

# The Sewanee Purple

THE STUDENT ORGAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

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*This Issue of The Sewanee Purple is Dedicated to Anne Porcher Flynn*

*The family has asked, since Anne Porcher may not have flowers in her room, that people donate blood to Blood Assurance in her name. For every pint of blood received by Blood Assurance, there will be a \$10.00 donation given to the Ronald McDonald House. Blood Assurance has a donation site at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga and will be at Emerald Hodgson Hospital next Wednesday, February 22nd, from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please give Erlanger Hospital advance notice of large groups coming to Chattanooga by calling 423-756-0966. For updates, check out [www.caringbridge.com/visit/auneporcherflynn](http://www.caringbridge.com/visit/auneporcherflynn)*

## The Honor Code:

### What Every Student Ought to Know

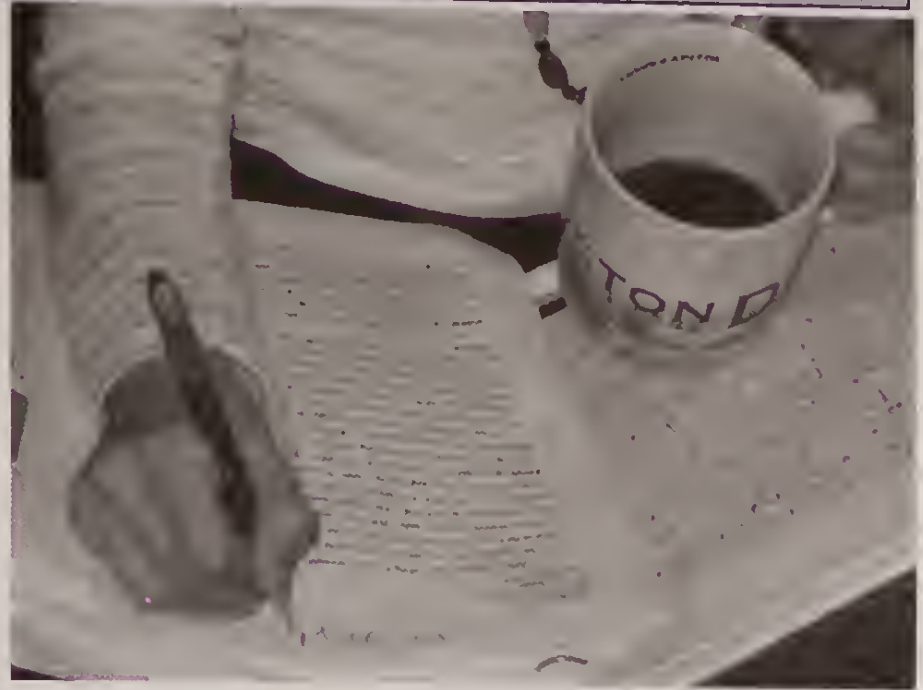
By Tab Wood

Stop a student on central campus and ask him about the Honor System and Council at Sewanee. Chances are, he won't know that some things he does day in and day out are offenses, he won't know when the last elections were, he won't know that he is obligated to report academic offenses, and he won't even know who his representatives are. So what? Why should he bother? The easy answer is that the things he doesn't know may end up sending him on an unwelcomed vacation. So, here is a little bit about the Honor Council, Code, and some current trends that are threatening its practical effectiveness.

The Honor Council at Sewanee is completely student-run and is comprised of one freshman, two sophomores, three juniors, and four seniors. Freshmen, your representative is Chase Spurlock. Sophomores, you are represented by Margaret McCall and Clark Welch. Juniors, you elected Abraham Akoi, Todd Cheewing, who is also the chair, and Whit Elledge. Seniors, your representatives are Casey Cook, Miles Welsley, Alex Murray, and Ted Goodman. Just in case you weren't aware.

In an interview with senior Honor Council member and author of a fifty five page independent study entitled, "The Checkered Past of a Hallowed Tradition: The Honor Code of The University of the South," Ted Goodman remarked, "When people know what the code is, it works perfectly; when people don't know, it has problems." He went on to say that although most cases involve freshmen, ignorance is not an excuse with the Honor Code. So, for all the ignorant ones out there, here are some quick facts.

There are two distinctions of honor offenses: academic and non-academic. Only academic offenses are required to be reported. These range from cheating on a quiz to plagiarizing a paper. In this area of the Honor Code, punishment is single sanctioned, meaning that a student will be expelled from the University as a result of his first offense. Re-admittance is oftentimes offered after a period of six months or a year. Non-academic offenses include lying, stealing, and the use of fake I.D.'s. These offenses do not usually result in expulsion, but rather a less severe penalty such as social probation. The Honor Code governs students within and beyond the gates. So whether you are in a third story suite at Hodgson or abroad in a Florence apartment, the same rules apply.



Who doesn't pledge papers?

The election process is completely student-run, which is an ideal system of governance, but one that offers problems in reality. As Goodman states in his study, the most experience anyone has in an Honor Council hearing is four years. Add to this, there is no continuity between the councils, they have never served together before and they only convene when there is a trial. Just as a team requires practice to play, the Honor Council requires practice to function properly. The only difference is that a team plays a game, the Honor Council plays with lives. Goodman

believes the solution is more faculty involvement. He suggests this because he says that it would offer a perspective that no other student could have after only four years on the council. This would dispel the disturbing fact that even the members on the Council may not be adequately qualified.

Goodman won his position on the Honor Council by default. There simply is not enough competition for the job. And when there is enough

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## Sewanee Students' Gowns Revoked: A Look Into the OG's Policy

By Molly Willett

On Friday January 20, 2006, thirty-seven students received an e-mail from the registrar informing them of their lost membership in the Order of the Gownsmen. This notice sparked confusion and anger as students realized they can no longer claim the honored "OG member" title. No more skipping "no cut" days, early class registration, and priority in room draw. Instead, these students will return to non-gownsmen status and hope to improve their grades during Easter semester to regain their lost privileges.

The tradition of the gown dates back to the University's establishment. In 1868, three years after the founding of the University of the South, the academic gown was approved for students and faculty at Sewanee. The gown mirrored the architecture of the campus and its ties to Oxford. By 1871, all students wore gowns. Chaplain William Porcher DuBose, however, believed that the gown should represent academic achievement. His influence led to the establishment of the Order of the Gownsmen in

1873. Members inducted into the order were distinguished individuals, demonstrating a strong work ethic and academic excellence, and were entitled to certain privileges.

The gown still serves as a symbol of academic excellence. The Sewanee Student Handbook says, "Among Sewanee's many customs, none perhaps is more distinctive than the wearing of the gown by students and faculty." (p.17) Thus, students must meet certain requirements to become eligible for membership.

The Sewanee Student Handbook states, "Undergraduates earn membership in the OG as seniors if their academic average for the previous two semesters at Sewanee or at a foreign study program sanctioned by the University is 3.00; as juniors if their academic average for the previous two semesters is 3.20; as sophomores if their academic average for the previous two semesters is 3.40." (p.17)

The OG has reasons for basing membership on an individual's

(Continued on Page 2)

## How Then Shall We Live?

By Jacob Lewin

The "How, Then, Shall We Live?" lecture series' website/blog opens with a Tolstoy quotation that lays out the philosophical impetus of the lecture program, culminating with the essential question of life: "What will come of what I am doing today or shall do tomorrow? What will come of my whole life?" This question, in its many forms and permutations, lies at the heart of the goal of Sewanee itself: to provide students with the means of answering it through the creation of a diverse, rich academic and social

environment.

On Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> in Convocation Hall, the "How, Then, Shall We Live?" lecture series presented a panel of Professors David Haskell, Bran Potter, Gayle McKeen, and Pradip Malde. The specific focus of the discussion was the question: "Does the fact that Sewanee is an institution of the Episcopal Church have curricular implications for the college?" The first to speak was Professor David Haskell (the entirety of the discussion can be heard online at <http://itw.sewanee.edu/>

HTSWL/Panel/).

Professor Haskell began by noting that, to his knowledge, "this is the first time we've had a public conversation about this question." The important distinction, he says, is between the explicit and implicit curricula. The explicit curriculum refers to the formal curriculum: courses, professors, etc. The implicit curriculum is the "institutional behavior" which "models values and sends very powerful messages."

The question of what Anglicanism is, therefore, should be answered through Sewanee's actions, if it does, in fact, profess to be an Episcopalian

institution. In this regard, Sewanee accomplishes the following: 1) to treat employees and subcontractors in a "just" manner; 2) to treat University land with care; 3) to base University decisions on "justice, reverence, and peace"; and 4) to allow for "periods of inhalation" and rest, rather than constant action. Sewanee, however, does *not* do a good job of vocalizing the specific nature of the relationship between the church and the college.

In regards to the explicit curriculum, Professor Haskell asserts that "ul

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## OG Cont'd

al's cumulative GPA. John Hammond, the OG president, believes that basing OG membership on a student's previous two semesters rather than a student's cumulative GPA helps more individuals than it hurts. He says, "The current system is geared towards individuals who may have had a hard time adjusting to college. Individuals who did not excel in core requirement classes still have the chance to get their gowns once they begin taking major classes and classes that interest them."

Some students disagree with Hammond. Sophomore Mary Katherine Stone has a higher cumulative GPA than the required 3.4. However, her last two semesters fail to meet the 3.4 mark. She lost her "badge of distinction" and comments on the issue saying, "I believe that the OG should base membership on either the previous two semesters or on an individual's cumulative GPA. This system would benefit more individuals, allowing those who did poorly their first semester to still get their gown while rewarding those who have consistently kept a high GPA in their classes at Sewanee."

Mary Katherine, like others among the thirty seven, was shocked. Who ever thought the day they were inducted in front of their family and friends that they would have their gowns revoked? Laura Fanjoy surely did not. She says, "I did not know once I got my gown that I could lose it." Laura, however, cannot blame herself for her ignorance. The Student Handbook, quoted above, clearly states the rule about earning membership in the OG. It fails, though, to directly mention the fact that students must maintain a certain GPA over the previous two semesters to retain membership.

John Hammond comments on the printed rule in the Sewanee Student Handbook: "This passage has always been interpreted by the OG and, more importantly, by the registrar who administrates membership in the OG, to mean that one must maintain the OG's entrance standards of academic achievement over the previous two semesters in order to enjoy the benefits of gownsman status." Thus, the gownsman is responsible for knowing the requirements of retaining his or her gown.

