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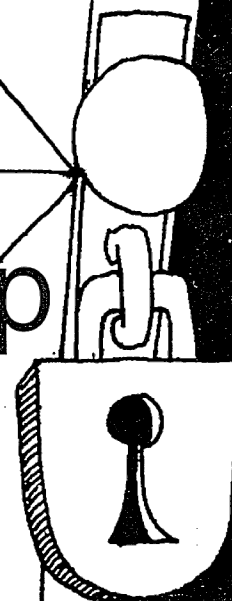
MAGAZINE

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*The Darker Side of the
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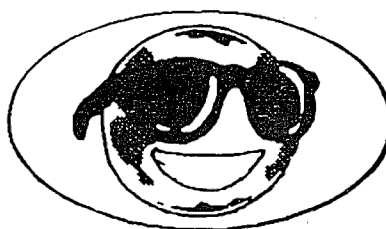
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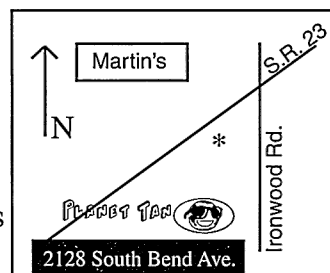
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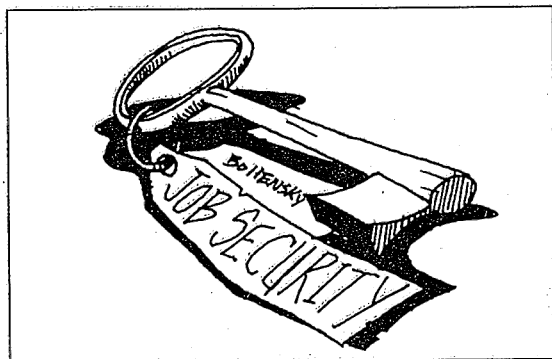
SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

VOLUME 138, NUMBER 2

FOUNDED 1867

SEPTEMBER 12, 1996

FEATURE STORY



Shades of Gray

When a professor is granted tenure, he or she is given lifetime job security. And while the official tenure process is a complex one, it varies from one departmental culture to another. Professors are finally raising their voices against practices that they feel leave too much room for error and bias.

.....page 16

Miles from Home



Seniors Maria Freiburger and Patrick Kenny spent their summer living and learning about life in Kisumu, a village in Kenya.

.....page 6

Thriving in the Spotlight



The Communication and Theatre department hopes to leave controversy backstage as they kick off their 135th Mainstage Season.

.....page 19

FEATURES

- Clinton, Dole and the "Feel Me" Voter.....4
by Matt Dull
- Dreaming of Gold.....8
by Kate McShane
- Fall Sports Q & A10
by Brian Hiro
- Sugar-Coated Season.....12
by Jeremy Dixon and Brian Hiro
- Killing Me Slowly.....15
by Chris Myers

DEPARTMENTS

- From the Editor.....2
- Campus Watch.....9
- Splinters From the Press Box.....14
- Out of Bounds.....22
- Comics.....23
- On Other Campuses.....24
- Calendar.....25
- Week in Distortion.....26
- Final Word.....28

FROM THE EDITOR

Educated Discrimination

Rumors of Professor Linda Austern's impending departure floated through my junior PLS class last fall. I remember hearing that she was leaving because she had not been tenured, but I did not quite understand the process or the implications.

Last Thanksgiving, though, I spoke with a friend's mom about her tenure experience at Western Michigan University. She told me about having to fulfill more stringent requirements and publish more papers. She felt these discrepancies were due to her gender, and she saw others promoted before her as she dealt with an unfair system.

The more I've learned about tenure, the murkier it has become to me. It's not always a clear-cut process, and the subjective nature of approval by one's colleagues can make for difficult decisions. In this week's cover story on page 16, Bridget Bradburn looks at some of the troublesome aspects of the process, and talks to Professor Austern about her experiences at Notre Dame.

New Beginnings

This issue marks the beginning of a new printer and layout process at *Scholastic Magazine*. Ave Maria Press, located just north of the power plant, is now printing the magazine. Over the course of the year you will see higher quality photos and graphics. In addition, you will be able to see the magazine in its entirety, exactly as it is now in your hands, on the Web. Check out our site at <http://www.nd.edu/~scholast/>.

Back in the Saddle

We're back. Look for us every Thursday all over campus.

Steve Myers
Editor in Chief

39 Years Ago: What Happened to the Table Manners?

In the September 27, 1957, issue of *Scholastic Magazine*, Editor Jim Steintrager wrote the following editorial after the university saw a need to require all students to wear coats and ties in the dining halls on Sundays:

Why college students somehow feel that when they arrive on campus all the decor of polite society goes out the window is a mystery. I am certain that most of the sloppy individuals are quite neat at home. But among the peer group at college, sloppiness suddenly becomes, as it seems, the thing to do. This, of course, is an improper attitude. Good dress and good manners are not things to be turned on while at home. They should be demanded, not only by the University but by the students, here at school It will be a great compliment to the students and a demonstration of their increased maturity.

Now, stop playing with your food and straighten your tie. Even though it is "the thing to do."

—BSB

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

Volume 138, Number 2

September 12, 1996

<http://www.nd.edu/~scholast/>

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 Did Matt Dull strike a nerve?
 Did the Gipper make you feel part of
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Clinton, Dole and

I BY MATT DULL

I know why Bob Dole will lose this election. A shocking statement, I know, considering he's now 20 points behind. But it isn't a matter of the proposed deficit-ballooning tax cuts or the strength of Bill Clinton's leadership. Really, it has more to do with the characteristically cryptic comment Dole made in his response to the State of the Union last January.

Though almost lost behind the layers of old age and creepiness, I distinctly heard Dole say that the election should be decided on which one of the candidates you would trust to leave alone with your children. That comparison probably worked to Dole's advantage in the Republican primaries when the alternatives were Buchanan, Gramm and Forbes — all even creepier than Dole. But against Clinton?

It's not just about picking a babysitter, though. It's about the fact that the line even stumbled out of Bob "Leave Me Alone"

voters: if you could vote for any president in U.S. history, whom would you choose? The top vote-getter was John Kennedy (28%) beating all others — including Reagan, Lincoln, Washington and FDR — by more than two to one. Surprised? Do you think Lincoln could be elected today? In fact, looking back over the past half-century, more often than not, the candidate with greater personal appeal has won the presidency. I think it's no coincidence that the president we say we'd vote for is the same one we'd most like to go to the prom with. Forget cynicism; we are enamored with the president.

But don't mistake the "feel me" for the character hawk. Feel me's aren't looking for character. Feel me's don't mind JFK's fantastic capacity for womanizing. Bill Clinton's great transgression is that his infidelities involved Gennifer Flowers instead of Marilyn Monroe.

So the mission for the Dole campaign is to sell Dole not only as the better man, but the more appealing man. One reporter called this the "empathy gap." When Liddy Dole stepped down from the podium, it was clearly an attempt to open Bob Dole up in a way that he is unwilling to do himself. As she embraced Dole's old nurse, the message was, "He's a sensitive guy, I swear" and, "Not only does this man have character, he's also got heart."

Predictably, Mrs. Dole was somewhat successful. The feel me's aren't focused on the candidate alone. Ev-

REACHING OUT. It takes a candidate who can appeal to the electorate to win. Kemp's popularity in inner-cities and among minorities is expected to help Dole.

Dole's mouth. By most accounts Dole doesn't like being touched, has approximately *zero* experience raising kids, and he recently celebrated his 20th wedding anniversary over the phone. At the Republican National Convention, the party tried desperately to turn Dole into a real person. I understand conventions are about making the candidate look as attractive as possible, but why was this man selling himself as Mr. Rogers?

I think the answer rests (oddly enough) in the electorate. Instead of whining about the absence of news at the conventions, the bazillion reporters covering these events might have done well to turn around and look at the people to whom they were reporting. There *is* a news story there.

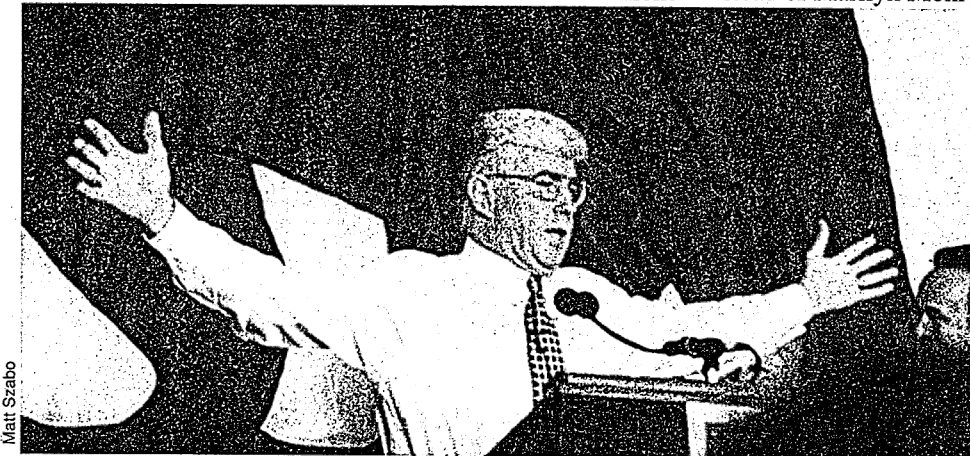
The essential swing vote in a presidential election year isn't the fanatical C-SPAN watching ex-Perotist, as four-year-old conventional wisdom would have us believe. The real swing vote in American presidential elections is a broad, amorphous group, a group I call the "feel me" vote. The way to elect a president is to indulge this group, to fulfill their desires.

A recent survey printed in the *New York Times* asked eligible

everyone around the candidate is either a political asset or a liability. Hillary Clinton is a great example. Hillary-haters resent her not only because she's a strong woman, but because they understand she's a player and they are unconvinced by her saccharine sweetness in interviews and her constantly evolving hairstyle. Has anyone ever suggested that Elizabeth Dole's individual success and evident ambition create an image problem? No, and I think it's because we can't imagine her insulting Tammy Wynette or hiding files in a closet in the White House.

Each ticket can be scored using an average appeal. Jack Kemp and Elizabeth Dole bring up Dole's average and Hillary brings down Clinton's (Al Gore is a slightly closer call). Unfortunately for Dole, the score of the presidential nominee is weighted.

But how did we get to where we are today? How did Oprahism invade the conventions? Now more than ever, the presidency has come to embody government. For everything from Medicare to plane crashes we either credit or blame the President. This factor meshes nicely with the spirited way in which we now pry into a politician's private life. The "character"



the "Feel me" Voter

question then comes to define the nature of our whole government. Minute details of the president's annual check-ups or what the president buys his daughter for Christmas come to reflect the health and wealth of our national government.

The social science that drives political campaigns gives people what they are most likely to respond to. It gave us

It's no coincidence that the President we say we'd vote for is the same one we'd most like to go to the prom

attack ads. And, this year, it gave us the national conventions.

Meanwhile, our access to information sources are rapidly increasing. And sources such as TV, radio, newspapers and the Internet are themselves made of thousands of voices vying for our attention. One can't possibly listen to all the voices that surround us. One can't possibly learn all of what the rambling, instant-spin press has to say. Ultimately, we only manage to digest this information as a collection of broad forces that push us one way or another (see sidebar). Ask someone what he or she thinks of a candidate and instead of policy preferences, you'll almost certainly get something like, "I think he's gone too far" or, "I just don't trust him."

Unfortunately for Bob Dole, no amount of touching-up will quite do the job. Worse yet, he's up against the ultimate "feel me" president. Even if Lincoln had a wife like Liddy Dole and a girlfriend like Marilyn Monroe, he still couldn't win our hearts over JFK.

Whether or not Dole is a good leader, in the "feel me" race he's a lost cause. We are destined to fall, once again, into the arms of Bill Clinton. In 1992 Clinton asked for a "New Covenant" with the American people. It's no coincidence that he's been about as faithful in this covenant as he's been in his covenant with Hillary. By most accounts, a 20-point victory in November would represent a mandate." But for what? Are we hiring a babysitter? The "feel me" babysitter—no wonder we have a dysfunctional government. □



CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS. Elizabeth Dole could be Dole's greatest image-enhancer.

