

THE SEWANEE PURPLE

The University of the South

Sewanee, Tennessee 37375

Details 'Up in the Air'

Curriculum Changes Unlikely Next Year

By Jon Meacham
Editor

There is little chance that any major alterations either in faculty coursework or in the requirements for graduation will go into effect for the 1990-1991 academic year, according to various University officials and sources.

"To have a coherent and complete plan to instituted in '90-'91 would be difficult," said Professor Bran Potter, who is currently chairman of a group studying implementing the changes. "The possibility of some incremental changes, however, is open."

The latest development in the series

of curriculum reform proposals, debates, and studies came last week when the College faculty, in a "non-binding straw vote," endorsed an undergraduate course load of four courses each semester instead of the current load of five.

What makes this vote significant is that, last spring, the plan the faculty approved "in principle" had undergraduates taking four courses one semester and five the next semester.

"That, any way you measure it, is a smaller number of courses than the faculty approved last year," said Potter in an interview last week. "I view the vote as very significant, but I don't know what the ramifications are."

It appears, then, that the report the faculty approved in May 1989—once which proposed major renovations in distribution requirements and reduced faculty and student courseloads—is not precisely what the majority of the faculty would like to see implemented.

"The details are up in the air," said Potter. "The overall will of the faculty, in terms of the direction of the thinking on this, is clear. But the details are up in the air."

"It's going to be very difficult to have a new curriculum in the short term," he said.

The proposed changes have been a focus of debate since a document entitled

"A Very Early Draft of Some Proposals" to alter undergraduate distribution requirements and reduce faculty workload was written in the fall of 1988. If students are and faculty are given fewer courses to take and to teach, they will have more time to do better work in the courses they are involved in, proponents of the plan say.

"The point is that students are serving so many masters and mistresses that they are not able to cope with all the responsibilities of five courses," Potter said. "The intent is to make courses mean more to students."

SEE STATUS PAGE 4

Questions Some Costs

Faculty Report Targets Budget Problems

By Ben Zeigler
Associate Editor

A two-page report scrutinizing certain aspects of both the University's current budget and the one proposed for 1990-'91 was submitted to the College faculty at its Jan. 24 meeting by the College Budget Priorities Committee.

Citing what it refers to as "several problems in the University's budget examinations," the committee's report discusses, briefly, several points of University fiscal policy that the committee sees as partly responsible for recent budgetary constraints.

"We see these budgetary problems as having a direct impact upon the life of the College, and we are pleased that our committee is able to bring these fiscal issues before the faculty for its consideration," said Professor of English John V. Reishman, who serves on the committee. The report was also signed by Professors John Flynn and Eric Ellis.

"If we as a faculty are to make sound decisions which affect the College, we must do so within the context of the University's budget, and if problems for the College exist in this budget, they must be made known," Reishman added.

Heading the three-point list enumerating the committee's "observations" is an observation that, between 1979 and 1989, there were 22.5 additions to University institutional support staff of the University.

During the same period of time, however, there have only been 9.5 additions to the College faculty, the report says. At the School of

Theology, meanwhile, there have been no faculty increases since 1979, records show, and the seminary faculty will begin the fall of 1990 with two fewer members than they had in 1979.

These institutional support staff appointments include a new executive assistant to the regents, two vice presidents, two legal counsels, and nine persons in University relations. Many of these positions, the report adds, "are highly salaried and hence expensive."

It was over this situation, Reishman said, that the committee expressed the greatest concern.

"The fact that the growth of the University administration is so disproportionate with that of the College faculty—not only in the number of people hired but also in the amount of money spent on them—is something that does not bode well for this institution," Reishman said.

"Any expense outside campus life takes away from it," Reishman added, and went on to say that the continued growth of the administration would cause it to be more its more focused on its own interests, distancing it from the affairs of the College, thereby creating what he termed "a separate caste."

The money spent running the admissions office was another concern expressed in the report.

"Our admissions office is expensive," the report says, and it notes that the admissions office budget of \$651,000 is said to be comparable with other private colleges with which Sewanee competes for prospective students. The report goes on to say, however, that in light of this ample budget "we should expect results in

student recruitment equally impressive as those achieved by our competition."

"If we are spending amounts comparable with Davidson and Washington and Lee on our admissions office, we should expect the same very high degree of success in a larger applicant pool and a steady improvement in the calibre of those students accepted," Reishman said.

Reishman pointed out that, if the

total admissions budget is divided by the number of students who ultimately matriculate here, the average cost per student comes out to be well over \$2,000, a figure the committee believes underscores some overstaffing in the admissions office as well.

A final budgetary complaint lodged in the committee's report deals with the

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Faculty Votes Yes to Upperclass Wilkins

By Samantha Fields
Staff Writer

A majority of the College faculty voted to award at least three upperclassmen Wilkins Scholarships in a December meeting, and nominations for those scholarships will be sought soon, according to University officials.

The practice of awarding some outstanding juniors and seniors in the College a Wilkins Scholarship was discontinued last year because of financial considerations, said Professor Charles R. Perry, Associate Dean of the College, last week.

"In the past, deserving upperclassmen in the College, who fulfilled the criteria for the Wilkins program, were sometimes nominated to be Wilkins Scholars," Perry said.

According to University Provost Frederick Croom, the argument against reinstating the upperclass nominations was that there is a limited, certain

amount budgeted for Wilkins Scholarships that was being spent exclusively on those students chosen as Wilkins Scholars as entering freshmen.

"For several years, they ended up with more Wilkins Scholars at the freshmen level than were budgeted for," Croom said. "For that reason, the scholarships had not been available for upperclassmen."

According to Croom, the question was brought up of whether "it is a good use of money for already committed students." He mentioned that the individual student's need may make some difference in the selection process, but not a great difference.

"It will be better to have a way to reward people, nonetheless," Croom said. "I hope we can get more money and more scholarships."

The amount budgeted now is around \$200,000 per class. The endowment

SEE WILKINS PAGE 2

NEWS

1991 Commencement a Week Early

1990 Academic Calendar Set

By Ashley Heyer
Staff Writer

The academic calendar for the 1990-91 school year has just been published; the class of 1991 will graduate on May 12, 1991, a week earlier than the past few years.

The earlier Commencement was made possible by the institution of 55-minute class periods and starting earlier in January than in the 1989-90 academic year.

The institution of 55-minute class periods saved six days per semester. In the Advent Semester, these days were

used to start later in August, institute a two-day Fall Break and end earlier in December. In the Easter Semester 1990, the six days were used to come back a week later in January than in the 1988 and 1989 semesters.

"Starting on the 17th of January resulted in greater boredom for the students over Christmas vacation," said Professor Charles K. Perry, Associate Dean of the College. While the 20-day Christmas break is shorter the 27 day break in 1989-90, it is similar in length to the 1987-88 and 1988-89 breaks.

It is the assumption of the Deans

that spring break is the proper length, so the best place to remove the extra six days from is the end of school. This early end will hopefully give students an advantage in getting summer jobs and give the faculty more time for research and travel.

Other important dates for the 1990-91 school year are: August 27, Advent Registration; October 19-24, Fall Break; November 21-26, Thanksgiving Break; December 11, Last Day of classes; December 19, Last Day of Exams; January 9, Easter Registration; March 13-25, Spring Break; April 30, Last Day of Classes; May 8, Last day of exams.

The program will culminate in a tour of the great cities of Western Europe. Only twenty to twenty-five students from both Rhodes and Sewanee

will be accepted, and all interested undergraduates are urged to contact Professor Susan Ridyard before the Feb. 11 deadline.

European Studies Program Offered

The Sewanee Purple
News Staff

The University of the South and Rhodes College are jointly offering a European Studies program that will focus on Western Europe in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance from July 8 to Nov. 5, 1990.

The program is open to all students in the College, and 15 hours of credit, as well as quality credits, will be given to those who complete the course of study. Students will spend an introductory month at Sewanee, followed by substantial time in England at York, Stratford and St. John's College, Oxford.

KING FROM PAGE 8

today, he would be working to help us learn to be selfless. A selfless person, whose attention is not totally centered on his or her own desires is able to love others.

Change begins in our heart. We can't tell anyone that we have changed. Real change is apparent to all. And the first place we demonstrate such change is the manner in which we treat our families. Family life is our first challenge. The family is the first place we have an opportunity to show that we know how to love others. If we love another, his or her interests come before our own. This is what Christ taught. If the family is happy, society changes. The husband and wife are happy. Children are secure, which gives them a better foundation to go out and meet the challenges of the world. Secure and loved students perform better in school. All of society will benefit from loving homes.

Our very survival as a civilization love unselfishly, not only our families,



will depend on our need to learn how to and our fellow man—but we must learn also to express our unselfish love for our environment.

All of this requires that we change our thinking. If we change our thinking our actions will change as well.

American Indians speak of all of nature as one. We are finding that we are in fact all tied together. Understanding this, it becomes easier to understand one another. And together we can begin to find solutions to the many challenging problems in our

society.

In the 1960's, African Americans changed their minds and decided that they would be free, as a result, this country saw a major positive change. The Eastern Europeans changed their minds, and communism is now in retreat.

Here in America, it's time to change our minds again. This time we must decide to love our family members, the poor, the sick, the elderly, the children, and the environment.

WILKINS FROM PAGE 1

from estate of Georgia M. Wilkins, the scholarship's founder, however, does not provide all the money. The actual endowment from the family is somewhat less than half of what is actually given, according to University officials.

This year, enough money for 22 freshmen Wilkins Scholars and at least three upperclassmen has been budgeted. Perry said that sometime in the next few

months he will send a note to faculty members asking them to nominate "a worthy, non-member, exceptional student who fulfills the aims of the Wilkins program."

The issue of rewarding those undergraduates who did not initially receive a merit scholarship was raised privately in the most recent Student Life Cabinet meeting with the members of the Board of Regents, the executive committee of the Board of Trustees, in October.

Twelve Men Pledge After Second Rush January 27

The Sewanee Purple
News Staff

Twelve men pledged fraternities on Saturday, Jan. 27, after participating in the second semester rush, popularly known as "Football and Soccer" rush. Of the five fraternities receiving new members, Alpha Tau Omega took the largest number by pledging six men.

Alpha Tau Omega: Ladson Han Brevard, N.C.; Robert Maxwell, Centerville, MD; David Merrill, Hudson, OH; Robert Nornberg, Dothan, AL; John Richards, Charlotte, N.C.; Jay Wheelock, Boca Raton, FL
Lambda Chi Alpha: (associate member) Alec Badenoch, San Jose, CA.; Sigma Nu: Jeff Mixon, Atlanta, GA.; Jon Williams, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Phi Delta Theta: Garrett Robinson, Trussville, AL. Chi Psi: Adrian King, Pensacola, FL
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Poet Reads in Convocation Hall

Merwin Wins Fourth Aiken-Taylor Prize

Bill Hammer
Editor

W.S. Merwin has been chosen as fourth recipient of the Aiken Taylor award for Modern American Poetry, which is awarded annually to a contemporary American poet whose body of work which is judged to be exemplary in the field. The \$10,000 prize was presented to him by Vice-Chancellor Samuel R. Williamson at the Opening Convocation in All Saints' Chapel for the Easter semester on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

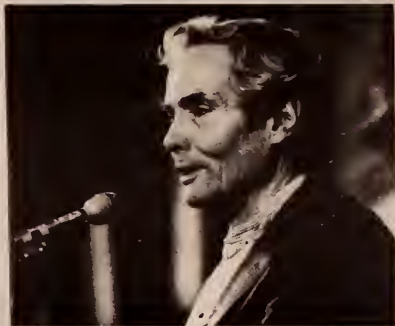
The Aiken Taylor award, which is administered by the *Sewanee Review*, was established by generous contributions made by a younger brother of Conrad Aiken, Dr. K.P.A. Taylor, a person who has written poetry himself which has been published in the *Sewanee Review*, the *Kenyon Review*, and other leading literary quarterlies in America. The prize has been named for him and Conrad Aiken. Merwin falls fourth in the line of distinguished American poets who have received the award. Others are Post Laureate Edward Nemerov, Richard Wilbur, and

Anthony Hecht.

Merwin was educated at Princeton University, and has won recognition not only for his skills as a fine poet, but also for his contributions as a playwright, a translator, and a memoirist. His volumes of poetry include *A Mask for Janus*, *The Dancing Bears*, *The Moving Target*, *The Lice*, *The Compass Flower*, *Opening the Hand*, and *The Rain in the Trees*. Moreover his collection *Selected Poems* includes poetry from ten of his previous collections.

Merwin has many other honors which include the Yale Younger Poets Award, a *Kenyon Review* fellowship, an American Academy grant, a Ford Foundation grant, the Harriet Monroe Memorial Prize, a Pulitzer prize, and a Bollingen prize.

On the night before accepting the prize from the Vice-Chancellor, Merwin read from his various works before a capacity audience in Convocation Hall. Included in the audience were a number of guests, particularly Cleanth Brooks, Gray Professor of Rhetoric Emeritus at Yale University, and Professor George Garrett, who introduced Merwin.



W. S. MERWIN read poems from each era of his work to a capacity audience in Convocation Hall on Monday, Jan. 22. (Photo by Lyn Huickson)

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Placed on Probation

By Robert Varnado
News Staff

A decision by Dean of Men Robert W. Pearigen to place the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity on probation and to restrict members of the fraternity from entering the SAE house has become a subject of much rumor and misunderstanding as the Easter Semester begins.

