Questions surround the Bridget's raid

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HOLASIC MAGA

Barring the Doors



Bridget McGuire's is no more. That much is certain. But what really caused the closing of the bar? Scholastic investigates the infamous bust. by Meredith W. Salisbury

The Wild Blue Yonder



Appalachia seminars are by no means glamorous excursions. So what lures students to spend their spring breaks in the poverty-stricken region?

by Kara Zuaro

Phat Tuesday



Rampant alcohol consumption. Public nudity. Revelry taken to new heights. No, it's not a Friday evening at the 'Backer. It's New Orleans during Mardi Gras. And it's a popular attraction for Notre Dame students.

by Brendan Kenny and Aaron Nolan

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The Loss of a Legend

ottles of Bud. Drunken students gyrating on tables. That mysterious black substance on the floor. Newly formed couples, uh, clinging to each other. Bathrooms only slightly more appealing than the great outdoors. They were all part of a typical evening at Bridget's.

While it's hard to talk about Bridget's "underage excellence" without a snicker, the bar will be remembered fondly by many of-age students for at least offering something to do. For underage students, however, the closing of the bar left a hole in the Notre Dame social scene that will likely be filled by dorm parties and off-campus gatherings — that is, if the university doesn't interfere as it did with Lafayette's Kickoff Classic last fall.

Or as the university possibly interfered with the Bridget's closing. Bill Kirk denied that the university played a role in the bust, but many students remain skeptical, and with reason. The university bought the land adjacent to Bridget's before the raid. Now it might buy Bridget's itself. We'll probably never know who filed the complaint that led to the Bridget's bust, but the university's role seems questionable.

What isn't questionable is the promise of more raids in the near future. Bouncers around the area are now requesting multiple forms of ID, and sometimes those aren't good enough. Recently, one of my 21-yearold friends was almost denied entry at Irish Connection, even though she had a valid

driver's license on her.

Meanwhile, underage students face a long second semester. Some have tried to get into bars that card harder than Bridget's, but many are scared to go out at all. To them, the quiet building that once was Bridget's will be a reminder of the utterly desolate social life in South Bend this winter.

Meredith Salisbury's investigation of the raid begins on page 8.

Featured Inside

he popular Appalachia seminar continues to draw a high number of participants each year. But what is the appeal of spending a week without basic luxuries like running water? Kara Zuaro examines the experience on page 18.

Equally mystifying is the attraction of cult TV programs. Jeremy Slater asks student about the lure of these shows on page

Scholastic Online

heck out Scholastic's revamped web page at http://www.nd.edu/~scholast. Our site features all of this year's issues, including the 1997 football review. Special thanks to Systems Manager Brian Johnsen, who spent many hours constructing the Scholastic home page.

In Memoriam

he Scholastic staff would like to extend our condolences to the family and friends of Justin Brumbaugh, who passed away recently.

> Kristin Alworth Editor in Chief

35 Years Ago: The Playboy Philosophy

In the March 8, 1963, issue of Scholastic, the editors wrote about Hugh Hefner's "Playboy Philosophy":

A new ethics style is substituted for the older ethics of good and evil. Hefner condemns the old ethics as "Puritanical." As Hefner says: "This nonsense about the body of man being evil, while the mind and spirit are good, seems quite preposterous to most of us today. After all, the same Creator was responsible for all three and we confess we're not willing to believe he goofed when he got to the body of man (and certainly not when he got to the body of woman)." Instead of the old moral questions, a man should seek good in a "car that has style and speed, in his savoring the pleasures of the sense with good food and drink and stereo sound." ... The "PlayboyPhilosophy" is really "eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow you may die in a nuclear explosion."

With the wildness of Mardi Gras and spring break, it seems Hefner's "Playboy Philosophy" still appeals to Notre Dame students. Somehow I doubt this philosophy was Plato's idea of the good life. Then again, if Plato were alive today, he probably wouldn't read Playboy for the articles, either.

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–KMA

Editor in Chief Executive Editor Kristin M. Alworth Managing Editor Chris Myers W. Patrick Downes News Lauren E. Winterfield, editor; Jacob F. Mooney, assistant

Campus Life Kate L. Jacques, editor Sports Brian M. Lucas, editor; Corey C. Spinelli, assistant

Entertainment Aaron J. Nolan, editor; Morgan L. Burns, assistant

Departments Zachary W. Kulsrud, editor Layout Brian H. Christ, editor; Heather Hogan, Ruby Medina, staff

Copy Meredith W. Salisbury, editor Photography Gordon B. Bell, editor Graphic Arts Paul Bohensky, editor Business Mark A. Loftus, manager Distribution Ryan P. Engle, manager Systems Brian H. Johnsen, manager

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Cover photo by Gordie Bell



W: The enigmatic middle initial of William Kirk Who is the mysterious man we call "Kirky"? What does that middle W stand for? Where does he keep his binoculars? When will he tell us the secret of the W? Why is it a secret? Wouldn't you like to know?

Scholastic is now accepting applications for those who aren't afraid to find out what mysteries lie behind one man ... one name ... one letter. Apply for one of the following, if you dare:

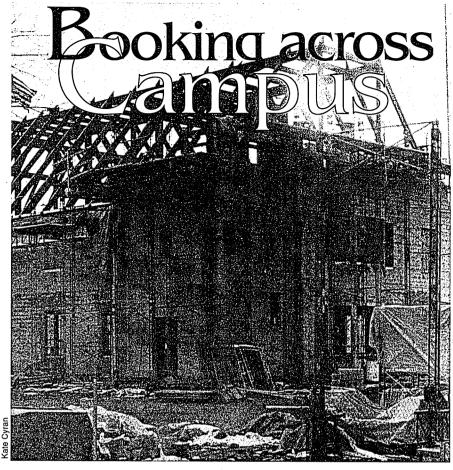
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Applications available in 303 LaFortune.

All applications due Monday, Feb. 23 by 5 p.m.

Questions? Call Kristin at 1-5029 or 1-7569

Be the next Bob Woodward — expose Notre Dame's web of secrecy. William W. Kirk, rest easy while you can.



The new bookstore may be worth the walk

BY LAUREN WINTERFIELD

y second semester next year, students will be able to sip a cappuccino, peruse a recent bestseller and nestle on a couch in front of a fireplace while they wait for bookstore lines to die down—if there's even a line. The new bookstore will open next winter under the management of Follett College Stores, which hopes to provide efficient service to appeal to students as consumers for pleasure as well as for academic needs.

The bookstore underwent a change in management at the start of this academic year, changing hands from private university management to Follett's. Follett has already implemented some changes, but the most noticeable difference in the bookstore will come when it changes location. By December 1998, the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore On-the-Campus will move from its present South Quad location to a new building behind the Morris Inn.

The new bookstore, which will retain the Hammes' name, will offer a larger, more modern venue. The two-floor Gothic structure is consistent with campus architecture and, situated next to the Eck Alumni Center, its two entrances and parking lot make it accessible to alumni, off-campus visitors and on-campus students.

According to Associate Vice President of Business Operations James Lyphout, though, the change in location will provide certain marketing advantages. It is also intended to provide convenience. "It is a benefit to those who drive because there is a parking lot," Lyphout says, "and with four new residence halls and classes in

DeBartolo, it isn't remote to foot traffic either."

The university officers' group decided to change the location and management of the bookstore based on the input of an evaluation committee formed several years ago. Follett was chosen from a number of outside management corporations because it seemed to best suit the needs of Notre Dame, says Lyphout. "Follett's has specialists in marketing, finance, merchandising and store layout all in their home office. We could hire the best [private] bookstore manager in the world, but he or she would not have access to all of those resources."

Follett has already implemented some changes. The store's hours are extended to include Sundays and evenings. Bookstore employees are more easily identifiable with their aprons and name badges. Second floor merchandise has been reset and the lights are brighter. And now, customers can pay for merchandise anywhere in the store, whereas before books had to be purchased upstairs while apparel, supplies and gifts had to be paid for downstairs. "In effect, that meant that we went from 10 to 23 registers during the book rush at the beginning of the year, and were able to alleviate some of the lines," says bookstore Director Jim O'Connor.

Despite these marketing benefits, Lyphout says, "Our primary goal is to improve customer satisfaction and to become more of an academic bookstore." Changes are intended to make the bookstore an "academic social space" for students.

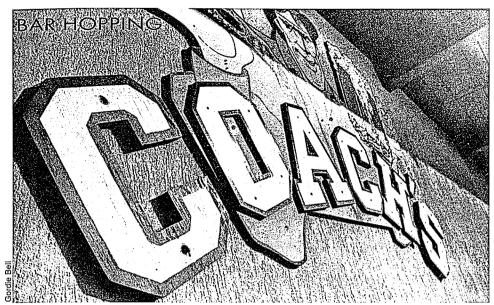
Students can expect to see cathedral ceilings, a café, an outdoor patio and a fireplace. Seating areas with comfortable chairs and couches will provide a reading area around the commercial books on the first floor. Academic books will still be upstairs, this time

near computer work stations (complete with ResNet connections) and software demonstration stations. The store will continue to sell music, apparel and supplies. The fine gift area will be expanded to offer a wider selection.

The additional services provided by the new bookstore will not be accompanied by an increase in prices. Lyphout was unable to release the percent price mark-up from wholesale on books and merchandise, but says that the prices are preset by the manufacturers and will not change under Follett's management. O'Connor confirms that prices will remain the same under Follett's management. "Pricing policies remain the same," O'Connor says. "In fact we are even trying to stabilize buy-back prices with the Guaranteed Buy-Back Program."

Under the Guaranteed Buy-Back Program, books that the university knows it can use again the following semester are marked with a sticker that guarantees the book will be worth at least half its original purchase price in resale. "We can't make price guarantees on all books because we often don't know for sure if they can be used again on campus. We try to find another place to send books we can't use, but that lowers the price we can pay for them."

Amid changes to bookstore location and bookstore policy, management assures students that despite outside management, it remains part of the Notre Dame community. "We are still the Notre Dame bookstore," O'Connor says. "The university still has the ultimate say in what we do."



Centerfolds Prefer Coach's

In Playboy's eyes, Coach's is area's best bar

Blame it on LaFortune's slow mail service, but *Scholastic* just recently received its (strangely dog-eared) copy of the October *Playboy* "Girls of the Big 10" issue. Curious staffers reading through the articles found the magazine named South Bend's own Coach's as one of the country's top 100 college bars.

For the article, *Playboy* worked in conjunction with Beyond the Wall, the evil force behind those annoying pullout advertising supplements in the *Observer*. Beyond the Wall called random students at 150 college campuses, and gave everyone else the opportunity to vote on its web site.

When the results were in, *Playboy* named Coach's as Notre Dame's representative on the list. Byron Sigh, bar manager of Coach's, says of the honor, "It was a surprise, although every year we do win the award for the best sports bar in South Bend."

Although Coach's has no plans to publi-

cize the award (for which it also received a certificate), Sigh does report that during football season, a lot of visitors from out of town came in to see the bar for themselves, although they were often reluctant to say just where they had heard about it.

Notre Dame students, meanwhile, have mixed feelings about the award. "Coach's is the best bar in the country, if you like to hang around with 40-year-old men," junior Dan Norman says.

Other students have their own personal favorite bars. Senior Dan Delaney says, "The *Playboy* people have obviously never savored a Guinness at Club 23."

Aside from the thoroughness of the magazine's research, many students agree with senior Maureen Lane. Though she questions whether Coach's is one of the best college bars in America, she says, "Relative to the other social venues in South Bend, Coach's is looking pretty good."

— Jake Mooney

Q&A

1Questions with



Heather Cocks

Keep your diet Coke away from her

After three years working her way through the ranks at the Observer, News Editor Heather Cocks will unofficially take charge as editor in chief of the newspaper next week before her byline officially changes after spring break. The junior American studies major from Houston, Texas, says becoming editor was her long-term goal since freshman year and took a few moments from her busy schedule to share some insights on the Notre Dame news scene, the national media and why the success of the Spice Girls is scarier than Burt Reynolds' recent comeback.

As a news writer and editor, what has been the most exciting story you've covered at Notre Dame?

I just covered the Bridget's bust and that was pretty exciting [because] all weekend long there were all these rumors and it was nice to finally set the record straight.

