

THE SEWANEE PURPLE

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
SEWANEE, TN 37375

Coach Dismissed for Alleged NCAA Violations



The University fired former basketball coach Daniel Chu on March 6. Chu compiled a 12-38 record in two years at Sewanee. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

by David Adams
Sports Editor

The University announced the dismissal of head men's basketball coach Daniel T. Chu on March 6. Chu's dismissal came after the discovery of violations of University policy and apparent NCAA rules violations during the 1992 season. Public Relations Director Stephen Becker states that the dismissal was based on a combination of both the University and apparent NCAA rules violations.

After the discovery of Chu's apparent violations, the University initiated contact with NCAA staff on Feb. 24, 1992, in Overland Park, Kansas. Since this initial contact, the University has been conducting an internal investigation, first submitted to the NCAA on March 12, 1992, seven days after Chu's dismissal. The contents of the

investigation sent to the NCAA, which led to Chu's dismissal, concerned the handling of financial aid.

The University is still conducting the investigation of Chu's alleged violations. Upon completion of this investigation, the University will receive a response from the NCAA. University Attorney Margierie Lloyd explains that "it is up to the NCAA to impose any sort of penalty after the rules violations have been examined." She emphasizes, however, that she is "hopeful" that the NCAA will take into consideration that the alleged violations were "self reported" when reviewing the University's case. The University's initiative in reporting the alleged violations immediately after the discovery "should be a plus in our favor" when the NCAA releases a decision.

Chu, as an employee of

the University of the South, was an "at will" staff member. Not under a contract for a specific period of time, an "at will" employee, upon accepting employment, acknowledges that either party may terminate employment for any legal reason at any time. So on March 5, the University terminated his "at will" status because of the alleged violations. After the University dismissed him, Chu, having sought legal counsel, made a public statement of his intent to examine the situation further.

Athletic Director Bill Huyek sees the dismissal as something definitely in the best interest of the University. He has already initiated a search for a coach for the 1992-93 season.

"I have sent an announcement for an immediate opening to the NCAA News," says

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Cinema Guild Cancels Controversial Film

by Michael Cass
Editor

Student members of the Cinema Guild voted March 5 not to show "In the Realm of the Senses," a Japanese film scheduled to be presented at Sewanee Union Theater in May, after University administrators expressed reservations about the film's content. Several members of the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences have filed a complaint with the Sewanee chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), charging that the administration infringed upon academic freedom.

The Cinema Guild made the decision less than two weeks after voting in favor of presenting the film. Lesley Chapman, president of the organization, feels administrators intimidated the students into changing their votes and effectively censored

"In the Realm of the Senses," but Provost Frederick Croom, who discussed the film with many of the students, insists that the University had no intention to censor the film.

The Cinema Guild decided not to show "In the Realm of the Senses" in 1988, but the group chose the film at the end of the 1990-91 academic year for inclusion in its 1991-92 schedule. Administration members first expressed their reservations about the film, some scenes of which are of a graphically sexual and violent nature, in February of this year, and Cinema Guild members and advisors agreed to preview the film and decide whether or not to show it.

According to Chapman, the group expected to watch the film alone and did not plan to discuss it immediately after the Feb. 24 screening. When group members arrived at the preview,

however, they found a significantly different situation.

"Ten or 15 administrators and professors were at the screening, creating an intimidating environment, and they wanted to discuss the movie with us when it was over," said Chapman. "People from Public Relations said *The New York Times* could possibly write about the film if we showed it and that the school could lose a great deal of money from alumni. I felt as if the Cinema Guild were being pressured not to show the film. And since we didn't expect to engage in a discussion, we didn't have time to make arguments or volley the questions that were asked of us."

The members of the Cinema Guild voted Feb. 25 to show "In the Realm of the Senses" in May. They expected their decision to be final. Croom and two other members of the faculty and administration, including

the Director of Development, met with the students March 4, asking them to think carefully and responsibly about the decision.

"I felt the discussion after the screening was insufficient, so I asked the students to discuss this film further," said Croom. "I asked them to consider their choice carefully and think of their responsibility as presenters of University films."

"I never told or even asked anyone not to show any particular film. I simply asked the students to consider the entire situation, the history of film controversies here in the past, and the image of the University. I want us to show things we can be proud of and stand behind. But it was never my intention to be intimidating or to censor films. I was surprised to learn that some students felt intimidated, but I will do my best to make amends with them if I've

unwittingly intimidated them."

Chapman claimed that she and others were told that showing "In the Realm of the Senses" would cost the University money.

"We were told, 'It will be your fault if some needy students can't come to Sewanee in the future because of a lack of scholarship funds.' I thought our vote was final, but I thought this guilt trip. I thought the administration acted in a very condescending and intimidating manner toward us."

The officials urged the Cinema Guild to vote again on the film, which the group did the following day, March 5. The group decided, in the words of Chapman, that "this wasn't the film to fight over," opting not to risk a tide of controversy over "In the Realm of the Senses."

Yet members "felt

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Students Champion Canine Residents

by Mark Smith

With a vote of 367-215, voters upheld "the tradition of the Sewanee dog" March 10 and defeated a local referendum proposing a leash law for canine residents.

The referendum proposed that "all dogs on the University Domain must be kept within a secure fenced area, or on a leash, or under the immediate verbal control of their master. All dogs not so constricted and reported will be picked up by the Sewanee police."

The referendum attracted attention among townspeople and students and heightened the profile of the Sewanee Community Council.

Encouraged by a Democratic Party voter registration drive, 245 students at the University registered to vote in the Democratic primary election and the local election.

"This was far above the usual number of students to register," said James Hart, Director of Research and Records at the University's Office of Public Relations and secretary of the Sewanee Community Council.

Hart continued, "The town of Sewanee has no legislative body. The Community Council wanted to encourage people to vote, and by voting to send a message."

"The handling of the leash law referendum—the encouraging of general participation—is an example of one kind of progress that we've made under Dr. Williamson's administration."

"Until the recent administration, the Community Council really only sanctioned the Vice-Chancellor's policies. The Community Council would be told of the V-C's decision and left little say. It smacked of paternalism and patriarchal ways."

"The steering committee has tried to get the Community Council to be a better voice for the people. We're working for interdependence, for the town and the University to work together as one."

Hart pointed to coopera-

tion between the University and the town in community service projects, the community chest drive, the recycling program, and the goal of the Community Council's housing committee to eliminate all substandard housing on the Domain over the next generation.

The University of the South and Sewanee are unusual in that the Vice-Chancellor is the chief administrator of both a University and a town."

In recent years, Hart has observed that "the University has found it more and more difficult to manage both a university and a town. One of the first things that Vice-Chancellor Williamson did when he came here, for example, was to hire a vice president for business and community relations, Thomas Kepple."

"Now, I think more townspeople feel more secure about their future, and Sewanee and the University will prosper," added Hart.

"Exaggerated concerns on both sides of the issue fueled interest in this year's referendum," which was defeated by a wider margin than a similar, although less specific, proposal in 1986, according to Hart.

"Many residents don't blame the dogs; they blame their owners," said Hart. "In the past, if you had a problem with a dog, you were expected to settle it yourself with your neighbor. This referendum was an attempt to provide a mechanism—a rational policy—for dealing with problem dogs and to prevent further problems."

