

THE SEWANEE PURPLE

SEWANEE, TENNESSEE

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Sewanee men need to stop hunting and start hammering

by Kelly Smith

Habitat for Humanity built two houses last year, and two more are in the midst of construction. One of the new houses was paid for by a youth group from Houston, TX, and the other three were financed by a state grant that has recently been eliminated.

During the Summer of 1996, some 110 young Texans visited

Sewanee to work with Habitat; and last spring they decided to finance their own Habitat house in Sewanee. The group raised \$15,000 and procured an additional \$10,000 from a bank loan. The Patten house on Alabama Avenue (the house that students worked on during "Blitz and Split") will be finished this spring.

Dixon Myers, Coordinator of Outreach Ministries, said that the Houston youth were "like a godsend" and that Robbie Patten, the homeowner, is "the most grateful person we've ever worked with."

The Turner and Reed homes were completed last year; and the Bright house will be finished before Christmas. These three houses were funded by a no-interest Tennessee Housing Development Authority (THDA) state grant from Mid-Cumberland Mountain Housing. The Bright house is the last Sewanee Habitat

house financed this way, because Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist eliminated this housing grant.

Habitat has plans for future building; and other youth groups like the one from Houston have expressed strong interest in continuing Habitat development. A group from Dallas that also worked in the Summer wants to finance their own house, and Myers hopes that other Summer groups will follow suit.

Since the Sewanee community can not begin to fund the many Habitat houses constructed in this area, Sewanee Habitat must look elsewhere for capital. "\$24,000 is a lot to raise around here," said Myers.

Community support materializes in the form of manpower. Around 500 people work on each house, and the largest percentage of that work force come from fifteen to twenty year olds. "We see it as an educational process," said Myers, "they are the next generation of this."



The "Blitz and Split" house will be finished this Spring.

The "Blitz and Split" project brought 100 students to the Patten house, but the large majority — 70% of those students — were women. Myers said that this is commonly the case for Habitat work and other University community service.

"Women have always been the nurturers of the world," said Myers. "I guess the men are still out there hunting and gathering."



photo by Anya Sammler

Sewanee students hard at work on a habitat house.

Outreach tackles Nashville

Americorp event helps elderly, teen mothers, and low income families

by Caroline Brooks

Targeting a variety of people and interests, this year's fall break outreach trip is a departure from previous years. Through involvement with AmeriCorps, a domestic form of the Peace Corps, Sewanee students will have the opportunity to help renovate low-income housing, and work with the elderly and teenage mothers in Nashville.

"I find it rewarding to get people who don't claim to be service oriented," Dixon Myers, coordinator of outreach ministries, said. He continued, "We are trying to draw out people who are premed, early childhood, or interested in social work who want this kind of exposure."

Students taking part in the outreach trip will leave on Friday afternoon for Smyrna, TN, a suburb of Nashville. Beginning Saturday morning, they will help a community association in the Wherry neighborhood renovate duplexes that are part of a low-income housing development. The neighborhood association is hosting a barbecue for the volunteers on Saturday night so that they can meet the people they are helping. They will continue renovation work on Sunday. Moving into the next week, the volunteers will move into Nashville and host a health fair at Vanderbilt University for the elderly. On Tuesday, the students will be leading educational discussions for teenage mothers.

All three of these activities are projects of various branches of AmeriCorps. This domestic Peace Corps was formed several years ago by President Clinton. In exchange for a certain period of service, members receive educational grants that can be used to repay student loans or to finance future education. Paula Sereebutra '97 is currently serving a nine month term with AmeriCorps and is the impetus behind this year's involvement with them. Students will be working with eight other full-time AmeriCorps members in Nashville who are working with various social service agencies.

There are many aspects of this year's trip that make it different from previous years. "Because this trip is so close, we don't lose time for traveling and aren't tired when we start on Saturday morning," Myers said. In addition, students will be working in a more urban environment than in the past. Because of the AmeriCorps connection, students will also be exposed to the possibility of future work with them. However, Myers believes that this will be the only Sewanee sponsored event with the organization. Because of the postgraduate opportunities, Myers is encouraging seniors to consider this trip.

At the time of this story, there are only six people signed up for the trip, but Myers is not discouraged. "Six people is not bad for this stage. We are trying to de-emphasize numbers. I try not to let it bother me." The trip is designed to accommodate up to 25 people. Myers noted that, typically, more females are involved in trips such as these. He hopes to see more male involvement. "Community service has traditionally been more female, but it's more than that now. Things have changed."

Growing in Grace

Growing in Grace is a come as you are, be who you are celebration of the Eucharist through teaching, prayer and music. It meets each Sunday during the semester at 6:30 P.M. in All Saints' Chapel. *Growing in Grace* offers during the semester a variety of preachers who share their story in the faith providing a rich opportunity for spiritual growth.

This Sunday, October 12th, Ms. Gwenda Ledbetter will be preaching. Gwenda is a gray-haired grandmother who hikes, gardens, watches birds and tells stories. She practices her art in schools, libraries, churches, festivals and retreats and has recorded two tapes and been published in several anthologies. In recent years she has been Story-teller-in-residence at the Madeleine L'Engle conference at Kanuga.

