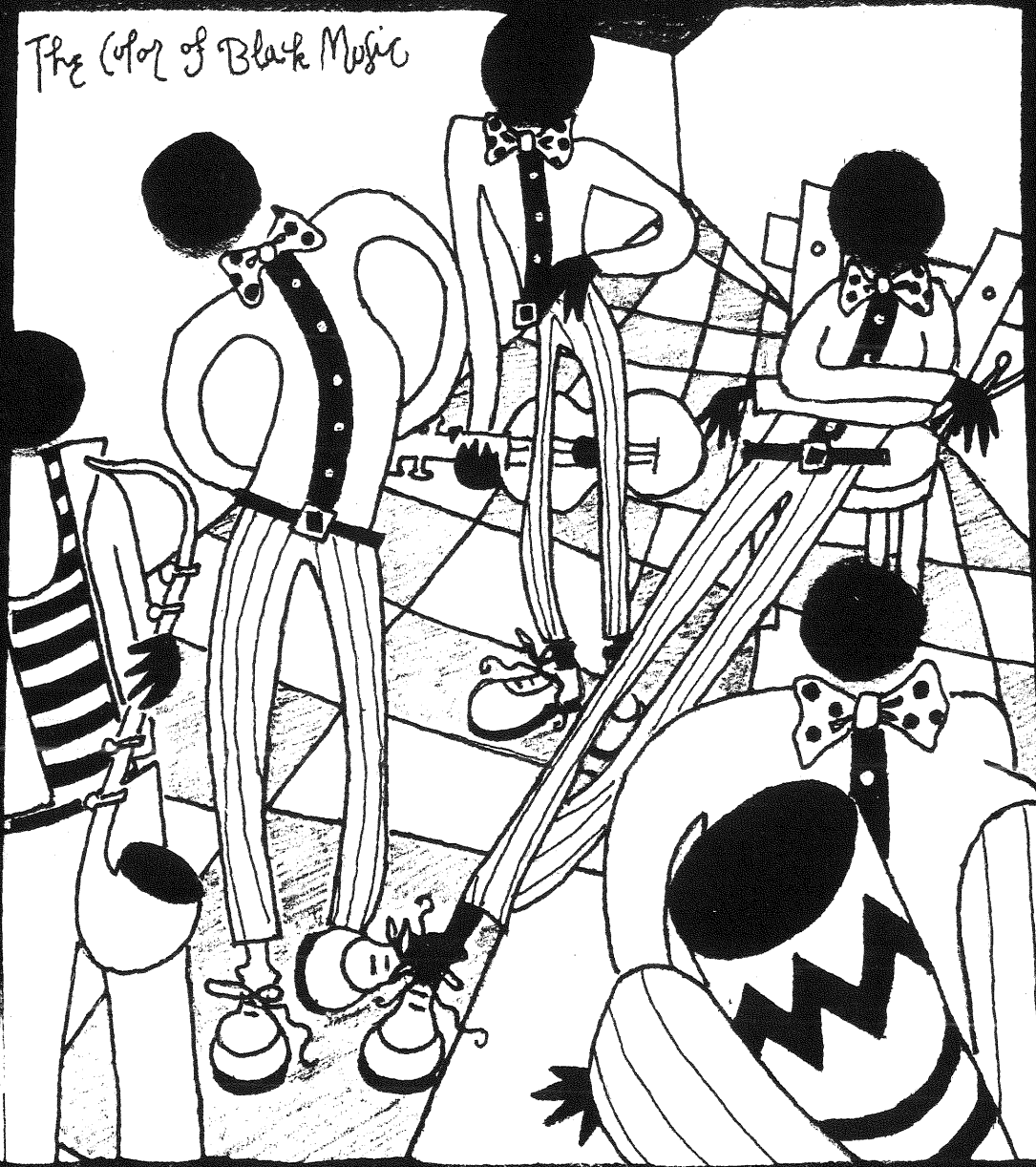


# The Gadfly

St. John's College Independent Weekly  
Volume X, Issue 23

Annapolis, Maryland  
May 9, 1989

*The Color of Black Music*



# Community responds unfavorably to Adler prank

Dear Editors,

The prank that occupied the entire Adler lecture was an insult to the college community. While I am sure that the senior class meant it in the usual spirit, it is hard to understand how no one involved in the stunt considered the difference between the traditional interruption and then resumption of Adler's lengthy delivery, and the disruption of one hundred percent of the lecture. When Adler took the stage, he was joined immediately by a dog. From the very beginning of the lecture the backstage area was filled with house lights and noise by what were obviously the preparations for the more elaborate part of the prank. For the next forty minutes various seniors wandered in and out of the auditorium, and the dog made four more stage appearances before the actual prank. Also from the beginning of the lecture the audience was subjected to the ever increasing volume of a heartbeat which had been rigged to the P.A. After half an hour of this constant barrage, cute little audience participation banners appeared at three minute intervals, leading up to the finale in which the curtain was opened revealing the majority of the senior class drinking in a makeshift cafe.

This little scene, with no further comical development, remained in place until Adler finished his tirade. First of all, the absence of contrast ruined the possibility of any real comedy. Secondly, the continuous disruption of the lecture showed complete indifference to the rights of others, a subject of which seniors at St. John's should have at least some awareness. I wish that someone had gone into the sound booth and yanked out that blasted heartbeat tape. It was such an unexpected annoyance that those who were participating could not have understood how complete their disruption was with all the little parts added together. This simply must not go unchallenged. Have the prank, but don't let it amount to the absolute disruption of the lecture.

Sincerely  
Dave Reese, '90



Dear Editors,

The Adler pranks have been much good fun over the years. Mr. Adler used to lecture for about two hours and the first prank, so I'm told, was the ringing of an alarm clock after precisely one hour. One of his own favorite pranks-- during an anti-Darwin lecture-- was an interruption by a gorilla. My favorites were the 50th anniversary prank last year--a showbiz extravaganza--and a staging many years ago of Raphael's *School of Athens*, complete with Raphael speaking Bronx Italian and looking for someone to pose as Aristotle in the picture. You know who he found.

But however well intentioned the most recent prank might have been in not *interrupting* Mr. Adler, the effect was to *distract* the audience for nearly the whole lecture, and finally, during the last fifteen or twenty minutes, to distract him. I do think the seniors owe Mr. Adler an apology.

Perhaps the joke has worn too thin, and the variations on the theme are exhausted. There is certainly no obligation to do an Adler prank. This is a case where inclination ought to replace duty. I hope the rising seniors will consider whether they really *want* to carry on. Even in a school which honors traditions, not all traditions are worth preserving forever.

Sincerely,  
Thomas J. Slakey, Dean

Dear Editors,

I should like to protest through you the alleged "prank" performed by the St. John's senior class during April 21st's lecture on "Great Books, Democracy, and Truth" by Mortimer Adler.

Without doubt, last night's performance was the worst that I have seen in the forty years that I have heard Adler speak. The students put an impossible task on their eighty-seven year-old speaker. In the first place, the lights were turned down, so it was impossible for the lecturer to see his audience. Secondly, over the loudspeaker came a regular beat, which made listening to him difficult. In the third place, the audience was invited to play "Simon Says," a miserable failure for the students who expected that the audience would respond in unison. In the fourth place, opening up the stage to resemble the coffee shop created a backdrop against which the lecturer had little chance.

There were other distractions--the big dog that crossed the platform. The prank went on for the first fifteen or twenty minutes and completely spoiled the last part of the lecture. I believe that previous pranks interrupted the evening for at most five minutes. Once they were ended, the lecture proceeded to its conclusion. It seems to me that Mortimer Adler deserves some sort of apology from the student body. It seems to me that a lecturer at St. John's deserves more respect and attention.

*continued on page 4*



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# News from the outside

by Theodore Merz '89

## My Year in Review

The most significant development in the world during the past nine months has been the extraordinary changes taking place in the Soviet Union. Gorbachev's attempt to reform the political and economic structure of the Soviet Union has lowered the perception of a military threat from the East and may mean that the cold war is finally over. The U.S. will have to alter the ideological stance set forty years ago which identified the threat of Soviet expansionism as the primary foreign policy goal. The effects of a declining perception of that threat will have wide ranging effects; for example it has been essential to the political cohesion of the NATO member states.

