

THE SEWANEE PURPLE

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Order of Gownsmen Considers Internal Changes

The Sewanee Purple
News Staff

In an effort to boost the effectiveness and reputation of the Order of Gownsmen, last semester the organization proposed a series of reforms, including changing the title to Order of the Gown and instituting a mandatory attendance policy.

The most visible and controversial is the name change. "It's something that a lot of people have been talking about," said Tilghman Broaddus, president of the Order of Gownsmen. "Because there are students who feel that the title is outdated, and that it excludes women, we need to address the situation. We have talked about this in several meetings this year, and it is a serious concern. Hopefully we will come to a decision on this issue by the last OG meeting."

A student-faculty dialogue is being organized, and Broaddus plans to address the issue in the next OG meeting, March 4. A vote on whether or not to retain the current name will occur during the final OG meeting of the semester, April 1. "There's been a lot of debate on the issue," said Broaddus, "and much of it just goes around in circles. The important issues and primary concerns of the students need to be brought forth."

Reasons for changing and keeping the organization's title vary, as students try to defend and define the importance of a word. "When you use tradition to defend an outdated cause like sexism, you desecrate it. And that's the last

thing I want to see in Sewanee," commented senior Ross Reynolds. Many students, like Reynolds, feel that changing the organization's title is not a break from tradition, but a way for tradition to come to terms with the evolution of the language. Reynolds also believes that "it won't take long for students to feel comfortable using the word Gown in

place of Gownsmen."

Other students, however, see the name change as nothing more than a way of following a national movement that comes and goes out of fashion. "We need to stick to the name that's been used for so long," said junior Spencer Palmer. "Do we want to be the students remembered as having changed the name sim-

ply because other people are doing it elsewhere?"

Beyond the name change possibility that has fueled controversy throughout the year, a proposed mandatory attendance policy at all OG meetings has drawn much criticism from students. "Last year there were some meetings in which only about twenty-five students

student's membership if he or she missed more than one meeting each semester without an excuse. The OG nevertheless formed an attendance policy committee that investigated the proposal. They concluded that there were larger issues that needed to be addressed within the organization, including a better understanding among the student body of the role of the OG.

"The whole attendance policy idea forced us to realize that the role of the OG at Sewanee is not very tangible," said Broaddus. "We established a core committee to look into the organization's purpose. These students addressed the attendance policy, the name change, and the role of the OG in a broad sense. ... The name change has been most talked about, but there are larger issues at hand as well."

Senior Tammy Haston was appointed to head the core committee. "We are considering proposals that would make the organization more efficient," she said. "We want to give the OG a specific agenda that will involve it more with student government and with the academic life. ... Right now the role of the OG is too vague." Haston cited the need for a more "parliamentary procedure" at the meetings that will make them more efficient. The core committee is drafting proposals on the attendance policy, the name change, and the specific role of the OG that will be presented during the March 4 meeting.



OG member studying on the Quad. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

place of Gownsmen."

showed up," Broaddus remarks. "When there are over three hundred people in an organization, and less than thirty of the members show up, not much can be accomplished. We felt that proposing the mandatory attendance policy might improve the situation."

Students offered mixed feelings about a policy that would revoke a

Conference on Women Brings Distinguished Guests



Pictured from left to right: Sarah Weddington, who represented the plaintiff in Roe v. Wade (see article on page 5); author Ellen Douglas; artist Kathleen

Collins; Nashville television news anchor Demetria Kalodimos. The conference was held from February 7 through 10. Photos courtesy of Charley Watkins.

NEWS

University to Fill Revised Student Activities Position

by Jamey Collins
News Staff

The University recently began a search to fill the newly revamped position of assistant director of student affairs for activities and organizations. Under a revised organization of the office of the deans of students, Dean Mary Sue Cushman and Associate Dean Robert Pearigen each will have three primary assistants associated with a specific area of Sewanee life.

The director of residential life, Reese Johnston, the director of the outgoing program, Freddie Devall, and the now vacant position of director of student affairs for activities and organizations make up Pearigen's advisory group.

Two major changes were made to the job description for the vacant posi-

tion. The first stresses direct involvement with fraternities and sororities.

Pearigen comments that the intent of the job description change is "to supplement but not supplant the significance of fraternities and sororities by creating more collaboration between University programs such as the BC Program Board and Greek organizations."

The second major change frees the director from supervising and maintaining the Bishop's Common and the SPO, thus allowing the director to focus his or her duties on issues that directly involve student organizations and their activities.

According to Pearigen, the motivation behind the reorganization of the director's duties to cater specifically to the activities of student organizations is "to create and foster relations between

the [Director] and the undergraduates by affording more time for daily and continual interaction between the director and the students."

This increased contact will help the director to understand exactly what the administration needs to do to help organizations such as the BC Program Board to operate more effectively, according to Pearigen.

The University advertised the opening nationally on February 3, and a "flood" of applications for the two to five year position has already been received. Among the traits required are "well-developed leadership and communication skills and an interest in and credibility with undergraduate students in a selective liberal arts setting."

The University also hopes to find someone with a master's degree and

previous experience with fraternities and sororities at another liberal arts institution.

Until the position is filled, the director's duties have been divided among administration and faculty. Pearigen has assumed the brunt of the excess work, most notably those duties involving the Student Activities Fee Budget and BACCHUS.

Barbara Banks has become the full-time manager of the Bishop's Common and its facilities. Devall has assumed responsibility for the operation of Lake Cheston and its facilities. David Cushman currently oversees the director's interests at the Sewanee Union Theater.

Cassidy to Lead Frats

by Alex Stirling
News Staff

On January 20, Will Cassidy was elected to succeed Reese Tisdale as the convener of the Inner Fraternity Council. Cassidy, a junior from Marks, Mississippi, is a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity.

When asked about his new position, Cassidy explained that the IFC convener works to "maintain order within the fraternity system and to live up to the ideals of the school and community."

Of the 1993 Easter semester rush, his first as IFC convener, Cassidy said, "Things went fine. There were a few glitches, and I'll be looking to make a few improvements next year. But on the whole, it went well."

Cassidy also outlined several events planned for second semester pledges. On February 24, BACCHUS will lead a program on alcohol awareness for all second semester fraternity pledges and sorority pledges. The fraternity pledges will complete the IFC's first work project of the year at Lake Cheston.

Plans also are already being made for more fraternity involvement with other school organizations, according to Cassidy. One event might include a lecture series co-sponsored by the IFC and the BC Board. Other activities are still being discussed.

All Saints' Focuses on World Hunger

Who hasn't seen the pictures of desperately starving Somali children this past year? Who hasn't also experienced the deep desire simply to turn away? The facts outlining the problems of world hunger are devastating:

More people have died of hunger in the past 5 years than have been killed in all wars, revolutions and murders in the past 150 years.

Every year almost 13 million people die as a result of hunger and hunger related diseases — the equivalent of all the children under 5 in the U.S.

It's hard not to turn away, to turn off the television, to turn the page. But these facts have faces, and the face of human suffering is an awful reality. It is so hard to bear. Yet, still, many — maybe most of us wonder: What can I do? How can I help?

It begins quite simply. It begins with awareness. It begins by not turning away. All Saint's Chapel, both the IFC and the ISC, the Student Assembly, and the Community Service Council would like to invite the community to participate in a series of events taking place beginning in late February and continuing through early April. These events are provided to explore some of the issues of hunger, and to investigate responses that persons may feel drawn to make.