Swimmers in Speedos

This past Saturday October 4 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the Sewanee varsity swimming and diving team held a Speedo® car wash at the abandoned gas station (also the SUD equipment building) on highway forty-one next to Shenanigan's bar and deli.

Cars were washed for five dollars and sport utility vehicles for six dollars. The event was an enormous success, as the team raised over four-hundred and twenty dollars. This hard earned cash money will go towards defraying the cost of the team's winter training trip in Florida, which will occur from January third to the fourteenth. Captain Errett Neil said of the event, "We really bonded as a team, which was great for our chemistry." The team is eagerly looking forward to its season as they have great depth and experience, not to mention a plethora of talented freshmen, who are sure to make huge contributions—in the water and in the classroom.

Student election results

After numerous runoffs and the toil and sweat of counting up ballots in a set of close elections, the final results have been posted. Below is a selection of the elected offices for the 1997-98 academic year. Congratulations, all winners!

Secretary of the Student Assembly: Liz Dooley

Sophomore Discipline Committee: Shep Lewis

Senior Member of the Honor Council: Douglass Adair

Freshmen Member of the Honor Council: Thomas Humphries

Police Blotter: More than one moon on the Mountain

by Charles Fiore

Well, the students of Sewanee seem to be disenchanted with the usual criminal offenses such as DUI's and marijuana possession. Constantly seeking improvement, they have moved on to more creative outlets for their rebellious propensities.

The SAE lion had his head smashed in with a hammer. Undaunted by the six feet of cement in which the lion rests, the vandal turned to the next best thing; unbridled destruction.

A student was involved in a hit and run which caused property damage at Shenanigans. The student was apprehended.

A freshman male was arrested for exposing his posterior in the general direction of one BACCHUS van a myriad of times. His punishment

is to model nude for an art class.

Only one DUI was issued, and the amount of parking tickets has lessened in recent weeks. Overall, it's been very peaceful on the mountain, as people settle in for a quiescent fall of mind-numbing study and pursuance of cirrhosis.



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Despite our differences, "we are all on the same side at Sewanee."

by Richard Nash

About a week ago I walked into Gailor to have dinner. Upon entering the building, I noticed

that a new issue of *The Legacy* had been released.

There was a picture of a dog with

some dates beneath it on the front cover. And although that seemed somewhat silly for a publication that claims to be the vanguard of all that is serious and important on this campus, I picked one up. It is important to know what the conservative voices on the Mountain are currently whining about.

Well, you can imagine my shock and dismay to find that what the conservative voices are currently whining about is me. The editorial in last week's issue of *The Legacy* was dedicated to myself. It was a long and often slanderous piece of satire, written in response to an editorial I had written for this paper the previous week. It seems that I had angered *Legacy* editor, Justin Adams, and his little, self-satisfied boys club one too many times. And now, they had decided to get me.

I read the editorial several times, so that I could be sure to understand what I had done to make the bow tie boys so angry. I have never

stooped so low as to attack them in one of my editorials. The Honor Council, Rhodes College, self-righteous parents

and a number of other evils have all been the subjects of my biweekly diatribes. But, for all the possible targets it has

afforded me, I have left *The Legacy* alone. Using the University's student newspaper as a bully pulpit to degrade and make light of my fellow student journalists has never seemed right to me. So I knew they could not be responding to something I had said about them. It had to be something else.

Perhaps, I thought, this is concerning my public support of the construction of the new dining hall. The folks at *The Legacy* have always been angered with any attempt by the University to improve, or strengthen itself. After four years of reading their publication it is clear that the minds behind Sewanee's conservative voice are against any concession to progress, or good taste.

The Legacy was disturbed to the point of outrage when the mace, an anachronistic piece of ceremonial pomp and circumstance, thankfully came up missing. They didn't seem to care that the mace was an offensive to the founder of the Klux Klan founder, Nathan

Bedford Forrest. It was tradition, and thus, according to *The Legacy*, it was good. They were also quite upset when someone removed the Confederate flags, which were apparently offensive to a large part of the University's population, from the chapel. And in the very issue I was reading, they came out in favor of a more stringent version of the female dress tradition, which a

"You could almost feel the self-righteous indignation dripping off the page"

number of women in the college felt was bordering on misogyny. Flags, dress codes and other dubious traditions are the favorite causes of *The Legacy*. It only makes sense that its editors would be offended by anyone who supported an action so forward thinking as the erection of a new building on the Domain. I should have known better.

But, upon further investigation of Mr. Adams' editorial, I discovered that it was not really my support of the Vice Chancellor's plan to build the new dining hall which prompted him to attack. Of course, he did not like my support of the V.C. one bit and he let that fact be known, but he did not stop there. Regrettably, Mr. Adams had a vicious agenda in mind. He

simply used the dining hall question as a pretext to defame me personally.

