

THE SPECTRUM

★ INFORMATION FOR WOMEN, BY WOMEN ★

March 21, 2005
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Nevada, MO

Save the Chellie?



From itself?
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Brush,
brush, baby.

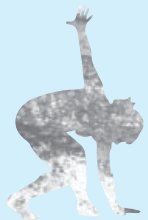


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Campus
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Tribute

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Comets
triumph
in final
home
game



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V-Day event
cancelled

By Kelli Porter
Co-Editor

The announcement that Cottey's personal take on "The Vagina Monologues," "Explanation Period," was cancelled came just days before performances were slated to begin on V-Day.

V-Day is a global movement to recognize and stop violence against women, and events are typically held on Valentine's Day. Many student organizations and women's groups across the country recognize the day by reading the Eve Ensler monologues or participating in awareness activities.

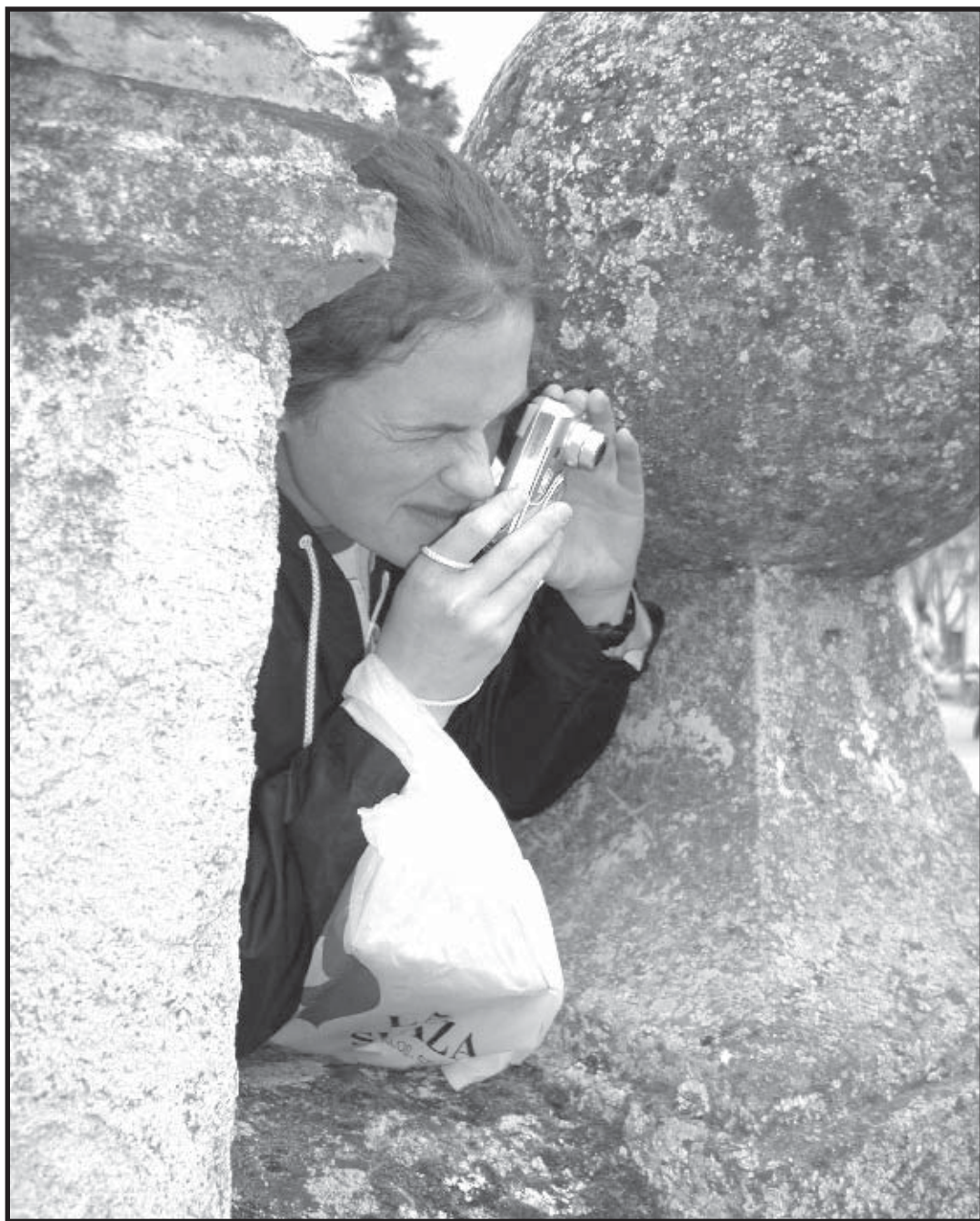
Problems facing campus organizers began in January. During the first organizational meeting held, only six students besides co-organizers Sarah Burtch and Shanon Hittner showed up.