The decision was upheld on appeal by the Vice-Chancellor, who expressed his support for the Dean of Men.

Pearigen acted on reports by several faculty members that three members of the fraternity had related four "obscene and sexually suggestive" limericks before the members and their dates during a formal banquet at the Sewanee Inn on Dec. 1. Some faculty members were hosting a group of visitors and guests in Miss Clara's Tea Room, adjacent to the dining room where the banquet was held.

"It was an act of indiscretion committed in a public area which was offensive and humiliating to members of the faculty, their spouses, members of the community, and visitors to the campus," said Pearigen.

Those professors who filed the complaint with the Deans' office charged that the offending limericks were clearly audible throughout the Inn, and so "embarrassed and humiliated" them that



The SAE House will be closed until March, but the chapter will be on probation for two semesters. (photo by Clair Talmadge)

the entire group felt obliged to leave the Inn. These professors were in the course of entertaining visitors to the University.

One of the party who overheard the limericks wondered if such activities were "typical of Sewanee student social events."

The members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon maintain that probation for two academic semesters, the suspension of all activities at the SAE house until March 1, and the curtailment of several

thereafter.

"We told Dean Pearigen that they [the limericks] were not sponsored by the fraternity," said Barr. Although a chapter newsletter exhorted the members to prepare limericks for the banquet, Barr maintains that the chapter secretary added this request without the consent of the other officers or the chapter as a whole.

"What they did violated rules of conduct of behavior specified in our statement of relations between the University and the fraternities and University and JFC by-laws," said Pearigen. "In violating this code of conduct, they brought disrespect to their fraternity, the fraternity system, and to some extent, the University."

Barr says that the fraternity gave written and verbal apologies to the offended faculty members before being placed on probation, and claims that they were successful in convincing them that the limericks were not condoned by the fraternity.

He says that the chapter was unable to discipline the members in question, because the chapter was placed on probation before their next meeting. At this time, the SAE national organization is investigating the incident and there is speculation that the fraternity might in danger of losing its charter over this and previous incidents.

See related Letters to the Editor

facets of their pledge program are unduly harsh considering the nature of the offense.

The president of the SAE chapter, Ed Barr, said that the majority of the members present at the banquet did not condone the limericks, and denies the accusation, set forth in Dean Pearigen's letter to the fraternity, that many "joined in" by echoing lines of the limericks. Barr says that after the third limerick, he asked that no more limericks be told, and that the banquet ended shortly

NEWS

At Opening Convocation

Williamson Discusses Ethics in Education

By Michael Cass
Staff Writer

"Education and Ethics in the University Community" was the topic of Vice-Chancellor Samuel R. Williamson's address at the Opening Convocation of the University's Easter Semester on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

Williamson also presented the Alton Taylor Award for Modern American Poetry to W.S. Merwin, who published many poems in The Sewanee Review in the 1950s, when the literary quarterly was edited by Monroe K. Spears. The prize of \$10,000, administered by The Sewanee Review, was made possible by a bequest to the University by Dr. K.P.A. Taylor, the younger brother of poet Conrad Aiken, and is awarded annually to a distinguished, contemporary American poet for his career's work.

Williamson thanked Professor of Religion Herbert S. Wentz, who is relinquishing his post as Marshal of the University Faculties after 16 years of service, and Professors of English John V. Reishman and William T. Cocks III,

who served as deputy marshals under Wentz. Professor of Religion Gerald L. Smith has accepted a four-year appointment to the position.

The Vice-Chancellor's address began with a reference to *Straight Shooting: What's Wrong with America and How to Fix It*, a recent book by John Silber, President of Boston University.

Silber's opening chapter poses an interesting set of challenges for all of education and especially higher education: what do we do, what should we do to teach ethics and morals to our students and to help practice them ourselves? "

"This University already makes some forceful statements about ethics and morals and we should not ignore their impact. Not least is the fact that as a faculty and community we gather for convocations in this chapel; in doing so we affirm the University's relationship with the Anglican communion and with those who have made this place. The chaplaincy iterates this as well... The School of Theology by its presence, by its corporate influence on our community, and by its

efforts to train future priests makes a definite statement about the church, the university, and a special sense of values."

Williamson also spoke of Sewanee's Honor System, athletic programs and "strong traditions of faculty participation in the life of the institution" as statements which attest to the University's commitment to ethical and moral values. "But we cannot be content," he emphasized.

Williamson noted the University's offerings of courses which "examine ethical questions" and argued that the ability of a sound liberal arts curriculum to "encourage moral and ethical reasoning" reduces the need for required classes in ethics.

"I believe we will hear repeated calls for colleges and education more generally to teach values and moral principles," Williamson said. "These at least deserve to get a hearing... For sure, we will not want to give the appearance that we are either doing a perfect job or do not care about the issue as such."

Williamson also addressed the need for ethical values on a personal level

within the University community.

"We (the faculty) must insist on dealings with students and colleges that respect and tolerance and an understanding are important... Our leadership task in the year ahead is to think about forums in which we address the challenges and frustrating teaching, where we can share with too much risk our doubts, and where we can debate to improve our standards-- as individuals and as institutions," said Williamson.

"At Sewanee we can attempt to hold ourselves to higher standards of behavior than is the norm... We open the discussion about this sensitive subject and not be afraid to confront its implications, either for institutions or for ourselves."

"The requirements of E. Q. B. Vice-Chancellor concluded, "decency, justice, respect, human dignity; in echoing our motto, summarize and proclaim a statement. Let us continue to seek to give Ecco Quam Bortum a real weight as rhetorical attention."

Group Discusses Changes

STATUS FROM PAGE 1

When the Dean of the College appointed the "Implementation and Study Group" in October to investigate how to put those earlier proposals into effect, however, the group found that faculty courseloads could not be cut without increasing class sizes to levels unacceptable to some faculty members.

"We have come to realize that the teaching load and the courseload for students are linked," said Potter. Professor Stephen E. Puckette, who preceded Potter as head of the implementation committee, predicted in November that class sizes could increase

by an average 20 percent if the changes were put into effect at current University staffing levels.

"Our task is now to sort through the implications of the faculty vote and to see if the curriculum, including the distribution requirements, will require modification," said Potter. "We certainly don't need to move precipitously."

To have a plan in place for implementation next year, Potter and others say, means that these issues would have to be resolved by early March.

"That's not much time," Potter noted.

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New Budget Report Endorsed by Faculty

BUDGET FROM PAGE 1

projected salary raise for faculty in 1990-91. A 6 percent raise is projected by the Provost, a figure which the report, taking into account the present salary levels and the 4.6 percent inflation, terms as "not encouraging."

The response from the University's administration to the various observations in the report, has been for the most part favorable, but not without some disagreement.

"I see this report as containing many valid and relevant observations," said University Provost Frederick Croom.

Croom elaborated by saying that he was in agreement with the committee on the report's main grievance—the tremendous growth of the administration

without comparable faculty growth in the past ten years. "I would like to see the size of the administration reduced," Croom said, "and as the student body grows to 1300, we hope that faculty and administration will even out nicely."

Croom went on to say that this balancing of the two groups will hopefully be achieved by natural faculty growth as more students come in, coupled with a freeze on administrative hiring.

Nothing, however, was seen as particularly lacking in the admissions office by the Provost. Croom stated his belief that schools like Sewanee everywhere are having an admissions slump, and our admissions office cannot be completely responsible for our recent difficulties. "The number of students applying to liberal arts colleges are

declining everywhere, and with the increase in competition for them our admissions people are not completely to blame," he said.

The report does include some praise for the University's fiscal administration. The committee commended the administration on its handling of the professional salary scale, noting improvements brought about by the current administration's policy of limiting salary increases for administrative duties to the period of time in which those duties are actually being performed."

Reishman expressed hope that the report may give the faculty a stronger sense of the pressing issues of University finance and thus help give them "a greater role in shaping the direction of the College."

This hope was reportedly shared by those attending the Jan. 24 meeting, and the report, which carries only observations and no specific proposals for changes, was endorsed by a majority of the faculty.

Take your heart to court.

Exercise serves you right.



REPLY FROM PAGE 10

Peargin is asking you to do what all fraternities and sororities are expected to do: show that the pledge activities are constructive, useful, and meaningful in the best sense of these words.

d) educational issues: Dean Peargin will work with you to make the educational program an effective experience. Given the very public circumstances of this episode and the fact that it was a formal and public affair, I believe the entire fraternity was involved. If brothers are supposed to be responsible for each other's behavior, and that is certainly one of the goals of a good fraternity system, then they are also liable for the actions of their brothers. Fraternities have been disciplined here, I understand, for the actions of a few members; thus this action is not unique. What is different is the desire to assure that in the future no such actions take place that can endanger the future of the local SAE chapter or be construed to harm to other fraternity system.

e) newsletter: I do not believe there is an attempt at censorship; only the requirement that copies of any publication be sent to his office. Since

any such publication of a University organization can be taken to represent, rightly or wrongly, the views of the entire University, I believe it proper for Dean Peargin to know what has been said. Certainly there is no intention to censor, though I would hope that the contents of any publication would reveal self-imposed standards of high conduct. A useful guideline for such publications is whether or not we wish to have the contents reprinted in the pages of *The New York Times*.

f) national reaction: If the chapter, its leadership, and all its members work together effectively and constructively, I do not believe that the national organization in Evanston will take action to punish the local chapter.

Finally, in all of this Dean Peargin has acted to protect the chapter from further public recriminations and to assure the faculty who were offended that the University would act promptly in this matter. A prolonged public discussion of this matter will only undermine the chapter.

How to proceed: I believe that the spring will be hard whatever we do now. I would suggest that rather than prolong the public discussion about the issue, that you gather as members—as I am

suggesting to Dean Peargin that you do—to plan for the remainder of the academic year and to prepare for the next year. It would be profoundly regrettable if you allow this issue, about which you express great regret and apologies, to become a public issue that threatens the entire fraternity system. Dean Peargin has sought to strengthen and to

safeguard the fraternity system, not to damage it. You should do nothing that could have far deeper consequences for an important part of the Sewanee experience.

With all good wishes and as one who wishes us to look forward to an effective future for Tennessee Omega.

Sewanee Conference Plans Announced

By Brett Kennedy
Staff Writer

Sewanee is the home of a long literary tradition. Born of the *Sewanee Review*, that tradition of excellence in the literary arts will be furthered in the first Sewanee Writers' Conference to be held July 17-19. The conference is funded by money bequeathed to the University by the playwright Tennessee Williams to encourage "creative writing." Directing the new program will be the responsibility of Wyatt Prunty, currently the Ogden D. Carlton II Distinguished Professor of English. Assisting Prunty will be Professor of English William Clarkson, the associate director of the conference.

According to published reports, the faculty slated for the first conference will include critically acclaimed novelist Ellen Douglas; Marianne Gingher, a contributor of reviews and fiction to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Los Angeles Times*; Guggenheim Fellow Emily Grosholz, who in addition to writing for *The Hudson Review* also teaches at Pennsylvania State University; playwright Wendy Hammond; and light and New York University teacher Tina Howe; Pulitzer Prize winner and poet Donald Justice; Charles Martin, a teacher of writing at Johns Hopkins University; fiction writer Tim O'Brien, whose work has appeared in

The Atlantic and *Esquire*; novelist Robert Stone; and Mona Van Duyn, poet and winner of the 1976 National Book Award.

In addition to the poets and writers, publishers, editors, literary agents, and critics will come to the Sewanee Writers' Conference as guest lecturers. A few such guests include Andrew Nelson Lytle and Peter Taylor.

Participants in the conference will be selected on the basis of application which must include an original work. Admission to the conference will be based partly on the literary merit and quality of the submitted original work.

Prunty, an alumnus of the College and noted poet and critic, summed up why a Sewanee Writers' Conference may be a success in communities published in *The Sewanee News*.

"Of all the communities where I've lived and worked, Sewanee is the one place where I am happy to teach and to write at any time of the year. But it's in the summer, when the natural attractions of the Mountain are at their best, that Sewanee shows itself to its full advantage.

"It is, after all, a literary place, home to writers of many generations, an academic community with a fine library and an innate respect for learning and literature. There could be no more ideal location for writers and their students to share the practice of their craft than Sewanee in the summer."

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OPINION

Proceed With Caution

On several pages of this newspaper we have published three letters about a particular incident that, in various ways, dramatize a number of more general issues of current campus debate. We will let the letters speak for themselves and let the reader draw his own conclusions about the offense and the punishment; that is why, ultimately, we have devoted so much space to a single story.

But the affair does underscore some pervasive subjects, particularly the role of fraternities and sororities, that are now being exhaustively talked about in different places here. An entire subcommittee of the "Task Force on Undergraduate Social Life in the 1990s" is devoted to the issue, and a two-hour long Student-Faculty Dialogue focused on it last week. Much about the Greek system was said last fall during a daylong meeting of various University officials, faculty members, and undergraduates at Hamilton Hall, and it is frequently mentioned, at least in passing, by the Vice-Chancellor in his public and private remarks.