The leash law referendum also attracted attention beyond the gates of the Domain. In the valley, it was rumored that a large number of University students had registered to support a specific candidate in Franklin County's election for superintendent of schools.

Patty Priest, the Democratic incumbent, received more votes from Sewanee than any other precinct in the county in the March 10 election, according to Hart. But Priest also enjoyed a similar margin of support from Sewanee in the last election, Hart added.

Basketball Coach Dismissed

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Huyck. "And I am expecting around 100 applications for the job. We hope to get to the interview process around final exams."

Huyck, of course, does express some concern about the immediate future of the men's basketball team. "Without a head coach right now, recruiting will be hurt. And prospects will be hesitant to come to us. But if there is any bright spot, it is that the school is absolutely committed to offering a good basketball team."

"What we are lacking right now is continuity. Over the years, there has been too much turnover in the basketball

program. . . . We need some sort of dedication in the head coach that goes beyond competence. Two years just won't do it. The most successful athletic programs here at Sewanee are coached by people who have been here for several years. If we can achieve this kind of continuity in the basketball program, winning will be a natural outcome."

During the season several players left the team, including David Zagoria, an all-conference player last year, who was also elected team captain. Huyck says he has "complete understanding for those players who did not finish the season,

[as well as] nothing but admiration for those who remained on the team."

Assistant Coach Mark Peeler resigned from his position at the end of the season, and there will be a search for his replacement as well. Chu, 28, compiled a 12-38 record in his two seasons at Sewanee, including a 4-21 record in 1991-92. The men's basketball team had difficulty retaining coaches for an extended period of time before Chu's brief tenure. Huyck will make it a priority to invigorate the basketball team with a new cohesiveness that will begin with the head coach's position.

Cinema Guild Cancels Film

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browbeaten" and now fear that this situation could set a dangerous precedent for review of all films, plays, publications, lectures, radio shows, et cetera. Chapman noted that the administration has now scheduled a screening for "The Deadman," the film set to replace "In the Realm of the Senses."

"We need a free exchange of all ideas," said Cinema Guild member David Freeland. "Other conservative colleges have shown 'The Deadman,' so why shouldn't we? Incidents like this don't allow freedom of expression the crucial place it should hold at a university."

Crook disagreed. "I want academic freedom to be preserved, and I intend for it to be," he said. "As Provost, I'm concerned with academic freedom in all aspects of the University. I hope our programs can be pre-

sented in a manner consistent with this principle and with our Christian principles."

The Sewanee chapter of the AAUP is obligated to investigate the formal complaint it received from faculty members, but the chapter "is not accusing anyone of anything," according to Professor Harold Goldberg, president of the chapter, who agreed to be interviewed for this article after learning that Chapman and Crook were also interviewed.

"We're not making accusations," said Goldberg, "but we do have to look into this allegation of infringement upon academic freedom. That principle is absolute; it can't be compromised."

The AAUP reaffirmed its statement on academic freedom at a meeting held March 31. The statement, passed by the

AAUP in 1986 and approved by the faculty the same year, explains that "the AAUP expresses its full support for academic freedom in the classroom and in related academic activities, including sponsored lectures, films, publications, performances, etc."

"Censorship is a road we don't ever want to start going down," said Goldberg. "The academic enterprise must be controversial. We are obligated to challenge ourselves, to ask hard questions that might be offensive. Academic freedom is central to education in the liberal arts college."

The Sewanee AAUP's membership passed a motion at the March 31 meeting to form a five-member committee to examine the issue of the Cinema Guild and the alleged violation of academic freedom.

Congratulations, Sewanee Dogs!

Let Freedom Ring

Brown Foundation Hosts History Scholar Mayr-Harting

by Elizabeth Hesselink
News Staff

Sewanee students are privileged to host a visiting Brown Foundation Fellow from Oxford University this semester. Henry Mayr-Harting, a professor in the Department of History, was able to make his first trip across the Atlantic and come to Sewanee through the Texas-based Brown Foundation. The charitable organization gave a benefaction to the University to bring in distinguished scholars from other colleges and universities.

"I've benefitted from the benefaction," said Mayr-Harting. "I love it here. I'm very grateful."

Here at Sewanee, Mayr-Harting teaches several lecture classes and a seminar on Charlemagne. His classes at

Oxford in an average term include lectures and seminars, but he usually teaches only one of each per week. The bulk of his time there is spent in tutorial sessions (12 to 15 a week), where he "develops one-on-one, or at the most one-on-two relationships." He also has administrative responsibilities at Oxford, but "mercifully [has] none here," he quipped.

There are several differences between Oxford and Sewanee; the most noticeable is the system of education. While most teachers at American colleges are called professors, the professors at Oxford are "few and far between." Professors there are actually "professors" their subjects, mostly in lectures. Those who teach, do research, and take part in tutorials are called fellows.

"Being a fellow is a po-

sition of trust and honor," said Mayr-Harting. One has great independence, especially financial independence. The colleges of Oxford are not run hierarchically as they are in America. Instead, the fellows make important decisions with their votes.

The method of education is also different at Oxford. Students at Oxford know what they want to study before they arrive and study only one subject. Their classes consist mostly of tutorials, which require much more reading and independent work. "The tutors act as guides," said Mayr-Harting.

Mayr-Harting's immediate personal observation of the differences between his work at Oxford and here was that "I'm more often speak first [in class] here, while students do in Oxford." He must prepare for class

much more carefully here, while the students do most of the preparation there.

"In Oxford you sink or swim, but here everyone swims—and that is a good thing."

When asked which system allowed students to learn more, Mayr-Harting said, "The Oxford system is likely to develop more independence of mind." But he added, "It brings me up with a jerk to realize that students here study both geology and history." He explained that because of the energies of Sewanee students are "diffused over a wideness of studies," it makes sense that they would need "more classroom guidance."

Mayr-Harting's reaction to Sewanee students in the classroom is positive.

"People put themselves forward well. . . they are very

open, friendly and constructive, and good at making a contribution."

Mayr-Harting has also observed that there is a "lack of defensiveness" among American students in general, but especially at Sewanee.

"This willingness to speak and openness [in the classroom] is a quality that is immensely useful in learning. . . . People here have a temporal advantage," said Mayr-Harting, who also appreciates the friendliness of students around campus.

Mayr-Harting, who was born in Prague but who moved to England when he was almost three years old, is "enchanted" with the atmosphere of Sewanee in general. Though he was told to travel around the United States before he began to teach, he lost his zest for travelling when he "arrived in this idyllic setting."

Earth Day WUTS/SPMA Musicfest Debuts April 11

by Ann-Elise Lewallen
News Editor

The entire Sewanee community is invited to attend the Sewanee Earth Day celebration which will be held April 11 at the Sewanee Dairy from noon through the afternoon in conjunction with the WUTS/SPMA Musicfest.