Are there any big changes in store for the *Observer* next year?

Well, it's all very preliminary right now, but our masthead needs to be revised ... and we'd update the different sections from a design standpoint. ... Also, we want to look at our web page a lot ... and as a long-term goal, improve it.

continued on next page →

JUDGMENT CALLS The basketball team stinks; the weather sucks and Bridget's Junior Parents is closed. Looks like the social scene can't get much worse Weekend Oh. wait.. Underage Bars in the area are really cracking down now they're hiring stadium ushers as bouncers. Drinking Forty days of sacrifice, repression and Catholic guilt If Lent they didn't take the bacon bits out of the dining halls, Notre Dame students would never know the difference: What, no egotistical, misogynistic, Cold War best sellerthis Sophomore year? To compensate, Harlan Ellison will read his newest Lit Fest essay, "Women's Suffrage: The Plague of the Century."

Q&A

continued from previous page

There's been Watergate, Whitewatergate, Filegate, Interngate — what's the latest Notre Dame "gate"?

I think "Griffingate" got blown out of proportion. I think people tried to make more out of it than was really there.

About your last name, what's the most original prank call you've ever gotten?

At Notre Dame, not any. That surprises me. But [the *Observer* staff] had some fun playing with headlines when I was named editor in chief.

If you were asked to appear on *The Jerry Springer Show*, who would be on with you and what would the episode's title be? "My Boss is a Diet Coke Addict!" would be the title and any copy editor who has been with me when I'm working on a late night

Who gets to write all of those classified ads?

would be on the show.

A lot comes from late night/early morning craziness. We have to make it so [the paid ones] all fit and there's usually room left ... so it's usually a free for all.

How do you think the national media has covered the Clinton scandal?

To death. It's very hard picking up a newspaper without seeing something about it. I think you need to cover what he's doing as president and not focus so much on this one aspect.

What's scarier — giving an Oscar to the star of *Gator* and *Canonball Run* or the Spice Girls' movie breaking \$50 mil?

I think it's pretty sad that the Spice Girls movie could make that much money. I mean, weren't they booed off stage somewhere? I just don't understand why you'd want to push it so hard to make a movie.

What's the one headline you hope to run next year?

"Administration Relents. Observer, Scholastic and Dome Stay in LaFortune."

Complete this sentence: "The Notre Dame administration is to student media as ..."
Bill Clinton is to Kenneth Starr.

— Chris Myers

LAUGH FACTORY

Whose Line Is It Anyway?

The Humor Artists sketch a pretty funny show

his article would have started with a joke, but let's leave comedy to the experts — the Notre Dame Humor Artists. On Feb. 27, the group presents its first show of the year at 8 p.m. in Cushing, slamming through 10 skits lampooning national celebrities and favorite campus targets. And unlike Cushing's weekend movies, technical difficulties won't interrupt the show.

Group president Denis Hurley says they're "like Saturday Night Live, only funnier." The small troupe, fewer than 10 people, returns only three members from last year, but make up for lack of experience with spirit, camaraderie and good jokes.

Tearing into subjects like relationships, dining halls, James Bond and Jim Coletto, the Humor Artists find inspiration for their material from many places. "We try to play off the humor all around us," says Hurley, referring to the hijinx of Notre Dame's administration and student body. They also look to the national scene, as seen in one particular skit. "All the recent celebrities

that have died hang out in the Heaven's Gate Cafe," Hurley says, adding that the guests include Princess Di and Jon Benet Ramsey. Since that might raise a few eyebrows in the audience, Hurley admits, "We can be a little risqué sometimes, because we don't know how conservative the audience will be, but we're clean."

Since the show's inception, audience numbers have run anywhere from 12 to 150. They hope for a large turnout this year, but even if numbers top their previous highs, audience members should expect an intimate environment at a cheap cost — only one dollar. And for a buck, some audience members may get more than they bargained for. "We usually try to involve the audience in some way," Hurley warns, referring to a past incident involving water guns.

So why watch a sitcom? The Humor Artists provide a fresh dose of sharp comedy without the canned laughter. "Bridget's is closed, so what else are [students] going to do?" Hurley asks.

— Morgan Burns



SWIMMER'S EAR

Stroker Aces

hile many students are simply looking for ways to escape the wind chill and frost, some partake in a sport most consider a summer pastime. The men's and women's swimming teams have been wildly successful this year. As the Big East Championships got underway yesterday, the teams had a combined 18-2 record and look to continue their winning ways.

The men's team enters the Champion-ships with an 11-1 record and eight straight

wins. The 11 wins are the third most in Notre Dame history. Coach Tim Welsh's squad has placed seventh in the last two Big East Championships but with freshmen James Scott-Browne and Ryan Verlin, the Irish look to improve that finish.

The Irish women are led by two sophomore all-Americans, Shannon Suddarth in the breastroke and Allison Newell in the butterfly. The squad went 7-1 this year and is ranked 24th in the country. After dethroning six-time defending champion Villanova in last year's Big East Championships, 1997 Big East Coach of the Year Bailey Weathers and the Irish look to repeat this year.

— Brian Lucas

DOUBLE DUINY

Arts and Letters students often overestimate the value of a double major

BY JAKE MOONEY

n the minds of many Arts and Letters students, adding a double major is not just a way to specialize in two equally interesting fields, but a move that has the potential to make them more attractive to employers and graduate schools. Advisers both in and out of the College of Arts and Letters, however, say an extra major may not be the best way to impress the outside world.

For senior Charlotte Kibler, the decision

to major in both history and sociology was an easy one. "I picked history first because I enjoyed it. It didn't have many requirements and I would have been done early, and the sociological approach to history is interesting to me." Any possible increased marketability from the double major was not a factor in the decision, Kibler says, adding, "I just enjoy them both."

Junior Mike Wenstrup, though, says that a more attractive résumé was one factor behind his double major in PLS and history. According to Wenstrup, a main reason for declaring both majors was the perceived advantage the combination

would give him after graduation. "I thought it would look better to graduate with two majors instead of one," he says.

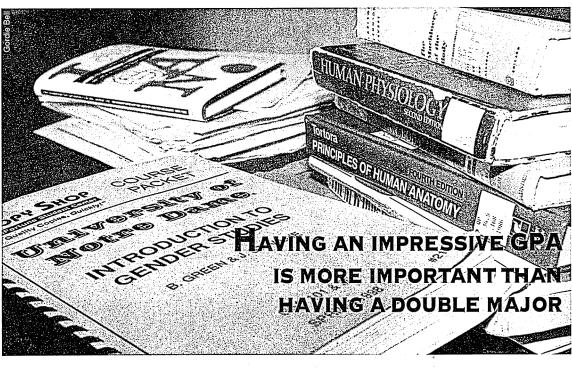
Theresa Sullivan, president of the Arts and Letters Student Advisory Council, says the belief that two majors are better than one is common in the college. "A lot of students think liberal arts is weaker, and they tend to pick up extra majors because they feel that maybe they don't have the depth students in other colleges do," Sullivan says. "I have a single major in history, and I often feel I have to explain myself to people."

Senior Greg VanSlambrook, a history and economics double major, got the idea to

double-major when he discovered he was interested in both topics. Additionally, he says, "My dad was really pumped about the econ major because he thought it might help me get a banking job later on." When he was considering taking six classes this semester to complete both majors, though, several professors, including Arts and Letters prelaw advisor Ava Preacher, suggested he limit himself to one major. "Dean Preacher said having an impressive GPA was more important than having a double major," VanSlambrook says.

critical. It depends on what part of Arts and Letters you're interested in."

Arnold does say that many of the Arts and Letters majors her office counsels do not feel that they are as sought after as students from the other colleges. Sullivan believes that this feeling often causes students to take on a double major; she hopes to work with the Career and Placement to make its services more accessible to Arts and Letters students. "It's an insecurity that needs to be taken care of," Sullivan says. "We would have to start early. If the counseling was



Preacher says the common belief that second majors are important for success after college is a misconception. "If people are [double-majoring] to make themselves more marketable, then it's for the wrong reason," she says. "Law schools prefer depth in one particular area, but breadth as well. That's what a liberal arts education gives you."

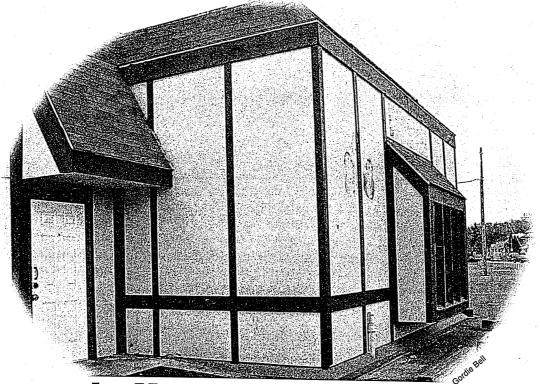
An additional major will not necessarily give an Arts and Letters student a boost in the corporate world, either. Kitty Arnold, director of Career and Placement Services, says, "Whether or not the employer is interested in the skills developed in the majors is

better, students would feel more confident."

Meanwhile, Preacher cautions students against adding a second major to make their résumés more alluring. "A student in liberal arts is just as employable as one from the college of business or engineering," she says. "Flexibility and the ability to learn is what they look for. The best way to make yourself marketable is to take what you enjoy and do it well."

Sullivan adds that students shouldn't rush into a double major for the wrong reasons. "There is value in a double major, but there's just as much in a single major, and that's what people forget," she says.

In a cloud of student disbelief and bewilderment, Notre Dame's underage drinking haven closed forever



by Meredith W. Salisbury

most noticeable in the aura of confusion and concern that has settled over campus in the past weeks. Ensuing investigations by students have turned up more questions than answers. Among the certainties: Bridget McGuire's is closed for good. One hundred and sixty-six people were cited at the bar that night. Notre Dame is looking into buying the property. Among the unknown: Did Notre Dame have anything to do with the raid? What will happen to the students cited? Will there be more raids in the future?

Some of the earliest rumors blamed the university for instigating the bust. William Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life, stated at a Campus Life Council meeting that the university had not pressured the police into raiding Bridget's. Kirk acknowledges, though, "The university's made a lot of complaints [to the local police] when it hears about underage drinking." Apparently, Notre Dame compiles information from the testimony of students who get in trouble through hall staff for underage drinking. Generally, the student's whereabouts that evening will include at least one bar, which will then be reported to the responsible officials. Kirk describes the university's relationship with the police as a reciprocal one: "We share information back and forth."

Police will not say whether Notre Dame lodged complaints about Bridget's, however. All complaints registered with the South Bend force are kept strictly confidential and are usually anonymous, says Lieutenant John Williams, who assisted with the raid. But there definitely were complaints about underage drinking. Not only did

local police receive some, but at least one complaint was registered with the Indiana State Excise police force, says Sergeant Michelle Traughber of state excise, who was working undercover at Bridget's that night.

One of the mysteries of this affair is which force actually initiated the raid. According to Williams, officials at state excise called South Bend in to assist with the raid. "We coordinated the assistance part of it," Williams says, but emphasizes that state excise called South Bend first.

State excise officials have a different story, though. "South

Bend was actually in charge of it," Traughber says. Her superior, Lieutenant Gregory Deitschley, states, "Initially I was contacted by South Bend to assist them on some locations in South Bend." While state excise took over and did most of the planning, Deitschley

confirms the momentum came from the city police. He won't comment on which member of the South Bend force contacted him.

Local bar owners were puzzled by some aspects of the raid. Club 23 manager Chris Was says it was unusual for the raid to have been such a surprise. "Usually with that kind of thing, the whole area knows about it," he says. Often, someone at a raided bar will call and warn other bars as a courtesy, Was explains.