It is clear that the University is not anywhere near going the way of Colby or Amherst, where administrators have abolished the Greek system outright. That this incident has generated such controversy indicates to us its anomalous nature; if problems were genuinely prevalent in the system as a whole, then this one incident would not have attracted the attention that it has.

In short, it will be unfortunate if critics seize on an isolated, anomalous incident to indict the system as a whole. There is much talk at this hour about the way we go about living our lives here, and we recognize that both students and administrators alike want to maintain a strong system of fraternities and sororities. We would urge that all parties move with prudence and caution, remembering that there is much at stake for the University as a whole.

Abbo's Scrapbook Revisited

As promised in the last issue, we present here more of the insight and wit of the late Professor Abbot Cotten Martin. Professor Martin was almost as notorious for sparring with his fellow faculty members as he was for needing his own students. Over his almost fifty-year association with Sewanee, Martin developed an amusing appreciation and understanding of his own role as a professor as well as that of his colleagues. These two observations, one in the form of a quotation, seem to give an indication of Abbo's skeptical view of those who shared his vocation.

May 7, 1964: "At some future time Sewanee will no doubt have a brilliant teacher who is convinced of three things: one, that until he came here the quality of instruction was extremely poor; two, that until he came here there were no worthy or brilliant students; and three, that his coming changed all of that."

Cicero: "The authority of those who teach is very often an impediment to those who learn."

Editorial Policy

The Sewanee Purple is owned and operated by the students of The University of the South. Editorial and financial matters are directed by the Editor, in consultation with the staff, and under authority granted by the University Publications Board.

The Purple seeks to be a reliable and thorough source of accurate news and information for the students and others associated with The University of the South. In addition, the Purple serves as a forum for the reasonable expression of opinion within the community.

The Purple endeavors to be accurate in its reporting. If an error occurs, a correction will be printed.

Letters to the Editor are welcomed and should be mailed directly to the Purple. All letters sent by the author, no 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 in excessively poor taste.

Signed articles of opinion do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff or The University of the South. Unsigned editorials represent the consensus opinion of the senior editors.

The Purple strives to be an impartial source of news, independent of any outside interests. Editorial positions in no way affect news coverage.

The Purple welcomes contributions from any source. However, editors will serve as the final judges on the appropriateness of any submission. If possible, submissions should be made on a Macintosh computer disk; contact the editors for more information.

Letters to the Editor

Revisions Misunderstood

To the Editor:

The Report of the Working Group on Faculty Teaching Load and Related Educational Issues, approved by the College Faculty in principle last spring, has been commented on in several articles, editorials, and letters in the Sewanee Purple during the fall. Despite this, some misunderstandings of the report and its possible effects appear to be widely shared.

The most serious misunderstanding is that enrollment in introductory courses will be likely to double. That this almost certainly will not happen is evident from the proposed class schedules submitted by the various departments to the implementation committee several weeks ago. In most departments, introductory-level courses should be comparable in size to those of this year, provided that the number of freshmen remains roughly the same as this year.

Related to this is the fear that the close student-faculty relationships which have long been a hall-mark of a Sewanee education will be impaired. This is unlikely to happen as long as the student-faculty ratio remains at

11:1, as it is at present, and our basic educational system remains intact. The report calls for students to take slightly fewer courses and for the faculty to teach slightly fewer courses, but small classes will still be the norm.

Whatever changes are made will have been carefully considered. The report of last spring is being studied for possible implementation in the coming academic year by a committee of faculty and students: Professors Robert Keck, George Poe, Bran Potter, Stephen Puckette, Steven Shrader, and Edwin Stirling, along with students Laura Kay Walker and Todd Trubey, and myself, as an *ex officio* member.

We are working towards a reduced teaching load for faculty members in order to give them more time for professional development and to make possible better teaching. We are also planning a curriculum in which students will take somewhat fewer courses but these courses will be more intense. We hope to encourage faculty members to teach independent study courses by giving them credit for doing so.

The committee also plans to recommend a writing-across-the-curriculum program which will stress the necessity of effective writing in all

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The Sewanee Purple

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Founded 1892

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Letters to the Editor

ademic disciplines. We also intend to make it possible for interested faculty members to offer an integrated series of seminars courses bringing together history, literature, philosophy, religion, and the fine arts. Students taking these seminars courses will be able to fulfill the general degree requirements of all the subjects named by taking a course sequence.

Changes in the general degree requirements in history and the natural sciences will necessitate some new courses. The History Department, for example, is discussing a one-semester introductory course dealing with significant topics in Western civilization.

As in all projects aimed at bringing about changes, there is some risk that success may outweigh the gains. In any case, however, a careful reading of documents from last spring will demonstrate that the faculty is committed to basically the same vision and extensive general degree requirements, to courses even more challenging than at present, to good teaching at all levels of the curriculum, to relating the different components of liberal arts education even more effectively to one another than is now the case.

To clear up one final misunderstanding, the faculty is trying to provide an even better educational experience for students than at present, not trying to get out of work. We also try to make sure that in recruiting the best scholars and teachers in the 1990s we do not place ourselves in an impossible situation, faculty teaching load and the student body load which have been proposed (6 credits a year for faculty, approximately 9 credits a year for students) are very much in line with what is expected at the best liberal arts colleges.

If any student would like to read the minutes of last spring, my office will be glad to supply a copy.

Sincerely,

W. Brown Patterson

Dean of the College

Not A Costume Party

Editor:

In the 20 November 1989 issue of *Sewanee Purple*, Ben Zeigler explained that the Elizabethan service planned by the staff of All Saints' Chapel on the nineteenth of November (attributed to the "ecclesiastical key business" present in the last issue of the *Episcopal Church*, Mr. Zeigler labeled the service a frivolous costume party.) Had Zeigler attended the service, he might have acknowledged that many people worked hard to prepare the liturgy and atmosphere of the service and not to distract the focus from

worship to ceremony. Most people did not misinterpret the use of the 1559 Book of Common Prayer "as a backdrop for a game of Sunday morning dress-up," but found that the coordinators of the service, aided by Dr. Marion Hachett, had carefully organized the liturgy to be an accurate representation of the text while serving as an effective guide to worship in a modern service. Before the service began, Chaplain Lloyd addressed the congregation, emphasizing that even though the liturgy was 400 years old, the job of the staff was to present the material in a fresh way so that the participants could learn how the early church worshipped and in a sense join them. Fr. Lloyd reminded the congregation that the service was not a performance and that everyone should participate rather than observe from an outside point of view. The people who opened their minds to what the service had to offer enjoyed a spiritually enriching experience.

Sincerely,

Leslie Hiers

SAMS To Sponsor A

Dating Game

To the Editor:

Students Against Multiple Sclerosis, or S.A.M.S., is in need of your support. In order to continue research to stop this crippling disease that strikes people ages 20-40, funds are needed. Luckily, raising money can be fun. This Friday, February 9, S.A.M.S. is sponsoring its own version of "The Dating Game!" Organizations may sponsor a candidate (male or female) to choose a lucky date! If the candidate is lucky, he/she will win a prepaid dinner with the person they choose on the stage.

The audience will have its own chance to participate by giving its choice for the most "promising" date. This activity, held in Convocation Hall, can be fun and good natured; the S.A.M.S. Core Committee would like to ask that no alcohol be brought on the premises. We anticipate that everyone present will be made enough to show respect for the candidates and good taste while still having a good time. Anyone wishing to help with the setup, format, or advertising of "The Dating Game" should contact Allison Middleton or any other member of the S.A.M.S. committee.

We hope to see everyone cheering on their favorite candidate! Choose a great mystery date! Show your support for S.A.M.S. with your attendance, and "Help Bust M.S.!"

Sincerely,

Cricket Gaumer
S.A.M.S. Publicity Manager

For The Record

Gownsmen Wonders Aloud About O. G. Meetings

sense of commitment and responsibility to the University of the South.

Sincerely,

Preston Merchant

The following is an open letter to *Trey Moye*, the President of the Order of Gownsmen, that the author asks to be published here. Since it is specifically addressed to *Moye*, we have allowed him room to respond below. --Ed.

To *Trey Moye*, President of the Order of Gownsmen:

I am writing to express my thoughts concerning the meetings of the Order of Gownsmen. I received my gown in the fall of this year and attended the first meeting soon thereafter. It was my impression that attendance at these meetings is generally low which presents the organization with a variety of problems that I certainly do not need to illustrate. If my memory serves, at that meeting we decided to establish a set date for OG meetings—the first Tuesday of each month. Gownsmen would then know exactly when meetings would occur; there would be no confusion.

Unless I missed something, that was the first and only meeting of the Order for the Advent Semester. While I am not one for holding meetings when there is no business on the agenda, I cannot believe that the gownsmen have nothing to discuss. As you are aware, Sewanee is presently undergoing many changes and reforms: the curriculum, new buildings and renovations, the plan for increased enrollment, etc. Though we do not have the controversy of condom machines or campus cuts, I do believe that the status of the Order of Gownsmen is vitally important. If we find that we are not faced with pressing problems and controversy then surely we could devote ourselves to small projects like the history of the gown booklet already in the works.

If the Order of Gownsmen does not meet on a regular basis then the authority of the organization and its president is diminished for several reasons. First, gownsmen do not get into the habit of attending meetings or recognize that attendance is important and part of their commitment as gownsmen. Second, the campus does not see that the Order is a functioning body and a force of leadership as part of the student government. Third, induction into the Order becomes honorary—the gownsmen incur no responsibility for personal involvement in campus affairs. And finally, a bad precedent is set for future gownsmen and future presidents who would see in last semester an example of the normal and accepted operation of the Order.

I hope that this semester and in the future the Order of Gownsmen will function as it was intended—with a

Trey Moye responds: Certainly I understand Preston's point; however, I believe that it is misleading to assess the state of the Order by looking at the number of meetings that we have had. What he must understand is that a great deal of the work that the Order does is carried out by our various committee appointments. The Order is represented by exceptional students on administrative and faculty committees dealing with curriculum, performing arts, athletic facilities, the University Library, admissions policies, etc. In fact all of those issues that he listed are being handled by committees that include O.G. representatives.

In addition to the work done by student committee members the President serves a vital role in the business of the College. I have had a number of meetings with the academic Deans, the Deans of Students, the Provost, and the Vice-Chancellor. I feel that I have been a vocal President and that I have always acted in the best interests of the students, the Order, and The University of the South. I do not feel that my stature as a campus leader has been diminished by the calling of only one meeting.

Also, I was most proud of our elections this year. For the first time in the recent past elections were run in a fair and consistent manner. I have received many comments of appreciation from candidates.

Attendance at Gownsmen meetings, or lack thereof, has been a thorn in the side of many presidents. After talking with several former presidents I realized that the number of meetings held last year was exceptional. Frankly, as one that attended all of those meetings last year, I came to see the futility of calling a meeting of a 250-member organization and having ten people attend. In fact, the Constitution of the Order of Gownsmen provides only for the initial meeting and labels all other meetings as "special." I therefore determined that general meetings of the Order should only be called when there would be substantial business to transact.

Looking ahead, I eagerly anticipate an interesting semester for the Order, and I am sure that we will come together a good deal more often than last

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OPINION

For The Record

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semester. I have already made assignments to several colleges for the printing of the booklet on the history of the academic gown. We will continue to examine the electoral process here at Sewanee. We will have to find a new gown supplier due to problems with our current source. I believe that these will yield tangible results that can be seen as accomplishments for the Order.

A Letter From Germany

The following is excerpted from a letter that sometime Visiting Professor of German Wolf-Rüdiger Köhler, who taught in the College during the 1988 Advent Semester, wrote Dean W. Brown Patterson in December. —Ed.

Dear Dean Patterson,

Almost a year has gone by since I left Sewanee to return home. What was "home" then differed widely from what it is now, as you will have heard from the news services. However, I think such news never reflects the human factor behind all the events reported.

The following is the text of an address given by Director of Minority Student Affairs Eric V. Benjamin at Moulton State Community College in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in January. We appreciate Mr. Benjamin's allowing it to be published here. —Ed.

It is an honor being asked to speak at an event dedicated to the birth and life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His life continues to touch all of us in very positive ways. His birthday has become a time to reflect and to discuss issues that are important to each of us as individuals and to all mankind.

As Dr. Leaper has shown us in her remarks, these are times filled with suffering and neglect amidst tremendous prosperity. The Reagan Revolution had a great impact on how we view human issues. In the past, even Republican administrations believed that it was important to strive to do as much as possible to see that all of America had an opportunity to better their condition. Beginning with the GI Bill after World War II, our government recommended itself to a national policy that would lead to a better standard of living for the citizens of this country. This meant support for better housing and programs to make it possible for the average man to afford to purchase a home. Support for education was strong. When the soldiers returned after World War II, the GI Bill made it possible for them to go to college. Without governmental support, most of our young minority group members with college degrees (including myself) would not have had

We are going through what can truly be called a popular revolution. The situation around the festivities on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the state became so intolerable that hundreds of thousands of citizens went into the streets to protest against a government and communist party that had become so obviously anti-democratic and untruthful that tens of thousands of mainly young people left the country to go west. Clashes with the security forces were inevitable, but the people, under the leadership of the church, did not answer violence with violence. They kept assembling peacefully in streets and churches and in this way broke the back of a highly tyrannical regime.