However, a question still remains: If students were outraged over losing their gowns, why don't more students wear them? It is ironic that students want the privileges associated with gownsman status but don't want to wear their gowns as a symbol of achievement. Maybe there is a connection between individuals losing their gowns and the school as a whole losing the tradition of the Order of the Gownsmen. When the OG was first established all members wore gowns. Now, fewer and fewer people each year wear their gowns. The tradition of the gown may continue to fade because of the altered gownsman mindset. A gown has come to embody a set of privileges rather than the upholding of one of Sewanee's longest traditions.

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## HTSWL cont'd

timately, we want to understand who we are, how we got here," and how we might use our knowledge to better both ourselves and others in the community. In that sense, the Sewanee "we" extends beyond people to "the natural world." This extension allows the Sewanee community to study Episcopalianism from multiple viewpoints. In addition, unlike state schools, Sewanee has "the luxury of not being trapped in a secular straitjacket." This allows the University to provide for the use of "revelation, intuition, and insight" in its learning process. Sewanee's close ties with the church, then, benefit the learning environment by increasing the multiplicity of perspectives from which to examine knowledge and life.

Dr. Bran Potter was the next speaker, speaking from the perspective of "people who are quite involved in the Anglican tradition here" and as an "echo" and furtherance of Professor Haskell's comments. He likened the question to the debate several years ago over whether our curriculum should "retain the religion requirement or substitute...religion or philosophy." This very discussion is ongoing within our curricular decisions, and, to that regard, displays some obvious curricular implications from Sewanee's connection with the church. The important test of how much the Anglican tradition has "flourished" at Sewanee is the *extracurricular* support seen for the tradition.

As examples, Dr. Potter cited several active groups on campus with direct connections to the Anglican tradition. The Catechumenate, focusing on building faith and relationships in small groups, has presenters whose whole lives are dedicated to understanding the Episcopal tradition and its practice. The Outreach Program is connected directly with the chapel, with blessing for the workers before they depart. Growing in Grace, Acolytes, Sacristans, and the Choir also provide an opportunity to build lasting bonds through a more direct connection with the church. So, a fair proportion of the Sewanee community lives out parts of the Anglican tradition extracurricularly, whether they are Episcopalian or not. It is exactly this diversity that the tradition embraces and "is called on to be in conversation with."

The next speaker, Professor Gayle McKeen, took a slightly different approach to the question, first wondering if it was "meant to pick a fight." Does the question itself denote a crisis of "liberal education?" What, for that matter, is liberal education for? Liberal education necessarily promotes a "critical posture towards everything," basing learning on the process of inquiry. So even though Episcopalianism is "Sewanee's tradition," it is a tradition that maintains "an awareness" of itself and its bases. So, "are secular and religious traditions inherently separate?" Professor McKeen naturally believes that there *is* a curricular impact, but the implications of that remain unknown. The important thing is asking the question, since it preserves the spirit of inquiry and ensures that the school "serves the intellectual integrity

and freedom of the student."

Art professor Pradip Malde extended this idea of separation and inquiry, dividing the construction of a liberal arts environment into a combination of "two spheres," one based in belief and the other based in inquiry. This "seems to be the most appropriate mapping of the way we are and think," and can show us more about both our environment and ourselves. "Even secular establishments" are rooted

*The important test of how much the Anglican tradition has "flourished" at Sewanee is the extracurricular support seen for the tradition.*

in the faith that religious/spiritual influences undermine "the rational endeavor."

Despite the fact that these two spheres "permeate" our lives, however, a fundamental clash is apparent between them. Since, at Sewanee, the underlying belief is in an absolute, infallible deity (in a institutional sense), it is naturally opposed to the tradition of inquiry. "How can you question infallibility?" queries Malde. The counteraction to this, however, does not lie in the complete separation of the two spheres, but in an increased amount of dialogue between the two, increasing understanding and tolerance of both traditions.

Of course Sewanee's affiliation with the Episcopalian Church is going to influence the community in a variety of ways. Whether in curricular or extracurricular circles, the Anglican tradition is unavoidable in such a tight-knit enclave. The important thing is that we all take a measured, informed look at such a tradition and its impact, gaining a further understanding of ourselves and our peers. This is the entire point of the HTSWL series: to promote discourse and encourage

## Honor Code Cont'd

competition, the student body either doesn't know enough to vote for the most qualified candidate or doesn't care enough to fill out a ballot. I asked two students, Abby Becic, a freshman, and Thad Crosier, a sophomore. Neither knew their representatives and neither voted in the election. How do you solve the problem? Just as Greek Rush requires mandatory attendance at alcohol and informational lectures in large auditoriums, so should the Honor Council system require students, by class, to attend candidate debates and informational sessions concerning the Honor Code.

People need to know what they can be punished for. People also need to know and have a hand in electing those who can punish them. Hopefully now you know a little bit more about that which you may have had minimal knowledge. This system could affect you as much as the next person.

## Inside the White House

By Alex Pappas

On January 26, 2006 President Bush made his traditional State of the Union address to Congress in the chamber of the United States House of Representatives. Just hours before, Sewanee alum Carlton Carroll (C'05) participated first hand in the process in his role working for President Bush in the press office.

A group of Carlton's fraternity brothers visited him in Washington D.C. over Fall break, where they toured the West Wing of the White House and learned about his job. Two of his fraternity brothers, sophomores Clark Welch and Clay Stewart, are two of the people who visited Carlton and saw firsthand what he does everyday.

"Carlton works directly under Scott McClellan, the President's press secretary," Welch said. "When Scott McClellan briefs the press, Carlton makes sure the press is where they are supposed to be."

"For example, one thing Carlton does is if the President is having a press conference in the rose garden, he parades the press into the garden and then back out when the conference is over," Stewart said.

Welch further commented saying, "He says 'ABC you sit here and NBC you go here'. He pretty much baby-sits the press."

Another job responsibility, according to his fraternity brothers, is that as a result of the press traveling wherever the president goes, he also goes everywhere the president goes. "He rides Air Force One all the time. Just last month he traveled with Bush to Asia," Stewart said.

In recalling their fellow Beta Theta Pi brother, both Clark and Clay described Carlton as a motivated, tireless worker. "Carlton is seriously the hardest working guy you'll ever meet," Welch said.

Clay further pointed out that Carlton double majored in history and economics and served as Beta's treasurer. "He managed our money down to every penny. He always found ways to save money. He's an economist," Stewart recalled.

Both attributed his work ethic to getting the coveted White House job. Carlton received a Lily Endowment internship to work in the Executive Office Building in Washington immediately after graduating from Sewanee. Months later, his work ethic caught the attention of higher ups and he was offered the West Wing job.

Another noticeable attribute of the job according to Welch and Stewart are the long hours Carlton works. They particularly noticed how much time he devotes to his job when they offered to take him out to dinner. "We asked him where was a good place to go, and he didn't know because he had only been out to dinner twice since he worked in D.C. And this was months after he took his job," Welch recalled.

However, during their visit with Carlton, they noticed one major difference from the Carlton they knew at Sewanee: he is on his blackberry at all times. "The blackberry is his life. He receives every word Bush sent directly to his blackberry, and he has every White House news correspondent's email at his fingertips," Stewart commented.

"Carlton is one of the most humble guys you'll ever meet. He works in the West Wing of the White House, and he won't even mention that his office is directly behind the press briefing room," Welch said.

While not the typical media publication Carlton deals with on a given day at work, The Purple did get the chance to briefly ask Carlton about his job:

**The Purple:** What was your involvement in the preparation of the State of the Union?

**Carlton:** "My involvement with the State of the Union was only in the press side of things. My job was to make sure the press was prepared to write their stories early, so I gave them copies of the speech about an hour before it began. About three hours before it began, I handed out excerpts of the most important parts of the speech that the administration wanted the press to highlight. In this case, we highlighted the President's commitment to fund science and technology in America's classrooms to help ensure that America has a competitive advantage against the fast growing economies of East Europe and Asia. The President knows that the secret to continued American success does not involve building walls to protect our industry from foreign competition. Rather, he seeks to encourage the innovation and productivity that made the American economy what it is today."

**The Purple:** How well did Sewanee prepare you for work in the West Wing of the White House?

**Carlton:** "My job in the Press Office is both challenging and exciting. Not a day goes by that I don't learn something new. Sewanee didn't teach me how to do this job per se -- there is no classroom that could teach someone how to do this job -- but it instilled in me the tools of figuring our foreign concepts and solving new problems. A Sewanee Liberal Arts education prepares you for a lifetime of learning -- it's true. I strongly believe that although we don't come out of Sewanee with a skill-set that will take us directly into a specified career, we have the tools to do whatever we want, and to continually enjoy the challenge of learning new things. We know how to interact with others, and we know how to build on our past knowledge to figure out new situations. That's why we make better employees and, ultimately, better and more satisfied people."

## A New Opportunity: MtvU

By Ashley Gallman

Sewanee has often been called blessedly backward. Cable is limited to common rooms and the pub, and the nearest fast food restaurant is ten minutes away. Although many embrace the so-called "Sewanee Bubble," others worry that the University is frustratingly out of the loop. Junior Leckie Roberts is one of these concerned advocates for Sewanee's interaction with the outside world. Leckie is spending the semester as an intern for MTV in New York and has become aware of a program called mtvU that has spread to over seven hundred college campuses across the country. Leckie is trying to spread word about mtvU across Sewanee, explaining, "Of course I don't want us to be left out, especially since it took us way too long to get 'Facebook.'" She hopes the program will draw our reclusive campus out of its shell and into that thing we apprehensively call "the real world."

MtvU is a new division of MTV that focuses on University life and draws its shows from student interaction. It provides numerous opportunities for college students to get involved either by expressing their opinions, premiering their talents, or even petitioning for funding. Student films, news shows, and other talents are showcased on shows such as "Fresh Produce." The program also provides funding for Campus Outreach trips. Leckie cited numerous examples of projects mtvU has gotten involved in: "mtvU sent students to Sudan to document the present problems there, they helped in the hurricane Katrina relief effort, they started grants to help various school community service projects, and much more." She went on to suggest that Sewanee's own Outreach efforts might be aided by mtvU and encourages students to use the channel as a resource for any humanitarian endeavors.

On a more entertainment-related

level, the channel premieres a long list of upcoming and often underground musicians and allows students to plug local bands. Leckie pointed out that many of today's most popular hands got their start on the mtvU channel. Furthermore, mtvU is currently having a competition called Best Music on Campus that Leckie would particularly like to highlight. Bands at colleges all over the country can send in videos to the channel and compete not only to have their video premiered, but also to receive a record deal with Drive-Thru Records. The competition ends March 13, and Leckie has offered to forward any videos sent to her or even to house bands that would like to come to New York and compete directly.

