphis Mayor W.W. Herenton to Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell that was published in *The Commercial Appeal's* editorial pages.
- Andrew Michta, professor of international studies, wrote an essay about NATO and the Balkan situation that was published in *The Commercial Appeal's* editorial pages.
- Michael Rollosos, economics instructor, was interviewed by Memphis WREG-TV (Channel 3) news and by WREC-AM 60 regarding Tennessee Gov. Don Sundquist's tax reform package.

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or e-mail weekly@rhodes.edu. Include complete information and a contact name and phone number.

New corporate website now online

A joint effort by the Meeman Center for Lifelong Learning, the Development Office and the Office of Career Services has resulted in a new website designed for Memphis area business and corporations.

The website (<http://corpguide.rhodes.edu>) includes encourages affiliation and partnerships between Rhodes and local businesses by offering information on various services available

from Rhodes. Web pages on the site feature conference services and the Smith and Nephew Conference Center, continuing education programs, internships and recruiting services and community outreach. ■

The story of C.T., or how a cat ascended to theatre stardom

C.T., as he is known, attended Rhodes during 1993-94 and is now permanent artist-in-residence at Germantown Community Theatre. Bill Short '71, coordinator of public services in the Burrow Library, discusses C.T.'s life and career.

Anyone on campus in 1993 or 1994 could have described this fellow. He was the big man on campus in the black male cat category.

His size, though impressive, was not his most attractive feature. It was his easy-going, self-assured personality that won him such a loyal following. His day was a regular round of visits with students, faculty and staff.

I met him as he was lolling on the front steps of the Burrow Library offering a lazy welcome with his tail. He welcomed petting from any and all. His other favorite site was the bench outside the main entrance to the refectory. He's no fool.

It was my friend, Officer Ireland



C.T. the cat visits with Bill Short at the Germantown Community Theatre.

of the Campus Safety department, who suggested that I should find him a proper home. I thought this was just a cop-doing-his-job kind of request. The ban on having animals on campus was mentioned several times. Why I was to take care of this was never explained.

One of the night engineers told me that the cat had a food and water dish...located right behind the Campus Safety office. It seems the third-shift folks were charmed by the cat enough to break their own rules. I saw the problem as needing immediate attention.

It is a long-established tradition in the English theatre that the keeping of a black cat is good luck – in a theatre. As I was on the board at

Germantown Community Theatre at the time, I thought that I would offer our cat's services to the mutual benefit of both groups.

He was put on staff without a moment's hesitation. Coming as he did from Rhodes, he needed no references, only a few inoculations.

There was some initial confusion about his gender. Not entirely sure what to name him, the theatre staff called him "Comedy and Tragedy." His initials are conveniently enough "C.A.T." Some folks today just assume the C.T. stands for "community theatre," and so it does.

Beyond bringing luck to the theatre, C.T. provides very thorough pest control, usually displaying the offending rodent to his employer. He is often found on the hood of a car doing security surveillance in the parking lot. He also is available for one-on-one stress reduction sessions with either nervous cast members or harried theatre executives.

C.T. now writes a regular column in the theatre's newsletter, "C.T. News." He reports the gossip he hears as he quietly observes the daily activities there. The membership are grateful for his unique perspectives.

C.T. also has dabbled in acting. He won a special Memphis Theatre Award for his role of Pywackett in *Bell, Book and Candle* at the theatre. This cat of many talents hopes to take to the stage again, but good roles for his 'type' are hard to come by.

He makes frequent appearances in the lobby after performances to greet his eager and adoring public. C.T. accepts all this with the dignity and resolve he learned here at Rhodes. ■

— Bill Short



By the Numbers

A traditional symbol of Rhodes, the 140-foot Richard Halliburton Memorial Tower on the west end of Palmer Hall contains a 7-foot wide, 5-ton iron bell keyed to a resonant A-flat. The bell was cast in France especially for the tower. Halliburton Tower was dedicated in 1962, nearly 40 years after it was first envisioned.

Sophomore runs with record-setter, wins in her own right

Tate Hall, a Rhodes sophomore from Mobile, Ala., who's "never been into running a lot," competed in the Oct. 24 Chicago Marathon and finished the 26.2-mile course in four hours, 38 minutes, 42 seconds.

"My goal was to finish without walking, except to get water," says Hall. "I figured that I would finish somewhere around five hours, so I was very pleased. It was by far the most incredible thing I have ever done."

Hall was in good company.



Tate Hall

Moroccan native Khalid Khannouchi set a world record of 2 hours, 5 minutes, 42 seconds in winning the race.

Hall is a winner herself. She won a qualifying spot in the marathon last summer by participating in the Team in Training Program, part of the Leukemia Society of America.

Hall raised \$2,700 for the society. In return, most of her expenses for the trip to Chicago were covered.

"Each runner in the Leukemia Society program had an honoree who either has cancer or died from it. My honoree is a girl from Mobile," says Hall, who is not on the college's track or cross-country teams.

Hall says she mostly decided to run the marathon because she thought that doing it for the Leukemia Society was a good cause.

"My dad's best friend died from leukemia five years ago," she says. "Also, I figured that I might as well do it now, because if not, I might never do one. The training was really hard, but I know now that it really paid off." ■

Recital by Delta State musicians to feature Czech sonatas

Two visiting members of the music faculty at Delta State University will present a trio of 20th-century Czech sonatas Sunday, Nov. 7, at 3 p.m. in Shirley M. Payne Recital Hall at Rhodes College.

Lois Hobbs, pianist, and Keith Pettway, flutist, will perform sonatas by composers Jindrich Feld, Petr Eben and Bohuslav Martinu. The recital is free and open to the public.

Hobbs is an assistant professor and staff accompanist at Delta State. She holds degrees from the University of Arizona and the Cleveland Institute of Music. She was formerly on the accompanying staff of the institute and of the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. She has performed extensively in recitals and chamber music festivals in the U.S. and Canada.

Hobbs was chosen to participate in the prestigious Johanna Hodges International Piano Competition in 1998. She is earning a doctorate in piano performance from the University of Arizona.

Pettway is a professor of flute at Delta State. He has bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in flute performance and has taught classes from Vienna, Austria, to Wellington,

New Zealand. Pettway has performed solo recitals throughout the United States and Europe. He has recorded a solo CD of Kuhlau flute sonatas for Centaur Records.

Pettway and Hobbs are currently

collaborating on a new recording of flute and piano music by Mississippi composers. ■

ODK sponsoring Christmas gift drive

Omicron Delta Kappa, the national honor society for campus leaders, announces that it will hold its 13th annual "Angel Tree" in the lobby of the Burrow Refectory beginning Thursday, Nov. 11. As in the past, the tree will contain the names of needy children who have been identified by the Salvation Army.

Students, faculty and staff who wish to sponsor an "Angel" should select a name from the tree and fill out a form. Sponsors are then asked to purchase, wrap and return gifts, in the



ODK officers Barry Fullerton (c), Casey Williams (l) and Teal Baker, are starting to spread Christmas cheer.

sack provided, to the College Relations Office, 136 Palmer, by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6.

More than 8,000 underprivileged children in the Mid-South are treated by their sponsors to usually one toy and a necessity, often a clothing item.

The Rhodes chapter of ODK, Phi Circle, has honored outstanding students, faculty and staff for the past 72 years. Current student officers are seniors Barry Fullerton,

president; Jason Jowers, vice-president; Casey Williams, secretary; and Teal Baker, elections ■

PHOTO BY JOHN RONE