With the signing of the INF treaty, the Soviets troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, and the announcement of unilateral troop reductions in New York last Fall, there can be no doubt that real change is occurring in the Soviet Union. Conservatives at home caution us to "be wary." Or as Reagan said, "trust but verify." They seem incapable or unwilling to accept the changes as substantial -- preferring instead to see them as attempts by the Soviets to sow seeds of strife within the Atlantic Alliance or to rebuild their economy for a renewed effort at world dominance. The liberals, on the other hand, seem to view the changes by the Soviets as attempts to become "more like us," and as a result less of a threat. They forget that even if Gorbachev's reforms were intended to produce a democratic, capitalistic state we would still have a conflict of interest with the Soviets. Both of these positions ignore the simple fact that we no longer live in a bi-polar world dominated by the U.S. and the Soviets the way we once did.

The new conflict between East and West will not focus on the NATO -- East Bloc rift but between the Western democracies and the emerging economic

powers of East Asia. Countries like Japan, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and Thailand. The conflict will primarily be economic, as is shown by the recent uproar in the U.S. Congress over the FSX fighter plane. Proposed as a joint venture with Japan, critics feel that this is an example of handing over U.S. technology to Japan while the Japanese benefit from an enormous trade imbalance. Pressures toward isolationism and protectionism will augment if the public perceives that the U.S. is being taken advantage of by the Pacific Rim countries.

After years of economic growth, those countries seem to be experiencing political growing pains. In South Korea, radical student demonstrators are calling for the reunification with the North (a nation which managed to blow up half of South Korea's cabinet not long ago) and the punishment of former President Chun. The Japanese are reacting to the Recruit Scandal in which payments were made to senior government officials. The scandal has brought down the government of Noboro Takeshita and unleashed a public outcry against the nepotism prevalent in Japanese politics and business. The events in both of these nations seem to show that the economic growth which capitalism fosters leads to political reforms on the Western model. In China, student demonstrators with the support of workers have called for more democracy in massive marches on Tiananmen Square in Beijing. It is a remarkable display considering that participation in such demonstrations led to prison terms or death in the past.

The landscape of Middle Eastern politics was changed dramatically this year when PLO chairman Yasser Arafat renounced terrorism, accepted Israel's right to exist as a nation, and entered into talks with the U.S. in Algiers. In addition, the Soviet Union has begun to play a more prominent role in the region. Foreign Minister Shevardnadze travelled to

Egypt in February, meeting with Egyptian President Mubarak as well as Israeli Foreign Minister Arens. The fighting in Beirut continues, however. When former President Gemayel's term ended in September, the Christian and Moslem factions which control East and West Beirut respectively could not agree on a leader acceptable to both. Syria entered Beirut in force but so far has been unable to end Hezbollah's control over the poorer areas of West Beirut where the foreign hostages are believed to be held.


In Central America, the Sandinistas appear to be calming down after a decade in power. Regional peace initiatives, launched by Nobel Prize winner Oscar Arias of Costa Rica, appear to be gaining momentum after a slow start. Recently, for example, the five Central American nations agreed to expell the Contras from Honduras if the Sandinistas follow up on their pledge to hold democratic elections before February 1990. Elections are being held in Panama and the U.S. has expressed its desire to see Gen. Noriega ousted. In El Salvador recent elections have given power to the conservative ARENA party, the group closely associated with the death squad killings of the early 1980's. Over 70,000 people have been killed in that nine year old civil war. The guerillas had offered to end fighting in return for a delay in the elections, but this was rejected as unconstitutional. By most accounts the rebels are well armed, well trained, and (unlike the Contras) enjoy popular support. El Salvador, not Nicaragua, is the country in the region most likely to explode.


In South America, the prospect for debt relief provides some measure of hope that the deteriorating economic conditions will be improved. Pinochet will most likely follow through on his pledge to step down after democratic elections are held. The Sendero Luminoso is slowly eroding any political stability in Peru. The populist policies of President Garcia intended to undermine Sendero's popularity brought financial chaos and forced him to accept IMF restrictions. He is now weaker than ever. In Brazil there is anger over U.S. demands for the end to the deforestation of the Amazon Basin area.

As Europe awaits the end of all trade barriers in 1992 the mood in the U.S. resembles the conservative, relative indifference of the 1950's. George Bush succeeded Ronald Reagan as 41st president and immediately became bogged

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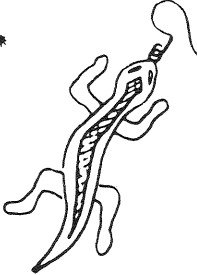
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# Beckett's 'Play' and Rodgers's play reviewed

By Ben Hargrave, '91

On April 29 and 30, the St. John's Repertory performed "Play" by Samuel Beckett and "Titter" by Dwayne R. Rodgers. It was an evening for the new, and as usual, Mr. Rodgers's relentless feel for visual and audio impact aimed to please and disgust, elate and repulse.

"Play" opens with a strange and sinuous cacophony, three heads in urns gorgeously silhouetted; three simultaneous voices (all starting on "yes") that diverge to obliterate themselves. Sheer madness! What is the meaning of this? Beckett calls it a chorus; I like to call it an overture. The phrases and phrasing in the chorus establish the rhythmic foundation of the entire play. The words recur as does their rhythm, the rhythm which Beckett explains in his production notes. The inquisitorial light, which becomes dimmer throughout the play, enters. It is the first character seen, or should I say -- the first victim. It must interrogate the three heads as they must be interrogated. Will the light go out completely, or will Xeno's mad paradox not relent?

A spot on Woman 1 played by Anne Carpenter. The first comprehensible

words are heard. Ms. Carpenter's somewhat nasal voice quivered and seemed unsure about her first line, "I said to him, give her up. I swore by all I held most sacred." Mr. Rodgers tells me that there were rhythmic difficulties in this line which could not be quite overcome. Ms. Carpenter, aided by her elegant face, gave a thoughtful, though sometimes timid, performance. Spot from Woman 1 to Woman 2 played by Kristin Young. Ms. Young entered with the kind of tenacity that only the "other woman" could have. Her voice was clear and her delivery excellent. From her first line, she conveyed the subtlety of Beckett's words. An almost colorless tone colored ever so slightly. At times though, Ms. Young's delivery became too emotional.

Her first line, "One morning as I was sitting stitching by the open window she burst in and flew at me..." Spot from Woman 2 to Man played by Dwayne Rodgers. Of the three actors, Mr. Rodgers seemed to muse on the language the most. I got the feeling that he would want to say some of his lines forever. His nearly deadpan delivery revealed his understanding of the beautiful pallor of Beckett's artistic vision. Mr. Rodgers said

to me, "Beckett's characters are always on their last breath. But there is the feeling that last means previous and not final. This is how and why they remain." His first line: "We were not long together when she smelled the rat."

Now the heads jutting from the yard high urns have begun their "story". Immediately, the disjointedness of the narrative struck me. Ah! none know that the others are there. The three characters with the solicitation of the light unravel the story of a "love triangle," forgive me. But the love triangle is only the mechanism by which they can contemplate the complexity of having been alive but not quite dead yet. Of course Beckett is talking about us, the living, and our spiritual struggle.

"Play" is also a commentary on narrative itself. The play, whose language is admittedly disjointed, is repeated. The first time through, very little is understood of the happenings. The second time, exponentially more is understood. How do we make sense of a narrative? What is the pertinence of temporality to the narrative? Is the narrative always reduced to the linear?

*continued on page 15*

## More world news

*continued from previous page*  
down in the John Tower nomination hearings and an endless policy review. Bush seems to have no coordinated policy towards the Middle East, Central America, or any original posture towards the Soviets. We can see in the way he and his Sec. of State James Baker III work with Congress on the recent Contra non-lethal aid package that they foresee a less dogmatic role for the U.S. in foreign affairs. He lacks Reagan's commitment to ideological positions such as free trade and the containment of communism. It is unlikely, for example, that Bush will push to provide military funding to the Contras. He does give lip service to the conservative position of "peace through strength" (refusing therefore to consider eliminating the short range Lance Missiles in Germany), but he is noticeably less conservative. Nevertheless, Bush may be well suited to rule at a time when the U.S. is less able to dictate foreign policy to its allies and adversaries.

Sources: *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*

## Response to Adler prank unfavorable

*continued from page 2*

While I am at it, let me give vent to a number of things that I have observed at earlier lectures this year. In the first place, I would cite a poor attendance of students at the lectures.