I am proud to have taken part in these uprisings, having quit the Party as it had become over a long time irreconcilable with my humanistic and democratic views. I am now fighting in a democratic front together with Christian Democrats and people of one aim: truth, humanity, freedom, justice, equality. In short, all the age-old ideals of the best traditions of mankind.

This my personal decision was not easy at all. What gave me courage was

the opportunity to go to college.

But in 1990, we are being conditioned to feel embarrassed if we even mention such "liberal" issues. I think they call them "give a way" programs.

I believe if you want to find a real "give a way" you might look at the Savings and Loans scandal, the HUD scandal, or at all the cheating on Wall Street.

In the meantime, children, the poor, and the elderly suffer. When Martin Luther King was shot, his mission was broad. In addition to trying to help gain the rights for African Americans, he had begun to address issues that related to poor people. He knew that none of us should rest as long as there were those amongst us who were suffering from racial or economic oppression.

Since the early 70's, we have seen a few bright spots. I believe history will show that Jimmy Carter was one of our greatest presidents. Jimmy Carter is a good man who is interested in helping others. In my opinion Jessie Jackson's two runs for the Presidency have been very positive. The support that he received from white America was unexpected by many. As a result, I believe that we are able to tear down the walls that separate us. The election of Governor Wilder in Virginia is just an example of how things can change when the hearts of people are right.

But other than these special situations, in the African American and poor communities, things have gotten much worse. Housing is about to be a national emergency. Without a home

the thought I was not alone. I had my wife by my side and I was acting for my children, my friends, my people, our common future. It was also a comfort to know I had friends overseas in an academic community on the mountain, in Sewanee.

The battle goes on. By no means have we won yet. We have toppled a party regime—which has regrouped. We have forced a government to resign—the old apparatus is still functioning with the same bureaucrats. We have opened the barbed-wire frontier and hacked holes in the Wall in Berlin—but the State Security forces are still there, armed, only the name of the Department has changed. These and a lot more problems have to be solved soon. By no means do we wish to be swallowed by the Bundesrepublik, to become their poorest, most depressed province.

We had to swallow the tough truth that the Party and the government had completely ruined the economy of the country, while stealing unbelievable riches for the usual and the minions. We need help. We also need your unselfish assistance, your moral support.

I send to you in Sewanee my best greetings from a country convulsed with revolution. It is not the American Way

you have no dignity. Education is suffering from neglect. Drastic steps are needed if we are to save a believable future for our students. But changes take money which we are unwilling to commit. As tragic as it is to admit, those good jobs that we could get without a college degree in the past have been moved to Mexico where people are so poor that they are glad to work for \$1.25 an hour. And of those jobs that stay here, many will be done in the future by robots. A twenty thousand dollar robot will last several years, work for fifteen to sixteen hours a day, require no benefits, and not get sick. The jobs that are available will require education beyond high school. It has become very difficult for segments of our society to be effective bread winners. And let's not forget about the children who suffer the most.

Anywhere you go in the world, you will see that poverty breeds crime, disease, high infant mortality, and many of the other social ills which are now apparent in our urban communities. The key is finding the way to bring people into the system so that they can participate as full members.

Our fingers are crossed, hoping that President Bush will be sensitive in addressing these issues. Some say that these problems are too great, that the situation is hopeless.

I would like to say loud and clear that there is hope.

A year ago, did anybody think that Eastern Europeans would have thrown off Communism by 1990. What we have seen there is nothing short of a miracle. Once again, we have seen evidence that the human spirit cannot be

we are after. More likely someone that has never been done before: Germany has ever stood for. We do not all the evil in our past. We want to build a new brotherhood of man without racism, poverty, cruel exploitation of the weak and women, justice, peace (we have forced the government to scrap fighter jets, tanks, to allow the young men to visit in hospitals and other places instead of taking up arms), understanding and the people, care of the child, protection of the handicapped, education (we have forced the schools and universities to cancel Marxist-Leninism as a mandatory subject, and offer courses in philosophy, ethics, religion), demilitarization, and promotion of all that is good.

This can be won only through hard struggle. And hard work. A more hard work. Hundreds of those are voting now in a letter campaign for free arts, open churches, age discrimination, for a world free of aspects of bad capitalist practices, drugs, alcoholism, corruption of money. Maybe we want too much. Maybe we will fall victim to reaction. But I can never live on if I had not tried at

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kept down.

I believe that we are all meant to free to prosper. But unfortunately believe we make a mistake when look always to others as the solution to problems and issues effect our life and destiny.

If we look closely at Martin Luther King's teaching, we will find philosophy based on justice and love. I think we can all understand justice, love is another thing. We understand romantic love, especially when somebody loves us. But when comes to loving others, especially if who fail to love us, we have problems.

A great philosopher once said: you want to change the world, change yourself.

We want to be loved, with having to really love others. We peace, but we are not interested in justice. We want a full day's pay, do we give a full day's work. An selfish and self-centered at home? we angry at others for we prejudiced, while in our hearts we are prejudiced?

If the answers to those and similar questions are yes, then, can we expect anything to change? Mr. Luther King could have stepped marching for rights and freedom, a job in the system, and been paid well. But because of his love for people and his interest in improving conditions of our society, his selfless led to tremendous change. The selfless, takes great work.

If Martin Luther King were

SEE KING PAGE 2

Recently, the Tennessee Omega chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon wrote a letter protesting a recent disciplinary decision by Dean of Men Robert W. Pearigen (see related story on page 3) to Vice-Chancellor Samuel R. Williamson. The fraternity also submitted the letter to the Editor of The Sewanee Purple for publication. In order to be fair to all parties involved, the newspaper asked the fraternity's representatives—president Ed Barr and Wyman Dugan—to provide the letter to the Dean of Men had originally written in response. The Vice-Chancellor's ultimate response. The two officials agreed to have their letters published if the fraternity provided them to the newspaper and they gave permission to have the correspondence printed. The fraternity agreed, and we have published the three letters in chronological order to simplify matters. —Ed.

The Terms

The following is the text of the letter of objection that Dean of Men Robert W. Pearigen sent Ed Barr (C'91), the president of the Tennessee Omega chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, dated 14 December 1989. It is reproduced here in its entirety. —Ed.

On Friday evening, December 1, the SAE fraternity held a formal dinner banquet at the Sewanee Inn. The majority of the members of the fraternity were present, as were their female guests. During the course of the evening, several members of the fraternity—three to be precise—recited "traditional" limericks, some of which were sexually suggestive, others of which were sexually graphic and obscene. Although only three members of the fraternity initiated these limericks, apparently there were instances when the limericks elicited a group response in order to punctuate or accentuate the final, sometimes obscene, word of a particular line of the limerick.

From what I gather, the recitation of sexually explicit limericks during special, closed meetings of the fraternity is not uncommon and, in fact, is one of the traditions of the fraternity. It is also my understanding that in the weekly "private" SAE newsletter which preceded the banquet, members and pledges of the fraternity were encouraged to come to the December banquet with limericks prepared for recitation.

As you now know, sitting in a room adjacent to the banquet room were members of the University faculty, administration, and staff as well as members of the Sewanee community and their guests from out-of-town. Shocked, offended, and, indeed, saddened by the language they heard coming from the banquet room and unable to ignore the noise, these members and guests of the Sewanee community were forced to listen from their dinner meeting at the Inn. One of these persons commented that "I've never felt so humiliated in my life" and others wondered if this "repulsive behavior" might be "typical of Sewanee student social events."

Beyond the disrespect which this individual and group behavior showed to the young ladies in attendance at your banquet and to the Sewanee community, the members of your fraternity have brought disrespect to themselves, to the fraternity system at Sewanee, and to the University. The community members who were subjected to the obscene remarks were justifiably indignant and

have been given ample reason to question the integrity of our fraternity system and the principles of behavior which supposedly guide the system. It is very difficult to make the claim that the principles of "Respect for Human Worth and Dignity" and "Maintenance of Individual and Group Responsibility" as found in the Statement of Relations Between the University and the Social Fraternities are maintained when, in a public arena, such a gross violation of respect and responsibility occurs. Additionally, in that you admitted yourself, this type of incident perpetuates the reputation which has long plagued the SAE fraternity that many of its members are less than respectful to persons of the opposite sex and that the organization generally tends to tolerate such disrespectful behavior. It is imperative that this reputation be fundamentally changed and that all the members of the SAE fraternity conform to the standards of the "True Gentleman" as described in your pledge education material.

Although several members of the fraternity, including yourself, took exception to the demeaning limericks and eventually left the banquet after first exhorting the errant members to discontinue their behavior, the proper response would have been to discourage the continuation of the limerick recitation tradition prior to the banquet and to intervene immediately upon its inception at the banquet. The entire membership of the fraternity, and particularly those members in positions of leadership, must learn to be responsible in such a setting for the errant behavior of the minority. While I certainly understand the difficulty of intervening to prevent this type of behavior, I would suggest that the expectation of fraternity leadership requires nothing less.

On a separate matter, I shall take this opportunity to express my concern about certain features of the SAE pledge program which have been brought to my attention by faculty members, advisers, and even parents of Sewanee students. I understand and appreciate the interest that your fraternity, as well as the other fraternities on the mountain, have in cultivating a unified, collegial pledge class. But, as you know, I do not think that the goal of unity should be advanced by a program that compels pledges to remain on campus during the weekends or to participate in early morning exercise routines or to be lined up in front of the active members and ridiculed. I am well aware that the SAE

pledge program is much better than it has been in the past and I am not trying to single out your fraternity as the only one which is overly aggressive in its expectations for the pledge class. I am, however, disturbed that the large majority of inquiries and complaints I receive about pledge programs are related to the SAE fraternity. I know this also disturbs you and the majority of the members of your fraternity.

After consultation with the other Deans, the SAE faculty advisor, the IFC Judicial Board faculty advisor, and the IPC Convener, I have concluded that the following steps should be taken:

1. All social, recreational, intramural, and organizational operations of the SAE fraternity shall be suspended until March 1, 1990. Your lodge shall be secured and no individual or group activity will be allowed on or off the SAE property. The two members of the fraternity who currently reside at the lodge will be relocated to a dormitory until March 1.

2. All pledge activity will cease immediately and will not resume until March 1, 1990. Thereafter, the pledge program will have only an educational component (as it relates to fraternity and/or University history and rituals). The completion of the pledge program and the new member initiation must begin before Spring Break. The entire initiation process must be in accordance with national fraternity guidelines and must be attended by a representative from the national fraternity.

3. All members of the SAE fraternity will be required to participate in a group educational program (to be worked out with the Dean of Men) focusing on the issues of sexual harassment and gender relations.

4. The pledge program for the Fall of 1990 will be restructured so as to eliminate absolutely all forms of personal service, line-ups, weekend curfews, etc. The restructured pledge program will be submitted to the Dean of Men by September 1, 1990.

5. The SAE weekly newsletter, if continued, will be sent to the Dean of Men at the same time that it is mailed to all fraternity members.

6. The fraternity will be on probation for the remainder of the 1989-90 academic year and the Advent semester of 1990. During this probationary period, any serious disciplinary infraction or breach of the sanctions imposed by this letter could result in the suspension of the chapter and the possible revocation of the SAE charter at the University of the South.

7. The SAE national organization and the local chapter house corporation will be notified about this incident and the resulting sanctions.

Ed, it is my hope that you and the members of the SAE fraternity understand the seriousness of the

behavior which resulted in these penalties and that henceforth the chapter and its members will conform to appropriate standards of civility, respect, and group responsibility. I have a great deal of respect for your position in you and the many distinguished members of your chapter who represent the best that Sewanee has to offer in terms of academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. The SAE fraternity has had a long and distinguished legacy at Sewanee and it has the potential to continue to be a positive influence on our community. I challenge you and the members of your fraternity to make every effort to fulfill that potential.

The Appeal

The following are excerpts from the text of a letter of protest that the Tennessee Omega chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon wrote Vice-Chancellor Samuel R. Williamson after the terms of their punishment were announced. The letter submitted to Ed Barr is signed by all active members of the chapter, and some deletions were made and the agreement of both the Editor and the representatives of the fraternity. —Ed.

We, the members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, would like to officially protest the severity of the punishments meted out to us as a result of the events which transpired at the Sewanee Inn on the night of the first of December. As you may know, this incident involved the recitation of some limericks by three of our members during a formal banquet at which the majority of the fraternity was present with their dates. This occurrence disrupted the meeting of a University Steering Committee which was, unbeknownst to us, taking place in an adjacent room of the Inn. The committee was forced to adjourn their meeting and leave the Inn in distress and embarrassment.

We wish to make it very clear that we are not attempting to defend the actions of those fraternity members at the Inn who recited the limericks. Our fraternity does not condone their behavior and did not have a majority of our members take part in it. We are well aware that their actions were socially unacceptable and improper. Soon after the incident occurred, and on our own initiative, we apologized in writing to all members of the Steering Committee who were present. Furthermore, after consultation with two of the members of the committee, fraternity members were assured that these two members understood that the events at the Inn were not fraternity-sponsored or approved, but were instead the actions of three individuals.