However, many of the channel's benefits are limited by Sewanee's exclusion from the mtvU network. The University must actually have the channel in order to be a stop on the mtvU music tour and to see any Sewanee contributions the channel selects, and the channel can only be received if Sewanee students show interest and petition the school. Leckie encourages students to express interest in the program by starting petitions, talking to administrators, or any other possible outlet.

She hopes Sewanee students will get involved in mtvU and has offered to help students who are interested in any way possible. Her e-mail address is roberml0@sewanee.edu, and she encourages everyone to contact her with questions, suggestions, and contributions. As an intern working with the program she is very involved and has been encouraged to draw from her own school. MtvU is an opportunity that Leckie hopes many Sewanee students will utilize. She encourages students to step outside the protective haven of Sewanee in order to take a chance that could be very rewarding.

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## News in Brief

By Sam Currin

**Anonymous student realizes that 13<sup>th</sup> drink "wasn't really necessary"**

Anonymous student Susie Epp, reflecting on her Saturday night, realized that her "13<sup>th</sup> beer really wasn't that necessary." Epp, normally not a big drinker, decided to go all out Saturday, starting with a pre-party in her Humphreys suite before heading to an off-campus house to watch a big basketball game. She mused, "It was a blast. I had a few girlfriends over and we had some cocktails in my room and caught up before heading out to watch the game." Epp, having had approximately 7 drinks by the time she arrived, had stopped at the market and purchased a six pack of beer for drinking during the game. She said, "after a few beers, I was pretty drunk, so I guess, in hindsight, that the last beer didn't really serve any purpose but to fill my bladder up more." Epp vowed to stop by number twelve next weekend.

**Seagal confident he could "kick Norris' ass"**

Highly acclaimed action star Steven Seagal, expressed a disbelief at the popularity boom of fellow action star Chuck Norris. Seagal commented<sup>1</sup>, "I really can't believe how people have hailed Chuck as some kind of super highly acclaimed action star. Everyone knows that his Tang Soo Doo style is no match for my multi disciplined style which includes black belts in Karate, Aikido and Kenjutsu. I've also studied Judo, Kali, Kendo, Eastern Philosophy, Shinto Religion, and the Holistic Arts (including Acupuncture, Herbology and Calligraphy). I've got reach, height, strength, and looks on him. If it came down to it, I would kick Norris' ass!" Norris responded, "I'm Walker Texas Ranger B\*\*\*\*!" In a poll conducted earlier this year, 99% of students picked Norris to win the hypothetical bout. Seagal swore that he would "manually break every neck in Sewanee if needs be, except for the two people that voted for me, they would get a copy of my hot new album 'Songs from the Crystal Cave'".<sup>2</sup>

**Self Proclaimed Alpha Male hates "everything about Valentines Day"**

Rod Gibson, a self proclaimed Alpha Male from Victoria, Ga, explained Monday that he hated "everything about Valentines Day." He says, of the holiday, "I mean, that's the stupidest thing I've ever heard of. What, just because it's February 14<sup>th</sup>, I've got to go out and get some girl flowers and tell her I love her. No way man, Rod don't play that game. I know one thing for sure, none of my girlfriends are gonna get S\*\*\* on Valentines Day." Surprisingly, none of Gibson's "girlfriends" were available for comment, and he was seen sulking in the corner at Shenanigans Tuesday night with a pitcher and some Kleenex.

**Scientists still can't explain why smokers never have lightration devices**

The verdict is still out on the hot new topic of 2006. Once again, America's

top scientists are totally stumped on why smokers of name brand cigarettes never have lighters and/or matches. Amos Garfunkel explained, "it really doesn't make sense. One would think that a smoker, realizing the need to light his or her cigarette at some point, would find some distinct advantages in carrying a lighter or matches around. However, we have conclusive evidence that shows that almost 100% of the time, smokers are left asking other smokers, and even non-smokers if they happen to have a light." Garfunkel estimates that approximately 2.4 billion lighters have been lost over the past five years.

**Old Man Winter "told you so"**

The big man behind the cold has answered recent accusations about his powers by dumping snow on Sewanee. He said, "I told y'all not to underestimate me. I hope you enjoy highs in the mid twenties and freezing precipitate, because that's all you naysayers are going to be getting for a while."

**Late night cry session caused by Merlot**

A late night cry session between two anonymous junior girls was the direct result of the bottle of cheap merlot that they split. What began as a simple conversation about the beautiful snow outside resulted in a forty-five minute tear party that touched on such subjects as true love, friendship, the environment, and extended family. The girls isolated the emotional rollercoaster to the bottle of Turning Leaf 2004 vintage Merlot, because of the relationship between the time they consumed the wine and when the tear ducts actually opened and the tears began to flow. All in all, though, it was a good experience because, according to one of the girls, "everyone needs a good cry every now and then."

**Letter to the Editor conclusive evidence that pen actually is mightier than the sword**

In a recent letter to the editor, an anonymous author proved the ancient adage that the pen truly is mightier than the sword. In a heated and opinionated letter that touched on the quality of the student newspaper, a desire to help and contribute, and the actual existence of one of the contributors, the author accomplished his/her goal of being heard. Had he/she picketed or burned an issue of *The Purple* in the quad, it's probable that the response from the editors and contributors might not have been so hasty and concerned.

**(Footnotes)**

<sup>1</sup> Of COURSE I didn't interview Steven Seagal (or Chuck Norris). This interview is fake (although I bet this is what he would've said).

<sup>2</sup> True: <http://www.stevenseagal.com/music.html>

## Top Super Bowl Commercials

By Jacob Lewin

I really could care less about football. Sure, it's fun to watch, and yes, the Super Bowl is a huge national event, but I can never really get into it. The commercials, however, make it an annual must-watch. Ignoring the fact that they're designed to ram needless desires down the viewer's figurative throat, they're usually either clever enough to be good or ridiculous enough to be funny. With that in mind, I've come up with some of the better ones from this year's Super Bowl. I was shooting for a nice round number, but this year's batch wasn't as good as years past. This is, of course, a completely subjective, unranked list, so that Burger King commercial with Ali Landry just isn't making the cut. Dancing condiments being shot out of a cannon? Come on...

In no particular order, here they are:

**NFL Players Spot:** This one was just a montage of different Steelers and Seahawks players "practicing" saying "I'm going to Disney World!" Let me say first of all that I'm a huge advocate of Disney World in general (especially Epcot), so of course this one is going to make the list. I can't really remember how many similar clips I've seen over the years; I don't think it really matters (although I do remember MJ's). Who doesn't like Disney? I mean, there's a reason every championship-winning athlete wants to go there (a reason beyond getting paid ludicrous amounts of money for it, I mean). Besides, the whole "rehearsal" gimmick was great; I especially liked how Roethlisberger was getting voice-coaching tips in his scene. Hysterical.

**Bud Light - Morale:** Beer companies have got this Super Bowl commercial thing down. They just come up with the best premises with which to hawk their product. Wouldn't you love to work in an office building where some guy hid Bud Lights around the office to "improve morale"? I can just imagine sitting in a cubicle somewhere when the entire room devolved into pandemonium. Coworkers ransacking the place for beer, guys punching through drywall

and upending potted plants for a bottle would be awesome to see in person. Not to mention that you'd apparently be allowed to spear your boss if he was holding a beer...where can I get a job like that?

**Bud Light - Revolving Wall:** Cbalk up another one for Anheuser-Busch. First off, did you see how many beers were in that fridge? The guy must have been planning on some huge kind of party...or a very small one with lots of drinking; it's one or the other. That being said, I wish I had that kind of ingenuity. What better way to hide beer than to hide the entire fridge by making the entire wall a secret panel? It's like a cross between the Man Show and an old murder mystery. The best part, though, had to be the guys on the other side of the wall. Prostrating themselves and worshipping the "magic fridge" for sending them beer is obviously what most normal people would do, especially after they'd already had a few of the sacred beverages.

**Sierra Mist:** This ad just made me wonder about a lot of things. A guy goes through airport metal detector with can in hand, gets stopped, scanned, and his drink taken from him. What's he going to do? Cause a scene? Airport security is ridiculous. The workers I've encountered have tended to be rude. These things we can agree on. But would they really take your soft drink? Does a job like that make you thirsty enough to steal a guy's coke? Or is it just plain mean-spiritedness? Still, it was pretty funny. The look on the guy's face was priceless, and it made me go get something to drink. Props for effectiveness.

**H3:** As much as the whole SUV/gas guzzling vehicles craze gets on my nerves, this was a cool spoof of those old Godzilla movies: the monsters were suitably ridiculous-looking, the set was nice and obviously fake, pluses all around. The great thing is, though, that these two huge creatures are going around destroying cities and other habitats, then they have this "little monster" that's going out into the world and doing the same thing to the air and the

environment. Awesome parallel. I wonder if they did that on purpose...

**Emerald Nuts:** By now, I'm assuming, everyone has seen at least one of this company's commercials. I have yet to be disappointed by one. Whoever comes up with them has got to be a fun person to hang around. It seems like he would just sit around all day thinking up random, weird things that he can put in these ads. Probable job tools: massive amounts of creativity, a variety of drugs, and a thesaurus. If you didn't see this one, here is what the acronym was this time (you'll have to use your imagination to visualize it): "Eagle-eyed Machete Enthusiasts Recognize A Little Druid Networking Under The Stairs."

**FedEx:** You know, it's probably bad enough being a caveman anyway, what with the rudimentary technology and always getting made fun of by Geico, but having to worry about a T-Rex deciding to chomp up your delivery pterodactyl? And of course the poor guy's going to get fired because he didn't use FedEx. Even though it "hasn't been invented yet." I figure we can excuse him for that, but looking back, it was definitely a stupid move to kick the mini-dino in frustration. Karma was already aligned against him, so he was just begging to get squashed. The lesson: try to avoid dinosaurs altogether, they're just trouble.

**Sprint:** This one was my favorite, by far. These two über-preppy guys are comparing their new cell phones' features in what looks like a golf clubhouse. I mean, just the initial scene was pretty funny. They go about rattling off "cool" cell phone stuff back and forth to one another, when the guy on the left mentions a "crime deterrence" feature. To prove it, he tells the other guy to "try to take my wallet." Then he pegs the guy in the face with his cell phone. Now, whether that would actually work or not is a totally different issue, but all I know is that the guy kept his wallet.

