

# The Sewanee Purple

February 15, 2012

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VOLUME 100 ISSUE 2

## NCHIP Team Strives to Improve Student Health



NCHIP members discuss the program's future at Sewanee.

By **Allie Horick**, Senior Editor

Recent email surveys and "purple flags," posters meant to make students reflect on their drinking habits, in Gorgas are the workings of the Sewanee NCHIP (National College Health Improvement Project) team with the goal of improving student health specifically through reducing the amount of high-risk drinking on campus.

The project began over the summer when Vice-Chancellor Dr. John McCardell accepted an invitation from Dartmouth

College to join NCHIP. Sewanee was one of 32 schools, both state and private, to join the project. In June, the participating schools met in Vermont to engage in a "Learning Collaborative" in which they shared ideas on how to target the issue of high-risk drinking. The Sewanee team, composed of Vice-Chancellor McCardell, Deans Bruce and Hartman, and various administrators and students, came away ready to enact several plans on campus.

In August they entered Action Period One, where the focus was on

individual behavior and education. During this period, the Sewanee FOG was enacted, which is the most well known of all of NCHIP's programs.

"The FOG is a 'bystander intervention' program and is similar to what designated drivers were in the 80's. Its goal is to help students party smarter," by having trained individuals at parties with water and food who monitor and help students who seem to need help, said Caroline Tanner, the Vice-Chancellor Fellow and member of NCHIP.

Although it is the most visible on campus, the

drinking is big and one of my goals is stopping that."

Part of the approach in reducing high-risk drinking is changing the way students are talked to about it, moving away from blame and towards encouragement of a healthy lifestyle.

"One strength of NCHIP is that at no point has the environment talked about it. The focus is on the harms instead, and it has allowed us to talk more openly with students," Dean Bruce said. "It takes the edge off. People are okay with the idea of being healthy."

This approach, says Middleton, has been met with general acceptance. "We're not trying to banish drinking, just change it from being high-risk," she said. A factor in moving away from that is changing the conversation.

"There is an idea that Sewanee isn't the real world. We need to make people see that it is and that things done here have consequences," she added.

Because the program is so new, its results are still unknown. Whether or not it is encouraging a change in drinking habits will take time, said Dean Bruce.

"The drinking habits group and down for different parts of the year. It will be totally different for homecoming weekend and finals week. What we really need to do is compare the drinking habits of Homecoming 2011 with Homecoming 2012 and 2013 to see the results," he said.

Survey results for the advent semester were fairly consistent, said Dean Bruce, with only one aspect continually rising: the percent of students who reported missing a class because of alcohol.

"We're the ones going to the frat or choosing not to go. Our experiences are important and we can speak up about them. The student experience is essential," Middleton said. "My experience is that high-risk

drinking is big and one of my goals is stopping that."

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## Packaging Error Leads to Recall of Pfizer Brand Birth Control

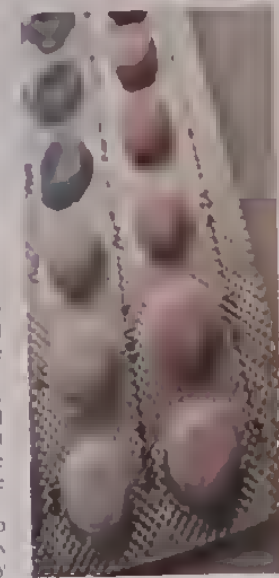


Photo courtesy of muprill.com

By **Avery Kelly**, Staff Writer

On January 31, Pfizer Inc. announced a recall of over one million oral contraceptive packages. This is the second major oral contraceptive recall in four months, as Qualitest Inc. recalled about 1.4 million packages in September. The Pfizer recall includes two types of oral contraceptives produced by the company: Lo-Oval 38 pills and generic versions of **Orgestrel** and **Ethinyl** estradiol tablets. Pfizer's recall is specific to packages dated for expiration between July 21, 2013 and March 13, 2014. Specific lot numbers of the recalled packages are listed on Pfizer's website. Pfizer oral contraceptives are not prescribed by the University's health services.

The Pfizer recall responds to a packaging error recently discovered by the company that made contraception regimens obsolete. The faulty packets erroneously mark some inactive pills as active and some active tablets as inactive. Thus, the effectiveness of the birth control tablets are reduced dramatically with inconsistent hormone intake. After identifying the packaging error, Pfizer was able to correct the problem immediately.

Because unexpected pregnancies may result from using the mislabeled oral contraceptives, the company urges those affected by the recall to switch to non-hormonal birth control immediately. Pfizer asks that recalled packages be returned to the pharmacy. Pfizer representatives also assure that the oral contraceptive tablets will have no harmful effects on unborn children if pregnancy does occur. However, the company now risks lawsuits filed by some consumers affected by the recalled products as Qualitest Inc. faced at its recall of oral contraceptives months earlier.

## Up 'til Dawn Holds First Fundraising Event

By **Lacey Oliver**, Staff Writer

As a new charity on the block this year, Up 'til Dawn had its first event on February 11th. Up 'til Dawn is an organization in colleges and universities designed to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The unique name comes from the first event in which students pulled an "all-nighter" writing letters to friends and family asking for donations. By doing this, they raised awareness for all the families spending sleepless nights caring for and worrying about their sick children. The Sewanee event was held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but the goal of collecting donations and raising awareness was the same. Many students may remember participating in the Malt-a-Thon, the fundraising event directed toward elementary school children. With Up 'til Dawn, college students have an opportunity to provide the same type of impact.

St. Jude is devoted to the treatment and prevention of childhood cancer and other diseases. The founder, Danny Thomas, believed "no child should die in the prime of life." Now celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, St. Jude still has that same vision. While the hospital cannot



Organizers Alex Soare, Holly Capson, and Mery Antonia Jones

Photo by Ashton Stahl


cure or prevent every case, they do everything they can to research and treat life-threatening illnesses. It costs 1.7 million dollars per day to operate St. Jude, and public donations compose 75 percent of funding. Thanks

to organizations like Up 'til Dawn, families never have to pay for treatment, and when travel, housing, and food expenses are covered as well.

This is not the first time Sewanee has participated in

Up 'til Dawn. The charity has been present at Sewanee in the past decade and was a huge success at that time. "Hopefully we'll be equally successful," said Caitlin Sneedler (C'13), one of the student leaders of this

organization. Alex Soare (C'13) said of the work they are doing, "[Getting started] is hard when it's a brand new organization, but it's a good cause. It's something a lot of people can relate to."



# The Sewanee Purple

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# Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I would like to start by thanking those who helped to make the first issue of the year a great success. The Purple's writers and staff worked around-the-clock -- mending countless snags and unexpected snafus -- to meet late-night weekend deadlines and to put together what many have been calling "one of the strongest Purple issues [they] have ever seen." I would also like to thank our readers in the Sewanee community and beyond for supporting our humble publication. Subscription requests keep filling our mailboxes, and we have potential advertisers as far out as Chattanooga.

We at the Purple hope to continue this success, and we invite those interested to consider becoming a contributor to the newspaper. Writers, layout designers, and copy editors are all welcome, though we are in dire need of photographers and web designers! Interested parties should contact us at [purple@sewanee.edu](mailto:purple@sewanee.edu) or attend one of our planning meetings listed in the schedule below.

I hope you all enjoy this week's issue. We have several articles on the topic of student health, as well as features about Sewanee students' study abroad experiences. We are also starting a regular Women's Center column, "Voices from the Women's Center," with updates from the WC as well as articles covering topics of interest relating to the organization.

EQB,  
Pamela Guerra  
Editor-in-Chief

### Corrections:

In the "Bishop of London" article, Chartres was in Beaufort, South Carolina, not Beauport.

In the "Clifton Awarded Aiken Taylor Internship" article, the head editor of the Sewanee Review is George Core, not Donald Hall, and Jordan Hall is the current, not former, Aiken Taylor intern. Mr. Core reads every submission to the magazine before either Mr. Hall or Managing Editor Leigh Ann Couch reads them. Hall only reads the submissions accepted by Mr. Core.

The Sewanee Purple is a bimonthly newspaper run by students of Sewanee. The University of the South Students of both the College and the Seminary, faculty members, and others in the community are encouraged to contribute to this publication. The Purple strives to cover any and all events that are of concern to those at the University. The Purple also provides a forum for student opinion and debate and serves as an outlet for photographers, writers, artists, and all those interested in any aspect of newspaper production.

If you would like to become a contributor to The Sewanee Purple, please email [purple@sewanee.edu](mailto:purple@sewanee.edu) and refer to the Easter 2012 schedule below for meeting times and locations.