IN A NUTSHELL

So, like 75 percent of TV-watching Americans, you missed the national conventions. Not to worry. Julian Kupiec of the Palo Alto Research Center in Palo Alto, Calif. has the cheat sheet you've been waiting for. He has developed a piece of software which produces an automatic summary of text by analyzing word frequency and recurrent patterns. Kupiec ran the texts from the first two nights of the Republican Convention and all of the texts from the Democratic Convention through his program. The results are a bit absurd, but really, so were the political conventions. Here, in a nutshell, is a summary of the national conventions, condensed to four sentences each:

Republican Convention

- We are the Republican Party — a big, broad, diverse and inclusive party with a common sense agenda and a better man for a better America, Bob Dole.
- We need a leader we can trust.
- The common sense Republican proposals are the first step in restoring the American dream because Republicans care about America.
- There is no greater dream than the dreams parents have for their children to be happy and to share God's blessings.

Democratic Convention

- Now, most of America believes that Bill Clinton and his incomparable vice president, Al Gore, will win the election on November 5.
- President Clinton found a way to preserve [the Democratic party's] basic principles while erasing the stigmas that have been branded upon our reputation over the years.
- In the modern history of this country, no president has done more to move toward a balanced budget than President Bill Clinton.
- In the end, Bill Clinton spells hope and Republicans spell disaster.

— compiled by Matt Dull and Matt Szabo

MILES FROM HOME

The anthropology department sends students to a nation worlds apart from Notre Dame for a summer of cultural immersion

BY KRISTIN M. ALWORTH

Seniors Maria Freiburger and Patrick Kenny were touring the Kenyan countryside this summer when a lady accosted them and asked for money. They refused, following a rule that visitors should never give out money. Miffed, the lady chanted angrily and walked around in a circle. When the bewildered pair asked their tour guide what she was doing, the guide merely replied, "It's very bad; you don't want to know."

They had been hexed. And coincidentally, both Freiburger and Kenny fell violently ill that evening.

Such experiences were not unusual for Freiburger and Kenny this past summer. They spent eight weeks in Kenya as participants in the East Africa Urban Experience Program run by the Notre Dame anthropology department. Open to anthropology majors, the program sends Notre Dame students to Kisumu, Kenya to work at the Pandipieri Catholic Center. The center aims to improve conditions in the community wherever possible by running programs in areas ranging from health care to carpentry to nursery schools.

The program began a few years ago when Dr. Daniel Towle '77 donated money to the anthropology department. "I wanted to establish some sort of possibility for students to have a summer cross-cultural experience," Towle explains. While a student at Notre Dame, Towle participated in Operation Crossroads to Africa, which enabled him to spend time in Africa between his junior and senior years. "We lead a pretty sheltered life at Notre Dame," says Towle. "I wanted students to have a life-broadening experience outside of the classroom."

Professor Martin Murphy, chairperson of the anthropology department, stresses that the main focus of the program is not to do volunteer work. "The purpose is to give students the opportunity to experience a very different world and culture," he says. Murphy notes that the students who go to Kenya will eventually speak to many people back in the U.S. and raise awareness of the social problems in Kenya. "It's different than just sending money there," he says.

Notre Dame sent its first students to Kisumu in the summer of 1995. Stephanie Sluka, who is a

senior this year, participated in the program in its initial year and explains that she had always wanted to visit a Third World country. "But I don't think I realized what I was getting into," she says. "I came back humbled."

Freiburger and Kenny found that they, too, were not quite prepared for life in Kenya, where Americans attract a lot of attention. "When we were getting off the bus in the market I was really freaked out. I was thinking, we're walking targets," Freiburger recounts. The Luos would yell "Muzungu" — white person — wherever they went, and people in the street would start chanting, "How are you, Muzungu?"

Kenny found this treatment unsettling. "They would rub your skin to see if the white would come off. You were always reminded that you're different," he comments. "But the children don't know what they're saying — it bothered me more when it was the adults."

The people of Kisumu were very open to the American visitors, however. "They would say, 'you are welcome, you are welcome, you are welcome,' and that's all they would say for about a half an hour," Freiburger remembers. She and Kenny were frequently received as the "honored guest" at the places they visited.

The transition to life in Kisumu required some adjustments on their part, though. For one, the Luo, the local people in



SAY CHEESE. Freiburger spent much of her summer in Kenya working at a local nursery school.

courtesy of Maria Freiburger

Kisumu, have a different attitude about time than most Americans do. Freiburger recalls one instance when she and Kenny were going to a meeting that was supposed to start at 9:30 a.m., so they arrived at about 9:15. At 12:30, the meeting finally got underway, and some people still weren't there. "But it's not just the meetings that are laid-back, it's the whole lifestyle," Freiburger explains.

The grave social problems in Kisumu, however, were what really unsettled the visitors. Freiburger spent much of her time working in a nursery school and witnessed many disturbing instances of physical punishment. "I was grading papers one day, and some kids were talking," she recalls. "The teacher just walked behind them and hit them each on the head."

Freiburger explains that Kenya does have a law against such abuse in schools, but the law is not enforced. She had heard of one instance where a class was laughing at their teacher, so the teacher left the classroom and brought three teachers back with her. They randomly selected one student and caned her to death as a punishment for the class. Freiburger tried to speak to the people at the schools about the abuse, and they were very open to her suggestions. However, she is skeptical about whether her concerns will be addressed by the school, especially now that she is gone.

Kenny, Freiburger and Sluka all saw tremendous poverty in Kenya as well, yet one of the mission's statements is that visitors can never give handouts to anyone. Following this rule was easier said than done. Most of the Luo assume that white people are rich and they continually begged the visitors for money. "They said they had school fees or medical fees, and it was hard to say no to them," says Sluka. "A matter of a couple of bucks makes a huge difference to them."

Freiburger also faced uncomfortable situations because of this rule. The schools had a very difficult time collecting fees, so they held "Harumbae," where teachers would dance with

"They would rub your skin to see if the white would come off."

buckets and get parents to contribute money. However, Freiburger was in an awkward position when she was the honored guest at one Harumbae. "The parents were thinking, why isn't this rich white woman giving any money?" she says.

The number of people living on the streets is another serious problem in Kisumu, and the center tried to combat the problem by going out on the streets at night and talking to people. They would try to convince them to come to the center, where they could have a bed, food and even an education.

Freiburger and Kenny both participated in night street work, yet they had two very different experiences. Kenny went out

with two large men, and he was offered everything from food to a seat to rest on from people who barely have anything. "I felt completely safe the whole night," Kenny comments.

For Freiburger, the night turned out to be fairly traumatic because of the disturbing way she was treated on the street. Women receive little respect in the Luo culture, and girls are basically just sex toys out on the street. "Everyone touches you and people grab you," she says. But, Freiburger notes that it is the intrinsic cultural beliefs that are largely responsible for the



courtesy of Maria Freiburger

WHEN IN ROME. Kenny had to make numerous lifestyle adjustments when he was in Kisumu.

treatment of women. "I hate to say it, but you can't blame them for it," she comments.

One experience that evening was disturbing enough to bring Freiburger to tears. She came across a little boy sleeping in the marketplace and tried to rouse him several times, but all he did was open his eyes a little. "You could count his ribs, and I thought his shoulder was about to pop out," she recalls. "He was not more than eight years old, and he was all alone, fending for himself."

Despite the numerous social problems in Kisumu, Freiburger and Kenny found that the Luo's zest for life is not dampened by these challenges. Freiburger explains that the poverty and sickness are simply a part of life in Kenya, and that the people are so far removed from material cultures that they are only upset when they are hurt or sick. "They are always singing and dancing," comments Freiburger. "It's hard to feel sorry for people who are so happy."

Murphy hopes that the program will continue to grow. "The people who have participated have been quite changed by the program," he comments. However, funding for the program is a major concern. Towle and his wife, Christen, currently fund about half of the cost, while the participants raise the other half through fundraising.

The program has certainly left some lasting reflections about both the Luo culture and American culture. Freiburger has found that the Luos seem content without the material things that Western people value. "It takes so much more to make kids — and people in general — happy in America," she says. □

Dreaming of Gold

While millions of people watched the Olympics on TV, Sara Walsh experienced the Games firsthand

BY KATE MCSHANE

Most of us have heard seemingly endless stories about our friends' summer vacations. We have heard tales of internships, summer school, and even about visits to the Olympics in Atlanta. But one story is not so common. While some students paid to see the Olympics, another Notre Dame student participated in the worldwide event.

Sophomore Sara Walsh traveled to the Olympics as the first alternate on the U.S. Olympic Fencing team. A Mishawaka native, Walsh began her fencing career at age 12 when she started fencing at a junior club at Notre Dame. She graduated from high school a year early to train in Italy for three months, and she has since worked her way up to the ranks of the top 32 fencers in the world.

During her time as a Notre Dame student, Walsh has been a member of the varsity fencing team while continuing to compete in national competitions. She placed second at the Nationals in June, which earned her a position on the U.S. Olympic team.

After Nationals, Walsh and her teammates left for Roanoke, Va. to prepare for the Olympics. The team trained, received counseling from sports psychologists, gave press conferences and, most importantly, tried to relax. "There were a lot of things going on and it was a lot of fun, but we constantly had to remind ourselves to

stay focused," Walsh says.

Overall, Walsh thought the Olympics were a great experience. One of her favorite memories of the game was when she and the rest of the fencing team entered the fencing hall. "It was wonderful to walk in with all the fans applauding," she says.

Besides watching the other fencing events, Sara was able to spend time in the AT&T Global Village. "It was nice because the village was for just the athletes and their families," she says. Walsh particularly enjoyed the opportunity to speak with the other athletes, since many of them had shared similar experiences. "I found that I could relate to a lot of them," Walsh says. "We talked about the constant training and putting other things you want from life on hold because of your sport."

Walsh did have some mixed feelings about the Olympics. "I was excited but I also had a bittersweet feeling about being there," she says. The athletes were very involved with the competition, while the tourists were just trying to have a good time. As an alternate, Walsh was a member of the Olympic team, yet she did not compete and she could not participate in certain events, like the Opening Ceremonies. "It was hard knowing that you were so close to participating, but not close enough," she says.

Walsh also notes that the atmosphere



Stan Evans

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS. Walsh was selected as the first alternate for the U.S. Olympic fencing team after placing second in the U.S. Nationals.

of the Games was strained because of the stringent security measures. She repeatedly had to go through security checks, such as having her bag searched every time she entered the fencing hall. Walsh explains that, with all the security, "You knew things were not quite right, because you were basically waiting for something to happen." Walsh did not witness the bombing in the Olympic village, though, because she had left for North Carolina the night before.

Looking ahead to the future, Walsh has not made a decision as to whether or not she will participate in the Olympic Games in Sydney. The average age of the U.S. Fencing Team is 28, however, so Walsh will still have the opportunity to participate in later Olympic Games.

Walsh says that going to the Olympics has changed her perspective on the games. While she still loves the sport of fencing, she does not want it to consume her entire life. "By actually going, it put it in perspective for me," she says. "I've seen it, and it's a wonderful experience, but I won't be really disappointed if I don't make it in the year 2000." □

gipper.1@nd.edu

Campus Watch

BY THE GIPPER

Attitude, Allegations, and Innuendo

Listen up, whoever is responsible for the Gipp's soggy shoes: **Turn off the sprinklers now!** You've been watering the sidewalks for three weeks now, and they haven't grown yet. The Gipp is tired of playing Dodgeball with the sprinklers. Last week when he was walking across North Quad he thought he was trapped in Super Mario Land.

Now, a belated welcome to the land of religious profiteers, Gipp fans! The Gipp is tanned and rested from his summer spent in beautiful Acapulco, where he was a towel boy for Kate Moss. Fantasy, reality, what's the difference?

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE, OPTION 1

Speaking of fact vs. fiction, who knows the real reason Senior Bar is suddenly a place to drop off the kids for daycare? There are two possibilities floating around campus — at least, what's left of campus, now that they put the stadium on steroids. One involves a student, who we'll call I. Ruineditforeveryoneelse (it's a family

name), who was upset about not being able to join her off-age friends for Liquid Lunch. Miss Ruineditforeveryoneelse talked to Daddy, who sicced some attorneys on the university. They said selling alcohol at that time encouraged alcohol abuse, and it was unfair that anyone couldn't just go in and get food on Fridays. The result? A kinder, gentler Shamrox.