# Ayani Good

By Whitney Lehr Ray

Ayani Good, a CSMP Brown Fellow, came to Sewanee from inner city Chicago and is currently a member of our education department. You have probably seen her walking around campus wearing her Sigma Gamma Rho sorority shirts or perhaps talking with students in McClurg for hours. She is a fascinating woman who enjoys teaching just as much as she enjoys learning.

Ayani is originally from Atlanta and attended Morris Brown College, a historically black institution, also in Atlanta. At Morris Brown, she majored in English and minored in sociology, but as her career



Ayani Good is all smiles as always.

progressed, she always found herself in a teaching position. In 1983, she moved to Chicago where she stayed and received a law degree from DePaul in 1992. In 2001, she decided to continue her life as a "full time student," by going back to DePaul where she began to work towards her doctorate at the School of Education.

Now you are probably wondering after all that time and work in Chicago, what on earth is Ayani doing here? Well, she was brought here through CSMP, an organization that works to bring a minority presence to small liberal arts colleges. Thirty-six institutions are involved with CSMP. Of course, out of those thirty-six, Ayani had never heard of Sewanee. She remembers sitting in a Mexican restaurant with her daughter when she received a call from Mae Wallace. Not only did she know nothing about Sewanee, but she also had never even lived in a rural area. Luckily she "fell in love with the place in August." When asked what a few of her favorite things about Sewanee were she said, "the students are so polite – that and the sweet tea." She also "loves ritual, so [she] loves the tradition of the gown." On the other hand, the one thing she doesn't like about Sewanee are the snakes. She is "hoping they will stay out of [her] way." She is supported here while working on her dissertation and teaching one class a semester.

Ayani's dissertation is titled "Naughty or Nice? Adolescent Girls of Color Examined Female Representation in Hip-Hop Music." She conducted what is known as a participatory action research project by getting five girls to design the study. These girls were seventeen and eighteen and attended the same alternative high school in Chicago. Ayani met with them on a weekly basis for three months and really became their friend. She said that "if you get to know young people as a person then you don't get into 'us vs. them' issue." In their meetings, they would listen to music, watch videos, keep journals, and in general,

hang out. At the end of her study, she "found [hip-hop music] was not the most important thing in their life." She was hoping for other results, but enjoyed the study and said, "it was a great learning experience for me because I had to sit back and shut up." Ayani is still working on exactly what her conclusion will be.

When Ayani Good was asked what a few of her favorite things about Sewanee are, she replied, "the students are so polite – that and the sweet tea."

While working on this dissertation she is also teaching a very popular class this semester. The class is entitled "Urban Education," and currently has thirty-six students, or to Ayani, "thirty-six of her babies." The original limit was twenty, but since so many people wanted in, Ayani made it work. She divided the class into six groups, and each group is an urban school. Their final project will be a "Zine," which is a self-produced magazine to depict their school. When describing a typical class period Ayani said, "I bring toys to class and we do a lot of laughing." She is dedicated to her students' learning and, "believes that a person brings his/her own experience into the classroom – if you aren't engaged, then what's the point?"

Ayani enjoys spending time with her longhaired Chihuahuas (Casey and Ali) and her two daughters (Kim and Alex). In the end, when talking about the students she has encountered over the years, as well as at Sewanee, she states, "they've impacted my life and I hope I've impacted theirs."

## 2006 SEWANEE CONFERENCE ON WOMEN Go, Girl! The Future of Women's Activism

Don't know much about the feminism of today? Drop by the Goodstein library at Bairnwick to check out our magazines!

You will find *Bitch: a feminist guide to pop culture*, *Bust*, *Pink*, *Essence*, and *Vogue*.

Throughout the conference, catch the Women's History Installation in front of McClurg, entitled: "The Three Waves of Feminism."

**Friday, February 17 at 3:00 pm**, Gailor Auditorium  
*The Abortion Diaries*, a documentary by Penny Lane; the film features 12 women who speak candidly about their experiences—negative, positive, in between—with abortion. (Check out [www.theabortiondiaries.com](http://www.theabortiondiaries.com) to read more.) A discussion will follow the 30 minute film.

**Saturday, February 18 from 5:30-7:00 pm**,  
Open House at the Women's Center  
**Spelman College Jazz Ensemble Reception**. All are invited to this reception welcoming the Spelman College ensemble to our campus. Afterwards, attend their show, starting at 8 pm. \*catered by Jayne Slagle-Bartha  
**Spelman College Jazz Concert at 7:30, Guerry Auditorium**

**Tuesday, February 21 from 10 am-3 pm**, McClurg Dining Hall  
**Activism Fair**. Come learn about the activist organizations located across the south. Visitors include the Peace Corps, the National Organization for Women, the Greater Chattanooga League, and the Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace, as well as many more.

**Wednesday, February 22 at 12:15**,  
Women's Center Living Room  
**Pinnacle Lunch**. Today in America, women can choose to be a part of the working world in any way we like. Come hear mothers, wives and working women talk about their experiences in building a new family dynamic. \*free food from Blue Chair

**Thursday, February 23 from 9 pm-1 am at the PUB:**  
**DJ Jane Dupree** will entertain us with her skills on the turntables. Free cups at the party! Check out her bio at [www.shejay.net](http://www.shejay.net).

**Suit Drive for "Dress for Success" throughout the week.**  
Dress for Success provides suits to low-income women to help them enter the workforce and retain employment. Contact Tracien Meikle for info: x2729.

### CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

Lorin Cooke Sarah Pruett  
x 2730 x 2726

### ADVISORS:

Dr. Donna Murdock  
Dean Katie Steele

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

Althea Northcross, Collette Cosby, Tracien Meikle, Laurel Coffee, Kaie Payne, Kristen White, Kristan Simonton, Emily Estelle, Kyle Kaiser, Elizabeth Wilber, Kara Holcomb, Mallory Scarritt, Chassidy Cooper, Julie Lorch, Asia Watson, Jessica Hardy, Jillian Webb, Michelle Smith, Alethea Mobley, Richie Hubbard, Carla Reed, Syeda Hamadani, Francie Hartline, Mary Bruce Gray, Jellena Milojevic

## Fact or Fiction?

By Whitney Lehr Ray

Lets face it. We go to a freakishly small school in the middle of nowhere. Hence, we all know everything about this tiny world we live in...or we think we do. It's time to clear up a few of the common rumors around campus. No, not Billy Bob and Susie Q getting it on at KA last night, but things that actually affect our lives here. The following is a list of recent rumors along with the facts that either prove or disprove them.

**RUMOR #1:** Our beloved Depot will be closing shortly due to numerous accusations relating to selling alcohol to minors.

**FICTION:** Happily, the Depot is open and selling with no plans to close. Contrary to popular belief, however, you need either your actual ID or Sewanee ID when going to this fine establishment. In addition, you might want to note the close watch the police have on this building. There are often one or two police cars parked in the Motel parking lot across the street. Even though the Depot isn't closing, you still need to be careful!

**RUMOR #2:** Shenanigans, a local hotspot, is currently for sale. Without the same owners the slanted building will certainly close down, or perhaps just get renovated and transformed into the new Phi Society house.

**FACT:** Stacy Gutman, an employee of Shenanigans for two years, explained that the place has been for sale as long as she has worked there, and longer. Kiki and Ben Beavers, the current owners, are apparently picky about whom they will sell their

restaurant to. They would like for it to remain the same great restaurant, regardless of who owns it. After the numerous trials with the Beer Board (an association in Tennessee responsible for alcohol sales), owning the restaurant became increasingly difficult. Therefore, it has been for sale for years, but appears to be hard for them to let go. So fear not Sewanee students – Shenanigans isn't going to change on us any time soon.



**RUMOR #3:** Our prayers have been answered! No longer will we have to save our precious quarters or wear partially damp clothes now that laundry is free!

**FACT/FICTION:** This is a tricky one. No longer will we have to save quarters; however, laundry is not going to be free. The office of Residential Life says we will pay a fee at the beginning of the next academic year. This fee will be put on our ID card, and then used to pay for our laundry needs all year. Although it's not free, it will be a nice change from

scrounging up quarters on a weekly basis.

**RUMOR #4:** The Blue Chair is expanding! More space to enjoy baked goods, sandwiches, and Saturday morning breakfast!

**FACT:** WOW! The Blue Chair will surely be the biggest hit with Sewanee students as well as locals for years to come after this expansion. Michael Brown, the general manager, took me around the new section of The Blue Chair, which will be known as "The Blue Chair Market." With the addition, they will be able to seat about 100 people. Needless to say, the extra seating alone will help business. But that's not all! They will be selling gourmet meats and cheeses, homemade breads and soups, and even fresh fruits and vegetables. All of the ingredients used to create their many delicious dishes will also be for sale. Soon they will conduct a survey to find out what people are interested in buying, and stock The Market with our choices. They will also have already made sandwiches and salads to eliminate the wait in case you are in a hurry. Blue Monarch women will also be contributing to this expansion. Susan Freeman Binkley, owner of The Blue Chair and founder of Blue Monarch, has found a unique way to help women obtain new skills and learn a strong work ethic. Graduates of the Blue Monarch program will learn baking skills from Michael Brown and work for The Blue Chair as a few of the primary bakers. They are hoping to open "The Market" by the Class of 2006's graduation. Get ready Sewanee because this will definitely be a change for the better!

## Police Blotter: Snow Dominates Weekend

By Alex Pappas

"The snow was the big item this weekend," Police Chief Parrott said Monday morning following the snow covered weekend. According to the chief, the police department believes about eight inches of snow fell between Thursday and Sunday. "We are not sure how much more snow will fall, but reports make it look like this weekend could be like last." As expected, the snow kept the police department busy on the domain.

Parrott cited two separate snow related incidents that may result in several students facing disciplinary action with the Dean's office. Throughout the weekend, drivers on University Avenue were pegged with snow balls by students standing on the street. One group of snow ball throwers encountered bad luck as they bombarded an off duty police officer from Estle Springs. The police officer pulled over and chased the students into their dorms. According to Parrott "those people will be seeing the Dean."

However, Parrott pointed out that throwing snow balls at vehicles is very dangerous and is actually a violation of state law. He particularly pointed out that it can cause car wrecks, especially if the car window is down. "This is especially dangerous because the initial response to being pelted by snowballs is to react and this reaction could cause a wreck on the already slick hazardous roads."