<b>ISSUE 1 (Print 02/01)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Jan 18 6:00PM Hearth Room	<b>ISSUE 4 (Print 03/14)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Feb 29 6:00PM Purple Office
Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Jan 25 6:00PM Purple Office	Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Mar 7 6:00PM Purple Office
Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Jan 29 4:00 PM Purple Office	Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Mar 11 4:00 PM Purple Office
<b>ISSUE 2 (Print 02/15)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Feb 1 6:00PM Purple Office	<b>ISSUE 5 (Print 04/18)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Mar 28 6:00PM Purple Office
Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Feb 8 6:00PM Purple Office	Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Apr 4 6:00PM Purple Office
Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Feb 12 4:00 PM Purple Office	Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Apr 15 4:00 PM Purple Office
<b>ISSUE 3 (Print 02/29)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Feb 15 6:00PM Purple Office	<b>ISSUE 6 (Print 05/02)</b> Introductory Meeting Wednesday, Apr 18 6:00PM Purple Office
Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Feb 22 6:00PM Purple Office	Article Edit Meeting Wednesday, Apr 25 6:00PM Purple Office
Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Feb 26 4:00 PM Purple Office	Master Edit Meeting Sunday, Apr 29 4:00 PM Purple Office

### The Sewanee Purple

Editorial Staff  
Easter 2012

<b>Editor-in-Chief</b> Pamela Guerra '13	<b>Layout Staff</b> Ashley Stahl '13 Sarah Cunningham '13 Grace Williams '13 Megan Hayes '14 Blair Johnson '15 Elizabeth Cowgill '15
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<b>Executive Staff</b> Larabe Rodriguez '13 Ross Scarborough '13 Leah Terry '15 Jenny Porterfield '12	

# Purple Picks: Upcoming Events

**Wednesday February 15th**  
4:30 p.m. Reception honoring artist Jonathan Green, Ayres Multicultural Center

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Ebey Lecture "Salvador Dali's Art. Geometry and Theology" by Tom Banchoff, Gailor Auditorium

**Thursday February 16th**  
4:30 p.m. "Preserving a Heritage" exhibition opens, University Archives and Special Collections

4:30 p.m. Cristina Vanin Lecture on "Spiritual Exercises for an Ecological Age," Hargrove Auditorium, Hamilton Hall

**Friday, February 17th**  
4:30 p.m. Sanford Biggers: Moon Medicine, University Art Gallery (February 17 - April 8)

6 p.m. Women's Basketball: Rhodes, Juhan Gymnasium

7:30 p.m. Sewanee Symphony Orchestra concert, Guerry Auditorium

8 p.m. Men's Basketball: Rhodes, Juhan Gymnasium

**Saturday, February 18th**  
2:30 p.m. Campus Gallery Walk, University Art Gallery, Carlos Gallery, University Archives, McGriff Alumni House

**Sunday, February 19th**  
1 p.m. Women's Basketball: Millsaps

3 p.m. Men's Basketball: Millsaps

**Friday, February 24th**  
5 p.m. Maslenitsa!, Russian House

7:30 p.m. Theatre Sewanee presents, "The Mandrake,"

Tennessee Williams Center

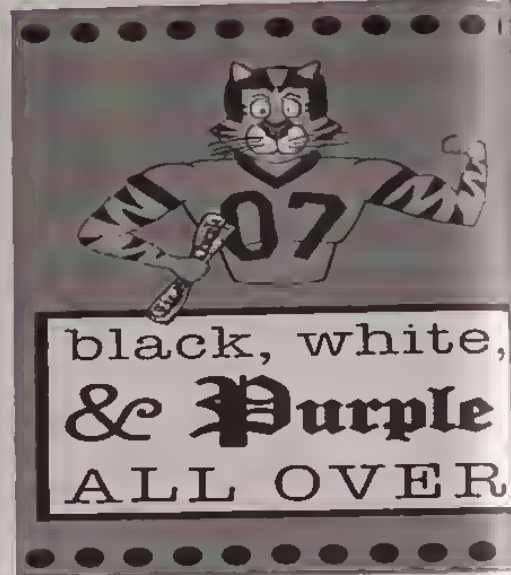
**Saturday, February 25th**  
7:30 p.m. Theatre Sewanee presents "The Mandrake" Tennessee Williams Center

**Sunday, February 26th**  
2 p.m. Theatre Sewanee presents "The Mandrake" Tennessee Williams Center

**Wednesday, February 29th**  
6 - 7 p.m. Ronald Douglas Senior Talk, Woods Lecture Hall 121



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Thursdays at noon (call 924-3493 for location)  
Fridays 7:00am at Holy Comforter, Monteagle  
Saturdays 7:00pm at Otey Memorial parish hall

Or you can also call Alcoholics Anonymous at 423-499-6003 to speak with someone who can offer guidance on AA and local AA meetings.

# CAMPUS NEWS

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## Rhodes Scholar Carrie Ryan Recognizes Faculty and Staff

by Katharine Freeman  
Staff Writer

On November 19, 2011, the Rhodes Scholars Program announced that Carrie Ryan (C'12) is one of the 32 accepted students that will attend Oxford in the fall of 2012. She will be pursuing a Masters in Evidence-Based Social Intervention, which focuses on culturally sensitive policy and program creation. The study uses fieldwork to propose methods for addressing social problems. She says she will use her degree in work in governmental organizations that focus on aging, welfare, and education initiatives.

In lieu of an article focusing on Carrie, she mentioned that she would rather have the opportunity to highlight some of the people in the area who have made a difference in her time on the mountain. She says, "The Rhodes Scholarship is not an individual award - it is a community award. It is a reflection of the time and effort people have given to me and to Sewanee. These people have challenged and influenced me and I would like to thank them for making this award possible."

The person who first introduced Carrie to Grundy Co. High School, where she has focused a large



Photo courtesy of sewanee.edu

amount of her volunteer work, is Professor Mae Wallace. Ryan says, "She has worked extremely hard to form close connections with all the local elementary and high schools. In doing so, she has created a powerful service learning experience. She was the

first to connect academic theory on education with what I was doing daily at Grundy."

Andy Weaver, who works at Grundy High, was similarly influential in Carrie's career at Sewanee. "He was my liaison to the greater Grundy community.

He challenged my assumptions and helped me grow to love a place vastly different than the one I come from. I also credit him with nurturing my appreciation for the art of storytelling."

In terms of her devotion to service, two people have been more influential

to Carrie's path than Dixon and Anwyn Meyers. "Dixon taught me how to engage with any stranger. Through his actions, he showed me that the powerful thing about service is not giving, it is mutual contact and engaged conversation with others that teaches us something new."

"Anwyn showed me what it means to care for and about another person - what it means to be there for people. She is omnipresent, both a steward and model of God's love." This was nowhere more apparent for Carrie than during the time of the diversity blog issue. "You know you are loved around her, I think that's powerful."

Robin Hille Michaels, in the Outreach Office, has also been instrumental in facilitating service work at the University. "She makes me intentionally reflect about my experiences. I can get busy here, and it is easy to get caught up and live automatically. She has helped me be more intentional about my work."

Carrie attributes learning leadership from Eric Hartman and his "magnetic leadership style." "He has shown me what it means to lead with deep integrity and what it means to be an advocate. He is truly an advocate for every student on

campus and I want to recognize that. He treats his job as a vocation, standing up for what he believes is right, and has done wonderful things for this campus."

Lastly, Carrie wanted to thank Professor Richard O'Connor, who has shown her how "academics and intellectualism can better the world." "In my time at Sewanee, I think I've spent days in that office. He has such faith in humans and he's able to see things clearly that others just don't - he's brilliant!" Carrie wanted to recognize his patience and hard work as a driving force behind her award. "He truly wants to do well by people. I see it in how he teaches. He'd spend hours helping a student, trying to capture what's happening in this complex and engaging world. I want to thank him for single-handedly providing me with the spark that lit the fire for my academic passions."

Carrie also wanted to thank the community at large for giving her such support and encouragement during the application process and after receiving the Rhodes scholarship. She wished to express how grateful she is for the opportunity and to everyone who made it possible.

## Coppock-Seal and Co. Campaign Against Mountaintop Removal



Sewanee students at the Tennessee State Capitol

Photo by Jonathan Salazar

By Meg Hull  
Executive Staff

Audrey Coppock-Seal (C'15) recently organized environmental activists on campus to lobby for the Scenic Vista's Protection Act against mountaintop removal in the state capitol on Tuesday, February 6. Coppock-Seal, a member of Lindquist Environmental Appalachian Fellowship (LEAF) since 2005, is hardly nascent when it comes to activism for the issue. The organization was co-founded by Coppock-Seal's mother, and since then, the two have worked tirelessly to protect the Appala-

chian vista against mining.

What began as a local religiously-affiliated awareness group founded by Coppock-Seal's mother has blossomed into a distinct legislative voice dedicated to banning mountaintop removal and mining. "My mother actually felt a spiritual call to protect God's creation so that it may be available to future generations," said Coppock-Seal.

The founders of LEAF never intended for the organization to be political. "The group started in 2005 with the intention of raising awareness on the re-

sponse by raising money to distribute informational materials to churches," said Coppock-Seal. But after LEAF learned of the Tennessee policy on mountaintop removal - near absolute allowance - it transformed its mission statement from simply an awareness group to a legislative entity.

"My mother and some environmental advocates drafted the original bill to be put through the Tennessee State Legislature," said Coppock-Seal. "I've been lobbying for the Scenic Vista's Protection Act

See REMOVAL, Page 4 >>

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# The Green Convene in Sewanee

By Mary Lawrence McAfee  
Contributing Writer

On February 1, students involved in various environmental programs on campus and within the community gathered to discuss environmental issues. In attendance were members of the Greenhouse, Earth Keepers, Green Campus Network, Sewanee Green Action, Sustainability Steering Committee, Team Compost, Environmental Residents, and students simply interested in the environment and sustainability. Many environmental topics were discussed including recycling, composting, energy saving, and more.



Photo courtesy of Sewanee Flickr

A decision was made to implement a new forum for those interested in various environmental issues. The idea is to provide an informal place for people to convene regularly, thus the "Green Convene." Once a month, on the night of the full moon, students and community members are invited to drop by for refreshments and environmental conversation.