Jascha Klein, Dean of the College from 1949 to 1958, was able to convince habitual offenders of the importance of the Friday night formal lecture and the need of the student to attend the question period following the lecture.

A second point of difference is dress. Today students attend the lecture in any kind of informal undress. In an earlier day, jackets and ties, sweaters and skirts, were the tradition.

Too many students are putting their feet up on the seats in front of them. Feet belong on the floor. Then too there is the nasty habit of bringing drinks into the auditorium. This was absolutely forbidden in my day.

Let us return the formal lecture to its traditional role. Only then will we achieve the benefits that a lecturer like Mortimer Adler can bring to the community.

Sincerely yours,  
Richard D. Weigle,  
President Emeritus

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# Thank you and goodbye

by Ray Gifford '89  
and Sara Catania '89

Thank you and goodbye.

This is our 45th, and last, issue as editors of *The Gadfly*. We know for many readers it is incredible to think that they have been treated to over 600 pages of *The Gadfly* over the past two years, but indeed it is true. We hope our readers appreciated at least some percentage of those 600 pages of sleepless weekends.

Proper form would now dictate that we wax philosophic about the accomplishments, current state, purpose and future of *The Gadfly*. Unfortunately, the energy to do so eludes us. (The readers can breathe a sigh of relief.)

The only things we can say is: our tenure is over; we have given *The Gadfly* a great deal of time and work; and we sincerely hope that *The Gadfly's* weekly presence these last two years has been valued and appreciated.

We realize that the quality of the issues has varied. But, working within the constraints of our and our staff's energy and time, we believe that *The Gadfly* has been a success.

Producing *The Gadfly* demands an immense amount of time every weekend. This is time which students give of their own accord -- forgoing social events, sleep, and class work to present *The Gadfly* to the college each Tuesday. Without fail, *The Gadfly* has appeared, ripe for the edification and cynicism of the college community.

A number of dedicated people deserve recognition for their work this year, and though it may not seem the most interesting reading, we invite the reader to continue reading this article out of politeness to those who have made *The Gadfly* what it is.

Though in recent weeks divisiveness and contention have erupted between us, Tequila Brooks deserves high praise for her excellent work in the position of

Assistant Editor. In her position she has performed capably and with admirable dedication. Surely *The Gadfly* would have been a poorer publication without her. Thank you, Tequila; we only wish the ending had been different.

Conceived of and maintained as an independent student weekly, *The Gadfly* earns over half of its revenue through subscriptions and ad sales. *The Gadfly* also has the largest budget of any student organization. Earning this revenue and keeping track of the budget is a much larger enterprise than one would think, *The Gadfly* can only be thankful for an enterprising and self-motivating business staff. Garfield Goodrum, who has been business manager for two years, elusively kept track of the books this year. Though actually finding him is a feat, once pinned down Garfield comes through; at least we hope he will.

The biggest surprise on the business staff this year has been that San Francisco liberal himself, Adam 'the Ad Man' Eggers. Seized with an unstoppable selling drive, Adam brought in the most advertising revenue ever for *The Gadfly*. The 'Ad Man's' effort was greatly helped along by ad protegee Nora Briody. With the 'Ad Man' returning, and Andy Pietrus taking over the books, next year's business staff has a great core to build from.

The worst job on *The Gadfly*, or at least the most thankless, has to be that of circulation manager. Carin Calabrese performed that tedious duty this year. Carin fought with an uncooperative laser printer, a perpetually frustrating post office staff and a sometimes accessible mail room to get the 'Fly out. Her effort deserves recognition. We're sure she'll have ample opportunity to distinguish herself next year, though, when she and the ever-so-proper Zoe Beatty become Co-Editors-in-Chief.

Strongman Akiba Covitz also deserves mention for his faithful help in distribut-

ing the 'Fly. We appreciate his and Maureen Spectre's addition of a crossword puzzle, too.

Anne Leonard, frequent contributor and generous production helper, deserves her own paragraph of recognition. Anne's contributions kept us afloat a few issue this year and her seniorial presence was always valued.

Christine Barber's layout has graced the pages all year. We thank her for her time and effort.

*The Gadfly* tempted innumerable credulous freshmen souls into its activities of production, circulation, advertising, sales, writing, editing, proofreading, layout, laser printing, pasteup, brainstorming, ego stroking, nailbiting, and looking for Garfield.

Super proofreading flunkey of the year award goes to Robby Nease, one of the many enthusiastic freshmen who have made *The Gadfly* their own and assured it a healthy future. Robby has been a consistent help throughout the year, and we thank him.

Congratulations to Theresa Klunk, currently artist-in-residence, and next year's art editor. Her drawings have graced many a page of the 'Fly and hopefully will grace many more.

'The Geeg,' perhaps better known for her late night boogeying on the senior prank party scaffolding, covered sports with finesse, grace and regularity. Ms. Escalante's sportswriting proteges Mary Spidle and Erika McConnell also are to be praised for their efforts to resurrect a regular sports section. We would thank Mr. Pickens, but we don't want him to be drunk with praise and since he's mentioned favorably elsewhere in this issue. It was very nice that you submitted sports articles, Mr A.D., sir.

Scott Younger made *Gadfly* history by consistently producing the sometimes funny, sometimes misspelled, but ever-present, Bob's Quest. This budding Matt Groening can only get better, especially if he buys a dictionary. (Just kidding, Scott, the cartoons were great.)

Renee DeBlois kept us all informed throughout the year. We hope she will assume even greater responsibilities next year. Great job, Renee, *muchas gracias*.

To all the writers of articles we extend our gratitude. Anyone we have forgotten to mention and have overlooked, we apologize but our minds aren't as sharp as they used to be.

Finally, we thank Chris Colby and the Print Shop for doing such a great and speedy job.

Thank you and goodbye.



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## Color of Black Music launches VES Productions

by Dwayne Rodgers '90

Ben Hargrave launches his production company (VES Productions) with the live May 17th recording of a project he calls *The Color of Black Music*. The five-piece Jazz/Funk/Go Go band, recording this album at Live Sound Productions, Annapolis, is VES's first major studio endeavor. Produced by Hargrave and engineered by Les Lentz of Live Sound Productions, *The Color of Black Music* is vital. After having heard the demo sessions of "Shellie's Reeds," "The Color of Black Music" and Hargrave's private rehearsal sessions, it is clear that this group fuses the traditional sound and technique of fast jazz and rock greats with the outness of singular vision.

The caliber of musician that Hargrave attracts blows away the hype of such a project: Greg Phillips of Starpoint from Elektra Records on drums, recording artist Gary Granger who has just returned from a world tour with Gramma- vision, John Scofield on bass, Larry Grif-

fin on percussion and Joe Yanovitch from Mamaya's band (the opening band for Peter Gabriel on the Amnesty International Tour 1988) on guitar. Hargrave is the songwriter, arranger and saxophonist on these recordings.

Currently, Hargrave is producing two other groups, The Lindy Hop and Nick Blue, a solo pop vocalist. However, Hargrave hopes to up VES's roster to about ten strong acts. Says Hargrave, "Arts and Repertoire executives are difficult to prejudge. It seems that all music will sell. Styles as different as Bob Dylan and Swing Out Sister have become successful and well respected. I guess the key is to make music with integrity, and eventually someone will recognize its merits and distribute it." Thus, VES Productions hopes to have ten happening acts available to sign out to major record labels during any given month.

"Our goal is to sign over, to major record companies, two artists each year. But since the music business is so ran-

dom, it is hard to say what success would be other than making good music with an edge." Hargrave refuses to produce demos. He wants to go for the complete product each time. He feels that when one makes a demo, one experiments and is not necessarily concerned with a unified artistic statement. "This is where modern music has failed," says Hargrave. "Music is art and can never be demonstrated, only conceived." *The Color of Black Music* is the project that embodies this vision. The sound and production is crisp. For modern music's young producers and artists, *The Color of Black Music* makes Hargrave and his band a very influential force.

VES Productions is now looking for new artists, and is accepting demos, photos and resumes at their address. The band's management is now located in Los Angeles, but their East Coast contact is: VES Productions, 214 Livingston St. Westfield N.J. 07090.

## A dissent to Mr. Hinrichs' abortion views

by Robby Nease '92

The general gist of Fritz Hinrichs' article, if I understand it correctly, is that a person, specifically a lawmaker, should be permitted to have their religious beliefs influence their decisions. Well, of course they should; expecting otherwise would be, to put it bluntly, absurd. But there are two qualifications I would like to make.

