

Challenger

A Publication of the Harper College Honors Society

October 1994, Volume 5, Number 2

New leaders for a new year

Please join the Challenger staff in welcoming our new Honors Society officers! These dedicated members have volunteered to give the Society their best, and they look forward to leading us through an active and interesting school year.

Our group is very fortunate to have **Debbie Maday** as new president. Her experience and involvement in the Society will be a great asset. Last year Debbie acted as co-secretary of the Honors Society. This experience gave her insight into the governing process of the organization. She also was an enthusiastic attendee at our special events. And judging from her reports of last year's picnic, it's one event none of us should miss!

This year Debbie is hard at work in her first semester in the nursing program, but somehow finds the time to serve on the Phi Theta Kappa board as secretary. She plans to pursue a career in geriatric nursing but she says, "First I have to get through *this* program—nursing is a whole lot

of work!" Her suggestion to new members: "Get involved by coming to the Wednesday meetings. The officers really need your input, and the meetings are a good place to let us know what you want most from the Society."

Heather Tollerson has agreed to serve as vice president and she will no doubt play an important part in keeping the club running smoothly. "The role of vice president is somewhat nebulous," she says. "I'll basically see to it that nothing is left undone and pick up any loose ends."

Heather brings with her an array of experience from various clubs she participated in during high school, including the French club, speech team and policy debate groups. In her first semester at Harper she is serving as secretary of the French club and enjoying Honors courses English 101 and Literature 110. Heather plans to major in biochemistry and possibly work in medical research.

In the position of treasurer we are pleased to have

Jeff Krohn, a person who definitely knows his way around an invoice! Jeff has spent many years working in various fields of financial services and feels confident he will serve the Society well in this position. "I suppose I don't *need* to serve on the board," he offered. "But, the group needs *me* and I believe I'll have a lot to offer as treasurer."

A transfer student from Illinois State University, Jeff is also a veteran of the U.S. Army. He has served in Central America, Germany and other distant locations, performing satellite communication duties.

Leaders, continued on page 4

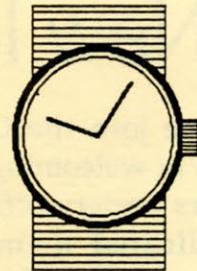
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Of The Belonging Kind...

Of all there is to fear in life no longer give I heed
not to failure, nor to loss of fortune or identity
not loss of limb or life, for my destruction do I plead:
no, I fear no other shall I find who can compare with Thee...
Who could compete with memories so perfectly preserved?
How could another I adore when still I love Thee so?
Why must my heart you shackle when my love you don't deserve
and how can I still love when Thee pitched my affections to and fro?
But could another be as lovely, delicate and rare
in taste and feel and smell and dress as feminine and fine?
Thus captivated even I could not pretend to care
were She as perfect as a circle and belong in every kind
 But if She were not heartless, cruel, nor otherwise inclined
 More than Thee I'd love Her
 being not of your belonging kind.

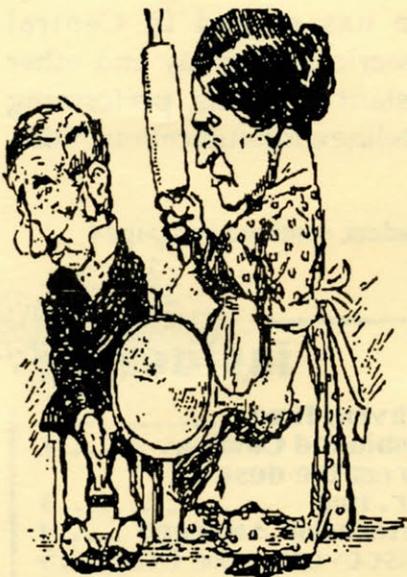
Rhyme Time



*-submitted by an Honors Society member;
name withheld upon request.*

Unbiased Opinions (and other oxymorons)

from Karen Mermel ...



The first paragraph of your Hey! article caught my eye. I thought that our Honors newsletter had finally "gotten with it." As I looked for your E-mail address I found that the *Challenger* is not "on-line" and "in-sync."