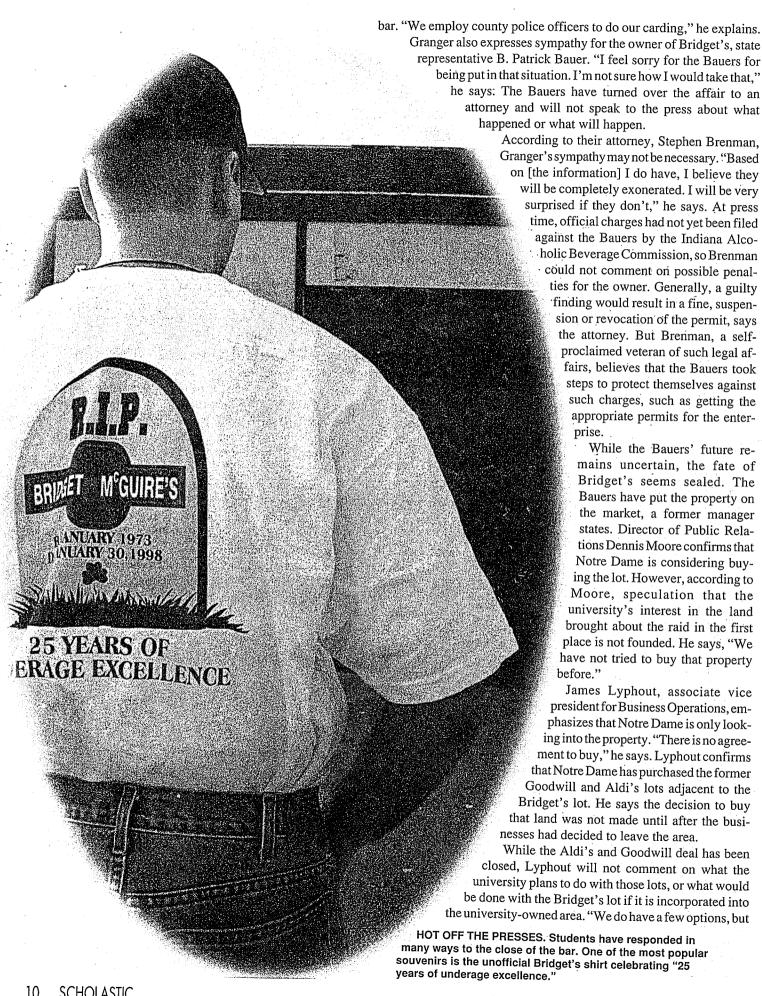
Was adds that excise police traditionally start the raids; the city police's involvement struck him as unusual. Byron Sigh, manager of Coach's, comments that excise police are known for making random checks. Rarely, he believes, do they directly investigate complaints. Deitschley says that while excise makes random checks, it does also work off complaints.

Bar owners found no mystery in the raid itself, however. "People knew it was coming," Sigh says. "We were waiting for it to happen." The event has made owners more aware of the need for security. "We were always pretty strict," Sigh says, but acknowl-

"Life is full of double standards ... it's pretty obvious that there's underage drinking on campus." William King

edges that since the bust, "We have stepped up what we were doing."

James Granger, owner of the new Irish Connection, planned ahead so he would not have to worry about security problems at his



we're not sharing them right now because we don't want to create expectations," Lyphout says.

Similarly, the Office of Residence Life is not sharing exactly what will happen to the students who were cited at Bridget's in the raid. The city punishment is relatively straightforward — the misdemeanor will be treated as a traffic violation, and all cited will likely be fined. University sanctions, however, have proven much more difficult to get a handle on.

Of the 166 minors at Bridget's, a majority were from Notre Dame. Kirk says students will be dealt with individually, and each student's history will be considered before the penalty is assigned. These penalties could include fines, community service or revoked parking and driving privileges.

This week, students cited for underage drinking at Bridget's will be brought in for disciplinary conferences with officials from Residence Life, says Sister Carrine Etheridge, rector of Farley Hall. These are not considered full-blown hearings, but rather are one-on-one sessions, she explains.

These measures raise questions about the Notre Dame drinking policy, which indicates that underage drinking on campus will not be punished as long as it is kept to the rooms, but allows officials to punish minors who drink off campus. Kirk expresses little concern about this discrepancy. "Life is full of double standards," he says. "Students have an awful lot of freedom. ... It's pretty obvious that there's underage drinking on campus."

"I've noticed that dorm parties have increased since they shut down Bridget's, and it's kind of a rice change."

Kirk is not worried about the effects of such a bust on campus life. He says there have been several raids over the years, adding "I can't say that I've noticed any tremendous change [as a result]."

Bar owners should not be feeling so comfortable, Williams says. "They all should be worried," he states, speculating that more raids may take place within two or three months. As for state excise, Deitschley won't comment on whether there is any truth to the rumor that there is a list of bars to be raided because the investigation "is ongoing."

Drying OUT

eeling lonely? Bored? Confused? Got a court date soon?"

Fliers bearing this message were posted a week after the raid at Bridget's. "Come to the first ever candlelight vigil at Bridget's tonight." Organized by junior Jed Donahue, the vigil expressed student concerns about what would happen to weekend social life without Bridget's.

"Nobody's going out. Everyone's scared," says Donahue of the atmosphere among underage drinkers. He adds, expressing a sentiment that has become prevalent on campus: "I'm not going to risk it."

Before the raid, several rectors had begun going to local bars. One of them, Sister Carrine Etheridge of Farley Hall, says, "Some of the rectors got together and wanted to see what it was like. What was the lure? What was the attraction?"

Despite rumors that the rectors' presence was an attempt by Residence Life to patrol for underage drinkers, Etheridge denies that this was the case. William Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life, says these visits were not directed by the university. "The rectors came and told me they were doing that, and I was happy to hear it. I

think the rectors did the students a favor by being there," he says.

Etheridge says the experience reinforced her conviction that Notre Dame should have better social space on campus. "I didn't see anybody who was fall-down drunk," she says, but she did notice that most of the bar patrons were obviously underage. She hopes the university starts some sort of dance club for students. "Whether that would have a draw without alcohol, I don't know," she adds.

Student reactions to the loss of the bar have been mixed. "I've noticed that dorm parties have increased since they shut down Bridget's, and it's kind of a nice change," says senior Michael Quadrini.

A freshman cited at Bridget's, who wishes to remain anonymous, says that the only change is that students are no longer going to bars in droves as they once did. "Instead, we've gone to dorm parties and to people's houses off campus." She also says that Kirk's belief that extra university penalties would deter further drinking was ill-founded: "I don't think there's been any decrease in underage drinking." She acknowledges that she has continued to drink since the raid.

A common feeling among the students cited is surprise at the police's invasion of what was once considered a safe haven for underage drinking. An anonymous sophomore, who got into Bridget's that night without being asked to

show any identification, states, "I always thought it was protected by the cops because the politician owned it."

While Bridget's glory days may be over, they are far from forgotten. Donahue's vigil, part serious, part fun, drew a crowd of about 30 people, he says. "We all thought it was pretty funny that everybody else showed up," he comments, and they took turns sharing fond memories of the bar. According to Donahue, this is not the end. He already has plans for another vigil. "We're definitely having one next year," he says: "An anniversary." — MWS

CLOSINGP THE GAP

The abbreviated election week altered candidates' campaigns

BY JAKE MOONEY

f this year's student government elections seemed less interminable than usual, there was a good reason. Candidates had only four days to campaign, about half as much time as they spent wooing voters last year. Although election planners hoped the compacted schedule would minimize the disruption to candidates' class schedules and personal lives, it has also raised questions about whether every ticket had enough time to get its message out.

The main problem was that candidates were forced to limit the amount of time spent meeting with students in each dorm. Presidential candidate Brandon Williams says, "There was a marked difference in results between the dorms we campaigned in and those we didn't."

Student Body President-elect Peter

Cesaro agrees it was difficult to campaign as much as he would have liked. "We strategically picked some dorms to visit, and just called friends to help us out in the other dorms," Cesaro says.

Just which dorms were most

familiar with each candidate seems to have been an important factor in the election's outcome. In the run-off, both tickets won each of their candidates' home dorms. Williams and Julie Reising took both Zahm and Pasquerilla East by overwhelming margins, while Cesaro and Selak won just as convincingly in Knott and Welsh. Name

recognition also proved important for Cesaro in Siegfried, a dorm comprised of his former Flanner dormmates.

Although candidates may view the reduced amount of campaigning time as a disadvantage, Judicial Council President Jen Dovidio says election planners made the change to help candidates. Before this year's election was scheduled, Dovidio discussed the proposed change with candidates from past years. "Everybody was supportive of a shorter campaigning time," she says. "In the past there were a lot of missed tests and papers, and their grades dropped a lot in that three-week period." The shortened period was designed to interfere as little as possible with candidates' regular schedules.

Williams agrees that the time before an election can be draining for a candidate. "In the past two weeks we did nothing but concentrate on the campaign," he says. "It was very intense and pretty much nonstop. There

knowledges that the time before the election was a busy one, but feels a slightly longer period would not have been too much of a hardship. "I didn't get a whole lot of homework done, but it should be at least seven days. Anyone could take a week off from working," Tomko says.

Election planners hoped to minimize the boredom students felt during long campaigns in past years. Dovidio says, "Students will rip down posters if they're up too long, and then the candidates start calling us up and complaining." Tomko agrees, adding, "People got sick of it last year. It seemed like the posters were up forever."

This year, students seem to have responded positively to the changes in the election. According to Dovidio, 13 percent more students voted this year than last year. Election organizers hoped for such an increase when they offered free soft drinks and other prizes to students in exchange for voting.

Nicole Borda, a member of the Judicial Council on the Election Committee, says student government made an extra effort to make sure that students who voted for reasons other than a sense of civic duty were informed about the different candidates. "There was a lot of coverage, and we made a very strong effort. We had copies of *Scholastic*

and the Observer there for voters to look at," Borda says.

At least one ticket, though, was unhappy with the coverage it received from campus publications. Tomko says, "We weren't allowed to campaign until Wednesday at midnight, but four other candidates had their platforms printed in the *Observer* by then."

"In the past two weeks we did nothing but concentrate on the campaign. It was very intense and pretty much nonstop. There was no time for work or going out."

- Brandon Williams

was no time for work or going out." Williams feels, though, that the shortened period may have heightened candidates' stress rather than reduced it. "It might have been nicer if [the campaign period] was spread out more, so candidates don't have to concentrate so much on campaigning all the time," he says.

Presidential candidate Matt Tomko ac-

Tomko feels that the lack of exposure he and Ross Kerr received hurt them on election day.

Brad Prendergast, editor in chief of the *Observer*, sympathizes with Tomko's complaints but says, "That's more a problem with the schedule than with the *Observer*." Prendergast says that had the newspaper arranged its coverage around the election schedule, the coverage would have been less effective. "I think it's good not to [follow the election schedule]. If we were to wait until the candidates were allowed to start campaigning, that would have required us to have printed four stories on

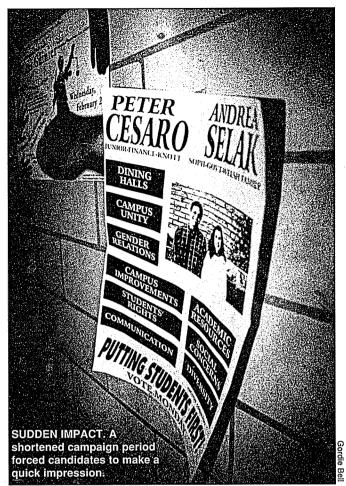
"This year the election really sneaked up. I don't think anyone could have been completely prepared."

- Matt Tomko

the election on both Thursday and Friday," he says.

Heather Cocks, the *Observer*'s news editor, agrees that too much coverage at once would have overwhelmed voters. "It doesn't help combat voter apathy if you throw everyone at them at once. If you space it out, people get an opportunity to know about each candidate."

Even though student government appears to have made some headway against that apathy by offering incentives to voters, the shortened election period may have brought some unforeseen problems to the forefront. As Tomko says, "This year the election really sneaked up. I don't think anyone could have been completely prepared."