Throughout his editorial Mr. Adams painted a picture of me as a simpleton. He complained that my editorial was too "hip" and too "cool" (his words, not mine). You could almost feel the self-righteous indignation dripping off the page as he asserted that I could not possibly understand so complex an issue, if I stooped so low as to try and present it with a touch of humor. He put words in my mouth and took quotations out of context. In short, he wallowed in the same filth which he accused me of engaging in: self-promotional muscle flexing.

What Mr. Adams and the rest of *The Legacy* boys club did with this editorial is reprehensible. It seems that it is

no longer enough for them to stand in the way of anyone who wants to see this University progress into the next century. They are no longer content to be the voice of seersucker pants wearing anachronisms across the campus. Now, they feel the need to start an unprovoked battle of words, in which they will give no quarter, slandering anyone who expresses an opinion different from their own reactionary delirium.

I am sorry if Mr. Adams has a problem with me. I would be happy to discuss it with him privately any time. But when he brings his personal vendettas into a public forum like a newspaper, he threatens to cheapen and impair everything good journalism is supposed to stand for. What Mr. Adams had done with his little satire is to lower the level of student discourse on this campus to playground name calling. Communities are often judged by the strength of their publications. Mr. Adams would rather see this newspaper torn down than have someone publicly disagree with his own. And for that, he should be

ashamed.

I hope Mr. Adams will remember that we are all on the same side

"he threatens to cheapen and impair everything good journalism is supposed to stand for"

at Sewanee. We all want to see the University of the South become the best school it can be. But, at the same time, we are all going to have different opinions as to how this is to be accomplished. It is not the place of the journalist to ridicule those who disagree with his opinions, expressing a dissenting stance should be enough. Anything else only serves to weaken our community.

Committee on Alcohol Issues hopeful of more student participation

by Sam Robbins, News Editor

On Tuesday night, September 30th, at 8 o'clock in the evening in Convocation Hall the Committee on Alcohol Issues held a public meeting in order to explain its objectives, introduce the community to its committee members and invite comments. Unfortunately for the committee, student turnout at the meeting was slight.

The co-chairs of the committee are Lee Ann Afion, associate director of admissions, Robert Benson, professor of English, and Bran Potter, forestry and geology professor. The stated objectives of the committee are "to study and reflect upon current habits and patterns of alcohol use and abuse at The University of the South with the purpose of trying to understand and help to modify destructive patterns of behavior related to the excessive use of alcohol among the undergraduates. To obtain these objectives, the committee will 1) make a thorough review of existing policies and programs; 2) invite and record the views of individuals and groups on campus as well as the views of the community and the alumni; 3) compile a profile of student practices and behavior

related to the use of alcohol. The committee may recommend new policies and programs that address the alcohol issue. The committee's goals include consideration of the social and intellectual life of students who choose not to drink."

The three subcommittees of the larger committee are Data Gathering, Present Policies, Regulations and Programs, and Future Programs and Policies. At present the committee's goals are to study how present policies work by comparing them to other Universities' practices and by listening to community members speak their minds. In general the committee aims to make present policies clearer and hopefully more effective. In particular, the committee will focus on issues related to binge drinking, off-campus parties, and the effect of student drinking on the larger Sewanee community. The committee will be holding several public meetings this year in order to take stock of the issues and problems related to the drinking of spirits. Students are strongly encouraged to attend the future meetings and to express their thoughts and opinions.

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Rethinking the rankings game

by Sam Robbins, News Editor

At a fall gownsman meeting a couple of years ago, Vice-Chancellor Williamson took the time to address the order about the university's future goals. First and foremost on his agenda was emphasizing the significance of Sewanee's recent rise in the *U.S. News and World Report* college rankings. His and the board of regents' stated goal is to land the university in the "Top 25" category by the year 2000. Predictably, this year at opening Convocation we again heard the good news: Yea Sewanee Moved Up Two Slots In The Magazine's Silly Rankings!

The impetus for this pursuit of magazine glory, he argued at the aforementioned meeting, is twofold. One, alumnae want to see their alma mater recognized for the good institution it is. Two, various grants would be in greater supply for research and other academic pursuits. But there is obviously more to the picture than these reasons. *U.S. News* was chosen as the standard of progress because of its high profile. For better or worse, the public mind looks to such surveys to form its opinions of potential college choices.

It is held that the magazine will help spread the reputation of the Sewanee, which will in turn attract more applicants and better students. Perhaps this image maintenance is necessary to keep a university's business flourishing, but we must recognize the rankings for what they are and are not if we are to engage in thoughtful discourse about Sewanee's future.

The rankings are an attempt to quantify the unquantifiable. A brief examination of the ranking method reveals its results to be, in the last analysis, highly arbitrary if not altogether specious. How can one honestly believe in rankings based on statistics abstracted from the particular context of each school considered? In its '95 edition, the magazine assures us this cannot be a problem because they employ admissions and financial aid officers to subject their questionnaire to "rigorous review." What does rigorous mean here? Review of what, exactly please? Moreover, when did admission and financial aid officers' opinions become gospel on what makes an education good? Who really is behind the glossy schlock of the ranking? Again the magazine, in its ninth-grade reading level tone, assures us the situation is under its control: "the questionnaire was reviewed by experts on academic data at major institutions." These procedures assure "maximum clarity, relevance, and precision" to the rankings. What experts?