At 8 p.m. on Tuesday February 7, the inaugural Green Convene meeting was held in Spencer's Harris Commons. Tea, coffee, and cookies were served at the casual get-together where students spoke about their latest undertakings and reminded attendees of upcoming events. Recently several students, including junior Clesi Bennett and

freshman Audrey Coppock-Seal, met with Senator Eric Stuart in Nashville to discuss the harmful aspects of coal mining. The students discussed their disapproval of the practice and its detrimental affects on the land, specifically on the Cumberland Plateau. Pictures of Sewanee (located on the Plateau) illustrating the area's unique beauty can be seen in the Nashville legislative plaza.

Those interested in learning more about the environment or becoming involved are invited to attend future meetings and events. Earth Keepers meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Greenhouse to tell stories and converse with others who share an interest in spirituality and the environment. The next Green Convene meeting and full moon will be on Thursday March 8.

# Removal... Continued from Page 3

over spring break every year since."

This year, the Scenic Vista's Protection Act is up for a vote in the Tennessee Legislature, and LEAF is dedicated to getting the word out about Mountaintop Removal. "Over the last few years," Coppock-Seal said, "I have been more involved than ever and I have been inspired to go to Nashville with a group of students who are also incredibly enthusiastic about seeing the political side of the environmental struggle."

Mountaintop removal has been a topic of debate for several years now, particularly involving Appalachia. It is a method of surface coal mining that involves removal of the summit or summit ridge of moun-

tains. Studies show the environmental health effects of practices are exclusively negative, and claim mountaintop removal is an unsustainable practice that elicits a small number of corporations at the expense of local communities and economies. Although LEAF is a proud member among those critics, Behind closed doors Governor Bill Haslam has expressed support of the Scenic Vista Protection Act, but you made it clear that you want to hear the voice of constituents, not politicians. Coppock-Seal encourages all to wish to get involved call or email the Tennessee Capitol with a message to approve ban on Mountaintop removal.

# Komen Executive Steps Down After Planned Parenthood Controversy



Photo courtesy of online.wj.com

By Emele Rodriguez  
Executive Staff

In September 2011, Cliff Stearns (R., Fla.) alerted Planned Parenthood that the House Committee on Energy and Commerce was currently investigating the group for using federal funds for abortion procedures, the use of which is banned in five states except in cases of rape, incest or to protect the health of the mother. The CEO of Planned Parenthood in the Southwest and Central Florida region, Barbara Zavarovsky, stated that only 3% of its services go towards abortion procedures and are paid for by grants, not federal funding. Three months later, the Susan G. Komen board, known nationwide for their annual Race for the Cure, voted unanimously to adopt criteria that banned the giving of grants to organizations under any type of investigation. Mollie Williams, a Komen official in charge of community grants disagreed with the Komen board's decision, and resigned as a result. This past January, the Associated Press broke the

story that the decision by Komen would negatively affect Planned Parenthood by pulling funding that provided breast cancer education, mammal breast exams, and subsidized mammograms for approximately 117,000 women. "We've always had the right to cancel contracts for organizations that came under investigation for potential wrongdoing," said Nancy Brinker, CEO and founder of the group. In all, 16 of 19 Planned Parenthood clinics did not receive grants, said Brinker. Public outrage over the reports grew, and the decision was completely overturned in the span of four days.

The Vice President of Susan G. Komen, Karen Handel, initially led the decision to adopt the new criteria and has been criticized for her history of anti-abortion activism and statements in support of defunding Planned Parenthood. This combination of politics and charity led to speculation over the political motives behind Susan G. Komen's decision and resulted in an explosion of outrage over the internet concerning

the move. Those who were long supporters of Komen's mission to find a cure began to question why the organization would pull any amount of funds that bring breast health to women who might otherwise not receive it. Economic heavyweights declared large donations to Planned Parenthood as a result of a decision with New York City's Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who pledged \$1 for every dollar donated up to \$250,000. In total, the organization raised a reported five times the \$600,000 they stood to lose in grants from Komen, for a total of more than three million.

According to reports, Handel was declared as the driving force behind the board's decision, and she promptly stepped down from her position in wake of the controversy on February 7. Komen reversed the board's decision, altering the wording so that investigation is now replaced with "criminal" investigation. As a result, Planned Parenthood is no longer banned from applying for annual grants.

# CRU Members Relax and Reflect at Horn's Creek

By Blair Johnson  
Staff Writer

On Friday, February 4, seven students piled into cars and caravanned to Horn's Creek Retreat Center in Cleveland, TN to attend the CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) Women's Retreat with women from University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Organized by CRU of UTC, the seven Sewanee women were able to attend four sessions discussing their faith led by CRU leaders: one on Friday, two on Saturday, and a final session (a panel of submitted questions) on Sunday morning with

plenty of free time in between.

"The CRU retreat was an amazing time of fellowship, worship, and getting in the Word with Sewanee and Chattanooga CRU girls," Esther Chi said.

During the third session Saturday night, the 120 women attending the conference discussed the waging battle against sin and redemption from it. Each attendee wrote down an issue that they struggled with on a piece of paper and then went outside and burned the paper.

"It was really neat to be able to burn the piece of paper to symbolically

get rid of sin in my life," Mary Ottley said.

Aside from a time to reflect on their faith and daily life, the retreat allowed the students a chance to take a step back from their busy lives and relax.

"One of the best things about the retreat was while we all talked about our lives together, we were physically removed from Sewanee and able to look at our lives and relationships from a removed and fresh perspective," Anne C. Stowe said.

Sewanee's chapter CRU meets Tuesday 7 p.m. in the B.C. lounge.

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# FEATURES

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## European Studies: A Chance to See the World in a Semester

Ashton Stahl  
Staff Writer

As many of you have already heard, the applications for European Studies have been sent in and many sophomores are beginning to hear back from the mysterious Stevens Anderson. Although it may be too late for you to dig through your PO mailbox, fill out the application, and turn it in along with your passport photo and personal statement, that does not mean you cannot look forward to applying next year. Many of you may be asking yourselves what this program entails and why is it such a popular program among Sewanee students. As someone who has had a first-hand experience in the matter, I can truly say this study abroad program is a life-changing experience.

When I first heard about the program, I only knew what I had read about from the information packet. I was intrigued by the classes it offered and the cities and countries we would be visiting throughout the trip. After I attended a few information meetings and spoke with friends who had already completed the program, I decided I needed to experience this trip for myself. After my sophomore year, I could not wait for July so I could drive back up to Sewanee and meet all the other program participants. Moving in to Hodgson was quick and easy; our foundation course was only for three weeks so I did not have to bring much. My roommate,



The western track students gather for a group photo while in Germany.

Photos by Ashton Stahl

another student from Sewanee, arrived shortly after me and we giggled about all the adventures we were going to have once we traveled over The Pond. Soon after we finished unpacking we met our suitemates, two girls from Rhodes and another Sewanee student I was fairly acquainted with. How little did I know that after those three weeks in Sewanee and three months in Europe we were all going to become such great friends.

Once the foundation course ended and I had time to pack my ridiculously crammed suitcases, I was finally off to Europe! One connecting flight and an

eight hour plane ride later, I arrived in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Although I had gotten very little sleep on the plane, I was pumped and ready to move into Edinburgh University and like Arthur's seat, located only five minutes away. After dropping off my things and walking with my traveling companions to the towering hills next to the college, I could not believe how beautiful and green everything was, even the air seemed fresher. Standing on top of a hill in the lushly green park overlooking all of Edinburgh, I knew I was going to cherish every moment of

my trip.

Once we concluded our stay in Scotland, the Western track, which I participated in during the trip, and the Eastern track students parted ways for a short time. We were later reunited at Lincoln College in Oxford. Our time in this academic and culture-soaking city was one of the many highlights of my trip. I met so many amazing people and saw and experienced things like punting, high tea, and high table for the first time. In retrospect, I think I fell in love with that beautiful academic haven. After spending six weeks roaming the streets of Oxford, taking

classes with Oxford professors, frequenting the covered market, and exploring various pubs, the two tracks went separate ways again. We said our goodbyes and waved to each other from the buses as we began our journey to the Continent.

Although I had visited Europe for a brief period after I had graduated from high school, living there was a whole new and wonderful experience. Every day was a different adventure filled with excitement and anticipation. We started each day with our tutor, Meg, who took us to various sites and museums, explaining the historic and artistic significance of everything we saw. Once our class was done for the day, we were usually left to wander the streets of Paris, Rome, Munich, etc. on our own. With this glorious free time, I often went exploring, attempting to communicate with locals in shops, food stands, and the metro. Adjusting to new languages and culture barriers was certainly frustrating but I did not mind I was traveling and living in Europe. I welcomed the challenge and enjoyed the time I spent experiencing the joys of the Continent with my friends. After we traveled from England to France, then to Italy, Germany, and Belgium, we headed to London where we met up with our friends on the Eastern Track one last time before we returned to the U.S. In those last few days, I traveled all over the city, visiting various shops, museums, and parks. I was sad to leave Europe; I was going to miss eating amazing food, taking photos, and seeing so many wonderful things. Though I knew I would miss Europe, I knew it was time to go home.

Now, three months later, looking back at everything I was able to do through European Studies last semester has only made me appreciate the program more. I saw and experienced so many different things I would have never been able to do or see if I had traveled through Europe on my own. I made so many great friends, met some amazing people, and have memories that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

## Castro's Cuba: Shortcomings of the Utopia Calling All Gowns



Professor Spacarelli and Sewanee students in Cuba.