On Wednesday, February the 24th at 6:00pm, a Global Hunger Meal will be held at the Bishop's Common. At this meal, three separate menus will be prepared: a First World Meal, a Second

World Meal, and a Third World Meal. Each of these meals will be designed to represent the type of meal one might expect to eat in each of these three settings. The cost of this meal is \$4.75.

The second event consists of a series of simple meals held on Wednesdays in March and April. These meals will be served at the Bishop's Common on March 3, 24, 31, and on April 7. These meals will consist of a simple menu of soup, bread, a refreshment, and some fruit. Programs (speakers, films) of some 20 to 30 minutes will be presented following each meal. The focus of these simple meals will be exploring a simpler life-styles as a means of beginning to participate in issues of world hunger. These simple meals will be served at 5:30pm. The cost will be \$4.75.

A display of various hunger agencies and programs will be set up at

the rear of all Saints' Chapel beginning February 24th. This display will include information from organizations such as World Vision, the Mennonite Central Committee, Bread for the World, and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. The organizations on display will provide a sampling of the assortment of responses one can make to issues of hunger.

All Saints' Chapel will also provide "bread baskets." These replicas of small loaves of bread are to be used for keeping a personal monetary collection throughout the Lenten season. Proceeds from both the 'bread baskets' and the weekly simple meals will go to World Vision's world hunger relief project and the Soup Kitchen in Winchester. For further information, please call the Chaplain's Office of All Saints' Chapel, 598-9115. (Press release courtesy of All Saints' Chapel)

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Friends of Abbo's Alley to Restore Garden

by Jennifer Hamilton
News Staff

After ten years of relative inactivity, the Friends of Abbo's Alley are reviving their efforts to restore the parkland that runs parallel to University Avenue from the gymnasium to Texas Avenue and behind Thompson Union.

"We are trying to restore the alley. We are clearing to let the sunlight in and trying to get natural shrubs like azalea and mountain laurel to grow. We are trying to clear the streams of debris, and we are planting shrubs which are given to us by friends who make cash donations," said Joseph Cushman, coordinator of the work and a retired professor of history.

He explained, "We started it (the effort to restore the alley) again because we were afraid it was so run-down there would be nothing left of the shrubs and trees that had been planted years ago."

According to Cushman, the last time anyone significantly tried to improve the alley was approximately 10 years ago under Albert Gooch, who was then director of admissions for the University.

The recent construction to the gym has interfered with some of the restoration efforts. "The gym was a slight problem because the silt from the construction got into the stream but the contractors have dammed it (the stream) so it's not flowing into it anymore. Once the problem was called to their attention, the contractors were very cooperative,"

said Cushman.

He added that the part of the alley near the gym will have to be reworked and the area replanted and some of the memorials, specifically that of former

worthwhile. People can walk down there now. Before the paths were grown over. The flowers were dying. It's starting to look better and better, and when spring comes we will plant more flowers."



Joe Cushman with Abbo's Alley helpers Mark Brooks and Brent Sisco. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson

University coach Gordon Clark, will be replaced when the gym is finished. The area was in fair shape before the construction, according to Cushman.

Freshman Roy Case, one of the student workers, said of the project, "It's

Another student worker, freshman Mark Brooks, agreed, "I think a lot more people will use it now that we've cleaned it up."

Abbot Martin, a former professor of English at the University, began the

alley garden in the 1940's. Cushman recalled, "This (the alley garden) was his hobby, his love, and his passion."

Cushman said Martin often had University students help him with the work. Today Cushman is also overseeing student workers in the revitalization effort. "He worked with many students out here including me. Now it's like apostolic succession," chuckled Cushman.

The area was mostly wilderness before Martin, according to Cushman. He said Martin made the Alley a unique area of campus. "This (the alley) is accessible. It has shrubs and unique plant life. It is a microcosm of the forests on the Domain," added Cushman.

On the origin of the Friends of Abbo's Abbey, Cushman said, "People just gave money to Abbo and when he was unable to carry out the project, those who wanted to see the project continue set up the Friends of Abbo's Alley. They have been active sporadically ever since."

"When the needs of the Alley project are presented, the friends are very generous," said Cushman. Alumnus Roger Beasley is the current president of the society, while alumnus Steven Anderson is the current secretary/treasurer. Professors Stephen Puckette and John Willis are also assisting Cushman in coordinating the restoration effort.

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5:00 pm	Folk Mass

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NEWS

African Affairs Scholar Speaks on Global Apartheid

by Parker Wheatley
News Staff

Ali Mazrui, director of Global Cultural Studies at the State University of New York at Binghamton, spoke at Convocation Hall on February 11. Lecturing from an Africanist tradition, Mazrui offered a comprehensive, provocative lecture on the rise of global apartheid since the end of the Cold War.

Mazrui presented a paradigm of the world power structure, with major themes of race, religion, and gender. He also suggested how non-Western nations might provide an alternative to the current world order.

Members of the Caucasian World (defined by Mazrui as the first and second worlds) have begun to close ranks and support one another, according to Mazrui. As a result, these nations now

must deal with micro-schisms, such as the conflicts between Serbs and Croats and Russians and Ukrainians.

Mazrui expressed concern for the future of Africa. As he discussed Africans and the diaspora of blacks, Mazrui claimed that greater competition from countries such as India, Vietnam, and those of the former Warsaw Pact lead to the "marginalization" of the African states.

Mazrui also noted the prevalence of a post-Cold War hierarchy in which race and ethnicity dictate economic status. He cast whites at the top the pyramid, with Asians at the middle, and blacks at the bottom.

Religion also plays a role in race relations, according to Mazrui. He claimed that "the Islamic countries suffer as the military victims of global apartheid, while blacks suffer as the

economic victims." He further argued that racism exists in a "return of Kipling's White Man's Burden" in places like Somalia.

Mazrui also gave examples of overt racism. He questioned, for example, why in the United States "more blacks are in prison than whites and why blacks are less educated as a group than other sectors of the populace."

In addition to these domestic issues, Mazrui also challenged American foreign policy. He believes that the strategic location and mineral richness of the Middle East support military discrimination against Iraq, Libya, Iran, and Lebanon.

Mazrui singled out "Islamaphobia" as the reason for unfair military behavior in these countries. And because of the American military activity that region, he questioned the efficacy of the United

States as the leader of the new world order.

Mazrui discussed gender roles in non-Western societies and the short memory of hate in African culture. In this largely anecdotal part of his presentation, he considered egalitarian gender relations in parts of Africa and characterized them as a positive attribute of African culture.

He encouraged non-Western nations to look to their historical and cultural roots, and not the current Western leaders of an inequitable system, to provide more just solutions to world problems. Finally, he proposed that historical African culture would serve well in the foundations of another new world order.

University Announces Summer School Schedule

The Sewanee Summer School for 1993 will begin on Sunday, June 6, and conclude on Sunday, July 18. A careful selection of key courses will be available to students who choose to take advantage of the comfortable temperatures and pleasant atmosphere which prevail on the Mountain in June and July.