There was a continued lack of enthusiasm and attendance in subsequent meetings and preparation activities.

This would have been the fifth year that Cottey held a V-Day production. The proceeds of the production and the accompanying auction would have been donated entirely to Moss House.

Co-organizer, second-year student Sarah Burtch said, "I'm fully responsible and I'm sorry that this is the way it has happened."

Madrid documentarian



Spectrum file photo

This 2004 graduate spent much time on her Madrid trip documenting her experiences. The Spectrum is currently developing a special Madrid 2005 section for insertion into its next issue. Particularly sought are journal excerpts or travel writing done by Cottey students during the Madrid trip. Second-year documentarians should submit written reflections by email to Fran Martirano, fmartirano@cottey.edu, by Sunday, March 20.

Student Life committees to see significant change in near future

By Amanda Schreiber
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 10, Dr. Judy Rogers made a speech at the campus-wide meeting during which she presented her review of Cottey's structure of committees. Dr. Rogers pledged this review upon taking office. Among the committees considered were those associated with Student Life.

"One of the goals I had was to try to clarify the committees' structure -- that we had the right

people involved, that we had no redundancy [in the committees' functions or responsibilities]--so to that end I have put out a whole list of proposals about various committees on campus," explained Rogers.

The president had asked each different committee to examine its own distinct purposes by defining the committee's role and type, whom the committee serves and who the chairs are. She then met with many of the committees, gathered suggestions

and concluded that as many as 18 committees may be in need of a face-lift. The Student Life committees are ones that will most likely see changes in the following academic year.

Rogers has suggested that instead of having two separate projects of Student Life -- the Student Traditions Review Panel and the Spiritual Life Committee -- these groups be disbanded and combined into the general Student Life Committee.

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Cottey teaches leadership skills to NHS students

By Barbora Batokova
Staff Writer

In January 2005, Cottey College and the Nevada community launched the Cottey-Nevada Presidential Leadership Program for female high school students.

The program is led by Dr. Judy R. Rogers, president of Cottey College, with the help of Kay Kuhlmann, director of the Helen and George Washburn Center for Women's Leadership (CWL), and is primarily sponsored by Nevada businesses.

The program is intended for female high school students and comprises 11 sessions with various presentations that focus on leadership skills such as communication and presentation skills, personal finance, networking and social etiquette, resumes and interviews, ethical decision making and dilemma solution.

The students also learn about college searches and the financial aid process.

There are 11 juniors and two seniors from the Nevada High School enrolled in the program.

The group meets about three times each month for 90 minutes at the CWL.

In addition, the group took a trip to Kansas City Saturday to see a theater performance followed by a semi-formal dinner.

The assemblage will also be present at the Inauguration of Dr. Rogers in early April. The program will end with a Graduation and Awards Ceremony on April 22 at 7 p.m.

The students who successfully complete the program and decide to attend Cottey College will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Students who decide to attend a different college will obtain a letter of recommendation from Dr. Rogers.

The program was first introduced to the Nevada High School students late in 2004.

Dr. Rogers then met with the students who were interested in order to offer more information.

Students wanting to take up this program had to comply with requirements such as a 3.0 GPA and a recommendation on the basis of leadership potential from a teacher or a high school counselor.

According to the students, the two main reasons for participating in the leadership program--apart from gaining leadership skills--are the involvement with Cottey community and the chance to get to know new people.

Dr. Rogers has had seven years of experience teaching leadership skills. She led a similar leadership program at Georgetown College, Ky., that offered intensive workshops to business managers.