Richmond, Virginia-based band *House of Freaks* will headline the WUTS/SPMA Musicfest portion of the festivities and is scheduled to begin playing at 3:00 p.m. Dennis Haldeman of Earthworks, a Chattanooga-based environmental group, will be speaking about the chip-mill situation in the South Pittsburg area as well as the detrimental effects of

pesticides. Jamie Hollingsworth and Michael Goldsmith, students in the College of Arts and Sciences, will play around 1:00 p.m. prior to *House of Freaks*. Scott Bates, professor in the Department of Theatre, will share some of his original environmental poetry early in the afternoon.

Conservation organizations and student activity groups will have informative displays set up, starting at 1:00 p.m. and available throughout the afternoon. Refreshments will be available to all guests. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Tessa Sarrazin (x2409) or Margaret Carruthers (x2297).

Benedict and Courts Halls Slated to Become Coed Dorms in Fall of 1992

by Chris Mahoney
News Staff

Acting on a recommendation from the Task Force on Undergraduate Life at Sewanee in the 1990s, the administration of the University has decided to convert two existing single-sex dormitories into coed facilities.

Dean of Women Mary Susan Cushman reports that Benedict and Courts Halls will change status, quelling the rumor that Elliott Hall would also house both men and women next year.

According to Dean Cushman, Benedict's layout will probably involve two L-shaped wings, one housing women, the other, men. It is likely that

Courts will be arranged by suites, with women and men living above and below each other, with male and female suites alternating on each floor. Dean Cushman pointed out, however, that the details are far from being concretely arranged at this point.

Two central issues were behind the decision to implement this change in student housing. First, the Task Force on Undergraduate Life had recommended to the Student Assembly that the students in the College should be offered more housing options, since the University already regulates student housing much more than other schools do.

According to the Task Force, Sewanee students are required to live in dormitories for a certain amount of time, and options for dormitory life for senior students are severely limited due to the availability of housing.

Another factor in the decision, perhaps more controversial, was the question revolving around the rules for dormitory visitation. Earlier in the year, a number of students at a panel

discussion were dissatisfied with the administration's stand on cohabitation and visitation. Essentially, the students who were vocal about the situation wanted more choice and a change in the status quo, which was precisely what prompted the Task Force to make its recommendation.

"The University of the South is an Episcopal institution dedicated to a certain prudence and morality," said Cushman, "and there is the ever-present question of a school's role in the date-race issue, as well as the maintenance of campus security."

Cushman also noted in an earlier interview that those issues were taken into full account when the dormitory visitation debate was at its peak.

Visitation rules will not be changed, as the administration finds them sound and justified. The administration does feel comfortable with the installation of new coed dormitories, feeling that the increase in choice will mollify those students who are dissatisfied with Sewanee's position on morality and campus life.

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NEWS

Two Sewanee Democrats Attempt to Participate in Presidential Nomination Process at Democratic National Convention

by Jennifer Hamilton
News Staff

"It is my pleasure to introduce to you the next President of the United States of America, _____."

With those hopeful words the Democratic Party will officially announce the name of its Presidential candidate at the Democratic National Convention in New York City this summer. Senior history major Miles Ewing and political science professor Charles Brockett had hoped they would be among the delegates helping to make that selection.

Before the March 10 Tennessee Presidential primary, the two were among eight who had filled out the necessary forms to be eligible for selection as delegates to the convention for Paul Tsongas if Tsongas received at least 15 percent of the district vote.

Brockett explained that the necessary forms that he and Ewing filled out involved pledging support of Tsongas and the Democratic Party if Tsongas

was selected as a delegate, as well as a promise that they had not voted in a Republican primary in the last four years.

In a joint interview, Ewing and Brockett explained that the process for nominating delegates to the Democratic Convention involves a caucus system.

"Sewanee is part of the fourth Congressional district, and the fourth district gets four votes at the convention," said Brockett. "The votes are distributed proportionally among the candidates who receive at least 15 percent of the vote.

"As it turned out," continued Brockett, "Clinton got three delegates and Tsongas received one. No other candidate received the 15 percent necessary to earn a delegate."

Since there were eight people who had filled out the forms to be eligible to represent Tsongas and he earned only one delegate, the district Democratic Party sponsored a caucus meeting to elect that delegate.

Brockett explained that Franklin County could send

up to 18 Tsongas supporters to this meeting, which was held in McMinnville on March 28, to vote on which delegate should attend the convention. However, Brockett said that only nine people from the entire district made the trip to vote.

Brockett elaborated that those nine people were selected from a slate of three candidates, not eight.

"I was disallowed by the Tsongas delegation," explained Brockett. "Actually, five out of the eight who filled out the necessary forms were disallowed."

Ewing, however, was not disallowed. At the election he was edged out by a woman from Fayetteville who brought along hometown supporters. Ewing noted that he received a third (three out of the nine) of the votes cast.

At the time of the interview, Brockett did not know why he had been stricken from the list. He was in the process of trying to contact the Tsongas delegation to find out why.

Ewing supported Tsongas

because he "saw both Tsongas and Clinton as contenders to beat Bush. I liked Tsongas's ideas and I was also very interested in going to the convention. I thought I stood a better chance of doing that by supporting Tsongas. After the convention, I will probably switch and support the nominee."

Brockett said he backed Tsongas because he liked Tsongas's message and because he was committed to the Democratic Party.

As a point of comparison, Brockett noted that the Clinton delegation selected its 3 delegates from a field of 50 nominees. Both Brockett and Ewing said that the Clinton delegation was much better organized overall.

Brockett predicted that as the election date draws near both the College Democrats and College Republicans will become more active. He said that currently the College Democrats have the most active leadership they have had since he came to the University. Junior Jeff

Muench is the current president of the organization.

"Both groups [the College Democrats and the College Republicans] are a good way for students to get involved in the election process," said Brockett.

Ewing and Brockett acknowledged that by the time of the convention it is likely that one candidate will have already locked up the nomination. Both said that the delegates probably will not play a great role in deciding who wins the nomination. Yet both still wanted to go.

"I see the convention as politics in action," said Ewing, "and although I wouldn't have had an active voice, I considered it a fantastic opportunity to meet people and make connections."

Brockett agreed, "Even if I didn't get to play an active role in deciding what happens, I still think just participating would be the experience of a lifetime."

Neither Brockett nor Ewing plan to let their defeat discourage them. Both plan to continue to play an active role in government and political campaigning.

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(AA/EEO Institution) 23

EFM 'Fosters Religious Growth' Mistry Brings Eastern Culture to Sewanee

by Ann-Elise Lewallen
News Editor

Meeting together for nine months a year for four years to study the Old and New Testaments, the history of the church, theology, liturgies, and ethics, students of the Education for Ministry program are enrolled in a unique kind of academic situation.

By gathering in small groups of six to 11 people, students are able to work in seminar-type situations which give them the opportunity to think theologically. Mentors are trained all over the United States and abroad as well. At present more than 80 dioceses of the Episcopal church as well as other denominations have contractual agreements with EFM, and 160 training sessions take place annually.

According to Edward deBary, Field Director for EFM, "The Education for Ministry program brings together three basic facets which foster religious growth: the opportunity to discuss the materials students read and study, an opportunity for theological reflection, and an opportunity to develop a support group that worships together regularly.