Photo courtesy of Ashton Stahl

By Michael Grant  
Staff Writer

In his famous 1953 tribunal self-defense known as "History Will Absolve Me," Fidel Castro laid out the reforms he demanded for his country. He promises that his revolution would bring a "restoration of civil liberties and political democracy" to Cuba as well as land reform and improvement in education, health, and other symptoms of desolate poverty. On a two-week study trip with the University of the South over Christmas break headed by Dr. Thomas Spacarelli, nine other students and I examined the realities of present-day Cuba, with a close focus on the impacts of the 1959 revolution that eventually brought a communist regime into power.

Cuba is known for having one of the most successful healthcare systems in the

third world. Based on our visit, it seems the secret to the surprising physical wellbeing of Cubans may lie in factors outside of the doctor's office. Because of the government's promotion of sports, compact urban design, and the lack of adequate motorized transportation, the average Cuban exercises quite frequently. Available housing (no one has to pay rent) and the social safety net likely reduce the ill effects of stress, and the common availability of fresh, naturally grown food makes the Cuban diet very healthy. Perhaps prevention in the form of an adequate, vegetable-based diet and an active lifestyle could combine to be more successful than any sort of medical treatment.

Despite their good health, it is unlikely that the average Cuban is economically better off than he or she was twenty years ago. Walking the streets of Havana, we saw

many idle people in need of work. I met a man named Alejandro, who told me that work was not necessarily hard to find, but that good jobs are scarce. I would guess he means a good job is one in the tourist industry, which is an important source of foreign hard currency. However, tourism is also the source of much inequality, as tips from a week of work in the tourist industry can amount to more than the average Cuban's monthly salary. This disparity causes a "brain drain" in the highest-paid professions of capitalist economies, as the country's most educated doctors and engineers quit their jobs for a more lucrative career in tourism.

Living in a largely non-commercial society, Cubans reap the benefits of limited advertisements. Messages meant to make them feel inadequate do not pollute their brains, so they do not

feel they need to consume in order to become whole. However, there is plenty of government propaganda, the effects of which are debatable. On the one hand it is "brainwashing" material, but propaganda also creates patriotism and spreads positive memes. For example, the only billboard at the baseball stadium we visited said "Deporte, Derecho del Pueblo," or "Sport, the Right of the People." This seemed to bring a sense of dignity to the game itself, the focus of the event being on the sport and not corporate sponsorship or selling tickets.

Conventional education is easily accessible, but new information seems hard to come by in Cuba. There are few newspapers, which I only noticed for sale in areas populated by tourists. The papers were

By Breck Pappas  
Staff Writer

Ask any Sewanee alum to show you their favorite relics from the four years they spent on our misty Mountaintop. Some of them might show you a kilt covered with ventch stams. Others might reveal a clay ring or maybe even a sports uniform. Most of them will uncover their gown and recite the countless stories associated with it. It is precisely this characteristic of the gown that has caught the attention of Buck Butler, the University's Director of Publications. In an email to the entire student body last week, Mr. Butler called on students to help him collect the most memorable gown anecdotes.

Throughout the University's history, the gown has been a symbol for academic achievement and membership in the honor society. The Order of the Gownsmen, as denoted on the University's website, "Gowns were originally authorized to be worn by all students in 1871, and the Order of Gownsmen (OG)

was established in 1873 at the instigation of the Reverend Doctor William Potcher DuBose, University Chaplain. The students who are members of the Order have worn the gown as a badge of academic distinction ever since." Gowns are often passed down within families, transforming some gown into a piece of Sewanee history.

In the email, Butler writes, "An upcoming feature in Sewanee magazine will take a look at the history, tradition, and contemporary practice of wearing academic gowns at Sewanee, and we'd like your help." He goes on to ask for specific gowns with unusually rich histories and gowns with a little extra character for a photo gallery.

In an email with The Sewanee Purple, Mr. Butler explains the motivation behind the article: "We're always looking for ideas that help remind alumni of why they love Sewanee. With the magazine, we

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# Community Engagement House Update



By Mary Gray  
Staff Writer

The new semester is in full swing, and residents of the Community Engagement House are busy planning a variety of events and programs for the coming weeks.

The Soup Swap has been a staple in the spring lineup of events for a few years now. This year's Soup Swap is scheduled for 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, February 25, in the Mary Sue Cushman Room of the Women's Center. Community organizations in Sewanee and the surrounding areas will be providing delicious samplings of soup for anyone who attends. In addition to sharing the recipe for the soups, these organizations will share information about who their group is and what it does, potentially recruiting new members. There is no cost to attend, but donations will be taken at the door. Soup campers will be able to vote on their favorite soups, and the organization whose soup gets the most votes will take home any donations at the end of the evening.

The Coffee and Conversations series, in which members of the Sewanee community are invited to

speak about their lives, work, and views on community, will continue monthly throughout the semester. The first conversation is tentatively set for 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 23, with the speaker to be announced shortly. E-mail updates and flyers around campus will go up in the coming days.

Several Community Engagement House residents are also involved in planning Sewanee Idol, the only major fundraiser for the spring break outreach trip to Haiti. Sewanee Idol, an annual lip-synch and dance competition, will be held in Lower Cravens on Friday, February 24, beginning at 9:00 P.M. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased from anyone going on the trip, in the outreach office, at the Community Engagement House, or in McClurg beginning Monday, February 20.

For anyone who may be interested in living in the house next year, applications will be going out soon. Those interested may contact current house director Kristin Hanson, C'12, current residents, or Dixon Myers in the outreach office if they have questions about the application process or living in the house.

The Community Engagement House is located on the corner of Alabama and Mitchell Avenues, across from McClurg and behind Van Ness. Residents of the house are always open to event suggestions or feedback from anyone in the community. Anyone is welcome to stop by to share event ideas, learn more about outreach opportunities, use the space for group activities, or simply to visit with the residents.

# The Setbacks of Development: A Talk on Globalization in India



Photo courtesy of freestatemilitant

By Robert Middlekauff  
Staff Writer

On February 2, Rohan Kalyan came to Sewanee to talk about how, despite its great economic benefits, globalization can cause problems for local populations. Dr. Kalyan received his Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in May 2011 and is currently one of the candidates for the tenure-track position in the International and Global Studies department. His lecture, entitled "Neo Delhi: Global Capitalism and the Politics of Urban Mediation," was part four of a series that introduced potential faculty members in Sewanee.

The main focus of Dr. Kalyan's talk was the new urban city of Gurgaon and a concept he terms Urban Mediation whereby the urban setting acts as a mediator between the state and globalization. Due to rapid development after economic liberalization in the 1990s, Gurgaon, often called a "millennium city", has become a technology hub with characteristics that parallel not only India as a whole, but also other developing countries. Because of massive foreign direct investment, many multinational companies such as The Coca-Cola Company, GE, Microsoft, and Motorola, have made

Gurgaon a major financial center of India. This investment has subsequently led to rapid economic growth and modernization with new construction projects, shopping centers, and housing.

Despite the growth of economic output, the benefits have not been distributed equally. In fact many locals around Gurgaon suffer, while the large corporations receive most of the benefits. For example, in order to transform a city like Gurgaon from a rural village to an industrial center, the land owned by farmers must be bought and developed. In the 1980s, the land was mostly bought by private companies at cheap market prices with developers keeping most of the profits. Later, the government, in need of revenue, also began to acquire land from farmers, often forcibly, in the name of economic development. Most farmers, however, have owned their land for generations using it as a means of livelihood. One concerned farmer, whom Dr. Kalyan interviewed, wondered "how will the coming generations feed their children without land" because to them "land is everything." Such actions are what Dr. Kalyan terms as a "futurist narrative" whereby "negotiating the present does violence to the present." He claims that "this generation wants

the global and they want it now," but many problems come with such rapid change and the problems often fall on the local people.

The effects of globalization can be very harsh for the displaced farmers. Since land acquisition began, farmer suicides, domestic violence, and alcoholism have risen. Many have ended up with large amounts of debt or have had to switch from commercial to subsistence farming. The government claims that this is for the public good, but one must wonder who exactly is the "public" if local farmers are not benefiting from these developments? The government claims that more jobs increase the common good, but others retort that many of the jobs go to migrant workers, not the locals.

The city of Gurgaon exemplifies both the positives and negatives of development. Some parts are clearly modern, while others remain undeveloped and impoverished. Such a juxtaposition between the rich and the poor is shown by the many commercially oriented billboards around town. The billboards are frequently in English (not a commonly known language) and attempt to portray a Utopian life of tranquility, modernity, and luxury. One portrays a happy family of four with the slogan

"experience the life now." While some in Gurgaon may enjoy aspects of that life, many do not and such a juxtaposition between the modern and impoverished life creates local dissatisfaction. This sort of dissatisfaction is what creates the need for Urban Mediation. Urban Mediation is the mediator between the "marginalized and displaced" local political influence to mediate and integrate the interests of local people and multinational corporations.

Such Urban Mediation has actually seen success in recent years. For instance, land acquisition is not nearly as easy as it was in the past. The local government is also causing corporations to respond because they do not want to be associated with brutal policies against local labor and local people. And despite the negative effects of globalization, many are actually beginning to benefit from economic development and even some farmers are becoming successful. Nevertheless, Dr. Kalyan's story serves as a reminder of the costs of globalization and the possibility of mitigating those costs.

If you want to learn more about Dr. Kalyan and research you can visit his blog at [virtualpolitics.blogspot.com](http://virtualpolitics.blogspot.com).

# Cuba...Continued from Page 5



Photo courtesy of Michael Grant

writing in both quality and substance, with little in the way of international affairs and a resigned, subservient relationship with the Cuban government. One issue of the *Granma* I picked up had an official mourning of the death of North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il, and mentioned the Syrian crackdown on growing "terrorist attacks" (i.e. peaceful protests). Needless to say, the *Granma* reeked of propaganda.