First, that using one's religious beliefs to try to alter the opinions of those to whom those beliefs mean little or nothing is utterly futile; trying to prove one's viewpoints by quoting the New Testament to those who do not believe that document speaks truth would be worse than trying to convince a brick wall by the same methods. A brick wall would not get angry if someone made such an attempt.

Second, lawmakers should be perfectly free to justify their legal decisions to themselves on the basis of their religious tenets; however, they should not be allowed to place such reasons in the wording of the law. Any law that tried to base its existence on the grounds that "God says so" would (and should) be shot down very rapidly.

Now for a couple of inflammatory parenthetical comments: Mr. Hinrichs' using of the appellations that each side of the abortion conflict prefers to use is

laudable. Not only are the labels "anti-life" and "anti-choice" equally offensive, but when each side calls the other such names, any discussion quickly devolves into an angry argument. This is pointless—such a conversation leads nowhere, and any possibility of serious discussion about the abortion issue is eliminated.

Inflammatory parenthetical comment, the second: There is something in Mr. Hinrichs' article that puzzles me greatly. While berating the pro-choice side for not being willing to grant that their opponents' arguments might have validity, he calls us (the pro-choicers) es-

entially sophists for refusing to acknowledge that what he considers to be the "core disagreement between the two sides" (whether or not the fetus can be called 'alive') is the actual point of disagreement between the two sides. However, his first argument applies to both sides of the issue. If the fetus can be given the term "alive" is what *he* consider to be the heart of the dispute; it is not what many consider to be its heart. I see Mr. Hinrichs' attempt to arbitrarily dismiss the possibility that it could be an issue of privacy as being quite inconsistent with his earlier arguments.

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# Polity Hostess proffers rules for well-mannered life

**My Dear Gentle Readers,**

Regretfully, the end of the year has been reached. But before her return to the manor, your beloved Polity Hostess feels it necessary to remind her colleagues of etiquette rules not to be forgotten in the summer months, as well as to help the departing seniors with the most important etiquette rules for a well-mannered life.

Adhering to manners during the summer seems to be a difficult task for many. The summer months, though often pleasantly warm, more often are almost unbearably hot and humid. Though the subject is one which Miss Polity Hostess is loath to bring to the attention of her gentle readers, unpleasant body odor from others is something with which one's olfactory sense should simply *not* have to be subjected. Please be aware of this sensitive subject. It is difficult to make someone aware of such a personal oversight. However, if one allows oneself to become particularly malodorous, someone may have to, with the best intention, inform one to wash or use some kind of personal deodorant. Miss Polity Hostess would hate for one of her gentle readers to be placed in such an embar-

assing situation. Please make sure that only pleasant scents can be found about one's body.

The intense heat of the summer can be difficult to bear sometimes, necessitating the wearing of the most lightweight clothing possible. However, the heat does not in any way allow one to disrobe to the point of becoming indecent. If any of her gentle readers are under the misconception that an excessive show of flesh is attractive to the opposite gender, please pay attention. Any decent person will agree with Miss Polity Hostess that some element of mystique is even more inviting to the opposite gender. This does not mean that full-length burlap sacks are to be worn. One can wear flattering clothing without completely exposing oneself to public leers.

Finally, Miss Polity Hostess must discuss another far from enjoyable subject, the importance of ladies shaving their legs and underarms. The task is not a fun one admittedly, and Miss Polity Hostess understands that some ladies like to live in a natural fashion, however, aesthetically speaking, the shaving of said areas is a summer necessity. The more revealing summer dresses and shorts demand it. Please ladies, it is not a great sacrifice, not a great time-consumer and it results in a beautifully shapely leg.

The debut of our charming graduates in the real world is an exciting event. Miss Polity Hostess realizes that etiquette, though important in college, is absolutely necessary in polite society. At a formal dinner, Miss Polity Hostess realizes that the proper choice of the correct utensil to use first is perplexing to many. But it is nothing to be frightened by; simply begin on the very outside with what is usually a salad fork and work towards the inside.

Finally, the most important rule, without which one cannot consider oneself well-mannered, is the golden one: Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. An example may be helpful. Miss Polity Hostess is sure her gentle readers hate to have other people cut them off as they are pleasantly driving down the road. Thus, it is only logical for those who see annoying behavior in others to cease their own performance of the same actions first. This is a rule, dear graduates, to be followed in every situation with others.

Finally, there are some last minute campus concerns that must be mentioned. Our beloved Assistant Deans

have been distressed about the noise proliferating all over the quad area at times when it is not quite appropriate. Miss Polity Hostess will simply ask for a little patience for both the quieter quad students as well as those who wish to listen to their music in the sun in the afternoon.

Your own Polity Hostess has been on both sides of the issue. The quad is a great place to read, admittedly, but hardly the place to do very serious reading. If one is working to complete one's seminar reading, a better place is a blanket either on back campus or on the front lawn where someone's music cannot be heard and where one's friends are not as likely to come over and chat.

Very loud music on the quad not only keeps one from concentrating on a reading but also from hearing a conversation one may be having. Miss Polity Hostess must admit that she is torn on this issue. Sunny collegiate afternoons contain the faint sound of the Rolling Stones. But in the end, Miss Polity Hostess must return to the sleep/study rule.

If someone is trying to read or sleep, the music must be turned off. But it is possible to listen to music quietly enough so that the one who wishes to hear it may, and not loud enough that others are forced to hear it. But those wishing to hear the music on the quad need only have patience. Reality will be here soon.

One last reminder, gentle readers. Miss Polity Hostess hopes that everyone already knew that this Sunday, the 14th, is Mother's Day. If you had forgotten, you now have no excuse to claim ignorance when your mother calls you on Monday with a dejected tone in her voice.

An extreme production does not need to be carried out; a card, mailed to arrive on Saturday (mail it soon) or a bouquet of flowers sent perhaps by way of a younger sibling or father would suffice. Mothers deserve endless recognition; a card or even a phone call is not much to ask.

Have a wonderful, well-mannered summer.

**Pearls and Pumps,  
Miss Polity Hostess**



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# Leo Strauss and Mortimer Adler:

By Laurence Berns, Tutor

A few colleagues have suggested that I should, for our students' sake, respond to the misleading remarks about Leo Strauss made by Mortimer Adler in print and in his lecture and question period, this past Friday (4/21/89) at the (St. John's) College. The suggestion was made, I assume, because those colleagues know that I was a student of Strauss for quite a few years at the University of Chicago and remained in close association with him, especially during his last years at St. John's. During these same thirty five years or so, as a graduate student, as a teacher in the University of Chicago's Basic Program of Liberal Education for Adults (an adult education program in the Downtown College, largely modeled on the St. John's Program), and as a Tutor at St. John's, I have attended a great many lectures and question periods of Mr. Adler. Not entirely by chance I am in a good position to compare them as teachers.

Mr. Adler has characterized Strauss as a teacher of doctrines calculated to produce disciples, not a practitioner of dialectic like Adler himself. Surely, among his friends and associates in his home city, Chicago, provided they have the courage to tell him the truth (and he has the sense to listen), there are a number of people who could have told and can tell him that this is nonsense. Strauss was in his teaching and his thinking far more dialectical than Adler ever was, or, I believe, could be. For fairness's sake, let me say, that in my opinion Mr. Adler usually is a very good expository lecturer; dialectician he is not. His interest in conversation seems to be exclusively in seeing that what *he* said is grasped and understood. Whenever a student or questioner introduces a different perspective or set of terms, he treats it, not as something to be explored or examined, but as an error and intrusion, and immediately forces the conversation back to his own terminology and way of putting the question. He does not seem to be interested in anyone else's opinions. The kindest way I can think of putting it is that he is often a very good pedagogical teacher, not a dialectical teacher.

The best dialectical teacher I have ever seen was Jacob Klein. He had a way, first of all, of making students feel that their own perspectives and assumptions were of the greatest importance. More than once I heard him say, sometimes to

the most outrageous statements, "Why do you say that?" Then he had the great gift of being able to ask questions that remained within the students' perspective, but would lead to exposing the limitations or errors or deeper truths in

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## Adler lecture review

what the student had said. Leo Strauss admired that ability in Mr. Klein and remarked that he himself lacked the patience to excel in that way. His usual way in class was to lecture for about fifteen or twenty minutes, and then to invite discussion. Much more than Adler's question periods, these discussions were genuine discussions. Strauss was genuinely interested in what other people had to say. On occasion when a student would repeat, for whatever motives, something he, Strauss, had written on the subject of discussion, he might say something like, "Yes, I'm familiar with that, but I'd really like to know what other reactions to this text are." He had a very good sense for what someone had to think through for him or her self. It was only years later that I could appreciate those occasions, when in repose to a query his eyes would smile and he'd say, "Well, think it through."