"With Baptism, we promise to be ministers. The

EFM program gives people a chance to explore what that means to them and investigate how they may best fulfill their Baptismal vows. For other people, this means discovering what they are already doing is ministry. The EFM program often gives people who are ministering to others an entirely new vision or mode for continuing this ministry."

Theological Education by Extension is the focus of the Education for Ministry program, which reaches into nine foreign countries and throughout the United States. Any adult who is interested in learning more about the Episcopal church is invited to enroll in Education for Ministry (EFM), which is taught by certified mentors using specified texts for each year of the program.

According to the 1991 Prospectus of the EFM program, "Lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church's faith in a complex and confusing world. They need the kind of theological education which supports their faith and which also trains them to express that faith in day-to-day events."

Reaching into countries as far away as Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, Germany,

Great Britain, Guyana, Honduras, New Zealand, and Nicaragua (where EFM is available in Spanish), EFM has probably hosted 30,000 mentors and students at some point.

Based at the School of Theology of the University of the South, the program itself was founded in 1975 by Charles Winters, former Professor of Theology, whose original intentions were to extend the teaching ministry of the seminary. His initial expectation was for 300 students to be a part of the program.

"The genius of the program," commented deBary, "is that it is adult education done in an adult way using the seminar method as a learning environment. We have refined and developed some techniques for effective seminars—this process requires extensive organization—and our programs are increasingly more influential as a result."

Although the EFM program is based at the School of Theology with a home staff of ten people, the program is completely self-supporting. All students are required to pay a tuition. Contracts with other dioceses are another source of funding. No money from University endowments is contributed to the program.

"The EFM program is giving this university the potential to serve the church in a very dynamic and important way. Recently *The Tennessean* reported that the number of Episcopalians in the U.S. is on the rise. I think EFM has been a very integral part of that growth," added deBary.

EFM frequently serves as a starting place for individuals pondering going to seminary. At least one-third of the School of Theology's students have previously participated in an EFM program.

"It is always exciting to see the enthusiasm and commitment of mentors when I train a group," said Gail Jones, Director of Training and Education for EFM. "Sometimes I get discouraged about the future of the Church, and then I see the vitality of these mentors and I realize it's not falling apart."

by Hannah Bennett
Staff Writer

Dinshaw Mistry left Bombay, India, in 1988 and ventured to the United States to pursue his academic interests. Leaving his parents, who operate a family-owned business, his brother, who is presently studying in Long Island, his sister, who attends high school in Bombay, and his eastern culture behind him, Mistry followed what he described as "a currently prevailing trend among Indian students who wanted to study abroad."

He made the right decision, apparently, for he claims that "the experience of studying abroad is invaluable."

Mistry chose Sewanee after hearing about the University initially from a friend and then from a *Baron's Guide*.

Mistry, a senior double-majoring in physics and political science, explained that one of his reasons for studying in America was the superior academic and recreational facilities provided by the University of the South as opposed to the facilities which the universities in India have.

"The facilities here, such as the gym, tennis courts, golf courses and cafeterias, would average something like a five-star rating in Bombay."

In India, Mistry was accustomed to playing cricket, soccer, and hockey, but he compensates for these losses by being actively involved with American basketball, football, and baseball. He especially enjoys the media attention these sports receive.

Mistry explained the size of Bombay (10 million people) in comparison with the United States (225 million) and how society in Bombay is structured according to a class system.

"Everyone is separated by their class; a person from a lower-income class may be delegated to a lower-income occupation, whereas in the United States, the dignity of labor is more developed." Mistry added that the standard of living in Bombay was inferior to that

of the United States.

Before coming to the U.S., Mistry had certain preconceptions of "American life." Prior to attending Sewanee, Mistry was able to visit the U.S. during the summer in Texas and Washington. He explained that America wasn't politically popular in India.

"The United States had always conveyed to me this 'Big Bullly' image. Being a champion of democracy, it had failed to support a fellow democracy (India) in international and political circles, and this was disappointing to me."

Mistry also thought the U.S. was "all urban." He heartily admitted that Sewanee changed that notion. Mistry conceived the U.S. to be "this flashy image which was projected through television and magazines."

After arriving in Sewanee and becoming familiar with the environment as well as the people, Mistry realized the stereotypes he had envisioned were not completely accurate representations of the United States.

As for the transition from Bombay to Sewanee, Mistry felt that "the orientation program provided initial contact and interaction with others, and also the equalizing factor of everyone being a freshman definitely helped."

Mistry confessed that the "American accent" was an obstacle to tackle in adapting to his new environment. Adjusting to American food wasn't a "dramatic change" for him. He pointed out that "American food doesn't have the level of spices that Indian food has, but American food isn't displeasing at all."

Mistry was still a little uncertain when asked to predict his future. "There's a 50/50 chance I will be living in the United States after I finish my education," he said. He could confirm, however, that he would be attending graduate school in political science in the United States, although he was not sure which vocation he wanted to pursue.

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OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Alumnus
Addresses
Multi-
Culturalism

Dear Editor:

I would like to offer my thoughts about the February 24, 1992, article in the *Purple*, concerning the growing issue of cultural diversity at Sewanee.

Being a Sewanee alumnus entitles you to certain privileges, one of which is a year's subscription to *The Sewanee Purple*. After reading about the confrontation which occurred between a white and a black student, a thought crossed my mind: Haven't I known of a few students to trade punches before?

I have always been taught that gentlemen do not solve their problems with their fists; yet I remember two occurrences last year where fists were used as a solution to a problem. Yes, the young men were both white, but the point is that the administration was not called to intervene.

Before continuing, I must acknowledge that the University was fully correct and justified in the initiatives it took. Racial bigotry is intolerable and will accomplish nothing but the division of a country. If any student assails another—for whatever reasons—disciplinary actions should be invoked on the parties involved.

The main issue I want to address is that infamous movement that has been sweeping educational institutions of higher learning for the past couple of years: multiculturalism—the crusade to instill diversity among academia and student bodies, and to underscore the importance and contributions of Americans from other cultural heritages and backgrounds, other than the predominantly white, European ones. Its proponents, known as multiculturalists, seek to erode racial barriers, which society has imposed, by illustrating the value each culture has and that it is worthy of study.

To a large extent, these concepts could be advantageous

for America's future. With the formation of the European Community and the fruition of the North American Free-Trade Agreement (NAFTA), any shrewd observer can tell that we are moving away from national economies to globalized economies. America will need leaders who can think and see beyond linguistic, cultural, and ethnic borders. One must be able to recognize and admit the wonderful and, yet, worth-knowing differences between other nations and their races.

If multiculturalism concerns seeing through these barriers, I'm all for it. There is, however, a difference between what multiculturalism strives to do and the message its advocates convey. Many supporters envision a cultural existence inside the entirety of America; it was nationalist ideas such as these that divided nations and communities to such a great extent that our ancestors were forced into World War I.

In the past five years the world has witnessed the collapse of the U.S.S.R.—a collapse due to economic instability, political precariousness, and, most importantly, ethnic and cultural instability. One must understand that, with the exception of Gorbachev, every Soviet leader, since Lenin, had been taught this: If you want to hold this country together, don't refer to your fellow citizens as Ukrainians, Azerbaijanians, Russians, etc. Rather, address them as Soviet citizens. Since Mr. Gorbachev was not well-educated in ethnic matters, the country consequently fell apart.