While Cuba is not a complete democracy, I do not agree with common claims that Cubans are oppressed in that the country is a dictatorship. There are some semblances of democracy such as unions, and the right to education and affordable healthcare is arguably a replacement for the freedom of political participation. It seems that Fidel became powerful through popularity and deference, not through force or coercion. This of course will be proved or disproved

after the Castro brothers pass and are replaced either by another strong leader or a regime with more democratic leanings.

While many Americans anxiously await a regime change in Cuba, Cubans desperately want the U.S. to end the trade embargo. The embargo underlies many of Cuba's problems and its continued poverty, and seemed to be the elephant in the room with many conversations with Cubans who knew we were Americans. Perhaps an American leader will soon extend an olive branch and end the embargo, but it is up to the stronger partner to define the relationship (especially as the U.S. consistently rejects Cuban diplomatic offers). Despite this, Castro's revolution has succeeded in many respects and will have an impact in Cuba and in the rest of America long after his death.

# Voices from the Women's Center: What Happened to "Going Out on a Date?"



By Meredith Lawrence  
Contributing Writer

Sure, we all know if you are officially "in a relationship" with someone, you will inevitably end up "going on a date" with them, but have casual, first "dates" become a relic of the past? It took me a while to explain to my parents that single people don't seem to go on

dates as much in Sewanee. If you run into someone you're interested in while in a social setting or elsewhere, there may be time to start up a conversation in hopes of getting to know them better, but it almost too forward to ask someone "out on a date" who is a stranger, more or less? Going out on a date implies there is something more serious than just wanting to get to know someone better. What happened?

Well, for one, maybe it's Sewanee's isolation. It is a serious journey to the nearest restaurant, movie theatre, bowling alley, etc., if you want to stray from "downtown Sewanee." It's also a big investment for some of us who are running on small allowances that need to be used for other necessities such as non-McClurg groceries and libations. Maybe it's the change in technology since our parents' college days. Would we rather

text, email or Facebook each other than sit face-to-face over dinner? Has our definition of a "date" changed from being seen as a no-strings-attached get together, to someone who will be accompanying you to a dance or special event? Everyone claims "to know everyone" already, so maybe a date would be unnecessary.

Some may be thankful that dinner dates, for example, have gone out of style. It puts less stress on the guys who wonder if they need to offer to pay for the meal, as well as the girls who don't know if the guy will offer. Girls don't have to watch Jenna Marbles's YouTube videos instructing you on makeup application for a date (if you don't know who that is, you're in for a treat). Guys don't have to call their mothers to ask them what to wear or where to go.

For those girls who do wish a guy would take you

out to dinner, however, have no fear! Times have changed. If women "take the world" like Beyoncé says, you're allowed to see a reversion of casual, getting-to-know-you dates.

Be on the lookout for emails and posters about our upcoming Women's Center events!

**Wednesday, February 22:** Pinnacle Luncheon. We will be having a Sewanee students speaking on Feminism and gender roles.

**Monday, March 5:** Sewanee Monologues. Instead of having a gynaecological performance, this year we welcome both Sewanee men and women to submit their short stories or poems pertaining to relationships, love, sex, sexual assault, and sexual harassment. More to come.

of our primary goal is to maintain and strengthen the relationship between the University and its graduates, and highlighting Sewanee's unique traditions is a great way to do that. When asked why he chose to focus on gowns rather than on any of Sewanee's other traditions, Mr. Butler attributed it to the universal appreciation of the gown tradition. "Almost everybody who's spent time on the Mountain has fond memories of the gown tradition -- how hard they worked to earn their gowns, the day they received their gowns, and the sometimes long and storied histories of the gowns themselves. With this article, we wanted to try to find some of the more compelling stories to share with our readership." Mr. Butler says he has already gotten tremendous feedback from students, professors, and alumni. If you gown dying to have it's story told, email Buck Butler at [bbutler@sewanee.edu](mailto:bbutler@sewanee.edu).

# Gowns... Continued from Page 5

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

www.sewaneepurple.com

## Ailey II at Guerry Auditorium



By Megan Ebel  
Contributing Writer

All around me, 800 members of the Sewanee community and groups from surrounding counties, buzz with anticipation, the heavy Guerry Hall curtain separating the audience from the Ailey II company. We can see their feet, pointing and flexing, through a slit at the bottom of the curtain, warming up for the show. The lights dim, signaling for the audience to be seated. As the curtain heaves off the stage and as the muscled silhouettes of The Company form against the scrim, the audience is sent twirling into the movement and artistic mind of international dance legend, Alvin Ailey.

Nearly a year ago, though, this magnificent event was just an idea. To bring a company of such caliber to Sewanee is more than challenging. As a small, fairly remote college, Sewanee is naturally not an obvious destination for such a performing arts spectacle. Also, in much need of a renovation, Guerry Hall, requires the school to bring

in an expensive light crew, sound crew and professional equipment to make Guerry suitable for guests.

Despite the sacrifice of expense, Sewanee seeks to give back. With surrounding counties predominantly African-American, the reward of hosting Ailey II is more than a night on the town; the Company leaves an inspiring slice of American heritage. They also prevented a morning mini-show at Franklin County High School, and later lead a master class at the Tennessee Williams Center for Sewanee student dancers.

"We brought them here as part of the Sewanee Performing Arts Series. We collaborated with two other preventers in different states to apply for, and receive, a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to cover a portion of the expenses," says Katie Lehman, the organizer of the event, explained.

The Company performed three pieces. The first two, more recent Reference Point and Boulevard, were full of action. Riveting leaps and a more colored variation of

Ailey-style choreography left audience members on the edge of their seats. The third,

Revelations, was a traditional Ailey piece. Reflecting on African-American civil rights, hardships, and the historically prevalent Harlem Renaissance that inspired the original Alvin Ailey company to form in 1960, Revelations' power over the audience was unequivocal.

Lehman commented on the power of the performance: "In the audience, Sylvia Waters, Ailey II founding Director, who is retiring after 35 years...smile[d] as an excited crowd of nearly 800 gave [the dancers] thunderous applause."

Over time, The Ailey Company has stayed from its all-African-American membership, integrating several multi-racial and promising dancers. Yet, evident by the encore from the audience, the integrity and weight of the dance has remained, if not become stronger.

Photo courtesy of harlemworldblog.wordpress.com

## Stoker On Stoker: Ancestor of Bram Stoker to Speak at Sewanee

By Grace Williams  
Staff Writer

Think you know all about Count Dracula and those blood-sucking creatures of the night? Or perhaps you've never given a thought to the rich history of vampire lore, the evolution of European folk tales into the modern interpretations we see in books and films. No matter your knowledge level, guest speaker Dacre Stoker welcomes you to listen to his presentation of *Stoker on Stoker*, which he states will "shed light on how and why *Dracula* was written, and the events in the life of the author, Bram Stoker, which inspired him to write one of the best-known stories in the modern world."

It is a rare privilege to have a speaker so personally related to his work - not just from years of dedication, but also by family blood. Dacre Stoker is the great-grand

nephew of *Dracula* author Bram Stoker. His presentation will not only include details of the *Dracula* novel history, but will incorporate aspects of Bram Stoker's personal life and the Stoker family history as well, offering a

Dacre Stoker's own continuation of his ancestor's work is another part of the presentation, an undeniably unique example of passing down the family craft. His own novel *Dracula the Un-Dead*, published in 2009, is what he describes as "the Stoker family endorsed sequel to *Dracula*." He will talk about the research involved in this sequel, which included searching through Bram's own personal notes of *Dracula* to get at the heart of the legend.

*Dracula* is a novel that re-defined the characteristics of vampires, and our own modern pop phenomena of vampires owes much to Bram Stoker's Count Dracula. "Even though my famous

relative, Bram Stoker, did not invent vampires," Dacre Stoker explains, "he did invent the fictional Count Dracula and all the tropes that have emerged; the cape, fangs, dinner jacket and Eastern European accent. Many of the writers and directors who are popular today stay true to most of the characteristics that Bram applied to his leading vampire."

Whether you are interested in history, fantasy, or literature, everyone will find their interest piqued by some part of the presentation; there is no need to have read either of the Stoker family novels to enjoy this event.

Mr. Dacre Stoker's presentation of *Stoker on Stoker*, an event hosted for this year's Languages and Literature I.I.C., will take place in Convocation on Tuesday February 21 at 5pm. Refreshments will be provided at the end for any guests.



Photo courtesy of memphisflyer.com

## Martin Luther King vs. Malcolm X: A Dramatic Reading

By Julia Wallace  
Executive Editor

What was sure to be a clear, well constructed dramatic reading of segments from Martin Luther King and Malcolm X's most famous speeches on February 2, became a thought provoking one-man show. Reverend James Cooper, who usually plays Malcolm X in *Martin and Malcolm: A Transition*, had a family emergency and could not attend, so Reverend Archie Smart of Athens, TN had no choice but to play the roles of both leaders, despite that they stood on opposite sides of the civil rights movement.

"I have a dream." The stage was set in two distinct parts, mirror images of each other. Two chairs facing away from each other sat a few steps apart and a coat rack standing behind them halved the stage.

"I don't see any American dream, I see an American nightmare."

The original premise of the reading was clear. Smart would read an excerpt of a speech from Martin Luther King and then sit in his chair while Cooper read an excerpt of a speech from Malcolm X. Cooper would then sit in his chair, and the process would repeat.

"I have come to believe more and more in a personal god."

