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# SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

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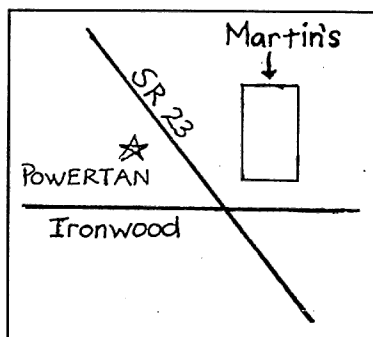
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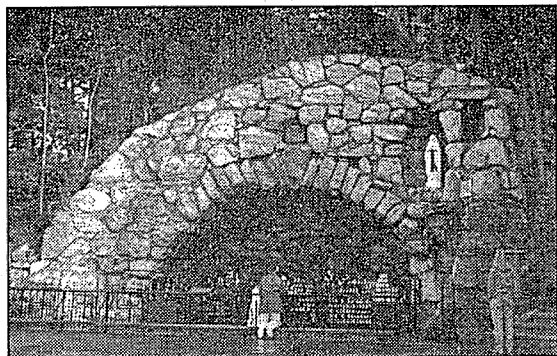
# SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

VOLUME 137, NUMBER 14

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FEBRUARY 15, 1996

## COVER STORY



## Rock of Ages

After 100 years on the Notre Dame campus, the Grotto still touches the lives of people every day. Its peaceful atmosphere and spiritual aura creates the perfect setting for everything from quiet prayer to marriage proposals. And everyone seems to have a touching memory or special story to share about this sacred spot.

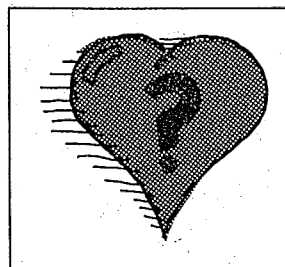
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## Going Global



From London to Japan, Notre Dame students are studying all over the world. But the university plans to go even further, sending more students far and away.  
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## Dating on Campus



Is dating dead on Notre Dame's campus, or are college relationships in general a problem? Notre Dame students may or may not be looking for love.  
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## A Special Spot

I remember the first time I saw the Grotto. It was a cold and rainy day in October of my senior year of high school, and my parents and I had made what would be the first of many long drives out to Notre Dame. After taking the official campus tour, the three of us walked around by ourselves and accidentally stumbled upon this sacred spot behind the Basilica.

Despite the inclement weather, I was amazed by the Grotto's beauty. Everything seemed so peaceful, and for the moment, I forgot where I was. Although the rain continued to patter down, we were not alone. About 10 other people were praying there as well.

My parents and I knelt on the altar rail and each silently said a prayer. I begged God to help me get accepted into Notre Dame, and I know they did the same. As we stood up and each lit a candle, I believed that God would answer our prayers.

Since my acceptance to Notre Dame, I have been back to the Grotto many times. When I am confused, lonely or in need of guidance, I walk across campus to spend some quiet time there by myself. My problems have not always been solved, and my prayers have not always been answered. But I know in my heart that God listened to me whenever I had something to say. If nothing else, He always granted me peace of mind.

After 100 years on this campus, the Grotto has touched the lives of a countless number of people. Some of the stories you will read are inspirational. Others will bring a tear to your eye. On pages 14-16, news writer Laura Merritt takes a look at some of the special moments that the Grotto has provided in its time at Notre Dame.

Theresa M. Hennessey  
Managing Editor

Cover Photo by Eric Paredes

# 65 Years Ago...

If you're not a big fan of Valentine's Day, you definitely wouldn't have appreciated the festivities that occurred on campus in 1931. The February 13, 1931 issue of *Scholastic* contained a 5-page spread of the "Prom St. Valentine," which took place on the eve of the big day. Here are some excerpts:

*For weeks, John J. Collins and his committees have worked to make this year's prom the greatest in Notre Dame dance history. Everything is now in readiness and within a few hours the Prom St. Valentine of the class of 1932 will pass from anticipation to realization...*

*Miss Margaret Uprichard of Lakewood, Ohio, as the guest of Chairman Collins, will be the queen of the Prom St. Valentine ... Other guests have arrived from all sections of the country including California, Florida, Arizona, and Washington ... Two of the guests come from the other side of the Atlantic, Marie M. Means of Monte Carlo, Monaco, travelling the greatest distance, Virginia Barrett of Dublin, Ireland, being a close second.*

—TMH

# SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

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**Executive Editor:** Collette M. McKenna  
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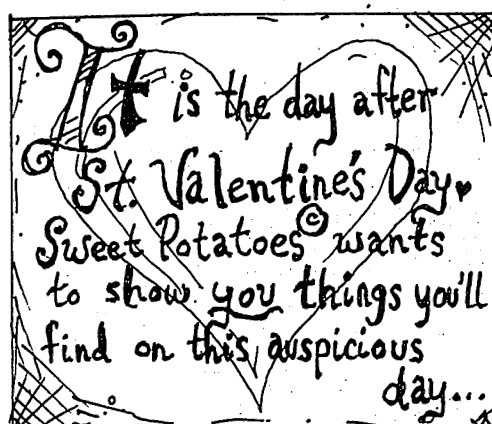
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*Disce Quasi Semper Victurus  
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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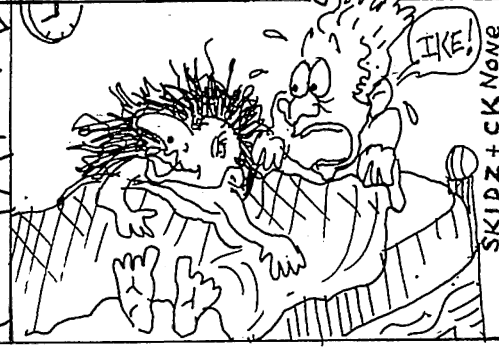


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# Going Global

BY BETH PERRETTA

**A** la carte. Adios. Déjà vu. While most students are familiar with these catch phrases, they just don't cut it in a foreign country. And as abroad programs come closer to a numero uno priority at the university, more people will try their tongues at the adventure of learning a new language.

Notre Dame's emphasis on the development and expansion of its International Study Programs emerged from the Colloquy 2000, a blueprint outlining where the school wants to be as it enters the next millennium. And the university has already taken steps to attain this global focus.

Since the Colloquy came out, Notre Dame has appointed a new director for International Study Programs, Thomas Bogenschild, and created an ad hoc committee to aid plans for international growth.

Recently ranked 15th among research institutions for the number of students participating in its international study programs, the University of Notre Dame currently has 18 abroad opportunities available to its undergraduate students throughout Europe, Latin America, Australia, the Middle East and the Far East. Last year, 548 Notre Dame students engaged in these programs; that's 5.8 percent of Notre Dame's student population.



**ENGINEERING IN ENGLAND.** Dana Russo (far right) takes a break at Piccadilly Circus after attending class in London.



**¿HABLA ESPAÑOL?** Students in this intensive language class practice conversing in Spanish.

Interestingly, the enrollment in English-speaking programs outnumbered that in foreign speaking programs by over 300 students. Ad hoc committee member and Romance Language chair Della Neva, for one, would like to see an increase in recruitment for those programs requiring the mastery of a new language. This would mean getting more students into intensive language programs earlier and possibly improving the existing language classes.

The ad hoc committee is currently examining both the quality of language instruction that takes place on campus and the sequence of related language and area studies courses available to students while on Notre Dame's international study programs.

Jaksic reports, "We not only want to be certain that the students participating in the Angiers program have a strong grasp of the intricacies of the French language. We want them to continue their immersion in the new culture by taking French literature and French history courses, too."

Junior Dominique Schott, who spent last year in Angiers, believes that Notre Dame does need to do more to prepare its students. "Intensive language preparation provides a really good base, but you need much more than five hours a week to become fluent," Schott explains. "Nothing really prepared me for the initial shock, once I was in France, of hearing the language 24 hours a day."

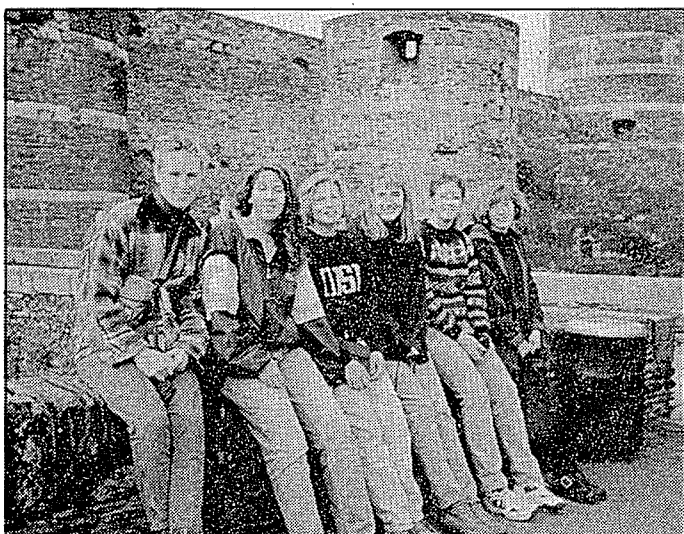
It is this immersion that really characterizes the experience of studying abroad, no matter where a student goes. "When done right, an English-speaking program still introduces the student to a new culture and different teaching style," says Jaksic. "But when a student learns a new language, he or she learns more than just the mechanics of that language. It opens a window to a whole different set of personal, social and spiritual dimensions. To learn a new language is to understand another culture in a very intimate way."

**B**ut even if a person is interested in this kind of experience, some students just can't seem to meet all the requirements. "It's not necessarily the case that less students are willing to take on the challenge of mastering a new language," says senior Rachal Robertson, an environmental engineering major who went to London on Notre Dame's summer program. "It's just that very few engineering, science or business majors have the space in their schedules for language courses."

Right now, in fact, some engineers are just glad to get to go anywhere, even if they do have to speak English. This past fall, aerospace and mechanical engineers experienced their first semester in London. They are the first departments within the College of Engineering to spend a full semester abroad. "After trying to obtain permission for eight years," says John Lucey, professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering, "we finally received it in October of '94, giving interested students only two weeks to learn about the new program and apply."

Junior Dana Russo was a member of the first engineering class to spend a semester in London. Though only seven students took advantage of this opportunity last semester, Russo has hope for the future of the program, and next year 13 engineering students will make the trip. "Being the program's first semester, no one really knew about it. Engineers didn't think going abroad was even a possibility, so they hadn't planned on it. Now, engineering students can start thinking about it when they come in as freshmen," she says.

Getting students interested early in studying abroad and working



**JUST VISITING.** Dominique Schott (far left) traveled with Notre Dame students to France and now serves on a committee to improve international studies programs.

closely with those students who have already participated in Notre Dame's international study programs are crucial means to measure how well the program coordination is being executed. In addition to reviewing the detailed evaluations that returning students are asked to complete, Director Bogenschild has assembled his own committee of seven students to help him streamline the process — from the application process to getting settled abroad.

Schott is a member of the committee and appreciates the opportunity to provide the student viewpoint. "The Director of International Study Programs really values our input," she asserts. "We're considering having an international representative from each dorm to organize international events and to get to the freshmen early, to make them think about going abroad."

And indeed, many people are encouraging students to really think about going abroad. "The driving force behind the university's plans," says Jaksic, "is the firm conviction that a working knowledge of different cultures is an essential part of preparing students to confront the challenges of an interdependent world." □

# Abroad Alone

*Create  
Your Own  
Adventure*

**T**hough alive and well in 18 countries, Notre Dame cannot be everywhere at once. What options are left for those students who cannot find a Notre Dame international study program to suit their individual needs?

During the 1994-95 academic year, 179 Notre Dame students opted to study abroad through non-ND programs. Between them, they explored a total of 32 locations.

For senior Julie Farstad, choosing to go to France through the University of Northern Illinois rather than through Notre Dame's Angiers program was both a matter of convenience and an exercise in independence. An art major, Farstad was able to continue fulfilling her requirements during her semester abroad by taking all studio art courses and transferring her credits back to Notre Dame.