Female students will reside in Tuckaway Hall and male students in Gorgas Hall during the summer session. On Monday, April 19, students who have completed a summer school application will indicate their room choice for the summer session in the office of the Dean of the college. The order in which completed applications are received determines the order in which room choice will be made.

Catalogues containing a summer school application and course list are available in the office of the Dean of the College. Any inquiries about the Sewanee Summer School may be directed to Professor John V. Reishman, #2 Guerry Hall, (615) 598-1330.

The following courses will be offered in the 1993 summer session:

Anthropology 104. Introductory Cultural Anthropology. Kifleyesus.
Classical Studies 101. Classical Mythology. W. Bonds.
English 101. Literature and Composition. Reishman.
English 241. American Literature I (Tutorial). Carlson.
English 323. Literature of the American South. Carlson.
English 341. The American Novel (Tutorial). Carlson.

Fine Arts 104. Survey of Western Art II. A. Smith.

Fine Arts 151. Beginning Drawing. Carlos.

Fine Arts 243. Intermediate Video/Film Production (Tutorial). Carlos.

Fine Arts 251. Intermediate Drawing (Tutorial). Carlos.

Fine Arts 291. Intermediate Painting (Tutorial). Carlos.

Fine Arts 343. Advanced Video/Film Production (Tutorial). Carlos.

Fine Arts 351. Advanced Drawing (Tutorial). Carlos.

Fine Arts 391. Advanced Painting (Tutorial). Carlos.

French 301. Introduction to French Literature. Rung.

French 203. Intermediate French; Intensive Course (Tutorial). Rung.

History 100. Topics in Western Civilization. Flynn.

History 202. History of the United States. Willis.

History 330. Civil War and Reconstruction (Tutorial). Willis.

Mathematics 103. Calculus: A Writing Course. Cross.

Mathematics 104. Finite Mathematics. F. Croom.

Philosophy 222. Contemporary Moral Issues. Peters.

Physics 250. Introductory Astronomy I. Durig.

Political Science 102. Comparative Politics. Dunn.

Religion 131. Religion in the Modern World. Clayton.

Religion 391. Southern Religion. G. Smith.

Spanish 203. Intermediate Spanish; Intensive Course. M. Bonds.

Theatre 101. Introduction to Theatre. P. Smith.

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Weddington Examines Leadership at Conference

by Annie Reinert
News Staff

Sarah Weddington's presentation during the Sewanee Conference on Women, February 9, discussed leadership and how we cultivate it.

Weddington, a lecturer of history and government at the University of Texas and Texas Women's University, is perhaps best known for her success in the 1973 Roe v. Wade case, which upheld a woman's right to abort or carry to full term a pregnancy. Weddington's book, *A Question of Choice*, is a personal account of the famous case. After her courtroom debut, Weddington served as general counsel for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, assistant for women's affairs for President Jimmy Carter, top lobbyist for the State of Texas, and director of the Office of State and Federal Relations in Washington.

In a speech loaded with anecdotes on her personal experiences, Weddington discussed the topic of her upcoming book, *Some Leaders Are Born Women*. She said she never anticipated the accomplishments she has made during her career: "If you had asked me when I was a senior in high school what I would be doing now, I would've said I was going to teach seventh and eighth grade. You cannot guess the things you can do and will do."

Weddington said she never envisioned herself appearing before Supreme

Court justices. "When I started the case, it wasn't a Supreme Court case, but just trying to research the law. Later, I knew the decision would be very important and would influence the law for years to come."

The imposing sight of the Court chamber and the judges' entrance "was awesome" for Weddington. "We presented the case, and thirty minutes later we left the courtroom and had no idea what the verdict would be."

Though Weddington has distinguished herself in the fields of law, education, and politics, she noted the general lack of women in top positions, and provided suggestions as to how women can expand their roles as leaders.

"When I say 'leader' I mean it in the broadest spectrum. There are leaders in the home and classroom, athletic leaders, leaders in work situations, civic groups, fraternities, and in terms of attitudes. These are not just titles, but rather they indicate the ability of individuals to influence others and influence what happens. We are part of an evolution, an understanding of what women are capable of doing."

Weddington's speech was geared towards women's leadership, but she acknowledged that such a topic also pertained to men. "Women have been my focus, but I recognized that this affects changing attitudes for men as well."

She discussed different types of

leaders, including those with official titles, as opposed to informal leaders. In addition, transforming leaders change the ideas of others, while transactional leaders work to keep momentum and complete tasks.

To assume positions of leadership successfully, Weddington said one must practice. She cited her former positions as president of the Future Homemakers of America and drum majorette as useful practice for later leadership positions.

"The title wasn't so important; it was the fact that I was practicing leadership that was. Studies have shown that those who are leaders in the civic community and in business were leaders in college. The time for you to practice leadership is now.

"Look for your options. Your education, knowing people, and doing things as a leader will give you options you would not have had otherwise."

By investigating options and "course-correcting," or changing directions and maintaining flexibility, one can find success. "Think of yourself as a missile, which can course-correct based on what it runs into. Just because you said you are going in one direction doesn't mean you can't course-correct."

Weddington also considered the diversity of American society and the plusses and minuses of assuming leadership positions. "There are costs in anything you undertake; I have paid the

price for being a lawyer in Roe v. Wade, but there are so many more plusses."

Leadership roles are a vehicle by which people can affect the issues they consider important, she said. "Because of things that happen to us and our families, there are issues for which we develop a real passion and which we want to influence. Leadership is a way to do that. I have done things not knowing that I would do them, but because I tried and I cared. I hope that we will all find the issues and care."

Junior Laura Bucher, coordinator of the Conference on Women, arranged to have Weddington come to Sewanee. "For Sewanee, it was a big deal to bring Sarah here. I hope that since we were able to get her here and have it turn out successfully, we'll be able to obtain other nationally recognized women in the future.

The annual Conference on Women, entitled "Options, Choices, and Opportunities," featured author Ellen Douglas, news anchor Demetria Kalodimos, artist Kathleen Collins, and a panel of women speakers (Jeanne Ward, Alex Wilson Albright, Rees Johnston, and Mary Henry) in addition to Weddington, February 7-10. Next year, the Conference on Women will celebrate 25 years of having women students at Sewanee, Bucher said.

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OPINION

Are We the Victims of Fashion?

A few years ago, college campuses across the country united against our patriarchal past, urging us to adhere to a new set of gender-neutral rules. They told us that using "he" to imply "he or she" or keeping "man" in words like chairman or freshman obscures the language and continues to oppress women. As these faraway institutions waged war against sexist pronouns, we Sewanee students remained reticent, wary of becoming the victims of fashion. As feminists decided that women were "womyn" and "herstory" should replace history, most of us snickered and wondered when the absurdity would end.

Unfortunately, however, a group of students is lobbying to change the Order of Gownsmen's name to the Order of the Gown, because the suffix "man" apparently creates a negative, gender-biased connotation. Today we should agree that women deserve, just as much as men, to get a college education, have a career, serve as chairman of the board, or be a member of the Order of Gownsmen. So, the gender neutral supporters ask us, why do we continue to use the suffix "man" when we speak of both sexes?