Look, Miss Ruineditforeveryoneelse, the Gipp thought it was unfair when as a twelve-

year-old he couldn't pick up a hard pack of Marlboro Reds, too. But that's why they have cigarette machines. If you can't get a decent fake ID, leave your superego outside the bar.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE, OPTION 2

Or is this the next step to a dry campus, as has been alleged before? Go ahead and laugh, and say the Gipp is paranoid about his liquor. But these changes are made with baby steps, and we'll be alumni by the time it happens. Of course, they'll still have a "refreshment" tent for Alumni Weekend, and that's enough to keep us signing the checks.

STATUTORY SOMETHING

Those who were lucky enough to spend the summer under the shadow of the Golden Dome were treated to a fine selection of sports and youth camp participants. But, lest any student get the wrong idea, the university had a specific rule preventing ND students from entering dorms in which camps were staying. Not just staying overnight, but entering the

REASON #6659 THE GIPP LOVES NOTRE DAME:

V.P. Beauchamp, a priest (read: oath of poverty) trades his loaded Honda Accord a few times a year for *another* loaded Accord from Basney Honda.

building. Future parietals policy? The Gipp shudders and holds his 16-year-old cheerleader girlfriend tight.

Top 10 Convenient Places for another on-campus ATM

That ATM at the JACC has stolen all the business from the LaFortune machine. Where will they put one next?

10. Carroll Hall basement
9. Stepan Center
8. St. Joseph Lake beach
7. Room 315, Main Building (Office of Student Affairs)
6. 14th floor, Hesburgh Library
5. Maple Lane Amoco
4. Fitzpatrick computer cluster
3. D-2000
2. Lewis Hall
1. Jay's Lounge

JAILHOUSE FOOTBALL

Now, we all know that Mr. Kirk peers through his binoculars at the student section during the football games. But now that a spaceship landed on the old stadium and swallowed it, he won't have to leave the stadium to continue the judicial process. Included in the brand-new stadium is a brand-new jail cell. ND Security sources say rumors of a lethal injection room are unfounded, but admit there is an iron maiden at Gate 3.

One more item: tailgating will be considerably more boring now that the university has prohibited RVs from parking anywhere on campus before the mornings of home football games. Wealthy RV-driving alums have lit up the ND switchboard like a Christmas tree, but to no avail. Supposedly there isn't enough parking. That's strange — 26 rows and 22,000 seats ago there was plenty of parking for RV's. Tell your RV-owning friends they can have the Gipp's spot in D2.

That's all the tips that's fit to print, or all the tips that fit in print. It was a busy

summer for everyone, and the Gipp has more tips than the Development office has free football tickets. So whether you spent your summer trainspotting like some football players, or drying off Kate Moss like the Gipp, rest assured that the Gipp's crack team of legal experts will guarantee a fall chock full of tips. Help him out — have you shared your secret today? ☐



FALL SPORTS:

Q & A



Mike Stahschmidt/ND Sports Information

BY BRIAN HIRO

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Q: After winning the school's first-ever national championship and ending North Carolina's nine-year reign last year, what can Coach Chris Petrucelli's squad possibly do for an encore?

A: How about win it all again. Despite the loss of such stars as Michelle McCarthy and Rosella Guerrero, the Irish return a loaded roster and welcome one of the most talented freshman classes ever. In addition to player-of-the-year candidates Cindy Daws and Holly Manthei, expect to hear the names of rookies Jen Grubb

and Jenny Streiffer a lot. All but Daws trained with the U.S. Olympic Team this summer.

Q: Will anyone score on Jen Renola this year?

A: Don't hold your breath. The senior goalkeeper shut out a record 13 teams last season and did not allow a single goal in the Big East or NCAA Tournament. Her career goals-against average is a microscopic 0.66.

Q: Who made up the schedule, anyway?

A: Someone in a bad mood, apparently.

"Grueling" might not be strong enough to describe the '96 slate, which includes games against five of the top seven teams in the Soccer America preseason poll, all of them on the road. If the Irish defend their title this year, they will have more than earned it.

MEN'S SOCCER

Q: Is this the team that began last season 3-0 and ranked sixth in the nation or the one that proceeded to lose four straight games and finish 9-10 overall?

A: Probably somewhere in between. A top-ten national ranking is asking too much in the tough Big East Conference, but there is reason for optimism with the return of five experienced seniors, including tri-captains Tony Capasso, Brian Engesser and Peter Gansler. The recent 2-2 tie with sixth-ranked St. John's did nothing to dampen the hope.

Q: Who will replace the scoring of star forward Bill Lanza, second team all-Big East last year?

A: A number of players are vying for the role of primary offensive threat, among them sophomore Ben Bocklage, who led the '95 Irish in goals with nine, Capasso, back after taking the spring semester off to train with the Canadian Olympic Team and senior Konstantin Koloskov, third in scoring a year ago. Freshman forward Andrew Aris from New Zealand has surprised with two goals and an assist through three games.

Q: What will be the strength of Coach Mike Berticelli's team this season?

A: Try the backline. Anchored by sweeper Engesser, who has started every game during his first three years, the Irish defense did not allow a goal in the first two contests of the year and held St. John's scoreless through regulation. Part of this success must be attributed to sophomore goalkeeper Greg Velho, who has played every minute so far while surrendering just .60 goals per game.

VOLLEYBALL

Q: Coming off a 27-7 record last year with all six starters returning, is this the year the Irish start thinking national title?

A: Not so fast. Although senior Jenny Birkner was the '95 Big East Player of the Year and junior outside hitters Angie Har-

ris and Jaime Lee have as much talent as anyone in the nation, Notre Dame has not yet lived up to its number-six preseason ranking. Second-ranked Stanford taught the Irish a lesson in how to play upper-echelon volleyball last week, sweeping three games in the Joyce Center. Then No. 19 Louisville made it consecutive home defeats by coming back from two games down in the Big Four Classic. The shoulder separation suffered by setter Carey May on August 16 hasn't helped matters.

Q: Just how big was the injury to May?

A: Very. The setter is probably the most important position in the sport and the junior from California is a good one. Last year she set school records for assists and assist average. As Coach Debbie Brown said before the season, "Carey has to carry a pretty heavy load in order for us to achieve our goals." She is not expected back until the end of September at the earliest.

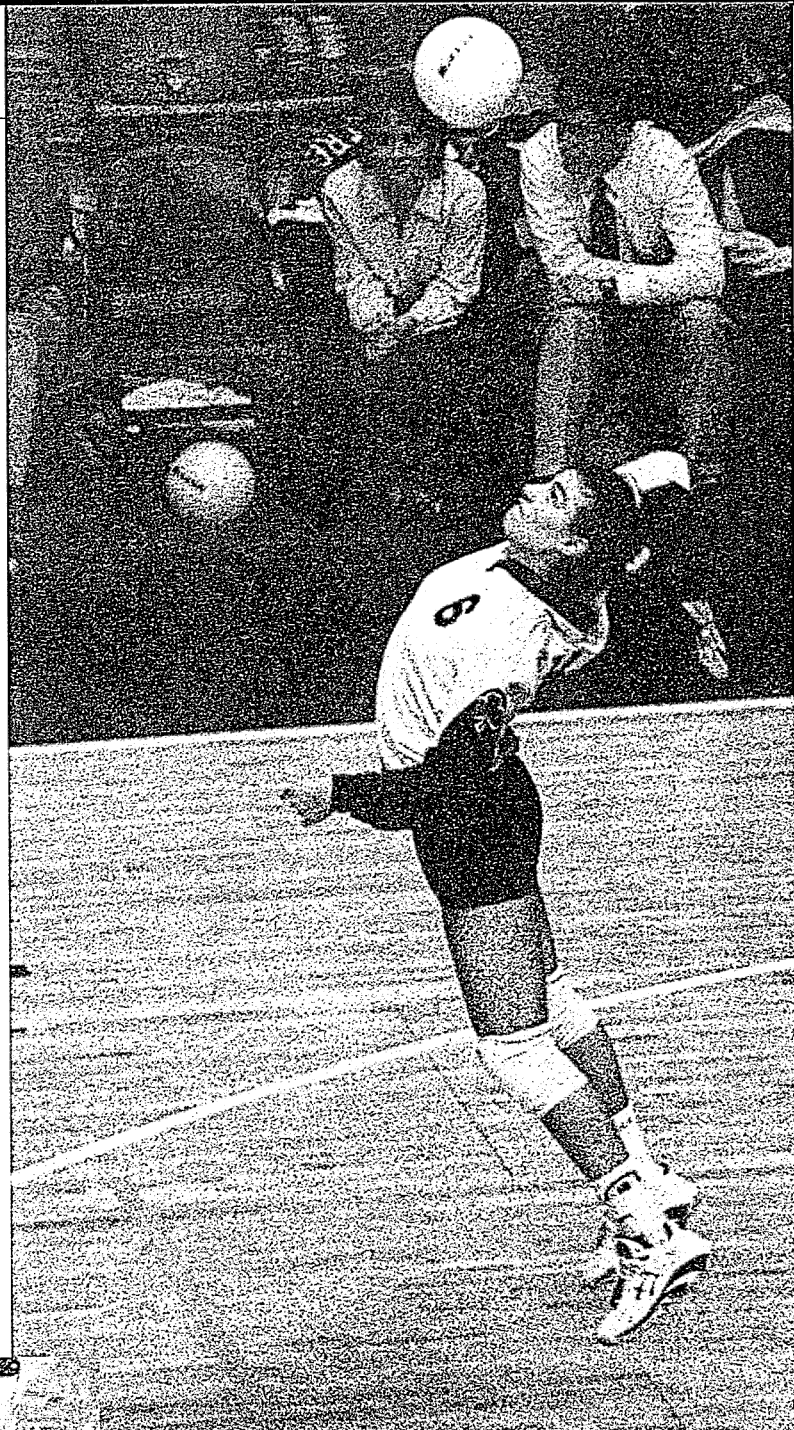
CROSS COUNTRY

Q: How is it possible to finish third in the conference yet still be ranked in the nation's top ten?

A: Be a member of the Big East. The men's cross country squad finished eighth at last year's NCAA meet yet trailed Providence and Georgetown in the standings of the nation's best cross country league. Notre Dame's hopes to win the conference this fall rest on the capable shoulders of senior co-captains Matt Althoff and Joe Dunlop, who own best times in the 10K of 24:47.3 and 24:53.9, respectively.

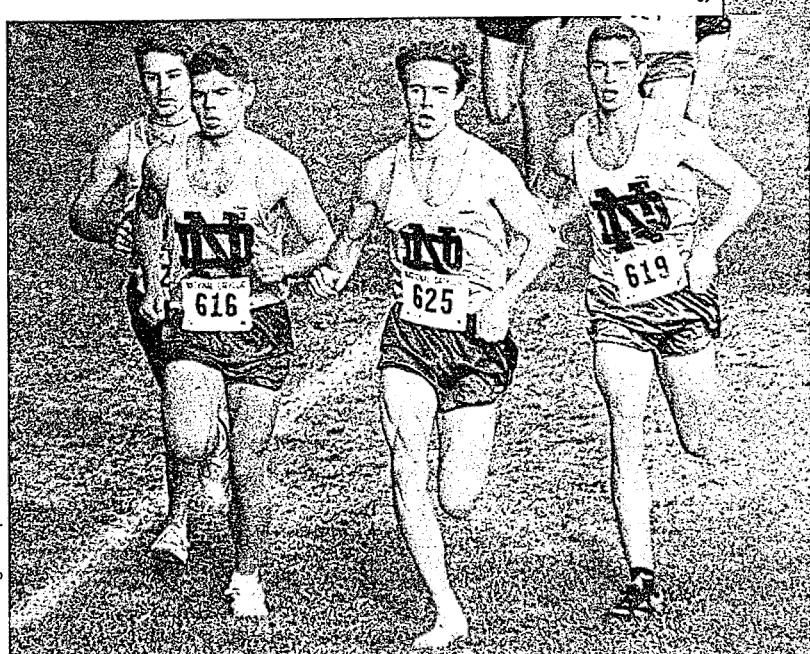
Q: Is it good that the best runner on the women's team is just a freshman?

A: Yes, because that freshman is Nicole LaSelle, a three-time Ohio state champion who placed sixth at the Foot Locker nationals. If the Irish are to improve upon their seventh-place league finish last year, LaSelle and fellow freshmen Joanna Deeter and Allison Klemmer will have to play major roles. Not to be forgotten are captain Caroline Long, Lindsay Dutton, Emily Dodds and Michelle Lavigne, all seniors. □



IRISH ACE: An All-America candidate, Angie Harris' (top) jump serve is one of the best in the nation.