Farstad also craved an adventure of her own. "I wanted my semester abroad to be entirely non-Domer-ish," says Farstad. "Going through another university was like going on sabbatical."

Like Farstad, senior Charles Kranz also took a leave of absence in order to go abroad on a program of his own choosing. "Not only was Loyola of Chicago's Rome program well-established and the most convenient option for me personally," says Kranz, a graphic design major, "but going abroad through a different school allowed me to meet new people and to take more risks."

Kranz found the process for making arrangements to study abroad through another university simple. The university requires each student to write a letter explaining why he or she is choosing to go through another university's program and to request a leave of absence from Notre Dame. A student who requests a leave of absence is guaranteed readmittance to the university, but is not guaranteed housing upon his or her return.

In Kranz's case, all his credits transferred, but his grades were not factored into his GPA. The biggest challenge posed to him was DARTing from Rome. "Dean Preacher, who had been very helpful to me throughout the entire process, even offered to DART for me when I ran into difficulty getting the classes I needed," says Kranz.

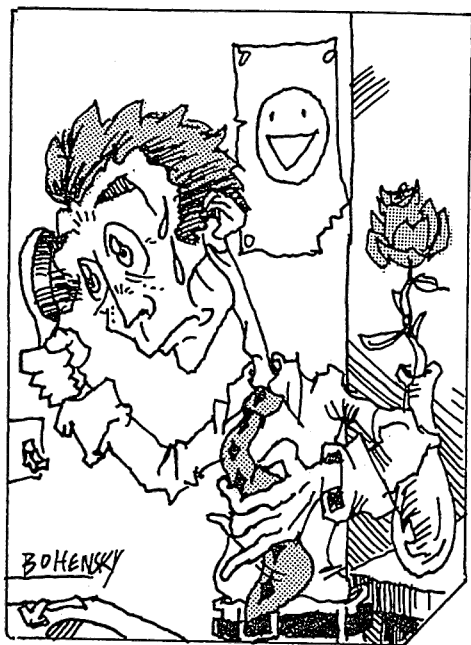
According to assistant provost for International Studies, Ivan Jaksic, the faculty is willing to assist those students who decide to study abroad through other universities. The administration only requires that the students participate in credible programs.

"This becomes a complexity when a student selects a program from a catalog," says Jaksic. "There are plenty of brochures with glossy pictures, so students need to make certain that they read the fine print. If done right, a year abroad can be a lifetime opinion-forming experience."

"No one on this campus shared the same experience," says Farstad. "I was completely on my own. Everything was amazing, exhilarating. Being alone like that was a challenge and a growing experience. I don't think you can have both worlds, though — you can't have your own adventure and still have your time abroad be an extension of the Notre Dame experience." □

— by Beth Perretta





# I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For

*Is dating dead on the Notre Dame campus?*

BY KATE BROWN

“  
You get a bunch of  
high-powered over-  
achieving people to-  
gether and it can  
cause some prob-  
lems. That works  
against male-  
female relationships  
because students  
can't just relax and  
have a good time.”

Straightening his hair on the way to the door, he wonders if she is as nervous as he is. The dinner reservations have been made well in advance. The rose from Osco has not wilted yet. He hopes that everything will go as planned.

This sounds like a typical Notre Dame guy getting ready for a big date. But in the eyes of many Notre Dame students, this pre-date ritual, and even dating itself, seems almost obsolete.

Some students cite a lack of communication between male and female students as one of the primary reasons that there are not more couples. “Everybody is too shy,” says junior John Dreves. “It’s like a natural birth control employed by God that girls and guys can’t communicate.” He adds, “Most of my dating experiences have been positive because there are a lot of interesting women at Notre Dame, but their problem is that they don’t communicate their feelings well enough.”

Some believe the single-sex dorms at Notre Dame may contribute to this lack of communication. “Co-ed dorms would increase the number of couples because people wouldn’t be so isolated from the opposite sex,” comments sophomore Jamie McDougald.

“Living in an all-girls dorm definitely hinders meeting guys because you’re not able to form close relationships with them the way you could if they lived down the hall,” says sophomore Mandy Sabuco.

Sabuco also feels that single-sex dorms place too much emphasis on single-sex friendships. “It seems that [people] are way

too into their friendships, and they don’t want to go out on a date when they could be going out with their friends,” she says.

But senior Jenny Robinson, who has been dating her boyfriend since they were both freshmen has not found this to be a problem. “I don’t think that it has had much of an effect on my friendships... Everyone has to balance their time between their friends and their boyfriend or girlfriend.”

Another problem may be that not everyone is looking for the same thing. “Most people are looking for a one-night stand. I don’t think the majority of people are searching for any kind of long-term commitment,” says McDougald. But whether looking for a one-night-stand or a more serious relationship, parietal rules at Notre Dame continue to come into question. “Parietals obviously affect how much time you can spend with somebody,” says Dreves. “But I don’t think that Notre Dame hinders dating itself.”

Notre Dame’s location is also mentioned as a reason why dating is not more common. Some students complain that South Bend limits dating because there are so few choices. “The only place to go is a bar, and that’s not a great place to take a date,” says McDougald.

Robinson adds, “You can go to bars or dorm parties, but there isn’t much to do beyond that. At other schools where there are more cultural opportunities, there are a lot more places to take a date.” But other students are perfectly content with what South Bend has to offer. “It has restaurants and movie theaters, so it lends itself to dating as well as any other town does,” says



Sabuco.

Other students agree that there are plenty of options if some initiative is taken. Dreves says, "I would take a girl out for coffee, to the cinema at the Snite, or walking along the East Race."

Another creative date idea is to road trip.

One popular destination is the Michigan Dunes. Notre Dame's proximity to Chicago provides another opportunity for those searching for cultural events or a heightened night life.

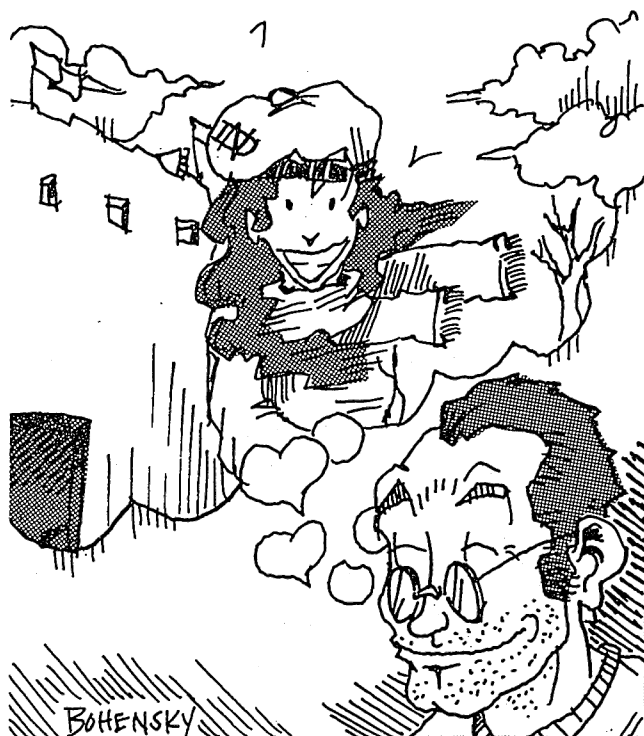
Many students feel the pressure to find a boyfriend or girlfriend during their college years because they hope to get married soon after graduation. Robinson believes that many students hope to marry a Domer. "Notre Dame is such a huge part of your life. To marry someone who didn't know about your college experience would be strange," she says.

But Dreves disagrees.

"You can't control who you fall in love with. It doesn't matter if it's a [student from another school] or a Domer because when you're in love, it doesn't matter what school he or she attends."

While many students complain that dating at Notre Dame is less than ideal, Dreves believes that the same problems exist at other schools and has a positive attitude regarding dating at Notre Dame. "Dating at Notre Dame is much better than at other schools I've been to," he says. "My friends at other schools never go on formal dates. They just go out in big groups and it's hard to get to know someone that way."

And as Dreves also points out, "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. People at Notre Dame are always looking for something to complain about and dating is just one of those things." □



## Some Things Never Change

*Dating at Notre Dame 30 years ago*

BY KATE BROWN

Despite the fact that many students find the dating experience at Notre Dame to be inadequate, the situation seems to have steadily improved over the past few decades. David Monroe, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1971, before Notre Dame became co-ed, believes that the dating situation has improved significantly. "It was pretty grim back then because there were more seniors than the total population at St. Mary's. Needless to say, if you were an underclassman, you were really at a disadvantage."

Monroe attributes the problems associated with dating to the nature of the students. "You get a bunch of high-powered over-achieving people together and it can cause some problems. Every aspect of student life cannot be as successful as the rest of the university. That works against male-female relationships because students can't just relax and have a good time."

According to Monroe, many students had girlfriends at home but the dating scene on campus revolved around finding ways to meet St. Mary's women. Some-

times cross-registration allowed for students of one school to take classes at the other. Monroe says, "My roommate was really outgoing so he was our contact at St. Mary's. We made him do most of the talking at first."

South Bend was even less conducive to dating then than it is now because there were fewer restaurants and bars. "There really wasn't much to do on dates. I think Notre Dame's location will always be a point of criticism but the town is the town. You have to live with it," says Monroe.

Bob McConn, '70, adds, "There weren't many places to go but I didn't have very much money to spend anyway. Our dates involved whatever was cheap, especially pizza places."

Since students rarely had cars at school, it was difficult to take a date to downtown South Bend, much less to Chicago. Instead, relations with the opposite sex centered around a gathering place called the Halfway House. Located in an old seminary building on the road to St. Mary's overlooking the lake, it was a common ground for Notre Dame men and St. Mary's women to meet, play music and have coffee.

Dorm activities provided other opportunities for Notre Dame men to meet St. Mary's women. Dances were common then as they are now, but McConn says, "none of my friends ever went to them." Monroe adds, "Having a dance was considered kind of a bourgeois thing to do."

"Some of my friends were really pushing for Notre Dame to go co-ed," says Monroe. "They thought that everyone would be living in bliss. Obviously, it hasn't turned out that way."

McConn met his wife, a St. Mary's student, on the way to the stadium before a football game. Together, they went to parties on and off campus and sometimes visited his wife's family in Chicago. Since she was a year younger, she graduated a semester early and the two were married the following April.

Some things never change. While Notre Dame alumni complain that dating was hindered before the admission of women, it appears that the co-ed character of Notre Dame has not provided the quick fix that students of the past anticipated. Some students believe that many of the same problems still exist. □

# With or Without You

*Making a long distance relationship work*



BY MICHELLE HEMPEL

**T**he memo board outside freshman Lindsay Williams' dorm room displays a bold message: "31 Days Until Spring Break!!" For most students who feel like they just returned from Christmas vacation, this message may seem a little premature. But Williams is one of a group of students who have what is known on campus as a Hometown Honey (HTH). For these students, the anticipation of seeing their loved ones gets them through the classes, the work and the huge CBLD bills.

**WHY STAY TOGETHER?** With so much emotional turbulence and waiting, one may wonder why anyone would choose to maintain a relationship that has the potential to become so depressing. Williams says she and her boyfriend decided to stay together because they could see their relationship lasting indefinitely. She adds, "That's the only reason anyone should stay together long distance — if they can see a future to the relationship."

Senior Stephanie Walker, who is now engaged to her boyfriend of six and a half years, agrees. "We had no desire to break up or date around," she says. "We were so close, it just really wasn't an option."

**SEPARATION ANXIETY.** It is often hard for people who aren't involved in long distance relationships to understand how their friends with HTHs live in two separate worlds. "When you're so connected to someone far away, there is a large part of your life that people here cannot relate to," says freshman Anne Faust. "It's strange how much of your energy is directed far away from your everyday activities."

Members of long distance relationships

rarely know at the beginning how tough the time and distance can be. "I don't think I did know how hard it was going to be," senior Courtney Nemeth muses. "It got harder as time went on. It was never easy." Walker adds, "When I was having a rough day and he wasn't here, I realized how hard it was."