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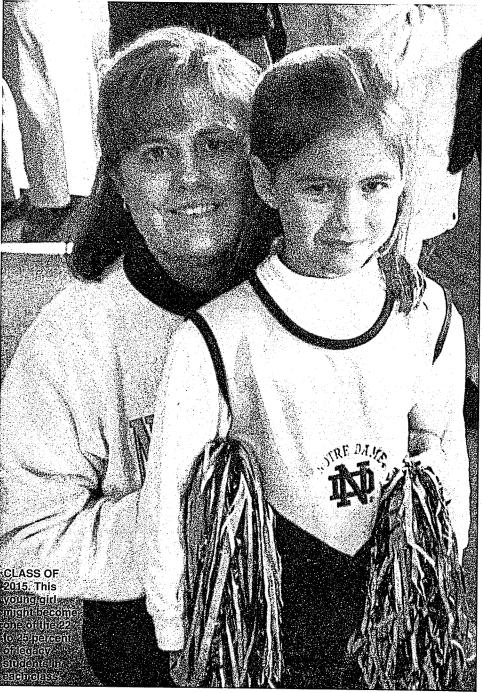
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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Despite discrepancies from university officials, statistics show the rate of legacy admissions is higher than that of non-legacies



BY JEREMY B. SONY

amily. It's a word frequently used to describe the Notre Dame community and it's been a driving force for university traditions. In order to become a part of this family, most students hear about the school, apply, receive an acceptance letter and enroll. But there are those who supposedly don't have to go through the process of college applications and interviews. Instead, they are born into the family. They grew up hearing the fight song. They were put to bed with stories of the Golden Dome and Knute Rockne. They have fathers, grandfathers and mothers who attended Notre Dame over the generations. They are legacies.

Many Notre Dame students believe that legacy applications are separated from non-legacy applications and then students are chosen from the two pools. But the Office of Undergraduate Admissions says otherwise. Daniel Saracino, director of Undergraduate Admissions, states, "There are no separate pools for legacies and non-legacies." By his account, each file is on a completely even playing field. He says every file is treated the same and that each is read by three admissions officers, himself included.

Yet Charles Lennon, executive director of the Alumni Association, says there is a separate pool, explaining that when the applications start arriving they are divided by legacy and non-legacy. Lennon says that legacy students compete with each other for the available spots in the class. This also goes for the non-legacy students. "The two pools are separate and they aren't competing against each other," Lennon says.

A closer examination between the number of legacy and non-legacy applicants with the numbers that comprise each freshman class only adds to the disparity.

"Notre Dame has a tremendous following by her alumni," Saracino says. "More so here than at most other universities." This is evident in the first few months of each calendar year when nearly 1,000 legacies apply for spots in the next freshman class. With between eight and 10 percent of the annual applications coming from alumni children, admissions says it's not hard to fill a class with 22 to 25 percent legacy students. "It is a goal that we have always been able to reach in recent years," Saracino says.

These statistics show that legacies are admitted at a significantly higher rate. Saracino says 9,071 applications came into admissions last winter and that there are 1,906 freshmen in the class of 2001. Out of the original applicants, 21 percent are now enrolled at Notre Dame. This suggests that each applicant has nearly a one in five chance of ending up at Notre Dame the following fall.

Saracino also reports there were 848 legacy applications in the class of 2001. Of these, 570 were admitted to Notre Dame and 419 actually enrolled. This means that 49 percent of the legacies who applied now attend Notre Dame and that legacies in fact hold a one in two chance of attending the university.

On the other hand, of the 8,223 non-legacy applicants, 3,094 were admitted into the class of 2001 and 1,487 are now enrolled at Notre Dame. This means only 18 percent of the non-legacies who applied now attend Notre Dame.

Saracino explains that there are special interest cases within each applicant pool. These cases ironically include alumni children and faculty/staff children. "As with all special interest cases, we are prepared to 'bend' slightly in the 'academic' area in our effort to respond to these special applicants," he says.

According to Saracino, special interest applicants are not admitted solely on the basis of their position, but it helps. "If the committee on admissions believes that they can be successful students here and competitive with the other admitted students, we normally offer them admission," he says, "even though, in some cases, their grades and test scores might not be as high as their peers."

Lennon agrees. "Even though legacies may or may not have a slight disadvantage, academically, compared to non-

legacies when admitted," he says, "it all evens out after the first year and both groups are usually even regarding academic standings."

Many things separate Notre Dame students from one another. Some are varsity athletes. Some are fine musicians and artists. Some are simply great students. And some are legacies. Notre Dame is often thought of as a family. It is a way of living that has held true for over 150 years. Legacies were born into this family, while non-legacies come to find their own place in the family.

SOMEDAY THIS COULD ALL BE YOURS. A potential legacy enjoys a tailgate with his father.

GREAT Expectations

efore pulling up to campus on Freshman Orientation weekend, everyone has an image of what college will offer — and then they have an idea of how Notre Dame will fulfill that expectation. Legacies have a unique perspective, though, after growing up in an often Irish-obsessed world. After 18 years of hearing about the school, it is no wonder that many legacies have high expectations for Notre Dame.

Junior Kevin McManus recalls his earliest memories of Notre Dame. "I was in sixth grade when my father brought me to a football game," he says. After seeing campus through his father's eyes and receiving encouragement from high school teachers, McManus decided to apply. McManus says he is happy with his choice to attend Notre Dame. "I know I'm getting a good education and I love the community here at Notre Dame, the opportunities for service and the friends I have made," he says.

Freshmen Douglas Booi also grew up hearing stories of Notre Dame. His mother transferred from Saint Mary's in 1972, joining the first class of women here at Notre Dame. "My mom said she enjoyed her years [in the Notre Dame community], making friends that she has kept in touch with over the years," he says. Booi feels Notre Dame is living up to his expectations "I was expecting a rigorous academic program, blended with a friendly, family-like atmosphere," Booi says, "and it's everything I expected."

Not all legacies are so content. Freshman legacy Erica Cuhna sometimes feels a lack of identity at Notre Dame. "I sometimes feel like its my dad's campus and I'm not getting my own experience," she says. Cuhna is glad she made the choice to come to Notre Dame, though. "I couldn't picture myself anywhere else," she says.

-JBS



DROWNING in the sea OFLOYE

Some love experiences resemble the TANIC

more than the LOVE BOAT

BY NICK GIRIMONTE

he urge to do something romantic takes over when trying to gain the affection of that special someone. Whether it be with flowers, a romantic poem or even a nice dinner, most people have tried to do something special for the ones they love.

But what happens when that perfect moment goes drastically wrong? As treacherous a game as love is, many have had their share of broken hearts and lonely nights.

Freshman Dominic Caruso is one young fellow whose attempt at romance backfired. Caruso decided to surprise his girlfriend with a romantic picnic on the first day of spring. "I spent all morning getting all of her favorite foods and snacks," he says. "Then I went and found the perfect spot next to a lake." Everything seemed to be going as planned as they drove over and the girl had no idea what was going on. When the couple finally did arrive at their destination, it seemed Caruso was having even more luck than expected. "A bagpipe player had shown up in full regalia," he says. Caruso had absolutely nothing to do with the player's presence, but when his girlfriend asked how he had arranged a bagpipe player, all he said was, "I had the proper connections.'

As Caruso laid out the blanket and the food he had prepared, he couldn't help but feel a tinge of pride for creating such a perfect moment. But as the two began eating, Caruso's girlfriend said perhaps the worst thing possible: "Oh yeah, Dominic, I already ate lunch. I'm not really that hungry."

"I was so bummed after that," Caruso says, "that I quickly ate and we only ended up staying about 20 minutes."

While some guys do their best to steal a girl's heart, occasionally a guy comes along who just prefers to steal. Sophomore Kim

Schroeder had an experience with a thief who came in the name of love. "He had wanted to use my name to order more CDs from Columbia House so I said yes," Schroeder says. When the order finally ar-

rived, she passed the CDs along and assumed a check would arrive soon after to cover the bill. Instead of paying the bill, however, her love interest broke up with her a couple of days later. He refused to pay the bill. "I got phone calls and mail from the company all of the time," she remembers, "and he refused to talk to me." As if the

delinquent had not done enough already, Schroeder realized her beau had taken about \$70 from her room as well. "I finally did get him to pay for the Columbia House bill," Schroeder says, "but that is the last time I will ever trust a man when it comes to money."

There are guys who don't care at all, and there are also those who care a little too much. Sophomore Kristin Patrick met a guy one football weekend who was visiting her roommate. She thought he seemed nice enough until he got a little too close for comfort. "We all went out to dinner and he insisted on having the waiter and everyone at the table call me 'goddess," she says. "Then he started bowing to me."

After her new friend left, Patrick thought she was finally free. But that hope vanished. "He called me from the phone at the door to my dorm before he would get in the car with his friends," she recalls. The next day, after her date had returned home, Patrick received a phone call from Maine and an e-mail, both from her date. "He told me all weekend that he was going to send me a dozen roses

when he got back to school," Patrick says.
"The next day I got some virtual flowers
over the computer with a subject reading
"Will you marry me?"

Countless people have endured the trauma

of meeting their significant other's parents. Most make it through with sweaty palms and a polite smile. But for sophomore Neil Punsalan, who describes himself as a "smooth operator with the parents," luck wasn't on his side when he had dinner with his girlfriend's parents. "I remember I sat down next to my girlfriend and out came the soup appetizer," Punsalan says. As Punsalan reached for a napkin, he dipped his tie in the soup. Out of surprise he jumped back and knocked the entire bowl on his lap and the carpet. "After that, her Dad never really liked me very much," he recalls, "which I guess is pretty normal."

Common at Notre Dame are disastrous SYR dates who don't just embarrass themselves but their host as well. Sophomore Lora Bowers has had her share of bad dates, but none quite compares to the one she took to a formal. "They held the dance at the College Football Hall of Fame," she says, "so they had security everywhere." Bowers' date decided to tip back a few beers before dance time rolled around; he later fell ill to the evils of barley and hops. "At least he made it to the bathroom," laughs Bowers, "but from then on security called him 'Bud Light.""

Sophomore Tim Johnson also experienced

an awkward situation with a love interest. For their second date, Johnson decided to take his friend to that classy eating establishment, Don Pablo's. "We had a really good time," he says. "So on the ride home I decided to whip out the high school charm and ask her if she wanted to go park." She said yes to Johnson's proposal.



At this point, his date rolled down the window, but Johnson didn't pay much attention. He then asked his date where she wanted to go. "I was kind of lost for ideas," he remembers, "so I wanted to know if she knew of any good places."

The response Johnson received was not exactly what he expected. His date gave him a confused look and asked, "Wait a minute, what did you ask me?" So Johnson mus-

tered enough courage to repeat his question. He got a startled response from the young lady. "Oh, I thought you asked if I had to fart," she said, embarrassed. "That explained the window thing right away," he says.

While love is difficult and often dangerous, take heart in knowing that everyone has a few bad romantic experiences. So don't be dismayed if Valentine's Day wasn't all you'd dreamed it would be.

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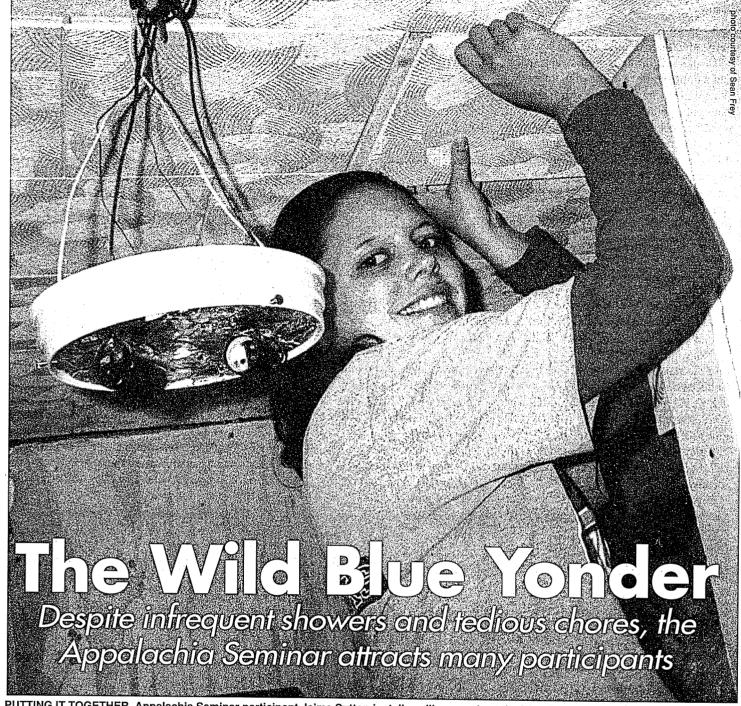
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Get Involved!



PUTTING IT TOGETHER. Appalachia Seminar participant Jaime Sutton installs ceiling panels at the Woodland site.