There is nothing sexually exclusive about using "man" in Gownsmen, and those who disagree simply need a brief history on the origins and development of the suffix in our language. The English language adopted "man" from the German word for "one." It first made its way into our language when Germanic tribes began invading Britain during the 5th century AD. They eventually subjugated the Celtic-speaking natives of Britain, making a strong impact on the country and infusing the language with their dialect. The word "man" passed from the Germans to Middle English and, 1500 years later, remains a part of both English and German. Ever since these tribes wandered into Britain and began to dominate the language as well as the country, the English speaking suffix "man" has meant "one." And today, when used in words like Gownsmen, freshman, or human, "man" remains gender neutral.

Those who consider the word Gownsmen sexually biased lack a fundamental understanding of its origin. The resistance to changing the OG's title is not born from a fear of losing prestige or of slandering our cherished Southern heritage, but instead from respect for the language.

All languages evolve, but it is not the right of a gender-neutral supporting minority to dictate such changes. Because fashions come and go, something as tenuous as clinical psychology and its tests cannot be applied to the natural development of the way we communicate.

Even at Sewanee, change, when necessary, occurs. Until recently our Sewanee diplomas, written in Latin, appeared with masculine endings for both men and women. Today women receive a revised diploma written with feminine endings. Similarly, the Office of Alumni Relations, using the proper feminine endings, now refers to a woman graduate as an alumna, or in the plural form alumnae. In these cases, because the gender of the language excluded women, the necessary changes were made. But in the case of the word Gownsmen, dropping the suffix "man" is nothing more than Sewanee's flaccid attempt at following a national fad.

Sadly, though, I often believe that women at Sewanee are treated unfairly. If Sewanee in 1993 still makes women feel unequal and often excluded, there are other more effective means of elevating their status. Why are women students here still so often referred to as girls? Why can't the energy invested in changing the OG's title be applied to pressuring the University to hire more women professors or to focus the curriculum more on women's studies? Why can't something as well-planned as this year's Conference on Women attract more men, thus proving there is equality among the sexes at Sewanee? If we continue to bicker amongst ourselves, improvement will never occur.

David Adams

Order of the Gown: Keeping Sewanee's Tradition Alive

In 1969, Sewanee admitted women. Now, twenty-four years later, it is time to admit they are here. Women have been members of the Order of Gownsmen since their arrival on the Mountain, but one would never know from the name of the organization. Currently, there is no name for the Order in the organization's constitution. The official name should be annexed to the constitution as the Order of the Gown. Names for individuals of the organization- OG member, member of the Order -would be dictated by common usage as they have always been.

That women are Gownsmen is *not* implicit or "understood" in the present name of the Order; the title is exclusive and ambiguous. Male terminology is not gender-neutral. Psychological studies have shown with overwhelming consistency that readers of both sexes assume that male pronouns imply a male entity (J. Hyde, 1984). When prospective employers read "Order of Gownsmen" on Sewanee students' resumes, they assume it to be a fraternal order or some kind of mens' club; they form a mental picture of an all-male organization. Surely no one need be reminded that this picture is erroneous and that the Order does indeed include women.

Gender-inclusive language whenever possible is considered correct English. The MLA handbook, the authority on form that is used by virtually all the professors at the University, states:

The careful writer avoids statements that reflect or imply unsubstantiated generalizations about a person's age, economic class, national origin, sexual orientation, political or religious beliefs, race or sex. ...Careful writers also avoid designating sex with suffixes like -man and -ess and substitute nonsexist terms. (p. 34)

While gender-inclusive language can become awkward if adhered to rigidly, it should be used whenever it is possible without disrupting the flow of everyday language. It is not politically correct, it is grammatically correct. With regard to the case at hand, changing the name of the OG to the Order of the Gown does not in any way alter the organization itself, nor is

the new name awkward or ugly. It is still an honor society, a symbol of and reward for academic excellence. The new name is simply more appropriate.

Sewanee is built on a strong foundation of tradition which its students do not wish to undermine. While many respected universities are experiencing a period of confusion and change, Sewanee students can feel confident that this University will not join them in following every shallow trend and changing every "he" in the Western canon to "it." But there is room for progress, even here, and the proposed name change is simply a positive step. It is not a militant challenge to the status quo; it is a gesture of respect to half of the student population. Respect for its students is strongly ingrained in Sewanee tradition. Surely upholding the tradition of respect is more important than calling the OG "the Order of Gownsmen" just because that is what it's always been called.

When it was a men's college, Sewanee was known for its fine tradition of celebrating academic achievement. Men who excelled academically were honored to become a member of the Order of Gownsmen. Now Sewanee is a coeducational college, still known for its fine tradition of celebrating academic achievement, and men and women are honored to become members of the Order. But women should be members in theory as well as in practice. OG members who vote on this issue need to respect the Order and all its members, and change the name to the Order of the Gown.

Paige Parvin
Ross Reynolds
Ward Binns
Elena Soto
Cameron Tyer

Letters to the Editor

Reagan Era Denounced

To the Editor:

I had at first intended to construct a witty, biting, and sarcastic reply to the "Opinion" column of Mr. Eric Heil in your last issue. I love bantering about politics as much as anyone, but this feature did not leave me lighthearted enough to banter. It left me bitter and sad.

I am not deluded by anti-1980's culture, Mr. Heil. When I was in fourth grade I wanted Mr. Reagan in office, too. You would have been in Kindergarten or first grade then, I believe. I remember the Carter years. I remember the Oil Crisis, high inflation, peanut jokes. Times were bad then, Mr. Heil. A fool would say differently. But I have seen the men in the parking lot of the Wal-Mart in Winchester holding the signs saying "I will work for food", and I have put my shoulder to the wheel replacing roofs and porches on houses of such poor quality they should have never been built. For the very complacent, decent, hardworking majority in this country, Mr. Heil, the '80's did not bring prosperity. Do not be a fool and say differently. If you shared in the glory you speak of so laudably, be humble. Realize it was tasted by only a very few of your brethren.

I do not wish to "save Reagan from all credit" of any good that came from his administration, either directly or in-

directly. The Berlin Wall fell. American products became competitive again in the world market. Lower taxes for the rich did indeed make some men richer. Vast monies spent on armaments and defense made prosperous several already lucrative industries. That's fine. What truly concerns me is what Reagan will not take credit for: His involvement in the Iran-Contra affair; what he knew about the bombing in La Penca, El Salvador; and the de-stabilization of governments across the globe. These are the same governments which even now, Mr. Heil, we are risking American lives to restabilize.

Which is more "kooky", and which less moral: Homosexuality or 65 cents of every tax dollar spent on the eventual destruction of human life? Which takes more courage: Standing up for what you believe and who you are (especially against the strength and power of a homophobic society), or pandering "to a vocal, boisterous" majority of conservatives on this campus (from whom you knew you'd get no criticism—no matter how venomous, ill-thought, or insulting your words)?

Until you determine for yourself, and show through your actions, the answers to these questions, Mr. Heil, sit down and shut up.

Very Sincerely,
David Dault

Second-hand Smoke Offensive

To the Editor:

Last month the Surgeon General issued a new warning regarding the health hazards of cigarette smoking. It is the first formal warning issued that links second-hand smoke directly to heart disease and lung cancer.

Many people in the United States have now embraced a new health consciousness staying free from smoking and alcohol abuse. However, the trend has not hit Sewanee. Surprisingly, many students and faculty members still smoke and drink heavily.