Sally Coleman, a psychotherapist at the University Counseling Center, says that many students come in to talk about their relationships. "We tell them to be honest about their feelings. They have to be respectful of the other person's needs and to make sure that each member of the couple is on the same page when deciding where the relationship is going."

**BEATING THE ODDS.** It is a well-known fact that many of long distance relationships end by Thanksgiving Break of freshman year. And many of those who do last beyond this first reunion face similar fates as time goes on. "Everyone's relationship is unique, and everyone reacts to situations differently," says sophomore Jim Dolezal, in attempting to explain this trend. "It's hard. It really is, and you have to be really committed to each other."

Nemeth was with her boyfriend for two years before they decided to break up after sophomore year. She believes that it is important for those in a long distance relationship not to become too wrapped up in the relationship. "Make sure you're mentally present at Notre Dame and not always off where he or she is and wishing you were there."

**MAKING SACRIFICES.** Often, members of separated couples feel that their HTH limits their participation in the social scene. Walker says that this has been true for her. "But I don't regret it, although in the beginning it was really hard to establish opposite sex relations," she says.

"I did feel like I was missing out," Nemeth adds, "I went to SYRs ... but I didn't feel as free to establish guy relationships."

**SURPRISING DISCOVERIES.** On the up side, having a boyfriend/girlfriend who is far away can lead to personal discov-

eries that otherwise would have been overlooked. "Because we were so close in high school, I didn't have too many other close friends. When I came here I found out more of who I was," Walker explains. "Separating was a definite good thing. I know I'm now a stronger person because I have my own friends and my own identity."

Long distance relationships can also reveal aspects of your significant other that you might not see in daily situations. "With written communication like letters and e-mail, I discovered how romantic my boyfriend could be," shares Faust. "Having an HTH makes you realize how precious time is. When I did see mine over breaks, we made every minute count. Unfortunately, it didn't work out, but I did learn how valuable time spent with loved ones is."

**IS IT WORTH IT?** In spite of the problems that can arise from these relationships, Williams' roommate, Nicole Torrado, comments on her friend's long distance relationship. "I think it's worth it if she cares about him. I know it's hard on her sometimes, but I'm glad that she has time with him to look forward to."

Williams adds that the miles don't diminish the joy gained from the relationship. "The sweet, sincere things he says makes it all worthwhile. They make up for all the blah phone calls and time spent apart."

Nemeth adds, "I don't regret having [a long-distance relationship] at all. Even though it didn't work out ... I wouldn't have traded it for anything." □



# Irish "I Do's"

*The trials and tribulations of booking a wedding at Sacred Heart Basilica*

BY KATHY SCHEIBEL

It's 8 a.m. Central Standard Time and all over the nation, there are grunts of dismay and snorts of frustration as smoking fingers madly dial the magic telephone number ... again ... and again ... and again ... and press the redial button again ... and again ... and again ... until it flat-out refuses to be pushed anymore. Sound like a desperate attempt at buying concert tickets? A nation-wide DARTing program? Or perhaps a gang of *really* out-of-control prank callers?

Nope. It's booking day at Sacred Heart Basilica, and it happens in the spring, just once a year. Starting at 8 a.m., Betsy Symmonds, parish secretary, books weddings for the following year until all 96 spaces are filled. And it seems as though every Notre Dame student, graduate and Sacred Heart parishioner anywhere in the vicinity of marrying age is vying for one of those spots.

Some have others do the dirty work for them, however. Recent newlyweds Rick, a '94 alum, and Leslie Coddens both had their parents call for them while they enjoyed their spring break. Both sets of parents tried and got busy signals for more than four hours. Rick's frustrated father, who lives in South Bend, even tried going to the parish office in person but wasn't allowed in. Interestingly enough, all of this took place before Rick had even proposed.

With the large number of people contending for an opening, it's not surprising that a couple's chance of getting their ideal

date and time is quite slim. "You kind of have to take what you can get," says Margaret Clare, another newlywed. She and her husband Tom, both '92 alums, simply wanted a summer wedding, but even with this broad window of time, only a few early morning slots remained when they booked their date.

Every Saturday (with the exception of major holidays, home football weekends and special university events) four weddings take place at the Basilica. That's four blushing brides, eight crying mothers, about 1500 nostalgic guests, several stretch limos, some 20 fluffy fuchsia bridesmaid dresses

and which must remain relatively unchanged through all four weddings.

The flowers cannot be changed because there simply is not enough time. The first wedding of the day begins promptly at 9:30 a.m., followed by ceremonies at 11:00, 1:00 and 3:00. Fifteen minutes are allotted for non-flash photography, but at a set time between each wedding, the lights go out whether the guests have left or the pictures have been taken, *no exceptions*.

But for a few creative couples, running out of time for pictures inside the church gives them the chance to add an artistic touch to their big day. One couple took pictures in the stadium during torrential rainfall, and another posed in record-setting-110-degree heat before jumping into the lake to cool off.

But the rules and time constraints at Sacred Heart call for the ceremonies themselves to be quite similar-looking, which causes a hypothetical question to be raised: If a groom were to wander into the Basilica an hour late, see some flowers, hear some nice music and exchange a few vows with

a girl in a white dress, would he notice that he had been at the wrong wedding before the honeymoon?

According to Symmonds, he would. "Each wedding has its own personality," she says referring to the priests who perform them. Father George Rozum, rector of Alumni Hall, tries to make each wedding he performs special by making the ceremony both meaningful and happy for both the couple and the people attending. "I like to talk about the deep meaning

## WEDDING RULES AND REGULATIONS AT THE BASILICA

- Altar flowers are not required for weddings, but if the couple prefers to use them, they are not to be removed after the ceremony
- Home arranged garden flowers are not permitted. If altar flowers are used, they must be arranged by a professional florist.
- The bells may not be rung before, during, or after a wedding.
- Flower petals, rice, confetti, and birdseed may not be thrown inside or outside of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Balloons cannot be released inside or outside the Basilica .... If this rule is violated, there will be a fee for clean-up.
- Limit the time for picture taking to 15 minutes to allow set-up for the next wedding or Mass. Wedding photographs are permitted to be taken inside the Church, but only after the ceremony. Wedding guests are not allowed to take photos during the ceremony.
- There can be no receiving lines or guest book signing prior to or after the wedding in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart

—taken from Rules and Guidelines for Use of the Basilica

and many happy florists — all in one day!

Actually, the happy florist part may not be completely accurate. You see, as soon as the wedding is booked, the couple receives a book of rules as to what may and may not be sung, placed, breathed on, adhered to, thought, spoken or done in the Basilica. And according to Margaret Clare, "You *really* have to abide by their rules." Among these rules are specifics about the flowers, which are not to be removed from the altar

but also have a sense of humor to go with it," he says. Every priest has his own style, and as each couple will tell you, the priest who performed theirs made it a personal and memorable occasion.

Those who have been married at Sacred Heart claim that a wedding at the Basilica is worth the trials of booking dates, following stringent rules and having a stopwatch wedding. "If I had it to do all over again," says Coddens, "I would still do it there." □



gipper.1@nd.edu

# Campus Watch

## BY THE GIPPER

### *Attitude, Allegations and Innuendo*

Reprinted from the *Observer*, February 9, 1996

*The public is the only critic whose opinion is worth anything at all.*

— Mark Twain

#### UNABOMBER AT NOTRE DAME?

Some halls on campus have a cockroach problem. Others have a rodent problem. But only one hall has a pyromaniac problem: Morrissey Hall. Apparently, someone has been going around the dorm late at night, setting little fires in front of people's doors. The first couple of times, the fires were merely lit in front of the doors, but the next two times, some of the paper was actually wedged underneath the doors. To the pyromaniac, this may be a pretty funny prank, but to the rest of the world, this is called arson. Since the person the Gipp is dealing with is obviously not too bright, he will break it down into layman's terms. Making fires = BAD. You get caught, you go bye-bye. Whoknows, maybe there is something to those claims that Beavis and Butthead are bad influences after all. Personally, the Gipp would love to be a fly on the wall when this individual has to explain to his parents exactly why it was he decided to, literally, set fire to his \$100,000 education.

#### WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

On the topic of weirdos, the Gipp was informed that someone on campus recently e-mailed the Office of Information Technology and requested that they subscribe to the newsgroup alt.binaries.pictures.erotica.teens.male. Larry Rapagnani, the Provost of the OIT, e-mailed the sender back a brief, polite response. It read, "We

don't support newsgroups such as this. Thanks for requesting." What he should have said was, "No way in hell, you perverted freak. Make any more sicko requests and we'll commit you to an asylum." The sender later denied ever sending the message and claimed that someone had access to his/her e-mail account. Whether this is a valid claim or a desperate attempt to salvage some pride, the fact remains that there is someone at Notre Dame with an extremely warped mind. The Gipp suggests that the OIT add the newsgroup alt.binaries.freak.loser.getalife.now.

#### CABLE PIRACY 101

The Gipp will now move off the topic of weirdos and back to the topic of illegal actions. While most dorm residents must migrate to the dorm lounge to catch some college hoops or the next episode of Bass Masters, residents of Zahm can enjoy all this and more in the privacy of their rooms. Some unnamed athlete in Zahm is quite proud of himself for splicing the cable, allowing a good majority, if not all, of Zahm Hall to enjoy cable. That's all fine and dandy as long as TCI of Michiana doesn't have a subscription to *Scholastic*.

Before you start berating the ethics of today's youth and throwing your hands up in disgust, there is another story you should know about. The rector of another dorm, which the Gipp will call Some Guy dorm so as not to incriminate anyone, told another unnamed athlete he "could put it in [splice the cable] if he didn't break anything." The Gipp has two questions: 1) Why is it always the athletes? and 2) If the residents of Some

Guy dorm are allowed to splice the cable, is this also the case in Zahm, or elsewhere, for that matter? Inquiring minds want to know.

#### CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

"... Uh, you said, uh, that, uh, after Notre Dame defeated St. John's, they improved to a 3 and 7 record that that they suck. OK? Well, you suck! OK? Why don't you get a \*\*\*\*ing life and learn to watch Notre Dame basketball? ... Get a \*\*\*\*ing life \*\*\*hole!" Eloquent and well-versed, this is a fragment of the response one of our columnists received on his answering machine after last week when he wrote in his Editor's Choice that, while Notre Dame basketball was playing that weekend, he would be watching the Bulls game. Since when is honesty a bad policy? In addition, who says he doesn't know how to watch ND basketball? It's easy, really — never get your hopes up because even the largest leads can be blown in a matter of seconds. Let's be honest: in the Big East, we are boys among men. It's our first year. Accept it.

So long for now, Gipp fans. Keep those tips coming. The Gipp trusts that all your Valentine's Day adventures went well. He would have added his own little commentary about the dreaded day, but he figured that topic had already been driven into the ground. All the Gipp did was sit at home and fling half dissolved yellow and green candy hearts at the television set trying to make them stick. Who says the Gipp is uncreative? □





Stan Evans

**ZAMBONI MAN.** Larry Grant sits behind the wheel of his "car on ice."

BY JOSHUA M. DICKINSON

Between periods of the Michigan-Notre Dame hockey game, Larry Grant races onto the ice. The crowd rises to their feet in tribute. They hold their arms up and begin the "Larry" cheer. But this man is not a famous hockey player or coach; he is the man behind the wheel of the Zamboni.

His rapport with the fans has been great ever since he began riding the Zamboni. When the arena glass was lower, he used to give high fives to people along the ice.

In need of a new gimmick after the arena's glass was raised, Larry began throwing candy into the stands, earning himself the nickname, "The Candyman"; however, this practice, too, was halted by the university because they were worried about injury to the fans.

Larry is now famous for donning a tuxedo for one or two games a year, usually against conference rival Michigan. This year, however, because of the rising costs of tuxedo rentals, Larry was faced with ending this tradition as well. Unexpectedly, however, a group of students decided to help out.

"I was talking to Larry, and he said he couldn't afford the tux because his wife was in the hospital," recalls sophomore Warren Seiler. "So we took up a collection among us a few weekends ago at the game."

