

THE SEWANEE PURPLE

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Feeling the Pressure

Future of Kegs at Sewanee May Be in Jeopardy

by David Adams
Editor

Prohibiting alcoholic beverages from being served from a common container or source has been on the rise at colleges and universities throughout the country during recent years. Resisting this trend, however, kegs and other common containers at Sewanee are still an integral part of the social life. With fewer institutions permitting its organizations to offer alcohol at parties, today Sewanee's permissive policy concerning the common source remains somewhat of an exception. Feeling pressure from outside organizations to follow suit will

those who have banned the common source from their campuses, however, the future of kegs at Sewanee may be in jeopardy.

"We are living in an increasingly

litigious society," says Robert Pearigen, dean of men, citing the main threat to the survival of the common source at Sewanee. "There is more concern with

issues concerning alcohol-awareness today than ever before. And we simply cannot continue to run the risk of serving underage students at parties."

When the legal drinking age in

the legal drinking age did not necessarily curb alcohol consumption among college students, it forced them to change their habits.

Today the possibility of banning kegs at Sewanee offers to send another shock to the University's social system. Eliminating the common source at Sewanee would mean not only outlawing kegs, but also punch bowls or any means of distributing alcohol freely. Establishing such a rule would even keep organizations from distributing individual cans or bottles of beer from single source, such as a large tin. If this regulation were put into effect, it would mean that all social gatherings would be BYOB. This would include such popular, traditional functions as the Theta Kappa Phi's Champagne party, the Theta Pi's Blue Whale party, and the Kappa Alpha lawn party.

What the University realizes is that, like the federally mandated 21 year-old legal drinking age, eliminating the common source will fail to keep underage students from drinking. "Eighty-five percent of all students who come to Sewanee have had previous experience with drinking alcohol," cites Pearigen. "And we know that college students drink. But like anybody else, we have a responsibility to uphold the law."

Last year a policy was begun which forced all campus organizations hosting parties to issue wristbands to identify those of legal drinking age. Intended as

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litigious society," says Robert Pearigen, dean of men, citing the main threat to the survival of the common source at Sewanee. "There is more concern with

Tennessee was changed from 18 to 21 in 1985, it radically changed the social atmosphere at Sewanee and other colleges throughout the state. Although the change

33rd Festival of Lessons and Carols Highlights Advent Season



The Festival of Lessons and Carols, a seasonal highlight throughout the Southeast, was held this past weekend in All Saints' Chapel.

Through music and readings, the Festival of Lessons and Carols explores Christian themes of God's Advent and Incarnation in Jesus Christ. The service was developed from ancient forms of worship and further adapted to a service which has been sung annually and

broadcast throughout the world from King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England, since 1918.

During the Festival of Lessons and Carols, the University Choir sings carols appropriate to the season of Advent and Christmas after each lesson. Music for this year's service was by Hilmi Ireland, Thomas Weelkes, John Rutter, Andrew Carter, David Johnson, John Joubert and Peter Warlock.

The service was directed by Dr. Robert DeCantu, University organist and clinician and associate professor of music, and performed by the University Choir which provides music for worship in All Saints' Chapel throughout the year. The Choir is composed of more than 80 undergraduate students from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Photo and Press Release courtesy of Public Relations.

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NEWS

What's Going on with WUTS-FM 91.3

by Ward Binns
News Staff

Despite a few setbacks, WUTS-FM is enjoying one of its most successful seasons in recent history. Under the direction of general manager Neel Eargood, the student managers of WUTS have overcome the theft of major technical equipment and a dwindling compact disc collection to bring listeners some excellent programming.

In October, two compact disc players and a cassette player were stolen from the station between the last radio

show of the day, which ended at 2:00 AM and the opening of the station for the next day at 8:00 AM. Police have no leads in the case.

The theft was the first incident of its kind, said Eargood. Since the theft, WUTS has enacted a policy of locking its doors when no one is in the station.

Now that the stolen equipment has been replaced, WUTS's greatest challenge has been combatting the decline of the compact disc collection, according to Eargood. "Our efforts to expand the collection are nearly being negated by students who steal or illegally borrow

disks and fail to return them," says Eargood. WUTS is currently seeking a method of protecting the collection that will be more effective than the Honor Code. Approximately 150 CDs have been stolen since the past Easter semester.

This semester's weekly schedule includes more specialty shows than before. Eargood says, "I think we have succeeded in developing a very diverse repertoire of shows." Eargood attributes the increase in listeners this fall to the disk jockeys, whom he says are "the most enthusiastic and professional DJs in at least three years."

Renovations which took place in November include a new U-shaped control table for disk jockeys, a new listening complex, new carpet and painted walls. Changes in the storage of albums have increased the spaciousness of the station.

This spring, WUTS hopes to sponsor a weekend music festival, possibly in collaboration with Waste Not and other student organizations. On Friday, blues and jazz acts would perform, and on Saturday several local bands would open for a "big name" band, according to Eargood.

Kegs

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one-year experiment, Pearigen believes this method of identification "is not working."

"Either I'm stupid, or my optimism is getting the better of me," continued Pearigen. "It doesn't work.... The wristbands came at the request of the students at the bartender workshop last fall. Before the wristbands, we had a hand-stamp policy that didn't work. So we instituted the wristbands to help reduce the confusion and error.... At this point we have done all we can as an institution to continue to permit parties with kegs."

The bartenders, who become responsible for those whom they serve, run a great risk when underage students are provided alcoholic beverages at parties. The wristbands, as opposed to being an unambiguous means of checking I.D.s, often place the bartenders in difficult situations. During the past year many bartenders have seen underage students wearing wristbands and requesting to be served. Furthermore, the wristbands fail to keep a student of the legal drinking age from getting alcoholic drinks at parties for students under 21.



No more keg cups at Sewanee? Photo by Lyn Hutchison

Another group that runs a great risk by serving kegs at parties are the eleven national fraternities on campus. "If we continue to have kegs, we will stand to lose some of our fraternities,"

said Pearigen. Although kegs were once a mainstay among Greek organizations, today many national fraternities have established rules banning the serving of alcohol from a common source. Pearigen has spoken with representatives from national fraternities extensively on this issue over the past several years, and his stance has always been that, in Sewanee's case, kegs should be permitted.

"But it's getting harder and harder to do this," he said. "The fact that three sororities and two fraternities have had their keg privileges revoked this semester clearly indicates that the organizations are not effectively enforcing the rules. In the case of the two fraternities, Pearigen cites that not only were the wristbands disregarded, but neither organization had registered their kegs with the University, nor did they fill out a party permission form, hire a bartender, or perform any of the required tasks. With fraternities and sororities failing to uphold University policy, they are finding themselves in increasingly libelous situations."