LOOKING FOR A REPEAT. Player of the year candidates Cindy Daws and Holly Manthei (opposing page) are not planning to relinquish the trophy this year.



AHEAD OF THE PACK. The senior triumvirate of Matt Althoff, Derek Seiling and Joe Dunlop (left) looks to improve upon the team's third-place conference finish last year.

Sugar-Coated Se

Despite the unimpressive win over Vandy, look for a January 2 date with Nebraska in New Orleans

BY BRIAN HIRO

If it's true that college football programs go through cycles, then Notre Dame is due for a generous upward swing. While Nebraska fans boast about how, yes, there are still dynasties in col-

lege football, and Florida and Tennessee showcase their Heisman-worthy quarterbacks, the Irish, in the unfamiliar position of upstarts, just may sneak their way to the national championship.

Not since the glory days of the late 80s has there been this much optimism sur-

rounding a Lou Holtz squad. 1994 was the year of mediocrity. 1995 was the year of respectability. 1996 might simply be "the year."

Why such high hopes in the wake of a 15-8-1 record over the past two seasons? Start with a senior-dominated and depth-laden offensive backfield. Then there's the offensive line, which excluding center Rick Kaczenski averages 6'7", 304 pounds per man. And Kaczenski, a relatively svelte 6'4", 260, might be the best of the bunch. Toss in a defensive front seven as talented and experienced as Holtz has ever had and you'll have to forgive Irish backers for being downright giddy.

If only there were no forward pass the Irish would be locks to win it all. That's where the trouble starts. Notre Dame's problems at wide receiver and in the secondary can be summed up by the fact that do-everything tailback Autry

Denson is also probably the team's best receiver and defensive back. Unfortunately he hasn't found a way to clone himself, so the Irish will have to be content to stick him in the backfield and hope the receivers become inspired by the ghost of Derrick Mayes.

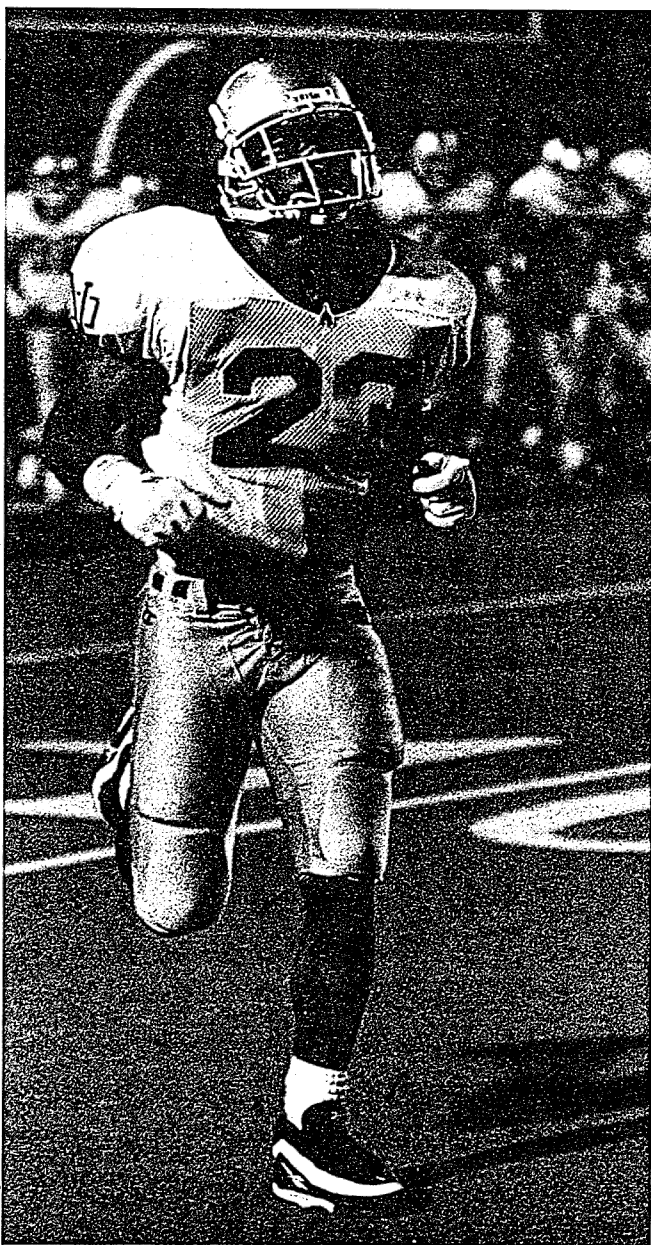
The situation in the secondary is not as dire, with capable covermen in ever-improving Allen Rossum and Ivory Covington. But the safeties have virtually no experience and there is little to no depth. Opposing quarterbacks would be licking their chops if not for Renaldo Wynn and Bert Berry busting them.

The schedule could be another pitfall for the Irish. Like last year, the three-game stretch of Texas, Ohio State and Washington will determine Notre Dame's fate. In fact, many point to the game in

The call here is that if the Irish can survive the trip to Texas, they will cruise to bowl season unbeaten.

Austin and predict a carbon copy of last season's loss in Columbus. The Buckeyes were loaded at the skill positions with quarterback Bobby Hoying, tailback Eddie George and receiver Terry Glenn. This year, the Longhorns boast similar talent in QB James Brown, back Ricky Williams and receiver Mike Adams. Texas fans have been pointing to this game since Notre Dame humiliated their team 55-27 last year, which means the stadium won't exactly be quiet. The call here is that if the Irish can survive the trip to Texas, they will cruise to bowl season unbeaten.

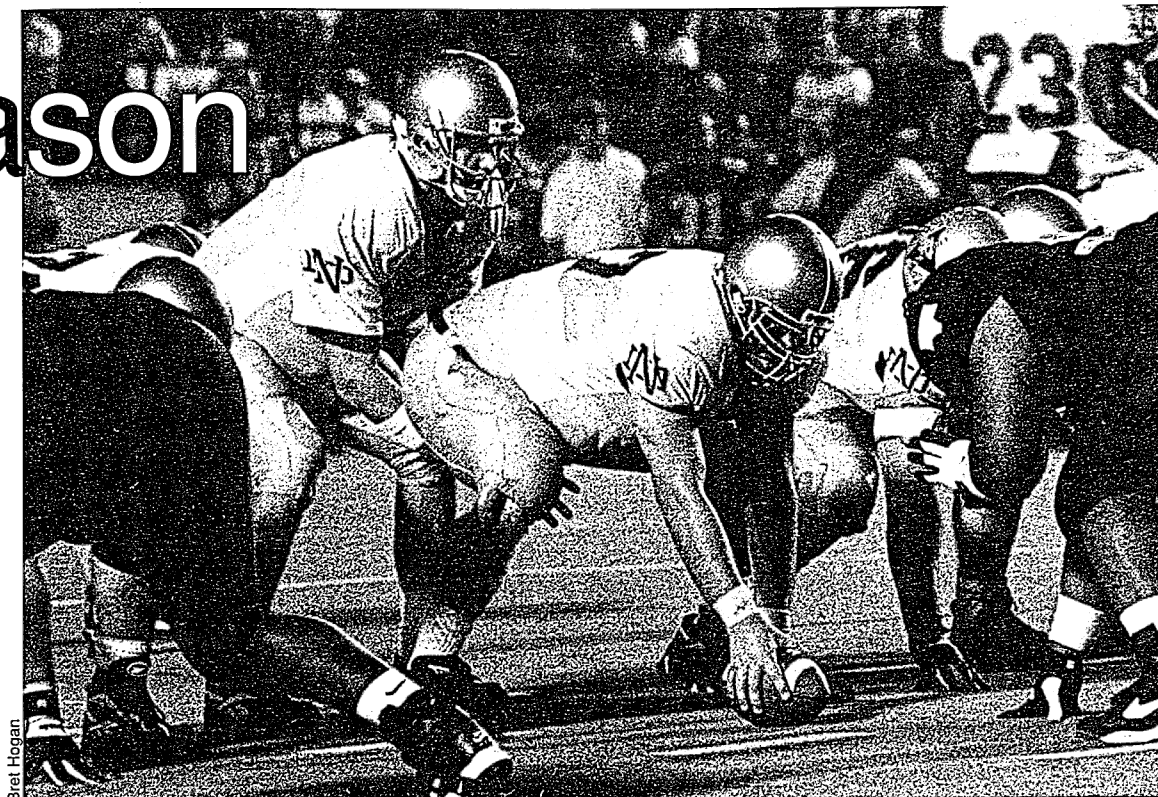
Nothing like New Year's in N'Awlans. □



MR. VERSATILITY. Running the ball, returning kicks and receiving, Autry Denson will be a key player for the Irish in 1996.

Bret Hogan

ason



CENTER OF ATTENTION. If the Irish are to contend for the national title, Ron Powlus will have to be in the middle of it all. Along the way, he will probably break Rick Mirer's record for career touchdown passes.

If the Irish live up to their potential, nothing will block their path to a national championship

BY JEREMY DIXON

As we prepare for another round of football Saturdays (the phrase itself brings tears to my eyes, or maybe just visions of brats and burgers), let us remind ourselves of the reason we drag ourselves out of bed on Saturday morning. It's not to have cocktails or schmooze with the alumni, but to watch football. Actually, a trusty associate just informed me of this fact and, needless to say, I was as stunned as the Gipp. It seems that there is a reason behind the plaid pants and the beer that flows like a river, and this year we can celebrate even more as we should have one of the top teams in the country.

Let's begin with the offense. Nearly everybody is back from last year, including Ron Powlus, who has recovered from last year's season-ending injury against Navy. The Golden Boy definitely has something to prove this year to Irish fans and critics alike, and if he can go injury-free during this campaign, he can take Notre Dame back to the promised land.

When he's not passing the ball, Powlus

can close his eyes and pick any of the backs behind him to plow through the defense. Captain Mark Edwards, with 22 career touchdowns, surely wants a ring for his finger before he leaves. Fellow seniors Randy Kinder and Robert Farmer have had their problems and injuries, but at 100 percent are two very dangerous backs. Behind an offensive line that could allow my grandmother to gain 100 yards per game (of course, she's 6'2", 240 and runs a 4.4 40), the offense should have little difficulty putting points on the board. One glaring problem is the apparent inability to hold on to the ball. Seven fumbles against Texas or OSU will get us blown out.

On the other side of the ball, the defense is very solid indeed. With seven returning starters, Bob Davie's crew should be a dominant force. Only one of the front seven graduated, leaving much experience. Bert Berry, Lyron Cobbins and Kinnon Tatum all left their mark on the opposition last year, and, with the return of Melvin Dansby from injury, they are like a brick wall. Just ask Vanderbilt.

Unfortunately, quarterbacks can throw

over a wall. The weak link in this year's team definitely lies in the secondary. Junior Allen Rossum is the only returning starter, with Ivory Covington and Jarvis Edison receiving playing time last year. How these young players play will go a long way in determining what type of year we will have.

In all, it looks to be an excellent year for Irish football. As we all know, however, the champion isn't determined on paper, but by performance. Vanderbilt was taken for granted, a mistake which can't be repeated. The middle of the season will determine the fate of this team, with consecutive games against Texas, Ohio State and Washington. If these three are all victories, then Lou Holtz & Co. can put on the cruise control until the showdown with USC on Thanksgiving weekend.

Look for a date with Nebraska in the Sugar Bowl. The Irish will have to play a near-perfect game to win, but it is possible. Maybe the team can kiss the Blarney Stone while they're in Ireland. I don't know about the rest of you, but New Year's Eve in the French Quarter sounds good to me. □

Splinters from the Press Box

A roundup of the week in sports

September 4 to September 10

edited by Jeremy Dixon

MEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 7 #6 St. John's T 2-2

Key Player: Greg Velho, who held St. John's scoreless through regulation after two consecutive shutouts.

Key Stat: The team only gave up 10 shots, compared to 23 in St. John's victory last year.

Up Next: The 24th ranked Irish have a Big East matchup against West Virginia tomorrow before playing DePaul on Monday.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 6 #14 Wisconsin W 3-1

Sept. 8 #13 Washington W 4-0

Key Player: Freshman Jenny Streiffer, who leads the nation in assists (10) and points (18).

Key Stat: The team averages 6.75 goals per game, third best in the country.

Up Next: Michigan State and Indiana. The Irish have won 22 consecutive games against the Big Ten.

VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 4 #2 Stanford L 0-3

Sept. 6 #19 Louisville L 2-3

Sept. 7 Kentucky W 3-0

Sept. 7 Indiana W 3-0

Key Player: Jenny Birkner, who had 34 kills to lead the team in kills while making the Big Four Classic All-Tournament team.

Key Stat: With the loss to Louisville, the Irish broke their streak of seven consecutive tournament championships, dating back to 1994.

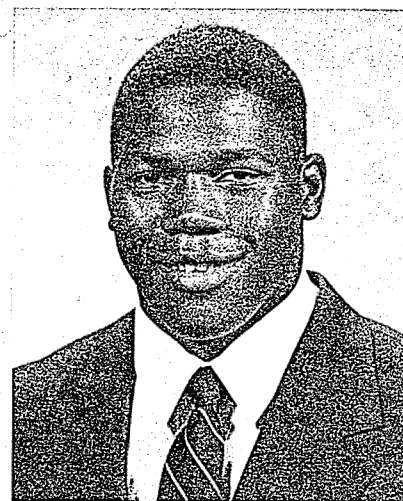
Up Next: The Mizuno USA Cup in Chicago, with games against top 10 teams Penn St. and Washington St.

What They Said: "By the time I drive home, 50 people have called me an a-----. Sometimes a guy will yell, 'Hey, that a-----'s John McEnroe.'" — Former tennis bad boy John McEnroe.

What We Read: "At this rate, Prairie View A&M, which hasn't won a game since Bill Clinton took office, will be clamoring to lead off Notre Dame's '97 schedule." — Tim Prister, *Blue & Gold Illustrated*, on Notre Dame's game with Vanderbilt.

Dix's Pick: After a scare last week at Vandy, Holtz's troops come out fired up. Powlus throws three TDs and Edwards picks up two. The defense once again looks impressive as the Irish romp 45-7.

Hiro's Hunch: Purdue has been crippled by suspensions and injuries, so the Irish show their sympathy by crippling the Boilermakers further. Denson rushes for 137 yards and two TDs and Dansby gets two sacks as the home team rolls, 49-13.



Bert Berry

The senior outside linebacker played a major part in the defense's amazing showing last week. Holding Vandy to two yards rushing, Berry had a team-leading seven tackles and two sacks.

Athletes of the Week

Monica Gerardo

The leading scorer from last year's championship team, the sophomore had two goals in the 4-0 drubbing of Washington to tie her for the team lead with five.





Killing Me Slowly

Pastor Frank Ramirez unearths a 20-installment serial thriller set at Notre Dame

conclusion.

Shades of Stephen King, you say? Ramirez dismisses the copycat notion, claiming that his story was thought of even before King made his announcement to write the best-selling serial *The Green Mile*.

Like King, though, Ramirez writes with a distinctively local flavor. The main character in "Death at the Dome," Cindy Novak Mitchell, is a St. Joseph's High School graduate returning for her reunion. Passing by campus, she reminisces about

Notre Dame tradition before stumbling upon a group of stadium construction workers who have unearthed a body.

An Elkhart resident for six years, Ramirez says he's able to capture the local spirit, but his knowledge as an outsider also helps him to "pick up more details that may escape some deep rooted locals."

Ramirez's own roots trace back to California, where he spent the better half of his childhood. A son in a naval family, he graduated La Verne College in 1976, a Theatre/Arts major and went on to Bethany Theological Seminary where he

graduated with a Masters in Theology in 1979. He became a pastor at LaDora Church of the Brethren, a position he held for over 11 years before coming to Elkhart, where he became the pastor of the Elkhart Valley Church of the Brethren in September of 1990.

A freelance writer on the side, Ramirez admits that the idea for "Death at the Dome" wasn't even his. Two friends of his originally wanted to do the piece, but only came up with an outline. Working from that outline, Ramirez churned out the 20-chapter work that — yes — was written specifically to be a serial. In Ramirez's own words, "There's a cliffhanger at the end of each episode."

Aside from the *Times* piece, Ramirez has some more serious credits to his name, including *The Third Letter*, a suspense/mystery published in 1991, as well as numerous religious books, such as *Witness to the Light* published earlier this year. He is currently working on other religious non-fiction; however, he admits, "fiction is my first love, but non-fiction is what's getting published."

Nonetheless, Ramirez can be assured that, at least for the next few weeks, he'll be getting plenty of exposure. □

The South Bend Times Pennysaver is available at no charge, and can be picked up on campus in the LaFortune Student Center.

BY CHRIS MYERS

If you missed the *South Bend Times* cover story about the excavated body found by the stadium, chances are you've never heard the name Frank Ramirez. Don't worry, Ramirez plans to cover the story for about another four months.

Of course, the newspaper he's writing for is the *South Bend Times Pennysaver*, and his story is completely fictitious. "Death at the Dome" is Ramirez's 20-chapter serial thriller which will be printed in the *Times* one chapter a week until its

Stan Evans

Shades of Gray

Tenure is a black and white decision about a professor's future, but the process involved is often not so clear

BY BRIDGET BRADBURN

Professor Linda Austern never knew she had a problem with collegiality. In fact, she doesn't even know exactly what it means. But according to Austern, the Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) department and the university felt it was enough of a problem to deny her tenure.

Austern is currently filing a lawsuit against Notre Dame, claiming that the process used in considering her for tenure was fraught with religious and gender bias and procedural error. And while she is bringing her fight for lifetime job security to court, she also hopes to bring what she sees as inherent flaws in the tenure process to the forefront of discussion among faculty and administration.

Austern is not alone in her feelings of frustration with the tenure process. Across campus, debates are developing over the use of collegiality as an extra and unofficial criterion in the selection process and over the secrecy that shrouds the evaluation. Many professors believe the discrepancies and confidentiality currently built into the process leave too much room for discrimination against women and other minorities.

Austern has been awarded money from the National Women's Studies Association for the lawsuit because, she says, "they decided mine was a terribly egregious case." NWSA has also sponsored other tenure lawsuits involving female professors from Notre Dame, and Austern says, "I thought Notre Dame would have learned by now ... Whenever anyone wins a financial settlement or their job back, it's admitting that Notre Dame violated something in the law and the negative

decision is proven to be wrong. Not one person has ever won a job back through an appeal process. It seems that something is built into the process that makes it impossible."

The Collegiality Loophole

When Austern's formal review process began in July 1994, she was told in writing that she would only be judged on the three official criteria outlined in the Faculty Handbook — research, teaching and service. "Collegiality was used in my case secretly," Austern claims. "I was never told what it meant; I was never told I had a problem with it."

When Austern was told that she was denied tenure in April, 1995, she initiated the university appeal process. The appeal

committee concluded that there had been gender bias, religious bias —

Austern is Jewish — and procedural error for

the use of collegiality. But when the appeals committee recommended a new review, the provost's office denied the recommendation.

"The provost [at

that time, Timothy O'Meara] denied that there was sex bias or religious bias ... and he denied my appeal primarily on the basis that any department that wanted to also use collegiality could do so," Austern says. "But collegiality was never defined ... There was no formal reason given to me [why she was denied tenure]."

Rather, a letter from O'Meara to Austern and her appeal committee stated, "The fact that collegiality is not specified, neither in the Academic Articles nor in my letter to the faculty about promotions, does not mean that it cannot be considered. And, given the lifetime commitment entailed, it is appropriate to do so, when deemed desirable."

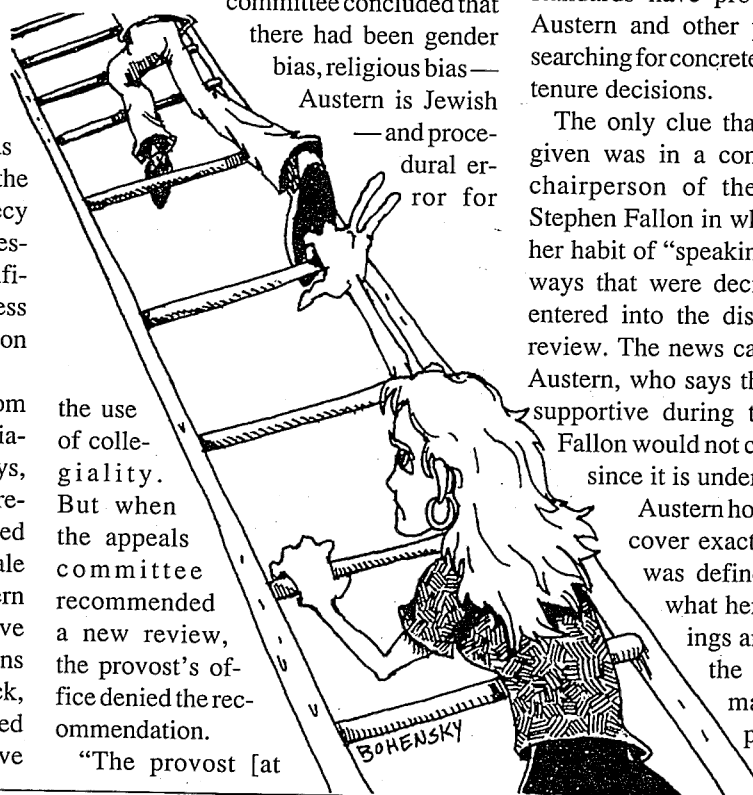
But such vague language and flexible standards have proven problematic to Austern and other professors who are searching for concrete reasons behind their tenure decisions.

The only clue that Austern has been given was in a conference with then-chairperson of the PLS department Stephen Fallon in which he told her that her habit of "speaking up at meetings in ways that were decisive in votes" had entered into the discussion during her review. The news came as a surprise to Austern, who says that Fallon had been supportive during the tenure process.

Fallon would not comment on the case since it is under litigation.

Austern hopes that she will discover exactly how collegiality was defined in her case and what her alleged shortcomings are in the area when the court proceedings make all documents public information.

While the Fac-



THE GLASS CEILING

English professor Dolores Frese favors the use of confidentiality in tenure decisions, but admits that it allows for abuse. "I can see where it could cloak a gender bias, and in my case it did," she says. "Where such a bias might rear its ugly head, it needs to be exposed and decapitated."

And English professor Valerie Sayers has also seen instances where the issue of collegiality has the ability to strike fear in the hearts of female professors. "There is the perception that the question of the way women dress comes into play [when collegiality is used]" she says. "It is a terrible state of affairs, but is it just paranoia or is it a legitimate complaint?"

Many professors believe that the tenure process at Notre Dame leaves too much room for sexual discrimination. And others think that the problem starts well before the arena of tenure.

Provost emeritus Timothy O'Meara's 1995 Report to the Faculty stated that "Affirmative Action at Notre Dame is emphasized at the point of first hire. It does not play a role in decisions on tenure and promotions." Furthermore, the Colloquy for the Year 2000 also states that "in the tenure and promotion process, the University must consider every teacher-scholar as a full and equal participant." But many professors are convinced that this is not happening.

While Frese has never witnessed any blatant intolerance or hostility towards

women, she does think there are "little neighborhoods within the university ... that have problems knowing how to attract the right women and make them feel welcome and give them the right functions," she says. "There are still problems of bias from people who are unconscious of the bias — which is the worst kind. But it is 180 degrees from when I came here and ran into problems."

Frese was denied tenure in the late 70s,

"There are still problems of bias from people who are unconscious of the bias — which is the worst kind."

— Dolores Frese

and she filed a sexual discrimination lawsuit against the university. Her case had a lasting effect on the appeals process. "I did insist [as part of the lawsuit] that there would be a mechanism for women who feel they had been unjustly denied tenure on the basis of gender bias," she says. "I wanted it to go beyond my issue so that

every woman thereafter would not have to start at ground zero."

The appeals process created by Frese is not widely known among the faculty, though, as it is not publicized in any faculty literature. "I know that there have been women who have learned of the process for the first time and only by word-of-mouth [after being denied tenure]," she says. But Associate Provost Kathleen Cannon has made it a habit to inform women of this appeals process when they are denied tenure, Frese says.

Frese's appeals process is one in which at least three of the panelists reviewing the case have to be tenured female professors. This aspect was an important one to Frese, who says that not a single tenured woman was involved in her own tenure or appeals process.

Biddick has also noticed a "vicious cycle of diminishing numbers of women in the decision-making process. Unless you're tenured, you can't be elected to [departmental] committees on appointments and promotions. If women aren't tenured, they aren't sitting on these committees," she says. "And the Provost's Advisory Committee is made up of three elected faculty members and you can only stand for that if you're a full professor. What I think needs to be investigated are statistics of renewal. In order to make up for an egregious gender gap, we will have to hire [women] at a higher level."