# The Iceman Driveth

*Larry Grant adds excitement to hockey games as the celebrated Zamboni driver*

Last weekend, Larry wore his tuxedo in both the Michigan and Bowling Green games, to the delight of the "Irish Faithful," the group which attends every game and raised the money for Larry. "It's moments like this that make it all worthwhile," Larry notes. "Each time the fans show their appreciation for me, it just feels good to know that you are worth something." Legendary Notre Dame hockey coach Charles "Lefty" Smith says, "He is the first Zamboni driver here to get the kind of mention he does. It's a tribute not only to Larry, but also to the university."

Larry began working at Notre Dame in 1979 in the maintenance department. He knew many of the people who worked in the Joyce Center, though, and was soon transferred there by his first boss, Smith. It was then that Larry learned the art of Zamboni driving from his mentor John Guzman. Larry remembers Guzman's advice to him: "It takes time. Do good work first, and then increase your speed."

Years of practice have led to perfection for Larry. Not only has he become a highly skilled driver, he can do flawless work in a minimal amount of time. As it now stands, Larry can do a good tour of the ice in about five and a half minutes. Less than three weeks ago, however, he broke his own personal record of 5:04 by zipping through his laps in five minutes flat. "That time is unofficial," he jokes.

Larry refers to himself as a "jack of all trades." In addition to driving the Zamboni, he also does maintenance on it and on the ice rink itself. Larry also serves unofficially as a public relations liaison at the Joyce Center, even walking people to their cars at night if they are

traveling alone. Smith says that Larry is "one of the most energetic and hard-working guys around," not only in the way he works, but in his relationship with people as well.

When it comes down to it, Larry is just a people person. "I work for the kids," he says. "I enjoy getting feedback from not only the players, but also the students who use the facility. This way, everyone can be satisfied with the ice conditions." Members of the Irish Faithful have nothing but praise for him. "He's just a genuinely nice guy," says freshman Jad Donahoe.

Although Larry has honed his skills on the Zamboni, life off the ice is more difficult. When he isn't spending long hours at the arena, Larry devotes most of his time to his wife, who has been stricken with Lou Gehrig's Disease. "Every chance we get, we like to go out to dinner and just enjoy nature. It's especially nice to eat down by a lake or a river," he says, obviously pained by the subject.

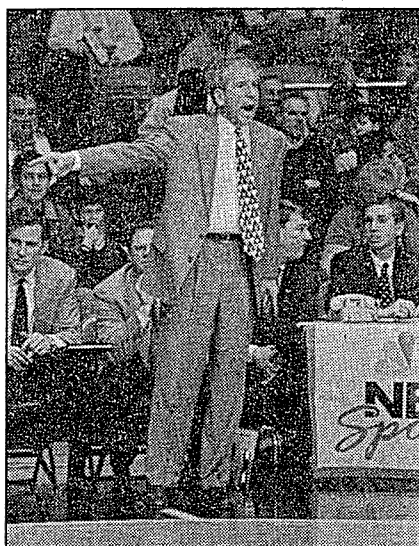
You would never know it, though, as he rides onto the ice in his black tuxedo and fedora, bowing and waving to his faithful fans. □



Stan Evans

**DEVOTED FANS.** Larry stands among the students who raised the money for his tuxedo.

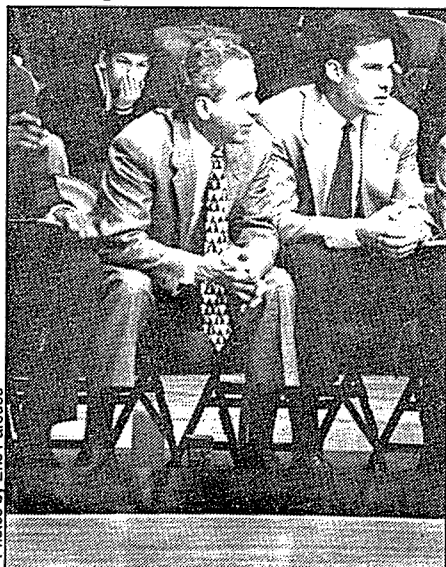
# Should He Stay?



# Should He Go?

BY JEREMY DIXON

As another basketball season draws to a close, it's apparent that the Notre Dame program has a long way to go. Their abysmal 7-13 record (2-10 in the Big East) once again has fans howling and calling for Coach John MacLeod's head on a platter, a sacrifice to alumni who desire success on the basketball court as well as on the gridiron. Because it is the final year on MacLeod's five-year contract, the criticism has intensified. The firing of Paul Westphal in Phoenix has fueled rumors that MacLeod will return to the desert. And the question on everyone's mind is whether the coach is about to be shown to the door or if he will stay on to continue his rebuilding.



Photos by Eric Paredes

**FRUSTRATED.** MacLeod watches quietly from the bench during another tough loss.

"My goal is to build the program at Notre Dame," is all MacLeod will say about his future. Looking back at his tenure, the program's falter cannot be placed solely on his shoulders. He was saddled with players recruited by former coach Digger Phelps, many of whom were not worth the pen they signed their letter of intent with. Have we forgotten the Ross twins?

Another obstacle for MacLeod was Notre Dame's independent status. This killed him when he tried to recruit the top athletes every winter. No one wanted to be the building block on a team that was still independent. Many top recruits were lost to powerhouses such as Indiana, Michigan and Duke.

Joining the Big East should improve Irish recruiting immensely, as they are now in a league with national stature and prominence. This year also marks the first year that all of the current players were recruited by MacLeod himself. No longer can excuses be made blaming Digger. No longer is the lack of a conference a crutch to lean on. So who is to blame for this sub-par season?

It's customary to lay the blame on the coach, but that is often unfair. There isn't much MacLeod can do when his team gets trounced by the likes of Georgetown and Connecticut. They are basketball powerhouses, programs which have been successful for many years. They have better talent; plain and simple. Not even Phil Jackson or Adolph Rupp could lead the Irish to victory on a consistent basis. "The

basketball team is struggling. That is not a surprise. There has to be a period of maturation to be competitive in the conference," notes Athletic Director Michael Wadsworth.

It may be necessary to ask why MacLeod would want to stay. After all, this is a school that couldn't care less about basketball, one which sees football as the be-all and end-all of sports. Speculation abounds that MacLeod may be headed back to Phoenix, where he spent 14 years becoming the winningest coach in Suns history. But MacLeod emphatically denies that he is looking elsewhere. "Phoenix has a coach, and Notre Dame has a coach. My focus and energy are here."

So it sounds like the coach does want to stay, but will the administration let him? "I fully expect him to be back," says Rev. William Beauchamp, executive vice-president. Wadsworth agrees, "I have no doubt in my mind ... that Coach MacLeod will be back."

"The first step we took towards making this program a contender was joining the Big East," states MacLeod. "The second will be to grow into the Big East as a competitor."

How long will that take? How much more patience do Beauchamp and Wadsworth have? How much does the coach have himself? No one knows the answers to these questions, but it only seems fair that MacLeod be allowed to continue building the program. It may be too much to ask to give him another five-year plan; three years should be enough. □

# SPLINTERS FROM THE PRESS BOX

A roundup of the week in sports

February 6 to February 13

edited by Brian Hiro

## New York Teams Unkind to Men's Basketball

Faced with two golden opportunities to salvage a disappointing season, the Irish failed to capitalize on either, losing 65-44 to Manhattan and 74-66 to St. John's.

The defeat at the hands of the Jaspers was probably the ugliest of the year for Notre Dame. The Irish shot a season-low 30 percent from the field and Pat Garrity totalled almost half of the team's offensive output with 20 points.

The home loss to the Red Storm was equally frustrating as Notre Dame surrendered a four-point second-half lead down the stretch. Garrity's 26 points were one short of his career high.

## Business as Usual for Women's Basketball

Notre Dame whipped two more Big East teams to up its record to 16-5 overall and 11-2 in the conference.

Beth Morgan scored 26 points and freshman Diana Braendly added a personal high of 14 in a 90-51 stomping of Pittsburgh. On Saturday, the Irish held Georgetown to just six points in the opening 10 minutes of the first half in their 81-63 win over the Hoyas in Washington.

**We Are ND:** If you think obnoxious behavior never pays off, think again. Papa John's provides free pizza to the loudest, most unruly part of the student section at home hockey games.

**Quote of the Week:** "I wasn't aware of it, but I guess we have a curfew at Notre Dame and every student has to go to Mass every day." — Lou Holtz on negative recruiting used by other schools.

**Dix's Pick:** Not much of a contest here, sports fans. In Connecticut, the Irish will make the host Huskies look like the Bulls. Pat Garrity grabs 10 boards for Notre Dame as they go down in defeat, 85-63.

**Hiro's Hunch:** Notre Dame gets a taste of Huskymania on Saturday, but there is nothing pleasant about the experience. In a game the oddsmakers are afraid to set a line for, UConn dominates from the opening tip to the final in-your-face dunk. Ray Allen scores 28 in a 94-57 romp.

## Hockey Drops Two More Conference Games

Notre Dame's faint playoff hopes grew fainter over the weekend with a pair of losses to Michigan and Bowling Green.

The Irish played well before sellout crowds, but the talent of the visitors prevailed. Defenseman Garry Gruber scored Notre Dame's only goal in Friday's 4-1 setback to the Wolverines. A 4-3 overtime thriller against the Falcons featured Jamie Ling's team-leading 12th goal of the year.

## Fencers Finish Regular Season Strong

The men's and women's fencing teams swept the competition at Duke in an impressive tuneup for the 1996 Midwestern Team Championships later this month. The men closed with a record of 20-2 while the women finished 22-1.

## Women's Swimming Outpoints UConn; Men Fall

Saturday at Rolfs, Linda Gallo won three freestyle events to lead the women's swimming and diving team to a 130-113 victory over the Huskies. On the men's side, Scott Zumbach's gold and two silvers weren't enough as the Irish fell 134-109.



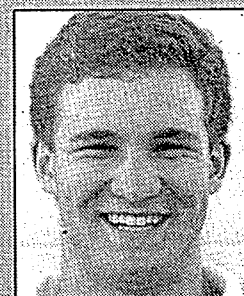
## Beth Morgan

The junior guard/forward starred in the women's basketball team's two blowout victories last week. Against Pitt, she led all scorers with 26 points on 10-14 shooting and in the win over Georgetown she recorded her second career double-double with 24 points and 11 rebounds.

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

## Mike Sprouse

Despite the men's tennis team's first setback of the year, the senior captain continued his winning ways. He defeated preseason All-American Pedro Braga of LSU in straight sets to run his season singles record to 5-0. Braga is the third top twenty-five player Sprouse has knocked off this season.





# ROCK OF AGES

*After 100 years,  
the Grotto still  
touches the lives of  
students*

BY LAURA MERRITT

Last fall, a friend of sophomore Janet Paskavan was suffering from head pains thought to be a brain tumor. Paskavan often retreated to the Grotto to maintain her strength. One afternoon, as she knelt at the Grotto in focused prayer, she sensed someone behind her. Turning around, she met the eyes of an older man, who said, "Excuse me. I just want you to know that the Blessed Mother wants me to tell you not to worry anymore, and that everything will be okay." With that, he turned around and walked away.

It may be tempting to view this incident skeptically, but Paskavan has no doubt that she was being spoken to by Mary through the man, for not only did she experience an immediate sense of calm, but her friend was soon thereafter diagnosed as tumor-free.

Celebrating its 100th birthday this year, the Grotto's appeal has endured for a century, serving as the focus of stories as numerous and diverse as the individuals telling them. It is difficult, in fact, to find a Notre Dame student who does not possess at least one memory — regardless of how simple or seemingly insignificant — of the Grotto's poignancy.

## Comfort in Crisis

When facing the most difficult times of their young lives, many students turn to the Grotto.

Indeed, the Grotto does convey an essence that sets it apart as an appropriate place to turn, especially in times of crisis.