Another stroke of snowball throwing bad luck occurred with several students who decided to bombard a perceived student in the cemetery across from Humphreys Dormitory. However, their perception was wrong as they pelted a University professor who was taking a leisurely weekend walk. "I don't

know if anyone's final grades will be in jeopardy or not, but I think they made a mistake in picking who to bombard."

In other snow news, contrary to rumor, the police department did not bar people from using their cars over the weekend. "We did not suspend driving on campus. We did ask one large gathering at the Wheat House not to drive until I could appear and explain what was happening with the black ice." Parrot went on to say that after informing the students at the TKP function about the dangers of the snow, "a lot of people chose to drive."

However, the police department did in fact send out emails encouraging everyone to travel in emergencies only. "We conducted more than 40 escorts for folks that needed a ride. We also keep ext. 3333, our severe weather line updated on local conditions."

While the police department escorted some students around the campus, those who usually patronize BACCHUS on Friday and Saturday night did not see the usual vans and their blinking lights roaming around campus. "On Friday night we suspended Bacchus when we encountered black ice on the roadway," Parrot said.

Parrot elaborated saying, "We are in the business of informing persons about road hazards. We seldom recommend that driving be suspended. When we do, it is usually due to ice conditions, not snow accumulation. Since BACCHUS is operated by students with less driving experience in vehicles that are dangerous on a good day, we tend to be cautious if conditions become bad. Not all of the student drivers are from areas where winter driving gives them experience on snow and ice."

Student BACCHUS President Branden Ozga said that "due to the

extreme weather conditions, we thought it was in the best interest of the students not to provide Bacchus services during the weekend. We thank the student body for their understanding."

Fortunately, there have been no major wrecks on campus resulting from the snow. However there have been several fender benders since the snow started. One particular fender bender that stood out in the Police Chief's mind was that of a student whose car fell into a six to eight foot ditch on 41A by the storage business. According to Parrott, the student called the police from the scene saying his car was not damaged, but stuck in the snow filled ditch. As of Monday morning, Parrott said the car was still in the ditch as he traveled to work.

While Parrott said that the police department did not have any complaints about student sledders on the golf course or on the soccer field, Dan Hatfield of the golf course sent out an email Monday morning with reports of abuse. Hatfield wrote that "some individuals have been destructive on the golf course over the weekend. Sled riding is one thing and is expected, but someone had a vehicle on number 'four green and also did 'doughnuts on number 7 fairway'." He wrote that "if number four green has to be replaced completely it could cost upward to \$40,000." The extent of the damage to the golf course will not be known until the snow melts. He further wrote, "I do not understand the mindset of someone who cares so little for the property of the University."

In other news unrelated to the snow, "the flasher at Hunter is back" and made his semester appearance again this weekend according to Parrott. The police chief said that over the last three

or four years a man has flashed the same window at Hunter Dormitory once a semester. It is believed that the flasher lives fairly close to the community and drives in periodically to flash the particular window. While the exact type of car is unknown, there is some belief that the man drives a white van with a ladder rack. Parrot stressed the importance of those in Hunter to call the police immediately when the flasher returns. "Someone needs to call right when he appears at the window. We've come close, but never close enough." Parrot said those who report the flasher usually wait until the duration of the flashing is done, but he hopes that in the future the victims of the flashing will call the police immediately when the flasher begins his routine, rather than after his show is done.

Police were also called to Trezevant Dormitory over the weekend as reports of credit cards and wallets were stolen from several dorm rooms. It appears the thief entered the unlocked rooms while the occupants were sleeping. Parrot says it is very possible the thieves came from off campus as Trezevant is "right on the periphery of the campus."

While the snow dominated the work of the police over the weekend, Parrott said that "this is not the largest snow I've seen in the last six years but it may be if it keeps snowing." He continued saying that, "in the last 10 years snow has not been a big problem for the University. The big blizzard in late March 1983 left us with about 20-25 inches across the plateau. In 1998 we experienced a bad ice storm that left the University and surrounding communities without power for several days."

## Track Season is Looking Good

By Jacob Moore



Here's looking forward to an exciting season from the track team.

The February 4<sup>th</sup> indoor track meet kicked off the season with some impressive personal performances that head coach Jeff Heitzenrater is confident will make Sewanee a major factor in the conference this year. While the men's team finished third and the women's team finished eighth, school records were shattered on both teams. In the women's shot put, Rachel Watson ('09) broke the school record in the preliminaries while in the finals, and returning sophomore Jane Johnson surpassed the record distance by two feet. Coach Heitzenrater praised Johnson as "a tremendous athlete" and cited last week's performance as evidence of a strong season for her. Likewise, up-and-coming star, Rachel Watson is expected to make a "big impact" on the team, along with new additions Abbey Piper, Hayley Robb, Julie Wilson and Katie Norfleet. All are freshmen except Norfleet, a senior soccer player who ran a spectacular 800 meters at her first meet last Saturday.

Team captains Jessi Ouzts and Mary Alice Matheson lead a returning roster of impressive athletes like Jean Anne Babin ('07), Dani Pettay ('07), Hallie Blunck ('06), and the enigmatic and beautiful sophomore Sarah McFalls (who is both a fantastic distance runner

and sprinter, a very rare double threat). Add to that the double powerhouse of "Jumping Twins" Lanier Norville and Anna Ransler, record holders in outdoor and indoor triple jumps respectively, and the women's team shows great promise.

The men's team is looking to dominate this season as well. With returning seniors and team captains Brian Sparkman and Lucas Ridley leading the team, things are looking good for Sewanee. Sparkman, Ridley, and sophomore Casey Strickland were three of the top four scorers in the conference last year, and Strickland was named SCAC Men's Track and

Field Athlete of the Year, having scored the highest. Strickland participated briefly in the meet on the 4<sup>th</sup>, as he has been recovering from a minor back injury, but Coach Heitzenrater is confident he will be in top form for the conference. The distance medley relay team, consisting of Brian Sparkman, Joe Brew, Will Harper and Seth Olsen beat the record time at the meet by four seconds, winning the event. Comically short sophomore, Eric Keen will be returning to the long, high, and triple jumps while marvelously goateed junior Bruce Taylor will be a force in the sprints and jumps. Junior hurdler, Justin Galloway has scored

in the conference two years in a row and is expected to shine this year as well. Tony Castelli is the top distance runner, a previous All Conference and All Region runner.

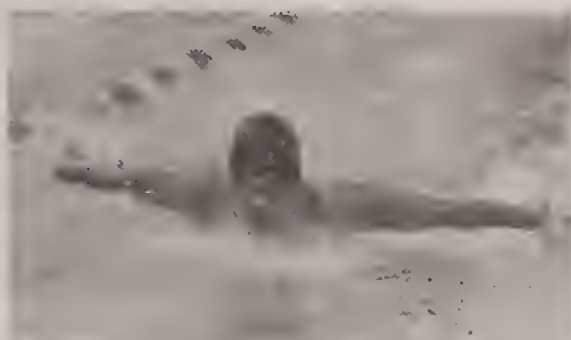
The new blood is also putting forth an impressive effort on the men's team, with freshmen Allen Long, Tyler Cooney, John Roberts, and Rex Davis all showing great potential for the coming season. The big competition this year will be coming from defending champion and track juggernaut Depauw University. A much bigger school than Sewanee, Depauw has been consistently able to draw on a larger pool of talent. Their reign may be about to come to an end as Heitzenrater has been tirelessly working on improving the track program here. "When I started coaching the men's team, we had fifteen, when I took over the women's team, we had eight," Heitzenrater explained. Over the past seven years, the program has doubled its number of men and tripled the number of women and is fast on the way to becoming a heavy player. With Jumps Coach Dylan Harrison, Throws Coach Ben Buerger, and the fifteen years of experience Joe Dombrowski brings to the sprints and hurdles, Depauw will have something to be running from this season.

## Swim Season Ends with a Splash

By Blair Overman

With cheers of:

*We're on the roof  
200 proof  
We're feelin' fine  
Uncork the wine  
And if we loose  
There'll be no booze  
But if we win  
We will drink gin  
Cause number 1  
That's lots of fun...*



Elliott Dement flies away

You get the picture...its slightly life-consuming while it lasts...but it all adds up to the culmination of some pretty awesome results come Conference time. Both the Sewanee men and women placed 3<sup>rd</sup> after DePauw University and Trinity University. Other teams that were present included Centre College, Rhodes College, Southwestern University, Rose-Hulman Inst. of Technology, and Hendrix College.

Significant results from the weekend included all SCAC (aka top three) finishes by:

- 500 Freestyle: Kelly Imboden
- 200 IM, 100 Backstroke, 400 IM: Elliott Dement
- 50 Freestyle: Loren Peterson
- 200 Backstroke: Blair Overman
- 200 Breastroke: Grace Schildknecht
- 200 & 400 free relays: Shelley Akers, Kelly Imboden, Kate Hall, Grace Schildknecht
- 200 free relay: Padraic Chisholm, Casey Clark, Elliott Dement, Loren Peterson
- 400 free relay: Padraic Chisholm, Daniel Eley, Elliott Dement, Loren Peterson
- 200 & 400 medley relays: Elliott Dement, Padraic Chisholm, Alec

Hogsette, Loren Peterson

- 800 free relay: Susie Clark, Kelly Imboden, Kate Hall, Blair Overman

- 1650 free: Blake Ramsey
- for more information on the results go to [www.scac-online.org](http://www.scac-online.org)

The team has had a bit of a shaky first semester due to the loss of a few swimmers and the absence of three students who were abroad; however, the incoming group of freshmen this year were phenomenal. The team looks promising for next year, whereas only two seniors, Elliott Dement and Hallie Blunck, are graduating. The team will also gain a large class of freshmen. The seniors will be sorely missed as Elliott is able to swim and usually win, well, just about anything that Coach Max Obermiller throws his way, and Hallie is one of the most talented female divers to come through Sewanee. Elliott was impressed with how the team performed this weekend and his performance was pretty impressive to say the least: "I left it all in the pool. I have worked hard, swam hard, and have no regrets." Hallie ended her diving career with "one of the best seasons that she has had diving thus far." She also closed the banquet Saturday night with the remark that "this swimming/diving team is one of the best and close-knit teams that I have ever been a part of." This comment

becomes blatantly obvious if you are around this group of athletes for any length of time.

Sewanee boasts many talented swimmers, but the main issue preventing them from winning Conference seems to be the team's small numbers in comparison to the Trinity and DePauw teams. Next year with so few swimmers leaving and so many coming in, the team should be able to give Trinity and DePauw a run for their money. Hopefully, Sewanee will be hosting Conference next year in Chattanooga and can bring them down on their own turf.