What institutions? Relevance to what standard? Even at a cursory glance, it is abundantly clear that the rankings tell one next to nothing about what kind of education a student can earn at a given college.

In reality the rankings amount to little more than a brand of crude sophistry. The editors make this clear themselves when they compare education to a household appliance. The editors reason: "When consumers invest in simple household appliances...[rankings are] freely available. We think it should be similarly available for an educational investment that can cost more than \$110,000." Clearly, the editors 'think' education is analogous to mechanical appliances simply because both cost money. Can their logic be so abysmally crass and stupid?

To be sure, education is expensive. Yet I am also sure that putting education on the same footing as appliances is fatuous. Broadly speaking, education is about learning how to think critically in order to know how to ask the right questions of particular situations. As far as I know appliances are incapable of this. The dollars used to educate a person are an investment of the first order, durable goods, on the other hand, are obsolete usually within a few years. Thus, the logical question to ask of the administration's stated goal to put Sewanee in the coveted "Top 25" is how exactly will doing it make education at Sewanee better? Apparently, the only question publicly raised so far has been how can we climb higher in the rankings and how quickly can it be done?

An historical study of the rankings demonstrates that even if Sewanee enters the "Top 25" it is more than likely that it will drop out of its holy perch just as fast as it ascends. A full eighty percent of the colleges that enter the rankings in the #20 through #25 slots fall in and out of the coveted column on an almost yearly basis. This "here today, gone tomorrow" element of the rankings further suggests that they are not worth so much of the University's attention.

Mark Twain once said that there are "lies, damn lies, and statistics." If there is truth to this statement then Sewanee errs to use a magazine survey statistic as a guiding standard. Save rankings for athletic teams, appliances and the like. Sewanee deserves to be judged by a more enduring standard than a magazine people read once and throw out. The more interest the University takes in playing the rankings game, the more it tends to trivialize what actually happens on the Domain. The time is right for Sewanee to enlarge its already superior reputation, yet surely there exists a better forum for gaining wider recognition than one which makes a statistical game of education.

Deaths at MIT and LSU: is Sewanee next?

by Demian Perry, Editor

As alcohol awareness week approaches (earlier this year at Sewanee so as not to conflict with Fall Party Weekend), the nation will pause for a moment to reflect on a particularly bad year.

Barely a month ago, students at Louisiana State University were shaken by the death of one of their peers, Benjamin Dayries Wynne.

According to a New York Times article, the 20-year-old LSU student's blood alcohol level was six times Louisiana's legal limit after a night of heavy drinking in a local bar. He died shortly afterward.

And just last week, alcohol abuse claimed the life of another college student: 18-year-old MIT undergraduate Scott Krueger. Krueger's blood alcohol level reached .41 (only slightly less than the alcohol content of Jack Daniel's) before his heart stopped.

National media sources contend that the two incidents are part of a "nationwide problem," and maybe they're right. According to the US National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), nearly 20,000 Americans die each year from alcohol-induced causes, more than all other drug-induced causes combined. Of the NCHS age groups, 18 to 25-year-olds consume the most alcohol. Today's college student is drinking more than his parents, despite his relative inexperience with the ramifications of irresponsible alcohol consumption.

How do we solve the problem? Several national fraternities have reacted by pledging to ban all alcohol consumption in their houses before the 21st century. Both Wynne and Krueger overdosed at pledge parties hosted by fraternities which have houses on the Mountain - Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) and Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji). Following the precedent set earlier by Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Nu, SAE's national chapter has already decided to ban all drinking in their houses by July 1, 2000. Others may be soon to follow.

Universities (those that haven't shirked their responsibility by blaming fraternities) have likewise responded by driving drinking off-campus. At

Sewanee, any individual or organization that hosts a party in which minors (read: most students at Sewanee) have access to a common source of alcohol, risks severe punishment. This policy has the effect of creating huge off-campus parties - such as the one broken up by cops two weeks ago - where students can get away

from the keen eye of administrators and, when they're done having fun, they can drive home drunk. Nonetheless, these recent policies have helped the universities to avoid liability in a

country which drafts young adults to fight for freedom and democracy, but doesn't give them the privilege to consume alcohol.

Many administrators have expressed their frustration with the all too simplistic solution of an unconditional ban on alcohol. "Maybe we should try to control the circumstances under which this sort of activity goes on." Thomas Risch, the dean of students at LSU, said in a New York Times interview earlier this year, "We can't very well do that if all the drinking is done off-campus."

The comments of dean Risch, who has had to pick up the pieces at LSU after Wynne's death, drive at the heart of the difficulties in dealing with the problem of alcohol abuse, a problem compounded by the general ignorance of - or failure to believe in - alcohol's ill effects among students entering college. The classrooms of drinking are no longer harmless social settings like professor's houses and football games; instead, they are the basements of fraternity houses and the back rooms of smoky bars.