Two years ago, when freshman Mara Fox was killed, senior Patricia Rangel immediately retreated to the Grotto. "If I had any opportunity to connect with Mara ... it was at the Grotto, a safe place where I could grieve," Rangel remembers. "I didn't want comfort. 'I just wanted to tell Mara and God my thoughts.'"

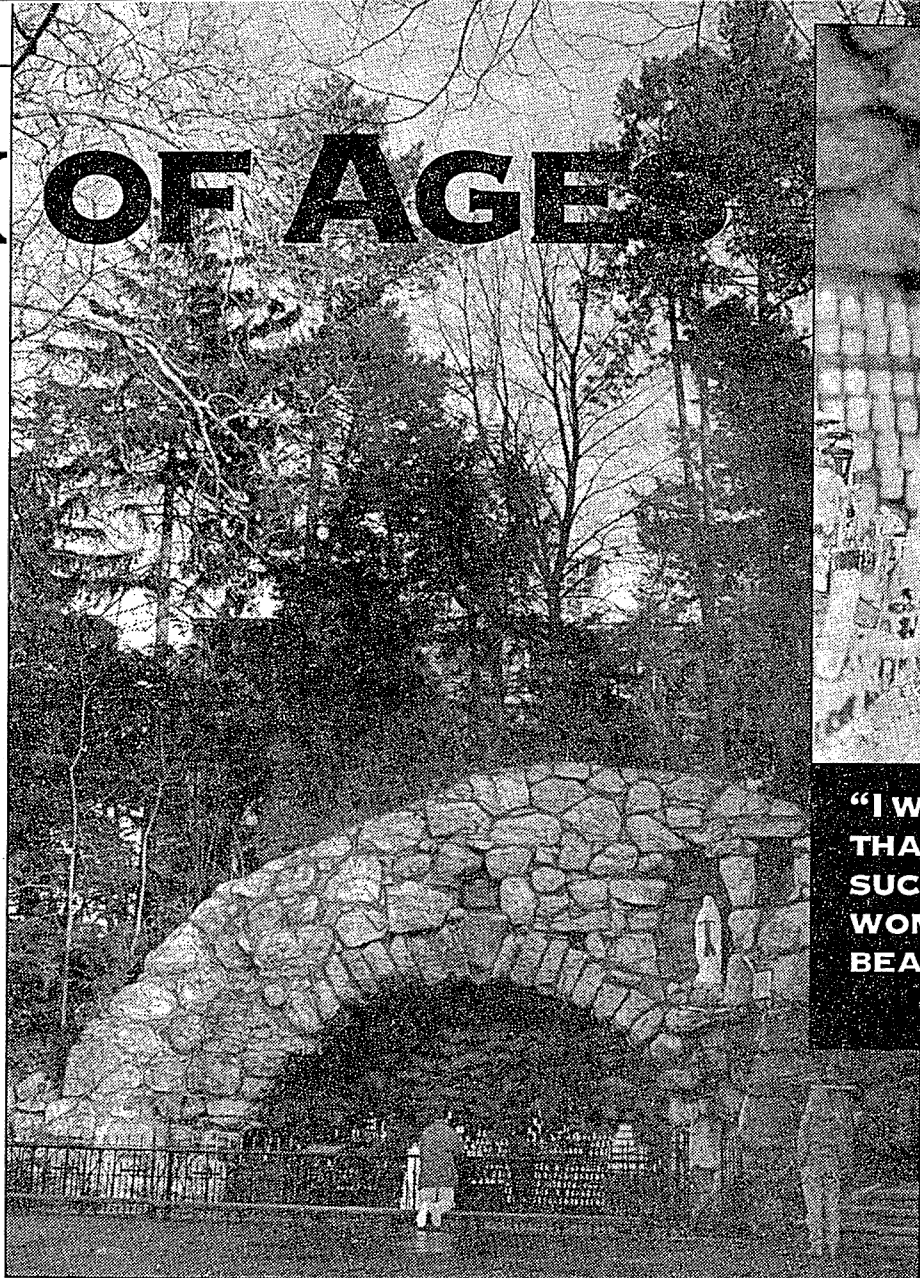
Freshman Eric Myers stands as a firm believer in the Grotto's magic. Before driving to Notre Dame for orientation, Myers visited his uncle, who was in the hospital suffering from a terminal illness, kidney failure and a heart attack; Myers had promised to light a candle for him at the Grotto, and upon arriving at Notre Dame, he did.

Within 24 hours of lighting three candles and praying fervently, his uncle's condition took an astonishing turn for the better, and days later he was strong enough to be re-

moved from life support. Myers does not hesitate to call it a miracle, and believes the Grotto is responsible for the recovery. "The Grotto doesn't work for calculus, but if you have something you care about and is important enough, I believe your prayers work."

Senior Gene Silva disagrees — about the calculus part, that is. When he found himself on the point of nervous breakdown during freshman year because of Calculus 105, Silva went to the Grotto to light a candle and sit in contemplation.

"Then it hit me," he recalls. "The Freshman Year of Studies building was right in front of me — I could go to tutoring." Silva passed calculus and is thankful that he went to think things over that night three years ago. He says, "I hold the Grotto responsible. It was obviously directing me."



"I WAS S  
THAT IN  
SUCH FR  
WOMAN  
BEAUTIF

Photos by Eric Paredes





**SPEECHLESS  
IN THE FACE OF  
FRESH PAIN THE  
GROTTO COULD BE SO  
ABOUT IT."  
—DAVE KELLETT**

## Unexpected Blessings

For some, the Grotto's grace lies in the simple fact that the unexpected can occur, even when one is not praying for anything in particular. Senior Dave Kellett recalls that he and a friend were taking a study break at the Grotto when a young woman appeared and offered them flowers. She explained that her grandfather's funeral service was that day, and she wanted something nice to come from something sad. "I was speechless that in the face of such fresh pain the woman could be so beautiful about it," says Kellett.

Two years ago, senior Cort Peters visited the Grotto to pray for his brother, who was having difficulties at the time. After kneeling for a while, he got up to light a candle and caught sight of one of the memorial plaques located on the Grotto's stones. The date on the plaque happened to be that of Peters' brother's birthday. He believes that this coincidence—however small—served as a powerful reminder that "God was right there, listening."

Senior Neil Gehred likewise finds fulfillment in the unpredicted peace that the Grotto can offer. Dealing with the death of his uncle, Gehred regularly retreated to the Grotto's solitude his sophomore year. Bowing his head one winter's evening, he discovered one hour later that two inches of snow had fallen around him, and a glowing orb surrounded the statue of Mary. "The snow and stillness served as Mary and God's way of telling me that my uncle was safe and not alone," shares Gehred.

On January 31 of this year at 3 a.m., Gehred once again found himself at the Grotto, this time with his girlfriend, senior Elicia Montoya. They have a special tradi-

tion of lighting a candle together. "We were both pretty quiet, and it was so late — I didn't have any idea what was going on," remembers Montoya. When she saw their special candle — with a diamond ring laying on top of it — she figured it out.

Neil dropped to his knee, and moments later the two were engaged. "We've spent a lot of time at the Grotto together, especially the frustrating and confusing times, so it only seems appropriate to share our happiest moment there as well," says Montoya. "That one candle was the one."

Senior Justin Budd was singing a moving version of the Ave Maria at a prayer service when during a long silent pause a flock of white birds suddenly emerged from the trees surrounding the Grotto. "I had chills going right down my spine," he remembers. "Some people talk about seeing Christ in the world. At that moment, I really felt a presence that wasn't just some stones and trees."

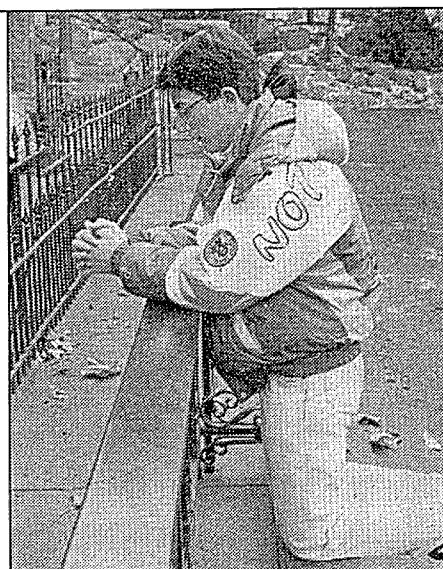
## The Good Things in Life

Senior Ivette Castillo has visited the Grotto only once, last semester, and all she brought along was her simple but earnest prayer of "Please God, let something change in my life." Within days after her visit, she was introduced to a student who eventually became, and currently still is, her boyfriend. "It could be a coincidence," Castillo admits, but she is reluctant to question the incident, merely stating that, "The Grotto is a place to go when nothing else seems appropriate."

Perhaps the best attribute of the Grotto is that it stands as a place to celebrate life's blessings.

Sophomore Courtney McDonough finds this true, and she encourages people to not just go there when they're feeling desperate. "That's it when people go to the Grotto to ask God for something," she says.

McDonough made her first trip to the Grotto last year with a friend — just to give thanks for



**"THE GROTTO  
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PRAYERS WORK."**

**—ERIC MYERS**

their relationship. "We were both bawling and people were looking at us," she laughs. "But it brought us closer together. Every time I think of the Grotto, I think of her."

Senior Avery Johnson also considers the Grotto a place to celebrate the good things

**"I HOLD THE GROTTO RESPONSIBLE.  
IT WAS OBVIOUSLY DIRECTING ME."**

**—GENE SILVA**



## Wanted: Grotto Stories

February 11 is Lourdes Day. On that day in 1858, a 14-year-old French peasant girl saw the first of 18 apparitions of Our Lady at the Grotto of Massavielle in Lourdes, France.

The Grotto at Notre Dame, a replica of the one in France, will celebrate its 100th anniversary on August 5, 1996.

To commemorate its centennial, Notre Dame Archives is looking for individuals who have a personal story to tell of their experiences at and memories of the Grotto. Please send your stories to Grotto Stories - S/P.O. Box 454/ Notre Dame/ Indiana 46556-0454. Reply anonymously if you prefer, or include your name and address. All letters will be placed in a permanent Grotto collection in the archives.

in life. In December, he "made public to God" his commitment to St. Mary's senior Mary Fildew by proposing to her at the Grotto. Johnson explains that he could not have imagined a better place to pose the question. Enveloped by the snow, Christmas lights and the shadow of the Dome, Fildew accepted. "Our love was made better by the pervasive presence of Mary and God," says Johnson.

### Connections

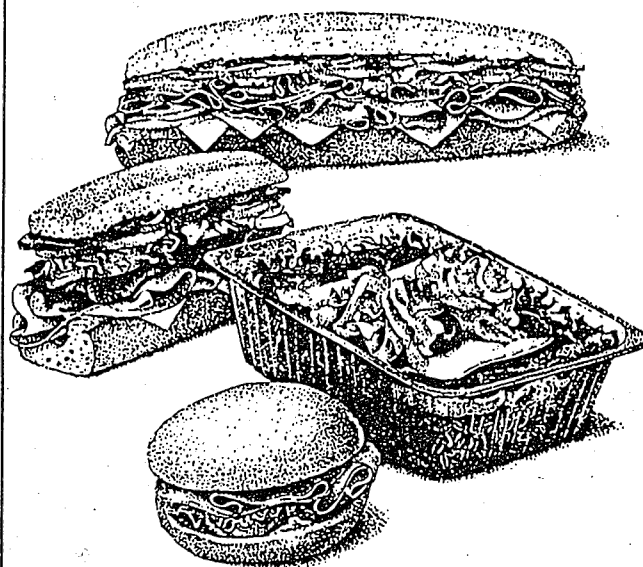
**Y**ear by year, Notre Dame is made better by the presence of the Grotto and the effects it has on the lives of those on campus. Layer by layer, the Grotto continues to be sanctified by the laughter, the prayers and the faith that bind the members of the university community.

It reminds people of their faith, the most memorable times of their lives and their fellow students. When freshman Margaret Colleton, for instance, catches sight of the candles people have lighted — "The flames which embody someone else's prayer of thanksgiving, someone else's prayer of need" — Colleton realizes she is not alone.