BY KARA ZUARO

any students look forward to spending their spring and fall breaks with friends from home. Others decide to spend time with people they have never met before. Most students relish showering barefoot in a bathroom that has been meticulously scrubbed. Others choose not to shower at all. Some complain about their parents nagging them to clean their room, set the table or vacuum. Others opt to shovel maggot-ridden cow manure.

These others are the participants in the Appalachia Seminar. For those who have not experienced Appalachia for themselves, it is hard to fathom how a week of hard work

could beat a vacation of sleep. Yet each year the Appalachia seminar draws hundreds of students to the program, including 170 last fall.

For some, the geographic setting is a big draw. "I was intrigued because I'd never been to that part of the country before," senior Ashleigh Thompson says.

Others become involved because they want to participate in a unique service opportunity. Senior Sean Frey, program cochair, originally got involved because he is from Tennessee and wanted to give something back to the land where he grew up.

Frey volunteered a few years ago at an environmentally conscious site, ASPI (Appalachia Science in the Public Interest), in

southeastern Kentucky. His group's job was to clear a mile-and-a-half long trail up a steep mountain without cutting down any trees, and he still vividly remembers the experience.

"We moved rocks and logs, and even built a bridge," Frey says. When it came time to lay down the wood chips, the students felt frustrated as they carried buckets of chips up the mountain. They perked up when someone suggested forming an assembly line. "I remember standing there at the top of the mountain, and everything just clicked," Frey says. "It was through the service, through the helping of others, that this group bonding happened."

Senior Sarah Johnson and freshman Steve

18

Recupero volunteered together at Peace Place, which is both a foster home and a farm run by two nuns in Williamsburg, Ky. They met seven foster children between the ages of three and 17. By working with them, both Johnson and Recupero learned much more than just how to seal roofs, clean animal cages and bake cookies.

"These kids are normal," says Johnson. "You think you're going in to help them, but they didn't need our help. They needed our love."

The social differences also provided a learning opportunity. The home's 17-year-old had a three-year-old child. She found out she was pregnant at the age of 13, and the father of her child was 45. "You hear the stereotypes and jokes about these kind of people," Recupero says, "but when you've got a face to go with the joke, everything changes."

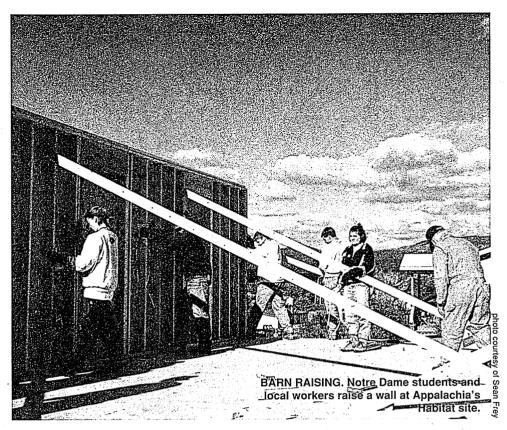
The Appalachia seminar allows students to experience a different culture without leaving the country. "We visited a few to-bacco farms and even visited a few peoples' homes," junior Mary McGranahan recalls. She remembers one night when a few of the locals played the guitar for the students. "We went to watch a band playing bluegrass," McGranahan says, adding that they performed some barn dances she'd never seen before.

"The highlight for me was a trip to a running coal mine," sophomore Michela Costello says. "They suited us up with lights, packs and white outfits. We looked like the Ghostbusters." The group then descended 676 feet and walked though tunnels with four-foot ceilings. Since the coal mines are how most people in that area earn the little money they have, the excursion took on a special meaning for Costello.

The last night of their stay, the townspeople invited Costello and the rest of her group to a potluck dinner. "It was like an Appalachian festival. We were a little wary about eating some of the unique Appalachian food that the families had brought because some of the stuff we'd never seen before," she remembers. "But we got to talk to the people and it was really a great time."

Group members grow close not only through work, but also through hiking, watching sunsets and sharing stories around the campfire. "The best part was the group dynamic," Thompson says. "I met people from all four years, all parts of the country, all different majors and with all different personalities."

Johnson benefited from the spirituality of



the group as well. "Not only did we have fun, but we struggled through issues together and prayed together," she says. "It was great because we all had different backgrounds and strengths and could all lean on each other."

The diversity within each group is not an accident, according to senior co-chair Ryan Murphy. "Not everybody gets their first choice site because when setting up the groups, we try to balance gender, class and service experience," he says. "That way we always ensure a good mix at each site."

Freshmen are a minority in the Appalachia seminar, especially during fall break. Of the few that hear about the program in time to apply, many are intimidated by

to work not only with current Notre Dame students, but also with alumni. "At first we weren't sure if they were going to be like chaperones," says Thompson of the four alumni who volunteered with her group, "but they turned out to be insightful and supportive." She was surprised when the alumni stayed up until 4 a.m. to play euchre with them.

Frey also worked with alumni in an old coal town in West Virginia. "I can still picture this older male alumnus sitting on a swing-set with one of our female students," he says. "They were just swinging slightly, talking and reflecting together."

When all is said and done, the students on the Appalachia seminars return to campus

"These kids are normal. You think you're going in to help them, but they didn't need our help. They needed our love." — Sarah Johnson

upperclassmen or are too homesick to pass up their first chance to see their families. But Recupero, who learned of the program through a friend, decided to apply for it. "I was definitely nervous being the only freshman in the group at first," he says. "We joked about it a little and I felt better. It didn't really matter in the end. It was really all about service."

Some Appalachia sites allow the students

with a renewed sense of priorities and a feeling of satisfaction. "It was really fun to get away, to get all down and dirty and help people out. When I came back to school, I came back refreshed," says McGranahan. □

Those interested in participating in the Appalachia Seminar should get information at the CSC or contact seminar coordinator Rachel Tomas Morgan or CSC director Dr. Jay Brandenberger.



he Lord said to the Gipp, "Go to the Administration, for I have hardened their hearts in order that I may show these signs of mine among them. Say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: Let my minors go to bars. For if you refuse, the hand of the LORD will send a plague of Junior Parents upon you. And this will be a sign to you, for you shall find them wrapped in Notre Dame paraphernalia and roaming aimlessly, because there is no room at the Morris Inn..."

The Gipp thought it might be wise, on the eve of Lent, to begin with a quasi-Biblical reading, but his conscience demands he stop and make a confession. The Gipp spent Valentine's weekend with a pagan god, Dionysus, feasting with the girls of the enchanted island and playing strange love games: Scrabble, Balderdash and the like. His writing is still drunk with passion from sailing the seas of unrequited love!

It Ain't No Love Shack, Baby

Speaking of unrequited love and food, one group of males needed a few swingers to keep them warm on Valentine's Day, so they decided to seduce two unsuspecting North Dining Hall beauties: the early morning ID-swipers. Our heroes hired members of the Glee Club to sing a sweet love ballad to the two temptresses. But alas, money could not buy their love. The two women accepted their roses but denied the virile young studs a night of romance.

Although this story warmed the cockles of the Gipp's heart, he questions the (increasingly) eccentric behavior of the NDH ID-swipers. Why have these ladies felt the sudden urge to welcome the Gipp by name before he enters their gastronomic utopia?

If you want to call the Gipp by name it should be for good reason. Maybe you're Visa and the Gipp owes you money, or perhaps you're Ed McMahon notifying the Gipp of his \$10 million prize. The hospitality is great, but when the Gipp thinks of a place where "everybody knows your name," NDH shouldn't come to mind.

The Shirt '98?

Just in case you weren't lucky enough to steal a Bridget's sign, you can still reminisce about the days of table dancing with an unofficial Bridget McGuire's T-shirt. That's right, kids, Club Bridget commemorative garb is selling almost as fast as those 22 oz. Buds did back in the days. Two proprietors from Siegfried have sold over 500 shirts at the standard bootleg price of \$10 a piece — not too shabby considering that money might have translated into 2.5 x 10^7 oz. of suds on penny pitcher night.

Check Out and Checked Out

Speaking of bootlegs, the Gipp hears that dozens of copies of As Good as it Gets and Good Will Hunting are floating around campus. And for all six of you who haven't seen Titanic, there are copies of that available, too. Apparently one student's father is a member of the Academy and has passed on the perks to the Notre Dame family. The Gipp just has one question: if you were going to borrow the tape, why didn't you borrow the big screen, too?

The Best Accent Story All Year

Since we're on the subject of plagiarism... The Gipp was impressed by the wellwritten "To Buy or Not to Buy?" feature in Tuesday's Observer. He thought only Scholastic ran such high-quality stories. Then the Gipp remembered — Scholastic did originally run that piece in its Feb. 13, 1997 issue. Apparently an Accent staff member, who knows the author, picked up a copy of that Scholastic issue for reference the day before the Observer ran the story in almost identical form. The Gipp would have rerun an Observer column to return the favor but then he realized: it might be something he'd written in the first place.

Rec Notes

If there's any place on campus that should specialize in geriatric resources on this campus, it's the new Rolf's Athletic Center. The Gipp didn't believe the rumors, but after spending the past few days at Rolf's he has found more senior citizens there than at a Denny's breakfast bar.

The novelty of the center has attracted so many fitness neophytes (and not just those receiving social security) that the facility is offering guided tours on how to ride an exercise bike, among other things. But the Gipp warns all those who want to relocate from the south to the north side weight room. Rolf's still needs a few years before it gets that special gym feeling. If the Rock is a 300-pound, bar-bending body guard who bites the caps off beer bottles, Rolf's is a yuppie with wire-rimmed glasses nursing a bottle of Evian as he power walks.

The Brand With Red Stripe?

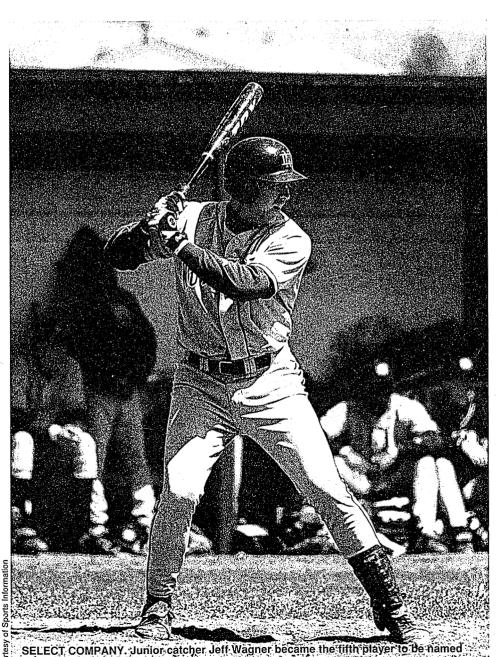
Finally, from the Shouldn't Have Done That On My Business Trip department, a representative from Adidas, the fourth member of the Irish Trinity, had a few problems while on campus last week. Maybe Adidas' reported sponsorship of Bookstore Basketball fell through, or perhaps he confused his company with Nike for a moment, but for whatever reason he said, "I can drink until I cannot physically operate well enough to locate my hotel and therefore will return to campus and pass out in O'Neill."

Bookstore Basketball? The football team? Heck, why sponsor sports if you can appeal directly to Notre Dame students' first love?

Alas, the Gipp must conclude his rhapsody and return to mending his broken heart—his Valentine's Day hopes were shattered like a CSC van window. But as he goes he leaves you his advice: heed the warning of the junior parents plague, and know that the only viable Exodus this week is a road trip. Bon voyage!

The Boys of Winter?

Though spring is a month away, the baseball team has already embarked on what should be a successful season



first team All-Big East as a freshman and sophomore. Among the others are current

By Christopher Hamilton

he temperatures in South Bend are hovering above 40. The Notre Dame baseball team is three weeks into its regular season. Sounds like spring, but the calendar says it's only Feb. 19. Even though spring training is just beginning for the Major League clubs, the Irish are in full swing. They played their season opener against Florida State on Jan. 30, the earliest they have ever begun a season.