You're supposed to wait until after the meet is over for the "good game" celebratory spank...

to lead off the start of the 2005-2006 SCAC Swimming & Diving Championships in Cleveland, Mississippi (February 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>) everyone could be found having a good time. All of the hard work put in by the swim team over the past six months definitely paid off. What might a day in the life of a swimmer entail you may ask yourself? Well...just imagine:

- Morning practices
- Frantically running to McClurg for any food you can grab before class
- Ignoring the urge to take a nap after class and instead heading back to the pool
- Throwing in a weight session about 3 times a week
- Cross training with med balls, cords, ab sets, lots of lunges...ouch
- Back in the pool/ on the diving board for a few more hours
- Team dinner...yeah we're those loud kids that try to fit 40+ at one table
- Intense florida training for 2 weeks over Christmas break
- Missing Shake Day for a meet... actually missing almost anything for a meet
- Shaving the guys for Conference
- Not shaving for the girls prior to Conference...ewww

## Are You in a Frat?

### Alpha Tau Omega

Trent Bailey  
Robert Burns  
Christopher Chenery  
John Cobb  
Matthew Council  
Jacob Johnson  
Jonathan Klabunde  
Matthew Lafferman  
Justin Manning  
Joseph Merriman  
Carter Morris  
Parker Mothershead  
Charles Spurlock  
Benjamin Swann  
Bradley Wills

### Beta Theta Pi

Craig Bennett  
Mark Frye  
Christopher Gamble  
Joseph Hedges  
Nicholas Hull  
John Lewis  
Alex Pappas  
Shashin Patel  
Matthew Woodard  
Jeremiah Young

### Chi Psi

Peter Anderson  
Charles Boyd  
John Brantley  
John Clark  
Brendan St. Paer  
John Gahan  
William Hatcher  
Evan Judge  
Georgi Kapitanov  
Allan Long  
Matthew Meeks  
Benjamin Miller  
Eric Wilson

### Delta Tau Delta

Coburn Berry  
Jarod Blackwood  
William Cherry  
Alex Cole  
James Jayroe  
John Roberts  
Daniel Sabet  
Michael Wurzel  
Adam  
Zimmerman  
Andrew Zinder

### Delta Kappa

Epsilon  
David Beyer

### Phi Gamma Delta

Mike Clayton  
Andrew Mather  
Michael Morrow  
Allen Tate

### Kappa Alpha Order

Paul Adams  
William Avery  
Albert Axe  
Casey Berry  
William Brawley  
John Brooks  
Hudson Byrd

John Burchfield  
John Cebe  
Carl Gray  
William Grundy  
Walter Jarrett  
William Kegan  
John Lines  
Michael Mansfield  
John Milam  
John Page  
Scott Roark  
Roy Smart  
Ross Smith  
Joel Tupper  
Joseph Vicars  
Emerson Wolfe

### Lambda Chi Alpha

Nathan Batey  
William Blackerby  
Christopher Clinkscales  
Timothy Cobb  
Roger Greene  
Andrew Hawkins  
David Martinez  
David Matthews  
Nathan McLarty  
Brian Sparkman  
Henderson Tozer

### Phi Society of 1883

Cody Averbeck  
Roger Hagans  
James Lum  
Adam Mentzer  
John Newton  
Ryan Peets  
Phillip Price  
Robert Stith

### Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Chase Chesser  
Charles Davis  
Zachary Hendershott  
Henry Litchfield  
Elliot Livingston  
Palmer Rafferty  
Taylor Triplett

### Sigma Nu

Paul Ashy  
Wilson Bonner  
James Brown  
Robert Childers  
Francis Lynch  
John McCutcheon  
Malcolm Means

Mark Wicker  
Bryan Williams  
Peter Yerkovich



### Alpha Delta Theta

Alysia Belle  
Abigail Cain  
Sarah Cardwell  
Margaret Carpenter  
Darden Carroll  
Erin Castleberry  
Catherine Couey  
Caroline Covington  
Kimberly Coyle  
Arden Grady  
Sarah Henderson  
Anna Jones  
Allison Kendrick  
Angela Langevin  
Ashley Lytle  
Sarah Frances McClure  
Brittany Roper  
Nancy Royer  
Mallory Scarritt  
Jacquelyn Timms  
Whitney Turner

### Alpha Tau Zeta

Lauren Fitzpatrick  
Kathryn Glenn

### Gamma Tau

Upsilon  
Marie Wilson

### Kappa Delta

Elizabeth Austin  
Kerriane Castleberry  
Elizabeth Cooper  
Xela Farkas  
Tiffany Fowler  
Rebecca Humes  
Emily Randolph  
Keira Stockdale

### Kappa Omega

Carolina Armstrong  
Carrie Barfield  
Kristina Burton  
Mary Conkling  
Margot DeHaseth  
Laura Faison  
Emily Fietl  
Margaret Greata  
Krystn Hodge  
Audrey Jernigan  
Devin Johnson  
Madeleine King  
Catherine Outten  
Mahala Pruitt  
Mary Sadler  
Caroline Straight  
Ann Thomasson  
Rachel Watson

Elizabeth Wilber  
Julia Wilson

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## A Shabby Guide to Pledgeship

By Ashley Gallman

Your monumental Shake Day hangover as well as the sharpie doodles on your face are finally beginning to wear off. With the haze slowly retreating, it may be beginning to dawn on you that the insanity of Shake served a purpose. It was your embarkation on a long journey, one that will bring trials and tribulations, beer runs and preposterous outfits. It is the exodus that is pledgeship, a journey that evokes both terror and joy in many freshmen hearts, and we at The Purple would like to once again serve as a soothing voice of reason, assuring you that it will be the best time you will never want to have again.

Pledgeship should be seen as an opportunity, a chance to obtain new knowledge and serve your fellow man. You learn valuable lessons on a variety of subjects such as chemistry (especially mixtures), geography (where to find a restaurant that serves chili fries at 4 AM), philosophy (Can you achieve Zen through beer pong?), and of course, anatomy (this one can go unexplained). You will perfect your singing voice, probably learn how to dance (often Napoleon Dynamite style), and discover how to clean a frat house floor. However, there are certain techniques and tips that will help you live these experiences to the fullest.

Like the Boy Scouts, pledgeship's motto is "Always be prepared." If you stay on your toes and remain flexible, everything will go smoothly. Be sure to always have your pledge pack and everything you're supposed to have in it. However, never tell anyone that you'd be mortified if someone asked you for a condom because within hours actives will be asking you left and right in the most awkward of situations. Also, be wary of the cigarettes you carry if you don't want to become a smoker. Because they are always with you, you will always be tempted to try one, but if you get the most disgusting, filterless brand imaginable, the temptation factor is drastically reduced. Stay alert for pledge runs as well. While some pledges consider them a bane, they should really be seen as a blessing. Look at runs as an opportunity not only to lend a helping hand to your fellow Greek, but also to bond with him or her. Furthermore, actives that send you on errands will most likely give you a reward in the form of libations, and really ridiculous pledge runs can be a lot of fun. How often do you quest for soft serve ice cream at the crack of dawn in a town 30 minutes away? Overall, it's easier and more enjoyable to embrace runs rather than avoid them, and screening your phone calls

definitely won't work.

Wardrobe is also key to pledgeship. Girls will find that leopard pattern bibs and corsages work well with any outfit, and guys should learn to embrace class dress. However, girls should avoid wearing pledge gear and costumes to class. It can often be seen as disrespectful to the professor and generally distracting. It's tough to pay attention when the person sitting next to you resembles Cyndi Lauper. Also, be sure you have an outfit that can be completely ruined (whatever you wore to Shake Day probably works) because somehow, somewhere your clothes will get trashed and mud is a pledge's best friend.

The most important factor in pledgeship, though, is time management. Don't forget that you pay \$30,000 a year to go to school and that class is your main purpose for attending Sewanee. It's easy to get caught up in pledgeship and forget your grades, but you will definitely regret it later. No matter how hung over or tired you are, go to class. It's only a couple hours that happen to be very important to your Sewanee career, and if you can avoid passing out mid-lecture and drooling on your desk, you might actually get something out of it. If you have a big test or paper coming up, take the night off. The actives should understand. They too have been presented with the dilemma of chemistry test vs. eighties night.

Generally, pledgeship is different for everyone, but it should always be a good time. Don't let it overwhelm you, but also don't take it for granted. Pledgeship is a once in a lifetime chance to make a total fool of yourself in a way that is not only

acceptable, but also fun as hell. Now for the Quick List:

Avoid drama, especially regarding actives and members of the opposite sex; help your fellow pledge: teamwork=better life for everyone; for guys, always wear boxers; whenever you get a chance, roast a pig; learn to cheat on your pledge test; don't be super pledge or evil pledge; sober driving can be fun (Red Bull is helpful); get to know the actives (your sorority or frat doesn't consist solely of your pledge class); avoid general asshole; you are not any cooler because you are now Greek; no fire extinguishers at House Appreciation; get a good pledge project and do it well; preserve study hall; events that look horrifying often turn out to be fun.



Theta Pi pledges relaxing

## The Problems With Women's Rush

By Kaitlyn Stavish

Two weekends ago the whole campus vibrated with excitement while anxiously waiting to find out what special group they would soon call their bothers or sisters. However, though this can be a joyous moment for many, this can be a moment of utmost disappointment for others. This was especially true for the women who chose to rush. The rush process for women is one of complete chance; girls write down their top four sororities that they want. The sororities will then create a list of their top girls. From that moment on, it is complete chance as to whether or not girls will get matched up accordingly in a secret bid matching session, or if the girl might sit alone in her room disappointed with her bid card results. Every second semester, the same question is always raised about the rush process for women: how can we do this better?

This past rush process was rich in questioning: why do some sororities have record setting pledge classes while other are headed for extinction, why

are some girls always left disappointed with their bid cards, and why can't we do it like the boys? As a freshman, last year going through the process of rush made me feel helpless, and now, as a sophomore, I feel just as helpless. On shake day some girls show up with tears in their eyes questioning why they are at this sorority's shake day. This makes me wonder how can we match up girls who want us and we want them. It does no one favors to have girls assigned to a sorority that did not want them nor did they want. Perhaps it would be more effective to have our system run like the boys, where we give out bids to girls who only return to us because they choose to and are not forced to return home to four sororities. Another option could be to do return invite, where girls are invited back to a sorority and they could choose to return to or not. At least this way there would be a feeling of mutual affection by girls who would return to a sorority.