This, of course, could not happen with only one actor. Instead, some inspired adaptations were made. Smart

began as Martin Luther King. He delivered an excerpt from the famous "I Have a Dream" speech with an amazing likeness to the original orator: the hand gestures, accent, gusto—all the same.

"The Negro was taught to speak the white man's tongue, worship the white God, and accept the white man as his superior. This is a white man's country."

Still, as Smart sat down for a few moments, and then got up to cross the stage to read as Malcolm X, there was a form of embarrassment in the crowd. Small snickers and looks were exchanged around Guerry Auditorium. The audience was shocked into silence, however, when Smart began Malcolm X's response to the "I Have a Dream" speech. He completely embodied this new character.

"The color of a man's skin no longer signifies the content of his head. America is truly the land of the free and the home of all of her brave."

It took all of fifteen seconds for Smart to switch from Martin Luther King to Malcolm X, each time more impressive than the last. Back and forth he crossed the stage, passing a kind of threshold that took him from one end of the spectrum to the other in seamless transition.

"Unemployment and poverty have forced many of our people into a life of crime. But, the real criminal is in City Hall downtown."

After several heated and powerful excerpts, Smart

Then, something strange began to happen. "Freedom is not free." It became hard to tell which leader Smart was projecting. The accents and gestures that set them apart when they were on opposite ends of the stage

were indistinguishable in the middle.

"The price of freedom is death."

Then, something strange began to happen.

"Freedom is not free." It became hard to tell which leader Smart was projecting. The accents and gestures that set them apart when they were on opposite ends of the stage

were indistinguishable in the middle.

"It is time for us to submerge our differences."

What was surely a wonderful ending with both actors was beautiful and profound with only one. The effect left the audience with

a feeling that the reading was constructed to be run with one actor after all.

"The purpose is to have college students see M.L.K. change from the protagonist to the antagonist... Without Malcolm we would never have had a Martin," Smart said.



Photo courtesy of nkhan.org

# 84th Academy Awards Nominations Contain Familiar Faces, New Blood

By Mary Gray  
Staff Writer

The 84th Academy Awards are likely to be a relatively drama-free occasion. The lists of nominees for Best Actor and Actress are littered with familiar A-listers, and, with Billy Crystal hosting for the ninth time, after Eddie Murphy stepped down, the evening will remain snugly within the confines of "TV-PG." Thankfully, though, after last year's surprisingly disappointing dud, Oscar hosts have nowhere to go but up. Crystal could ask why the chicken crossed the road, and the results would be more entertaining than Anne Hathaway's and James Franco's entire time onstage last year.

Since the 82nd Academy Awards, the list of nominees for Best Picture has been expanded, largely due to the frequent disconnect between critics' top choices and actual "crowd favorites" in any given year. The Best Picture nominees this year are *War Horse*, *The Artist*, *Hugo*, *Midnight in Paris*, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, *The Help*, *Tree of Life*, *The Descendants*, and *Moneyball*. *The Artist* is the clear front-runner for Best Picture, but both *The Descendants* and *The Help* should not be taken out of the equation. Despite the mixed critical reactions to *The Help*, the film's popularity was nearly unparalleled last year,

and that level of audience resonance, combined with the flawlessness of the film's ensemble cast, heightens its chances at securing a surprise win. The safe bet, however, will be *The Artist*, since it is unlikely that the Academy wants to reignite the tiring "Blind Side debate" about a film's popular success and empirical quality, and whether or not they are mutually exclusive.

Nominated for Best Actor in a Leading Role are George Clooney (*The Descendants*), Devian Bichir (*A Better Life*), Brad Pitt (*Moneyball*), Gary Oldman (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*), and Jean Dujardin (*The Artist*). Dujardin brings the intrigue and excitement to this race, as it will essentially be a battle between Hollywood's newest foreign heartthrob and its perennial favorite pretty boys: Pitt and Clooney. All signs point toward Clooney taking home the Oscar, but, given the success of *The Artist* as a whole, a win for Dujardin is not out of the question. At the Golden Globes, both men were recognized as Best Actors in their respective categories (Drama and Comedy/Musical). When pitted against each other, however, Clooney is a safer bet, especially given his myriad achievements last year with both *"The Descendants"* and *The Idea of March*.

The Best Actress category contains a fresh-faced new leading lady (Rooney Mara

for *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*), some rapidly ascending A-listers (Michelle Williams for *My Week with Marilyn* and Viola Davis for *The Help*), and two always-deserving overachievers (Glenn Close for *Albert Nobbs* and, surprise!, Meryl Streep for *The Iron Lady*). On Oscar night, though, all eyes will be on Davis and Streep. Streep defeated Davis at this year's Golden Globes, but Meryl herself seemed to think her win was unmerited. Streep, of course, has been nominated for more Academy Awards than any actor in history. Though the inclusion of her name on the ballot may feel a bit boring and redundant, in *The Iron Lady*, she delivered what was arguably her best performance in years, and it has been a full 29 of them since she actually won the Oscar (for *Sophie's Choice*). Davis has had one previous nomination for her supporting role in "Doubt," in which she had mere minutes onscreen but delivered the film's most emotionally gripping performance. In her debut leading role, she gave an equally worthy performance, but her chances may be thwarted by Streep's other role as the perpetual nominee.

Be sure to tune in to the Oscars on Sunday, February 26, airing live on ABC beginning at 6 P.M.

All photos courtesy of uscats.com



# Natural? Gas: Oscar-nominated Documentary Debuts in Sewanee

By Robert Middlekauff  
Staff Writer

WINNER  
GRAND JURY PRIZE  
2010 CINCINNATI FILM FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

WINNER  
BEST DOCUMENTARY  
2010 CINCINNATI FILM FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

WINNER  
BEST DOCUMENTARY  
2010 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
BEST DOCUMENTARY  
2010 CINCINNATI FILM FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

WINNER  
BEST DOCUMENTARY  
2010 CINCINNATI FILM FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

"SENSATIONAL...  
A piece of beautiful cinema... Rough-hewn and poetic."  
- Robert Koehn, Variety

"MESMERIZING...  
Warmhearted...  
Darkly humorous."  
- The Christian Science Monitor

"VOLCANIC...  
With humor and inquisitiveness,  
Fox has delivered  
2010's most alarming  
waka-up call."  
- Michael Tetter, Newsday

Photo courtesy of imagineprice.com

On February 9th, Sewanee Green Action and Sewanee Democrats sponsored a showing of the Oscar-nominated documentary, *Gasland*. Written and directed by Josh Fox, the film highlights the dangers of extracting natural gas, a process known as fracking. Fracking, formally known as hydraulic fracturing, is the method used to extract natural gas that is stored in shale rock. In order to do this, "millions of gallons of water, sand, and proprietary chemicals are injected, under high pressure, into a well. The pressure fractures the shale and props open fissures that enable natural gas to flow more freely out of the well."

Many problems come from the leftover chemicals needed to facilitate this process. What the industry labels as "produced water," is wasted water often left in pits to evaporate and also contaminate local soil. These evaporated chemicals pollute the air, and the oil industry even expedites this process by directly spraying the contaminated water into the air. Besides these dangerous chemicals, leftover gas freed from shale rock also creeps into the soil and groundwater.

With over 400,000 natural gas wells in the United States, many Americans have already been severely affected. The most clear negative impact

is the contamination of wells used for drinking water. In the United States alone, one thousand cases of water contamination near areas of oil and gas drilling have been documented. As shown in the movie, many people can light their water on fire, others have seen their water turn various colors ranging from yellow to black, and some have noticed unusual health problems. Symptoms from water pollution include frequent headaches, constant cough, serious neurological damage, brain lesions, loss of smell and taste, great amounts of pain, cancer, and many others.

Many people appeal to the government for help, but even the Environmental Protection Agency is coincidentally limited in the actions that it can take. The documentary explained that "in 2005, the Bush/Cheney Energy Bill exempted natural gas drilling from the Safe Drinking Water Act. It exempts companies from disclosing the chemicals used during hydraulic fracturing. Essentially, the provision took the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) off the job. It is now commonly referred to as the Halliburton Loophole." Although the companies are not required to disclose the chemicals used, some scientists have discovered that many carcinogens, toxins, and neurotoxins are in the fracking fluid including, but not limited to benzene (carcinogen), lead,

ethylene glycol (antifreeze) and many others.

Because of the environmental regulations, the oil companies literally buy off anyone who becomes negatively affected. They sign non-disclosure agreements with people in order to prevent them from speaking out. As one person in the film explains, the companies fight any complaints in the courts and buy anybody left standing.

This movie explains the need to change in our national policy and the House Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness to Children Act is "intended to take the Halliburton Loophole and to require the natural gas industry to disclose the chemicals used." Sadly, the general public is mostly unaware of the dangers of natural gas, and advertisements by the oil companies portraying it as a safe solution to our energy problems only deepen our ignorance. Hopefully, this film will generate discussion about the subject and pressure the oil company propaganda from dominating political discourse. As one observer puts it, "crap is crap matter what kind of pack you put it in." Let's open the package and deal with the crap.

If you would like to know more about "crap" watch the movie or go to [www.gaslandthemovie.com](http://www.gaslandthemovie.com)

# Serenata Salsa Band Plays at Ayres Multicultural Center

By Mitchell Brewer  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, February 4, the Organization for Cross-Cultural Understanding and the Hispanic Organization for Latino Awareness hosted a salsa dance as part of a series of cultural events. From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dana James and Mimi Cheverez, two dancers from Pasafino Studios, were available to teach salsa and merengue dance lessons at the Ayres Multicultural Center for those interested in learning to dance. "This is my first experience salsa dancing," said Rachel Jenkins (C'15). "I think dancing is good for both the spirit and

the heart."