The tragic deaths of Wynne and Krueger - both incidents that occurred off-campus - demon-

strate the inadequacy of university policies that deal with alcohol as a legal issue, rather than as a social problem. Universities must realize that college students will always drink a little now and then. The desire for alcohol as a sedative for social inhibitions - or, if nothing else, as an outlet for civil disobedience - will always outweigh the desire to obey campus authorities and, unfortunately, the need to be safe. Universities must therefore find solutions that allow students to drink, but not to binge.

First, college presidents should encourage faculty members to take private initiative to teach students how to consume alcohol responsibly. Dinner parties and informal gatherings will reinforce the relationship between faculty mentors and students and will provide a safe and controlled environment for the consumption of alcohol.

Secondly, universities should set aside funds to sponsor more campus-wide events where alcohol is not the central activity. Theme parties, dances, and rock concerts - provided they occur

with some regularity - will make binge drinking seem boring in comparison.

Finally, universities should provide student medical staff to any group hosting a party. Student medics can mingle more easily than cops and are thus more likely to spot

a problem before it starts. Because student medics are peers, party-goers will also be more comfortable seeking their help when a situation arises.

Because alcoholism is a social disease, and because Sewanee is not the only university with a drinking problem, schools should work together to achieve successful solutions to a national dilemma. If such endeavors are not taken, binge drinking will claim yet another life, at yet another American university.

National media sources contend that the two incidents are part of a "nationwide problem," and maybe they're right.

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THE SEWANEE PURPLE

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Have the Tigers been declawed?



Lyn Hutchinson

A Sewanee defender tackles a Centre ball carrier. The Tigers lost to Centre 30-0

by Justin Wear

Mistakes - Too many of them may cause you to fail an exam, get fired from your work-study, or lose a football game. Just ask Sewanee.

The Tigers had too many mistakes to win last Saturday, and it showed up in the scoreboard, with visiting Centre rolling to a 30-0 win. Sewanee (3-2, 0-1 Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference) gave up just 226 total yards to the visitors but turned the ball over four times.

After a scoreless first quarter, Sewanee punter Ward Cole had his kick blocked early in the second and returned 36 yards for a score by Montas Allen to give Centre (2-2, 1-0 SCAC) a 7-0 lead. The lead was then extended when Sewanee fumbled into their own end zone, recovering it

to give Centre a safety a 9-0 cushion.

That's where the wheels fell off for the Tigers. After an exchange of punts, Centre went 58 yards in 3 plays, highlighted by a 57-yard touchdown pass, to extend the lead to 16-0 two minutes before halftime.

The outburst wasn't finished, though. A Max Fuller pass was intercepted right before halftime and returned to the Tiger five, where Alex Dunn pounded it in to make it 23-0 at the half. Centre added one more touchdown in the fourth to bring the scoring to a close.

In the game, the Tigers lost a fumble and had three interceptions, four penalties, a blocked punt, and just 105 yards of total offense. Brian Morrison was the leading rusher with 28 yards, while Fuller added 20. In the air, Fuller and John Stroup

combined to go 3-11 for 21 yards.

Defensively, the Tigers played decent, allowing just three completions and 126 yards on the ground while forcing two fumbles and recovering one. Linebacker Jon Trussler led Sewanee with 12 tackles, a sack, and a forced fumble while Carter Eddings added 9 tackles and partially blocked a punt.

Next Saturday the Tigers have an open date before returning to action on October 18 at Rhodes in an important SCAC game. This was Sewanee's second home game of the year, following a 30-0 win over Maryville the week before. Remaining home games for the Tigers are against Washington & Lee for homecoming on October 25 and Trinity on November 8.

Justin Wear is a Freshman hailing from Columbia, Tennessee. He is an avid sports fan and has taken on the subscriptions department at the Purple.

Upcoming Schedule

Football

October 18 at Rhodes
October 25 vs. Washington & Lee
Nov. 1 at Millsaps

Men's Soccer

October 11 at Centre
October 12 vs. Haverford
October 18 at Principia
October 19 at Webster
October 20 at Maryville (Mo.)

Women's Soccer

October 11 at Centre
October 18 at Fontbonne
October 20 at Westminster
October 25 vs. Wesleyan (Ga.)

Women's Volleyball

October 10-11 at Emory Tournament
October 18-18 at SCAC Cross-Div.

Cross Country

October 11 at Rhodes Invitational

Equestrian

Nov. 1-2 at Midway College

Field Hockey

October 10 at Centre
October 24-25 KIT Tournament

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Sports Trivia

compiled by Josh White and David Adams

1. Who is the only player in MLB history to win MVP twice while playing for a last place team?
2. Who was the quarterback of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers the last time they had a winning season?
3. Two players in MLB history have had 100 walks, 100 runs, 100 rbi's, 20 HR, and a .300 batting average for six consecutive years. Who are they?
4. Who holds the MLB record for consecutive games without hitting in to a double play?
5. What golfer has the most Ryder Cup experience, having played 41 matches in 10 Ryder Cups?