Rather, we are seeking consistency in the formulation and application of the guidelines for punishment in sexual harassment cases, and that the University strive to ensure that there are uniformly and fairly implemented,

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

commensurate with the transgression involved. We feel that the program of punishment which we have received is unjust, unprecedented, and disproportionate, with regard to both the details of the incident itself, and in comparison to similar actions committed by other social organizations on campus. We wish to give a few examples of instances of sexual harassment which are similar to, or worse than, the incident in which one of our members committed sexual harassment.

Other social organizations on campus, both fraternities and sororities, commit similar infractions of the sexual harassment code. These instances involve the "roasting" of some or all of the members of the social organization, and often include the dates of the members as well. The occasion is frequently premeditated, planned well beforehand, with the specific intention of embarrassing or humiliating those present. These events take place in public locations such as the Sewanee Inn and the Bishop's Common. Yet none of these organizations has ever received any form of punishment or reprimand for these activities. As this behavior is participated in by both sexes of the Greek system at Sewanee, one must wonder whether it really constitutes sexual harassment, or more likely, is evidence of unfair or incompetent application of the sexual harassment code.

Another instance of sexual harassment which we feel illustrates the less-than-impartial application of the code at Sewanee occurred last year. A woman proctor turned in several members of one fraternity for drug use in her dormitory. As a result, she was subjected to threats, insults, humiliation, and ostracism by many other members of that fraternity for a long period of time. While this incident is similar to our own infraction in that it was perpetrated by only some individual members of a fraternity, it was far more demeaning and malicious; yet, in this instance, the fraternity as a whole was not punished in any way...

These examples are not intended to clear us of the charge of sexual harassment. We readily admit that our members were guilty of that. We wish instead to illustrate our contention that our punishment is unjustifiably harsh. This brings us to the second point which we wish to make in this appeal.

Dean Peargar has required us to cease all pledge activities for the remainder of this year, banned us from second semester, and ordered a complete and total restructuring of our pledge activities for the next academic year. We fail to discern any relationship whatsoever between the incident of sexual harassment at the Inn and the nature and conduct of our pledge program, nor any causal connection between the two. Dean Peargar told our assembled chapter that he wanted to "separate the[se] issues"; yet, if this is

the case, we can not understand why, as one of the conditions of our punishment for a case of sexual harassment, our pledge program is to be interfered with. We feel that this is a discriminatory use of the issue of punishment by Dean Peargar to punish us for a "reputation" which he feels that we have. We have never been given the opportunity to respond to these allegations in any disciplinary or regulatory forum on campus, nor have we been provided with a judgement by our peers.

We would like to provide a brief example of this discrimination. Dean Peargar has taken exception to our policy of asking our pledges to stay on the Domain for the weekends. This policy is designed to foster attachment to and enjoyment of the social atmosphere here at Sewanee, promote fraternal bonds, and to help prevent the formation of a "suitcase college" mentality among members of the College. Dean Peargar has protested that this is an involuntary restriction on our pledges. Yet it is little different from the incident which occurred this year in which the head football coach at Sewanee forbid his players to shave until they had garnered a victory. In addition, the athletes on several Varsity teams are required to cut short their holidays to return to the Mountain for training and practice. Furthermore, pledgees, like Varsity athletes, is a voluntary activity. If our pledges are dissatisfied, they are free to deplete from our fraternity. Yet none do; our members are overwhelmingly in favor of our pledge program and support its goals and lessons.

In addition to his restrictions on our pledge activities, we take exception to several other elements of Dean Peargar's conditions of punishment.

1. While we understand that our lodge was closed as a result of our sexually suggestive limericks, we feel that the length of time is unjustifiably long, given the lack of a precedent for punishment with regard to the similar activities, mentioned earlier, which are carried out by other social organizations on campus.

2. We feel that the prohibition against the holding of fraternity meetings for organizational purposes off of University property violates our First Amendment right of free assembly and is improper.

3. We take exception to any University interference or forced restructuring of our pledge program on the grounds that it is entirely unrelated to this incident, and is instead being used as an excuse to punish us for our "reputation."

4. We feel that the stipulation that all SAE fraternity members are required to participate in a "group educational program focusing on the issues of sexual harassment and gender relations" is especially heinous. This action is

predicated on the presumption of guilt without investigation, guilt by association, and guilt by hearsay evidence. Furthermore, it is both discriminatory and sexist, as no other social organization at this University has ever been punished in such a sweeping, draconian manner for the actions of a few of its members.

5. We feel that Dean Peargar has no legal right to require us to send him a copy of every issue of our chapter newsletter, as this violates our right of privacy and the privacy of the federal mails. In addition, it smacks of the worst Orwellian tactics of social surveillance, thought control, and interference with the right of free speech.

In closing, we admit once again that the recitation of the limericks at the Sewanee Inn was completely improper and indefensible. We have asserted and believed this from the very beginning; indeed, many members voiced their immediate disapproval at the banquet itself, and subsequently left in protest. We have sincerely and earnestly apologized in writing to the members of the Steering Committee. We understand and agree that some punitive action was necessary and proper. However, we feel that the extent of our punishment, and the motivation and rationale behind it, are unwarranted.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Reply

The following is Vice-Chancellor Samuel R. Williamson's final response to the preceding letter of the Tennessee Omega chapter. It is, therefore, the final word on the matter.

-Ed.

Thank you for your letter of January 23, and for the discussion that I had with Ed Barr and Wynan Duggan.

I have read your letter carefully and discussed this matter again with my senior colleagues and others. I have done so from the perspectives of a brother member of the fraternity and as Vice-Chancellor. I have also reviewed the details of the incident which led to Dean Peargar's actions...

Editor's Note: The incident was described at this point in the letter. Because it has been described twice in the previous letters here, we have omitted the account.

I wish to begin by stressing that I understand and appreciate the role that fraternities and sororities play on this campus. Indeed, it is my hope and expectation that they will have a productive and important part to play as we move into the decade of the 1990s. But I am also aware of the national debate about the role of fraternities and sororities and the criticisms aimed at them. For these reasons I cannot stress too strongly the need for our organizations to make every effort to be

above reproach lest we do anything to undermine the integrity of the system or our colleagues' confidence in the value of fraternities and sororities.

I rate the points you make on pages one and two about other incidents on campus. I request that you provide specific details of these episodes to Dean W. Brown Patterson so that he can determine whether they have been or should be investigated further. I want to emphasize emphatically that any infraction potentially constituting sexual harassment brought to the attention of the University administration will be thoroughly investigated, and where appropriate, those responsible will be disciplined. Contrary to your assertion, the University does not tolerate sexual harassment or indeed any harassment of individuals. In order to be dealt with, however, these matters must be brought to the attention of the appropriate University officer in a timely fashion; and any allegations must, in fairness to all concerned, be supported by sufficient evidence, no rumors, to warrant sanctions.

I will now respond to your letter by addressing the six specific points that you list in your letter, one of which deals with the question of pledge activities.

a) length of time: I understand that Dean Peargar has already shortened the period of the lodge being closed. In that he was responsive to some of your concerns and has responded to make it possible for you to be functioning effectively before spring break. I concur with his willingness to adjust the date to March 1.

b) fraternity meetings: I have discussed this matter at length with Dean Peargar. He has assured me that informal gatherings of the active chapter can take place on campus outside the lodge hours, if you wish, during the interval between now and March 1. These gatherings must be informal and, as I indicated to the (president), they cannot have any ritual associated with them. These gatherings should do much to help you plan for an effective remainder of the Easter semester.

c) pledge activities: The University has for many years defined the broader and acceptable limits for the nature of pledge activities. Thus Dean Peargar's decision falls entirely within that earlier framework. In asking for you to review your program, he is seeking to assure himself that no features of your current program can be construed as conflicting with current University policies on this matter. The policy that you currently have restricting pledges to campus on weekends seems, in my opinion, to be well meant but excessive; subject to their responsibilities for ordinary house maintenance or his participation in fraternity programs, I would think pledges ought to be free to leave the Domain whenever they wish to do so. Beyond that, I believe that Dean

SEE REPLY PAGE 5

Basketball Team Back in C.A.C. Hunt

By Howie Sompayrac
Sports Staff

On Nov. 18th, senior captain Mike Raebler went down with a knee injury, leading to a series of bad breaks that just now seem to have ceased for the basketball team. Raebler was injured in the second game of the season against King College and was unable to play until after Christmas break. If Coach Tony Wingen had it to do all over again, he probably would not have let his troops go home for Christmas, because this is when the bad news began to multiply.

Three days before the basketball Tigers were expected to return to the Mountain, juniors Kit Walsh and Bert White suffered injuries that would put them on the disabled list for some time.

Walsh, an all-conference selection as a sophomore and leading scorer this year, went down with an ankle injury in a pick-up basketball game. He had to sit out two games and is still being nagged by the injury as well as a persistent flu bug. White, on the other hand, suffered a potentially career-ending injury the night before the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. After White and a friend were returning home from an outing, they were followed by a couple of hoodlums in downtown Jacksonville. A full beer bottle was hurled at White's car window while he was driving, smashing the window and striking him in the face. The bottle broke his nose in two places and shattered in his face, giving him over 100 stitches.

When Raebler went down in November, Walsh could be heard saying, "If we could just get everybody back and healthy, we know we can be a great ball club." Walsh's words seemed prophetic when they finally had everyone back and healthy against Rhodes and Millsaps. The Tigers netted two wins in this homestand and as Walsh says, "We are now getting into the kind of squad we know we were capable of being." This is the team that was picked to win the conference.

Before the Rhodes/Millsaps homestand, Sewanee suffered a devastating, 46-point loss to Emory.

A LETTER FROM GERMANY

FROM PAGE 8

Every one of us gets this one chance if one is lucky once in a lifetime. I am resolved to put my shoulder to the wheel. This is my Christmas present to

Volunteer.



Wingen called this a "low point of the season, and a low point in my career. I told the guys after the game that there needed to be a total attitude adjustment. I also told them that I was going to shake things (the lineup) up a little bit before the Rhodes game.

"They could have just laid down after that loss," said Wingen. Instead, they rebounded the next night with one of their best practices of the year, according to Wingen. "I told them that we were going to wipe out our record, and that we were now embarking on an eleven-game season. We were looking at Rhodes like it was the first game of the year," Wingen said.

Going into the series against Rhodes and Millsaps, it was no secret that they were both must wins. That is, if Sewanee wanted to get back into the hunt for the C.A.C. crown. A loss in either game would all but mathematically knock the Tigers out of the picture.

As the players took the floor against Rhodes, it was apparent that Wingen had indeed shuffled his starting lineup. White was back into the starting lineup for the first time since his injury. Danny McIntyre, who practiced first semester but was unable to play, was inserted into the starting lineup for the first time. This seemed to spark the Tigers, and they played an inspiring game, narrowly defeating Rhodes in overtime, 84-83.

It was fitting that Mike Raebler, the ever-consistent leader of this team, played probably the best game of his career against arch-rival Rhodes. He scored a career high 24, made two clutch free throws, and also grabbed a couple of key rebounds. His performance was complemented by the inspirational play of David Zagoria, who scored 15 points and pulled down 13 rebounds. It was Andy Zurek's two three pointers, however, in the final few minutes that that kept Sewanee close and helped give them a chance to win the game.

The Tigers were down by two with about 10 seconds left when John Richards was bringing the ball up the floor. He attempted an entry pass that was deflected by a Rhodes player. The



SENIOR MIKE RAEBLER shoots in the Rhodes game. (Photo by Lyn Hutchinson)

ball then bounced off the top of the backboard and was pulled down by Raebler. With about 3 seconds left on the clock, Raebler got the ball to sophomore Zagoria, who canned a 16-foot jumper as time ran out.

In overtime Raebler made two free throws with 10 seconds remaining. A Rhodes player was then fouled on an inbounds pass, and missed the front end of a one-and-one with 4 seconds left. Rhodes Wade Harrison grabbed the rebound, however, and was fouled in the act of shooting with 3 seconds left. He made the first one so Sewanee called timeout to ice him on the second. It paid off, as he missed long on the second and Raebler and Zagoria came down with the rebound.

Many jubilant fans rushed on to the floor to celebrate the hard-fought victory. "The fan support in the Rhodes game made a huge difference. It is so easy to play in front of that type of crowd," said Raebler. "We really appreciate it."

Going into the Millsaps game the next day, he expected his team to come out a little flat after their exhaustive and emotional win the night before. They did just that, falling behind early and remaining behind most of the game. "Despite getting behind early, we stuck with our pressure defense, and fast paced style of play. We took the lead with about 4 minutes to go and we played to win," said Wingen. The Tigers pulled away for an 83-79 win. "This is the kind of attitude we need to develop," continued Wingen.

John Richards hit six free throws down the stretch to help ice the victory. Will Barnett also played superbly in the second half, scoring 10 of his 13 points. Zagoria had another stellar performance, scoring 18 points and grabbing 12 rebounds, and McIntyre had his best game of the year, with 17 points.

Wingen echoed Raebler's comments, saying, "The crowd for the Rhodes game was absolutely the best in my four years here. Unfortunately, the crowd for the Millsaps game was a little flat." He concluded by saying, "We need the crowd in the game every time we play."

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SPORTS

White Resigns, Leaves Strong Program

By Howie Sompayrac
Sports Staff

"It's just time for a change," said Todd White when asked why he was leaving Sewanee. Despite rumors he was seeking another job offer, White, one of the premier soccer coaches in the nation, said he plans to return to school for graduate studies in the fall. Thus, not only Sewanee but the sport itself regrets the loss of Todd White. He did say, however, that he might not overlook an attractive coaching offer.