—by Bridget Bradburn

ulty Handbook does not specifically mention collegiality, it does state that to be promoted to Associate Professor—which usually happens at the same time that tenure is granted—a candidate "should have demonstrated outstanding teaching ability, growth in knowledge and maturity, salutary influence upon students, and standing among colleagues. Notable achievement in scholarship, as shown by significant publication or its equivalent, or, where appropriate, by meaningful contributions to public service, will ordinarily be required for this rank."

So while collegiality has not been officially defined as a separate category in

the tenure process, Associate Provost Carol Ann Mooney does admit that issues of collegiality are inherent in the other official criteria of teaching, research and service. "On the positive end, [collegiality] encompasses things like how supportive you are of other professors in their research and teaching," she says. "Are you a good colleague? Are you pulling your weight? Are you working to make things work?"

But according to philosophy professor Edward Manier, even when these loose definitions are used, collegiality is a troublesome area because [it] is difficult to specify and judge from the outside."

"It's so nebulous," Austern says. "Is being uncollegial worshipping in a different church than the rest of the department? Is it uncollegial to miss department parties? Is it uncollegial to be gay in a department in which everyone else is a married person? Is it uncollegial to be an African-American when everyone else is white?"

One common conception among professors, as in Austern's case, is that expressing an unpopular or differing opinion will cause one to be viewed as uncollegial. But Mooney denies this idea and says that being uncollegial goes beyond simply disagreeing with others. In-

stead, uncollegiality more often includes undermining the work of another in the department, or being "extremely disruptive to your colleagues in the department," she says.

"Is being uncollegial worshipping in a different church than the rest of the department?"

Part of the problem with the use of collegiality is that it is up to each department to employ it as a criterion. The government department is one that does not allow the use of collegiality to enter the review process. "We spent a year deciding what the criteria for tenure would be," explains Professor Sharon O'Brien, who served as the department head until the end of last year. "It's something that every department needs to do. Whatever standards are used need to be communicated."

Behind Closed Doors

Many professors find that discrepancies between departments extend to the issue of confidentiality in tenure proceedings, as well. "There are quite a number of variations for what departments permit," says Austern. "There is little or no unity."

History professor Kathleen Biddick has also witnessed this trend. "The department chair is not supposed to tell you the results of the departmental review, but a lot of people don't abide by that," she says.

Austern favors openness from the beginning of a professor's career at Notre Dame. "It is my impression that the tenure process is six years long, and that at the three-year review ... if there are any problems, they should be brought up," she says. "At the end of my review no faults were told to me. There were no problems formally mentioned. I have a feeling [collegiality] entered the process at the end."

Sayers also supports the idea of a can-

didate being able to respond to comments made during an evaluation. "If people were able to respond to complaints, it would be a benefit to the university. We would learn something from the exchange," she says. "People would have to tell the truth and own up to the truth. What does that say about us as scholars if we can't be honest about each other's scholarship? We can't claim intellectual freedom without taking that responsibility."

Biddick, like Sayers, favors an open system. "The problem is that the whole process is excessively secretive," she says. "[The university's rationale] is that it assures excellence, but that is simply a justification."

She points to the process used in the University of California, where state law mandates that candidates' files be open so that they can justify or refute comments that have been made or submit better information. "The UC faculty is ranked in the top 10 in the nation — they far outrank Notre Dame," Biddick points out. "Having an open process has in no way damaged their faculty, so it's a very weak justification."

Mooney believes that because the recommendation made about tenure at the

"Is it uncollegial to be gay in a department in which everyone else is a married person?"

departmental level is generally abided by throughout the higher levels of the process, confidentiality should be maintained. Making the process an open one, she believes, would make a candidate's colleagues less willing to be honest in a negative recommendation if they know that their comments will be disclosed to the candidate. "It would push the tough decisions to a level further removed from the candidate," where administrative committee members would not be as familiar with the candidate or his work," Mooney says.

Biddick believes that secrecy is a problem that is larger than the issue of tenure, though. "We need to focus in on what the broad implications of secrecy are on this

campus," she says. "It surrounds alcoholism and eating disorders, and tenure is caught up in it too."

Sayers has also seen how the high level of secrecy involved in tenure cases can be damaging to one's morale. "The candidate has no chance to respond, and this becomes the kind of issue that causes the most paranoia and gossip that reaches a fever pitch in the tenure process," Sayers says. She also sees the ambiguity surrounding the issue of collegiality as another contributor to these sentiments. "It is the area most appropriate for people to respond, but it is the area where people feel the most fear and dread, and the one that engenders the most difficulty," she says. "Because the whole process is so

closed, there is no way to reassure people."

With a new provost in the Main Building this year, many professors hope that action will soon be taken to improve

some of the problem areas in the tenure process. "It is not reasonable to expect that a new provost will come in and say to open up the entire process, but we can make incremental improvements," Sayers believes.

"I think the entire process needs to be reconsidered," Biddick adds. "The entire process is outdated. It is a very rigid system that is not responding to the products [of a modern university], to work that is avante-garde. They're missing a whole new world."

But according to Mooney, on-going discussion of proposals made by the Faculty Senate will probably not result in anything more drastic than some minor changes in the tenure process.

"I think there is a lot of pressure to have a certain kind of intellectual type at Notre Dame," Biddick says. "I do not think that

"Is it uncollegial to be an African-American when everyone else is white?"

Notre Dame tolerates diversity very well. They don't have a history of it and they are reluctant to start a history of it. The tenure process is about tolerating diversity and I just don't think we have it." □



courtesy of Communication and Theatre department

Thriving in With a season waiting in the wings, Notre Dame's Communication and Theatre department hopes controversy stays backstage *the Spotlight*

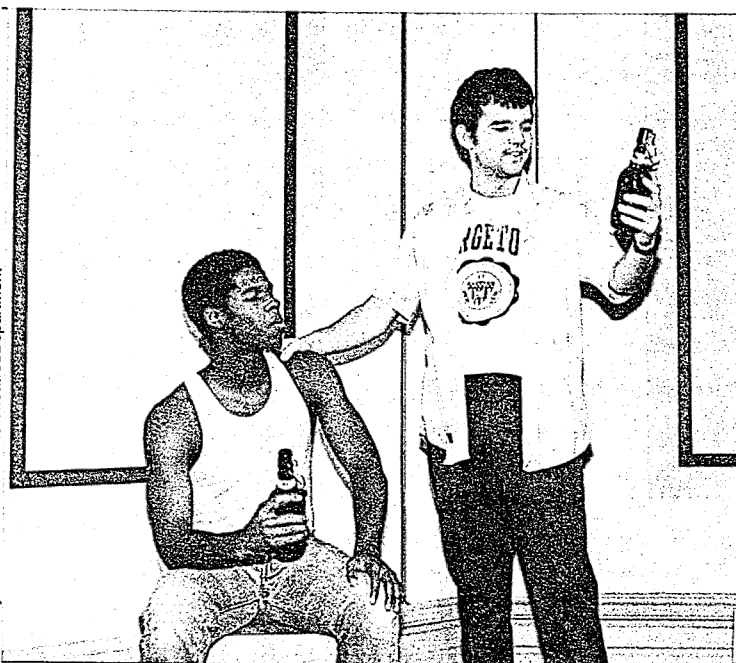
BY AARON J. NOLAN

As summer turns to fall and crowds of dedicated students wait outside the Joyce Center in anticipation of football season, a similar interest can be found in those awaiting this year's campus plays. This year, the Communication and Theatre department celebrates 135 years of theatre at Notre Dame with what promises to be an exceptional Mainstage Season. Not only have ticket sales increased (with 15 percent of the freshman class as season ticket holders), but a record number of people have auditioned for the first two plays—211 people for 21 roles.

However, after a reasonably successful season last year, the department was not without its share of controversy. For starters, the department's production *Six Degrees of Separation*, was warmly received on campus but criticized by the conservative

campus publication *Right Reason*. The *Right Reason* piece condemned the play — which deals with human relations and carries racial and homosexual subthemes — for being a wanton display of theater, including a male-male kiss and a half-naked man running around the stage.

In response to the article, Bruce Auerbach, head of the Communications and Theatre department, says, "Plays describe humans and society. It doesn't mean that we want to be like all of the plays that we show. We're just showing a picture of society." Auerbach also mentions that he didn't recall anyone having a problem with the Mainstage performance of *The Bacchae* two seasons ago, which portrayed women getting drunk, fornicating in bushes and viciously ripping men to shreds. "When we do plays like this, we don't want to be these women," Auerbach says. "I think [*Right Reason*] failed to see that art is a mirror of society."



In similar vein, the COTH department was also brought into the public eye with the coming out of one of its most authoritative professors, Fr. David Garrick, CSC. Well-known for directing some of the finest campus productions, such as last season's *The Imaginary Invalid* and the previous year's *Waiting for Godot*, Garrick decided to bring his own homosexuality to the attention of the student body after much concern over the GLND/SMC debate.

"To my knowledge, the university produced no information, no edict, no instructions of any kind from the College of Arts and Letters or from the provost," says Auerbach. "Those whom I have talked to about it certainly respect Fr. Garrick for doing what he did in terms of going public with what should otherwise be his right to privacy."

However, more controversy is not what the department needed during what was an otherwise successful season. For now, Fr. Garrick is on a temporary hiatus from his associate professorship and directorial responsibilities while residing in Corby Hall and working on a book.

Unfortunately, this is what the department must endure for being a somewhat liberal enclave on what is a predominately conservative campus. "The arts, in general, tend to be the more liberal centers of university life," Auerbach says. "At Notre Dame, if you've got a more liberal group, then it's the students that tend to act most strongly ... in bringing out issues that some people really frown upon. What you really want is a nurturing artistic environment where people are going to go to the theatre and, not necessarily learn something, but think about the issues presented more closely."

As far as the administration goes, however, Auerbach claims it takes a stance of general non-intervention. "In the six years I've been here I have never known the university to try to tell us what to do in terms of subject matter," he

"Plays describe humans and society. We're just showing a picture of society."

— Bruce Auerbach

Simon, Dickens and Steinbeck

Three famous writers (and an 18-foot wall) highlight this year's Mainstage Season

After a season of ups and downs in the campus spotlight, the Mainstage Season is back and, as noted earlier, better than ever. This year the COTH department, as always, provides a wide array of theatrical performances to satisfy even the most selective of palates.

The season gets off to a quick start with a true classic in urban American theatre, *Barefoot in the Park*. The playwright, Tony-winner Neil Simon, is well-known for his flavorful characters and witty depiction of life in New York City. Many of his

works have been adapted into similarly well-received films such as *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Lost in Yonkers*, and *Biloxi Blues*. Simon is gifted at bringing in characters and events from his own adolescence and making them come alive on stage. *Barefoot in the Park* is the play that brought him into the limelight and was the catalyst for an extremely successful career. The story centers on a married couple, Paul and Corie, who are just settling into their New York City apartment. A character clash between the very proper and practical Paul and the more free-spirited Corie is the source of the majority of the conflict and comic relief in this play. *Barefoot in the Park* is currently in rehearsal under the watchful eye of director Mark Pilkinton (who also directed last year's *Medieval Mystery Plays*). As Director of Washington Hall Tom Barkes notes, "*Barefoot in the Park* is pretty far from Mark's play last year. It's contemporary, it's light, it's a comedy, it's Neil Simon." *Barefoot in the Park* is scheduled to run October 9-13.

In late November, the season continues with Charles Dickens' classic tale of yuletide cheer *A Christmas Carol*. We are all familiar with the story of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge and his realization that Christmas is more than an excuse for Bob Cratchet to ask for time off from work. Interestingly, this version was specifically adapted for the Notre Dame stage by

"We've never had anything but complete support from the administration on things we've done."