Answers: 1. Ernie Banks 2. Doug Williams 3. Ted Williams and Frank Thomas 4. Craig Biggio (155) 5. Nick Faldo

Parent's Weekend Sports Shots



Left: Becky Davidson takes a hack at the ball during a weekend field hockey game. Above: Parents in Sewanee for Parents Weekend take in some Sewanee soccer action.



Ian Scott attempts to block an Oglethorpe shot. Scott scored to go ahead goal for Sewanee against Oglethorpe Sunday. Sewanee won the game 2-0.



Sewanee competes in Equestrian over Parent's Weekend

photos by Lyn Hutchinson

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Salome: Biblical tragedy dances into the present

by Roger Hailes, Arts Editor

What brings people in to see Sewanee theatrical performances? Talented actors, an entertaining script, an aesthetically pleasing set design and good directing have all worked in the past. This fall there is a new attraction, potential for nudity.

People will have to come see for themselves on October 29 or November 1 at the Women's Center when Charles Fiore and Dionysus and company will put on Osear Wilde's *Solomé*. This is Fiore's first directing effort and he is noticeably excited. He had read the play last year and it struck him as the best play he'd ever read. When Fiore was approached by Dionysus and company and asked if he wanted to direct a production this semester, he knew *Solomé* would be the play to bring to Sewanee.

Interestingly, he has never seen a production of the play performed; but that doesn't bother him. He said, in an interview, that he was optimistic because, "the cast and crew were really picking up the

vibe of the show". The cast includes Mike Butterfield as Herod, Jennifer Campbell as Herodias, Molly Schneider as Solomé and Paul Morris as Jokannan (John the Baptist).

Fiore called the production, "the most ambitious that Dionysus and Co. has attempted" especially as far as set design and costumes. The costumes will be lavish, Judean robes. The multi-level set will transport the audience to a first century palace, and it's prisons and cistern. One troubling prop that the script calls for is the decapitated head of Jokannan, which Fiore says will probably be cast in plaster.

Fiore admits that the script will be difficult to master because it is written in Elizabethan English. For the benefit those who are not familiar with the story of Solomé, it takes place in King Herod's court in 43 AD. The profit Jokannan, held prisoner in the court, catches the eye of Herod's seductive and beautiful niece Solomé. She is promised up to half the kingdom by her lustful uncle if she will perform

the dance of the seven veils. Instead of asking for half the kingdom, she demands the head of Jokannan, so that she can fulfill her desire to kiss him.

In most productions, the dance of the seven veils is extremely racy and often includes nudity. When asked if his production would include nudity Fiore didn't want to give it away, but said, "I don't really know if we are going to, but it is a possibility". He encourages students not to be scared away from the fact that it is a Biblical tragedy and assured me that it was a very apt play for our generation. Fiore attributes the entertainment value of this production in part to the genre of the play. Tragedy, says Fiore, is "not static", but "powerful, and energetic. It covers a long gamut of emotion."

With or without nudity, the play should be well worth seeing because it has yet another sensational element that Americans love — death. Fiore said his production would be, "dark, with a lot of death".

Images within the void: A journey to embark on

by Elizabeth Dupree

Looking inward is a challenge for all human beings. Throughout time there has been a search into the depths of human life. Living is a complex and rigorous task for all of us; however, capturing it is bewildering. The process can allow the mind to explore levels of consciousness previously unknown; however, the ability to express it to others is a talent. Creating an image that fellow humans can relate and feel close to separates the average from the spectacular. Edward Carlos, professor of fine arts, is currently showing a collection of photographs and drawings at Stirling's Coffee House. They are remarkable and enchanting to both eye and mind; as a result, his work is touching and easy to enter.

He titled his show "Images Within the Void". It is a welcoming introduction for viewers and a suitable title for his exhibit. I use the word welcoming because the work has a lot of depth and can be startling at first. It is a collection of his art during and after a sabbatical leave. However, I am sure that Carlos was aware of this and intentionally opened the doors for many interpretations and personal relations with his art. He says that his "work is representative of all levels of consciousness." This is evident when entering the room. The photographs are captivating and cause one to look far beyond the realms of ordinary life. To fully comprehend all that is behind them it is necessary to search within. I was fortunate enough to talk with

Carlos both at the opening and a few days after. This was an experience. I was thoroughly intrigued and impressed by his insight to human life. He has an extraordinary ability to tap into the processes of the mind and express them with great clarity. He has a targeted perception of others that is reflective in his presence. During our conversation the proverb "seek to understand rather than to be understood" came to my mind. He searches to understand as if it is an ongoing study; therefore, I find this appropriate when describing him.