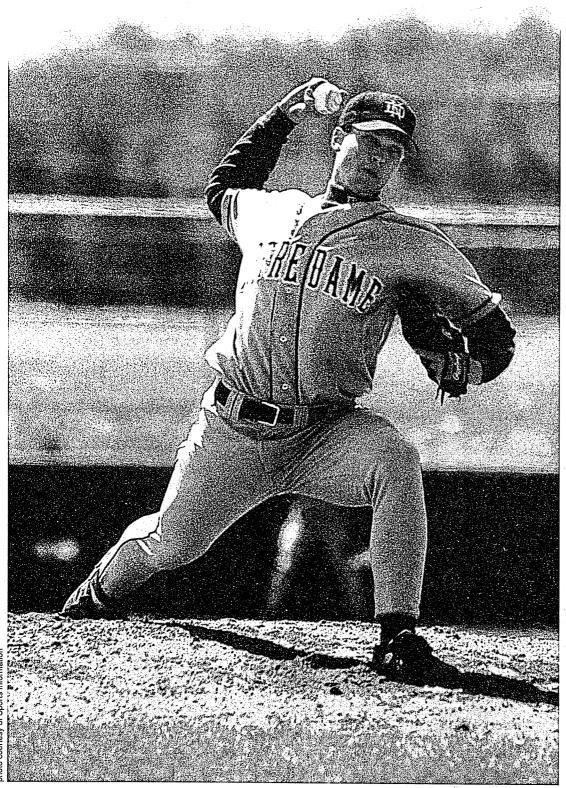
Notre Dame hopes to build on last year's success, when they won the Big East regular season title and finished 41-19. Yet last season was also bittersweet, as the Irish didn't win the Big East Tournament and failed to secure a bid to the NCAA Regional Tournament. Notre Dame doesn't have time to worry about last year, though. Baseball America tabbed them as the team to beat in the Big East this year and they expect everyone to be gunning for them.

Head Coach Paul Mainieri, who is in his fourth year at Notre Dame, boasts an impressive record of 125-58 with the Irish. He is well respected by his players. "He's a great motivator as far as baseball is concerned and as far as other things are concerned as well," team captain J.J. Brock says. "He understands the total scheme of things — the big picture. A lot of what he teaches us not only deals with baseball, but with schoolwork and life."

Mainieri is enthusiastic about what might be his best team since coming to Notre Dame. "I really like our experience, poise and leadership," he says. "We have a great group of guys on this ball club and great chemistry. We also have the best defense and the best pitching staff since I've been here."

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major leaguers Charles Nasy and Mo Vaughn.



DOCTOR K. Junior Alex Shilliday, the most experienced member of the Irish pitching staff, led Notre Dame with 72 strikeouts last year.

Mainieri recognizes the potential of this team, but he hesitates to stress goals that may distract his players. The coach hopes to win 40 games and repeat as Big East champion, but he doesn't like to look too far into the future. "We don't worry too much about these things," Mainieri says. "Instead we are focusing on improving as the year goes on and the rest will take care of itself."

Mainieri's "one game at a time" attitude seems appropriate,

considering the Irish face a demanding schedule. In addition to playing in the always-competitive Big East Conference, the Irish slated non-conference games against perennial powerhouses Miami and Florida State.

To further complicate matters, Notre Dame is forced to play its first 23 games on the road, due to the usually harsh South Bend winters. "I enjoy it. The teams we play are of an incredibly high caliber," pitcher Brad Lidge says. "It's important for us to establish ourselves during this time."

The Big East conference games begin in mid-March, around the time the Irish will play their first home game. The battle for the conference championship promises to be a dogfight with defending tournament champion St. John's, Rutgers and West Virginia serving as Notre Dame's main competition. But that doesn't mean the rest of the Irish's conference games will be a cake walk. "The Big East is a conference, where if you're not ready to play baseball, you can easily be beaten," says third baseman Brant Ust, last year's Big East Rookie of the Year.

The Irish should know. Last year they beat a .500 Villanova ball club three times during the regular season, but lost to them twice in the double-elimination conference tournament.

Notre Dame enters the 1998 season with arguably their deepest pitching staff in years. The 17-member staff is led by juniors Lidge, Alex Shilliday and Chris McKeown and sophomore Tim Kalita. "We look awesome. This is definitely the best pitching staff

we've had since I've been here. We have the potential to go out there and dominate opposing teams," says Shilliday, who is coming off a successful summer season where he went 9-0 for the Peninsula Oilers of the Alaska League.

Lidge is also hoping for a spectacular season after missing the second half of the '97 campaign due to a tender elbow. The right-hander is ranked 31st (18th among pitchers) on Baseball America's

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professional prospects list for college players. He combines a fastball that has topped out at 95 mph with a "major-league" curve and tough changeup.

McKeown, who had the lowest ERA of any starter last year, hopes to build on the end of last season, during which he

allowed a meager three earned runs in his final 36 and two-thirds innings. He also enjoyed an impressive summer season, posting a 5-0 record and a 1.60 ERA for the Nevada Griffins. He joins Kalita, who had 46

strikeouts in 49 innings last

season, as the second-tier starters.

On offense the Irish hope to reach new heights after their record-breaking '97 season. Last year, Notre Dame's offense set team records for home runs (66), doubles (127) and slugging percentage (.529). They also matched the record for season batting average (.334). "We have more role players in our offense this year. Everyone understands what job they have to do. I believe we will be a good, solid offensive team this year," Mainieri says.

Brock, a fifth-year senior shortstop who hit .365 last year, will bat lead-off, which is quite fitting since the two-time team captain is also a leader in the clubhouse. "J.J. is a four-year starter who has gotten better every year," Mainieri says. "He's an extremely hard worker who reminds me a lot of [Florida Marlins second baseman] Craig Counsell. He's a coach's dream."

Brock's main job will be to get on base for Notre Dame's version of the bash brothers, Ust and Jeff Wagner, who will likely hit third and fourth respectively. Wagner, a junior catcher, and Ust turned in back-to-back Big East Rookie of the Year seasons and combined for 123 RBI last season. Wagner batted .374 and hit 17 home runs last year and is only 10 homers shy of tying the all-time Irish record. Ust, a 1996 11th-round draft pick of the New York Yankees, hit 11 home runs, while batting .372 last season.

Besides Ust and Brock, the rest of the infield should include seniors Todd Frye and Dan Leatherman. As his name suggests, Leatherman is a good defensive player and that gives him the inside track at first base. Frye started 37 games last year at second base and should move up to bat second this season.

Allen Greene, Jeff Felker, Alec Porzel and Jeff Perconte will likely complete the line-up. Greene, a junior center fielder, is a solid hitter (.365 batting average last year) and a base-stealing threat. Felker, who was named to the Big East All-Rookie team last year, will be moving from first base to right field. Rounding out the outfield will be Porzel in left, a freshman who earned the starting position during fall practice. Perconte, a sophomore utility player,

will share time between first base, shortstop and designated hitter. With all this talent, the Irish hope they won't miss their three 1997 all-conference players who graduated last year, especially Mike

Amrhein, a 10th-round draft pick of the Chicago Cubs. As last year's team MVP, Amrhein enjoyed a memorable season that saw him tie the all-time school record for career home runs. Center fielder Randall Brooks will also be missed. His .364 career batting average ranks sixth in Irish history. The loss of pitcher Darin Schmalz, who is tied for fourth on Notre Dame's career victories list with 30, was also significant.

After playing six games, the Irish have provided a glimpse of what life will be like without those key players. Their record is only

am very proud of the way our team performed down in Orlando [at the ACC/Disney Baseball blast]," Mainieri says. "We

2-3, but the team is optimistic. "I

got a big win against Florida State, with Shilliday pitching great and our offense scoring 10 runs. The biggest highlight of the weekend had to be the way we played defense. We were playing like a bunch of major leaguers out there." Unfortunately, they couldn't win the other two games, a 10-8 loss to North Carolina State and a 3-1 loss to Duke.

Notre Dame will play at least 58 games, so these first five won't decide their fate. The way Mainieri and his team see it, how the Irish end the season is much more important than how they start it.

STEINBRENNER'S LOSS, OUR GAIN. After spurning the New York Yankees, who drafted him in the 11th round, Brant Ust turned in an impressive freshman season with a .372 average, 11 home runs, 54 RBI and 66 runs scored.

photo courtesy of Sports Information

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

By hosting the 1998 NCAA Championships, the Notre Dame women's tennis team hopes to enjoy a

Home Court Advantage

Ву Том Реретто

ny team is happy to make the NCAA championships, but it's always sweeter when the competition is held at that team's home. This is the case for the 1998 women's tennis team. The Irish will host the tournament, which will bring the top 16 teams to town, and they hope to be one of the teams competing.

After beginning the dual match season with three easy victories, Notre Dame defeated 12th-ranked Tennessee 5-4 in a match decided by a tiebreaker. That win should help the Irish to jump up in the polls, where they are currently number 15.

Success is nothing new for the Irish. They have advanced to the NCAA championships in four of the last five seasons and have won the Big East Championship in each of the two years they've played in the conference. Coach Jay Louderback guided last year's team to a number-21 ranking in the final International Tennis Association

HALL-AMERICAN. Junior Jennifer Hall was named an All-American in 1996 and hopes to continue her success.

poll. Based on their early play, the Irish have a shot to finish better this year. "Our team had a really good fall season so I think we have a shot at doing really well this year," Louderback says.

One obstacle to a higher ranking is Notre Dame's schedule. Every opponent the Irish will face is ranked in the top 75 in the country, including three opponents in the top five. "When the girls come to play at Notre Dame, they want to play the best," Louderback says.

The Irish will try to overcome this schedule with experience and depth. The team lost just one senior and returns six letter winners. With this experience comes confidence. "This could be the best season we've had in a long time," senior Tiffany Gates says.

Junior Jennifer Hall, currently ranked 24th by the ITA in singles, will lead the Irish with her hard-hitting style. The 1996 All-American enjoyed success in the recent Rolex National Indoor tournament, upsetting Agnes Muzamel of Mississippi — who was ranked third at the time — before losing in the quarterfinals. "I was really happy with my play that weekend and I would like to continue that for the rest of the season," Hall says.

Hall also excels in doubles and, with her partner Gates, is ranked 15th in the nation. The duo will attempt to build on last year's run in the NCAA Championships, where they finished 24th. "Our styles are complementary," Hall says. "I'm more of the hard hitter and big server while Tiffany has great touch, especially at the net."

Gates, who transferred from Minnesota her junior year, has made big contributions to the Irish the past two seasons, especially when paired with Hall. "I set up the points and Jenny ends them," Gates says. "Plus, we get along really well."

Notre Dame's current success is due in large part to two talented freshmen, Michelle Dasso and Kim Guy. "Both of the freshmen make a big difference in practice. They ... come out to have fun," Louderback says.

Dasso made a quick transition to the college game and is making an impact early in her career. Currently ranked 25th, she won the Rolex Regional Championship in the fall, becoming the first woman at Notre Dame to do so. "It's hard to come in and play well right away. Michelle's learning a lot of things, but she's winning as she's learning, which is remarkable," Louderback says.

While she had some early success, Dasso is still adapting to intercollegiate tennis. "The difference between play in juniors and college is that now if you have a tough match you have less time to prepare for the next tough one," she says.

Senior Kelley Olson and sophomore Kelly Zalinski, the doubles pair who won the pivotal match against Tennessee, are also expected to play important roles. Olson, the only three-time monogram winner on the team, has impressed Louderback with her play so far. "Kelley has been playing her best tennis since she got here," he says. "She looks like she'll make a strong contribution."

With a perfect 5-0 record, the Irish are riding high. And many of

their upcoming matches are at home, including their next five and a rematch with Wisconsin, the team that eliminated them in the semifinals of last year's NCAA Midwest Regional. "It will be tough, but it forces us to come out and play our top game at every meet," Louderback says.

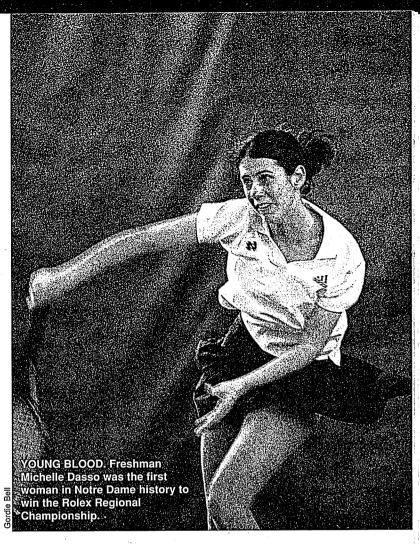
The players agree with their coach and look forward to the challenge. "The competition is always very good, so you constantly have to match that quality of play," Dasso says.