The dance began at 9:30 Saturday night. Experienced dancers as well as newcomers filed into the Ayres Multicultural Center as the Serenata Salsa Band began to play Latin music. The seven-piece band, noted as being the best Latin band in Atlanta, formed in 2001 and have been playing in Sewanee since 2003.

"Salsa dancing is a fun activity for those who may be new to dancing as well as for those who may be advanced. I believe it is a good thing for our students, as a complement to what we do in class, to have a range of fun activities to consider as social options

on weekends," said Eric Benjamin, primary organizer of the event. "It was great to see students from across campus, as well as faculty members, enjoying the salsa music and dancing."

The OCCU, HOLA and the Ayres Multicultural Center are responsible for hosting dozens of events that spread across several different languages and cultures. The next big event is the Step Show, hosted by the African American Alliance in Guerry Auditorium Saturday, February 25 at 8:30 p.m., as well as the Step Show Party in the Ayres Multicultural Center at 10:00 p.m.



Photo courtesy of newsewanee.com

# OPINIONS

www.sewaneepurple.com

## Professor-Student Relationships: A Lasting Tradition

Megan Eaves  
Winter

In All Saints' Chapel there stands a stained glass window depicting a professor and student, one behind the professor is a glowing light. This window represents an old tradition where professors kept their front porches lit to signify that their doors were always open to their students for both academic and personal purposes. Although this tradition has ceased to exist, the relationships between professors and students have not. The porch light did not create relationships; the people did, and just because the light tradition is behind us does not mean that our professors are any less welcoming.

During my time at Sewanee, I have been nothing less than impressed with my professors' willingness to help me during class and spend time with me outside of it. We, as students attending

The University of the South, are not a number at this university; we are a name, a face, and a personality. The simple fact that our professors know our names and try to learn our personalities sets them apart from the professors at other schools. Students are invited to professors' homes where they host final exam study sessions and have coffee just to chat about life on the Domain. I see an eagerness to build relationships with students in Sewanee professors, and I have not seen that anywhere else.

Dr. John Reishman is a perfect example of a professor who enjoys his students and sincerely wants to form a relationship with them. On the first day of class this semester, Dr. Reishman said that he had been eager for winter break to be over so that he could have someone to play handball with again. Comments like this one and enthusiasm like Dr. Reishman's are why I decided to be a student at Sewanee.

Sewanee also does not have a graduate program running during the academic year, thus, professors focus all of their attention on the undergraduate students. This enables students to get involved with research and independent studies, whereas, students at other universities do not always have the opportunity to participate in these sorts of activities. Sewanee professors encourage their students to get involved with these opportunities.

The front porch light tradition signified the relationships between students and professors, but these relationships did not cease to exist when the front porch lights were turned off. Professors at Sewanee put forth an effort to get to know their students that professors at other universities do not. We, as students, are lucky to be surrounded by people who support us and want to get involved in our lives.

## Frozen Pizza Lobby Strikes Again



Photo courtesy of knowyourmeat.com

By Stephen Elliott  
Staff Writer

Over the last twelve months or so, First Lady Michelle Obama, along with several health-conscious members of Congress, has been pushing initiatives to keep children healthy and stave off the obesity epidemic. These efforts have resulted in several new programs aimed at preventing obesity, including adding spending to the subsidized lunch program for the first time in a couple of decades and encouraging athletic participation.

On November 14, Congress introduced a new spending bill containing new regulations concerning public school lunches. Consequently, pizza has been formally declared a vegetable,

and 4th graders around the country are celebrating in the streets. I just wish I could have grown up in such a progressive period in the history of American politics. I could finally have the upper hand on my mom, who is under the impression that vegetables are some strange food group consisting of disgusting green things. Fortunately, the 112th Congress of the United States of America knows better.

How did such a victory come out of the legislative gridlock that has been the downfall of something as fundamental as the budget of the United States? Dumb question. The frozen pizza lobby is the only logical response. Apparently, the frozen pizza lobby is a sort of mix between Skull and

Bones and the Russian mafia. This group of companies that provide frozen pizzas to elementary schools must have some sort of incriminating pictures of all the members of Congress. What else could cause someone to decide that the minimal amount of sugar infused and genetically engineered tomato paste used on frozen pizzas in your elementary school cafeteria should be considered a sufficient serving of vegetables? Tomatoes aren't even vegetables to begin with, but that's the least of my worries.

I like to try to pretend that I want to eat healthy when I go to McClurg. At least enough so I can complain about the lack of options. However, now that the government has kindly informed me that pizza is a vegetable, I realize what a cornucopia of health food has been staring me in the face this whole time. Rejoice, for the pizza line in McClurg is now guilt free.

But, what if this all just a conspiracy created to get children, and college students, to eat vegetables? Maybe it's not the frozen pizza lobby we should be worrying about, but rather the Mommy Mafia, trying to get us to eat vegetables (read pizza) that we all know are gross. And I'll leave you with that.

## Sewanee Faces Men's Shake with New, Lasting Policy



Photo by Richard Milby

By Ross Scarborough  
Editorial Staff

An old ATO bid card hangs, framed, in the coat-room of the Alumni house. On it are these instructions: students are to walk down to their desired fraternity houses on the afternoon of Shake Day.

The straightforwardness of these instructions recalls an idyllic Shake Day, and carries the same undertones of today's own Shake Days.

Shake Day at Sewanee is always a joyous, and sometime raucous, affair. The University recognizes the challenges and potential liability these celebrations cost, and take various steps every year to curtail any harm or danger that could come to students. In recent years the University has been resolute in adapting new and different Shake policies in an attempt to find the best Shake Day practice possible. Over the past 3 years, the University's Shake Day policies have removed the celebration of Shake Day further away from the dorms, creating a safer environment around campus for dorm staff, Greeks, and non-Greeks alike. While some stu-

dents see this as a necessary evil, or even an impediment upon fraternal celebrations, the University has come to find a better balance between allowing celebrations to occur while still keeping their students and their own property safe.

To understand how the University arrived at its current Shake system, it will behoove us to look at Shake Days past.

Shake Day 2009 was the last in a trend of boisterous Shake Day celebrations in the dorms. Seniors speak fondly of that gentlemen hurling themselves down through the halls of every dorm. The basic theory behind this Shake policy was that shakers hunged on the doors of potential pledges, chanting Greek names and attempting to persuade the shaker with screams and fits. Shakers competed right outside the freshman's door for a shake. While exhilarating (and, by some accounts, overwhelming), this policy resulted in lots of broken windows, particularly in Trez. Lots of energy was concentrated at the Shake, and extra energy was absorbed by the dorms in a negative way.

Shake Day 2010 ended the

practice of Greeks entering the dorms. Instead, shakers lined up outside each dorm along the road, and freshmen were sent out one at a time to shake. Each shaker was assigned to one specific shaker. When a freshman emerged from the dorm, all of the Greek representatives that came to shake him would yell, waving T-shirts bearing Greek letters. While smaller dorms did not see much excitement, larger dorms like Elliot and Trez still had loud crowds. Shakers and shakees usually stayed at a dorm (or would meet at a large dorm) and would wait until an entire pledge class had assembled before running to their house. Thus, much of the celebration of Shake Day was still concentrated near the dorms, and was well underway before pledges arrived at their houses. Shake Day 2011 continued in a similar fashion.

This past Shake Day, while still high in energy, had the least amount of celebration at the dorms in recent memory. This is due in part to a strong University insistence on newly shook pledges and

See SHAKE, Page 11 >>

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# The Purple Gets Personal: Classifieds for Lonely Hearts



**Seeking bespectacled boy-wizard:** His eyes are as green as a fresh pickled toad. His hair is as dark as a blackboard. I wish he was mine, he is really divine. The hero who conquered the Dark Lord. --from Ginga Sista

Single female seeking domestic or ferocious feline and, potentially, its owner. If interested, meet at It Gets Better screening Wednesday Feb. 15th at 7:30 in Blackman Auditorium. --Eline Baidle

**Tan, frosh gurlay seeking tall, athletic, Frat Daddy.** Must have a solid reputation in beer pong, use the words "bro" and "chill" in every sentence, and have a significant collection of Vinyard Vines belts. If interested, meet Wednesday Feb 15th in Blackman Auditorium at 7:30. See you there!

Cisgendered, pansexual female with an affinity for outrageous sweaters seeking a person with similar affinity for outrageous sweaters, British television, and Glee. If interested, meet at It Gets Better screening Wednesday Feb 15th at 7:30 in Blackman Auditorium. --Mz Coshy

Single, feminist female seeks frat boy convert fluent in Judith Butler and ready to challenge heteronormativity... before he graduates. If interested, meet at It Gets Better screening Feb 15th Blackman Auditorium at 7:30. --Woman 101

I am an avid liker and love the outdoors. I love to read and write (I'm currently in the process of writing a novel), listen to music and hang out with my friends and dance. I'm known for my quirky personality and for my ability to make yummy cookies. I'm kind, caring, sweet and honest. I'm looking for someone who is honest, nice and can make me laugh as well as to hold onto my interests. I want someone who has some sort of musical talent who is intelligent, and can hold conversations about several things. --Meg B

Calling all Sewanee friends! I am a very fun, dirty girl I love to have a good time out on the dance floor, in the gym, or even in the classroom. I'm looking for someone who is willing to explore the potentials of Sewanee with me and who can keep up with my fast paced life! (They call me mhosh) .)