Another problem actualized during this season's

rush was the size of the pledge classes. Some sororities received up to thirty-six girls, while a few had numbers below ten or maybe one in the extreme case. While certain sororities are headed towards expansion beyond their own good, some are headed for extinction at their current rate. Also, what good does it do to have sororities of 150 girls on such a small campus? Currently our system remains fairly open, with friendships across all Greek lines. If this practice continues we will create exclusive groups of Greeks who have no need to socialize outside their own circle. Why would they when they have a 150 of their closest sisters?

This is just some food for thought about the women's rush process, perhaps if we have enough people thinking about where we might be going with our current trends we might start to think about making a change.

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## Does the Punishment Fit the Crime?

By Tab Wood

First semester sophomore year, Hunter Houston got into a car with six friends and a sober driver. Seeing the car was too full, Sewanee police pulled the car over and asked the driver to submit to a breathalyzer, which he passed. The officer eyed a shotgun case in the back seat of the car. Houston and his friends were instructed to exit the vehicle. They were asked if they had been drinking. This had been their sober ride from a fraternity party. They had all been drinking. Strike one.

The Sewanee Police, along with dorm staff (Matrons, Patrons, AP's, and Proctors), are charged with enforcing the University's policy on drugs and alcohol. Less than half of the students at Sewanee are of legal age to consume alcohol under federal law. With this in mind, Chief Parrot says that the Sewanee Police use "two hats" when policing campus, largely fraternity and sorority parties, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

The first hat is that of the state. In Tennessee it is unlawful for an individual under the age of twenty-one to possess or consume alcoholic beverages or to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence, twenty-one or not. Sewanee is in Tennessee. The Sewanee Police also wear the "Dean's hat." Dean Hartman describes the fit of the "Dean's hat" as being "less about the letter of the law and more about the spirit of the community." Hartman went on to say that the Social Policy is one of a community standard where violators have to be deemed as crossing over the threshold of that standard. Wearing this hat, Chief Parrot said that the police look for anybody who draws attention to himself, or crosses over the threshold: a staggering partygoer, an excessively loud individual, or simply someone who looks like he has had too much to drink. At this point, an officer would check the student's identification. Underage or not, Chief Parrot says the emphasis is often times now on attitude, whether or not the individual cooperates. Cooperation tends to buy a student a trip back to his dorm; mulish resistance assures both the student and the Dean written documentation of what may be hazy the next morning.

Second semester sophomore year, the shock of a seemingly inconsequential, first underage consumption citation had long since worn off. Leaving Trez on a



For a good time call x1204

Friday night in early February, Houston shielded his unopened twelve pack of Natural Light with his body. Houston was written up for underage possession/public display of alcohol by the Matron of Trez. He had not had a drop to drink, he crossed the threshold sober. Strike two.

What happens after a second alcohol offense, ranging from open containers in a common room to glass bottles to drunk and disorderly conduct, or a first DUI, or a first possession of narcotics such as marijuana? Social Probation. Those two words encompass much more than just a slap on the wrist. Social Probation entails the following: a \$100 fine, attendance in an alcohol abuse/dependency program, loss of driving privileges for a calendar year, loss of gownsman status, and the loss of the privilege to participate in Sewanee Varsity Athletics and campus leadership positions including those of a fraternity or student organization.

Last December, nearly a year removed from his second minor alcohol offense, resulting in Social Probation, Houston applied to go abroad this upcoming summer as part of the British Studies Program at Oxford. It was the one thing that he had always wanted to do. He was not accepted for the program. The application committee sent him a letter saying that they had looked at his transcript and were concerned about his disciplinary status, as it showed that he was on Social Probation. He should've brown bagged it.

Houston feels that "the punishments just don't match the crimes." He is not alone. Dean Hartman said that the administration is currently in the process of evaluating and renovating the Social Probation system. Instead of a two step ladder to a plateau of execution, Hartman stated, "We want them to find ways to do something meaningful and not have meaningful things taken away." With this in mind, he mentioned a possibility that has been discussed of allowing first offenses to be expunged with extra community service. He said that they are developing the Social Probation system to be used strategically, given its severity. He went on to say that two minor alcohol offenses may or may not be the use for social probation. "After ten years here, I'm not changing them out of the blue," Hartman said, "What we want is a system that makes sense."

## The Hand that Rocks the Support Cradle

By Louise Burton

A wise man once said, "Do not sell drugs, do not sell your body, and above all else, do not call me asking for money." For the sake of moral protection, this man's name will remain undisclosed. However, his philosophy is among the countless held by the soon-to-get-a-substantial-raise parents of soon-to-be-significantly-struggling graduated seniors.

The official countdown has begun: less than 100 days until the class of 2006 will walk into All Saint's Chapel. The whole class including the that-morning initiated, slow-and-steady

gownsmen, will be in their gowns, all still comfortably cushioned college students. Within approximately one and a half hours they will walk out with 4 complete years of a college education filling their heads (and/or their waistlines), tears dripping, as they can finally step on the Sewanee seal and not have to streak the quad and end up on the police blotter. However, as students embrace each other and their family members who have traveled long distances to share in this great moment, tears are not the only things that are dripping. The once generous hands of parents will energetically turn off the metaphorical faucet of financial support, credit cards and insurance, and all that will be left is a sporadic drip, at best. While this experience will vary for each of us depending on the level of our parent's dwindling sympathy, the sheer anxiety that leads us up to that twisting of the knob, cutting of the cord, flipping of the switch, is right now identically un-special to each of us.

As I have been talking to other seniors around campus this week, I have found that many are expressing similar views on the lifestyle change to come, at least to a certain extent. A common thought has proven to be, "Sure, I'm worried about it, but I mean it's not like our parents are going to just let us

live in a gutter." For most, this may be true. However, I have encountered a few who admitted that their parents are genuinely concerned that they will take up residence in a cardboard box. If this proves to be the case, at least a few of us will save on gas prices, and if the box is biodegradable, we can claim environmental residency as our cause. Similarly, many are anxious about car payments, buying gas, and either paying car insurance, or avoiding a fender bender at all costs. Maybe a bike, a reliably weatherproof jacket, and a 45-minute head start is the way to go.

Several members of the class of 2006 have expressed a desire to simply be able to feed themselves. However, there were no specifications on this feeding. No matter how much we bitch and moan about McClurg, guaranteed it will seem as cool as our parents have always thought it was when they visited once our desired "something to eat" is something unidentifiable in a tin can.

I have heard both sides of the spectrum involving a senior's position in the family line up. Some believe that because they are the oldest children, they will be dealt the most stringent financial freeze-out because their parents will stick to the age-old, cold turkey tradition that they have been anxiously anticipating like small children

wait for Christmas. Others are hoping that because they are the oldest, their parent's financial patience hasn't worn threadbare, and they will be able to rock a few more years out of the support cradle.

The jury is still out on all of these cases, but they are rapidly approaching their verdicts as the countdown continues toward May 14th. The biggest concern among seniors is that they will not be able to afford the type of lifestyle that they are used to, which is a truly understandable anxiety. Therefore, now our last semester of school is a great time to not so much take advantage of, but really appreciate all of the things that we take for granted before the you don't know what you've got till its gone has real meaning for all of us. When I think about the cut-off in this pre-nostalgic way, I find it easier to look past the things that have started to irk me about Sewanee after four years, and I also find it easier to not feel so guilty calling that previously mentioned "wise man" when I need a little bank account help.

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## John Hammond: The Man, The Myth

By Jacob Moore

You see him walking up to you at McClurg, and you freeze up like a squirrel with a laser sight on its forehead. It's *him*. It's John Hammond, perhaps the most powerful student Sewanee has ever seen, and he's walking right towards you. "Excuse me," he says as he reaches past you and retrieves a glass from the rack you've been awkwardly blocking.

"Holy crap! John Hammond knows my name!" you exclaim to your friend as you walk to a table.

"He didn't even say your name," your friend points out, "all he said was 'excuse me'." But it doesn't matter. *The John Hammond* has acknowledged your existence, and your life will never be the same.

You hear his name all the time, he's in virtually every organization worth anything at Sewanee, and he's in charge of most of them. But who is John Hammond? How well do you know your Hammond?

I've compiled a list of vital facts you need to know about John Hammond.

1. John Hammond has two middle names, Joseph and Henry.
2. John Hammond was born in Durham, North Carolina.
3. John Hammond's favorite color is scarlet.
4. John Hammond's father is a librarian at Duke. He also plays the bells there.
5. The art of playing the bells is called campanology, such as in the phrase: John Hammond's father taught him campanology.
6. John Hammond's favorite word is *tintinnabulation*, the ringing sound of bells.
7. John Hammond is a Music and Latin double-major, and a Greek minor.
8. John Hammond has perfect pitch.
9. At the age of 18, John Hammond punched a guy in the face for "being a general asshole."
10. At the age of 17, a girl hit him in a debate over the Cold War and he

responded, "You're perpetuating the cycle of violence!"

11. At the height of his physical prowess, John Hammond could bench press 100 lbs.

12. John Hammond prefers stuffed pets to live ones.

13. John Hammond's favorite Latin poet is Virgil.

14. John Hammond once played the organ during a service in York Minster, one of the largest cathedrals in England.

15. John Hammond uses Garnier Fructis shampoo for reasons unbeknownst to him.

16. John Hammond's favorite ice cream flavor is mint chocolate chip.

17. John Hammond once vomited a large quantity of hot dogs and spiritous liquors on Tyler Echols; they became fast friends.

18. If allowed to say one thing before he dies, John Hammond would quote Pope John Paul II in saying "If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts."

19. Just in case you haven't quite grasped how freaking awesome John Hammond is, behold what is on his resume:

Member of the Board of Trustees; On Strategic Planning Committee; President of the OG and Chairman of Elections Committee; Former Lambda Chi President and current officer of Lambda Chi's alumni relations; President of Catholic Community; President of the University Choir; Benedict Scholar; Carillonneur (bell guy). He has also written four Carillon pieces that have been published. His girlfriend is also very attractive and proficient at knitting.

I think I've made it quite clear that John Hammond deserves nothing less than your admiration and respect. He certainly has mine, and if we can all learn to appreciate John Hammond for the few months that we still have him, Sewanee, nay, the world, will be a better place.