One example of his constant desire to understand was present during our conversation. He was speaking of the process of his work. He said that it "defines" him and "creates the artist" in him; therefore, the photographs and paintings are not his, but, rather, a tool used in forming him. Upon looking at his art, I noticed that his constant gift of self is evident. He searches deep within; as a result, he is able to contact meaning that is not always obvious. At first glance someone is not able to capture the depth in these works because they draw you in much further. Carlos takes you on a journey to realms that are fueled by thought, emotion, passion and magic within the mind. I suggest you grab a good cup of coffee and take the plunge, you might find more than you knew could be found.

Dr. Carlos wanted to especially thank Elizabeth Core and his work study student Cas for all of their time and effort in making this show possible.

Texas Trinity teaches strength of human spirit

by Craig Hoover

In the fall of 1996, Paul Bonin-Rodriguez performed one installment of his *The Texas Trinity*, a three-part one-man show about a boy growing up in rural Texas. On September 23-25, he returned to perform the show in its entirety. Bonin-Rodriguez has received stellar reviews for this piece, and he showed the Sewanee audience why. The piece is a coming of age story about a naive, homosexual boy facing the prejudices of his rural, deep-south town. The boy goes through a series of triumphs and failures that help him grow stronger in an environment that is continuously trying to stifle his human spirit. People who witnessed

all three installments followed the boy through high school and into his first experiences at college. The story is outrageously funny, but, at times, poignant and touching. Audiences leave the theater with their minds open and their hearts out to this unlikely hero. Bonin-Rodriguez specializes in the use of several characters, while maintaining a steady narrative flow. He is excellent at playing stereotypical characters, but also finding the human frailty in each of them. His captivating grace on the stage shows why this dancer-turned-actor is winning the hearts and minds of audiences all over the country.

Nashville: This Weekend

Since we could not have a *Purple Picks* in this edition, and since some of you may not want to hang around on the Mountain this weekend, here is the low down skinny for what's going on and who's playing in Music City, U.S.A.

- Blue Grass Inn:** Fri. 2-6pm Jack Christopher, 6-10 Buddy Goines, 10-2am Joe Buck
- Bourbon Street Blues and Boogie Bar:** Thurs. @ 9 Stacy Mitchart and Blues U Can Use
- Legends:** Fri. @ 9, Tabasko Kat
- Maggie Maggee's:** Fri and Sat. @ 2pm Big Kat
- Kaylor, 6pm Beebo and Josie, 10 pm The Moe Jackson Blues Band**
- Rivalry's:** Thurs. @ 8 Louisiana Blues with Delicious Blues Stew
- Stardust Theater:** Mon.- Sat. @ 8 Boot Randolph, Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass
- 328 Performance Hall:** Sat. @ 9 John Jackson's Soul Satisfaction

The Quotation

I once had a friend who was fond of saying: "There are two types of people in the world: those who separate people into two categories, and those who don't."

As I casually peruse the western literary canon, I find that this theme is abundant in our culture. The simplification (oversimplification?) of class designations, cultural differences, and other somewhat arbitrary distinctions are an inextricable part of how we see ourselves and our society.

Though these differences rarely come to anything of importance, misquoting someone is reprehensible, and individuals who are persnickety about who said what deserve much credit for keeping us in check. Remember, in a liberal arts institution, it's not about who you know, but *whom* you know. So without further ado, we move on to this week's quotation. Who said:

"we distinguish... [between] those who wish only to eat the bread of their own labor - and those who eat the bread of other people's, and have no other plan in life, but to get through it in sloth and ignorance."

A) Ayn Rand in *The Fountainhead*

B) Laurence Sterne in *A Sentimental Journey*

C) Friedrich Nietzsche in *The Genealogy of Morals*

Please SPO your response to *The Sewanee Purple*. The winner will be declared in the next issue.

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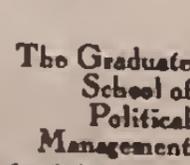
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Dylan isn't dead, but *Time out of Mind* is morbid

by Jonathan G. Williams

Some of you readers out there may be a little puzzled as to why I'm reviewing the new Bob Dylan album, *Time Out Of Mind*. There's the uninformed minority who probably thinks him dead, what with the rather touch-and-go surgery he underwent earlier this year. Well, it's for certain that Bob isn't dead yet, although he may be closer than many of us would like to admit. As for the rest of you (I'm excluding the subterranean hobbits who haven't heard of him), you're probably wondering what the man could possibly have to offer at this point in his life, now that Rubin gathers dust in jail, the blue-eyed son has finished his wanderings, and the Pope himself presides over Dylan's performances. Has his song been sung? Could he create anything of any interest to the mu-

sic-listening public of the late '90s?

Well, regardless of all the hypothesizing that a Dylan fan can muster, a new record has been released. Be it a surprise or not, *Time Out Of Mind* is a really good record. By 'good' I mean that it is supported by the weight of its own merits; there's unity, an intriguing musical persona, and depth to every song, the truest signs of an accomplished and professional album. I won't go into the business of making parallels with some of Dylan's more remembered masterpieces (*Highway 61 Revisited*, *Desire*, *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*), simply because of the fact that it seems pretty pointless. Those records already live in the archives of truly influential music, and nothing that *Time Out Of Mind* has to say will have any effect on Dylan's, or his past albums', reputation. I

look at this record as another eagle or bear head carved into the already towering totem pole of Bob, adding to its general appearance but having no other impact on its structure.