More important still is the fact that his thinking itself was dialectical, that is to say, it lived in tension between different contrary and contradictory fundamental opinions. He was fond of Pascal's remark that we know too much to be skeptics and too little to be dogmatists, and adapted it to describe his own position, which he thought was also Socrates's position, as zetetic, that is, searching, searching for the truth. He was keenly aware that truth can apply

both to knowledge and to opinion. "Philosophy as such," he once wrote, "is nothing but genuine awareness of the problems, i.e., of the fundamental and comprehensive problems. It is impossible to think about these problems without becoming inclined toward a solution. ... Yet as long as there is no wisdom but only quest for wisdom, the evidence of all solutions is necessarily smaller than the evidence of the problems. Therefore the philosopher ceases to be a philosopher at the moment at which the "subjective certainty" of a solution becomes stronger than his awareness of the problematic character of that solution. At that moment the sectarian is born. The danger of succumbing to the attraction of solutions is essential to philosophy which, without incurring this danger, would degenerate into playing with the problems. But the philosopher does not necessarily succumb to this danger, as is shown by Socrates...." (*On Tyranny*, p. 210)

The fundamental intra-philosophic dialectical tension in his thought was the tension between ancient and modern philosophy. (See "What is Political Philosophy?" and *Natural Right and History*.) The other fundamental tension in his thought was the tension between philosophic reason and revealed religion. (See *Philosophy and Law* and *Persecution and the Art of Writing*.) He was attracted more to the solutions of ancient philosophy than to the modern solutions, but never ceased to think about, or to study, the great moderns, Descartes, Spinoza, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel and Nietzsche, with great intensity. He insisted on studying every serious thinker in that thinker's own terms, and had little patience with the kind of scholarship that criticizes philosophers for "erroneous" answers to questions that the philosophers never raised; that is, the defective

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## a response from Laurence Berns

scholarship that fails to try to understand the great thinkers as they understood themselves. This failure can often be traced to a failure to attend sufficiently to the problems of philosophic rhetoric. This insistence on understanding serious thinkers in their own terms has led casual observers, like Mr. Adler, to think that Strauss was uncritical. Strauss tried to present every serious argument, including those with which he disagreed, in its strongest possible form. Because he was primarily interested in and primarily wrote for those who were dedicated to following arguments and because most of the arguments he wrote about were serious and worth considering, he did not usually flag them with "right" or "wrong". I know of more than one normally competent, but insufficiently careful, reader that has mistaken views Strauss has criticized as being his own; of elaborate criticisms of Strauss that misapprehend because they fail to attend to some single word like "seem" or "manner". In this sense Strauss is a very dialectical writer; he cannot be understood without carefully attending to the dialectical tensions he articulates. Mr. Adler, whom I have found to be a rather insightful interpreter of writers like Aristotle, Anselm, Aquinas and Darwin, is a poor interpreter of more dialectical writers like Plato and Strauss.

Mr. Adler charges, rather than argues, that Strauss is an elitist, as if Thrasymachean assertion were all that is needed to settle the issue. Strauss is not in bad company here. Does Adler also condemn the author of *The Declaration of Independence* . . . who wrote, "The natural aristocracy [is] the most precious gift of nature, for the instruction, the trusts, and government of society.... May we not even say, that form of government is the best which provides the most effectually for a pure selection of these natural *aristoi* into the offices of government?" (Thomas Jefferson, Letter to Sam Adams, October 28, 1813). In fact in this regard Strauss is probably less "elitist" than Jefferson: as the best article known to me on Strauss and liberal democracy puts it, "That Strauss and the classics, for all practical purposes, favored the rule of law rather than men and were averse to arbitrary government is not plain to all. That is because although their support of the rule of law was unhesitating, their approval of it was not unqualified." ("Leo Strauss and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy" by Hilail Gildin in *The Crisis*

*of Liberal Democracy: A Straussian Perspective*, eds. K.L. Deutsch and W. Soffer). On the matter of Strauss and liberal democracy Adler again speaks in ignorance. He has not even begun to do his homework.

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*Mr. Adler usually is a very good expository lecturer; dialectician he is not.*

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He seems to trace this view of Strauss to a conversation they had where Strauss either defended or refused to condemn the fundamental principle of Aristotle's Politics, that some men are by nature rulers and others by nature ruled. Adler seems to think that Aristotle's position is refuted by the assertion that now we know that the alleged difference is due to "nurture not nature". It almost goes without saying that almost everyone knows of cases where these different types have arisen out of conditions that seem in almost every way constituted to produce their opposites; that is part of what "by nature" means. This question, it seems to me, is an empirical or factual question. Mortimer Adler, it also seems to me, is a living refutation of his own views on this matter. One need only watch him in action: he quite naturally seems to move to "take over" or rule

every situation he finds himself in. "Age cannot wither. . . nor custom stale [his] infinite [capacity]." However this may be, I invite students to be open-minded about this question: observe your friends and acquaintances, yourselves, fellow students, student and other organizations, the kinds and backgrounds of people who become leaders, the kinds and backgrounds of those who don't, the kinds who last as leaders, the kinds that don't, etc. Then one might also consider how the greatest political psychologist in the English language, William Shakespeare, has dealt with this question in his *King John*, *Henry VI (II)*, *Richard II*, *Henry IV (I and II)* and *Henry V*.

The denial of natural inequality plays an important role in the educational philosophy of Adler and Robert Maynard Hutchins. They used to argue as follows: Great Books education is education for leadership; in a democracy everyone is a leader; therefore, in a democracy everyone should receive a Great Books education. This argument does not adequately address the question of natural capacities. In practice that question cannot be ignored. Neither Hutchins' University of Chicago, nor their favorite Great Books college, St. John's, has ceased to set standards for admission.

Adler claims to be incensed by the hypocrisy of the subtitle of Allan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind: How Higher Education has Failed Democracy*—  
continued on page 10

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## Adler lecture review continued

continued from page 9

racy and *Impoverished the Souls of Today's Students*. Liberal democracy is ill-served by its egalitarian "true believers": Bloom has every right to that subtitle. In company with *The Federalist*, #10 and the American Founders in their Constitutional Convention he knows that the health and long life of liberal democracy depends on the people's representatives being clear about the limitations and problematic character of democracy; and one of the best ways to arrive at that clarity is to think seriously and carefully about the classical critiques of democracy. Unbridled egalitarian democracy is one of the most direct roads through demagoguery to despotism. Bridled, or constitutional and representative, democracy, fully aware of democracy's dangers as well as its virtues, would seem to be the answer for those who are interested in combining political freedom with high civilization

over the long haul.

It is clear that Mr. Adler would not have launched his ill-informed attacks against Leo Strauss, if he did not think he could use them to discredit Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind*. His anger at Bloom's slighting reference to himself is understandable. But the Agamemnon of American education (whose wrath in this case has taken on Achillean proportions) should not be unmindful of the fact that he and the Achilles who does not acknowledge his authority are fighting the same war, for basically the same cause, the cause of education in the classics.

My focus in these remarks has been on Leo Strauss, but some remarks should be made here, for those who have not read the book, about *The Closing of the American Mind*. I suggest that it be tested out: read the introduction, "Our Virtue" ("open-mindedness"), to see if you want to read the rest. That chapter

is the best account I have ever seen of the relativist religiosity that seems to have dominated the minds of most intellectual students entering college during the last fifteen or twenty years. I have some reservations about the book, most of which have been covered by Bloom's more competent reviewers, reviewers like Charles Kesler, Eva Brann and George Anastaplo, but those reservations are minor in comparison with the book's provoking merits. The question persists about how a book this good could become so popular.

This controversy, despite its less seemly aspects, touches on some fundamental questions: all three of the men we have been considering, in different ways and measure, can aid us in reflecting on what it is in our world, in our country and in ourselves that makes it possible for genuine learning, for true education, to take place.