"I would hate to lose a fraternity or sorority because of kegs," said Pearigen. He believes that the future of kegs at Sewanee has become the students' responsibility. "We have done all we can. Right now students are not obeying the

mechanism which has been introduced." Pearigen believes that the only way in which organizations at Sewanee will be able to continue serving alcohol will be if students begin to respect the established rules. He emphasizes that the University is not yet laying the groundwork for the decision to abolish kegs, but instead urging students to adhere to University policy and State law.

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Salus, Corpus et Sexus

University Health Service Responds to AIDS

by Parker Wheatley
News Staff

The University Health Service provides an important function for the students of The University of the South. Although often criticized, this group supplies a variety of medical needs free of charge for students with exception of testing, X-rays, and some medicines. The nurse and nurse practitioner, Maryellen Feaster and Anne Sitz, make a significant effort to nurture and care for the students who come to them. They try to provide a broad variety of services and attempt to include student opinion into the development of the Service. Furthermore, they concern themselves with student health and activity most noticeably in the form of "Cookies and Condoms."

Health Service currently makes available HIV counseling and testing for twenty dollars in a confidential arrangement; sexually transmitted disease (STD) counseling, detection, and treatment; pap smears, gynecological exams, and birth control pills; nutrition counseling; general diagnosis and treatment; minor suturing; beds for temporary usage by students too ill to return to rooms; cryosurgery for warts, and finally condoms and class excuses. Furthermore, both Sitz and Feaster encourage all students to receive an influenza vaccination as soon as possible. Clearly, the staff tries to meet the curative and preventative health needs of the students as demonstrated in the wide range of services.

Because Mrs. Sitz and Mrs. Feaster cannot avail themselves to each and every student at all of the time, the Student Health Advisory Board (S.H.A.B.) makes them aware of student concerns and attempts to keep students abreast of the Health Service's activities. This board consists of Mollie Toole (C'93), Spencer Gnetz

(C'93), Stuart Hemingway (C'94), Stacy Shapiro (C'94), Chan Muller (C'95), Linné Wheelless (C'95), and Katherine Felman Ryan (Seminary '95).

Stuart Hemingway stated that the members of the board "serve as liaisons between the Health Service and the student body." Hemingway also stressed that the Advisory Board does much of the preparatory work for the Health Fair. He expressed that "this is one way the student body can help increase awareness of health issues" and invited all students to examine and participate in the Health Fair this coming February. Both the Health Service and S.H.A.B. encourage all concerned students to express their ideas to any one of them in order to keep the Health Service aware of needed changes.

Regarding the issue of HIV and AIDS, the Health Service directs a significant effort towards changing behavior (particularly sexual behavior at the University), emphasized Sitz and Feaster. After a question about what she thought the University as a whole could do about HIV and AIDS awareness, Sitz maintained that "the University and students need to recognize a need to change behavior, and that they need to look at ways

to change behavior through education." Regarding prevention, Sitz denounced the idea that "having condoms available encourages sexual activity." In the face of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases today, not making condoms readily available "does not face reality."

Sitz and Feaster point to national statistics which would indicate that at least if not more than two members of this student body are HIV positive, although neither would give any facts from their testing because of confidentiality guidelines. "Students should regard that everyone is potentially HIV positive," said Feaster.

The Health Service encourages all sexually active students to have an HIV antibody test and to use condoms. Regarding condom distribution, Feaster said that up to ten condoms may be obtained free of charge by an individual. Dormitories and other groups, however, may obtain 100 condoms for twelve dollars. When asked whether the Health Service encourages dormitory staffs to keep condoms available for students, Sitz and Feaster answered affirmatively, believing this would encourage condom usage and help protect students from AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases

(STDs).

The Health Service has received mixed reports on student concern about AIDS at Sewanee. Sitz stated that "one student could not believe that someone at this University had contracted AIDS since they have been here." On the other hand, they have both heard that many students do recognize the dangers of this condition and support stronger administrative involvement on the issue beyond perfunctory informative pamphlets. Feaster suggested possibly having an AIDS awareness day, while Sitz suggested getting a college-age student who is HIV positive to come speak to students about the increasing prevalence of AIDS. They both recognize that any future action should require some investigation into a broad field of possibilities. Beyond that, they promote condom use.

The Health Service seeks to assist the student body as best as possible. Those who feel the services are not adequate should voice these concerns to the Student Health Advisory Board so that changes might occur. The staff of the Health Service earnestly seeks to help the student body, and therefore they ask for input from the students.



Stolen!

There has been a rise in the number of stolen bicycles this semester. The Sewanee Police Department urges all students to not only lock their bicycles

but also to register them with the University.

The police have recovered several unregistered bicycles

Photo by Lyn Hutchinson

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FEATURES

ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL

Worship Services

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8:00 am Holy Eucharist
 10:30 am UNIVERSITY SERVICE
 5:00 pm Choral Evensong
 (1st Sunday of the month)
 7:00 pm Folk Mass

Mondays-Fridays

7:30 am Holy Eucharist,
 St. Augustine's Chapel
 9:00 am Morning Prayer,
 St. Augustine's Chapel

Final Exams Schedule

December 8, Tuesday

December 9, Wednesday
December 10, Thursday

December 11, Friday

December 12, Saturday
December 14, Monday

December 15, Tuesday

December 16, Wednesday
December 17, Thursday

Last day of classes. Last day to submit written work. Comprehensive Examinations end.

Reading Day.
9:00 a.m. All 11:00 M-W-F classes.
2:00 p.m. All 8:00 T-T classes.
9:00 a.m. All other afternoon classes.
2:00 p.m. All 9:30 T-T classes.

Reading Day.
9:00 a.m. All 8:00 M-W-F classes.
2:00 p.m. All 11:00 T-T classes.
9:00 a.m. All 10:00 M-W-F classes.
2:00 p.m. All 1:00 classes.
9:00 a.m. All 9:00 M-W-F classes.
Dormitories close at 12:00.

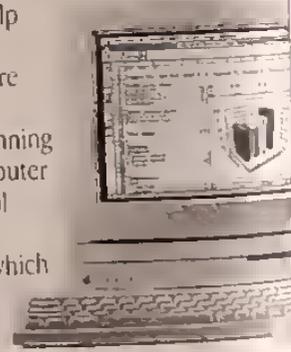


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Day Scholars Combine Academics with Community Service

by Elizabeth Tindal
News Staff

Last winter Sewanee became a participant in the Day Scholars Program, assisting students financially in return for doing community service. The program is supported by Memphis businessman Clarence Day.

Day, chairman and CEO of Day Companies, Inc., in Memphis and chairman of the board of trustees of the Day Foundation, has been the financial contributor to many social services programs in the South since 1960. Day's involvement in the program extends beyond offering financial assistance, as he familiarizes himself with the scholarship recipients through their schools on a personal level.