There are several reasons that White, the former Columbia University captain, decided to leave Sewanee as well as the coaching profession. He said that he wanted to play soccer a lot more. He said, "Soccer is a player's game more than a coach's game, and I enjoy playing more than I enjoy coaching. I'm too old (29) to make a living at it, but I'm not too old to get satisfaction from it." White will probably be playing in the Liga League in Boston or the Atlantic League in New York (both are semi-pro leagues), depending on where he establishes his permanent residence.

White said that he gets satisfaction from coaching and he really enjoys the training. He added, however, that "I can't say I ever really enjoy a match as a coach. The tension in my muscles isn't even made easier by winning." And, as his five year record (64-27-6) proves, his teams have won a lot.

The men's 1989 campaign was an extremely successful one. Their final record was 15-5, and two of those losses were handed out by two of the best teams in the country, Duke and Alabama A&M. White is never happy when one of his teams loses, but he was particularly proud of his teams' games and surprisingly close bout with Duke, which they lost only 1-0. They had an equally impressive performance against Alabama A&M (a perennial Division I power) in which they were again narrowly defeated, 1-0.

The biggest wins of the year included an impressive whipping of Vanderbilt as well as a hard fought win over Covenant for the second year in a row. This defeat of Covenant was especially gratifying because Sewanee had never defeated them before White settled on the mountain.

This past year was exemplary of the type of success White had at The University of the South. In the ten years before White came to Sewanee, the soccer program had compiled a not-so-impressive 113-146-21 record. To say he turned the soccer program around (both men's and women's) would be an understatement. Looking at his career record, it is easy to see that he made winning a tradition in this program. However, it is in talking to his players that one comes to realize what White is all about.

"I would not have come to Sewanee if it were not for Todd White," said midfielder Stuart Adam. "I told him my senior year that I had decided where I wanted to go to school and Sewanee was no longer on my list. He kept up with me anyway and was sincerely interested in how I was doing. He was such a great person that it caused me to take a closer look at Sewanee and eventually come here." Having played under White for two years, Adam said, "I have a much stronger character now," and he added with a tear in his eye that he is envious of those who had the opportunity to play under Coach White for four years.

"He's really inspirational," said Judy Batts, the former Chattanooga standout (and presently a Freshman on the lady tiger squad), who played under White for three summers on the state select team. "He knows so much and he can demonstrate perfectly what he is trying to teach you." Some people wonder how athletes at such a tough school academically get motivated for practice every day. Batts gives a simple answer, saying, "everyday I go to practice, I know that I am going to learn something new."

The best thing about White, according to fullback Dennis Darnoi, is that "He kept the team really close all year. Any time you are around a select group for such a long time, people are going to have some differences. Todd taught us to leave everything behind when we hit the field. I think this year's team did that better than any I have been on."

When White was asked what he was most proud of looking back on the 1989 season, it is clear that Darnoi had brought up one of the keys to their success. White said, "I was most proud of the depth of commitment that this year's men's team was able to maintain throughout the season." He added that this was not the most talented team he has had at Sewanee, but the most committed. He felt that there was only one real letdown all year (in their 20-game schedule) and that is incredible considering their extremely demanding schedule (5 Division I, 1 Division II, 7 NAIA, and 7 Division III schools) as well as the fact that athletics do not come first at Sewanee.

As White packed his bags, he said that his biggest tangible regret was not being able to bring the team to an NCAA level. He said that he believed he could accomplish this goal in four or five years. The past two seasons his teams have been regarded by the NCAA bid committee as about the fifth best team in the South. Of the four teams picked ahead of them this year, Sewanee easily had the toughest schedule while escaping with only with five wins.

When he had to tell his team that they did not receive an NCAA bid, he described the team in terms of a bunch of kids waiting on Santa Claus. They were all gathered in the weight room, awaiting the word from their coach.

It was at this moment that it hit White what he was about to tell his kids. He was not sure how he would handle his emotions so he delivered the

news in a short, simple manner. He told his troops that they did not receive a bid and it was time to hit the weights because there was another game to be played.

They held their heads high and pushed themselves hard one last time preparing for Morehead State, a tough Division II team. As Adam and Darnoi said, "We wanted to win this game for Coach." We knew that he thought he failed somewhat by not making it to nationals. "This hurt me because I know that he did not fail in any way, and we wanted to show him that he had succeeded in making us a team of national caliber," Darnoi added.

The way the players carried themselves after the bad news showed him that his players had learned that there is a difference between success and excellence. They even had to remind Coach White of his own philosophy. White felt he had not succeeded in bringing his team to a national level, they believed he had.

Final Score: Sewanee 4, Morehead State 2.

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Matt Kern Takes Helm of Soccer Program

By Kit Walsh
Sports Staff

After yet another exciting season of soccer at Sewanee this past fall, with a plethora of returning talent, the only question concerning next season was who was going to lead the Tigers onto the field following the resignation of the popular and successful coach Todd White. After White announced his decision to return to school, the search

successful one at Hartwick College, where he played on full athletic scholarship on a team that visited the coveted "Final Four" of NCAA Division I soccer twice in his four years. He graduated in 1988 with a degree in elementary education.

Kern's connections with Sewanee are somewhat ironic as he comes directly from Springfield College, the alma mater of Sewanee head basketball coach Tony Wingen. Furthermore,

"We think our best soccer is still to come."

began immediately for his successor. There was apparently no problem receiving applicants, and, when the selection process was complete, Athletic Director Bill Huyck announced the hiring of Matt Kern as the new head coach of the program, thought of by many as one of the premier Division III programs in the South.

Kern's first came into contact with soccer in his hometown of Columbia, Maryland. His collegiate career was a

Kern served as an assistant coach there under Peter Halcy, the immediate predecessor of White at Sewanee. This year's Springfield team posted a 17-2-2 record, finishing 12th nationally in the NCAA Division II poll and as champions of the Eastern College Athletic Conference.

When asked about his goals for the program at Sewanee in the future, Kern enthusiastically said, "To meet and exceed the established success of the



MATT KERN COMES to Sewanee to replace the popular Todd White as head soccer coach. (Photo by Lyn Hutchinson)

program so far, and with that have the players enjoy the game. The winning should then come naturally."

Huyck, who has spoken very highly of Kern from both personal experience and recommendations from others, echoed the sentiments of all involved in the athletic program saying, "We think our best soccer is still to come."

Besides heading up the soccer program, Kern will take over as director of the University's intramural program. Student intramural commissioner Howie Sompayrac noted of his new boss, "he's a great guy with a great sense of humor and great ideas for the intramural

program, I think he'll do nothing but great things for Sewanee."

A taste of this sense of humor is evident when Kern says, "my biggest difficulty here will be trying to not be mistaken for a high school junior by prospective students." The remark refers, apparently, to Kern's youth and relatively small height.

In any sense, Matt Kern has stepped into a fine tradition at Sewanee as its new head soccer coach but has numerous challenges ahead as he attempts to keep the successful soccer program moving toward the peak of NCAA Division III soccer.

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Six Named to All-C.A.C. Team

The Sewanee Purple
Sports Staff

Record-setting running back Mark Barineau headed a group of six Sewanee Tigers who were named to the All-C.A.C. Football team. Barineau, who broke the school's career rushing record this season, was honored along with Jason Ehrlenspiel (offensive line), Greg Glover (wide receiver), Ray McGowan (defensive line), Bryan Petty (linebacker), and Frank Greer (defensive back).

"I'm happy that we had so many players recognized by the other coaches in the conference," said Coach Bill Samko. Referring to the Tigers' 2-7 record, Samko said, "That was what was so frustrating about our season. Despite our record I felt we had some guys that

really played well. Having six players named all conference confirms my feelings."

Three Tigers received honorable mention citations. They were Kent Jones (wide receiver), Mark Peters (linebacker), and John Proctor (punter). The recognition for Jones is particularly noteworthy considering that, due to an injury, he played in only five games.

The best thing about the players' honorable mention is that most are coming back to play for Sewanee next fall. Only Glover (graduation) and Jones (due to his injury) are not returning to the team. "This group of players gives us a solid nucleus for next year and gives me optimism for the upcoming season," said Samko.

SPORTS

Swimmers Prepare for Conference Battles

By Scott Livance
Sports Staff

The Sewanee Tigers swim team has started off the new decade in style by putting up some excellent individual times already in the season. The swim team has showed a marked improvement even over last year's conference times.

Narrowly losing to the Georgia State University last weekend, the Tigers are preparing for the women's conference meet this week and the men's conference in three weeks. Though the old idiom still stands, a loss is a loss, both the men and the women swimmers of Sewanee found several individual battle victories which just could lead to winning the war in the ensuing few weeks.

One of the most improved swimmers on the team, junior Hunt Brown, improved his time in the 500 free from 6:02 to 5:49. He also had his best ever time in the 1000 free by cutting off 22 seconds to finish with 12:07. Sophomore Hal Noelke also had a superb day with two wins and a second place.

Sewanee does not have all of lot of competition on the Division III level. Most of the schools which the team

swims against are either Division I or Division II schools, and most of the swimmers are on scholarships.

On a special note, junior Andy Clark won the first race of his collegiate career here last Friday against Georgia State in the men's 200 fly. Clark also came through with a fourth place in the 200 free and in a tough 1000 meter relay in which Hal Noelke, Adam Adams, and Hayes McDonald joined in to defeat the Division I school.

The Lady Tigers also showed what they were made of last weekend against Georgia State. Senior Suzy Cahill had a fantastic day with first place wins in the 200 free, 200 individual medley, and 200 backstroke. Cahill has also recaptured the career scoring record at Sewanee that her sister took from her last year. Seniors Vicki Sparks and Meredith Steever succeeded in taking together a first place, two second places, and three third places. Sparks also has moved into the third place all-time leading scorer for the girls.

So far in the season the men swimmers have won against Union College, and Florida A&M, while taking second place in the Centre Invitational. The lady girls have bested Union College and Florida A&M while



SENIOR SUZY CAHILL, shown here in action, has retaken the Sewanee career scoring record. (Photo by Lyn Hutchinson)

taking the gold in the Centre Invitational. The win-loss record for the Sewanee team may, however, be deceiving. The losses have not been blowouts; the close overall scores

include diving competition in which Sewanee has not excelled at in late years.

SEE SWIMMING PAGE 18

Lady Tigers Compete in Tough W.I.A.C.

By Kit Walsh
Sports Staff

Over the years sports teams at Sewanee have had the advantage, because of the school's small size, of maintaining personal relationships, between the coaches and their players. But this year's women's basketball team has provided a unique situation for head coach Nancy Ladd.

She has, at the present time, a total of only four players on the squad who have participated in all eleven games this season. Because of one thing and another, the team has suffered through spells of practicing and playing with very small numbers. The situation got so ridiculous that at one point on their trip to Florida the team, because of foul trouble, was forced to finish the game with only two players. But it is this courageous, never-give-up attitude which has kept the team competitive and in good spirits.

To date, the team has a record of 1-10 but is improving steadily and has a current roster of nine players. After beating Toccoa Falls in their opener, the team suffered losses to, in Coach Ladd's words, "very tough conference opposition." Three of these losses came at the hands of Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) foes Berea, Centre, and Fisk.

As Coach Ladd says, the WIAC is

an extremely difficult and competitive conference in which to be a member, and this season is particularly tough. The WIAC, for instance, is home to the second-ranked, nationally, Maryville Scots from Maryville, Tennessee.

Putting aside the troubles concerning depth on the bench, the Tigers have improved each game and have played some pretty good basketball of late. For example, the women took on Covenant College on Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, last Monday, and in the words of Ladd, "played much better collectively." Although the score ended up 90-60, with Covenant coming out victorious, the score was not very evident of the way they played, Ladd said.

"We even cut it to 9 (point lead) once in the second half," noted sophomore guard Kelly Jeffrey.

Further evidence of the Tigers' improvement in the Covenant game was the individual play of sophomore forward Brandon McInnis, who finished with a game, and persona high of 29 points. McInnis now leads the team with a 12.1 points per game scoring average. She also averages just under 5 rebounds per game.

Also worthy of praise are the efforts of freshman Lynda Motes, who tallied 20 points in the Covenant game. She

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After 30 Years of Service

Scott Bates Retires From Cinema Post

By Peter Lemettias
 Special Columnist

Professor Scott Bates, faculty director of the Cinema Guild for over thirty years, resigned his post effective Dec. 31, 1989. He is still with the University this spring, but is turning over the Cinema Guild to others and will continue only as advisor. He will be on leave next fall to finish work on a book on Apollinaire.

Head of the Cinema Guild since 1956, Bates has been responsible, more than any other person, for the prominence of cinema at the University. Besides running the Cinema Guild, he has taught classes in film, brought important and controversial films to Sewanee, started and defended the traditional "erotic film festival," and made films himself. He is also largely responsible for the library's excellent collection of videotapes. The Cinema Guild and all of Sewanee will sorely miss his encyclopedic knowledge of film and will welcome his return.