## Messing about in boats

by Melissa Kurtz '91

"There is nothing, simply nothing, better than messing about in boats." A character in *Wind and the Willows* says something like that (sorry, I don't have it handy, and I can only remember Oscar Wilde verbatim) and as about 80 Johnnies found out on Sunday, he was right. We gathered down at the docks under bright but cloudy skies threatening rain and cold. Many had reconsidered their choice of clothing (shorts) and opted for many layers, long pants and anything waterproof. But it turned out that all of our experience with Greek Mythology paid off and the Gods were smiling on us, for not a drop of rain was shed.

The crews embarked on their assigned boats, which came in many shapes, sizes and colors (mine was orange to go very appropriately with its name, "Goldfish") and off we sailed into the bay. We didn't see much of each other for a couple of hours as each crew went its own way with whatever wind it

came upon. Our boat went under the Bay Bridge to catch the end of the catamaran races while everyone oohed and aahed at the speeds they were going (25mph as opposed to our 6). We tacked back and forth and by the end of the trip had gotten so good at scrambling from one side of the boat to the other that our captain said we were ready for the next America's Cup!

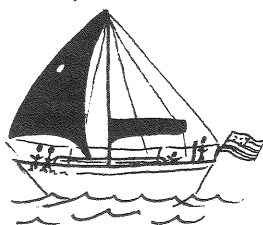
At about 4:30 we came to the rendezvous and eight of the boats were all tied up alongside each other floating on one anchor. We broke open the lunches (we'd been feasting on beer and Dorritos and such up till then) and toured our neighbors' boats, especially if there happened to be a 'head' on board. Some people played cards, others watched TV, and some of us learned about reading the nautical charts to avoid going aground out in the Bay.

An hour or so later we broke apart and headed home. The Goldfish sported a huge American flag about the size of a Campbell double and majestic enough to make anyone feel just a tad more patriotic. Sailing back in the setting sun we learned how the crews sit on racing vessels and felt sure that we were the only thing stopping the boat from tipping over as it leaned precariously at a 45 degree angle. The wind blew in our faces, the water splashed at our feet (and

sometimes in our faces) and Steve Winwood played on the stereo to set the scene of peaceful relaxation... And then it was another tack and another repositioning of the troops, back into action.

Back at Annapolis and heading for a berth, we got to go through the Eastport drawbridge's raised middle and make a Domino's Pizza guy sweat. Then it was back to school, with a little more color in our cheeks, spring in our step and tales to tell of our adventures until we get to do it all again next year!

Since we all had such a great time we'd like to extend our hearty thanks to The Friends of St. John's who gave so generously of their time, boats, and sailing expertise, and Nancy Osius who was the mastermind of organization behind it all! Three cheers for everyone involved!



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# Wickets, middies, croquet, and Yanni

by Yanni '91

It's a little bit sunny. Bunch of guys hitting balls around. We've got the warm colors. Brad is going to send that ball to where Dave can use it. Nancy Osius asks "Who's that guy crouching with the cigarette? He looks like he knows what's going on." Dave smokes.

Post lady asks me what this game is all about. Didn't even get a mention in her article. Blue is about to get used. That's it. It's all about using people. Methods? They are big boys, they can get drunk and lose if they want to.

Where is the crowd? All lovers are cute. Absolutely false. We are leading, but they got all three balls through. Leave it to a Mid. Fritz is kicking some serious butt. Those red bow ties are the rebellious look for the Mids. Splatter them with my warm blood. Those shirts are too white. Red is dead on yellow. Only things Ty says will make it into the *Post*. Oh God! It's

the end of another year. I can remember, after Spring Break, saying that there was so little time. So little time. How can I sum it up? I talk too much. Empty headed words. Repent in dust and ashes. This article is stupid. Indulge me.

The Sterlings are here. Mrs. Sterling is still the most beautiful woman in the

world. The very spirit of woman. Mr. Sterling is breaking cookies in half. She's wearing a new bowling shirt that says "Misfits." Someone offered her a hundred dollars for it, but there is no place to eat in Annapolis.

Fritz insists that we are half way

web. They are very powerful men. He cracked his ball on Christine's. I've long since stopped trying. Who cares? This light is really bothering me. Speak to me! Damn silence. Empty headed words. And you ask me why I'm not fun anymore. Honesty. It's not such a wonder. Is it? Dave did a back roll.

We are so very formal. The *Post* has a whole folder on us. Says we are a talking school. "In a good seminar there is cooperation. Silence and effective listening count." I hope they come up with a good cheer. Through another wicket. What would I be like if I wasn't totally insecure? Lots of applause, but nothing happened. No one wants to read this. Who's the artist now? There are so few correct ways to spell the word "love."

The blankets are like islands. People make each place they are their own. Island hopping. Going from blanket to blanket. I hope they remember me. Yellow is dead on red. The trick to writing is to keep



through, but my head and shoulders feel no different than the rest of my body. He says he's not shooting very well. Give me a break. Wickets. Gateways. Oh! Mother Mary! It seems to have gotten worse. Ancillary. That's what dad said when I told him I needed to leave. When I said too many buildings had mocking eyes and brows.

Dillard is through two wickets. Mr. Middie puts his heel on the ball and misses. Yellow is dead on red. How to avoid it? I am. Become self dialogue. Get off me.

Middie could have demolished Christine. He just tapped her a little bit. The basic idea is easy to understand, its the dead-ball live-ball stuff that really confuses. People from Cleveland are here. Lobbyists and lawyers are here.

Enthusiastic Johnnies cry, "Eidos, eidos, send them to Barbados." Bobby Demo is suspended by a very long cob

your hand moving.

George isn't really smart, he's just a stud. The beast is turning. We are going to win. One game is over.

This game is over. Sorry. I really am. I open my mouth, I press my pen to the page, and all I am capable of are apologies. What kind of man is this? Only capable of sorries.

Empty. I talk way too much. Fall on my knees and beg for forgiveness; knowing the one who can't forgive is me. How could I be so vain? Can't see beyond the length of my arm. What a pit! What a perfect fit! To be tolerable as I scorn. To be listenable as I mourn.

This really is wickedness. You can be sure that in my own petty way, I abhor it. Most of all I abhor my pettiness. No, it is over. This game had rules. Blue is dead on orange. I just couldn't find the wickets. And sometimes, I couldn't even find the mallet. Goodbye Annapolis.



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# Announcements

## Computer room

The semester is almost over and there have been few problems with the computer room, thanks to the cooperation of the users. Besides the acquisition of new computers, the improvements that can be made include, returning the Word Perfect manual that disappeared, not leaving any food or open drinks near the computers or manuals, keeping the paper sufficiently stocked, and treating the temperamental printers with tender loving care.

Nonetheless, the computer room has seen increasing use even during non-essay writing periods and has consistently allowed almost everyone to walk away with a finished paper. Next year should see an increased number of computers open to the student body due to the fact that people have to often wait to use one of the two IBMs currently in place; this will not only make using the computer room more convenient it will also give more students a chance to take advantage of word processing.

I would advise anyone interested in purchasing a computer to wait until the end of the school year to decide, as there is a strong possibility that students, staff, and faculty will have the opportunity of purchasing Apple Macintosh Computers at significant discounts. Watch for more details within the next two weeks.

Joe Larson  
Computer Room Assistant

## McDowell tables refinished

The tables from the McDowell classrooms are being carefully refinished by Chuck Wallace, the College carpenter. Please do not carve initials or any other signs or symbols into them when they return to the trailer classrooms. Mr. Wallace has worked painstakingly on them; we all ought to spend some time admiring his work and thereby thanking him.

John Verdi, Assistant Dean

## Thanks to Leo

We, the undersigned captionians of the sports teams, would like to express our public gratitude to--the new kid on the block, the skinny, bearded guy with a limp and Dodgers cap, the A.D. himself--Leo Paul Pickens for his outstanding work this year with the sports program.

Anthony Nyberg  
Ray Gifford  
Nate Herz  
Garfield Goodrum  
John Silver  
George Turner  
Joe Boucher  
Scott Stenger  
Linda Hamm  
Jeanne Duvoisin  
Tamara Wilson  
Anne Pantalone

## Quiet on the quad

The Student Life Committee would like to remind students of the rules governing the use of the quad. Loud music on the quad spoils its use for those who would prefer activities--reading, conversation, rest--that require quiet; very loud music on the quad makes these kinds of activities impossible elsewhere on campus as well. Therefore, we call everyone's attention to page 16 of the Student Manual (1988-89):

Quad Parties. Quad parties should be restricted to Friday afternoons between 4:30 and 7:00 p.m. The volume of the Polity Stereo must be kept to an acceptable level.