Such awareness is what holds the student body together. And apparently these connections are best nourished at the Grotto, where its solitude, beauty and holiness will no doubt magnetize students for another hundred years.

Senior Kurt Weiss finds this sense of comfort at the Grotto. Weiss, who is at home recovering from major surgery this semester, says that the Grotto was the last place he went on campus before leaving, and it will be the first place to which he returns. Quoting Tom Dooley, a 1948 graduate, Weiss says, "It's the rock to which my soul is anchored." □

## SOMETHING TO FIT ANY SIZE APPETITE



## ...AND BUDGET

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# OSCAR,

## WE HAVE A PROBLEM

BY CHRIS MYERS

It would seem poetic justice that, in a year when studios waited until the last minute to release their "Academy-worthy" films, a movie about a talking pig wins Best Picture. Yes, *Babe*, this summer's sleeper hit, comes up with seven nominations. But the real surprise is the bizarre omissions from Oscar's shadow — deep dramas being passed over in favor of epic period pieces and feel-good movies. In a wild list that offers no clear favorite, here's a look at this year's nominations for the 68th Academy Awards, plus those contenders that woulda', coulda' and shoulda' made the cut.

### ◆ BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

*Babe*'s James Cromwell, the only surprise here, doesn't serve much purpose other than window dressing. Ed Harris from *Apollo 13* was notable, and it's a pleasant surprise that voters remembered Tim Roth from last February's *Rob Roy*. But the clear favorites are Brad Pitt for *12 Monkeys*, still basking in the glow of his Golden Globe, and Kevin Spacey for *The Usual Suspects*, who stakes claim as having the best body of work this year.

◆ **Woulda'**: Tom Hanks for *Apollo 13*, if we weren't so damn tired of him. **Coulda'**: Gene Hackman and/or Danny DeVito for *Get Shorty* since the Academy usually only honors comedies in the supporting categories. **Shoulda'**: Greg Kinnear in *Sabrina*. Made the run-of-the-mill remake something worth watching.

### ◆ BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

No surprises as *Nixon*'s Joan Allen, *Apollo 13*'s Kathleen Quinlan, *Georgia*'s Mare Winningham and *Sense and Sensibility*'s Kate Winslet all make the list. However, the odds-on favorite is clearly Mira Sorvino for *Mighty Aphrodite*, meaning that a Woody Allen girl could win this award for the second straight year.

◆ **Woulda'**: Famke Janssen had everyone talking about her performance in *Goldeneye*, but you just don't get nominated for action flicks. **Coulda'**: Angelica Huston in *The Crossing Guard* gave an acclaimed performance, but the film got lukewarm critical reception. **Shoulda'**: Kyra Sedgwick for *Something to Talk About*. Like *Sabrina*'s Kinnear, a standout amid mediocrity.

### ◆ BEST ACTOR

Nicholas Cage has swept every critic's award thus far for *Leaving Las Vegas*. He can dust off his mantle despite the other four nominations — Richard Dreyfuss for *Mr. Holland's Opus*, Anthony Hopkins for *Nixon*, Sean Penn for *Dead Man Walking* and Massimo Trombini, a posthumous nominee for *Il Postino*.

◆ **Woulda'**: Jonathan Pryce won raves at Cannes for *Carrington*, but the early release was forgotten in the flurry of latecomers. **Coulda'**: Laurence Fishburn for *Othello*, a notable omission from the minority-free nominees. **Shoulda'**: John Travolta for *Get Shorty*. An even better performance than his *Pulp Fiction* role gets lost in the shuffle.

### ◆ BEST ACTRESS

Finally, Hollywood wakes up and gets some good roles for women! This year's field is the best in years, and the winner is anybody's guess. Susan Sarandon for *Dead Man Walking*, Elizabeth Shue for *Leaving Las Vegas*, Meryl Streep for *Bridges of Madison County* and Emma Thompson for *Sense and Sensibility* all turned in such dynamic performances, they could split the votes and leave Sharon Stone to walk away with the award for *Casino*.

◆ **Woulda'**: Jennifer Jason Leigh for *Georgia*. The Rodney Dangerfield "No Respect" of actresses was denied a nomination for another bold performance. **Coulda'**: Kathy Bates for *Dolores Claiborne*. In a weaker year, maybe. **Shoulda'**: Nicole Kidman for *To Die For*. The year's gutsiest performance goes unnoticed.

### ◆ BEST DIRECTOR

Chris Newman for *Babe*, Mel Gibson for *Braveheart* and Michael Radford for *Il Postino* all have an edge since their films are up for Best Picture as well. Tim Robbins for *Dead Man Walking* and Mike Figgis for *Leaving Las Vegas* round out the field.

◆ **Woulda'**: Martin Scorsese, shunned again by Academy members, for *Casino*, though the film was a relative disappointment compared to *Goodfellas* and a number of his earlier films. **Coulda'**: Ang Lee for *Sense and Sensibility*, who has been ignored all year despite the film's critical success. **Shoulda'**: Ron Howard filmed in weightless conditions and used no stock footage for *Apollo 13*. A major oversight considering the film won nine other nominations.

### ◆ BEST PICTURE

*Apollo 13* and *Sense and Sensibility* are both nominated despite their directors being shut out. A bad sign considering Best Picture and Director have coincided with one another all but four times in the past 30 years. *Sense* has to be considered since it won the Golden Globe, but *Leaving Las Vegas* won the New York and Los Angeles Critics Awards (along with making everyone's Ten-Best List) and it didn't even get nominated. Meanwhile, *Braveheart* looks to be the favorite considering it's an Oscar-friendly epic and it scored 10 nominations (the most of any film this year). Wild cards *Babe* (a talking-pig family film!) and *Il Postino* (a foreign language movie!) take the last two spots. *Vegas* and *Dead Man Walking* have Best Actor, Actress and Director nominees, but apparently aren't good enough for a Picture consideration. Does this make sense to anyone?

◆ **Woulda'**: *The Bridges of Madison County* had early buzz, but too many good movies came along at year's end. **Coulda'**: *Casino* and *Nixon* left veteran directors Scorsese and Oliver Stone high and dry. **Shoulda'**: *Dead Man* and *Las Vegas*. Apparently didn't meet this year's standards of happiness.

**S**o this year's frontrunner is... unknown. Early guess would be *Braveheart* for picture and director, but this year's Hollywood output has been so screwed-up ("Hey, let's put out all the good movies at the very last second!") that the Academy seems to be backlashing against the trend (all Best Picture nominees except *Sense and Sensibility* were pre-fall releases). Other than that, the 68th Academy Award nominees will fuel plenty of debate until the big night on March 25th. Until then, where the heck is *Waterworld*?! Discuss amongst yourselves. □



# FILM STRIPS

MOVIE REVIEWS BY CHRIS MYERS AND TOM ROSE

## BLACK SHEEP

Spade and Farley's *Tommy Boy* Part Deux

**T**ogether again — Chris Farley and David Spade team up once again in *Black Sheep* and attempt to recapture some of the magic of last year's *Tommy Boy*. In this movie, Farley plays Mike

Donnelly, the well-intentioned younger brother of a gubernatorial candidate (Tim Matheson). Unfortunately for his older brother, Mike's attempts to help the campaign end up creating nothing but bad press, and one of the campaign managers (Spade) is assigned the difficult task of keeping him out of trouble and the public eye. To no surprise, wacky hijinks ensue.

In this latest collaboration, Farley and Spade attempt to branch out as actors, and actually pull off a few semi-dramatic moments. But by attempting to create well-rounded char-

acters, the movie loses that quality which made *Tommy Boy* funny — specifically, Farley's complete incompetence contrasted by Spade's unyielding sarcasm. Farley's Mike is supposedly competent enough to run a community rec center, yet he also gets his tie caught in the trunk of a car and is pulled around on his stomach. As for Spade, his character starts out as an uptight, aggressive careerman, but midway through he's mellowed into a mere sidekick.

In general, the movie lacks energy. The few really good scenes are, typically, when Farley lets loose and acts his

insane self. Scenes like the one in which Farley gets stoned at a Rock the Vote concert add genuine moments of inspired lunacy. But, overall, this movie could have done without a lot of scenes, especially the log cabin sequence that recalls *The Great Outdoors*. It's a same-ol'-shtick routine that serves no purpose and slows down the pace.

There are some laughs, but you'd be better off saving your money and waiting for the video. If you didn't like *Tommy Boy*, this effort will be nothing more than a lame duck. —TR

**GRADE: C+**

## BROKEN ARROW

Travolta goes ballistic in John Woo's nuclear terrorist extravaganza.

**Q** G7 check, KJ9, RJ3 — checkmate. Besides the great special effects and the destruction of a great many things, including a train, four helicopters, a mountain and a Stealth Bomber, *Broken Arrow* is very much like a chess match. Yet it's more than that: it's like playing chess with a megalomaniac who, if he wins, will kill a quarter of a million people.

The movie starts out with

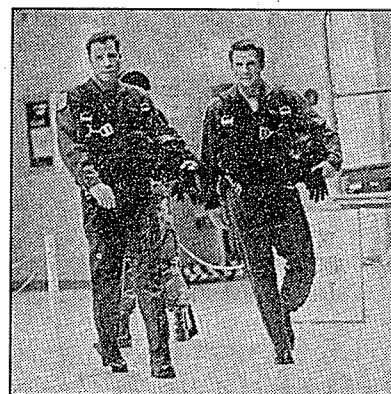
Christian Slater and John Travolta as military pilots assigned to a top-secret, low-altitude Stealth bomber training mission over Utah. Travolta turns out to be a traitor who plans to kill Slater, steal the nuclear weapons onboard the Stealth and then sell them back to the government in a form of blackmail.

A basic plotline, sure, but *Arrow* is directed by cult action star John Woo, whose previous credit is 1993's thriller *Hard Target*. Woo, who is adept at producing precision action scenes and marvelous special effects, definitely delivers. Aside from the previously detailed explosions, one particularly memorable scene involves Samantha Mathis' heroine/park ranger/love-interest facing one of the numerous bad guys with nothing but a hammer. The only criticism of Woo's style is

his tendency to overuse slow-motion photography. Early on, each time Travolta enters a new setting we get multiple slow-motion shots of him walking. Once is fine, but three times?

But the main question is, "How is Travolta as a nuclear terrorist?" Actually, he pulls it off fairly well, always managing to say the necessary quips required of all mad bombers. Slater's performance is non-remarkable at best, but the action of this movie overrides this problem and keeps him from saying too many insipid lines. There are also a few problems with the plot, including its reliance on numerous coincidences, especially one twist involving an implausible underground river chase sequence.

But for the most part, this is



an enjoyable movie. The exchange between Slater and Travolta is good and the action sequences are amazing — they alone warrant seeing this movie in the theater. While there are some problems with the plot and some lackluster acting, they don't ruin the overall enjoyment of this film. For the most part, *Broken Arrow* is right on target.

—TR

**GRADE: B**



# MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS

Dreyfus hits the right notes in a genuinely entertaining un-epic.

If the premise sounds familiar — an unremarkable man spans the last 30-odd years of history achieving remarkable feats — the result is definitely not what you'd expect. Like *Forrest Gump*, *Mr. Holland's Opus* falls under the above guidelines, but unlike *Gump*, which was set at epic level, *Mr. Holland* never leaves high school. The film holds so firm to its personal roots that it suc-

ceeds in being remarkably un-epic and the result turns out to be the most entertaining motion picture so far this year.

Richard Dreyfuss plays Glenn Holland, a composer who reluctantly takes a teaching job to make ends meet before making it big time. Thirty years later, however, Mr. Holland is still stuck at John F. Kennedy High teaching music. That's the basic backdrop for the nostalgic subplots that come in and out via the different students Mr. Holland encounters.

Helping a struggling clarinetist to "play the sunset," teaching a dulled jock the bass drum and encouraging a Broadway-bound senior along the way — these are some of the (un)remarkable feats in which Mr. Holland helps to make a difference and teach a moral or two. Of course, Mr. Holland has to learn a few life lessons along the way as well, and moments such as finding out his son is deaf and realizing that his dream of being a famous

composer are gone add dramatic tension to the story.