Other modern examples of the destructive effects that multi-ethnic ideas can have on a country are Yugoslavia and the United Kingdom. As they did in 1914, the Yugoslavian republics today are at odds with each other mostly because of ethnic conflicts and disputes over which republic is the one to govern the nation. In the European part of this year, Briton's Prime Minister John Major not only faces the problems with Northern Ireland, but the very probable secession of Scotland from the United Kingdom.

Now, back to Sewanee. If at all possible, we must strive

not to think in terms of race, but of who a person is individually. Does he or she maintain high standards? Does he or she make a positive contribution to society? When judging an individual, these are the major questions one should ask.

Minority Affairs Director Eric Benjamin is correct that the University needs to "broaden the minds of citizens of [Sewanee]"; however, the liberal arts curriculum accomplishes this task just fine. It is one thing to enrich a student's learning experience, but another to try to alter the way someone has been reared. I agree with Dean Pearnigan's assertion that students must learn how to appreciate "all cultures" on campus, but be prepared for some rejection. Why? Because not everyone is from the same background. (As the saying goes: "You can't teach an old dog new tricks.") The solution, according to Mr. Benjamin and an anonymous black student, is the restructuring of Sewanee's academic and social life.)

Some observations on this approach: First, why are we required to teach Western Civilization? It is very obvious. Our modern society was modeled on Western examples; the influence of the Europeans—mostly British—is unavoidable, since they originally ruled the

13 American colonies. Look at what the then-Mother Country has bequeathed to us: a common language, the system of representative government, our legal system—most importantly, individual freedom. The idea of separation of powers, another American-adopted belief, is taken from France's Montesquieu.

There is a question which says that "to understand the future, we must study the past." This statement should emphasize another reason why Americans learn Western history: if a country cannot fully understand how and why its foundation came into being, and how it developed, such a country will be cursed by social chaos and instability.

So with those, like Ann-Elise Lewallen, who purport that we are ancestral worshippers still in the 18th-century frame of mind, I beg to differ. One may point out the enrichment of understanding other cultures, but to assert that Western history is just one of the many important contributors to the uniqueness of America is pure bunk!

To Mr. Benjamin, I would convey my greatest confidence in the cultural diversity that Sewanee offers. Some is in the classroom, but most is out there waiting to be discovered by the individual student. The Uni-

versity has various courses on Africa, Latin America, and Japan; most importantly, one may choose to study abroad in order to obtain hands-on experience. This experience is what really enlightens the unenlightened more than the classroom.

Regarding Miss Lewallen's statement, on page 6 of the *Purple*, that "prospective students are discarding Sewanee... [due to] its conservative nature," this is a fallacy. Sewanee demands much of a person's pocketbook and, in addition to expenses, students must live within a small community isolated on a mountain. To many, this milieu is not too attractive for four years. Sewanee's "conservative nature," which has been attacked so often, holds the very essence of what many consider to be high, moral standards. I do not believe that these traditions—the Honor Code, the academic gown, etc.—"blind us" from the truth at all. If anything, they serve as goals for which to reach. They symbolize hard work, honesty, commitment, and contributive achievements—many elements which are lacking in American society today. Thus, they serve as constant reminders, not obstructions.

The increasing concern
continued on page 7

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.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be mailed directly to the *Purple*. All letters must be signed 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.

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 of the appropriateness of any submission. If possible, submissions should be made on a Macintosh computer disk; contact the editors for more information.

The Sewanee Purple

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Multi-Culturalism Addressed

continued from page 6

over cultural (or racial) diversity at Sewanee because it will lead to an influx of the unnecessary liberal ideas which are plaguing the Northeastern United States. If the University is not careful, it may confront future issues such as women joining fraternities, men (God forbid) joining sororities, unisex bathrooms, and excessive use of political correctness. Have a strong hope that as Sewanee continues its trek into the 21st century, the admissions committee will not offer acceptance to a majority of entering students for the sake of affirmative action, which, in itself, would reverse discrimination.

I must apologize if I have offended anyone, if I did, forgive me. My concern is for the future of the United States and the University of the South. Perhaps the most important sentiment to remember is that which has drawn people, for generations, to our great country: the freedom of individual rights and liberties; the freedom to become whom you want to be; and the freedom that a

person's rights reside in the individual, not in ethnic classes. It is difficult being an American. (Who said it would be easy?) If America is to escape a bush with the separatist and fragment-causing death which embraced the former Soviet Union and, now, possibly two other nations, she must put aside her prejudices and accept people for whom they truly are.

Sincerely,

Tom Broughton

Religion Class Explains Biblical Positions on Homosexuality

The authors of this article, as members of the class, Religion 401: "Issues of Sexuality in the Hellenic and Judeo-Christian Culture in the First Four Centuries," feel obligated to share some of the historical, cultural, and biblical information we have obtained in the study of the above subject, spe-

cifically as it relates to "homosexuality."

Homosexuality, according to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, is erotic activity with another person of the same sex. It exists now as it existed in the first century, but with very different meanings. In today's society, homosexuality is viewed as an aberration of nature because it does not produce the same results as heterosexuality activity, namely, children. Even though there are a variety of sexual practices today, the norm seems to be sexual activity for the purpose of reproduction. In the first centuries of this era, sexual activities had multiple purposes.

To place sexuality of this era in its socio-historical context, a discussion of the Hellenistic world-view and the construction of gender-identity and who it relates to homosexuality is appropriate.

The Hellenistic world-view was based upon a structure of the seven-story universe. The earth was thought of as the non-moving center of the universe, with seven spheres surrounding and moving around it. These spheres were inhabited by angels and demons. The focus of attention was always toward the earth, as the center. God was

thought to be completely separated from this structure, and it is in this context that religion provided means of escape from the seven spheres, understood to be salvation. The people of this time developed "cosmic paranoia" out of fear of always being watched by the angels and demons. This led to constant concern with how they were perceived in all social settings.

Within this culture gender was considered independent from anatomical sex. It recognized feminine women, masculine women, feminine men, and masculine men which was biologically determined at birth. Any deviation from this "given" was considered "unnatural." Even though a range of gender possibilities was recognized, the norm was considered to be feminine women and masculine men. The imposition of this norm resulted in gender-typing, that is, the attempt to categorize oneself and others in relation to the norm. One's gender type was judged and manipulated by voice, glances and bodily movement. In other words, a person's gender type was, so to speak, written all over her or his face and body.

Another aspect of the Graeco-Roman culture was that its public life was male-dominated and highly segregated by sex. In every aspect of public life ranging from business transactions to social affairs, males interacted with males. The fact that this culture was so sex-segregated led to understanding beauty and eroticism as centered on other males, the ideal of which became the slender, sensuous, female-looking, young male. Out of this context developed pederasty, which involved an older male sexually dominating over a younger, passive, male partner. This was a common practice in the educational system of the time.

This cultural context provides a backdrop for the writers of early Christian texts. Some of these texts seem to deal

with homosexual practices. It is not our intention in this article to discuss any of these texts specifically. Rather we would like to discuss the general ways in which the Bible has been used to support or counter arguments condemning homosexuality.