Security, the Resident Assistants, and the Director of Residence will continue to enforce these rules, which have recently been ignored on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

At the same time, we regret that it has come to our attention that the workers in McDowell have been placing stereos in open windows. We have written a letter to the Treasurer to point out this violation of the Sleep/Study Rule. ally, we are interested in hearing what Miss Polity Hostess might have to say about noise on campus.

Ken Colston, Director of Residence  
Wendy Allanbrook, Assistant Dean  
John Verdi, Assistant Dean

## Dear polity

As many of your readers know already, Wednesday April 26 at around six o'clock Helen and I thought that our daughter Thalia was missing from Reverdy Johnson House, and of course we panicked. We notified the Switchboard and Security and Thalia's campus friends and babysitters and finally the Annapolis police. Within minutes most of the students on campus were sharing our alarm, and many started looking for her. Nancy Upperman checked F.S.K. and then hopped on her mo-ped; Dwayne Rodgers and Sahana Dhar-mapuri ruined a pair of shoes in town; April Dobbs and Cherie Craig went door-to-door through the housing projects. Jennifer Johnston and Heather Noone and Mondy Doorandish and countless others, too numerous to thank by listing here, scurried about, looking and consoling. Sergeant Adams, Corporal Commodore, and Nan Dunn at the Switchboard managed the radio search. When we found Thalia, sound asleep in her room and rather annoyed that she had missed the uproar, Helen and I counted ourselves lucky to live in this wonderful, warm neighborhood, and we were grateful, for once, that gossip travels fast here.

Ken and Helen Colston

## Don Rags

Don Rags will be held Monday, May 15th through Friday, May 19th. The Don Rag schedule is posted in FSK lobby.

May I remind you that tutorials and laboratories will be cancelled on Don Rag days unless rescheduled by your tutor. Seminars will continue to meet. If you have any questions, please come to Ms. Owens or me.

Nancy R. Lewis, Registrar

## Boathouse path

Security has requested that, for your safety, Community members use the lighted path when walking to and from the Boathouse at night.

John Verdi  
Assistant Dean



# Phedre crossword puzzle

by Rachel Boyce '90

## ACROSS

- 5 Phedre's death  
 6 What Phedre wants Hipp. to be for her  
 9 Eunone  
 13 Far East  
 14 Ignorant  
 16 Young horse  
 17 "\_\_\_\_\_ to none"  
 18 Insanity  
 19 Before  
 20 Intense fear  
 22 Clothos spins one for each of us  
 25 Mother  
 26 Vessel  
 29 Humiliation  
 31 Aricie to Phedre  
 34 One gifted by the Gods  
 35 Bewildered  
 36 God  
 39 Sharp tooth  
 42 "\_\_\_\_\_ and behold!"  
 43 Proper  
 44 Contempt  
 45 Admission 46 Anger

## DOWN

- 1 "I \_\_\_\_\_ for Theseus"  
 2 The goddess seeking revenge  
 3 Ruth was one before marriage  
 4 "Yet who would have thought the old man to have so much \_\_\_\_\_ in him?" -Macbeth  
 5 Bishop's seat  
 7 Fruit  
 8 Disgusting  
 10 "one" to Jrs and Srs  
 11 One's people/lineage  
 12 What Phedre takes from Hipp.  
 15 Street sign abbr.  
 16 Theseus to Hippolytus  
 21 Setting of the play  
 23 Hippolytus' mother  
 24 "Over hill, over \_\_\_\_\_"  
 27 Underworld  
 28 Phedre's means of death  
 29 Agean \_\_\_\_\_  
 30 Hipp.'s love interest  
 32 Animal nature  
 33 Courage  
 34 Death carries one  
 37 "\_\_\_\_\_ little indians"  
 38 "Oui" en anglais  
 40 Neither/ \_\_\_\_\_  
 41 Build

## Cryptic Crossword I - Solutions and Explanations

## Across

1. Cathedral (cat-hedral)  
 7. Ear (middle of HEART)  
 8. Drama (butter = RAM in D.A.)  
 9. Climbs (Latin C for 100 + LIMBS)  
 10. Co. (becomes COBRA)  
 11. Thing (THIN + G)  
 13. No  
 15. Reward (DRAWER backwards)  
 16. Sieve (EVE IS backwards)  
 18. Eon (end of CREON)  
 20. Euripides (Anagram of RISE UP, DIE)

## Down

2. Air (head of ARISTOTLE)  
 3. Hamlet (need I say more?)  
 4. Do (note of scale)  
 5. Lemma (L + EMMA)  
 6. Aristotle (Anagram of RATS LIE TO)  
 8. Descartes (Anag. of SCARED, SET backwards)  
 9. Child (hidden in germanic HILDebrandslied)  
 12. Gemini (GEM IN I)  
 14. Swine (Anag. of IS NEW)  
 17. Vie (VI, first letter of EGG)  
 19. Pi (in EuriPides)

## This Week's Answers

b	v	g
b	suicide	l
lover	nurse	
orient	unaware	
foal	second	
madness	ere	
t	g	dread
thread		t
e	ma	ship
rival	a	o
dazed	deity	canine
lo	e	seemly
confessions	t	ire
r	n	h
		e
		t

# Sports Sports

by Gigi Escalante '92

It may have been 1989 for the rest of the world, but at St. John's College it was 1 A.D.-- the year of Leo Pickens, Athletic Director. Christ may have saved most of the world, but Mr. P. resurrected the St. John's sports program. This year he has changed the way we feel about the Great Books Program. His philosophy?: the Great-Souled Person puts SPORTS BEFORE BOOKS. His first challenge as A.D. was converting non-believers--women who thought doing seminar readings was more important than playing soccer. And by the time basketball season had rolled around, he had collected quite an ungodly number of disciples. Through hours of practice before and after volleyball games, he instilled in us the four virtues of true believers in the sports program: determination, discipline, sportsmanship, and good hand-eye

coordination. He also instructed us in the truth that, while mercy *may* have a place in our lives, it has *no* place on the badminton court. With our eyes on the heavenly bodies, each shot will be a sure one. With handball, he introduced us to the Ark of the Covenant.

Every Saviour must have apostles to spread His Word, although His Word may be, "Hey man, let's play team handball!" An efficient saviour need not have twelve apostles, our Mr. P. had but four: Linda Hamm '89, Tamara Wilson '90, Jeanne Duvoisin '89, and Anne Pantalone '89.

Another Saviour "must have" are commandments. Since 10 seems to be the number of choice, so has he:

## The 10 Commandments of Mr. P.

1. Thou shalt not haveth false books before sports.
2. Thou shalt not playeth real sports.
3. Thou shalt not harasseth the A.D. with complaints.
4. Thou shalt not playeth football with Messrs. Silver, Monaghan, Papadopoulos, and Sterling if thou wisheth to haveth a healthy knee.
5. Thou shalt not placeth bets beyond one's means, although thou thinketh it to be a "sure thing".
6. Thou shalt not distinguisheth betwixt winning and losing.
7. Thou shalt not haveth a referee that can stay awake an entire soccer game.
8. Thou shalt not playeth man-to-man defense against Claire Morgan or Zone defense against the Amazons.
9. Thou shalt not hitteth the gym lights with volleyballs if thou does not wisheth to buy the A.D. a six-pack.
10. Thou shalt not haveth visible lines on the women's handball field.

## Notes from Leo

■Congratulations are in order to Blase Bechtel and Garfield Goodrum, who went over the 400 point mark and thereby earned their blazers.

■Speaking of blazer points: Anthony Nyberg, in his quest for the elusive blazer, pulled out all stops and beat Ty Yancey, David Trimmer, and Don Labenski to win the racquetball tournament. He now has 386 points. Can he do it? I don't know. Word has it that, if Mr. Nyberg does not stop misbehaving, the assistant deans will start fining him blazer points.

■In the marathon, the Druids beat the Hustlers by 50 yards on the final lap. Paul Gibert, John Isham, John Capps, Charlie Schlueter, and Dave Dillard proved the maroon speedsters. The key to the Druid victory--Mr. Boucher's inspirational lap--kicked the Druids into higher gear.

■The women's marathon also came down to the final lap. Linda Hamm pulled the Amazons ahead of the Nymphs with one lap or so to go. Lorie Schmidt, Siofra Rucker, Sarah Schoedinger, Nell Sweeney, and Sapna Gandhi also ran well.