Sewanee is one of four small liberal arts schools, including Furman University, Centre College, and Rhodes College, that chooses ten freshmen each year to participate in the Day Scholars Program during their college careers.

The program provides financial aid to students based on need. Students must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.67, while performing community service activities for at least three hours each week. Five students began their service last year at Sewanee, and ten freshmen have been involved this year. When the program matures, it will have 40 student participants.

Day Scholars need not fear a

shortage of service projects at Sewanee Outreach, break trips, the Head Start program, and BACCHUS are a few of the opportunities available to fill the community service requirement. The time requirement can be divided into several projects or fulfilled with one long project. Students may also combine work-study with their community service duties. Day Scholars "are involved with just about everything," says Dixon Meyers, coordinator of Outreach Ministries. "And hours are not too much of an obligation, when you think of the time you waste doing nothing."

Colleges and universities recently have explored other avenues of combining academics with community service. Encouraging community service by offering college credit, for example, often generates a great interest in helping others. Nonetheless, some argue that students who get involved in service for credit often do it for the wrong reasons. The University's office of admissions hopes to award the scholarships to people who show a genuine altruistic interest in serving the community.

"It's a lot of work, but I enjoy it. It makes you come in contact with people of different cultures," says freshman Vaiden McElwee who serves the Sewanee community by working with the outreach program.

The program does not end with school-year service. During the summer between freshman and sophomore years,



Students at work on a recent Outreach project. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson

the Day Scholars attend a one week community service camp at one of the four participating universities. Last summer Furman hosted the Day Scholars camp, as students worked on various projects in Greenville, South Carolina.

This summer All Saints' Chapel Outreach Office plans to be the sponsor. The forty Day Scholars and a nine member staff of Sewanee students will gather on the Mountain to participate in a housing project, programs on Appalachia, and summertime recreation. Dr. Bran Potter, John Henry Scholer, The

Rev. Archie Stapleton, John Pace, Judy Pace, and the Appalachian Peoples Action Coalition Band will inform and entertain the group with some of the lore, facts, and music of Appalachia.

Day offers his support of year-round community service by paying for transportation to the host college for all attending students. Dixon Myers comments, "Clarence Day is supportive of what we're doing and thinks it is an integral part of college life. I can't think of a better way to give an academic scholarship."

"Chelsea, please pass the giblets."

Hubble Celebrates Thanksgiving with President-Elect Clinton

by Annie Rehnert
News Staff

Most can only imagine Thanksgiving dinner with President-elect Bill Clinton and family, but Sewanee sophomore Walter Hubble experienced it firsthand. Hubble and his family were guests at the Governor's Mansion in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 26. Present at the dinner were President-elect Clinton, his wife Hillary, daughter Chelsea, several aides, and Hubble's family.

According to Hubble, who is from Little Rock, his father, Webster Hubble, has had a long-term friendship with President-elect Clinton and his wife. "My dad helped with the Clinton campaign and was very politically involved with him in the seventies, not in any designated role, but as a good friend." In addition, Webster Hubble and Hillary Clinton practice in the same law firm.

Despite the uniqueness of spending an evening with the future President, Hubble emphasized that Clinton has always been down-to-earth, something that has not changed since the recent election. "It sounds really weird to say you had Thanksgiving dinner with Bill Clinton, but to me it was no different from any other time I've seen him, except that now he's the President instead of governor. He's one of the most friendly men I've ever known, and willing to talk to anyone. He's not the type to blow someone off because they're not important."

Hubble said that Clinton knows little about Sewanee, but he expressed interest in hearing about the University. "Bill sat down and talked to me about school. He doesn't know much about Sewanee, except that I am in school here."

He also had the opportunity to

speak with Hillary and Chelsea Clinton, Hubble said. "It was neat talking to Chelsea. We spoke of how it's rough being in her situation. She does not get to see very much of her parents, but at the same time it is all very exciting for her."

"I have the highest regard for her and Hillary both. I think Hillary is a great person, and I admire her very much. She's done a lot with her life. Specifically, I told her about Dr. (Harold) Goldberg's History (of China and Southeast Asia) class and what I've learned in it," said Hubble.

In Little Rock and Sewanee, Hubble supported the Clinton-Gore campaign. "I worked on the campaign some this summer, and as much as I could, being here. Mostly, it just involved talking to people to try to convince them to support the Clinton ticket." Hubble, who will attend Clinton's inauguration,

said the President-elect "expressed thanks to everyone who helped with the campaign at Sewanee and was very appreciative" of students' efforts in support of the Democratic ticket.

Thanksgiving with the Clintons was "just like a regular family thing," said Hubble. "Bill Clinton was in blue jeans." However, Hubble said he found that "right now in Little Rock things are confusing with Clinton's transition (from governor to President) going on." Nonetheless, the Clintons seem to be looking forward to their move to Washington, D.C. "After dinner they pulled out a big map of the White House and started planning where they are going to put their things."

OPINION

Racism and Nationalism Strike an Ugly Resonance

Hatred. Violence. Firebombings. Killings. They are echoes from the past. But now, as members of the neo-Nazi National Front and other sympathizers are stepping up their attacks in Germany on Jews and foreigners, racism and nationalism once again are striking an ugly resonance.

This time, what will the hatred and violence bring? And how far away really are we from it?

For five decades, the legacy of the evil of the Third Reich has been a part of the German national experience. Germans have remembered it. Learned from it. And until recently, have tried not to repeat it.

Meanwhile, in ivory towers on both sides of the Atlantic, though, historians have debated the issue of the uniqueness versus the universality of the Nazi crimes, including the Final Solution. Especially in recent years, some leading German scholars have sought to "relativize" the horrors of their Nazi past as part of a new nationalist search for a "more usable past," with some historians arguing that German atrocities are not unparalleled but instead are comparable to other national atrocities, such as the Stalinist terror.

Does this revisionist thinking, then, make the Germans any less culpable for their crimes?

And what about the rest of us? What is our history, and how well do we shed light on the darker sides of it?

As the neo-Nazi fury in Germany rages, learning too little from history is a crime.

In a span of seventy-three years, the British eliminated the native population of Tasmania. Upon settling the Cape of Good Hope, the Dutch considered the Bushmen as "dangemus vermin" to be shot on sight. And soberly similar to the extermination of Armenians in Turkey during World War I and of European Jews in Germany during World War II, colonizers in American history used deportation to commit genocide, as in the devastating effects of the "Trail of Tears" on the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole.