There is a range of opinions as to how the Bible does or does not specifically oppose or condemn homosexuality. Below is a list representing the range of these opinions:

The Bible is opposed to homosexuality because...

(1) The Bible is definitive on the issue and should define Christian ethics.

(2) It is considered a sin but one equal to other sins.

(3) Injunctions against it should be considered in the larger biblical context of procreation, sin, judgment, and grace as demonstrated, for example, in the creation narrative.

(4) Injunctions against it are time- and culture-specific, and it is up to individuals to determine how to apply such injunctions to their own lives.

The Bible does not explicitly condemn homosexuality because...

(1) The Bible speaks of homosexual acts by heterosexual and not as homosexuality as it exists in the form as we understand it today.

(2) The terms in Greek which have sometimes been translated to mean homosexual acts have, indeed, ambiguous meaning and thus can refer to other sexual activities, for example, cult prostitution and pederasty.

References used: *Before Sexuality* by David Halperin, et al.; *The New Testament and Homosexuality* by Robin Scroggs; and a book review of *The New Testament and Homosexuality*, by Oscar S. Brooks, in *Pastoral Psychology*

Sincerely,

The members of Religion 401

ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL

Worship Services

Sundays

8:00 am
10:30 am
5:00 pm

Mondays-Fridays

7:30 am
9:00 am

Tuesdays

5:00 pm

Wednesdays

7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist
UNIVERSITY SERVICE
Choral Evensong
(1st Sunday of the month)

Holy Eucharist,
St. Augustine's Chapel
Morning Prayer,
St. Augustine's Chapel

Holy Eucharist,
St. Augustine's Chapel

Informal eucharist with guitars,
All Saints' Chapel

NEWS

Deans Announce 1992-1993 Proctors

The Deans of Students are pleased to announce Proctors for 1992-1993. They are: Head Proctors—Jennie McCrary Goodrum and Christopher Norcross Miller;

Proctors: Emily Loyd Barr, Sarah Louise Batts, Kimberly Marie Baum, Albert Charles Bean, IV, Jason A Price Beck, Stephanie Jane Bush, Andrew Barden Carter, Margaret Wheland Cate, Robert Rutledge Davies;

Jared Brown Forrester, Jason William Forrester, Philip Stephen Gidiere, III, Tammy

Spring Sprint to be held April 11 in Sewanee

The fifth annual Sewanee Spring Sprint will be held Saturday, April 11. The sprint is actually two events, a 5K and a one-mile. The 5K run will take place at 9:00 a.m. (CST) on the campus of the University. The one-mile will start at 9:05 a.m.

Prizes for the 5K will be awarded in age categories of 13 & under, 14-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50+. The overall top three men and women in the one-mile event will receive prizes.

Registered entrants are eligible for drawings of door prizes. Prizes have been donated by AEDC Federal Credit Union (Tulahoma), Carmella's Restaurant (South Pittsburg),

Michelle Haston, Leslie Elizabeth Hiers, James McGinley Jefferson, Julie Elaine Junkins, Christian Crais Kizer, Marcel John Lettre, II;

Benjamin Logan McGowan, Katherine Lea Menke, Megan Tyson Noriega, Jeffrey David Postles, John Murnan Richards, Andrea Elizabeth Rieffel, James Patrick Stacey, Robert Reynolds Steinfeld, Mary Reagan Toole, William Parker Wheatley, Dawn Melissa White, and Anthony Lamar Williams.

Cloud's Rise Farm Bed & Breakfast (Sewanee), Edgeworth Inn (Monteagle), Jim Oliver's Smokehouse (Monteagle), Knies Hardware (Winchester), Pop's Happyland Truck Stop (Monteagle), and The Sampler (Cowan).

The registration fee for the events is \$9 for adults and \$5 for those under age 13. Only pre-registered entrants are guaranteed a T-shirt. Proceeds benefit the Sisters of St. Mary's Convent in Sewanee.

There is race-day registration, but late registrants will only receive shirts while supplies last. Interested persons should contact race director Dann Brown at (615) 598-5135.

MONEY FOR COLLEGE

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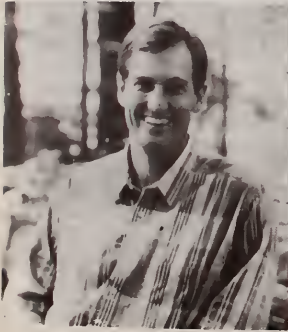
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Thursday Night 3-7
Friday Afternoon 3-5
Sunday Brunch 10-2



Sewanee Alumnus Sam Pickering will speak April 7 in Convocation Hall as part of the Last Lecture Series.

Tigers Frustrated by Mistakes in Early Season

by Trey Suddarth
Sports staff

Ah, spring, when a young man's thoughts turn only to one thing: baseball. Well, in case spring training hasn't grabbed you quite like it mesmerizes this sportswriter every March, maybe you could get in the spirit by catching our very own Seawanee Tigers in action. They've been at it since late February, and after a promising beginning (a doubleheader topping Rhodes in Memphis), the team has limped along to a subpar 6-12 record.

"The little mistakes have cost us a lot," said captain and starting shortstop Nick Albanese. "We just haven't been able to put it all together."

First baseman Greg Greene echoed that sentiment: "It has really been frustrating. We're a lot better than we're playing right now." It seems that the Tigers have not been able to put forth a balanced effort during recent close losses. When the team hits well, the pitching and defense are let-



Sophomore Charlie Johnson follows through on his wind-up during a recent Tigers' game.

Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

down; and on days when the pitching is excellent, the Tigers bats go south. Another reason for the inconsistency has been the squad's uncanny knack for making costly mistakes in crucial situations.

"We've lost plenty of close games but we've also lost some where we just didn't play 'well at all,'" said freshman hurler

Drew Corbett. The 1992 Tigers, nevertheless, remain an improvement over last year's team. Seawanee has already gained more victories than it did over all of last season.

The formula for any good baseball team usually starts "up the middle." The Tigers are solid there with slick fielding shortstop Albanese, second baseman

Tony Richards, and center fielder Sean Bebbington, who has been on a tear of late. Seawanee leads their conference in fielding percentage. Doug Murray is the grizzled veteran on a pitching staff that includes youngsters Corbett, Charley Johnson, Ken Grimes, and Russ Young.

Despite their disappointing record, the players were unanimous in their support of head coach Robert Black in his first year at the helm. That role has traditionally been the domain of Bill Samko, who remains pitching coach.

"(Coach Black) always keeps a positive attitude," admitted Murray. The Tigers feel confident that they can turn things around as they head into a weekend set with Oglethorpe. "I know that we can get to .500 by the end of the season," said Albanese. The erstwhile Greene was likewise optimistic: "We just have to learn how to win. When we put ourselves in a position to win in the late innings, we have to cut out the mistakes and capitalize."

The Tigers don't seem too far away from scoring some victories in a season that has been frustrating thus far. Be sure to come out and support the Tigers in their upcoming home games. A single game is scheduled for Wednesday, and a doubleheader is slated for Thursday, both versus Fisk.

Tennis Teams End March on Triumphant Note

by Katie DePree
Sports staff

The tennis teams have experienced both success and defeat this past week. Seawanee's teams are among the strongest in the South, earning such prestige through much work and dedication.