As I mentioned earlier,



Time Out Of Mind is a really good album. The majority of the musical fare won't shock or catch off-guard anyone who has even the baldest notion of what Dylan has been doing for the last fifteen years, but the songs please this listener nonetheless. The tight, charging blues and folk dynamics that have sprung from Dylan's fingers for so many years

are in fine form this time out, as evidenced on the house-rocking numbers "Dirt Road Blues" and "Til I Fell In Love With You." A smattering of traditional, ballad-type inspirational also fall into the mix ("Tryin' To Get To Heaven" lies so irritatingly close, nominally and musically, to "Knockin' On Heaven's Door" that the reviewer let fly with a muffled chortle upon hearing it).

What's interesting about *Time Out Of Mind*, however, are the songs that fall in-between these rather formulaic, 'Dylanesque' stand-by songs. While being a really good album, it is at the same time a very dark, meditative album. The most striking manifestation of this darkness is Dylan's voice. Recorded with a minimalist's attention to tone and volume, the songs serve to bring his edgy, world-weary rasp to the forefront. It's painfully apparent upon hearing the man sing that this spring's surgery

made him realize just how close to death he has become. Rather than go out on the sunshine foot of a born-again spiritualist, Dylan has opted for a more sinister vision of the life that he's ever closer to leaving behind.

The opening song, "Love Sick," utilizes an eerie, dub-like syncopation of organ and voice to create an atmosphere that wouldn't be out of place in an Edgar Allen Poe story. When Dylan sings, "I'm sick of love/ And I'm in the thick of it," I experience an American Gothic vision of a man deliberating on just how he's going to do his good wife in. Other songs, such as "Not Dark Yet" and "Cold Irons Bound," give a similar effect to the listener, with a cavernously bluesy sound and a bordering-on-the-macabre poetic view of the landscape of the autumn of one's life.

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Madison Jones Civil War novel sparks interest in Sewanee

by Briana von Weimer

Ears perked up on the Domain at the name of Madison Jones, this year's guest speaker for the Stacy Allen Haines Lecture series, who read from his latest novel, *Nashville 1864*, to a large and captivated audience on October 2. Madison Jones' fame is not without cause, as English professor Jennifer Michael illustrated in her introduction of Sewanee's distinguished guest. Among his ten published works of fiction are *A Cry of Absence*, which was the assigned freshman reading in 1992, *The Innocent*, *Last Things*, *To the Winds*, and *The Exile*, which in 1970 was made into the film *I Walk the Line*. Jones has also made frequent contributions to the *Sewanee Review* and was awarded a *Sewanee Review* Writing Fellowship.

A Nashville native, Jones studied at Vanderbilt and at the University of Florida, where he was under the tutelage of Sewanee's own Andrew Lytle. He settled in Alabama, teaching English literature at Auburn University from 1956 to 1987. Jones has not forgotten his home state, however, and his most recent novels have been given a Tennessee setting.

Nashville 1864 is the only work pertaining to the Civil War which Jones has written. Growing up with his grandfather who was born in 1856, Jones joined him in regarding the Civil War as a painful subject and one distasteful to deal with. Why exactly *Nashville 1864* was written at all remains a mystery to Jones, who explains it by the fact that friends' interest in the time period must have inspired him.

The story is the memoir of a grown man recalling his experiences as a 12-year-old boy caught up in the turbulence and confusion of the Battle of Nashville, described by Jones as the last great battle of the West and the defeat of the Confeder-

ate army, though General Lee continued to fight in the east for several months. The protagonist, young Steven Moore, asks permission of his mother, who is struggling to maintain their family farm, to set off in search of his father, who is among the Confederate troops fighting nearby under General Hood. Joined in his search by his young slave companion Dink, the two boys find themselves caught behind the lines of one of the bloodiest and most tragic battles fought by the Confederate army in the final stages of the war.

At one point, Steven and Dink witness the gruesome ambush of a black regiment, igniting strong tensions of loyalty between the two boys and causing their friendship to dissolve. As the book advertises, "Madison Jones' trademark precise and lurid prose guides us through the disorienting fog of battle and memory, following Dink and Steven toward the brutal climax that shocks them into recognition of their separate identities - black and white - and of the tragic consequences of war."

Senior Kelly Ranke, a head of the new Sewanee Book Club, was "quite impressed with the excerpt [Jones] read from *Nashville 1864*. He only read two chapters but they were filled with wonderful descriptions which seemed so real and honest. I truly enjoyed it." One of Madison Jones' works has been included on the list of books which the Book Club will discuss this year.

As opposed to so many fictitious accounts of the Civil War, *Nashville 1864* makes no attempt to gloss over the horror and heartbreak of war. His graphic descriptions of the battle, as well as of the scenes behind, bring to life one of the most dramatic and intense periods of US — and, in particular, Southern — history. A must-read for everybody

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