Being an empowered (almost out-of-date terminology) employee of a data processing consulting firm, I volunteer to take submissions for the *Challenger* via E-mail at NSSLADY@aol.com. I will prepare them for publication and send them snail mail to the *Challenger*.

If you really want some good discussion, as a member of PETA, I will try to get to the Honors meeting on 11/9 to talk about animals in captivity and other animal issues, but I can't guarantee it.

I am on the Board of Directors of the National Space Society and chair of Strategic Planning for them. I am also the Spacehouse National Phone Bank administrator, on the Budget Committee, and Volunteer Activist of the Year for NSS. My plan is to take off of work early on 11/2 to attend the Honors meeting on our Space Program. Be there!

Submissions for "Unbiased Opinions" or "Rhyme Time" can be placed in the Challenger box, A380.

From the Desk of Dr. Hull

A few weeks ago Nancy Wahl, a fellow board member of our local chapter of American Association for Women in Community Colleges, AAWCC, (membership open to both men and women) and I had a discussion about going against common wisdom. Nancy called it being a salmon. We agreed that we're both salmon, by temperament and by choice.

'60s. Jim Jones led more than a hundred of his sect to death in a mass suicide in the '70s, and recently we've seen David Koresh's followers go up in flames. We don't hear those commercials of the '50s any more and good riddance. We're coming to realize that religion can be a force for good or evil, and much can be justified in the name of a God who does not allow His followers to question authority.

really can get elected to their parliament after a campaign meant as a practical joke. Today's paper says Oliver North is ahead in the race for senator in Virginia, in spite of his undisputed lying under oath in testimony to the Senate (his conviction was thrown out on a technicality about self-incrimination, not a denial of the facts, which he himself corroborated.)

Here's my salmon heresy for today: If you don't know anything about the issues or the candidates' positions, you shouldn't vote. Of course, you can inform yourself. It takes some time and effort, but the stakes are high. Democracy only functions well with an informed electorate. And we get the government we deserve.

Meanwhile, the League of Women Voters of the Palatine Area—non-partisan organization (membership open to both men and women)—is still looking for an interested Harper student to intern with the board of directors. See me for details. This is a unique oppor-

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I remember in the '50s when every weekend brought public service radio commercials that urged, "Worship at the church or synnagogue of your choice: but worship." The message was clear: organized religion is socially beneficial. Communism (our enemy) was godless; therefore, democracy must be devout. At the time, I wondered about some of the so-called mainstream religions that preached intolerance of other religions, not to mention the covens of witches, that were very chic when I was an undergraduate at Northwestern in the

Now I think it's time to examine the assumption that our nation would be a better place if everybody, or at least more of our citizens, voted. When the uninformed vote, strange things can occur, as happened a few years ago when two LaRouchie candidates succeeded in the Democratic primary in Illinois. Eddie Murphy made a very funny movie about getting

Democracy only functions well with an informed electorate.

elected to Congress through name recognition in an improbable coincidence, but candidates

tunity to educate yourself and the system.

Elizabeth Anne Hull



Officers left to right : Heather Tollerson, Norm Held, Jr., Dr. Hull, Debbie Maday, Jeff Krohn

Internship Anyone?

The League of Women Voters of the Palatine Area is again sponsoring an intern membership for a Harper College student. They granted three memberships in a pilot program last year, all filled by Honors Society members, but this year chose to concentrate on a single person who could benefit from mentoring by the entire board of directors.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization promoting good government through informed voter choices. Working at the local, regional and national levels, they provide government oversight, promote voter registration and disseminate information through candidates' forums. The LWV-PA welcomes both men and women from Palatine, Inverness, Rolling Meadows, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg.

The person selected this year for membership needs to make the commitment to attend the monthly board meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of the month, and the general meetings held once a month.

This is a wonderful opportunity for someone seeking to better understand government, contribute to the community, network with interesting people and promote responsible citizenry. Anyone interested in applying for the position should contact Dr. Hull.