The problem with smoking that is separate from drinking is that those who choose not to do so are forced to inhale smoke from others who smoke around them. Not only is this inconsiderate on the part of smokers, but understandably, according to the Surgeon General, it prevents a health risk to those wishing not to smoke. For these reasons smokers should not have rights to smoke around people who choose to remain "smoke-free."

The University's "policy" which states that there should be no smoking in common areas of dormitories, halls, dining areas, or public places in any university building is not enforced. It is

a very noticeable observation that people still smoke in hallways, commons rooms, both dining areas, and almost anywhere whenever they decide they would like to smoke.

This "policy" should be enforced as a rule. Local lawmakers as well as owners and staff of businesses open to the public are finding a reason to create smoking and non-smoking sections, or to prohibit smoking altogether in public places. One reason for this may be the concern for liability. With the new formal Surgeon General's Warning, non-smokers with health problems attributable to second-hand smoke can and should have the right to file a suit against any business whose owners do not enforce non-smoking rules in public areas.

The University of the South is not exempt. The new warning presents a serious liability to the University of which the officials should be well-aware. If rules are not created and enforced to protect the non-smoker, the University is liable if any non-smoking member of the University has health problems which may be attributable to second-hand smoke.

David Howard

Women's Conference
Thanks Community

The 1993 Sewanee Conference on Women Thanks You!

On behalf of the 1993 Organizing Committee, I would like to thank all of you who helped to make this year's Sewanee Conference on Women such a success. We hope that you enjoyed all the events, and we are very eager to hear your suggestions for next year.

Sincerely,
Laura Jeanne Bucher
SCOW Coordinator

Special Thanks To:

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Art Forum
Bainwick Women's Center
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Black Student Union
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Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be mailed directly to the Purple. All letters must be signed by the author; no unsigned letters will be printed. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for reasons of length or if letters contain material deemed to be potentially libelous or in excessively poor taste.

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

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

OPINION

Ignorance, Intolerance Fuel Flag Controversy

Bumpersticker-style arguments for the display of the Confederate flag — such as “Fly It: It’s Heritage, Not Hate!” — are a delusion. And such a mistaken belief deserves illumination, especially in the current flap over the Georgia state flag.

In 1956, following several federal court desegregation rulings, defiant Georgia state lawmakers adopted the current flag redesign, incorporating the Confederate battle emblem. Directed against the burgeoning civil rights movement and the influential federal courts, their action left a divisive legacy.

With such a loathsome, hysterical birth, then, how could this redesign have been anything but hateful? *This* is not a proud, majestic heritage. And for such a vestige of enmity to endure is grievous.

The continued display of the Confederate flag also plagues Alabama. Traditionally, in the Cradle of the Confederacy, three flags have flown atop the Capitol, including the stars and stripes of the United States, the St. Andrew’s cross-inspired flag of the state of Alabama, and



The Confederate battle flag: a symbol of heritage or hate? Photo courtesy of University Archives.

the battle flag (not the stars and bars) of the Confederate States of America.

But after a recent remodeling of the state house in Montgomery, law-

makers disagreed about which flags should be raised over the renovated and soon-to-be rededicated Capitol.

Their compromise — tacitly sup-

ported by an allegedly income tax-evading governor — was that, if all three flags could not fly, no flag would.

So, the flag pole above the Capitol remained naked.

If the Confederate flag is ever displayed, the location must be chosen with more care, more sensitivity. Otherwise, contrary to a popular sentiment, it *will* represent prejudice, not pride.

Fly the Confederate battle flag, then, over Beauvoir plantation and at other historic sites — not over the state house and at high school football games.

Jefferson Davis’s words are ironically relevant today, “The past is dead; let it bury its dead, its hopes, and its aspirations; before you lies the future — a future full of golden promise, a future of expanding national glory, before which all the world shall stand amazed.”

Mark Smith

Finding the Press “Factually Challenged”

Political correctness grew tiresome. The term itself, even abbreviated PC, just became too regular. *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Worker’s Weekly*, and many other “popular” rags had much to say about this phenomena for a while. They cited, even satirically, the extremes of PC’s “inclusive” language, noting amusing terms such as “personhole” replacing manhole, “vertically challenged” for short people, and the downright clever “terminally challenged” for the dead.

The real story behind PC was the weird language, conduct codes at universities, and other high profile elements. These are, and still remain to a recognizable extent, reprehensible infringements on free speech and traditional America. The real concern, however, should always have been the more subtle cultural currents directed by the media, academia, and other respected sources.

In recent years, their influence ranged from contributions to the emergence of attitudes condemning white males as the principle source of evil throughout history, to suggestions, even by our Vice President, that environmen-

tal issues are the GREATEST problem our nation ever faced. (The subsequent election of this man and his boss, however, have redefined our GREATEST problem.)

The credence with which these perceptions have been greeted seems largely based in their apparent basis in facts and academic study. Even the most cursory research, however, quickly demonstrates the falsity of many popular claims, or at the very least, that many issues are still largely undecided or demanding considerable further inquiry.

Very often, then, what creeps into popular culture and usage is not the fact it appears to be, but rather opinion, persuasively packaged with supporting evidence. Global warming, AIDS, and even the record of President Reagan are just a few of the areas in which opinions of an elite few have come to dominate popular perceptions.

The few with influence over the media, for instance, push an agenda the public does not know about. For example, the gay lobby seems to have convinced PBS that the HIV virus has not always

been a precursor to AIDS.

The joy of a free press allows, and should continue to allow such theories. Of absolute necessity, however, is the differentiation of news from the often one-sided opinions which pervade the liberal press.

The press is a very convenient, but not inappropriate, scapegoat for the proliferation of misinformation in popular culture. Other, less expected, sources can also play a role.

Sewanee’s own Gownsmen waste time trying to come up with a more inclusive title, in a reflection of the perception that correctness is more important than tradition.

Few eyebrows were raised as Founder’s Day speaker John Hope Franklin denounced Columbus and other explorers as strictly exploitative, or even when he demanded compensation of U.S. blacks for slavery in their ancestry. Textbooks represent another, one too enormous to consider here.

While the recognition of PC has trailed off, with the term itself delegated to cliché status, undercurrents which

preceded it have also outlived it and show no signs of retreat. The current administration has naturally embraced these trends, or perhaps Boy Clinton merely selected an affirmative action cabinet by coincidence. BEWARE.

Eric Heil

*Schott Gets the Shaft***Baseball's Bigot or Victim of Hearsay**

by Trey Suddarth

Things that happen in real life and real time are always funnier than any fiction or pre-conceived stand-up pitch. That's because these things are so hilarious that they had to be true; no one could even think of making them up.

One such true to life caricature is Ms. Marge Schott, principal owner of the Cincinnati Reds. This woman has to be real; no impressionist or puppeteer could possibly replicate her unique and frankly comedic persona.

If all the world's indeed a stage, then Marge Schott was born to play the role of the classic tomboy. With her dazzling array of wide-collared red shirts, red polyester pants, and red V-neck sweaters, she always looks as if she has just arrived from that sanctified Midwestern tradition of bowling night. With a lit Marlboro clinging to its customary spot on her lower lip, Schott creates the picturesque image of the perfect female counterpart to Rodney Dangerfield's rich but gaudy character from the cult classic *Caddyshack*.