— Mark Pilkinton

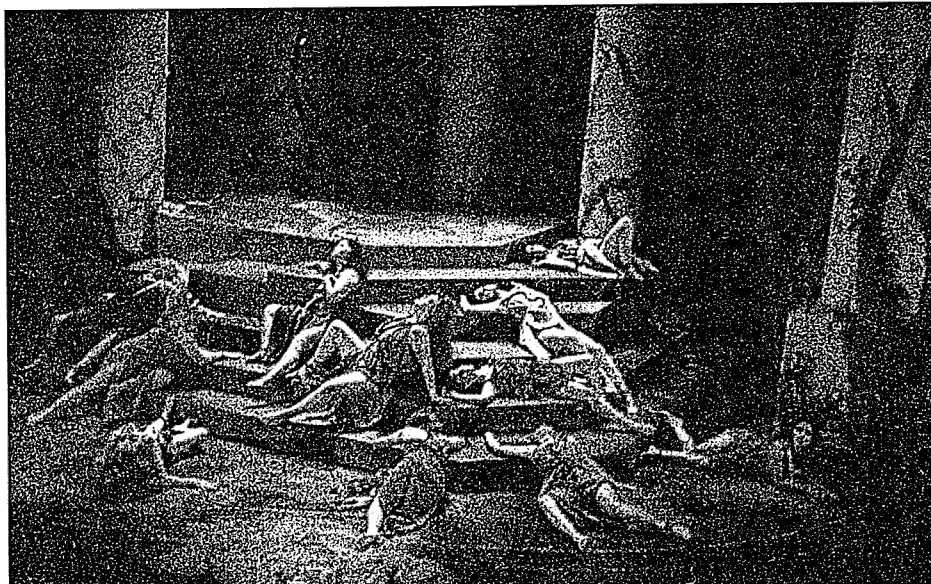
says. "They didn't keep the department from presenting *The Last Temptation of Christ* as a part of the film series about seven years ago. Certain people in the department received death threats and harassing phone calls at all hours of the night from people who haven't even necessarily seen the film but thought we were horrible for showing it, but the university never tried to stop us."

Department Chair Mark Pilkinton similarly replies, "This is my 13th year here and we've never had anything but complete support from the administration on things we've done. I would never expect anyone from hired administration to try to do that, nor would they. You just can't have that at a university where you have academic freedom."

Such freedom, however, does not guarantee student open-mindedness, an is-

sue that concerns Auerbach. Describing this season's presentation of *The Challenge*, Auerbach calls it "an unusual, avant-garde theatrical presentation, the result of which will be the kind of play the students will really like." Yet he notes that people will probably stay away from it "because of the title and it's not Shakespeare."

"It's quite possible," continues Auerbach, "that people will miss the opportunity to see [*The Challenge*] because with a more conservative clientele like we have here at Notre Dame, it's hard to convince people that it would be something worth watching." It is that kind of attitude that could be the department's greatest tragedy of all. □



EVERYONE'S A CRITIC. Homosexual themes sparked criticism from campus conservatives after last year's performance of *Six Degrees of Separation* (opposite page). Similar controversy, however, eluded the staging of *The Bacchae* (above).

courtesy of Communication and Theatre Department

From comedy to drama, classic to contemporary, this season is bound to satisfy even the choosiest of critics.

playwright Ken Jones. This will be the first time ever that this adaptation will have been performed. It is currently in production under guest director Kassie Misiewicz. *A Christmas Carol* is scheduled to run November 20-24.

Following up this timeless classic is a relatively new work, *The Challenge*, presented by visiting Montreal group DynamO Theatre. The play centers around an 18-foot wall in the middle of the stage which serves as an obstacle for the characters involved. This allegorical presentation of the human condition is a new and innovative way of depicting the struggles in life that people face. "The Challenge is an unusual, avant-garde theatrical presentation," Auerbach notes. "There's a lot of movement and music and action involved." The department has had much success in the past with visiting theatre groups. Last year's presentation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* by the

Actors of the London Stage yielded an additional performance due to the overwhelming demand for tickets. The theatre department anticipates a similar enthusiasm for this year's visiting troupe. *The Challenge* is scheduled to run February 27 and 28 and March 1.

Rounding off the season is the Tony-winning theatrical adaptation of John Steinbeck's classic slice of Americana, *The Grapes of Wrath*. The play follows a family of Okies on a struggle-filled journey from their Dust Bowl home in Oklahoma to a new life in California. Through their travels, the family learns valuable lessons about life, themselves, and the struggle to survive. This timeless story of American life will be directed by Reginald Bain, director of last season's *Six Degrees of Separation*. *The Grapes of Wrath* is scheduled to run April 16-20.

From comedy to drama, classic to contemporary, this season is bound to satisfy even the choosiest of critics. Subscriber discounts are offered for the four-play package, and single ticket student discounts are available for all plays except *The Challenge*. For this play, discounts are available through subscription only. For subscription information, call 631-5956. □

— by Aaron J. Nolan

◆ LEGAL ISSUES

You Gotta Fight For Your Rights

A series of strategic lawsuits could remind the world that We Are ND — and don't you forget it.

After this summer's infamous mascot scandal that stripped Ohio's Central Catholic High School of their — or rather, *our* — precious leprechaun, OOB suggests the administration look into a few other questionable goings-on of icons that should be officially licensed trademarks of the University of Notre Dame.

The University of Notre Dame vs. The University of Illinois Athletic Department

It's a given that a certain post-third quar-

ter cheer should be dedicated to our big man on the sidelines, but who's stopping Illini head coach Lou Tepper from taking all of Holtz's glory (aside from Illinois' inept offense, that is). By securing rights to the name Lou, the University can avoid confused fans and unintentional shifts in momentum for the fourth quarter.

The University of Notre Dame vs. The Municipality of Paris, France

When people think of Notre Dame, they think of the Golden Dome, not the big

church in Paris. By securing the rights to our namesake, Notre Dame officials can cash in by selling tickets to Cathedral masses, expanding the inside an extra 2,000 pews (a two-year project funded by, what else, our tuition) and virtually roll in the extra dough received from related suits against Victor Hugo and Walt Disney. Of course, to avoid confusion, the new Cathedral will be renamed The Ted Hesburgh Center for Worship (Paris) and be dedicated when Notre Dame plays a scrimmage against the Sorbonne on Bastille Day, 2000. (Call Anthony Travel now for package details.)

The University of Notre Dame vs. The People of Ireland

More of a plea for world unity than an outright lawsuit, the University could attempt to persuade Irish officials to surrender the term "Irish" as an official nickname, and thus, in these politically correct times, refer to all Ireland natives as "Native Ireland People" (NIPs, for short). Other names the University might suggest: "Irlanders," "The People formally known as Irish" or "Guinness Swilling Drunkards."

OUT OF BOUNDS

◆ RANDOM NUMBER CRUNCHING

Dinner Dates

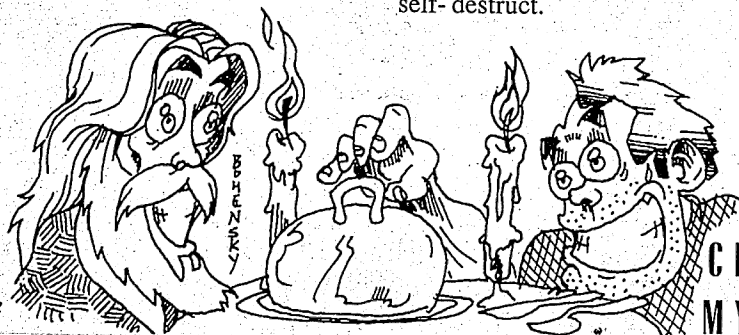
A sampling of the football team's responses when asked, "If you could invite any three people in history to dinner..."

Jesus - 10
Martin Luther King - 8
John F. Kennedy, Malcolm X - 5
Elvis - 4
Louis Farrakhan, Doc Holliday, Abraham Lincoln, Vince Lombardi - 2
King Arthur, James Dean, Redd Foxx, Benjamin Franklin, Adolph Hitler, Jesse Jackson, Deion Sanders, Mother Theresa, USC Cheerleaders - 1

Source: 1996 Notre Dame Football Media Guide

◆ FINAL BLURB

Irony, perhaps, that this weekend's Cushing movie is *Mission: Impossible*. Irony, that is, considering the real impossible mission will be sneaking that concealed flask into the Purdue game. We may need it because, after Vanderbilt, OOB hopes that this season does not self-destruct. □



LIFE IN
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GROENING

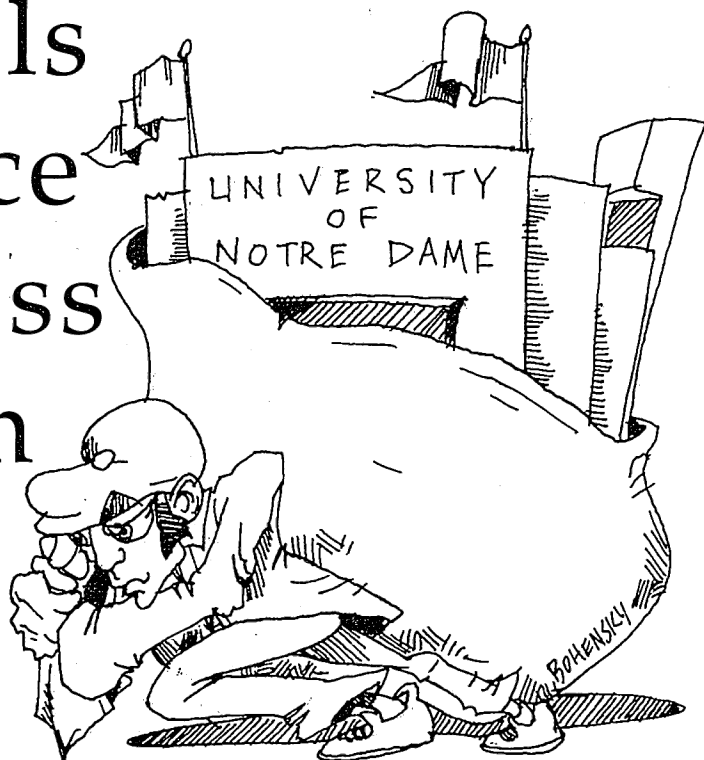
HELL FOR BEGINNERS

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THIS CARTOON FOR NEOPHYTES AND A REMEDIAL COURSE FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION

<p>WHAT IS "LIFE IN HELL"?</p> <p>"LIFE IN HELL" IS A CUTE LITTLE COMIC STRIP FULL OF FUN, MERRIMENT, LAUGHS, AND FRIVOLITY.</p> <p>NOT TO MENTION ANGST, ALIENATION, SELF-LOATHING, AND THE MEANINGLESSNESS OF OUR IMPENDING DOOM.</p>		<p>WHAT ARE THE MAJOR THEMES OF THIS CARTOON?</p> <p>LOVE, SEX, WORK, DEATH, AND RABBITS.</p>		<p>WILL "LIFE IN HELL" OFFEND ME?</p> <p>WE'LL DO OUR BEST.</p> <p>WANNA PLAY LEAP FROG? OK.</p>			
<p>INTRODUCING...</p> <p>NAME'S BINKY.</p> <p>WOULD YOU MIND NOT STARING AT MY EARS?</p> <p>WHO: STAR OF THIS CARTOON. DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: TWO GROTESQUE EARS, BULGY EYES, CONSTANT TWITCHING. EMOTIONAL STATE: BITTER, DEPRESSED, NORMAL.</p>		<p>HIS ESTRANGED GIRLFRIEND...</p> <p>SHEBA HERE.</p> <p>I'M PREMENSTRUAL AT THE MOMENT.</p> <p>WHO: RABBIT ON-THE-GO. DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: BASICALLY, BINKY IN DRAG. EMOTIONAL STATE: GENERALLY MIFFED, OCCASIONALLY STEAMED.</p>		<p>THOSE TWO LITTLE FUN GUYS...</p> <p>HE'S AKBAR.</p> <p>HE'S JEFF.</p> <p>WE'RE AKBAR AND JEFF.</p> <p>WHO: BROTHERS, OR LOVERS, OR BOTH. DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: FEZZES, BOTH EYES ON SAME SIDE OF HEAD. EMOTIONAL STATE: INSCRUTABLE.</p>		<p>BINKY'S ILLEGITIMATE SON...</p> <p>I'M BONGO.</p> <p>PLEASE QUIT STARING AT MY EAR, PLEASE.</p> <p>WHO: NO ONE REALLY CARES. DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: TAKE A GUESS. EMOTIONAL STATE: SQUELCHED.</p>	
<p>WILL THE CHARACTERS IN "LIFE IN HELL" EVER ACHIEVE HAPPINESS?</p> <p>WHAT A SILLY QUESTION! BINKY AND THE GANG WILL BE AS HAPPY AS YOU ARE.</p>							

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Mascot Steals Alphabet Rice from Business Classroom in Midwestern Mall!