-Michelle Smith

Leaders, continued from page 1

In addition to his involvement on the board, Jeff is taking three Honors courses: Speech 101, English 101 and Geography 101. Jeff is working towards a degree in business administration and plans to transfer to Northern University where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in accounting.

Our officers appear to be as diverse as the Honors Society members themselves, and Norm Held, Jr. is no exception. Norm has graciously offered to act as secretary for the group, despite a 40-hour work week and a busy school schedule.

While some of us might liken our co-workers to animals, Norm can honestly say his workplace is filled with them. Along with three resident monkeys, (No, they're not for sale!), Norm spends his working hours in a Palatine pet shop. It sounds like fun, but it also offers Norm valu-

able experience he is sure to need in his pursuit of a career in zookeeping.

He has a limited amount of time to devote to attending school, but he explains, "It may take a while, but it's been a dream of mine. Someday it will happen—I just take it one step at a time." Norm is taking one Honors course this semester, Speech 101, and hopes to serve the Society well in his position on the board.

Please heed the suggestion of our president and be sure to let our new officers know what you want from the Honors Society. They are ready and willing to use your ideas and requests—let's take advantage of the many talents on our board and make this year a great one!

- Dawn Cassiday

Discovering "The Other"

New course featuring African American Literature opens doors to a new area of human experience.

Literature should challenge students to develop critical thinking skills, refine their understanding of writing techniques and, most importantly, literature should introduce students to fresh ideas and aspects of human behavior unique to their own experience. Literature 115 is an Honors course that will be offered next semester for the first time at Harper. Featuring the works of contemporary African American writers and exploring the Harlem Renaissance movement, this

"We read literature to discover 'the other.' We find that reading brings us closer to other people and helps us to connect with the rest of the world."

new course will focus on a very important portion of human experience that, until recent years, has been neglected.

According to Roy Mottla, who will be teaching the course, "We read literature to discover 'the other.' We find that reading brings us closer to other people and helps us to connect with the rest of the world." In his syllabus he defines goals for the course beyond the requirements of an ordinary literature class. He aims to introduce students to African American literature

and the Harlem Renaissance as neglected literary, artistic movements, discuss development of themes within this literary movement and introduce students to some of the major authors of the movement. Most importantly, he aims "to introduce students to a different view of the American experience and to human experience."

The three credit hour class will feature the works of prominent African American authors including Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes and many others. Mottla believes that presenting a wide variety of works within the same class in a systematic manner will provide a cohesive format that will best display the evolving themes in African American literature.

Mottla, who has been teaching with Harper College for 21 years has created a course that is destined to be both interesting and educational. Besides the wide variety of literature and the novelty of the topic, the course will feature a trip to the DuSable Museum where Mottla anticipates that the students will gain "first hand acquaintance with some of the artifacts of African American life and their meaning to the community." He says, "I think the students who

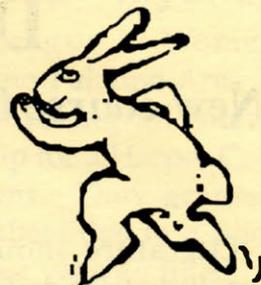
take the course will enjoy the readings which is, of course, the reason for taking a literature course. I would encourage any student who has an inclination to take the course to act on that inclination."

-Liz Carr

Calendar

Week I	Introduction to course. Charles Chesnutt
Week II	Hughes <u>The Best of Simple</u>
Weeks III and IV	Hurston <u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u>
Weeks V and VI	Wright <u>Native Son</u>
Weeks VII, VIII and IX	Ellison <u>Invisible Man</u>
Weeks X	Baldwin <i>Selected short stories/film</i>
Week XI	Bambara <i>Selected short stories/film</i>
Week XII	Morrison <u>Beloved</u>
Week XIII	Walker <u>Meridian</u>
Weeks XV and XVI	Student presentations