This weekend will be a big challenge for the team as it competes in the National Team Indoor. Sixteen teams compete in the tournament, all of which are ranked in the top 20. The Irish's success in their three matches will be a good indicator of how they match up with the best programs in the country. "If we continue to play like we have, we should do well," Louderback says.

The ultimate goal for the Irish comes the last week of May with the NCAA Championships. In order for them to play as a team, the Irish must either be in the top 10 or win the Midwest Regional. There is also an individual tournament for the top 64 singles players and 32 doubles teams.

Bringing the championships to Notre Dame adds excitement to the practices and the matches, and it's an added incentive to spur the team on to victory. "It would be great to play in a tournament this big with a lot of fans behind us," Hall says.

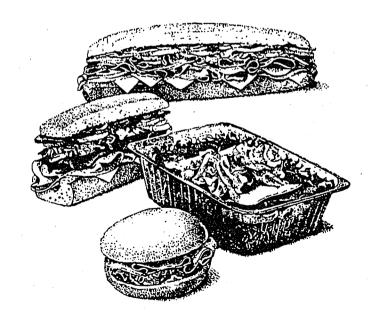
The Notre Dame women's tennis team has come a long way in a short time. The Irish have only been playing in Division I for 12 years. They have produced a 201-112 record. So far this season they've proven they can play with the best in the country. If they can build on their early success, the Irish may be celebrating at the end of May on their home court.



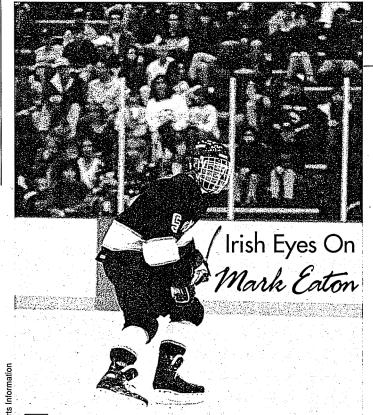
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SUBWAY! SUBWAY! SUBWAY!



The freshman is a leading candidate for Rookie of the Year in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association. His 22 points ranks third among freshmen in the league and ties him for first among defensemen. Eaton has also scored 13 points in his last nine games.

Edited by Corey Spinelli

Hockey • 1997-98 Record 14-15-4

Streaking: Senior center Steve Noble has played in 67 consecutive games and 140 out of 141 in his career.

Prime Time Performer: Aniket Dhadphale had back-to-back 2-goal and 2-assist games this weekend and has 9 points in his last 4 games.

Did You Know? Notre Dame's 2.97 GAA is on pace to shatter the old Irish record of 3.4 set in the 1987-88 season. On the Horizon: The Icers, still looking to clinch a berth in the CCHA playoffs, travel to Northern Michigan on Friday and Lake Superior State Saturday.

SPLINTERS

FROM THE PRESSBOX

Women's B-Ball • 1998 Record 16-7

Streaking: Senior Mollie Pierick has started all 23 games this season, the only player on the Irish squad to do so.

Prime Time Performer: Junior guard Danielle Green has scored 23 points off the bench in the team's last two games. Did You Know? If the Irish win 4 more games this season, it will mark the 5th straight 20-win season for Head Coach Muffet McGraw's team.

On the Horizon: Notre Dame travels to Connecticut Saturday to face the Big East-leading Huskies, followed by a final home contest against Rutgers on Feb. 24.

Men's B-Ball • 1997-98 Record 12-11

Streaking: The Irish haven't won two games in a row since Jan. 11 and 15.

Prime Time Performer: All-America candidate Pat Garrity has poured in 82 points and grabbed 29 boards in Notre Dame's last three contests.

Did You Know? The Irish are shooting a measly 33 percent (23-70) and are only 1-4 in sophomore guard Keith Friel's absence.

On the Horizon: The Irish host Miami on Sunday at 12 p.m. and close out their home schedule in a nationally televised game against Georgetown Wednesday at 9 p.m.

Men's Tennis • 1998 Record 5-2

Streaking: Senior captain Danny Rothschild hasn't lost a singles match this season, going 7-0 in dual match play. Prime Time Performer: Junior Brian Patterson won all 4 of his matches this past weekend (two in both singles and doubles).

Did You Know? After their March 4 meeting with Michigan State, the Irish hit the road for the remainder of the season.

On the Horizon: Notre Dame travels to Louisville, Ky., for the National Team Indoor Tournament.

Is John MacLeod Listening?

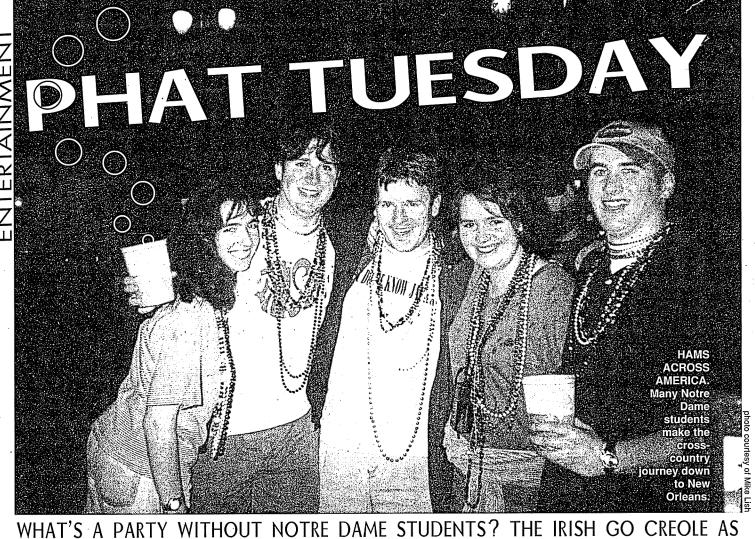
"Anybody can get up for 10 o'clock practice. Like I tell the kids — if someone told me I would win if I would be on the basketball court every morning at 4, I would be there. That's the price you pay to be a winner." — Arkansas men's basketball coach Nolan Richardson, on holding a practice at 6 a.m. Sunday after consecutive Razorback losses to Tennessee and Georgia.

Fats' Forecast

Clinging to postseason chances, Garrity and the boys keep hope alive this Sunday at the Joyce Center. Playing for the second time in eight days, the Irish exact revenge on Miami courtesy of a 73-61 victory behind Martin Inglesby's 11 assists.

Corey's Call

Spurred on by Keith Friel's return to the lineup, the Irish take two of their final three regular season games with victories over Miami and Georgetown. The stage is set for a return trip to the NIT if Macleod & Co. can steal one in the Garden at the Big East Tourney.



SCHOLASTIC LOOKS AT THE ULTIMATE ROAD TRIP: MARDI GRAS

BY BRENDAN KENNY AND AARON J. NOLAN

eer, and lots of it. One word, and you have yourself an accurate description of the annual festival known as Mardi Gras. When the booze and music start to flow through the streets of New Orleans, there's no mistaking it's Mardi Gras time. Every year during the days before Ash Wednesday, New Orleans kicks off the Lenten season with music, parades and ... beer.

For one week, the Big Easy becomes a mecca for those seeking the chaos and revelry of Mardi Gras. One might think that, among the intoxicated mischief occurring on every street corner, the Catholic nature of the celebration is missing. Then the white baseball caps can be seen meandering through an overcrowded Bourbon Street, and there's no mistaking it. Notre Dame students have arrived.

Mardi Gras, French for "Fat Tuesday," is actually the last day of a month-long party called "Carnival." It is supposedly the craziest and most hectic day of all. The French Quarter attracts huge crowds to watch the cross-dressing costume parties. "The entertainment is so huge, even my parents go to watch on the last day," senior Marc La Fleur, a New Orleans native, says. La Fleur

NEW () RLEANS IS THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS ALL ROLLED INTO ONE CITY

also claims that the city is relatively unconventional throughout the year, but its quirkiness is amplified during Mardi Gras.

During the day, Mardi Gras rages with non-stop parades, dancing, boozing and other festivities. Many Notre Dame students generously sacrifice their Monday and Tuesday classes to be counted among the throng. Senior Mike Lish, who attended Mardi Gras last year and plans to return this year, spoke about the loose morals of the extravaganza. "The laws concerning public drunkenness, nudity and legal drinking ages don't apply at Mardi Gras," Lish says.

One Mardi Gras tradition involves trinkets of little monetary worth being thrown from parade floats, much to the delight of the crowd. The most traditional knick-knacks are the popular beaded necklaces. Of course, not just any beads can be used. "The beads become like money during Mardi Gras," Lish says. "You have to exchange the authentic beads if you want to do it right." The more intricate the beads, the more people lunge for them. Other hot Mardi Gras items include stuffed animals, doubloons and plastic cups which are usually emblazoned with the emblem of the parade krewe.

Saint Mary's junior Suzanne Barrett, who is from nearby Mississippi, actually had the honor of participating in the throwing tradition. Last year she was named one of the Gulf Coast Carnival Association's maids, which gave her the opportunity to throw from the association's float. "It's a lot of fun," Barrett says. "Everybody gets into it. I threw out beads, cups and things and people went for them." By throwing the semi-precious merchandise, parade throwers become gods to the wild Mardi Gras crowds.

Don't think for a minute that some people won't do anything for a string of Mardi Gras beads. It's not uncommon to see women lifting their tops in order to attract the attention of male bead-throwers. This is one of sophomore Nick Arcos' fondest memories of his trip to Mardi Gras last year. "It was chaotic," he says. "The women exposing themselves would have to be the highlight. Women were taking their tops off, and guys were pulling their pants down. It was the seven deadly sins all rolled into one city." In one particular incident, Arcos went to use the men's room. Upon entering, he noticed that there were no lines for the urinals, an atypical sight during Mardi Gras. When he left the restroom he found out why. There was a line outside, but instead of a toilet, it was a woman that all the men were waiting

LAWS CONCERNING PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS, NUDITY AND LEGAL DRINKING AGES DON'T APPLY

for, who was taking the concept of the kissing booth to a new and creative level.

Barrett is quick to downplay the amount of debauchery and ribald antics of the Carnival season. "Not everyone lifts up their shirts," she says. "Most people stay clothed. People will kill each other for beads, but don't have to remove their tops to get them."

Most partygoers spend their nights wandering around New Orleans, going to parties and bars and taking in the spectacle of the city. The notorious Bourbon Street is always filled with drunken disorder and excitement. Most of the buildings on Bourbon have balconies filled with people yelling to the pedestrians and exchanging other

sorts of "questionable" formalities. According to Lish, even cops go around with video cameras to record the naked exploits.

The festival is usually heavily populated with college students. "There are lots of college students who show up every year," Barrett says. "They come from all over the country to have fun." According to Lish, an unofficial Notre Dame reunion takes place every night at midnight at the back of Pat O'Brien's Bar. The popular tavern is known for its piano music and the famous New Orleans drink, "The Hurricane."

As tempting as taking a road trip to Mardi Gras may seem, keep in mind that at this point of the year, any plans to head down to New Orleans may remain just that. Fat Tuesday is only a few days away, and the Carnival is already underway. Good luck to those hoping to get a hotel room within a 20-mile radius of Bourbon Street. But take heart: there's always next year, and, unless there's a Second Coming, there'll always be another Mardi Gras.



IF IT LOOKS LIKE A DUCK. ... and acts like a drunk, it must be Mardi Gras.

as Rex and Bacchus.

Lundi Gras: French term meaning "Fat Monday." This is the day before Mardi Gras.

Mardi Gras Indians: Marching groups of African-American men dressed to represent Native Americans. They are known for their elaborately feathered and colorful costumes.

Throws: Trinkets thrown from parade floats including beads, cups and doubloons. These are hot commodities for festivalgoers.

Zulu: The first and most popular African-American parade organization. Founded in 1909 due to blacks' exclusion from the regular Carnival activities.

— Aaron J. Nolan

WHERE'S THE BOEUF?

f you're going to be among the thousands attending Mardi Gras this year and aren't used to the local lingo, you might want to brush up on your N'awlinsspeak before braving the crowds at this year's festivities. Here's a short glossary of Mardi Gras terms to help you out:

Ash Wednesday: The day after Mardi Gras. Also known as the first day of the Lent. If you see people walking around with ashen crosses on their foreheads, it's a sign to stop drinking.