Gay lady seeks charming lady friend. Silliness, seriousness, nerdiness, and tree-climbing are required. If interested, meet at It Gets Better screening Wednesday Feb. 15th at 7:30 in Blackman Auditorium. --Trouble Tone

no, "Lilly P. for LGBT"

Easy-going, intellectual female seeking tall, dark, and handsome athlete. Must love dogs. If interested, meet at It Gets Better Screening Feb. 15th Blackman Auditorium at 7:30. --Marilyn Monroe

Freshman with a heavy backpack and an equally heavy heart seeks strong man to massage my back after a long day of classes. Must bench at least 250 and be able to whisper words of encouragement. Apply by the weight machines in Fowler. --Sarah F.

**DOUGIE KING PASSIONATELY SEEKING WOBBLING QUEEN. MEET ME ON THE DANCE FLOOR AT SNU AND WE CAN WOP IN RHYTHMIC BLISS.**

Urban poet seeks to share his smooth beats with a special "collaborator." I'm as sleek with my rhymes as I am freshly-shaven in my Speedo for a swim meet. Needs someone who can keep up with my fast-talking flow. Can often be found cruising the sidewalks between Fowler and that red-roofed house that finally turned its lights on recently. Just call out the name "Chin Pet" and I will come.

*Although I may be a large and intimidating guy, I am very sweet on the inside. I enjoy hanging out with that special someone and having someone to talk to. I like girls who are sweet and enjoy hanging out 24/7. Someone that I could walk to class with or who I could enjoy my cup of Stirling's with would be nice. I want someone who will understand me!* --Calu O

**BIDDY SEEKS LAX PENNY TO KEEP HER WARM AT NIGHT. SHOTGUN TIME MUST BE 3 SEC OR LESS. MEET ON STAGE AT SAE. BRING VODKA OR DON'T BOTHER.**

Hani is a soft natured man who loves academics and one day wants to become a Professor. Geology is his passion, and he hates the pursuit of material possessions. Thus, "Little Twaij" as he's lovingly known, would like a woman who's service oriented, and deeply religious.

*Outdoorsy and artsy gender-queer man who loves his body and other male bodies, butch or femme. Out and proud and excited to meet other like-minded men eager to change the world. If interested, come to Blackman auditorium Wednesday Feb. 15th at 7:30 for It Gets Better.* --Art Brat

**XOXO, LONELY SRATSTAR**

Fratstar seeks kindred spirit to share my soul over a Natty case race. Available after 3 a.m.

Strong, quiet, semi-athletic female seeking cisgendered male interested in sports, tattoos, and music. If interested, meet Feb. 15th in Blackman Auditorium @ 7:30pm for It Gets Better screening. --Violet Ace

## Shake...Continued from Page 9

their shakers leaving durns as soon as they are done. It is also due to the fact that shakers and shakers met on a patch of "common ground" between the dorm and the shaker's area, thus isolating the actual Shake itself into a small group rather than within the entire swath of fraternity representatives. The slinker and shaker have already isolated themselves from the larger group, making it easier for them to break away and return to their house

for celebration. Although there was talk to concentrate all rushing freshmen into Fowler next year, that plan has been nixed, and the current model will most likely be reinstated. General reflection from the entire community on this past Shake Day has yielded positive opinions. Everyone from the administration, the chapter presidents, to shakers and shakers themselves agree that this year's policy allowed the

celebration of Shake Day to be concentrated back at fraternity houses, where brothers could enjoy themselves without interfering with the rest of the campus. By focusing energy back towards the houses and away from the dorms, the University has saved itself money and liability. This new culture fosters greater celebration among the brothers and pledges in a single place, on the fraternity's own turf.

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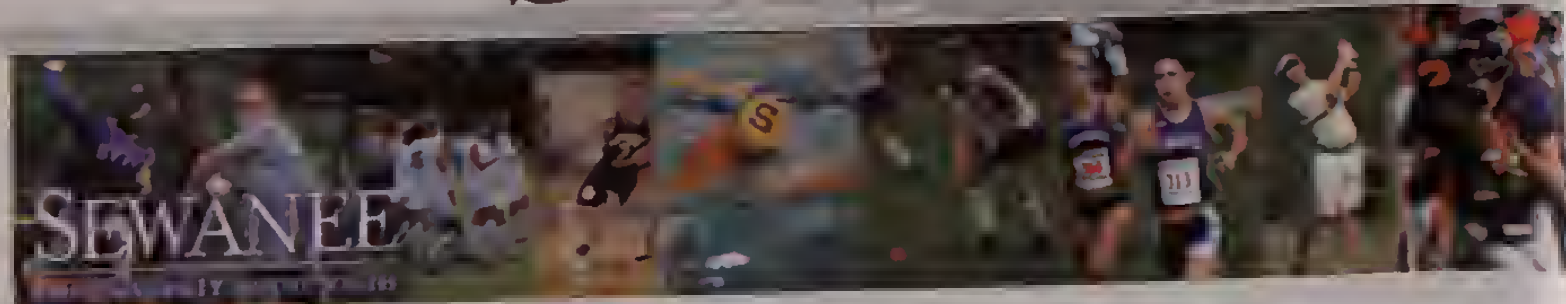
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# SPORTS



## Sports Statistics: Week of February 1-6

Sport	Date	Opponent	Result
Men's Basketball	2/1	LaGrange College	W 77-64
	2/4	at Centre College	L 53-68
	2/6	Georgia Northwestern	W 61-47
Women's Basketball	2/4	at Centre College	L 49-81
Men's Swimming	2/4	Union College	W 72-57
	2/4	Kings College	W 104-24
Women's Swimming	2/4	Union College	W 66-59
	2/4	Kings College	W 91-28

## Super Bowl XLVI: Eli Manning a Hall of Famer?



Photo courtesy of elielkinnochatter info

By Spencer Foote  
Staff Writer

At the beginning of the 2011-2012 NFL Season, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning considered himself to be an elite quarterback that belonged in the same stratosphere as Tom Brady, drawing much criticism from those involved with the league. After his 4<sup>th</sup> quarter game winning drive of Super Bowl XLVI, any doubts about Manning's elite status can now be put to rest. The Giants quarterback threw for 296 yards and two touchdowns en route to a 21-17 win over the New England Patriots, capping

off a season that started in turmoil with the lockout. It was the Giants 2<sup>nd</sup> Super Bowl victory over the Patriots in four years and Manning's 2<sup>nd</sup> Super Bowl MVP as well. Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was outdone by Manning again, was denied a record fourth Super Bowl ring, and is now 3-2 in Super Bowls, arguably diminishing his legacy. Super Bowl XLVI still did not disappoint, with an unusual game that featured a safety and a purposefully allowed touchdown late in the fourth quarter. The Patriots started the game possessing the ball for all of one play in the first 11<sup>1/2</sup> minutes, yet still led 10-9

after Brady masterfully led a 96 yard scoring drive in close out the 1st half. After another score to give the Patriots a 17-9 lead, all seemed lost for the Giants, but Manning kept his cool, and affirmed his status as an elite NFL quarterback and potential Hall of Famer. In Indianapolis, Manning has often been overshadowed by his older brother Peyton's skills and the drama surrounding his future with the Colts, but brother Eli never panicked. His composure and leadership earned the New York Giants another Super Bowl title, declaring the words "elite" and "Eli" one and the same.

## Bring On Track Season

By Breck Pappas  
Staff Writer

The Tiger Indoor Invitational on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> officially kicked off track season and brought some excitement to the Fowler Fieldhouse. Some Sewanee athletes posted impressive performances on Saturday and hope to use the experience to benefit them in larger meets down the road.

Tiger of the Week, Sally Warm, jumped her way into the Sewanee record books on Saturday, winning the high jump with a leap of 1.62m and taking down the all-time University record. Her efforts place her at 25<sup>th</sup> in the nation of NCAA Division III high jumpers. Warm also tied for third place at the invitational for her 5.17m leap at the long jump, and her goal is to continue improving over the course of the season.

"I am really excited to have broken the school record,"

said Warm. "Although I've only been doing track at Sewanee for a short time, my coach has already helped me a lot with working on my form, so I am hoping to high jump 5' 6" by the end of the season."

Sewanee also made some noise on the track when junior Clay Bond finished in third place in the mile with a time of 4:33.25 and sophomore Josh Hirakawa came in fifth for the 55m hurdles event, finishing with a time of 8:45. Junior Arden Jones and senior Jordan Cooney walked away tied at fifth place in the pole vault, each posting a result of 2.30m. Sophomore Caroline Roberts ranked in seventh place for the mile, finishing with a time of 6:01.71 and freshman Amy Nelson's weight throw resulted in a fifth place finish.

Senior Track Captain John Gilmer was happy with the team's overall performance but sets his sights on using

this meet to advance team's goals. "Last week was a fine debut for our program," Gilmer said, "we have high expectations as we prepare to compete at Birmingham Southern Vulcan Indoor Invitational this coming weekend."

Gilmer's team certainly delivered this past week, notching several record breaking performances at Vulcan Indoor Invitational. On the first day of competition the Sewanee men's 4x100m medley team set a school record with a time of 10:38 thanks to the efforts of Clay Bond, Collins Davis, John Gilmer, and Hudson Robb. The success didn't stop there for junior Clay Bond smashed the 3000m school record by 19 seconds with a time of 8:47.73. Freshman Hudson Robb finished 9:02.79 in the same event, second fastest time in school history right behind Bond's performance.



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