BY CHRISTIAN DALLAVIS

◆ *What a Steal!*

The stolen portrait of former University of Chicago president Hanna H. Gray was recently recovered. For two months, the perpetrators took the painting around town and photographed it, sending the Polaroids to the school paper. Along with the photos, the paper received notes criticizing the bold, bright style of the painting. Evidently, the thieves felt the style was not appropriate for a university presidential portrait, and stole it to make a point. Now if only we could figure out how to make off with the new stadium...

◆ *Mascot Madness*

"Butch the Cougar" recently made headlines in Seattle, where the Washington State University mascot appeared in a gay rights rally. The university allowed the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Allies Program to use the Butch costume for the parade, since any "university-recognized student group" can borrow the mascot for any non-political event. Unwilling to fall

behind the times, Patty O'Hara recently announced that the Leprechaun will be coloring the sidewalks for the new university-recognized gay and lesbian student organization. Yeah, right.

◆ *Feeding Frenzy*

Kim Il-Sung University in North Korea canceled classes and sent students home for the fall term because they ran out of food. Record flooding has plagued the area, and the university could not afford to feed its students. One student reported, "Students living in the provinces were told to bring rice when they come back." Meanwhile on the North Quad, hundreds of freshmen could not even find food in North Dining Hall, so they just went home. Food Services reports the food had been there, but the board of health took it away before it could be served.

◆ *I'd Like to Buy a Vowel*

Arts and Letters students can take some hope from the recent endeavors of some University of Kentucky students who ac-

tually made about \$750 just by writing a sentence. These ingenious undergrads raised money by selling words to a 168-word sentence they created. That's right, they sold words: customers submitted favorite nouns and verbs for \$10, and adverbs and adjectives for \$5 apiece. I assume the articles, both definite and indefinite, and punctuation were free. It should be noted that the sentence does include the phrases, "sloppy love at the Magic Kingdom," and "Tigger-masquerader."

◆ *Mall Rats*

On the other hand, business majors are probably wishing they had attended the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, where up to 18 courses are being held in classrooms in the Mall of America. The University has a deal with the Mall which provides free classroom space, primarily for business courses. The new COBA building looks nice, but there sure ain't no Planet Hollywood on the fourth floor. □

COMING S

September 12 to 17

DISTRACTION S

THURSDAY - September 12

Soccer, Saint Mary's College vs. Franklin. Soccer Field, Saint Mary's College. 4 p.m.

Film, "Mission: Impossible." Cushing. 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY - September 13

Pep Rally, Arena, JACC. 7 p.m.

Soccer, ND men vs. West Virginia. Alumni Field. 7:30 p.m.

Film, "Babe." Snite. 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

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

SATURDAY - September 14

Football, ND vs. Purdue. Notre Dame Stadium. 1:30 p.m.

Soccer, Saint Mary's vs. Chicago. Soccer Field, Saint Mary's. 11:30 a.m.

Film, "Babe." Snite. 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

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

SUNDAY - September 15

Soccer, ND women vs. Indiana. Alumni Field. 1 p.m.

MONDAY - September 16

Film, "Bringing Up Baby." Snite.

Film, "Christopher Strong." Snite.

TUESDAY - September 17

Film, "Sherlock Jr. and the Gold Rush." Snite.

Compiled by Kevin Finnerty

Editor's Choices

On Campus: By now you too probably can't wait until Saturday, the long awaited first band concert of the year. It starts at 12:30 p.m. on the steps of the Dome. Rumor has it there's an athletic competition of some sort scheduled to follow, but the location has yet to be announced.

Movies: Considering that the original was perhaps the worst film ever made, I am eager to see Kurt Russell make a fool of himself again in *Escape From L.A.*

— JJI

University Park West: ☎ 277-7336.

- "Jack," PG-13, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00.
- "Hunchback of Notre Dame," G, 1:45.
- "Trigger Effect," R, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30.
- "The Fan," R, 2:00, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15.

University Park East: ☎ 277-7336.

- "A Very Brady Sequel," PG-13, 2:10, 4:30, 7:20, 9:25.
- "Rich Man's Wife," R, 2:00, 4:15, 7:10, 9:30.
- "A Time to Kill," R, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00.
- "The Island of Dr. Moreau," PG-13, 2:20, 4:40, 7:40, 9:50.
- "Bulletproof," R, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:40.
- "The Crow," R, 2:40, 5:00, 7:00, 9:10.
- "First Wife's Club," PG Saturday Sneak Preview, 7:20. (Replaces 7:20 "A Very Brady Sequel")

New Student Rate: \$4, Monday-Thursdays with a student ID!

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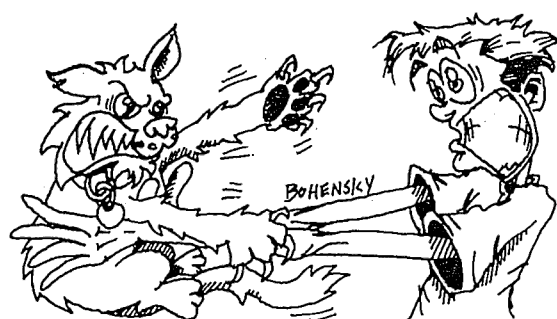
Movies 10: ☎ 254-9685.

- "Maximum Risk," R, 12:45, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:30.
- "Matilda," PG, 12:35, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30.
- "Emma," PG, 1:20, 3:55, 7:20, 10:10.
- "Independence Day," PG-13, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00.
- "Tin Cup," R, 1:15, 4:15, 7:05, 10:05.
- "First Kid," PG, 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:30, 10:15.
- "Spitfire Grill," PG-13, 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45.
- "Bogus," PG, 1:10, 3:45, 7:25, 9:55.
- "Escape From L.A.," R, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:25.
- "Alaska," PG, 12:25, 2:55, 5:25.
- "The Nutty Professor," PG-13, 7:55, 10:20.

* No Passes

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BY KRIS KAZLAUSKAS

It is dusk, and I am sitting in the Arby's by the entrance to the toll road. Unfurled from its protective wrapper, my Arby-Q glistens in the rays of a setting sun, and I am left with a feeling of helplessness in the face of this beefy temptress.

With potato cakes and a chocolate shake, you would think that such heavenly victuals might soothe me — yet I am filled with discontent. I try to drown my sorrows with Horsey Sauce, but I already feel my lip start to quiver. As I look out the window, trying to gain my composure, I spy a man with an impeccably groomed Chihuahua — and I burst into tears.

Most summer jobs fade away. Mine is calling my name and it is taking all of my willpower to resist her.

I worked for Sunnclare Veterinary Clinic this past summer with the dream of becoming a veterinarian, and I ended up cleaning cat crap all summer. Now, I admit that it was a humbling experience, but when you see the pleasantly surprised look on a Calico's face after you have cleaned her cage, you can't help but feel good about a job well done.

Indeed, I would also not be mistaken in saying that, to most people, becoming friends with the Johnny Cat® cat litter representative does not sound overly exciting. But when you're still five proofs of purchase away from the Johnny Cat® reversible satin jacket, networking can get you what you want.

Like most people in the sanitizing business, I began the job as naively as any janitorial virgin. Yet, by the middle of July I was shameless enough to think about prostituting my cleaning services out to other vet clinics. I never mentioned this to the vet herself, and I never followed through. I think it was partly due to the fact that my upbringing has always taught me to be custodially monogamous, and even if I had wanted to work elsewhere, this job gave me all I could handle.

Now, mopping was part and parcel of the job, and I am not being cocky when I tell you that I became damn good at it. Using Roccal, a commercial disinfectant that can eat through sheet metal in twelve seconds, I waged a personal war on germs. Wielding a top of the line mop, I made Mr. Clean look like a pansy as I sanitized everything in my path. No stray virus was safe. It was truly an awesome feeling, and one that could have easily gone to my head had it not been for a divine sign.

One toasty July evening while I was mopping, I noticed an unidentifiable chunk on the floor. Upon closer inspection, I recognized the small, kidney bean-shaped organ, and suddenly I felt a wave of nausea sweep through me. It was a testicle! Sweet Jesus! How it got there was a mystery to me, although I didn't rule out the possibility that there was a dog out there who was tough enough to run out of the room halfway through surgery. I only hoped that his owner had an ice pack and plenty of gauze. Needless to say, I kept a wary eye open lest the vet should try anything tricky. Luckily, the

stray teste never came up in conversation, and I found no other body parts except for the end of a puppy's tail, which pales in comparison.

Sometimes, when you get really good at something, people think you should be good at everything. It was hard to play down the fact that what Michael Jordan is to basketball, I was to mopping. Yet, the vet recognized that I had a gift, so she bestowed another duty upon me — taking the temperatures of her patients. Be it cats, dogs or poisonous snakes, I was in charge of making them feel uncomfortable.

Unfortunately for the vet, I was not as successful at this operation and was relieved of my duties after about five animals. In hindsight (pun intended), I can laugh at the fact that I almost lost a thermometer in a German Shepherd when he decided to sit down, but that was truly one of the rockier moments during my stint at Sunnclare.

Yet, it would be wrong for me to end on a bum note when I had so many enriching experiences there, including developing an X-ray of a cat's abdomen and sampling various types of dog and cat food, from the flavorful "canine growth formula" to the more sophisticated taste of "feline maintenance formula."

Yes, life at Sunnclare was as pleasant as a fresh litter box, and as far as I'm concerned, the entire experience was remarkable — no ifs, ands or butts. □

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

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

“Hey, I’m funnier than that guy
who worked at the vet!”

So, you think you’re funny?

PROVE IT. Write a Week in
Distortion column.

“Hey, I have a really insightful
point to make.”

PROVE IT. Write a Final
Word.

Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep

by Kim Smith

Every night before I drift off to sleep, I spend a little time reflecting on the important things in life. I guess you could call it downtime or, more simply, time to be alone with my thoughts. Actually, it's more like a modified version of prayer in which I can express myself without the formality of memorized prayers.

During middle school, I developed a short, easy-to-remember prayer at a time in my life when my world was smaller and everything was less complicated than it is today. "Dear God, thank you for everything that is good and especially for my family, my friend, and my cat Fluffy."

Family, friends and Fluffy are what I call the three F's that still help shape my prayer life. As most of us would agree, two of the most important things in life are family and friends. The third thing is specific to each person, and the beauty of my prayer is that almost everyone can think of a few other reasons why he or she is thankful.

Your third "F" might be football, Flanner boys, Farley Hall, fishing or even fettuccine alfredo. It could be absolutely anything that makes you happy.

In high school, I made too little time for prayer and many times I would simply forget. When I did find time for prayer, my thoughts would drift from thanking God to worrying about my homework to thinking about which boy I had a date with that Friday.

When I came to Notre Dame last fall, my simple prayer structured around the three F's began to change. As Notre Dame students, we are fortunate to have reminders of prayer all around us: the Grotto, Virgin Mary on the Golden Dome, Touchdown Jesus and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

It took a while, but I finally realized that it was time to say thanks for people and experiences in my life that could not be classified as one of the three F's. I started concentrating on my thoughts and putting aside the minor details by focusing specifically on my purpose — thoughtful, meaningful prayer.

It's the beginning of a new school year and it's time to start things off right. Too many times I find myself losing sight of what's truly important. When this happens, it always helps me to rediscover my prayer life and strengthen my relationships with family and friends. It doesn't take any extraordinary effort or huge amount of time to give thanks through prayer or conscious reflection.

Although my prayer that includes Fluffy might be a little outdated, I have yet to find something else which works as well phonetically with family and friends. I have begun to thank God for all the other things in my life; it just takes me awhile longer to reflect on what I am thankful for because the list has grown longer. If I could just keep myself from falling asleep at night, I would probably be able to give thanks for hours on end. □

Kim Smith is a sophomore from Edmond, Ok. She lives in Lyons Hall.

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Student SUB mission Board

sub is always looking for great people to help plan & run
the crazy events at notre dame that keep the students
from going crazy. call 631-7757 to sign up today.
or stop by 201 laFun to visit our office.
we're waiting...

? ?
? who are we? ?

movies, concerts, speakers, manicures, magicians, sophomore literary festival
an tosal, collegiate jazz festival, free coffee, acoustic cafe, loft shows
and MISSION IMPOSSIBLE this weekend at Cushing only \$2,
Thursday @ 10:30, Friday & Saturday @ 8 & 10:30 p.m.



ON AIR
september 16

WVFF 11

(am 640)