## Rowing news

Both men's and women's Novice 8 crews from St. John's College recorded good finishes in competition at Baltimore in the College Cup Regatta on April 23rd.

The women sprinted to a second-place finish, overtaking Johns Hopkins University in the final 300 metres of the 2,000 metre course to finish only 9 seconds behind Loyola.

The men's 8 placed third, only 17 seconds behind Loyola and 17.5 seconds behind first-place finisher Johns Hopkins.

Novice St. John's rowers also competed with more experienced rowers in four-person shells, with the women

"rowing up" to a fourth-place finish behind Baltimore Rowing Club, but ahead of University of Baltimore.

This is the first full intercollegiate season for the St. John's Crew, during which they challenged more experienced rowing programs and recorded several first, second, and third-place finishes.

On the homefront, the St. John's College Rowing Club sponsored an "ergothon" in April, during which club members rowed almost two hundred miles on rowing machines and raised over \$500 for the rowing program. The club's fundraising goal is \$5,000 for the purchase of new boats.



## 'Play' fills F.S.K.

*continued from page 4*

"Play," remarkable at St. John's for its professionalism, ambition and nearly flawless execution, was not to be missed.

Creaking, then tittering in the darkness. A single diffused spot discovers a woman in a rocking chair on an otherwise empty stage. She wears black with a meaty red carnation over her left breast. She rocks back and forth. She "laughs" about some indefinite this, "This is all too funny. . . really!" She laughs hysterically, occasionally interjecting a line. Then she not quite abruptly begins to "cry" about an indefinite this. Later, she asks herself, "And if I cry? How do I cry. . . with my eyes?" The play, as in "Play" repeats itself. Here, the repetition has a different function; it makes the play both more and less sad and funny.

Mr. Rodgers's direction of his own work is meticulous, sometimes overly so. The visual impact was insane, arresting. More important than that, the emotional impact was. . . Ms. McAmis was exceptional. Her sometimes hollow, sometimes full "laughing" and "crying" never failed to convey the tenuous nature of laughing and crying. Never failed to titter, to teeter. Every gesture was crisp and controlled, but never stilted. She managed, as the script dictates, to laugh and cry simultaneously -- sometimes doing both and neither. The script revealed Mr. Rodgers's talent for using very few and relatively simple words to announce a plethora of connections. This plethora is suffused with sincerity and tautness. "Titter" is about the struggle of the moment, the struggle for spiritual propriety. Am I feeling the right thing? Am I feeling anything? By ending on "yes", the play answers the question. . . if only for the moment.

Mr. Rodgers demands to be taken seriously even by those who do not appreciate his work. His four productions this year (three self-written): "The Playwright", "Godot Arrives", "Titter" and "Play" by Beckett are an apt reflection of this audacious character.

## Bob's Quest

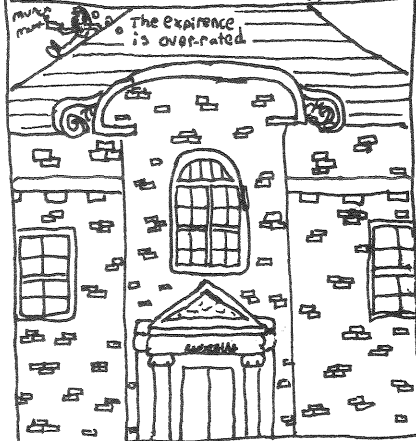
To be honest, I couldn't actually think of a good way to end the year. So in the interest of democracy and freedom and the like, I've made a list of the top four. Perhaps we can get together and vote or something.

I keep getting mail from this Neil Sollow.



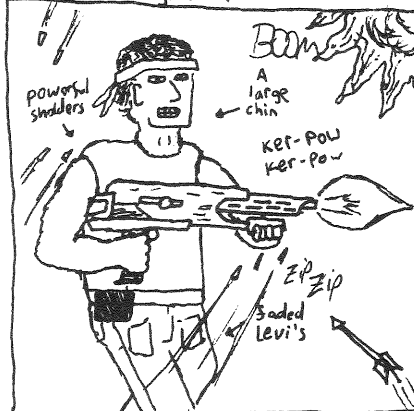
#1 Bob and Neil wave a tearful goodbye. Bob gives a heart-wrenching speech on friendship + forgets to write.

#3 Bob is trapped on the roof of Randall and is forced to eat his own tennis shoes to survive.

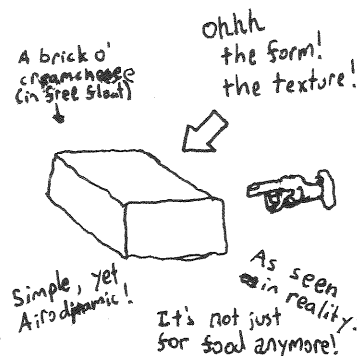


by S.D. Younger

#2 Bob dies in a serious gun play with drunken prospectives caused by an argument over how much Nietzsche should be on the program.



#4 Something about creamcheese.



Any ways... I think I've made myself clear. Wnda. Whatever. Ave atque Vale.

## Pendulum found

Sleuths Erika McConnell, Mike Noone, Gigi Escalante and Maureen Hatch liberated the St. John's College Pendulum ball Saturday May 6.

They found the pilfered ball in the basement of Mellon in the cold storage area.

## Marathon man

Congratulations to Junior Dave Reese for completing his 10th marathon last Sunday.

--S.J.C.



## D.C. minutes

Munir Hussein President  
David Lucas Secretary  
Andrew Pietrus Treasurer  
Sandro Battaglia Polity Attorney

Megan Smith Paca-Carroll  
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Shelley Nicoll Paca-Carroll  
Dylan Barth Humphreys  
Jim Fallon Chase Stone

Sapna Gandhi East Pinkney  
Scott Young West Pinkney  
Paul Speck Off-Campus  
Kurt Ruzitz-Redfield Off-Campus  
Aaron Rosenbaum Off-Campus

The meeting took place at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, May 2 in the Conversation Room. The delegates listed above were those in attendance. The following commenced:

1. Through the mouth of Carlross Chamberlin, Eliot Duhan thanked the DC for their continued support throughout the year. In an effort to continue his reputation as a constant customer, he also requested \$200 to pay back the Reality Committee the money he had borrowed to pay Eugene Chadbourne. After some debate, delegates voted nearly unanimously for the allocation. Carlross was on his way.
2. DC Treasurer Andy Pietrus reported that the DC has \$3000 left to finish out the year. We also decided the phone in Randall will be shut off for the summer because it will be cheaper to start it up again then to pay for it all summer.
3. The Recycling Committee requests that everyone make an effort to contact a RC member if you are at a party and need someone to come and crush cans.
4. The Junior Class made an appearance to ask for money for Reality. This was necessary because the initial raintout of the croquet match ruined plans for a highly successful fund-raiser. They requested a \$1200 loan, but the DC found that something of a diminished expectation, and instead the second Fallon Proposal in two meetings brought the Juniors a \$1000 grant and a \$500 loan.
5. Sandro Battaglia explained he had been in action as Polity Attorney recently as a neutral third-party mediator in the wars of succession that recently had taken over the Gadfly offices. Mr. Battaglia eventually negotiated a truce in the form of a vote among Gadfly staff to choose an editor for next year between Carin Calabrese/Zoe Beatty and Tequila Brooks. Ms. Brooks lost this election but did make an appearance at the DC meeting to fully explain her side of the story. She felt she had been treated very badly, and presented several items that are now on file and can be viewed on request, that supported her case. The council simply requested that the Gadfly write a charter detailing procedures that can be used to avoid this problem in the future.
6. Blaise Bechtel could not attend in person but sent a long letter which was read by Mr. Hussein. It detailed why he felt the DC was wrong to deny the St. John's/Navy Friendship Club funds to pay for the buffet they hosted. However, after a long discussion the DC decided there was no reason to change their minds and voted unanimously to still deny the appropriation. As a helpful hint to Mr. Bechtel and all other members of the community who request money, I would suggest always asking for money before the money is already been spent. You cannot count on the DC to provide funds for personal debts.
7. Kevin Depew was given \$40 to purchase a club for the golf club. This will be kept at the gym and be available to all. Mr. Depew also invited anyone interested to sign up for the driving contest that will be held over dead week.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 9, in the Conversation Room at 7:30 PM.

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