Honors courses for Spring '95



WLIT	115-008	3 hrs.	M-W-F	9:00-9:50 a.m.	Roy Mottla
ENG	102-021	3 hrs.	M-W-F	12:00-12:50 p.m.	Barbara Njus
PSC	260-001	3 hrs.	M-W	1:00-2:15 p.m.	Molly Waite
AST	101-003	4 hrs.	M-W	6:35-9:05 p.m.	Paul Szipiera
SPE	101-019	3 hrs.	T-R	9:25-10-40 a.m.	John Muchmore
PSY	101-018	3 hrs.	T-R	10:50 a.m. -12:05 p.m.	Linda Campbell
PHI	170-001	3 hrs.	T	6:35-9:15 p.m.	Jerry Stone
ENG	101-038	3 hrs.	R	6:35-9:15 p.m.	NancyDavis(computer assisted)
IDS -290 (Journalism: Honors Newsletter) 3-4 hrs. TBA					Rhea Dawson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!!

Adrian Agreste
 Azher Ahmed
 James Barrese
 Susan Brewer
 Tracy Burton
 Rizelle Capito
 Liz Carr
 Dawn Cassiday
 Andrew Ceponis
 George Chase
 Dawn Clausen
 Gene Cooper
 Anthony Divello
 Alis Esposito
 Myra Fermin
 Thomas Flori
 Christy Ford
 Gary Fuller II
 Jean Funk
 Kim Fuzessy
 Renate Galazka
 Joel Griffith
 Kevin Haracz
 Joshua Harbeck
 Carol Harland
 Rubina Hasan
 James Haydary

Annemarie Healy
 Norman Held, Jr.
 Amy Hogy
 Ryane Hunt
 Debra Ippolita-Brown
 Linda Iverson
 Allen Jones
 Kimberly Jones
 Jeannine Karwoski
 Mona Kaur
 Margaret Kindelin
 Anita Klosinski
 Ingrid Klune
 John Kocanda
 Jeffrey Krohn
 Thomas kropski
 Julie Laney
 Jill Lauerman
 Terri Leslie
 Peggy Mann
 Karen Mermel
 Zain Moosani
 Janet Nichols
 Heather Nosko
 Jeffrey Nyberg
 Joy Oester
 Claudette Peden

Lori Piegza
 Mary Pitzele
 Katharine Podjasek
 Stefan Poulsen
 Cindy Praeger
 Steven Rempert
 Tami Ridgway
 Rhonda Roberts
 Ann Ross
 Becky Rusch
 Holly Rushakoff
 Chere Schoffstall
 Robert Schwarz
 Michelle Smith
 Gretchen Stibolt
 Tamara Strelbel
 Michel Swanson
 Anton Tenser
 Heather Tollerson
 Robert Tomanek
 Julie Trost
 Cheryl Vaccarello
 Shelly Wang
 Charles Ward
 Norman Willars
 Steven Wozniak
 Anita Zagraniczny

Stop the Merry-Go-Round:

I want to get off!!

Some encouraging words for stressful moments: College life often reminds me of childhood experiences. Trying to keep up with work and meet class requirements while remembering the names of friends and family members is just like going to the park as a very small child. It's frightening because it seems like the swings are going too high, the slide is too steep and the merry-go-round is spinning way too fast! It's both terrifying and exhilarating to be taking such risks.

As we grow, the perils of a tall slide dull in comparison to the challenges of maintaining the daunting schedule required of an adult of the '90s. Somehow, this thought comforts me. It seems to indicate

that, just as yesterday's troubles faded into happy memories, today's challenges can also be transformed into accomplishments with some effort and courage.

When I'm overwhelmed by the pressures of the pace that I've set for myself, I search for inspiration. I was tremendously impressed by a tight-rope walker that I saw at a circus as a little girl. I was awed by the performer's ability to walk, apparently unafraid, across a tiny piece of wire. The only thing that separated him from a humiliating and possibly dangerous fall was his ability to focus on the wire strand suspended beneath him.

Now, as I struggle with the pressures of adult life, I admire the tightrope walker's balance

and concentration more than ever. I also admire his courage. He dared to do the "impossible" again and again. Every performance must have been a new challenge for him; another opportunity to prove himself; another chance to become a hero in the eyes of the crowd that waited below with baited breath calling him a fool until he gave them cause to cheer. The tightrope walker understood that the world is full of insecure nay-sayers who proclaim death sentences on dreams. He recognized the importance of making the "impossible" a reality. He must have known that little girls in the crowd would be inspired by his daring.