The sweet taste of victory has definitely been the dominant flavor for the women's team this season. In the last week of March, the women won overwhelming victories over Centre College and Emory. On Saturday, the women's team humiliated Centre, beating them 9-0. The team was again successful Sunday, defeating Emory 6-3. Cameron Tyer, Helen Boehm, Fairlie Scott, and Christy Kizer won their singles matches against Emory, and the doubles teams, consisting of Cameron Tyer and Becky Doncaster and Catherine and Nancy Smith,

were also triumphant. "The win at Emory will give us a good shot at going to the nationals in Kalamazoo, Michigan," said Boehm.

The men were extremely challenged by stiff competition this weekend. The team is presently ranked twenty-fourth in the nation. The men lost to Kalamazoo, the top team in the country. Although Seawanee was playing some very competitive tennis, it was not enough to keep the nation's top team from being victorious. Seawanee lost 0-9.

On the brighter side of the past week, the men's team came back by defeating the University of Alabama at Huntsville 5-4 on Tuesday. Madison Michael, Matt Harris, and Steven Jackson won their singles matches, while Scott Hudmon, Lanny Lewis, Jay Jones, and Pratt Lewis were victorious in their doubles matches.



Matt Harris realises a backhand. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.



Cameron Tyer prepares to launch herself into a serve. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Record Review

Listen Without Prejudice: Appreciating the Carpenters

The Carpenters, Yesterday
Once More
(A&M 6601, 2 CDs or
cassettes)

by Gregory Clark

Of all the pop acts to follow in the wake of the Beatles, the Carpenters must surely be the most reviled. Even in their heyday in the early 1970s, an era dominated by posturing male rock bands and whining singer-songwriters of both sexes, Richard and Karen Carpenter looked all wrong: a well-groomed and seemingly wholesome brother-and-sister duo that specialized in slickly produced, 1962-style ballads.

Mention the Carpenters today and most people think first of their treacherous 1970 hits "We've Only Just Begun" and "Close To You," the former filled with talk of "white lace and promises" and the latter sweetened with chatter about angels sprinkling stardust in the hair of lovers created to be "dreams come true." As they also almost singlehandedly established the genre now known as "adult contemporary," the Carpenters are often held responsible as well for paving the way for singers like Christopher Cross and groups like Air Supply.

What distinguishes the Carpenters from both of the latter—and indeed from all other pop acts of any era—is Karen Carpenter's truly singular voice. Although always carefully controlled and perfectly pitched, her slightly husky alto was unfailingly warm and inviting; like the best of the early 60s female singers she so clearly admired, Karen also managed to convey at one and the same time an impression of girlish naivete and womanly knowing. Richard's painstakingly constructed and sometimes overly polished instrumental arrangements only serve to emphasize further the very humane character of Karen's vocals.

While the epistemically titled multi-CD box set issued last year offers a comprehensive overview of the Carpenters' 14-year career, the best introduction remains *Yesterday Once More*,

a 2-CD compilation of their 27 best singles released in 1986. The Carpenters' story as a whole began some 40 years earlier in Connecticut, where Richard and Karen were born in 1947 and 1950, respectively. By the early 1960s they had moved with their parents (there were no other siblings) to the nondescript middle-class Los Angeles suburb of Downey.

While Richard studied classical piano, Karen practiced singing in front of a mirror to tunes being played on the radio. As the melody on the 1973 LP *Now and Then* makes clear, she favored pure pop: Shelley Fabares' "Johnny Angel" (1962), the Chiffons' "One Fine Day" (1963), and the Beach Boys' "Fun Fun Fun" (1964) are among the songs included. By the late 1960s Karen had learned the drums and, with Richard on piano and friends on guitar and bass, they bravely performed that species of pop in the then highly psychedelized Los Angeles area.

Although their sound cannot have much impressed the hippies, it did impress Herb Alpert, the owner of A&M Records. Signed to a contract in 1969, the Carpenters went promptly into the studio with producer Jack Daugherty to construct their first manifesto, a bold recombination by Richard of the Beatles' 1965 hit "Ticket to Ride."

Already with that first single the blueprint for the Carpenters' sound was clearly laid out. In sharp contrast to that of the original, the tempo of Richard's "Ticket to Ride" is surprisingly languorous, a change which allows Karen plenty of time to caress each syllable of the lead line. The latter is pushed very much to the forefront, indeed so much so that in the quieter passages one can easily hear Karen opening her mouth and drawing breath. Yet this closeness in no way diminishes the lead vocal's effectiveness: instead, it reinforces the impression of immediacy and total lack of artifice.

The instrumental accompaniment, in contrast, is coolly

precise and emotionally remote. Acoustic and electric piano played by Richard, bass and lead guitars wielded by session men, and drums—sometimes played by Karen, sometimes not—comprise the rhythm section; horns, strings, and percussion provide the sweetening.

Although this carefully marshalled instrumentation recalls the mid-60s work of Los Angeles producer Phil Spector, the crystalline clarity of "Ticket to Ride"—made possible by using the most advanced multi-track recorders equipped with Dolby—is very far removed from the impenetrable "Wall of Sound" which Spector coaxed from the primitive four-track machines at Gold Star Studios. Richard and Karen took fullest advantage of the new technology on the choruses, where they overdubbed their two voices over and over again to transform themselves into a massed choir.

Although "Ticket to Ride" made no impression on the national charts, it was a modest hit in Los Angeles, where this writer heard it on the radio several times. The Carpenters' real breakthrough came in the summer of 1970 with the maudlin "Close To You"; for the next five years their singles would consistently make the American Top 20.

In addition to penning originals in collaboration with John Bettis, Richard had a knack for finding and rearranging tunes by other songwriters. In 1971, for instance, he came across "Hurting Each Other," an obscure bossanova single by black vocal group Ruby and the Romantics. Richard and Karen knew the group well, for they had done Number 1 in 1963 with "Our Day Will Come," a song the Carpenters would cover in 1973 on the *Now and Then* LP. By drastically slowing the tempo and simplifying the beat, Richard transformed Ruby and the Romantics' little-known dance-floor opus into a beautiful dramatic ballad which reached Number 2 early in 1972.

The Carpenters also took risks: with "Goodbye to Love," for example, Richard and John

Bettis rejected the traditional verse-chorus alternation for a melody which unfolds linearly. This unusual development is followed by an equally unexpected fade ending and then a roaring fuzz guitar solo. These eccentricities notwithstanding, "Goodbye to Love"—Karen's declared favorite Carpenters' single—handily made the Top Ten in July of 1972.

As a philosophical statement, however, no Carpenters' 45 can match "Yesterday Once More." After waxing nostalgic in the verse about the pop music of the early 60s, the chorus proudly and unashamedly glorifies the era's predilection for nonsense lyrics: "Every sha-la-lah / Every wo-oh-wo-oh / Still shines / Every shing-a-ling-a-ling / That they're startin' to sing / So fine." Richard's melody is fully the equal of John Bettis' words, and together they guaranteed "Yesterday Once More" a Number 2 chart placing in the summer of 1973.

