

Letters to the Editor (continued)

Double...

(continued from page 6)
feel that our performance degraded ourselves and sororities in general, I am not angry. I am saddened by your tunnel vision and your ability to pass judgement on those who are your equals. In truth, your attitudes are the ones which will propagate the inequalities that women have just begun to eradicate.

Dana Fletcher
9th semester
Biology

Don't Rush it

Reading last week's entertainment section, I was pleased not only to see a review of the new Rush CD, but also that it was a favorable one. However, I believe that the following statements from the article require clarification or correction:

1. "...Rush made the transition to more catchy FM radio oriented songs..."

From this statement, one might deduce that Rush decided to write songs aimed at getting radio airplay. To the contrary, all of the changes in Rush's music have been motivated purely by the band's dedication to their personal growth and progress. In a radio

interview, Geddy Lee (bassist/vocalist) stated that Rush writes music that they think is "exciting and good" and hope that their fans will feel the same.

2. "...[Rush recorded] albums more concerned with political issues."

In an interview following the completion of the album *Grace Under Pressure*, Rush's lyricist, Neil Peart said, "I've never written anything political. I'm an apolitical person, really." To this day, Rush has not written any songs concerned with politics.

3. "...[Rush wrote] two songs about nuclear war..."

Rush has never written a song about nuclear war. The song "Manhattan Project" (on *Power Windows*, by the way) deals with the development of the atomic bomb only as a means to express the irreversibility of an important decision and its consequences.

4. "...[Rush expressed] their worries of greed in 'The Big Money.'" That song (also on *Power Windows*) doesn't concern greed, but rather power (whether from wealth, fame, or religion) and how it can breed corruption.

I urge future reviewers listen a little more carefully to bands' lyrics before deciding upon their messages, if any.

Christopher Downs
6th semester
Engineering

Cold War leftover drives poet to resign post

(CPS) A remnant of the darkest days of the Cold War drove a critically acclaimed poet to quit his teaching post at the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

David Romtvedt, whose book "How Many Horses" was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1989, resigned from the university when he was told he had to sign a "loyalty oath" before being allowed to teach his new USL class.

"It seemed hard to believe they (the Louisiana government) could ask you to obey every law ever passed," Romtvedt said in explaining his decision.

Romtvedt said that while others at the university had said the document was "unimportant, something in me says I can't make it unimportant."

Romtvedt already had been hired to teach and was on the campus when he was presented with the state's appointment affidavit, which includes an oath.

A state law passed in 1950 requires all state employees to sign the oath, which states: "I, (employee's name) do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution and laws of the

United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State; and I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as a State employee according to the best of my ability and understanding, so help me God."

Gary Marotta, SLU's vice president for academic affairs, said he thought the law was passed as part of the rabid anti-communism movement in the 1950s, when politicians strained to curry

public favor by questioning skeptics' loyalty and inventing new ways to make people who disagreed with them "prove" they did not want to overthrow the U.S. government.

"Most of the faculty in general are not even aware they have signed an oath," said Doris Meriwether, head of USL's English Department, because it usually is somewhere in a tall stack of papers new employees are asked to sign.

ROTC holds Rappelling Leadership Lab

Behrend's ROTC detachment held its Rappelling Leadership Lab on Saturday, Sept. 29.