Bates began his career at Sewanee in the French Department after completing his Ph.D. at Wisconsin in 1954. He quickly put his love of cinema into action, taking over responsibility for the Cinema Guild in 1956. He founded the Experimental Film Club in 1967, and the club flourished for ten years entirely without funding from the University. The club was financed with membership dues and used the proceeds to rent avant garde films and buy the equipment for students to make their own short films. When the University Audio/Visual Committee was founded in 1967, Bates was its first chairman. Now semi-retired and working on numerous personal projects, he teaches two courses per year through the Theater Department and plans to stay "until the University hires a replacement."

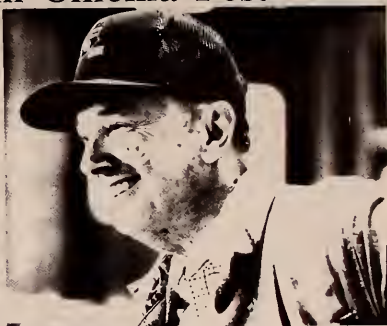
The future of film at Sewanee is very important to Bates. He feels a

strong film department will help the University attract more good students, and he and the other members of the Theater department have tried to convince the University to hire a full-time film professor and build a film studio. Bates feels film will be the dominant art form in the twenty-first century, and that to compete Sewanee will have to have a film program. Even today, he says, the average student has a much better knowledge of film than ten years ago, because of cable television and VCRs.

Although he has taken film courses at Indiana, Bates describes his film education as "self-acquired." And although there is no film major at Sewanee, Bates feels it is possible for students to get a good film education here, even without taking his courses. "The Cinema Guild tries to show the best films in the world," he says. "So if a student goes to the films every week, between the films and the shorts, after four years, they're going to see a lot of the best films ever made. Some will happen to be erotic, and some will happen to be controversial."

And controversy surrounded Bates almost from the beginning. In 1959, he and the University Chaplain showed Jacques Dassin's *He Who Must Die*, a modern political retelling of Christ's death. Bates encouraged the University to show *The Last Temptation of Christ* and this semester the Cinema Guild is showing Jean-Luc Godard's *Hail, Mary*. In addition, last semester he showed his own film, *The Body of the Church*, which raised a storm of controversy over eroticism and mythology in the church several years ago. He never backed down, always defending film as an art form and subject to intellectual freedom. "If the truth isn't controversial," says Bates, "it probably isn't the truth."

After his Apollinaire book is published, Bates plans a book of poetry. He is also working on a collection of



HEAD OF THE Cinema Guild since 1956, Professor Scott Bates is planning a book on Apollinaire. (Photo by Lyn Hutchinson)

poetry about film, and wants to write a book on film thematics in American history, a topic he feels has been ignored except in very specific areas. So although his first love is French literature, film is not far behind. "Films are so immediate, they can have a dramatic impact on a person's life," he says. "That can make it a more useful tool in the classroom than a book, in some cases." He remembers a young woman who walked out of *A Doll's House* and said, "I'll never look at life the same way again." And twenty years later, he says, she hasn't.

He points out that today, films have to be considered part of a basic liberal arts education. "People don't think twice about reading Joyce or Aristophanes," he says, "so why should films like *Matador* [a Pedro Almodóvar film to be shown this spring] be

considered controversial?"

In three years we will be celebrating the centennial of film. Such occasions are inevitably time for retrospective lists, so Bates, like so many others, lists his top ten films of all time: "In no particular order, *That Obscure Object of Desire* [Buñuel, 1977], *Persona* [Bergman, 1966], *Meshes of the Afternoon* [Maya Deren, 1943], *Citizen Kane* [Welles, 1941], *The Grand Illusion* [Renoir, 1937], *The Gold Rush* [Chaplin, 1925], *The Life and Times of Rosie the River* [Connie Field, 1980], *Put and Mike* [Cukor, 1952], *Dr. Strangelove* [Kubrick, 1963], and *Un Chien Andalou* [Dalí/Buñuel, 1928]."

Watch the Cinema Guild schedule—these are here this spring or coming soon.

Cinema Guild Announces Spring Movies

The Sewanee Purple
 Arts and Entertainment Staff

The Cinema Guild has announced its spring schedule for 1990 and there should be something for everyone—old favorites, new foreign films, and a little controversy.

The semester began with a packed house for *Body Heat* with John Hurt and Kathleen Turner. *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* was another sellout and equally popular.

The semester continues with: *Hour of the Wolf* (Feb. 1), by Ingmar Bergman, the story of an adulterous artist

haunted by monstrous nightmares; *Pat and Mike* (Feb. 8), with Katherine Hepburn as a star athlete and Spencer Tracy as her trainer; *Sugar Baby* (Feb. 15), the quirky story of a mortuary attendant in search of her true love; *Amarcord* (Feb. 22), Fellini's classic about a young boy longing for the freedom of adulthood; *Imitation of Life* (March 1), the sensitive 1959 film about a black woman (Louise Beavers) and her friendship with a white woman (Claudette Colbert); *Marianna and Juliane* (March 8), set in turbulent 1970s Germany; *Xala* (March 15), a savage and funny satire of modern

Africa, banned in Senegal; *Matador* (April 5); *Hail, Mary* (April 12), Jean-Luc Godard's controversial retelling of the Virgin Birth; *Roman Holiday* (April 19), featuring Audrey Hepburn as a beautiful princess who falls in love with Gregory Peck; *The Draughtsman's Contract* (April 26), the odd and beautifully recreated story about a young draughtsman in 1694; *I'm No Angel* (May 3), perhaps Mac West's finest film; and *Unfaithfully Yours* (May 10), Preston Sturges' comedy about an unreasonably jealous husband (Rex Harrison). As usual, each film will be preceded by a short subject.

The "erotic film festival" returns this year on April 5 with Pedro Almodóvar's *Matador*, the sexual-anal controversial film about an ex-matador who is sexually aroused by violence and a lawyer who stabs her lovers, like *matador*, with a hat pila as she climaxes. As always, the evening will feature varied and challenging shorts on the subject of human sexuality.

One Owl Flick is now being planned in celebration of Earth Day (April 22). *Koyaanisqatsi* is a brilliant study of our relationship with ourselves.

SEE CINEMA PAGE 18

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Fiction Writer Kaye Gibbon to Read Here

The Sewanee Purple
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Kaye Gibbons started the literary world several years ago when her first novel, *Ellen Foster*, was published. Gibbons was 27 years old at the time, raising a family and pursuing an undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina. Some have referred to her success in Cinderella-like comparisons, but Gibbons's success thrives on more than luck.

While writing her second novel, *A Virtuous Woman*, Gibbons discovered just how difficult and tedious the process of writing can be. The first novel, recently unveiled as being based on personal experiences, flowed from Gibbons in a six-week period, a time during which she was able to release tensions from her past through her fiction.

The story centers on the ability of an 11-year-old girl to overcome her mother's suicide and her father's alcoholism. The novel is told through a surprisingly frank and fresh first-person point of view, and Gibbons renders the girl's experiences in startling simplicity

and realism. Although she plans to continue the plight of Ellen in later fiction, Gibbons says that such an effort cannot be forced; she is waiting for her muse to arrive. This is not to suggest, however, that Gibbons's literary ambitions cease at Ellen Foster. She is currently working on a new novel, containing new characters.

Kaye Gibbons plays a large role in what some have called the "North Carolina Renaissance," a boom in southern literature led by such notables as Gibbons, Lee Smith, and Clyde Edgerton. Although reasons for such a boost in literary awareness and creativity confined to a particular geographical area are sparse, some suggest the continued nurturing of North Carolina-based literary reviews and writing workshops as a direct factor in this current resurgence.

The Student Forum is bringing Kaye Gibbons to Sewanee this spring. She will read from her fiction at 8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 19 in the Large Lounge of the Bishop's Common. A reception will follow, and all are encouraged to attend.

Radical Changes For 'Mountain Journal'

The Sewanee Purple
Arts and Entertainment Staff

Recently, a new edition of the student-run *Mountain Journal* was issued, and this volume marks a radical change in the size and format of the publication. Previously, the *Journal* was printed in letter size form; now, a smaller and glossier edition bears the title of the academic and creative journal of the college community.

Editor Denny Kezar hopes that this new format will increase recognition of the journal, but he regrets the decreased space for artwork. "I expect that there will be some dissatisfaction with the new, smaller format of the *Journal*, which is less appropriate for most visual artwork."

This change, Kezar says, results primarily from the small number of artwork and photography submissions. Kezar also hopes that increased quality and a more professional appearance will propel the university to increase support of the *Journal*. Another issue of *The Mountain Journal* will be published in the spring, and the editors hope for increased submissions of all forms of work: poetry, fiction, essays, book reviews, drawings, and photographs.

The annual Bain-Swiggett Poetry Contest will also be held this spring with the winners published in the *Journal*. Submissions should be sent through the Student Post Office to Editor Denny Kezar or Associate Editor Kathy Roberts no later than March 15, 1990.

Organists To Come To Sewanee Soon

The Sewanee Purple
Arts and Entertainment Staff

University Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Robert G. Delcamp is sponsoring an Easter Term Organ Recital Series in All Saints' Chapel. The three concerts in the series will take place on March 12, April 3, and April 9. The series will feature organists Dr. Wylie S. Quinn III, Organist and Choirmaster at the Chapel of the Cross in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Louis Robilliard from Lyon, France, and University Organist Robert Delcamp. Watch for more details in coming editions of *The Sewanee Purple*.

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Thursday Night is Happy Hour 5 - 7pm

Look for Live Bands
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Record Review

By Curt Cloninger
Arts and Entertainment Staff

"Well I'm gonna' down to Florida, And I'm gonna' bowl me a perfect game. I'm gonna' cut my leg off down in Florida, And I'm gonna' dance one-legged in the rain."

Gibby Hanes

Butthole Surfers, *Widowmaker E.P.*, Touch and Go Records.

Instead of boring y'all with yet another mindless "Best of the Eighties in my Useless yet Printed Opinion List," I've chosen to forge ahead into what few are already calling the "Knock-and-the-door-shall-be-opened-into-you Nineties" with the Butthole Surfers.

The Butthole Surfers are an amoral group of drug-using freaks who play loud obnoxious music with no redeeming social value whatsoever.

"Gee, Curt, so what?" many of you are saying at this point. "Isn't that a fairly general description of all that so called 'music' to which you bend your ear?" Ah ha. I get it. I suppose you think you are some kind of humorist, is that it? Do you actually believe that this one punny insult to my critical pomphousness now suddenly elevates you to the level of the wise old owl or the cunning badger? But enough. I shall deal with you later, my friend.

The Butthole Surfers hail from somewhere outside of Austin, Texas. In the eight years that they've been together, the Surfers have recorded nine superb albums with such titles as *Rembrandt*, *Passyhorse*, *Locust Abrasion*, *Technician*, *Highway to Steven*, *Cream Corn From the Sockets of Davis*, and my personal favorite, *Psychic*, *Powerless*, *Another Man's*

Sack. In addition to their extensive recording exploits, the Surfers tour constantly with a live stage show which few have compared to chopped ham, few to chopped steak. On tour, the Surfers usually play with two drummers — much like the Grateful Dead or 38 Special, yet somehow different. The lead singer of the Butthole Surfers is a Certified Public Accountant named Gibby Hanes who makes extensive and liberal use of a megaphone bull-horn, both on stage and elsewhere. Mrs. Hanes thinks her son's band is named after a bunch of mean surfer guys. We know otherwise.

These facts alone should prove conclusively to any well-informed Tom, Dick, or Dick Jr. who has his/her respective hand on the heartbeat of our fast paced and ever shifting cultural lifestyle (as seen on T.V.) that the Butthole Surfers are not the Beatles of the Nineties. I myself know this is true because I recently saw a copy of the Surfers new album (the one I'm supposedly reviewing as we speak) in the *University Book Store* right here in *Sewanee, Tennessee!* Some right wing PMRC-type had hidden it behind the Handel where he/she/it could be sure that no one would ever find it. But fear not, gentle reader, I returned the CD to its proper place somewhere between the B-52s and the Byrds. Whew, that was a close one.

You don't care, you say. You're tired of my inane, irrelevant ramblings, you say. "Curt, you loser from Hell, just tell us about the way the album sounds," you say. Before I go any further, I must first reprimand you for your superfluous use of profanity in the previous sentence. How dare you speak to me like that! Has the English language become so depleted in these

trying times that one must use phrases like "from Hell" to emphasize one's point? One should hope not. But enough. Later, my friend. Much, much later.

The Butthole Surfers play your basic brand of Dadaist-psychedeledic-laughing gas-induced-immature-sick-off-planet-Nordic-suck with a twist — much like Debbie Gibson, yet somehow different. Like Dadaist art, the Surfers' music is difficult to appreciate until you know something about the theory behind it, and even then you'll probably still think it sucks. This is that "weird" music you've heard so much about. No, not punk rock, that other crap. Yeah, that's it.

But the Butthole Surfers are much more than just goofy names, wacky stage antics, disgusting hygiene fetishes, and a small group of attractive young people. The Butthole Surfers are a massive musical force with which to be reckoned. Throughout their career, with songs like "Bar-B-Q Pope," "Hey," "Negro Observer," "Creep in the Cellar," and "Kuntz," the Surfers have demonstrated an impressive ability to write, dare I say it, hauntingly beautiful experimental pop music. It's songs like these that make it impossible to dismiss the Butthole Surfers as "just another noise band."