In 1963, during the height of the African-American struggle for civil rights, Birmingham, Alabama's police commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor directed dogs and fire hoses at non-violent demonstrators, including high school

students and children. In the same year, Medgar Evers, field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was shot to death at his home in Jackson, Mississippi. That summer, more than 250,000

support for neo-Nazis is still frighteningly high, especially among the young.

In November, three Turks were killed when firebombs were thrown into their home in Molln. Since then, at least three memorials to Jewish Holocaust victims have been gutted, vandalized or defaced with swastikas. A Jewish reporter was beaten amid chants of "filthy Jew." Later, skinheads fatally beat a Jewish man north of Bonn, set him on fire and then dumped his body in the Netherlands.

And closer to home, here within the gates of the Domam, "Gas the Jews" is etched in a desk at Woods Lab.

Whether we are German or American, whether we commit abhorrent acts of intolerance ourselves or merely witness them, each of us shares a common history of racism, nationalism, hatred, and violence.

We learn too little from history. And today, as the resonance of the neo-Nazi fury in Germany rages, that impending affliction—learning too little from history—is a crime.

For the nightmare can come again, when will we wake up?

MARK SMITH

Letter to the Editor

Student Takes Issue on Campus Security

To the Editor

I am writing this letter to propose that the University, administration and student body, evaluate and change the widely accepted perception that when one is on the campus they are invulnerable and isolated from the outside world. From what I have experienced it is generally held belief that while one is a Sewanee they are safe. They pass through such a security bond they are in the safe. The administration and student body are not aware of the danger that is on the campus. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University.

University does. The integrity and tradition that the honor code lends to the University are some of the reasons I decided to come to Sewanee. However, the honor code does not transcend the Domam's boundaries, and as a result those outside of the Sewanee community do not follow our honor code. Because of this, a number of thefts have occurred. Numerous bicycles and other items have been stolen. I myself lost a stereo and a number of books from my backpack. I feel that our motto, "A student of the University is a student of the University" is not being followed. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University. I am not a member of the University but I am a student of the University who is currently in the University.

The Sewanee Purple

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Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be mailed directly to the Purple. All letters must be signed by the author; unsigned letters will be printed. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for reasons of length or if letters contain material deemed to be potentially libelous or an excessive poor taste.

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OPINION

Sewanee Native Johnny Majors Exits with Grace

by Trey Suddarth
Sports Editor

Last Sunday, on the final edition of *The Johnny Majors Show*, the man who has defined the University of Tennessee football program for the last sixteen years offered his final thoughts on his tenure as head coach at his alma mater. As he reminisced, he spoke highly of all the coaches, players, staff, and administrators with whom he had been associated at the University of Tennessee.

If John Majors has been anything as a head coach, he has been a class act. A distinguished gentleman, Majors has been the dean of Southeastern Conference football coaches since Vince Dooley's retirement a few seasons ago. Especially in the last few years, Majors has been the symbol of the old guard excellence in southern football, carrying himself in a graceful and stately manner which has evoked images of the late Paul "Bear" Bryant.

But unlike the grand masters of yesteryear that have been allowed a graceful exit from the game after a long tenure, coach Majors had the proverbial rug jerked from beneath him. Late in the season, UT officials announced that the remaining two years on Majors' contract were being bought out at a price tag of

\$600,000 and that after 1992 he would no longer be the head coach at Tennessee.

In the simplest terms, a great man has been done dirty and done wrong.

More than my orange blood has motivated me to write this somewhat sycophantic thank-you note to the deposed king. Majors is a man with Sewanee connections. His father, Shirley Majors, was the longtime football coach here at the University of the South. His mother, Elizabeth Majors, still resides in Sewanee and was honored at last year's celebration of a century of Tiger football. Young John Majors grew up on this mountain and attended high school at Huntland.

What makes Majors' dismissal so ridiculous can be seen by taking a brief look at the coach's track record. He brought integrity, honor, and respect to the University of Tennessee. As a player, Majors was an All-American, and in his senior campaign finished as the runner-up to Paul Hornung in the voting for the Heisman trophy. He began his coaching career at Arkansas, and his first job as a head coach was at Iowa State. With the help of a pretty fair running back named Tony Dorsett, Majors won a national championship at Pitt in 1976.

At the pinnacle of success in college football, Majors left Pitt to assume the helm at his alma mater in 1977, vowing to rebuild a program that was struggling under a weary Bill Battle. And rebuild he did. Majors had his first bowl team at the 1979 Bluebonnet Bowl, and that began a barrage of post season activity that would see the Vols go to a bowl game in virtually every year of the Majors regime. The last four years are particularly telling of Majors' success. This year's senior class at Tennessee has been in four consecutive New Years' Day bowls: the Cotton Bowl versus Arkansas in 1990, the Sugar Bowl vs. Virginia in 1991, the Fiesta Bowl in '92 against Penn State, and this year the Volunteers will play Boston College in the Hall of Fame Bowl.

Under Majors, Tennessee has become known as "Wide Receiver U.," providing a steady pipeline of fleet-footed flankers in the NFL. Willie Gault, Anthony Hancock, Anthony Miller, Alvin Harper, Sam Graddy, and Carl Pickens just to name a few. Success in the program led to the expansion of Neyland Stadium which made it the largest on-campus facility in the nation with the exception of Michigan.

A prelude to this overt hostility

towards the man who ranks only below the great General Robert Neyland in Tennessee football lore could be seen in the 1988 season, when the Vols limped to an 0-6 start. "Go Johnny go, and take Dr. Voe" many so-called Vol fans clamored, referring to Tennessee's embattled basketball coach at the time in rhythm with Majors (and Don DeVoe only made the Volunteer basketball squad an annual entrant in the NCAA Tournament; his successor, despite the presence of his All-American son, has failed to make the big dance even once). But Majors kept his chin up, his standards high, and developed an extremely inexperienced team to go 5-6 for 1988 and roar back with a squad that went 11-1 the following year.

Those same whimsical cheerleaders returned to Knoxville this season, burning effigies of Majors and calling for his dismissal after one point losses to Arkansas and South Carolina, and the latest game (a seven point affair) anyone has played against second ranked, unbeaten Alabama. As if what he had already done for the UT program wasn't enough, this man returned from quadruple bypass surgery to join his troops for the Cincinnati game. The cries for Majors out

continued on page 8

School Choice: A Necessary Option in Education

by Eric Heil
Staff Columnist

With all of the rhetoric, double talk, and just plain nonsense that was dredged up in this Presidential election year, it is easy to lose sight of the some of the genuinely important topics which also received some discussion. Candidates love to come up with "issues" to harp on, but it is sometimes difficult to find substance behind their insistent claims that this or that is one of "my issues."

Truly refreshing then was the thoughtful way the candidates considered at least which the nation seems ready to undertake, education reform. Despite these promises, it was ironic to watch the Education President squandered again the Education reform year in the election. It is difficult to see how it only hope, by the time that the election is over, that the nation will have any more education reform.