-Liz Carr

November Events

Concerts

November 8	Marimba Yajalon	12:15	D 205
November 10	Whiskey Tango	Noon	A Bldg.
November 13	Harper/Palatine Band	3:00	Cutting Hall

Miscellanea

November 2-16	Student Art Exhibit	8 a.m.-9 p.m.	C-P Bldgs.
November 9	College Fair	10-2:00	A Bldg.
November 16	Blood Drive	9-3:00	A 242

Alienable Rights ?

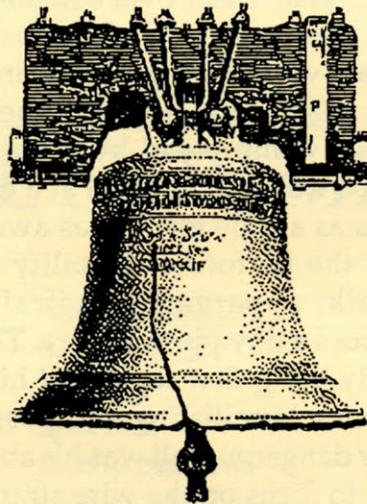
We all have rights—the right to walk down the street, breathe the air, make decisions and live our life. Sometimes these and other rights are violated, and the violator must take responsibility for his or her actions. Sounds simple, right?

Unfortunately it's not. When two opposing views are put up against one another details, actions, and other necessary information are often vague, mixed or not available. So we are left with opposing sides fighting for their individual rights. And who has the right to say who is right or wrong, or who is lying and what should be done about it?

Apparently, we as a nation trust our government and its system of courts to decide for us and to take the necessary and proper actions. But, as with all things, nothing is perfect.

The granting of rights to both the accused and the victim is difficult to do without violating the rights of the other.

One of the main rights of the accused is innocence until proven guilty by a court of



guilty; personal rights were violated and there was no form of protection available for them.

If we try to grant privacy and not allow the victim to speak out, then, we are violating the victims right to speech and possibly their own and others healing process. Once again we're stuck. Rights and laws need to be created to work together and protection of both parties needs to be addressed. We will never be able to perfect the system, but we can better it. If you have any opinions or suggestions on the subject, come join the discussion at the Honors meeting on Wednesday, October 19, at 3 p.m.

-Annemarie Healy

law. Despite this, every day we are turned against suspected molesters, murderers and such by the horrifying events that we read and hear about. Those accused no longer have the right to privacy or the right to walk free of judgment and discrimination. If they turn out to be guilty then it *seems* ok. But what happens if they are not

Honors Meeting Topics

October 19	Rights: Accused vs. Victim
October 26	Mysticism
November 2	Space Program
November 9	Animals in Captivity
November 16	Gun Control
November 23	Education Funding

Meetings Every
Wednesday at 3 p.m.
Room L329

Member Updates

Danielle LaBrasca
402 W. Parkside Drive
Palatine, IL 60067
(708) 359-5830

Katherine Olson
126 Century Court
Shaumburg, IL 60193
(708) 307-6926

Change of Phone Number
Joann Warren
(708) 296-7353

OFFICERS

President	Debbie Maday
Vice President	Heather Tollerson
Secretary	Norm Held, Jr.
Treasurer	Jeff Krohn

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Liz Carr
Dawn Cassiday
Annemarie Healy
Michelle Smith
IDS-290 INSTRUCTOR
Rhea Dawson

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Challenger is the voice of the Harper College Honors Society. We welcome articles, ideas and letters of interest appropriate for our members. We encourage contributions. Final editorial judgement is the sole responsibility of the editorial staff. For information on possible submissions, call X6323. Written material should be placed in the Challenger box in the Journalism office, A379. Published by students in IDS-290 for class credit. We deeply appreciate the helpful assistance of Skip Chidester—many thanks!