Although the Carpenters enjoyed four Top 20 hits in 1974 and 1975, not a one was as imaginative as "Goodbye to Love" or as memorable as "Yesterday Once More." Not surprisingly, then, the listening public began to lose interest in the duo; after reaching Number 12 in the spring of 1976 with a flawless but unremarkable cover of Herman's Hermits' 1967 hit

"There's A Kind of Hush," they were out of the Top 20 for a full five weeks. The anorexic Karen's increasingly debilitating laxative abuse and the growing number of concert and tour cancellations which it precipitated also added to the group's troubles.

It is all the more remarkable, then, that the Carpenters' most inspired musical moment came in 1977, when they released the single "Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft (The Recognized Anthem of World Contact Day)." Less a conventional pop tune than a series of musical suites with lyrics urging an "E.T."-like linkup with space aliens, "Calling Occupants" was written and first recorded by Klatnu, an American cult group strongly influenced by the Beatles. Richard boldly turned their science-fiction fantasy into a richly orchestrated symphony of seven majestic minutes in length.

Unable to fit so long a single into their usual formats, AM radio stations resisted playing it; FM programmers, in turn, were not inclined to give air time to a group as "uncool" as the Carpenters. As a result, the disc managed only four weeks in the lower rungs of the American Top 40. In contrast, Britain's more enlightened broadcasters did for "Calling Occupants" *continued on page 11*





Robert Hughes, Madge Gerbracht, Monica Gelinas, Chris Bryan, Vanessa Jackson, and Chip Sanford in H.M.S. Pinafore. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

Record Review

continued from page 10

what they had done in 1966 for Ike and Tina Turner's "River Deep—Mountain High"; they recognized it as the idiosyncratic masterpiece it was and gave it generous airplay. The result was a Number 9 placement in the UK singles chart in November of 1977.

In 1981, after a three-year hiatus from recording, Richard and Karen—the latter emotionally buoyed by her recent marriage—went back into the studio and came out with the *Made in America* LP. In addition to being the first Carpenters' album to feature synthesizers prominently, *Made in America* gave the duo their first Top 20 hit in five years, the patently sensuous "Touch Me When We're Dancing."

Unfortunately, Karen's marriage soon failed and she returned to her parents' home in Downey, where her health continued to deteriorate. On 4 February 1983, her heart weakened by anorexia nervosa and purgative abuse, Karen died of cardiac arrest, just a month shy of her thirty-third birthday. Only weeks before, however, she had recorded the guide vocals for a new LP, completed posthumously by Richard as *Voices of the Heart*.

Dominating the album's front cover is a poignant closeup of Karen's emaciated face not long before the end, a grim Richard sits behind his piano on the back. The latest song on *Yesterday Once More* is the best track on *Voices*, "Make Believe It's Your First Time." Her ebbing strength notwithstanding,

Karen sings the elegant, country-inflected ballad with the same verve and warmth first heard some 14 years before on "Ticket to Ride"; the instrumental and vocal accompaniment which Richard fashioned after her departure lovingly enframes and supports the lead she left behind.

Just as Karen's death robbed the pop world of one of its most distinctive voices, preconceptions about the Carpenters rob both jaundiced and uninitiated ears of the chance to evaluate the duo's work objectively. Those who set such prejudices aside before listening to *Yesterday Once More* will find themselves in the thoroughly enjoyable company of some of the greatest ballads of the 1970s sung by the decade's greatest female vocalist.

Record Review Knoxville's Premo Dopes Show their Pop

by Anderson Wrangle
Arts and Entertainment Staff

Smokin' Dave and the Premo Dopes? HUH? Well, that is the band and the title of their album. Apparently their first recording effort, HUH, is an eclectic bag of rock tunes. The singer/songwriter has pop sensibility and gives us hooks like "Woke up this morning/gee a lot of songs start out that way/ then again so do most of my days."

The band wins you over right away with their simple and infectious beats, and it only gets better from there. The titles of the songs alone are worth the price of admission: "Fish 'n' Chips in Johannesburg," "Right-handed Love," and "Gimme Keith Richards' Blood." In the hands of a less able songwriter these tunes would be pretentious and boring alternative radio fare.

Smokin' Dave and the Premo Dopes hail from Knoxville, and one senses they might have been hanging around awhile after graduating from The University of Tennessee. Steed laments, "My day off didn't last so long/The next day back at work I felt so unstoned" in "Eat, Make Love, and Watch

Movies," leading one to believe they would have felt right at home in the Austin post-grad morass of Slacker. "John 3:16 relates" the story of the guy who moves in with three sixteen-year-old girls, learns to make tie-dyes, and then follows the Dead around for the rest of his "new boring life." A better slam against the sustainers of the extended drum solo has not been made since Eleventh Dream Day sang "I want to bomb the Mars Hotel."

Little needs to be said about "You must be from Nashville," for the title says much. The second half of the album has less sustained force than the first half, and the songwriting begins to falter a bit, but "Alternative," a rant against the current music scene and a parody of Sonic Youth, makes it enjoyable (and I am a Sonic Youth fan). To say that Smokin' Dave and the Premo Dopes sound like most of southern college music is true to a degree, but it sells them short; it would deny them the potential to grow, and they already have an eclectic style. HUH, after all, is a first effort, and with experience I believe Smokin' Dave and the Premo Dopes will produce an album with sustained pop virtue.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

No Small Potatoes:

My Own Private Idaho

by Paige Parvin
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho* opens and closes with a surreal dream sequence brought about by a narcoleptic seizure afflicting the main character, Mike (River Phoenix), and what goes on in between is a very similar experience from the audience's point of view. The film is a personal and penetrating look at male prostitution that is saved from becoming another trite and depressing film about America's lost youth by its superb cinematography and tender performances.

Keanu Reeves is impressive as Scott, the rich-boy-gone-bad figure who is modelled after Shakespeare's Prince Hal and, like Hal, must ultimately choose to turn his back on Falstaff—or in this case Bob, the contemporary Falstaff who's really more like an aging Tim Leary, fast losing control of his Merry Pranksters. The Shakespeare allusion is presented stylistically so that it adds to the film's content and message rather than rendering it pretentious or ridiculous.

Scott's sleek beauty is offset by the sheer dirtiness of his companion Mike. Inevitably, Mike is looking for love

and acceptance and, ultimately, his mother. He and Scott even go to Italy to find her on a seemingly inappropriate and unrealistic goose-chase that is completely removed from the rest of the film but turns out to be the most visually beautiful and arresting sequence in it. Phoenix gives a wonderful performance, climaxing in an incredibly tender scene in which he confesses his love for Scott; although his friend does not return his affections physically, he responds with wonderful sensitivity as well.

Besides the performances given by these two, the film's cinematography is its *pièce de résistance*. The camerawork is a joy to watch, with lots of sweeping movement, abrupt cutting, and odd, revealing angles. The sex scenes in particular are unique; they consist of a series of startling freeze frames rather than the conventional stylized moonlit-bedroom scene.

My Own Private Idaho is about prostitution, perversion, greed, desperation, and other problems American society causes and faces every day. But mostly it is about the love between friends and the betrayal of that love. It is a film with something to say, and Gus Van Sant knew just how to say it.

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