It is often said that, without a reform program, the nation's schools are in a state of decline. With a reform program, the nation's schools will be in a state of growth. But is there a new model for an education system?

cess, on a limited scale. What the election did bring into focus, however, were the actual implications of the apparently subtle difference between two positions on what has become a very hot topic among education reformers.

There is a considerable degree of consensus that allowing students and their parents additional options for schooling, within the bounds of the public school system, is an idea worth a shot. Increased competition might very well lead to improvement, but there seems little incentive when it is confined to the public sphere. Like Minnesota for instance, a state which implemented a single school choice program only to have it dismantled. The two sides tend to polarize at the margins of the issue, but there is a middle ground.

Some have argued that the nation's education system is in a state of decline, and that the only way to improve it is to allow parents to choose their children's schools. This is the idea of school choice. It is not a new idea, but it has become a popular one in recent years. It is the idea of giving parents the right to choose their children's schools, and to have their children attend a school other than the one assigned to them by the local public schools. This is the idea of school choice.

opportunities.

The advantages of such a system, once the kinks were worked out, could be quite numerous. First, it would make it easier for students to really get the best education available, an education that communities often agree is not conveniently available in public schools. Second, it would either revitalize public education, as schools would have to take greater initiative to compete for enrollment, or it would eventually kill off public school. In favor of competitive, publicly funded, institutions. Finally, this choice would allow parents to do what they want to do for their children, to be in control of their children's education, but also the environment which they would be placed in. You let the state know what it is going to do for its people, and home schooling is not an alternative. It is a choice. It is a choice that is not being made by the state, but it is a choice that is being made by the state.

It is not a new idea, but it has become a popular one in recent years. It is the idea of giving parents the right to choose their children's schools, and to have their children attend a school other than the one assigned to them by the local public schools. This is the idea of school choice.

federal government in particular. While Washington is currently, and thankfully, not in the business of ordering the indoctrination of pupils to a system of set standards, current arrangements do hamper the taxpayer who might find his tax dollars better spent in support of his own child, at a parochial school, than to help out the child next door, at a public school. A realization that choices like this really are best made at home causes one to ponder the effectiveness of the real point even of a Federal Department of Education at all. There is no strength in unity, without a doubt, but democracy is opposed to individualism.

A true education reform would not be a federal program, and would be the duty of the parents and of the local community. It is not a choice of a federal government, but a choice of a local community. It is a choice of a local community, and it is a choice that is not being made by the state, but it is a choice that is being made by the state.

SPORTS

Interview

Richards Remains Hopeful for Basketball Season

by Trey Suddarth
Sports Editor

The following is an excerpt from a conversation between the Purple and senior basketball player John Richards. Richards is from Charlotte, North Carolina, where he prepped at Myers Park High School. He is an economics major and the head AP of campus dormitories. He has been a four year starter at the guard position for the Tigers. Here he offers some insight on the upcoming season for the Sewanee men's team.

Purple: What is your outlook for this season?

Richards: We've got a lot of new faces on the team this year as well as two new coaches. The thing that I've noticed right away is that we have much better team chemistry and a much better attitude. If we just work together, I think that we can have a fine season.

Purple: How do you feel about Joe Thoni, the new coach?

Richards: I think that he's doing a great job. He's a hard coach, but he's very fair. He wants us to become the best basketball players and the best people that we can be. He has stressed teamwork in a positive way both on and off the court. He's doing the best that he can to turn the program around. Everybody on the team likes him and more importantly respects him, which is a problem that we've had with coaches in the past.

Purple: Do you feel like a "survi-

vor" in some sense as the only senior on the team?

Richards: I feel bad that I'm the only one out there, because I was so close to my fellow classmates. Now some of my best friends aren't out there anymore, and that feels really weird. I miss all those guys that would have been seniors this year, but unfortunately that's just the way things have turned out. However, I like everybody that is on the team this year and I'm very excited about this team. I just hope that I can do whatever it takes to provide the necessary leadership.

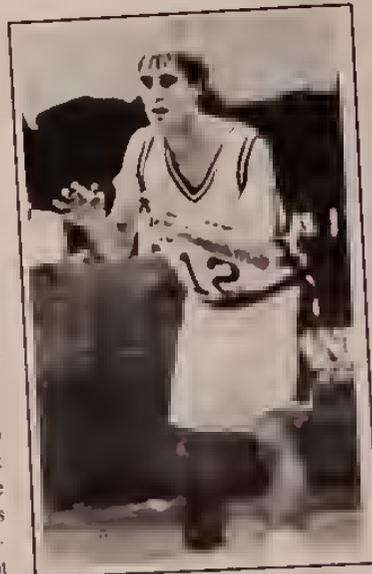
Purple: Who will be the teams to beat in the SCAC this year?

Richards: There is one new member, Hendrix College in Arkansas, and there's really no way to tell what they

will be like. Rhodes and Centre, and I think especially Rhodes, will be tough again. Rhodes was a top twenty caliber team a year ago, and they'll be returning a lot of their players. I think that those two will be the teams to beat in our conference.

Purple: In the past you've had great personal success, making an NCAA record sixteen consecutive three point baskets as a freshman. How important are personal achievements to you in your senior campaign?

Richards: That record seems so long ago to me now, I don't really think about it that much. Sure, I have some personal goals, but the main priority as far as I'm concerned is to get this program on the winning track. I'm not worried about setting any more records or anything like that.



Richards in action. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson

Men's Cross-Country Goes Out with a Bang

by Jamie Collins
Sports Staff

What has thirty legs and has run over five-thousand miles since late August? The Sewanee men's cross-country team, of course.

About this time every year, when the abandoned football field boasts only echoed grunts, Brakefield Road bids a painful "Farewell" to her most beloved patrons. Another cross-country season has come and gone from the Mountain, and ten valiant Sewanee gentlemen have religiously braved the rain, the wind, and, of course, the fog to finish the sea-

son. Those ten men are Wesley Nimon, Tobin Munn, Matt Kenney, Mike McGovern, Jack Strifling, Jamey Collins, Uzair Ismail, Bryan Joyner, Jim Henley, and Jason Vinton.

Although Wesley Nimon's final season as a Sewanee jock was plagued early on by a nasty case of Achilles' tendonitis, he rebounded heroically to finish second for the Tigers at regionals. He says that he "was very pleasantly surprised by the performance of the young team."

Matt Kenney, Sewanee cross-country's "First Lieutenant," was "pleased but not satisfied" with his 1992 season. At regionals, Kenney missed his ticket to nationals by a mere five seconds. He says he is "disappointed but can't be too upset with his personal record

of twenty-six minutes and thirty seconds." Kenney feels that this incident will provide ample motivation for continuing his success in upcoming seasons.