## Sewanee Blizzard

By Jacob Lewin



Streaker footprints litter the snow in front of All Saint's Chapel

This weather is wonderful. Unlike a lot of people I know, I'm a huge fan of cold weather, especially when there's snow. It probably comes from living in middle Georgia for so long. We don't get snow there. And when/if we do, it's a full-fledged, bang-up holiday. Schools are closed at the slightest hint of even a flurry, whether it sticks or not. So you can imagine my delight at the pretty much continuous snowfall that we had this weekend. The blanket of white covering everything throughout campus just oozes tranquility, especially on those lazy weekend afternoons when you don't even want to move out of the indoors. That's the great thing about snow; it gives you a perfectly valid excuse to do nothing productive. You don't *have* to stir out of bed. You certainly *can*, but even when you do, it's for fun, not necessity. I must have walked through Abbo's Alley at least four times in the past week, every time in the snow; I saw Mr. John Bratton and his dog Gander multiple times. I've built snowmen and had snowball fights; better yet, snowball ambushes. Just the act of *throwing* a snowball is fun; you don't even have to hit anything. Sledding

(or boarding) is a good time, too, if you can find something to sit (or stand) on. Think about how exhilarating swings still are: it's the same principle.

Some of the best time is spent just watching the stuff come down like so many shredded feathers. It just floats on the air; kind of a weird thing for it to do when you realize it's water. And it's quiet: not like rain. You can stand outside in the snow, inches piling and rippling up all around you, and not hear a sound.

There's that tranquility again. Just go out and do that, if you ever get the chance. Find someplace quiet, like the dock at Trez or the soccer field, and watch the snow eddy itself down in huge, downy flakes (or in tiny, barely visible ones). It's therapeutic. Walk around in it a little bit too: through central campus is really all you need. It may be cold, but it's also beautiful. All of it: the simultaneous crunch and cushion when you step in it, the way the tops of branches are covered in it but the bottoms are bare, boughs bending under the weight of it all. It all comes down so softly that it can crush everything underneath it without betraying the possibility of such.

## New Purple Staff Hits the Ground Running

By Ned Clinard

The University of the South is known throughout the country, especially the Southeast, for its unique location, distinctive atmosphere, and rigorous academic environment. Faculty and students alike take pride in the close-knit community found here on The Mountain. In addition, Sewanee is home to a rich literary tradition. Since Sewanee is associated with the likes of Andrew Lytle, prominent Southern writer, and publishes *The Sewanee Review*, one of the oldest and most respected publications still in print, it seems appropriate that such a high caliber student newspaper circulates not only among the undergraduates and professors, but also throughout the entire town.

Several years ago, due primarily to lack of interest, motivation, and participation, *The Sewanee Purple* was on the brink of literal and figurative deterioration. Looking through the

archives of issues published in recent years, it is clear that the paper was lacking the consistent direction and effort needed to publish a quality student periodical. However, over the past year and a half, a talented new staff has taken it upon themselves to reverse this state of literary and journalistic atrophy.

In 1955, the infamous Doctor of Gonzo Hunter S. Thompson was arrested for robbery and failed to graduate from Louisville Male High School. Left with no other options, he joined the U.S. Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where his wild antics and insubordinate attitude made it impossible for him to function with the rest of the enlisted men. Realizing his dire situation, he lied about his former experience and landed a position as an editor of *The Command Courier*, the base's publication. Exempt from regular duties, he learned quickly,

transforming the paper from what had been dull, unreadable rubbish, into an entertaining, respectable publication. Just as Thompson restored *The Courier*, former Editor-in-Chief Townsend Zeigler, with the help of committed staff writers and editors, managed to do the same thing.

Over the last year, the quality of the paper has improved dramatically. The stacks of *The Purple* left at the dining hall and throughout the academic buildings disappear quickly. Senior Harrison Wagenseil commented that since his freshman year "the paper has become a lot less grass-roots... there are some new voices and there seems to be more freedom as far as topics go, I mean, you can pick up the paper and read about anything from politics, to school issues, to tongue-in-cheek humor, overall, it's much better." This seems to be the overwhelming sentiment throughout the student body,

save for one anonymous reader who is evidently not a strong enough writer to become part of the staff.

Thus far, the current staff has been just as dutiful, and there are no signs that the paper will fall into another slump. Editor-in-Chief Patrick Byrne, Executive Editor Gloria Hart, and the dedicated Section Editors, Layout Editors, and Staff Writers will be sure to follow the example left by Mr. Zeigler, and in doing so take the first steps of re-establishing the prominence of *The Sewanee Purple*, the student organ of The University of the South.



## Unwritten Code

By Theodore Alexandras

I'm not sure how many of us have been there as often as I, although everyone must have had a first time. The party is roaring, everyone is in fine form, and then, swept about by the tide of humanity, you're pressed, front to back, with a random girl. You may know her; you may not. But she's not a regular of yours, and you're not a complete asshole, so there's no grabbing her and just going with the flow.

That being said, how, precisely, does one request to dance in this day and age? In olden times (perhaps even as far off as



Who can forget those middle school dances?

fifty years ago) one would have simply said "Would you like to dance?" and proceed to carry on a reasonable conversation over the music, having more than enough room to approach the girl from the front. Perhaps as few as twenty years ago one could, at the very least, sidle up purposefully and speak up over the music, perhaps saying "Wanna dance?" or some such thing.

Now...it's hopeless. The music is not quite loud enough to turn your eardrums into mush, and there are so many people involved that you're lucky if you can dictate your general direction of movement, much less actually approach any particular target. If you find yourself near a dance partner, you've got to take what you can get. But how? Does one simply throw an arm around the girl in question and begin to dance? Is there something more involved in attracting attention and gaining permission? It's possible that there are hand gestures, rather like

sign language, or perhaps the entire thing is accomplished through glances and locking eyes. The point remains, however, that many guys these days are clueless as to how to negotiate a dance in the midst of the chaos. If one makes

a mistake, then it is next to impossible to apologize and clear one's name. Sketchball is your given title for the night.

After consulting with some acquaintances and having various ideas banded around, it was pointed out that nowadays many girls know self-defense techniques

if not an outright martial art. Making the wrong move, in a situation where it's impossible to explain oneself, is even more of a problem then. A guy could end up on the floor with multiple compound fractures and a shoe to the privates; if nothing else, it will make getting dances with those who witnessed the event much more difficult. Pickup lines are right out; not only are they difficult to deliver in the cacophony of the music, it's unlikely they will be well-received. The art of the pickup line has fallen by the wayside. One of the more thoughtful suggestions was to carry a puppy, but even though it's a guaranteed chick magnet (impossible for them to resist the innocent cuteness), it will definitely get in the way when you actually try and dance. So it's a quandary. An enigma. A Gordian Knot of modern life. The solution is beyond one man's ability to solve, so I leave it to the reader to introduce what changes he or she may make to dance-floor etiquette.

## Call on Me: All About Techno

By Margaux De Haseth

Remember Spring semester of last year when every speaker on campus seemed to be blaring Eric Prydz's "Call on Me"? If not, welcome to the world of the living and to the slowly growing Sewanee underground techno scene. Walk around several of the frat houses any Friday night, and you'll notice some of these tracks slowly creeping onto the play lists. Still skeptical? Then check out random Facebook profiles, and you'll be guaranteed to find some reference to electronic dance music listed. The student radio station, WUTS 91.3, already offers several shows featuring a selection of electronic dance and techno. Student music director Raisa Johnson feels that "techno always has a certain appeal to college students."

So just what is techno? Techno has been described as having "light, airy, synthesized melodies floating over a driving dance beat; the kind of music that just makes you want to dance." According to techno aficionado Rex Davis, real techno lacks vocals and consists only of a melody fused to a grinding, pounding, gritty bass line designed to throttle the dance floor with noise and mechanical overtones. What would be a catchy guitar riff in the world of classic rock becomes the focal point of the piece, while the melody is a flowing arrangement of whole notes and open chords. Techno has a totally alien and synthesized nature that allows you to appreciate it in any mood. The electronic music you'll hear at a good dance club is truly mind altering and yet manages to adapt to your state of mind as well. If you were to hear the works of Joey Beltram, Juan Atkins or Carl Cox upon entering a dance club at the beginning of the night, chances are that no matter what your mood is, those catchy riffs and driving beats will draw you inexorably to the writhing mass of dancing bodies sure to be filling the dance floor. Two (or four or six) sweaty hours later, the same song will appeal to you again for the relaxing melody that washes over you as you finally take a break to talk or grab a drink.

Techno and other types of electronic music can trace their roots back to 1867 with the invention of the electromechanical piano. However, most avid listeners of techno attribute its beginnings to the underground acid house scene that developed in Chicago, IL and Manchester, UK in the mid 1980s. Since then, countless genres

have splintered off into different groups all divided by the type and speed of the beat, rhythm, and depth of music.

**Acid House** was the original form of techno and is credited as giving birth to all modern electronic music. It was created using analog synthesizer plug-ins and finds its origins in the drug culture of Manchester, UK.

**House** evolved more soulful grooves while preserving a steady beat to lose the acid house sound. It found its roots in Chicago and Detroit and has since grown to become a perennial favorite for party music.

**Techno Rave** came onto the scene in the early 90's. This genre loses the hypnotic smoothness of House and Acid House and replaces it with hard slamming melodies. It is Industrial Electronica at its most hardcore.

**Trance** is the "trippiest" of all the genres and broke out in the mid 90's. Count on the long Trance songs to draw you into their flowing changes of pace, key, and mood, then claim your body to dance out the music's energy.

**Break-Beat** is a slightly less user-friendly version of Trance and includes sub-genres such as Drum and Bass and Jungle music. Chaotic rhythms and tribal sounds lead this genre back in the direction of hip-hop.

**GOA/Psychedelic Trance** is considered to be the best preservation of the chaotic, psychedelic and drug influenced origins of electronic music. It incorporates Arabian and Indian rhythms and melodies into Trance with a hard acid bass line. It is chaotic and intense with a killer fast pace of over to 140 beats per minute.

**Dutch Super-Trance** is the main branch of Trance today. Some view this as "Cheesy anthem Trance" while others just can't get enough.

If you're still skeptical about techno music, Rex Davis would encourage you to give it another try. According to him, "Electronic music is some of the most diverse in the world... if you're working on a computer or using an analog sound oscillation device/synthesizer plug-in you can create any sound imaginable to the human mind." Surely among all the different variations of electronic dance everyone can find something appealing to them. When questioned about his opinion of techno music, junior Carter Batey responded: "Actually, I do like techno; stirring base lines rouse my emotions to pits of ecstasy."

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