Most Surfers music sounds like a cross between the loose, acidic meandering of The Thirteenth Floor Elevators and the power-pop, Gothic-metal crunch of Black Sabbath. The Elevators were the dominant Austin band from 1965-68, and I can't help wondering what effect they might have had on the Surfers' sound. On the other hand, the Surfers have publicly acknowledged their musical debt to the

sound of early Black Sabbath. The Surfers even rip off two Sabbath songs ("Sweet Leaf" and "Children of the Grave").

Both Sabbath and Elevator influences are evident on the Butthole Surfers newest E.P., *Widowmaker*, a fine example of classic Buttholism. Its first song, "Helicopter," begins with some corn-ball, falsetto, angelic "ooh-ing and aahs" seven minutes later with the line "crash me doctor." What occurs in the interim is an ultra-fuzz/feedback-fueled, country ditty reminiscent of "Julio Iglesias in Outer Space," but much, much grunge-ier. Noise? Perhaps, but I, who have sinned shall not be the one to cast such stones.

The second song, simply entitled "Bong Song," does veritably rock. Complete with a cheery organ, and a tokin' n' coughin' track, "Bong Song" sounds like a backwards rendition of "Sea Ferring" and is my favorite piece 'off the tin, the Surfers' most recent 'effort'. The third song on *Widowmaker* shows a major REM influence and is a fine example of understated pop craftsmanship upon minimal fuzz-guitar mastery. The fourth and final movement of this Butthole Opus is a funk-metal-beat-box-on-speed "work" elegantly entitled "Booze, Tobacco, Dope, Pussy, Cars." Here ended the reading.

Well, by now it should be evident that the Butthole Surfers aren't just for children anymore. They're zany, they're dreamy, and, although they're not viable babysitting candidates, who is these days, in these trying, turbulent times which few historians have already come to call "The No-one-left-who-is-sufficiently-qualified-to-baby-sit-our-children Nineties." Just rock, will ya'.



Book Review

By Thomas Mavor
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Temple of My Familiar by Alice Walker to Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1989, 416 pages, \$19.95

In a strong departure from the technique of *The Color Purple*, *The Temple of My Familiar* roots its meaning in current situations reflecting basic human tensions and conflicts: men vs. women, blacks vs. whites, natives vs. colonists. The book's jacket blurb promises an epic of 5,000 years spanning continents, but fans of television miniseries will be disappointed, for although Walker literally satisfies this ironic advertising, her quest is substantially emotional and psychological.

At the center of the novel are two women struggling with independence in their love relations. Carlota, daughter of the fever seamstress, falls in love with Arveyda, a wildly successful rock musician. The other woman is Fanny, daughter of an African black activist, who marries Suwelo, a history professor. Suwelo, interested in his own history and past, finds a great store of information in Mr. Hal, a close friend of Suwelo's uncle. Mr. Hal indulges Suwelo in the story of this past and his uncle's marriage to Lissie, a woman, now dead, who loved him with infatuation.

Most of the novel relates the pasts of Lissie, including lives as whites, males, and animals. These reminiscences, told through stories, dreams, letters, diaries, and even cassette recordings, allow Walker to meditate on

the age-old battle between man and woman, and man and beast. In a somewhat tenuous manner, Walker brings the two young couples together at the end, and they become great friends.

Any question of an interesting plot here remains unanswered; rather, Walker allows the sparse action in the book to move its way slowly through pages of flashback and discussion, barely giving the characters themselves a chance to breathe. The chronology is confusingly shuffled, and Walker fails to utilize her characters and themes through the novel's unfolding. As a novel, *The Temple of My Familiar* disappoints: as an author's personal meditation on human philosophical problems and conflicts, perhaps the book may find further appeal.

clouds rise farm

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Of 'Sniglets' Fame

Rich Hall to Perform at Guerry

By Graham Hill
Arts and Entertainment Staff

Nationally acclaimed comedian Rich Hall will headline one of the largest productions ever staged in Sewanee in Guerry Auditorium on Friday, Feb. 9, the Bishop's Common Board has announced.

Hall, a regular performer on Late Night with David Letterman, Home Box Office, and The Tonight Show, became famous for his stunts on Saturday Night Live and his "Sniglets" routines on "Not Necessarily the News."

Tickets for the show are on sale at the D.C. front desk. They are \$5.00 for students in advance and \$6.00 dollars at the door. General public tickets are \$8.00 at all times.

Attendance at the Friday night performance could encourage more campus organizations to attract national sorts of entertainment, ranging from bands to stage productions, the S. C. Board believes. All who are interested are encouraged to purchase tickets and attend.



SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE's Rich Hall, the most expensive performer to come to Sewanee, will appear in Guerry Auditorium.

Coward's Private Lives



Noel Coward's *Private Lives*, directed by Laura Lancaster Hill, was produced in Guerry last weekend. Shown here in rehearsals are Victoria Koger, Dawn Cox, and Richard Hlatki.

CINEMA FROM PAGE 15

and our environment. Hauntingly beautiful cinematography set to music by Philip Glass makes the film entrancing despite its nonlinear style. It will be shown Saturday, April 21 at 10:00 P.M. Admission to Owl Flicks is \$1. This film is highly recommended if only for the "trip."

The Cinema Guild's Spring calendar is now available. If you have not received one and would like to, contact George Poe in the French Department or Peter Lemtexas via the S. P. O. Please contact the same people if you would be interested in serving on the Cinema Guild.

Swimming

FROM PAGE 14

So when it comes time for the Liberal Arts Swimming and Diving Invitational (L.A.S.D.I.) on Feb. 22-24, the most competitive tournament of the regular season, both the men and women's divisions should show some of best scores of the competition.

Captains Vicki Sparks and Hudson Weischel have provided key victories during the year to anchor the strong team. Seniors Scott Payne, Meredith Sioever, and Jenny MacGregor have provided the young team with a much needed leadership. The Tigers have not been successful without good reason, however. The team spent an entire week in the Fort Lauderdale sun working on technique and time until they were exhausted. The Tigers practiced two hours in the morning then came back for two hours more, swimming over 10,000 meters a day for 2 days.

Coach Mary Kay Samko feels that these practices were pivotal for the low times at this point in the season. "I can't say enough about this team," Samko said. "They have worked so hard, and it is finally showing in their times." Says Coach Cliff Afton, "We've got a few weeks to go, to the Conference Meet] and already some members of the team are showing the best times of their careers."

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE 14

averages of 10.9 points per game and 5.3 rebounds per game are both second on the team while she leads the Tigers in both steals and assists with 26 and 52 respectively.

The hard working sophomore Eugenic Heebe leads the team in rebounds with 6 per game.

"More people are becoming involved in the offense, which is encouraging," remarks the optimistic Ladd. "The scores do not reflect the improvement we've accomplished."

The Tigers have remaining games against Maryville, Centre, Emory, Berea, Fisk, and Covenant before they travel to Memphis for the end of the season WIAC tournament—where anything can happen.

has been the most consistent performer all year long for the lady hoopsters. Her

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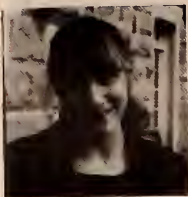
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MAN ON THE STREET

By Hudson Weischel
and Clair Talmadge



Christy



Goose



Mary



"No Comment!"

Q: What would you do if you were invisible for a day?

JOHN DOYLE: Sneak into the registrar's office and change all my grades.

TALI OCOLOJICH: Streak in front of the Sewanee Vice.

TOM FOLLOWILL: Spike the drinks in Gailor.

CARTER KNOBEL: Sneak into an active meeting.

LANE WILLIAMS: Watch all the cute guys dress.

CLARKE HOGAN: Drive my car as fast as I could down University Ave. just to mess with the cops.

CHRISTY PAPPAS: Carry the Postum table to class and shoot tequila in front of Dr. Chapman.

HUNT BROWN: Sit in the Dean's office and find out who Anonymous is.

KATHERINE FISCHER: Haunt the Police Station until they all go insane.

MASON HARDY: Whisper in Dr. Wenz's ear that I was God.

JENNIFER COLLINS: Let all the dogs loose and look for Pippi.

ROBERT MERCER: Pull down everyone's pants.

MEREDITH WALKER: Convince my crush that he loved me.

TREY MOYE: Lie, cheat, and steal.

MATT RUE: I'd go to class.

LAURA TRABUE: Paint the SAE lion.

ROBERT BUGG: Start a food fight in Gailor.

STEPHEN SAUNDERS: I'd sneak onto a flight to Jamaica to escape the Sewanee winter.

JON MEACHAM: It would still be a fallen world.

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Feb. 24

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THE LAST WORD

Bishop Ellison Capers: A Retrospective

The Sewanee Purple
News Staff

The close of the War Between the States brought to The University of the South, an institution conceived but yet unborn, the passing of one of its great leaders and the emergence of another.

Leonidas Polk, Bishop of Louisiana and general of the Confederate army, had been killed by a cannon shot at Pine Mountain in June, 1864. Polk had provided the impetus for the founding of the University in the late 1850s and had, more than any of its founders, helped to shape its ideals and vision. He died one of the last manifestations of the church militant, and came to be known after the war as the "Fighting Bishop" of the Confederacy.

Yet in those bleak years that followed the war another "Fighting Bishop" was to emerge, one who, like Polk, was to make a significant contribution to the Episcopal Church, its University of the South, and the South as a whole. This man was Ellison Capers, a twenty-eight year old Brigadier-General in the Confederate army, a former instructor at the Military College of South Carolina, and quite surprisingly, a Methodist.

Capers, born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1837, had served in the both the Western and Eastern theaters of the War, had been thrice wounded, and was



BISHOP ELLISON CAPERS, Chancellor of the University from 1904 until his death in 1903, was Sewanee's other "Fighting Bishop." (Photo courtesy of the University Archives)

the last Confederate officer promoted to the rank of general. He had commanded a battery in the bombardment of Fort Sumner in 1861, and when Joseph Johnston surrendered his army to Sherman in North Carolina in the Spring of 1865, Capers was one of the

officers present.

However, Capers's displacement from the war's end was short lived. Returning to his native South Carolina he immediately took a leading role in forming a new government. At the state convention of 1866 called by provisional governor Benjamin Perry, the man who Capers had helped jettison out of the South Carolina Secession Convention in 1860 when he rose to plead for the Union, Capers was elected to the position of Secretary of State. He held that position until 1868, the year Radical Reconstruction was imposed upon the state.

But politics and public office have a strange effect upon some people. Capers's experience in the turbulent world of post-war politics as well as those during the war itself were the factors to which he attributed his inclination toward the ministry, and having married an Episcopalian and been confirmed in her church, he was ordained while still in office. He became convinced through his long experience with useless death and waste that the problems of the New South were "problems of the heart and spirit."

After two decades of serving as rector at several parish churches in South Carolina, Capers became Bishop Coadjutor for the diocese of the state in 1892. He remained in this position for only three more years, and in 1895 he became Bishop of South Carolina. Bishop Capers played the leading role in bringing the Church in South Carolina into the new century, and was for the most part responsible for finally working out a compromise to the disagreements that had arisen between black and white communicants after the war.

In 1904 Capers was elected the

seventh Chancellor of The University of the South, a position which Capers accepted with, as William Porcher Dubose wrote in the *Sewanee Review*, "a surprise which his modesty had great hesitation in accepting."

The University had been founded while he was an instructor at The Military College of South Carolina, but Capers had taken a keen interest in its re-founding after the war. He notes in his journal of January, 1872, "Dr. Dubose visited the parish in the interest of the University of the South," and adds that the sum of \$76.05 was raised by him for the institution. Later in that same year Capers individually obtained \$950.00 for Sewanee.

As Chancellor from 1904 to 1908 Capers was noted as having dominated the affairs of Board of Trustees, and the University as a whole, more than any man since the founders. To the University's leaders Capers seemed an embodiment of the ideals of the founders, or, as one of them wrote of him, "A churchman true and tried and great, whose influence was always powerful, and whose leadership was always unifying, a scholar whose appreciation of sound learning was always coupled with a spirit of progressiveness."

His four-year tenure was no neither of change or particular hardship, but nevertheless Capers brought to the University a solid, cautiously ambitious leadership deeply rooted in the ideals of its founders. Like Sewanee he had survived the ravages of the War Between the States with considerable wounds, but both were to go on to prosper, and in Capers's last years that prosperity was shared.

Capers died in 1908 while still Chancellor of the University. He was overcome by a stroke as he was saying good-bye to his family before leaving South Carolina for a meeting of the trustees in Sewanee. He was never again to return to the place he once wrote "gave me the happiest experiences of my life." At a memorial service in the chapel he was eulogized by two bishops and the dean of the Seminary for his contributions to his church, his university, and the life of the ideal of the South he fought to defend. "The impression produced," Capers's biographer notes, "was deep and promises to be lasting."

In an age when many feel Sewanee's connections to the Confederacy to be a mark of shame it is important to remember men like Capers. He, like many other leaders of the Confederacy, emerged from the War earnestly intent upon rebuilding the Union and helping it prosper. Capers saw his calling in this effort as that of a priest, and later as a bishop of the Church. He will be remembered as a man of integrity and wisdom, and his impact upon the ideals of this institution has indeed been deep and lasting.

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