Sewanee's 1992 men's cross-country season, according to Wes Nimon, was a "sterling rebuilding year." Under the knowing eye of coach Bill Huyck, veteran Mike McGovern along with fellow sophomores Jack Strifling and Uzair Ismail provided reliable support for the Tigers throughout the season. First-year runner Bryan Joyner consistently ran in the low twenty-eight minute range, which is a commendable pace even for fourth-year collegiate runners. Jim Henley and Jason Vinton continually turned in promising times, building optimism for upcoming teams.

Johnny Majors

continued from page 7

on the basis of narrow defeats in what was clearly a rebuilding year at Tennessee were ludicrous.

What have you done for me lately John? I guess four straight January 1 bowls weren't enough. I guess two SEC Championships weren't enough. I guess the 35-7 drubbing your team put on Vinny Testaverde and the vaunted Miami Hurricanes in the 1986 Sugar Bowl is all forgotten. I guess the Miracle at Smith Bend, a 35-34 victory at Notre Dame just last season, has been washed away. I suppose a 15-1 record against your most bitter in-state rival, Vanderbilt, just doesn't cut it anymore.

Majors has not been given even a fraction of the respect that he deserves. This confirms two basic notions on the majority of the football faithful at UT:

one, they are more fickle than the Roman mob; two, they are as stupid as any vicious hillbilly portrayal of them mocks them to be. They simply do not possess even the basest of intelligence necessary to see what John Majors has done for the state of Tennessee.

So, when at last turned to legendary longtime UT broadcaster John Ward on that final show to thank him for their years together, the quintessential professional of an announcer, like many of us, could choke back the tears no longer. We will truly miss you, Johnny Majors. Tennessee football just won't be the same without you. "Rocky Top" will lose its spine-tingling edge, running through the giant T formed by the Pride of the Southland hand before home games will lack its customary pageantry, and that orange blood pumping through my veins will be a whole lot thinner.

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Women's Basketball Program Renews Sense of Purpose

by **Trey Suddarth**
Sports Editor

After a 1991-92 season that was the best in recent memory for the Tigers, the Sewanee women's basketball team looks to this year with a renewed sense of purpose and optimism.

"We're very positive about this year," remarked senior captain Lynda Motes. "We have more talent and we're more optimistic as a team. We're also more experienced, and that should reduce the instability and emotional ups and downs of the past. We should be a more consistent team."

Motes has reason to be positive. The Tigers return a strong cast, led by herself. Motes comes off a season that saw her average 11 points per game and sink 39 three-point baskets, both team highs. At her present pace, the outside shooting threat should surpass the 1,000 point mark for her career at Sewanee. "Making it to her senior year is something in itself," said second year

head coach Gabby Lisella. "She's stuck it out and that says something. A lot of pressure has been put on Lynda in the past, but now I think she's more relaxed and ready to have a real strong year for us."

The Sewanee women will rely heavily on a solid core of juniors and sophomores for success this season. Junior Daphne Skipper, a participant in four varsity sports, emerged as the Tiger point guard a season ago, averaging 1.5 assists and 1.2 steals per contest. Her leadership as the signal caller will be vital to the effort. The relentless effort of hustling ballhawk Kiisha Walker, also a junior, gains her considerable floor time. She garnered an amazing 42 steals last year. Emily Nash, a junior from Nashville, tossed in six points and four rebounds per game in 1991-92, and will be a prominent ingredient in Coach Lisella's mix this season.

Sophomore Mary Rossi, who was the Tigers' go-to player down the stretch

of last year (9 ppg, 5.3 rpg), should continue to be a dominating force in the SCAC for this season and for her career.

The program is very excited about the crop of newcomers that will don the purple and white. Post players Myranda Davis and Natasha Johnson both had double figure outings Sewanee's opening game, a 76-60 spanking of MacMurray College. The pair also combined for 18 rebounds in that game, an eyesore of the team in the past.

"Strength on the inside is something new for us," said Lisella. "It gives us balance to our inside-outside game, allowing us to move Rossi to the wing, her more natural position."

"This is the most talented team we've had since I've been here," said Motes. "It's the first time we haven't had a team of all guards; it's something fun to have three true post players."

Freshman post player Allison Oxshier has also paid early dividends, tallying nine points in each of her first

two games as a Tiger. Freshman guards Joy Tallent and Stacey Tomkins afford Coach Lisella solid depth on the bench.

"We're extremely balanced; on any given night anyone can lead us in scoring," remarked Lisella. "It's easy to stop one player, but five or six is a different story."

The Tigers are 1-1 in the early going, and have upcoming home games on Dec. 5 against Oglethorpe and Dec. 8 versus Southwestern University.

It should be an exciting year for the Tigers, who will be playing a pressing, all out style game that Lisella calls "kamikaze basketball." This team will be an improved lot and a fun bunch to watch.

"This year we will be SCAC contenders, and I think that we can compete against anybody," said Motes. "It could be a shaky start because of our youth, but I expect us to finish strong and have a good foundation for the future laid by the end of the season."

Ashton Leads Women's Cross-Country Out of the Pack

by **Joseph Kreutziger**
Sports Staff

The women's cross-country team ended their season at the NCAA South-Southeastern Regional meet held in Sewanee. Twelve other schools, including rivals such as Rhodes College, Emory, and Washington and Lee, participated in the 5k run along the finest greens of Sewanee's illustrious golf course.

Overall, the team finished a strong eighth, while some of the best individual times of the season were recorded. Of the 87 women running, Daphne Skipper, the time leader throughout the season, placed 19th with a mark of 20:25, while senior captain Stacey Juekett finished 35th with an impressive time of 21:16. Newcomers Suzanne Vann and Polly Biss also ran well, recording their best times of the season.

Regionals came a week after Coach Ashton's squad took a rough road trip to the conference meet at Trinity University in San Antonio, where Daphne Skipper finished 2nd with the time of 20:06, a showing easily good enough for her to be named to the all-conference team. Her return next year to lead the team will be an essential aspect to the continued success of the cross-country team.

"We finished the season really

strong, with a good showing at regionals by all members of the team, especially Daphne," says Juekett. "It was a productive year with lots of improvement seen in all of our runners. Next year's team should be really competitive and fun to watch."



Daphne Skipper. Photo by Lyn Hutchison

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SPORTS

Volleyball Team Concludes on a Positive Note

by Heather Honeycutt
Sports Staff

The volleyball team has completed their season with the best record in the past four years. On the weekend of November 7, the Tigers flew to San Antonio, Texas to compete in the SCAC tournament against some of the most competitive teams in the region. According to sophomore Nicole Songy, the last game against Oglethorpe exemplified the cohesiveness the women had strived for all year.