Sponsors:

- Denman Land Title Company
- First National Bank
- Nevada Regional Medical Center
- Nevada Regional Medical Center
- Nevada Wal-Mart
- P.E.O. Chapters DW and KK
- Thalia's Missouri Federated Women's Club
- Diana's Missouri Federated Women's Club
- American Association of University Women

Guest Speakers:

- Dr. Judy R. Rogers, president of Cottey College
- Kay Kuhlmann, director of CWL
- Dr. Mari Anne Phillips, dean of Student Life
- Mary Haggans, Cottey's chief financial officer
- Kris Korb, coordinator of Campus Activities
- Wendy MacLaren, dean of Institutional Advancement
- Betsy McReynolds, director of human resources
- Steve Reed, director of public information
- Dr. Mary Emily Kitterman, vice-president for Academic Affairs
- Marjorie Cooke, dean of Enrollment Management
- Brianne Fulton, admission representative

Wiccan practitioner defends her faith and herself

Fran Martirano
Co-Editor

While rumors spread that a witch or Wiccan was roaming the campus and practicing rituals here, one name was repeatedly mentioned.

Second-year student, Siobhan Bujac was more than willing to answer any questions asked about her religion and to dispel any of what she says to be, "misleading" rumors that were floating around -- as long as the questions stayed to the topic of the religion itself and not to any incidents that may have occurred on campus.

She acknowledged that after an incident involving other Cottey students occurred on campus earlier this year, Bujac was told by Cottey's Judicial board that she was to move into her own suite for the remainder of the year.

Manitoba, a small single bedroom and bath in Robertson Hall, is Bujac's new place of residence at Cottey. The move from Oklahoma Suite hasn't been an entirely happy one, but Bujac has adjusted to her new environment.

Adorning her room are posters from the movie "Lord of the Rings" and other current Hollywood heartthrobs, photographs of family and friends and gifts from her fiancé, whom she's set to marry

"They don't worship the devil and they don't believe in hell," explained Siobhan Bujac. "Wicca is a nature based religion that believes in god(s)/goddess(es). There really is no set belief; you adapt it to fit you and your style. They are modern day druid Celts."

on May 13. Glancing around Bujac's room, it's quite clear that it could be any Cottey student's bedroom.

The main difference between Bujac and most Cottey students is her choice of religion.

When it was mentioned that rumors had been floating around campus as to her activities and what they entailed, Bujac was not surprised. "People aren't very accepting of the Wiccan religion. They can be very close-minded."

To help people understand more about the religion and to discuss it intelligently, she offered some information about it. While most of her books are located at her home, Bujac used the "Teen Witch" book

as a resource for her information.

"First off," she said, "Wiccans are not witches, and saying you are a witch doesn't make you one. They don't worship the devil, and they don't believe in hell. Wicca is a nature based religion that believes in god(s)/goddess(es). There really is no set belief; you adapt it to fit you and your style. They are modern day druid Celts."

Wicca, like all religions, observes holidays. There are eight Sabbats: four minor ones, which include the two equinoxes and two solstices, and four major Sabbats that take place in between the minor ones. The latter include Lammas, equal to Thanksgiving; Beltane, May Day; Samhain, a version of Halloween to some;

and the Wiccan New Year's Eve.

Wiccan rituals include a coven, a close family of Wicca followers, or a group of Wicca believers, forming a circle with members facing the four cardinal directions. Sometimes candles and other natural objects are used for ambiance. The purpose of this space is to confine healing energy until it is released. The central portion of each meeting may celebrate the full moon, a new moon, a Sabbat or a special Wiccan ceremony.

There is a principle to Wicca -- that there is no right way to practice the craft. As long as a practice harms no one, including oneself, one is free to do what one wishes.

When asked how she felt about the reactions people tend to have when they first hear Wicca mentioned, Bujac said, "All religion has the same basis. It's like a prism reaction. A white light (god) shines through a prism (us) and you see all the colors of the rainbow (religions)."

"If people have questions or concerns about the religion, I'll answer them without forcing my beliefs onto them."

After being asked whether or not she believes Wicca will be more widely accepted, Bujac said, "It is recognized by the government. I wish people would be more open-minded about it, but I won't hold my breath."