

## SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK.....



"Magnificent ensemble that has so enriched American music"  
-Coretta Scott King

November 15, 1999

7:30 p.m.

Rudder Auditorium

Tickets: \$10 students \$15 everyone else!

Co-Sponsored by Women's Studies, the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness, Race & Ethnic Studies Institute, the departments of English, Anthropology and Sociology, Aggie Encore, the College of Liberal Arts, the Center for Humanities Research, and the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs.

"Sweet Honey has become a favorite around the world"  
-Washington Post

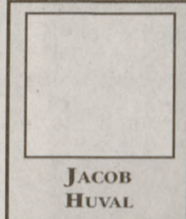
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"America's most riveting a capella group"  
-Boston Globe

## Plasma paychee

### Students donate blood for own reasons

Most people do it at least once in their lifetime. A magical procedure involving the transmission of bodily fluids during which many participants moan and groan due to the memorable sensation involved. Commonly the procedure is not complete until one has received his or her cookie, and then, exhausted and spent from the ordeal, one simply lies in bed for an indiscriminate amount of time until he or she has the energy to rise again.



JACOB HUVAL

Donating blood, of course, is an important part of modern medicine (and we real men can do it at least twice). And like all important aspects of modern medicine, it can be incredibly painful. However, before one is allowed to have a turkey baster shoved under his or her skin in order to make a donation, one must answer a lengthy questionnaire. Donors should try to answer the questionnaire as accurately as possible, keeping in mind that even the most personal question is necessary to ensure potential recipients' safety. In the hope of alleviating discomfort, donors can look over the following take-home copy of the questionnaire in order to prepare their responses.

- 1) Do you or have you ever shared a syringe for the purposes of drug usage?
- 2) If "yes," please show questionnaire to the officer in the doorway (can't believe you fell for that).
- 3) Have you seen the movie Deliverance?
- 4) Have you had intercourse while in Haiti before 1978?
- 5) If "yes," please send pictures to ..

Any given amount of blood is 55 percent plasma, 45 percent blood cells. Blood cells differ from plasma in the sense that blood cells will not buy a tank of gas. Blood, you see, is donated while plasma is sold. One is given from the goodness of the heart; the other is given from the recesses of the wallet. This raises the following questions: If blood cannot be sold, why is it held in banks? And why do we collectively drive on a parkway, and yet park on a stretch of dirt that places a railroad track between ourselves and class?

The answer to both questions is our relentless pursuit of money. From the hapless student who attends the monthly swap-meet of

plasma for payola to the cold administration squeezing pennies from the parking lot-less destitute, money is both the seed and spoil of struggles. Many students view the plasma exchange as a frightening last resort in times of financial woe. But after the initial experience of selling plasma, the fear subsides, the monetary gain supersedes the momentary pain. Like embezzling from a Florida retirement home, selling plasma becomes a highly lucrative and convenient source of revenue — a crimson stream of wealth spanning throughout the body, sifted for traces of gold.

However, there are alternatives to the plasma trade when students are desperate for money, although some work substantially better than others. For instance, turning tricks and fetching bones may seem to be good ways to make easy money, but the fact is that dog trainers simply are not in high demand. Many students also place their hope in the countless email "moneymaker" forwarding schemes. Common sense should tell students that such ventures dwindle into failure. It is only in a dream world that a medical board will give every forwarding email

addressee \$500. In reality, every forwarded email, and every man and then break an orphan's finger. Other than waiting for a lawsuit against an oil prospector, fluids are a student's best bet for fast cash.

Of course, the places upon which one spends his or her blood money says a good deal about the individual. This is a grim decision; the choices one inadvertently sets a price on one's own blood. Granted, it is important to do whatever is within one's power to pay the bills and feed the veneful angel of tuition payments, but one should consider one's priorities when dealing with money derived intravenously. Johnny Q. Pedantic's blood is nothing more than a tamale, medium soft drink, or Junior Mints and two-cent rental of *Caddyshack*. But life is so much more worth much more precious. Catch a matinee of *Fight Club* instead.

But is the circulatory system entirely about cash? Is it



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Vietnam Veteran and POW

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