Oglethorpe was a team they had played before, winning some games, and losing others. But this time "we wiped them off the court!" says Songy. The Tigers placed third in the conference overall, with freshman Melissa Riley making the first all-tournament team, and Missy Trushel and Liz Foss selected for the second all-tournament team. The Tigers felt the team coming together, proving they had the ability to dominate the competition.

At the '92 season banquet, awards



Volleyball team sporting the spoils of their victory. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

were given to players that excelled in various areas during the year. Junior Missy Trushel led in digs, or saves. Junior Emily Nash led in service aces. Freshman Melissa Riley, as center, had the most assists, and senior Robyn Snyder

completed the season with the most kills, 276 total, an average of 2.51 per game.

Snyder is quick to point out that all of the players did very well. "We won two tournaments this year. Since I've been playing, for the past four years, this

is the only year we've been able to win a tournament. This is the best team I've played on at Sewanee. We weren't ready for the season to end." The Tigers won their own tournament here at Sewanee, and they also won the tournament held at Washington and Lee.

Melissa Riley comments, "This season was awesome! The team got along together. Our personalities seemed compatible. And since we each played at about the same ability level, we could push each other to do better." She laughs, "I even enjoyed practices because we could have fun together."

Next year, the team will lose on senior, Robyn Snyder, which, according to Songy, "will be a definite loss." Coach Ladd is working on new recruits, however, and with most of this year's team returning, the team could be even better. Many of the returning players will have seen three years of play for the Sewanee team and will be ready to dominate during their senior year. Says Missy Trushel, "Get ready for the '93 season!" They could be the best in the conference.

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Back by Popular Demand

It's Formal Season: Hunt Reviews Dining Choices

by **Trey Hunt**
Features Staff

Yes, unfortunately, it is that time of year again... FORMALS! Let's face it, the idea of simply going to a formal is had enough. What can you still fit into? Who can you invite? How can you get this person to pay for "refreshments?" These are just some of the traumatic questions you have to ask yourself when you plan to go to a formal.

Then, to top it off, you have to plan where you want to go to dinner. Well my friends, I am here to answer that question for you. This article will give you the low down, and I emphasize the word low, on your dining options in the area.

Broke? Gaining weight? Hate your date? Well, take them to Gailor for one of their Friday or Saturday night specials. Gailor is dirt cheap, and you'll fit into anything after a meal there. Sure, you'll look like a cheapskate, but you don't like your escort anyway. There's also the deep-fried version of Gailor, the Tiger Bay Pub, but if you're out of flex

dollars, then it will cost you. Forget the Harder's in Monteagle. They don't even have the Frisco Burger.

OK, so maybe you like your escort, but you're just friends, and there's no pressure involved. One good option is Hawk's down in Winchester. Sure it will put a few miles on the Saab story, but the food (steaks, pizza, salad) is good, and the prices are reasonable. If you're twenty-one, beer is available, but make sure one of you stays sober, because it's a bit of a trip. The atmosphere is also pleasant, and, hey, there's even a jukebox.

Then, there is Four Seasons. Its atmosphere is definitely relaxed, but it's a popular place to go, and the food is greasy but good. Pizza is served or you can chow down at the buffet. Meals are pretty cheap.

There's always Sundae's too. Prices are low, and the food is consistently good for a local sandwich shop. Have a sandwich or a pizza but save room for some of their homemade ice cream. I recommend the "Pig Trough,"

since your date's just a friend.

Finally, there is the City Cafe, which is located on University Avenue along with Sundae's. OK, stop your snickering. I know I got blasted for my last review of the City Cafe, but city really doesn't thrill with... anymore. I actually have returned to this establishment, and the service has improved, however, I have not tried dinner there. Rumor has it that the Chinese dinners are good but expensive. Well, moving right along.

Well, your date is gorgeous, and you really want to impress this person. Your best bet is Carmela's in South Pittsburg, but get the Cherokee ready, because it's about twenty miles away. It's not high tea at the Ritz, but the food is really good. The restaurant has a good selection of meat, chicken, and veal Italian dishes, and your own brown bag wine to go with your meal. Again, have a designated driver for the trip. A meal costs around \$10.00, but that's not bad at all for the quality of food that you will receive.

The date actually went well, but it's one o'clock, and the band has turned into a pumpkin. What to do? Well, I say go for more food. Your options include the Huddle House and Pop's Happyland. Granted, the Huddle House is twenty feet closer to Sewanee, but they do not take checks, and the food is, let's just say, lacking in variety and flavor. Service is good there though. Pop's Happyland is more geared toward today's Sewanee student. A full selection of grease is offered, but the food is good, and so is the service as a rule.

Hey, the date went REALLY well. No problem, take that escort and smooch more to Sunday brunch at Shenanigans. It can be pricey at a \$7-8 (00) a person, but the food is good. It can be crowded, so get there early for faster service.

Well, those are some of your dining options for the formal season. I apologize to The Pines. I have not been there yet, but don't worry. You're next on my list. Enjoy.

Record Review

SEBADOH Ventures into Unexplored Musical Regions

by **Sam Reid**
Arts Staff

SEBADOH
Smash Your Head on the Pink Rock
Sub Pop Records

Seeing as how I could never get an interview with such mega-stars as SEBADOH, I must sponge off of

magazine articles that I hope you have not read yet. Anyway, in a recent SPIN interview, SEBADOH guitarist and former DINOSAUR Jr. bassist, Lou Barlow, shed some light on the inner-workings of the band's psychology. His problems with J Mascis' egotism and reluctance to allow Barlow sufficient artistic freedom were the direct cause of his departure from Mascis' band in early '89. Because of these problems with Mascis, SEBADOH has taken careful measures to assure that all three of the present members have equal opportunity to influence the band's general course as well as the writing.

Barlow's songs on their brand new LP, *Smash Your Head on the Pink Rock*, are definitely my favorites. He has assuredly been influenced by his former band. His songs are melodious one moment and cacophonous the next, but always retaining the glib thread that links it all together into one, interminable, mindful experience. Although all the band members switch instruments on many of the songs, Barlow's ghostly voice ties it all together as he sings on most of the songs.

The first song on the album has yet

to catch my fancy. It's tumultuous and rather confused (the kind of thing that I'll probably identify as my favorite song on the album a year from now). The second song, "Brand New Love," however, is a freak gem. It begins with a quiet guitar intro accompanied by Rob Fay's delicate drum work and Barlow's soothing voice.

Restless eyes close, maybe it'll go away
Please rest tomorrow, bring a satisfied day
Restless urge and love that's worth that burning for
Surely it's that one comforting love to give you more

Jason Lowenstein's powerful and somewhat distorted bass and Eric Gaffney's grinding guitar then join in as the song picks up. The song moves in intervals of two modes, but Barlow's voice, interestingly, does not seem to change pitch or volume throughout the waves of noise and quiet.