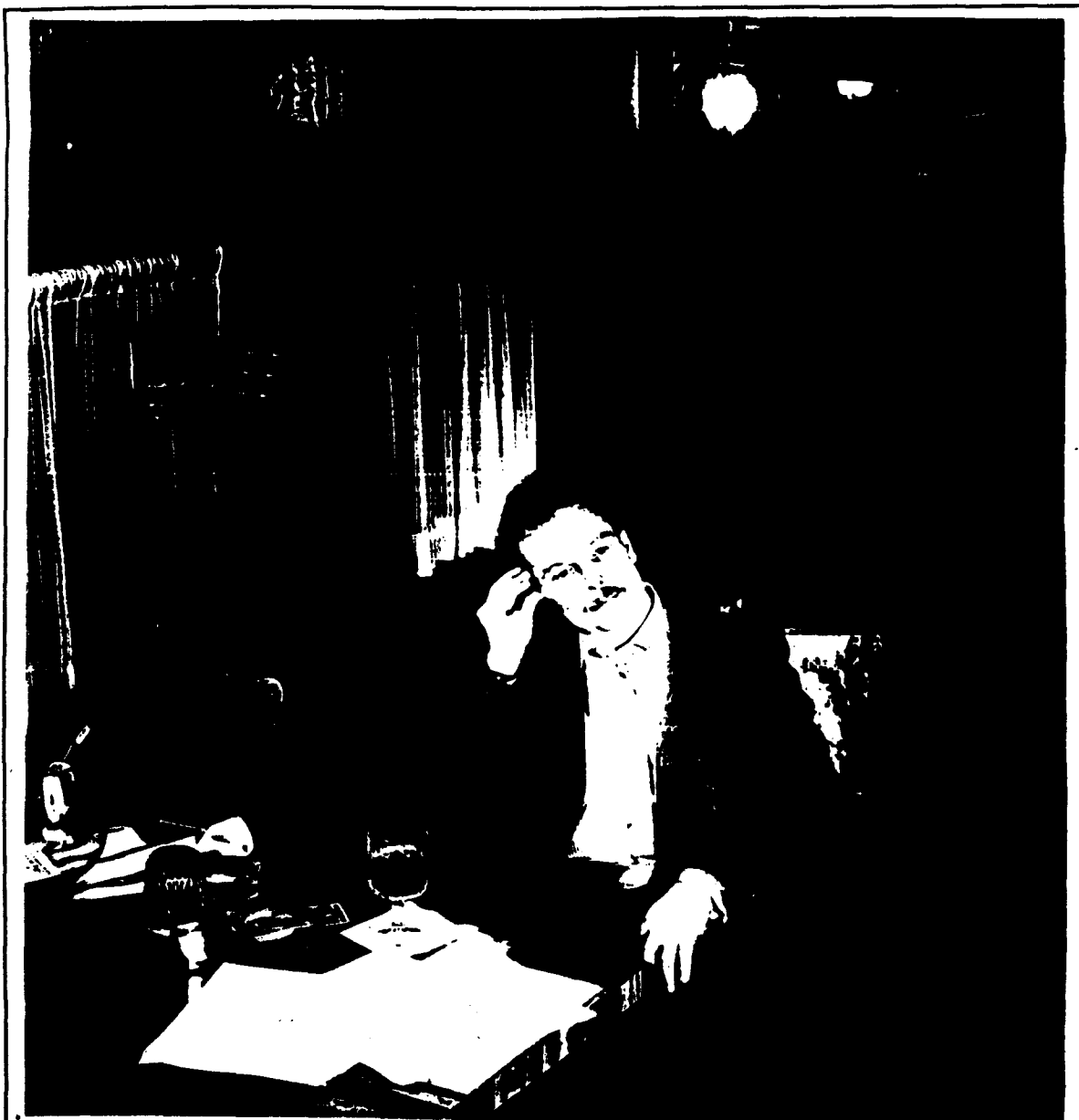
With the weather cooperating, 68 cadets flew by a CH 47 Chinook helicopter to the rappel site at Twenty Mile Creek in Stateline, Pa. The site was prepared by the Behrend Ranger Club.

Following the pre-training on the finer points of rappelling, cadets practiced on the cliffs ranging from 20 to 80 feet and

some attempted the 100 foot free rappel line.

Other training consisted of navigation by compass, constructing a one rope bridge between trees and setting up a Claymore Antipersonnel Mine.

The cadets were treated to a "delicious" dehydrated MRE (Meals Ready to Eat) and a cup of vegetable soup for lunch. The cadets learned a lot and enjoyed the exciting training.



MARTY O' CONNOR

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