She was the little girl in the neighborhood who loved to play stickball with the guys in the street:

and when she grew up, Schott was lucky enough to parlay her dreams into owning her own major league baseball team, the Cincinnati Reds (or at least six-elevenths of it, anyway).

Not that the Reds organization was ever a bastion for free spirits: they were the last team to shed those dreadful plain black cleats, they have continued to wear stretchy softball style uniforms ten years past their heyday, and still retain a policy of no facial hair allowed in the organization.

But like America itself, the Reds became anachronistic in the 1980s and 1990s, and tradition was forced to co-exist with the ideology of the pressure group generation. These types have clearly infiltrated baseball's upper echelons. Baseball provides for us again, as it has so often in the past, with a simple kind of mirror to reflect upon our own.

It would seem that having a female owner might be a hip move for baseball in the 1990s, but apparently not. A few weeks ago baseball owners voted to place a one year suspension on Schott for allegations of misconduct against "the best interests of baseball."

From a source that has never been clearly identified, Schott is alleged to have referred to two of her

former outfielders, Eric Davis and Dave Parker, as her "million dollar niggers." Thrown in with this, Ms. Schott is alleged to have used the epithets "money grubbing Jew" and "Jap." She also supposedly possesses an authentic swastika armband and other original paraphernalia from Nazi Germany.

These racial slurs, whether Schott used them or not, are absolutely despicable and positively offensive. But should Schott lose her team for a year due to the allegations? Definitely not.

Schott's guilt or innocence is essentially a moot point. Citing her hiring of manager Tony Perez (who is a Hispanic-American) over the winter, one would like to presume her innocent. But the likelihood is just as great that she indeed said these hideous things.

But it is a deeper principle that is of concern here. The Cincinnati Reds are a private business organization, and as such Schott's removal from power, though temporary, is completely preposterous. Reds fans should stop patronizing the team and its merchandise if they disapprove of the owner's alleged misconduct. No one is forcing them to buy those season

tickets.

But baseball has stepped in and made the decision for the fans. This case, if it ever became a lawsuit, would be laughed out of the courtroom, even in our ever litigious society. However, Schott will never get anything close to a trial. Baseball, practically choking on its own magnanimity, is exempt from the anti-trust laws and the owners possess the collective power to act "in the best interests of the game" regardless of due process.

This is all fine and good for a clear-cut case like the suspension of New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, who was evidenced to have consorted with known gambler Howard Spira, but the Schott incident wreaks of vice-grip control of Orwellian proportions.

What was Marge's real crime? Was it for allowing her St. Bernard, Schottzie, to freely roam (and claim) portions of the Riverfront Stadium astroturf for herself? Or was she conspired against by her fellow Reds owners who comprise a joint minority of the stock in the club? Is she being persecuted for her maverick nature? Are her fashion misstatements too big

continued on page 10

Lonely Guy Gets Religion at Mardi Gras

by Aaron McCollough

I would like to begin by addressing an issue of special importance to me. Last Sunday was Valentine's Day, a day which generally conjures up images of sweaty embraces and sappy poetry, but which found me in infernal solitude. Everybody complains about Valentine's Day, so I know I was in good company in one sense. As my mother always said when I was growing up, "kick one and they all squeal." Of course, she was referring to the experimental ferret farm that my father had engineered while still determined to make his first million, FAST. All the same, that saying has stuck with me in the hard times.

So, determined to escape my misery on Sunday, I went to the library, not before checking my mailbox about seventy times for a stray billet-deux, but, obviously, before I called Marvin Runyan in D.C. to file a formal complaint with the U.S. Postal Service. Mr. Runyan, of course,

reminded me that it was Sunday, but that is hardly significant.

What is significant is the article I found in *TIME* concerning the "Chemistry of Love." At first I thought, "So, this is why I'm not any good at it." My high school chemistry teacher, Ms. Wadell, once compared my work to Faulkner's early attempts at poetry, which I thought was a compliment at the time. As it turns out, though, the chemistry of love is painfully simple. The whole she-bang boils down, in my understanding, to a substance called oxytocin, or "the cuddle chemical."

Once it is released, the victim becomes incoherent and rabidly attached to anyone in immediate proximity. It seems that I have a profusion of "the cuddle chemical." In fact, I may be responsible for some kind of "cuddle embargo" in these parts. What I want to know is, when do they start bottling the stuff?

Speaking of chemicals, I just remembered that we are in the midst of Mardi Gras. It is only fitting, then,

that we delve into the history of the holiday. It is not, as many would have you believe, solely an excuse to indulge in hedonism. In fact it is significant only in the context of religious anticipation.

Mardi Gras roughly translated from the French means, "I got Herpes in Louisiana," but it implies a distinct sense of expectation of the coming Lent season. The mass exodus that occurs every year could, nay should, be likened to a pilgrimage of sorts. To be sure, your average Mardi Gras zealot is considering the implications of the season even as he courses the nation's inter-states, whether he is wearing pants or not.

Despite the widespread adherence to Lenten custom and tradition, however, few are familiar with its true origins. The word Lent actually meant spring, originally. Over the centuries, of course, it became confused with tightly compressed paper or fuzz balls, while recent practitioners have even brought certain species of fungi into their celebration of the season. Not

surprisingly, the word comes from the same Latin root as toe-jam.

Lent has traditionally been a time of fasting. In the 15th century, someone got the idea that "the due and godly consumption of herring-pies is a means to a virtue." The herring lobby was understandably pleased, but what Edward VI saw as a minor concession not only ended up consigning the whole month of March to a seafood menu for eternity, but it also caused the infamous (but, often forgotten) Battle of the Herrings in February 1429.

These days, of course, most people focus their attentions on the Mardi Gras aspect of Lent. Some others opt for an approximation of the fasting tradition by giving up an innocuous vice. My friend Justin, for example, has decided to stop singing obscene lyrics to Disney tunes, at least when he's at Showbiz Pizza. For my part, I think I'll stop growing hair.

SPORTS

Strong Finishes Become Way of Life for Swim Team

by Amy Covington
Sports Staff

Strong finishes have become a way of life for the Sewanee Tigers swim team this season. Sometimes they appeared in the form of an individual giving that last effort to edge out an opponent at the end of a race; other times it was the entire team pulling together to put checks in the win column in their last few meets of the season.

The men won their final four meets to finish with a 6-2 record, and the women defeated their last three opponents to post a 4-3 mark, bettering last season's 4-5 record. This naturally gives the team a great boost going into conference, and the question is now, is there one more strong finish left for these scrappy swimmers?

Two weeks ago, the Tigers pulled a one-two punch in their home pool, defeating Centre College and Rollins. For the women, who were led by Serena Vann, Alison Hoehn, and Libba Manning, Saturday's win ended a three-year drought against Centre. The men, who are always challenged by Centre, posted some strong times and also came away with a the much coveted win. Against Rollins, not only did the team come out victorious, but two senior members acquired some impressive individual career marks.

Women's team captain Libba Manning took over the number two spot on the all-time scoring list, and men's captain Hayes McDonald moved into the number three position on the men's career scoring table. "It's a tribute to the

Schott

continued from page 9

of an image problem for the game? Have the other owners ganged up on her because she's a woman?