Another of my favorites upon first listening to the record was the "Oh Suzanna" adaptation entitled "Good

Things." I'm not sure if "Oh Suzanna" was truly the base for this eccentric tune, but that's what I came up with, which I realized that it sounded familiar. The only way I can describe it without playing it for all of you (as if that would really be difficult to let my two friends who sympathetically read my articles come to my room and listen to it), is that it sounds almost like a pre-rehearsal performance by a beginning piano student (in this case a guitar student, actually), with a frail, matronly, old instructor providing vocal accompaniment. In actuality, the vocals sound more like a mid-twenties male from Massachusetts, which is what they really are.

No doubt this band at times echoes DINOSAUR Jr., but I think they can take their mostly original sound to unexplored musical regions that would frighten Mascis. SEBADOH is a solid band that is not afraid of trying different sounds and approaches, and the end result is almost always satisfying and at times even brilliant.

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FEATURES

The Grinch Who Watched Too Much Television

by Aaron McCollough
Features Editor

So, Thanksgiving came and went. Hooray! I think I saw a dozen movies, and that is my answer to what has come to be known as the "obligatory question." My break was fast-paced, hilarious, and filled with Hollywood's brightest young stars. Oh yeah, Mom's turkey was a little moister than last year, as well. In between feedings, family togetherness moments, and many hours before the silver screen, though, I was en route. Lots of driving. My break, then, was characterized by relatively succulent fowl, that warm "I'm at home, liberated from my otherwise existentialist lifestyle" feeling, numerous cinematic masterpieces, and time on the road. Driving has a tendency to evoke some pretty profound thoughts. Rumor

has it that Shakespeare conceived three of his better tragedies on his way from the Stratford Shoney's to picking up his sister from her creative writing class. I don't think that took place during the HOLIDAY SEASON, however, and Western Civilization is probably all the better for it. I, while driving to see "Dr. Giggles" for the second time, however, was struck by an acute sense of Christmas malaise. While I don't think I can squeeze five acts out of it, I am producing this article, complete with tragic resolution no doubt. The point is, Christmas is horribly tired out. I mean, I know he's a healthy boy, but you can only spread Chris Kringle so thin. Even the signs that say "Let's put the CHRIST back in Christmas," which were somewhat ludicrous to begin with, are old now.

True, my profound sentiment con-

cerning the issue is not particularly fresh, but I just can't get excited anymore. I'm not even looking forward to the time off from school. What could be more frightening than an entire month of holiday shopping, holiday carols, holiday movies, and holiday pressure to relax before the thing is over. Oh yes, call me the Grinch, in public places, if you must, but listen to what I'm saying. Christmas needs a year off, at least.

It would not be that big an ordeal, if every one who held my particular opinion would simply write a little note to his or her Senator, wishing him Season's Greetings and then politely petitioning for capital punishment as a discouragement to any and all merchants caught with the following: a Christmas tree, any warm expression of love for the whole world spray-painted across their building, a medley of Bing Crosby's

favorite carols, or copies of "It's a Wonderful Life" for private purchase.

Of course, I must propose an alternative to Christmas. It could take up to a decade to completely wean the American populace from the tradition of having holidays, at all. So, the three month radius surrounding December 25 might now better serve as a commemoration of William Shatner's birth. That's Captain Kirk to all the heretics who didn't spend their youth glued to his blond hair-piece, and no he wasn't born anywhere near December, but who cares? Just imagine the folk tales that could spring out of this tradition. Santa Kirk could beam gifts down to good little boys and girls, and the bad ones, he could stun with his Phaser. Well, just think about it. We are in the nineties here. Merry Kirkmas! Live long, and prosper.

Movie Review

Make My Day, Daniel: The Last of the Mohicans

by Paige Parvin
Arts Editor

Okay, I'd better 'fess up right now: I fell hard for him. Daniel Day-Lewis, that is. Hawkeye in Michael Mann's *The Last of the Mohicans*. Libby Gelman-Wasner of *Premiere Magazine* did, too, and she's having delicious fits of grandeur that she and Daniel are destined for love. Well, fine. If it's a fight she wants, I'm ready — me and a few thousand other sllobbering, clawing women (several of whom I'm personally acquainted with). You may ask, what did it for you — was it the long flowing mane of hair, the long legs in those huckskin leggings, the long rifle (bet there were a few jokes on the set about that one) — well, for me it was the line, "I'm looking at you, miss" delivered to heroine Madeline Stowe. To quote La Libby, "The usher had to conk me with the flashlight to make me stop whimpering."

I'm getting a little carried away. Anyway, it's a great movie. Well, actually it's not that great, but who cares because it has Daniel striding through the forest, Daniel paddling the Indian canoe, Daniel killing off all the bad Indians to save the swooning Madeline sorry. Stowe's performance is worth noting — I mean, what can you do in those ridiculous dresses, except show more cleavage than was probably acceptable on the American frontier — but of course, she ends up with you-know-who so I personally feel nothing but resentment towards her. Then there's

Eric Schweig, the next-to-the-last of the Mohicans and Mike Phillips, the title character himself, both of whom add very respectably to the action. An unfamiliar actress, Jodie May, plays Cora Munro's (Stowe) younger sister Alice, a rather annoying, whining presence until her fantastic final scene, which redeems her completely. The film is action-packed and extremely violent, and it attempts the epic with its sweeping panoramic shots of upstate New York (actually North Carolina). But it's also romantic, which hangs me back in the original point, in case you'd forgotten.

Look, Day-Lewis really is good. Granted, he's not the English snob we saw in *A Room With A View*, nor the gay London punk of *My Beautiful Laundrette*, or the Czechoslovakian neurosurgeon of

The Unbearable Lightness of Being — this time he's pretty Americanized, okay, maybe a little too glamorous. I mean, he's tan, and he delivers some one-liners reminiscent of Mel Gibson in *Lethal Weapon II*. But he has some trouble with the accent (God, that's so cute), so we don't forget who he really is. He's actually an actor of versatility and considerable critical acclaim, who took time out to make an old-fashioned American good-guy-bad-guy picture and played the good guy extremely well. Who wouldn't want to grow hair like that and then get to fling it around?

So there. *The Last of the Mohicans* is an action film, an epic, a romance, an adventure on the American frontier. It gives its audience a bad guy with bald skin, a heroine with perfect skin, and a

perfect hero. Maybe it has a few weak moments. I may be a little prejudiced, but I'm not too blind to see that that waterfall scene is really sappy and ridiculous — and not too cynical to love it anyway.

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