Don't get me wrong, by Hollywood and critical standards, *Mr. Holland's Opus* is a very cheesy movie. It isn't afraid to wear its heart on its sleeve, and along with the aforementioned moments, there are plenty more that tug at the proverbial heart strings. But the catch is not to analyze the movie. Dreyfuss gives a wonderful, moving performance, never becoming an overbearing presence. (Unlike *Gump*, you won't see any posters advertising "Richard Dreyfuss is Mr. Holland.") Playing off the notable supporting cast, he crafts such an amalgam of the memorable teachers you had growing up that it's easy to identify with him. After riding with him on the film's emotional roller coaster, it's impossible not to like the guy.

That's the best part of *Mr. Holland's Opus* — it's

hard not to like any of it. Sure there may be a few too many moments of "awwww," but this film has such a genuine feel to it, you'll find yourself buying into every one, even the formulaic, but endearing, ending. To hinder the film with the old "You'll laugh, you'll cry" cliché is unfair, because you *will* laugh and you *will* cry. Even the most cynical moviegoers have to admit that they're getting their money's worth. —CM

**GRADE: B+**



# DEAD MAN WALKING

Sarandon shines in Tim Robbins' stirring death row drama

Tim Robbins is arguably one of Hollywood's most underappreciated actors, but with *Dead Man Walking* he stakes his claim to becoming one helluva director as well. Following up his slick, yet equally smug *Bob Roberts*, Robbins blasts the notion of the "sophomore jinx" with the most incredibly balanced two hours of film this year.

Based on a true story, *Dead*

*Man* stars Susan Sarandon as Sister Helen Prejean, a Catholic nun who acts as a spiritual advisor to Matthew Poncelet (Sean Penn) a death row murderer counting down the days to his execution. After answering to his correspondence, she fights unsuccessfully for his legal appeal and then fights the tougher battle to save his soul. The question the film raises isn't whether Poncelet can be saved, but rather if he *should* be saved. While Prejean grows closer to Poncelet as an advisor and friend, she questions the humanity of his execution. But Robbins complicates the plot when the families of the victims confront the nun. For them, Poncelet's death is more than justice, it's their way of coping with loss. It's *their* spiritual peace.

Penn turns in another fascinating performance, making the distant Poncelet a despicable

racist killer, but exhibiting a human side as well — daring you to love and hate him at the same time. But Sarandon delivers the best performance of her career. Choosing to be trapped in the emotional crossroads of dealing with morality and mortality, her Sister Helen is a heroic icon of faith, strength and conviction. She incorporates each emotion the audience feels and, in turn, adds such depth to her character that it's tough to think of a more inspired performance this year.

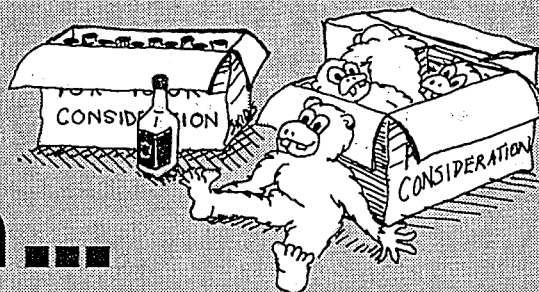
It is truly amazing, however, that Robbins, in his second effort, comes up with such a mature movie. Disregarding heavy-handed political statement or melodramatic pathos, he calls into question issues concerning justice, forgiveness, religion and capital punishment — so much



so, that it's hard to merely walk out of the theater the minute the credits start to roll. But above all the issues the film raises, Robbins weaves a story that examines the meshing of love and hate and sorrow and joy. He creates a striking film that refuses to exhibit good versus evil, but rather, one that shows what it is to be human. —CM

**GRADE: A**

# For Their Consideration...



**N**ow that the Academy has announced its nominations for the Oscars, studios are mass-mailing the infamous "For Your Consideration..." packages in a last-gasp attempt to swing votes from academy members. While only a handful of films get nominated, OOB unearthed these unique mailings and debates their impact on voters. Here's what the postman brought:

## ■ *Grumpier Old Men*

**Mailing Includes:** video, plus bulk supply of Geritol and Depends

**Impact:** Half the Academy can use this stuff! It's a miracle Matthau didn't get nominated!

## ■ *Mighty Aphrodite*

**Mailing Includes:** Woody Allen's film, plus inflatable adopted-Vietnamese-daughter doll and Mia Farrow Dartboard

**Impact:** Sent same package for last year's *Bullets Over Broadway* when Diane Weist won. Looks like Sorvino's a shoo-in.

## ■ *Mr. Holland's Opus*

**Mailing Includes:** video, soundtrack and copy of script

**Impact:** Title had Academy members thinking "All right! Porno!" Major disappointment results in lack of nominations.

## ■ *Showgirls*

**Mailing Includes:** video, soundtrack and copy of script

**Impact:** see above

## ■ *12 Monkeys*

**Mailing Includes:** 12 stuffed monkey dolls

**Impact:** Bad-marketing move, especially after *Outbreak* sends identical package. Confused voters nominate David Letterman for *Cabin Boy*.

## ■ *Leaving Las Vegas*

**Mailing Includes:** video, screenplay and case of Jack Daniels

**Impact:** Apparently got plenty of use from the voters, so much that they forgot to nominate the movie!

## ■ *Friday*

**Mailing Includes:** video plus complimentary bag of Official *Friday* marijuana

**Impact:** Could be the surprise dark horse. After all, the movie actually seems funny when you're stoned.

## ■ *Casino*

**Mailing Includes:** video, screenplay plus taped interview of Sharon Stone

**Impact:** Interview actually old *Basic Instinct* interrogation outtakes. How else do you think she got nominated?

## ■ *The Scarlet Letter*

**Mailing Includes:** letterboxed, director's-cut video plus copy of script autographed by star Demi Moore

**Impact:** Through incredible studio mishap, copies of Moore's *The Juror* are sent by mistake. No one notices.

... and who knows what else is out there! OOB promises to keep looking in the mailbox until March 25th.

# OUT OF BOUNDS

## Music

**R**andy Newman has been churning out catchy, piano-pop tunes since Notre Dame's pre-co-ed days ("Short People," "I Love L.A."). His latest CD is a musical (and revised) version of *Faust* featuring Newman as the bored, disenchanted Satan, James Taylor as the egotistical nuisance, God, and Don Henley as Faust, a disheartened, pain-in-the-ass Notre Dame student (sound familiar?). The album is laden with cunning satire and an all-star cast that includes Elton John and Linda Ronstadt. Truly divine.

## THIS WEEK



by Chris Myers

## Film & TV

**O**scar hopefuls *Babe*, *Braveheart*, *Il Postino* and *Sense and Sensibility* get cast back into the theaters this weekend, clouding over the debut of Al Pacino's *City Hall*. Likewise Adam Sandler fights Spade and Farley for SNL alumni bragging rights when his *Happy Gilmore* opens tomorrow.

Yet the biggest news this side of *Third Rock From the Sun* is the return of *ALF*. NBC resurrects the furry space cadet of 80s nostalgia Saturday at 9 p.m. in the TV-movie *Project ALF*. Hide your cats!

# The Tortoise and The Deer

BY JOHN INFRANCA

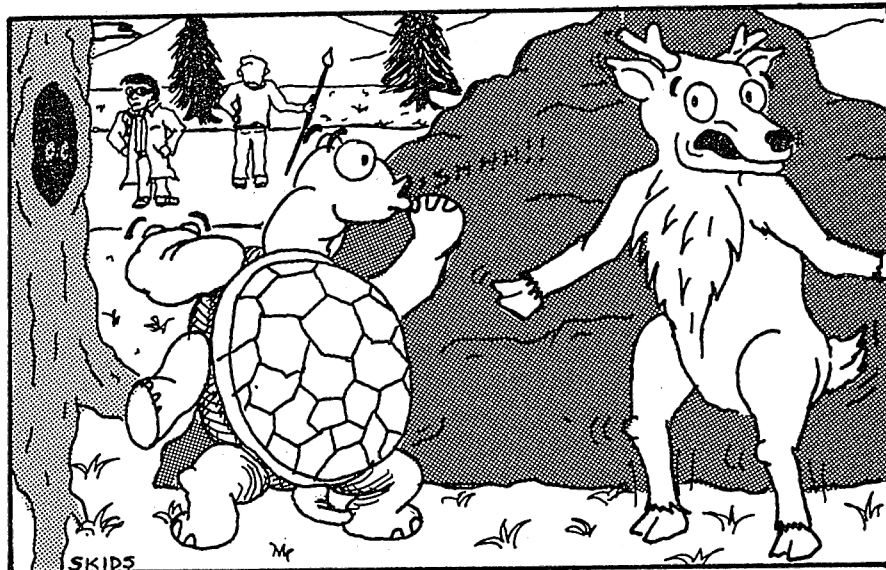
## ◆ Stone-Age Eats

For a few anthropology students at St. Lawrence University, carving the Thanksgiving turkey will be a breeze from now on. The students, who are in a course entitled, "Neanderthal: Fact, Fiction, and Fantasy," carved up a deer for a class feast. They first made Stone Age tools, then removed the hide, joints and flesh of a doe. According to John Barthelme, associate professor of anthropology, the course challenged the "Fred Flintstone" stereotype of cavemen, teaching students how their prehistoric ancestors really lived. (You mean to tell me Fred didn't really have a pet dinosaur?)

The students did not actually cook the animal over an open fire, however. Instead, the university's cooks prepared it. (I'm certain it was quite similar to the horse meat they normally cook.) Barthelme next plans to teach a course entitled "The Archeology of Food." I think I'll just order take-out instead.

## ◆ Turtle Is Its Own Twin

Think your pet turtle is the best thing since sliced bread? Well, think again. A two-headed snapping turtle named "This and That" has just been donated to Thomas Nelson Community College by Professor John Keinath. An adjunct professor of natural sciences, Keinath received the turtle five years ago from a person who came across it right after it hatched. It is believed that if the turtle had not been found, it would have died. According to Susan C. Fortunato, a laboratory supervisor in the college's natural-sciences department, the two heads fight for control of the turtle's body, causing it to swim and walk poorly. (I wish I had that as an excuse.) Using X-rays, the college hopes to discover more about how the turtle's



body functions.

Meanwhile, rumor has it students at St. Lawrence's University are interested in having the turtle as an appetizer before their dinner of deer.

## ◆ Million Dollar Needlework

Next time you grandmother knits you a three-armed sweater, be sure to save it—it could be worth millions. Nearly 250 years ago, Hannah Otis sewed a snap-shot view of Boston out of fine silk and metallic threads. The needlework was a homework assignment for Otis back in 1750, and was passed down through her family for six generations. Recently, her descendants sold the large embroidery at an auction for \$1.2 million to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, where it had been on loan since 1954.

I can't help but wonder, will my term papers be worth \$1.2 million in the year 2246? I didn't think so either.

## ◆ Having Trouble Understanding Your Friends?

A linguist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has written a book which argues that college students have as rich a vocabulary of slang as soldiers, prisoners and even jazz musicians. Author

Conni Elbe began collecting examples of slang in 1973 and continued until 1993. One of her theses is that many people ignore the metaphors and allusions which adorn everyday speech. *Slang and Sociability: In Group Language among College Students* also notes that the use of abbreviations has become very widespread in Chapel Hill dormitories. D.T.R. means "defining the relationship," while M.D.G. refers to "mutual desire to grope." For those who are afraid of making a faux pas in social circles, there are even examples of usage. One is, "Slackmeister, how did you manage to pull a C in English 36?" (Slackmeister? Is that really a word?) Elbe has even noted that certain words have uncertain meanings. One is "G," as in "What's up, G?" (Not to be confused with Gee, as in Gee, Willakers!)