Who knows. But what is for certain is that Schott has been prejudged, convicted, and lynched by the overwhelming majority of baseball's socially conscious higher-ups. Take Hank Aaron for example, the home run king, now vice president of the Atlanta Braves, who was among the first and the loudest to denounce Schott and call for her suspension from the game. Ironically enough, he pontificated his high justness for the national media cameras at Fulton County Stadium while standing beneath the Braves logo, a quite offensive cartoon depiction of a Native American.

Unfortunately, Marge Schott has fallen prey to baseball's own PC

hard work these two have put in during their four years on the team," said Coach Mary Kay Samko of their achievements.

This past weekend, the swimmers finished up their regular season at home against Union College of Kentucky. To the delight of the Tiger fans, and to the misfortune of Union, this meet proved to be one of their best. "What a way to end the season," said Samko. "This is the best way to build confidence heading into conference." Many of the women posted career best times, and the men, not to be out done, did the same.

"These times are really fast, and when we taper for conference, they'll drop even more," stated Samko.

The Sewanee diving team also had an impressive meet against Union, putting together "their best collective effort of the season," according to Coach Samko. "The divers have really improved this year. Three out of the four are first-year competitors, so I'm very proud of their effort." Second-year diver Taylor Bickerstaff and newcomers Laura Boyer, Michael Wayne, and Katherine Wakid seek to continue their improvement as they head toward post-season competition.

"Before the season started, I must admit I had my doubts," said Samko after the Union meet. "I even half-jokingly told Hayes [McDonald] before the season that the men's team was *his* this year because we weren't going to win a meet. Of course, they proved me wrong by going 6-2, winning their last four in a row, and bettering last year's record. The seniors, Hayes, Dave [Smith], and Walt [Howard] turned the

Patrol, the champions of the hiring quotas which Aaron himself so vehemently justifies, and the rabid avengers of any type of free will. Schott was pronounced guilty without a chance of being innocent, and soon the throng joined in, clamouring for "justice", and essentially forced the owners to suspend her.

Schott's predicament is alarming in the already scrambled affairs of baseball *off* the field, and it should be alarming to America as well. What's next? A thought police combing the *Purple* staff for signs of hearsay? Will gossip and random accusation now hold up in our nation's courtrooms? You'll need to watch what you say, er, what people say you said, from now on. For all of our sakes, let us hope that the curious and terrifying case of Marge Schott is the exception and does not become the rule.



Jeremy Vann. Photo by Lyn Hutchinson.

year around by showing great leadership, working hard, keeping spirits up in practice, and by being willing to swim whatever events were needed to help the team. Also, the addition of Matt Lugar, Jeremy Vann, Jason Vinton, and other strong rookies gave the men's team some unexpected speed and strength that won meets for us."

The women proved to be contenders too this year, helped significantly by greater numbers, giving them more swimmers in every race and consequently a better chance to win meets.

"Libba, of course, always comes through for us," said Samko. "And this year she had lots of help from people like Anna [Collins], Serena [Vann], Alison [Hoehn], Margaret [Belcher], and Margaret [Buchanan]. These women just jumped in there and won the races they needed to win."

Added Manning, "Swimming's been great this year; the team is a lot closer. We should do very well as a team at conference. Last year we had some good individual swims there, but this year should be even better for both the individual and the team."

"We definitely did not expect to do as well as we did, so we're cautiously optimistic about conference; there are some

really good teams there, but I think we can hold our own," said Hayes McDonald. "We've worked hard, and people on the team will be excited by how fast they'll swim at the big meet. Even if we don't come away as one of the top teams, the season will still end on a positive note."

The Tigers' conference meet begins on February 25 and ends on the 27th, in Greencastle, Indiana. The Sewanee Tigers swim team have guts, spirit, and dedication, which should stand heavily in their favor next week as they head to post-season action.

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Equestrian Team Rides for Regional Championship

by Joseph Kreutziger
Sports Staff

Sometimes it's easy to forget that Sewanee has an equestrian team, with the stables and riding rings nestled far away from the academic buildings and no regional competition taking place on Sewanee soil. Yet they are nationally respected and always riding towards the regional championship.

The team is composed of over twenty riders who participate and practice on their own availability, from beginners who compete in walk-trot events to the advanced riders who compete in Open Equitation each show. Last season, the regional high-point performances of Annie Reinert in Intermediate Over Fences and Margaret Knight in Open Equitation enabled them to qualify for Nationals, where both riders placed 5th in the nation in their sections.

A summary of last semester's competition entails description of the three shows in which Sewanee participated. At Hiawasee, they were the point champion both days, with K. K. Christie becoming Reserve high-point champion



Annie Reinert (left) and Margaret Knight preparing for last year's Nationals.

during Sunday's events. The next show took place at Murray State, where the team's fine performance gave them the championship the first day and a third place finish the second day. Again, freshman rider K. K. Christie was reserve high-point champion on Sunday. "Perhaps the Morehead-Midway show was our finest performance last semester,"

says senior Margaret Knight. "At Midway, we were team champions, a major victory over Midway, who is our biggest rival." At Morehead, Margaret was Reserve high-point champion, while Christie again chose to keep the Sabbath holy and had a first place Reserve finish during Sunday's competition.

This semester, The Morehead/

Midway show was not as prosperous. Before the meeting, Sewanee was leading the region and their nearest competition by 32 points. "As a team, we didn't accumulate a lot of points, but we're still leading the region by 8 points. With one show left, a good performance will give the Equestrian team the Regional Championship, and we will automatically qualify to go to Nationals as a team," comments Knight.

The point accumulations of riders Erin Sellers, Deb Podurgiel, Sally McClatchey, Margaret Knight, and K.K. Christie have already qualified them for individual Regional championships in their respective riding sections. At this point, K.K. Christie is leading the region in points while Margaret Knight is in a close second. The final meet will take place at Middle Tennessee State University on the dates of March 6th and 7th, a short car ride for any students interested in seeing the show which will determine the regional champions. The team would gladly appreciate students cheering them on to a first place finish in this most important weekend.

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Work Ethic is Key to Success for Men's Basketball Program

by Michael Wayne
Sports Staff

The key to the success of this year's men's basketball program is the hard-nosed "work ethic that coach Joe Thoni has brought to Sewanee," says first year assistant coach Richard Barron. "There is no substitute for hard work. It enables us to compete against teams in our league that probably have more talent than we do."

The many talented freshmen who

are untainted by prior disturbances in the program adds to the team's new outlook. Says assistant coach Barron, "We don't even think about the past."

Led by senior captain John Richards, who Barron describes as "the hardest worker on and off the court" and "a great role model for the other players," the Tigers have amassed an overall record of 10-11 (4-6 in league). With four SCAC games remaining to complete this season, the Tigers are poised to achieve the first winning record in over four years. The players have especially rallied around Richards, pledging to have him graduate with an over .500 season. The expression "Do it for Johnny!" might well apply under these circumstances. "It would be incredible for me" says Richards, "after struggling for my first three seasons, to have a winning record this year. It would be a perfect way to end the season."

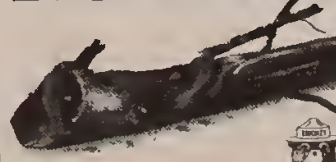
Junior Chris Millen, having returned from the University of Georgia, and the return of Sophomore Eric Ochel helped "beef up" the rather small and slender Sewanee front court. Millen, who will take over the team leadership

responsibilities at the end of the season, now is the leading scorer for the Tigers.