The book even details the evolution of certain phrases. For example "Talking to Ralph on the big white telephone," a reference to vomiting which finds its root in the word "Ralph." Ms. Elbe says she hopes that, "Two-hundred years from now, someone who is interested in words in the 20th century will pull this off the shelf and find it useful." Useful as what? A paperweight? A door jam? A baby high chair? Maybe it will even be added to a new volume of the Oxford English Dictionary. Or maybe not. "Yo, G phat slackmeister, this book is N.W.O.: Not Worth Opening." □



# COMING S

*February 15 to February 22*

# DISTRACTION

## THURSDAY - February 15

Tennis. ND women vs. Tennessee. Eck Pavillion. 7 p.m.  
Lecture, "The Catholic University: Its Role in the Ecological Crisis," Rev. Thomas Berry, C.P. LaFortune Ballroom, 7p.m.

"Genesis of Performance: From Library to Voice," featuring Alexander Blachly, associate professor with the Notre Dame Chorale. Rare Book Room, Library, 7:30 p.m.  
Sophomore Literary Festival, readings. Gwendolyn Brooks, poet and Pulitzer Prize winner. Hesburgh Library Auditorium. 8 p.m.

## FRIDAY - February 16

**Humor Artists, Sketch Comedy Performance.** Washington Hall, 7 p.m.

Film, "The Postman." Snite 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.  
Concert, "Side Street Strutters," featuring New Orleans jazz, swing, blues, melodies and big band sounds. O'Laughlin Auditorium, SMC. Admission. 8 p.m.

Film, "Clockers," Cushing. 8 and 10:30 p.m.

## SATURDAY - February 17

Film, "The Wedding." Carroll Auditorium, SMC. 2 p.m.  
Tennis. ND women vs. Alabama. Eck Pavillion. 3 p.m.  
Film, "The Postman." Snite. 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.  
Film, "Clockers." Cushing. 8 and 10:30 p.m.

## SUNDAY - February 18

ND women vs. Kentucky. Eck Pavillion. 10 a.m. -  
ND men vs. Wisconsin. Eck Pavillion. 1 p.m.  
Concert, "The Eaken Piano Trio." Snite. Admission. 2 p.m.  
Concert, French "Baroque Salon." Washington Hall. 2 p.m.  
Film, "Clockers." Cushing. 2 p.m.

## TUESDAY - February 20

"Hand in Hand to Hell - An Actor's Perspective on Richard III and Macbeth." Actor Gareth Armstrong of Actors From The London Stage. Washington Hall. 4:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY - February 21

"From the Snow to the Sun: The Poetry of Anna Akhmatova and Grace Nichols." Actress Joanna Foster, of Actors From The London Stage. Washington Hall. 4:30 p.m.

Editor's Choice

It is always said that laughter is the best medicine. What it cures I don't know, but I'll try to find out at the Humor Artist's performance.

-JJI

## University Park West: ☎ 277-7336.

- "Toy Story," G, 2:15, 4:45, 6:45.
- "Braveheart," R, 8:45.
- "Dead Man Walking," R, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40.
- "Richard III," R, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:20.

## University Park East: ☎ 277-7336.

- "Restoration," R, 4:15, 9:40.
- "White Squall," PG-13, 1:40, 7:00.
- "From Dusk Til Dawn," R, 7:20, 9:50.
- "The Postman," PG, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30.
- "Heat," R, 8:00, 9:40.
- "Jumanji," PG, 2:00, 5:00.
- "Happy Gilmore," PG-13, 2:10, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45.
- "Muppet Treasure Island," G, 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15.
- "Babe," G, 2:15, 4:45.

# THE S S I C L R V E E R N

## Movies 10: ☎ 254-9685.

- "Grumpier Old Men," PG-13, 1:10, 3:25, 5:40, 7:55, 10:10.
- "Black Sheep," PG-13, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:45, 9:55.
- "Twelve Monkeys," R, 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15.
- "Eye For an Eye," R, 10:10.
- "Bridges of Madison County," PG-13, 12:45, 3:45, 7:20.
- "Sense and Sensibility," PG, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05.
- "Mr. Holland's Opus," PG, 12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00.
- "Leaving Las Vegas," R, 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50.
- "City Hall," R, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15. \*
- "Bed of Roses," PG, 12:55, 3:00, 5:10, 7:35, 9:45.
- "Beautiful Girls," R, 1:20, 4:05, 7:10, 9:40. \*

(\* No Passes Accepted)

*He only wanted an egg roll, but what he got was a*

# Shanghai Surprise!

*A heartwarming tale of love, meatloaf and bowling*

BY KRIS KAZLAUSKAS

I saw her standing there — with black stiletto heels and a plateful of rice. The girl wanted stir fry, but she took my heart instead.

"Double sprouts and extra szechuan," she commanded.

A vegetarian? Maybe. But her leopard skin leggings warned me that she was still a wild animal — so I proceeded with caution. Sauntering over to the counter, I flashed the innocent "I need to get an egg roll" look and reached under the glass sneeze guard for the tongs. Spying my opportunity, I bumped her with my elbow while brilliantly faking a brutal tongs-in-the-eye injury. Falling to the ground, I cried, "Sweet Jesus! My eye's done been poked! I reckon I's gwin die!"

Seeing my anguish, the mesmerizing stir fry Muse came to my aid. Reaching into her backpack, she removed a gauze pad and some Bactine.

The plan had worked.

Staring into her eyes, the world became a blur of carrots, pea pods, broccoli and bok choy. As I held her hand, the wok sizzled in the background, and I knew what everyone else in line knew — the chicken was burning, and I had fallen in love.

That was five months ago, and now, with the month being February, I have come to the realization that the girl I call Snuggle Wuggle Twinkie Binky is much more than the princess who does my homework — she is my Valentine.

As a child, my mom used to tell me that St. Valentine was the patron saint of bowling. My brother and I thought that was pretty cool. So, in keeping with the spirit of

the holiday, my mom would drop us off every February 14th at the bowling alley near our house. Together, we would pay due homage to St. Valentine by bowling the day away, getting tipsy on Frescas and playing Asteroids in the arcade. As if life couldn't get any better, in the evening my mother would have a piping hot, heart-shaped meatloaf waiting for us. It was only years later that I would realize the truth of the old adage, "Nothing says love like a quality meatloaf."

We then opened cards. My parents always gave us the best cards — they were so

me to realize that my whole life I have been the equivalent of a tray of dining hall refried beans: I had built up a crusty shell that safely hid my emotions.

It took a girl like Haras to crack that shell, revealing the mushiness I was hiding inside. That is why I feel compelled to treat my Valentine like a queen.

So here's the plan. First, I buy her one of those Snickers heart-shaped candy boxes from the convenience store in the Huddle. I add a little poem, something like, "You fit me better than O.J.'s glove. That's why, Baby Doll, I need your love." As she begins

***I have come to the realization that the girl I call Snuggle Wuggle Twinkie Binky is much more than the princess who does my homework — she is my Valentine.***

blunt, yet so imbued with love. With sayings like, "We could have thrown you in the dumpster as we left the hospital, but we decided that you were a good tax write-off. Happy Valentine's Day, Love Mom & Dad" it's not surprising that my family is still a tight-knit group to this very day.

But alas! Those happy childhood memories are no more than a bit of sweet nectar that has satisfied my soul throughout my college years. That is, until I met Her. I will spell her name backwards to protect her identity, but my affiliation with Haras has prompted me to get in touch with my emotions, whether it be crying through my new favorite movie, "Steel Magnolias," or listening over and over to Emily Lord's new CD. It has taken these past five months for

to swoon, I catch her and whisk her away in my love chariot to Taco Bell, where we share pintos-n-cheese for two by candlelight. From there, it's on to Meijer where I let her pick out some fancy jewelry. Finally, we come back to my dorm room, where the mood lighting is set, Julio Iglesias is playing softly in the background, and we play Yahtzee until the stroke of midnight. I know it probably sounds a bit extravagant, but when you love somebody, money is no object.

And when I call SafeWalk to take her back to Cavanaugh, there will be no doubt in her mind that I'm the man for her. □

*This is a humor column. These views are not necessarily the views of the editorial staff of Scholastic Magazine.*

# Rules Without Rights

by J. Patrick Coolican

"Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice."

—Barry M. Goldwater

The administration of the University of Notre Dame seems to agree with this statement, but might alter it to say, "Extremism in the defense of authoritarianism is no vice." In the last several years the Big Lady at the dome has tightened her grip on the Notre Dame student body. We are now relegated to mere tuition-paying Hammes patrons, dutifully enjoying the pain of North Dining Hall.

Our American political legacy lies in the Jeffersonian idea that the government which governs least governs best, and that communities must recognize certain inalienable rights of its members in order to prevent arbitrary governmental action. The administration, however, has decided that a large, authoritarian institution with the power to make arbitrary decisions and claims against the members of the Notre Dame community is the better route. Apparently they are following in the footsteps of the compassionate authoritarians of this century.

The 1984-86 Du Lac (the rulebook used to be good) is 40 pages long and contains only 15 pages of rules. It's short and rather warm and friendly. An entire section is designated, "Rights in Disciplinary Proceedings." Point number three gives students, "The right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty." That simple statement, the basis for Western legal theory, insures at least some protection for students against arbitrary administration action. Other rights include the right to challenge any member of the Judicial Board; the right to the names of all prospective witnesses and the right to confront them openly at a hearing; the right to be given a written explanation of the decision; and the right to confidentiality. Surprised?

The 1991 Du Lac (by now we needed a new

rulebook for every year) was 60 pages long and contains 40 pages of rules. It was more official, which means more ambiguous, of course. Charged students were afforded rights, the first of which was the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, although the number of rights was reduced from 14 to five. While the important rights remain, the principle that someone in the dome can delete rights on

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***In the last several years  
the Big Lady at the dome  
has tightened her grip on  
the Notre Dame student  
body.***

---

a whim began to lead us closer to a gold-leafed gulag.

By the 1995-1996 Du Lac, the Big Lady had completed her authoritarian task. If you haven't looked, it has more than 100 pages of rules and regulations, and I wouldn't wish it on someone as a reading assignment. Conveniently, in the summer of 1993, all rights were eliminated and replaced with "a student ... can expect the following: (1) the Administrative Hearing Panel will not make a final decision about a charged student's case before his/her Administrative Hearing is complete."

We should feel lucky, shouldn't we, that they don't make a decision until the hearing is over? I hope no one with gold handcuffs comes and brings me to the basement of the Hammes; that's what I hear they do to dissenters. □

*J. Patrick Coolican  
is a junior PLS major,  
from Hartford,  
Connecticut. He  
resides in Flanner.*



# *Scholastic* is now accepting applications for the following paid '96 - '97 positions:

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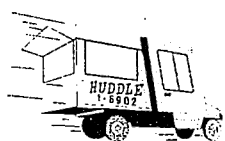
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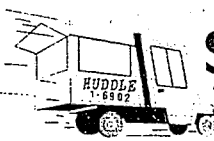


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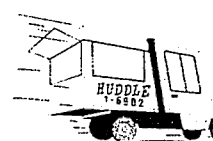


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MOVIE OF  
THE WEEK:

# CLOCKERS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY AT 8:00 AND 10:30, & SUNDAY AT 2:00  
IN CUSHING AUDITORIUM

TONIGHT:

**SLF**

GWENDOLYN BROOKS



STUDENT UNION BOARD

**COLLEGIATE  
JAZZ FESTIVAL**

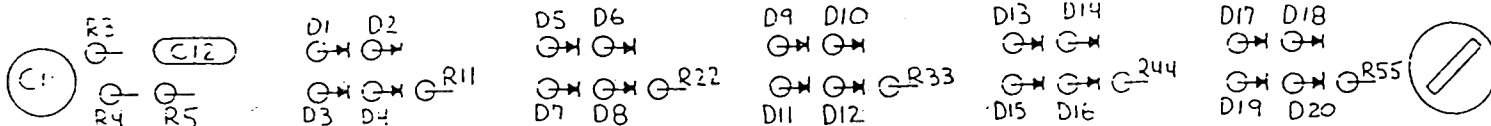
FEBRUARY 21

@ 7PM



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remember... SUB applications due tomorrow

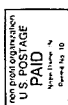


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(talk)

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Yesterday's Technology Today