With a win against perennial foe Emory, a team Sewanee has not defeated in over four years, and a crushing defeat at the hands of Oglethorpe, the Tigers, according to Barron, have regrouped and had "a great week of practice." In the unpredictable SCAC, the young Tigers have their work cut out for them at Hendrix and Trinity February 19 and 21 and at home against Millsaps and Rhodes winter party weekend.

Regardless of how the Tigers finish their season, they have already laid the foundation for seasons to come. "Soon winning seasons will be a given," remarks Richards. "The most important thing is that coach Thoni has instilled a great attitude and work ethic in his players." Coach Barron concurs that Thoni has "things going in the right direction," especially the consistency that was so sorely missed in the past. "We shouldn't be satisfied though because there is so much more to come. Coach Thoni will be around for a long time."

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Record Review

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by Sam Reid
Arts Staff

I first heard Royal Trux at a friend's house over Christmas. Before returning to Sewanee, I knew I had to buy this self-titled L.P., so that I could leisurely savor the delectable sounds that I had so briefly tasted in my friend's living room. I probably listened to the album twenty times in-a-row when I got back to school. I was mesmerized. I felt that I certainly had to review this album for the *Purple* and share this unknown delight with kindred souls on the Mountain, but I knew virtually nothing about the band's origins (except that one member, Neil Hagerty, played with now defunct Pussy Galore).

To remedy my ignorance, I wrote a letter to Drag City records, hoping they would be sympathetic to a quasi-writer for a podunk newspaper in nowhere, Tennessee with little more than a thousand readers. About a week later I received a press release with numerous

reprints of reviews and had a sinking feeling these guys were hardly a discovery, but instead that I was late as usual on the cultural uptake. It turns out that this dynamic duo of Neil Hagerty and Jennifer Herrema (along with an assorted line-up of various other musicians over the years) had been playing together at least since 1988. Oh well, they are still worth trumpeting.

According to these other articles, none of which were written about the album I bought (a 1992 release), their earlier work is much less accessible. It is described as noisy, dissonant, and generally way out there. I also learned from my friend that the demise of Pussy Galore and the early forming of Royal Trux was surrounded by a mystique of underculture and heroine addictions—the perfect ingredients for rock legends, eh? Having reportedly kicked the habit, they have been touring with bands like Sonic Youth (Kim Gordon listed them as one of the top seven bands of all time). They have also apparently been hard at work in the studio, releasing at least two full length L.P.'s (including a double album) and a bunch of vinyl singles since 1988.

The sound on this album seems drastically different from that described on earlier efforts. Most of the songs include one or two guitar tracks, drums, and one or two voice tracks. This skeletal approach is wholly successful, producing simple yet clutching tracks that wrench at your gut despite their bare-essentials composition.

The opening track entitled "Air" is a perfect example of this anorexic combination. Slow, whining guitar lines with a simple drum track accompany the melodic, spacey vocals. Some of the best lyrics on the entire album occur in the form of the oft-repeated chorus: "Air, air, air, I love you/ Air, air, air, she needs it, too." Contained in these simple lines is a wealth of experience and emotion.

For a good illustration of the heroine-soaked style abundant on this track-marked album, consider the song "Junky Nurse" (or "Blood Flowers," for that matter). Hagerty strums an masterfully simple tune on an acoustic guitar, covered with the wincing and soggy lyrics describing a tale of an enslaved heroine addict (presumably biographical):

junky nurse, oh junky nurse
wherever have you been?
it's pouring rain, I'm five hours
straight
will you ever be back again?

I called the doc and he's in shock
the s--- has hit the feds
safe as coal you're in the hole
and I'm right off my head

Lyrics as ripe and pungent as these, tracing the strung-out woes of an intravenous drug user, continue throughout the sad ballad, while the guitar alternates between rhythmic verses and intricately picked bridges vaguely reminiscent of Led Zeppelin. The whole effect is amazingly powerful.

This eight song L.P. is well worth the money. Some have even compared it to the Rolling Stones' classic "Exile on Main Street," so there is little doubt that it has a certain universal appeal that any 60's rock groupie, 80's acid-head, or even a lonely Sewanee slacker can appreciate.

Book Review

Isabel Allende's Wonderfully Rich World

by John K. Moore
Arts Staff

So many stories are heard or read and then forgotten the next day. They may be interesting and even thrilling, but do they make an impact on you? Is there a secret compartment in your mind or a special bookshelf of yours where there are stories, wonderfully told, tenderly felt, stories that are simply beautiful for being told, and at the same time move you to no end? I bring to you *The Stories of Eva Luna*. In case there are some literature scholars out there who are asking, "Where on Earth did this title come from?," well, the answer is Chile. The work, a collection of short stories, was originally published as *Cuentos de Eva Luna* and was translated from Isabel Allende's beautifully flowing Spanish by Margaret Sayers Peden.

Translation, at best, is a sticky mess. There are so many inflections and nuances in one language that are difficult to convey when put into another tongue. I mean, what would it be like to read *The*

Brothers Karamozov in the original Russian? Inevitably, something was lost in between the Russian and the English, no matter how great a translation it is. And certainly something was lost on the way from the *cuento* to the short story in Isabel Allende's work. But this is a translation that captures the essence of her language and style and one that reads into the characters as they were meant to be understood. Both Spanish and English language presses lauded it on, including the illustrious *Irish Times*, who printed some of these stories.

The simplicity of these stories captivates the reader immediately. They are a continuation of Allende's novel, *Eva Luna*, and begin as Eva is lying in bed with her European lover. As he says to her, "Tell me a story you have never told anyone before. Make it up for me," we begin on a rather exotic quest for universal human understanding, money, salvation, magic, and, of course, love. Here are stories of unparalleled diversity that deal with characters from all walks of life and from all over the globe, that

are rich in language and in meaning, and whose originality is not once doubted.

The prose of these stories is so descriptive you can touch it, smell it, and taste it. You can feel the action taking place, for instance, the moment a fortune teller with a special gift for words softens the hardest heart of a most brutal warrior: "The man smelled the scent of a mountain cat issuing from the woman, a fiery heat radiating from her hips, he heard the terrible whisper of her hair, and a breath of sweetmint murmured into his ear the two secret words that were his alone."

Allende's prose drips not only of sentience, however. Many of her characters possess significant philosophical beliefs, enriching even further their reality in the mind of the reader: "God maintains a certain equilibrium in the universe, and just as He creates some things twisted, he creates others straight ... for every joy an affliction ... and on and on, for as the wheel of life turns through the centuries, everything evens out. The pendulum swings back and forth with inexorable

precision." These are not characters who appear in the story without a purpose, but rather who appear to make time move and for real thoughts to take place. And as much as they become a part of the story, they begin to become a part of the fabric of the reader's thoughts, at least in my case.

I found myself as enchanted by the black magic a town doctor hears back to in his memory from war to save his secret prepubescent love's life, as I was appalled by the machismo of the character who brings a concubine home only to kick the wife out of the "sacred" marriage bed, and who won't claim responsibility for a pregnancy he knows is his doing. These stories have the capacity to pull one in so many different directions that he begins to feel like a piece of emotional putty: laughing after one story, crying after the next, and so on... The stories are effective, plain and simple. All you have to do is read them to let them have their place in your life, as they do in mine.