Boeuf: French for "beef" or "cow." A large bull figure that represents the ancient symbol of the last meal before the Lenten season of fasting. A papier mache is a common feature of some parades.

Carnival: The festival season leading up to Mardi Gras. Begins Jan. 6 (12th Night) and lasts through midnight of Mardi Gras.

Classes: Those pesky things that college students have to skip in order to attend Mardi Gras.

Captain: The head of a Carnival organization. Responsibilities include riding in the place of honor at the organization's court parade. It is a position which can be held for many years, unlike other members of the court.

Court: The king, queen, maids, dukes and other mock royalty of a Carnival organization or krewe.

Drunk: The condition of most people who attend the Mardi Gras festivities.

Flambeaux: Long kerosene torches carried in nighttime parades. The carriers of flambeaux usually engage in uninhibited prancing and twirling.

King Cake: A sweet cake baked in a ring that is a common treat around Carnival time. A plastic doll is baked inside, and when the cake is split among friends, the person who finds the doll in his share of cake must buy the next one.

Krewe: The clubs participating in Carnival that organize masquerade balls and many parades. Not to be confused with some of the parading organizations such

◆ MEMOS FROM THE OVAL OFFICE

An Affair to Remember

Is our president as crooked as Paula Jones claims he is?
Out of Bounds takes a cinematic approach to Clinton's sex scandal

f you haven't noticed over the past couple weeks, Bill Clinton has been in deep doo-doo. The alleged object of his affections this time: former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. While Lewinsky-gate itself may be serious business, OOB sees definite parallels between the current presidential scandal and some of Hollywood's most cherished movies. OOB wanted to see what would happen when cinematic masterpieces and presidential scandal collided. Here are a few possibilities:

Coldfinger. In this movie, Clinton replaces the original Goldfinger star, Sean Connery, as British secret agent 007. Instead of dodging bowler hats thrown by Japanese manservants, Clinton must dodge allegations of accepting contributions from Japanese businessmen. The evil Auric Goldfinger (gloriously portrayed by Kenneth Starr) initiates Operation Grand Slam. Clinton misinterprets the name and chases after a gorgeous Russian villain (played by Lewinsky) shouting such suave Bond sayings as, "Hey, I bet you never knew Arkansas had a panhandle" and "How about a tour of the Washington Monument?" Pierce Brosnan, eat your heart out.

Bubba Goes to Tramp (based on the Jim Varney classic, Ernest Goes to Camp). Our shameless president confidently, and appropriately, fills Varney's shoes as everyone's favorite clueless hick, Ernest P. Worrel. This time, Ernest gets himself into a bind when he sleeps with Camp Kirkakee's secretary, Monica Lewinsky.

In order to clear his name, Ernest enlists the help of his old buddy, Vern — Vernon Jordan, that is. "If you could just shut this girl's mouth for me, I'd shor'nuff appreciate it, Vern. Give her a job at Revlon, or something, knowwhuddimean?"

Meanwhile, when a mining company wants to tear down the camp in order to dig up some rare minerals, who comes to the rescue? Why Al "Granola" Gore, of course. When Gore attacks the mining company president with a chainsaw saying, "This is for my friend, the North American Blue Spruce," you'll think twice about tampering with Mother Earth.

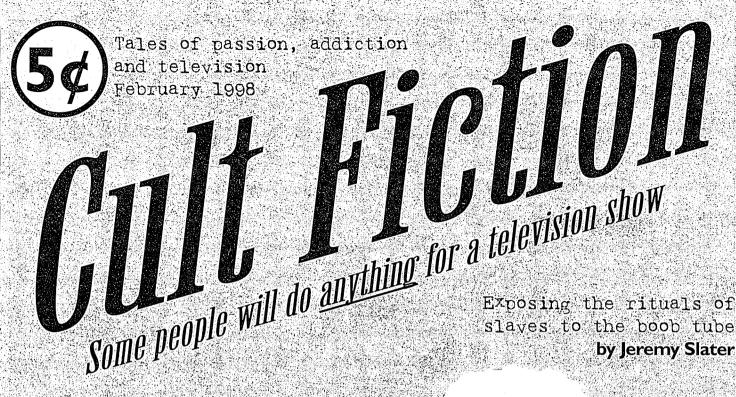
All the President's Women. It's a wild take on the 1976 classic All the President's Men, in which Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman play Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the Washington Post reporters whose investigations into Watergate eventually led to the resignation of Richard Nixon. In the OOB version, Wolf Blitzer and Sam Donaldson join forces to bring the Clinton administration to its knees, while earning sky-high ratings for their news programs. The source of their investigation, just like in the original, is Deep Throat, but this time the role is played by Linda Tripp, former Lewinsky confidante and resident tattle-tale. Deep Throat, jealous that she was the only woman in the District of Columbia not to be seduced by the president, blows Clinton's cover by blabbing all over the networks. And they say revenge is a lost

It's no coincidence that Casablanca means "white house." The script of the famous Michael Curtiz film appears to be a foreshadowing of all the hijinks of the Clinton administration. A dead ringer for Humphrey Bogart, President Clinton plays Rick Blaine, an exiled American freedomfighter stuck running a nightclub in the Moroccan city of Casablanca. When his ex-flame Ilsa (a fresh-faced Lewinsky) happens upon his club, it stirs up old emotions for the chubby hair-queen — emotions he must contain, because the weasely Captain Renault (Starr) has his eye on the couple. In the final scene, when Clinton sees Lewinsky off at the airport and says, "We'll always have D.C. Here's looking at you, kid," jutting the knuckle of his index finger forward for added emphasis, there's not a dry eye in the house.

by Aaron J. Nolan



DUIE BOUNDS



icture this:it's 8 p.m. and you're standing in a dorm hallway. Normally, the hall is bustling with activity: students coming in and out of rooms, people yelling,

music playing. But at that moment, all of the doors are closed and the hallway is practically silent. Then you hear a burst of laughter coming from behind one of the closed doors, or maybe somebody yells, "What, are you crazy? He loves you, stupid. Take him back!"

What's going on? Chances are. you've stumbled into the dorm while a favorite TV program is airing. Is it Must-See-Thursday? Simpsons Sunday? Is Judge Judy about to deliver the

verdict? If so, it's a safe bet that a television is playing behind every one of those closed doors.

Each dorm on campus has its share of "cultists" — viewers who are obsessed fans

television set when their sacred program is on. God help the poor kid watching a sport-

of their favorite show. Whatever the cost, these fans won't be kept away from the

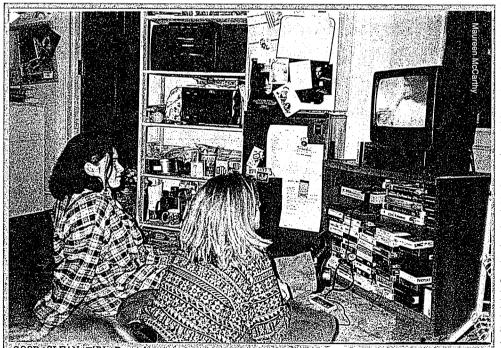
started watching the drama only because his girlfriend made him. He soon became hooked. He feels that Party of Five is a strong show for three reasons: "It has beautiful women, excel-

lent plots, and beautiful women," he says.

Not everyone watches the show for its visual appeal. Some people, like senior Thuy Kolik, have been loyal fans of Party of Five since the show's humble roots as a Nielsen punching bag with a smallbut-tenacious fan base. "I used to like the show because I thought it was interesting plot-wise," Kolik says. "Now I like it because it's sad and is a great way to put off school work." Kolik has tuned in to Party of Five weekly since the show's pilot

episode. "The main reason I watch is because I have been since the very beginning and the storylines can really suck you in," Kolik says.

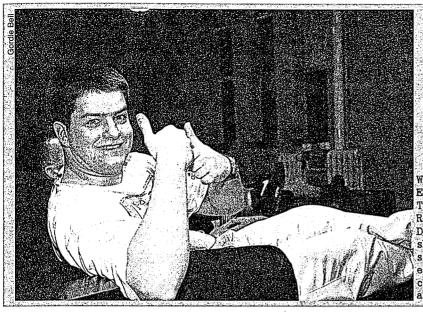
Since it usually follows the Wednesday



GOOD CLEAN FUN. Daytime scaps are part of many women's schedules

ing event when Friends time rolls around; he's about to get crushed like Ross after the breakup.

Freshman Jon Troy has been a faithful Party of Five fanatic for several years. He



WHERE'S
EBERT?
TV fiend
Rob
Desautels
shows the
sideeffects of
cult TV
addiction.

night weep-fest, Beverly Hills 90210 hooks Party of Five fans, too. Both are popular campus shows. Freshman Brian Skorney has watched 90210 religiously ever since the show debuted eight years ago, back when the characters were all still in high school and Shannen Doherty's nickname rhymed with witch. "The rampant drug use during the college years and late high school years provided for some great entertainment on a weekly basis," Skorney says.

Skorney's favorite episode of 90210 was the show where Dylan got married to the mob boss's daughter. "The mob guy accidentally had someone kill his own daughter instead of Dylan. It was absolutely monumental as the last episode that had Dylan in it."

The show's fans are just as addicted to 90210 as the characters are to cocaine. "It's

like heroin,"
Skorney says.
"The first time
you see it you
wonder why
you would
waste your
time doing
something so
stupid. Pretty
soon you're

hooked, even though after every episode you say it's the last."

For fans of more serious dramas, they don't get more powerful than the Emmyaward winning cops-and-lawyers show Law & Order. Senior John Vadaparampil has been a weekly watcher since his junior year of high school when a friend tuned him into the show. "I watch it religiously every week, even if I have a test the next day,"

Vadaparampil says. "It's the number one priority in my life."

As far as comedies go, *The Simpsons* is always on people's list of favorites. Freshman Dan Duffy has been a devoted fan of the cartoon family ever since they first appeared on *The Tracy Ullman Show*, nearly a decade ago. His favorite aspect of the show is the buffoonish Homer, who provides both side-splitting slapstick and remarkably witty sayings. "I love the sarcasm in *The Simpsons*," Duffy says. "My favorite quote was when Homer said, 'Ah, alcohol ... the cause and solution to all of life's problems!" No wonder the show is a favorite on campus.

Daytime soaps are also wildly popular among Notre Dame students. The most popular of the bunch is easily *Days of Our Lives*, but *Guiding Light* and *Sunset Beach* also

more often." Though she is quick to point out their faults, Becker is just as likely to defend the soap's seemingly shoddy appearance. "Sure, the acting is bad and the plots are really corny, but that's just part of the screwball charm," she says. "I would advise everybody out there to watch one or two episodes of *Days* and see if you don't get hooked on it."

And be honest, how many people out there are devout viewers of Judge Judy? Don't be shy — it can happen to anybody. There is something hypnotic about the way her defendants get into more and more trouble with our favorite Judge by rambling on senselessly after she tells them to be quiet. Who doesn't get a tiny shiver of joy when Judy rips into one of the defendants? One would think they'd be smart enough to just shut their mouths. "I'm completely addicted to Judge Judy," junior Julie Dwyer says. "At first I only turned on the television to keep myself company, just in the background. Now you can't drag me away from the tube when my show is on! I love Judy's sense of humor; the way she makes the defendants look like idiots. I think the show is hilarious."

Must-See TV, with its triple-threat of Seinfeld, Friends and ER remains a must-see favorite in many dorm sections. Senior Matthew Phelan has been a fan of ER since day one. Although he started watching the show because he had nothing better to do, he soon became hooked. And if there is anyone left in America who hadn't seen an episode of ER, Phelan won't hesitate to tell them about it. "It's almost as stimulating as Melrose Place," he says.

Speaking of stimulation, Thursday is also anight of Must-See-TV for freshman Brad Mohnke, a faithful Friends watcher. "It deals with real life is-

sues in an unbelievable way, which I find humorous," he says.

The next time you're bored with your organic chemistry problem set or tired of reading A Long Day's Journey Into Night, find the room in your section where everyone hangs out, see what's playing and enjoy the bliss of complete liberation from responsibility. "Hey, it beats doing homework," Troy says.

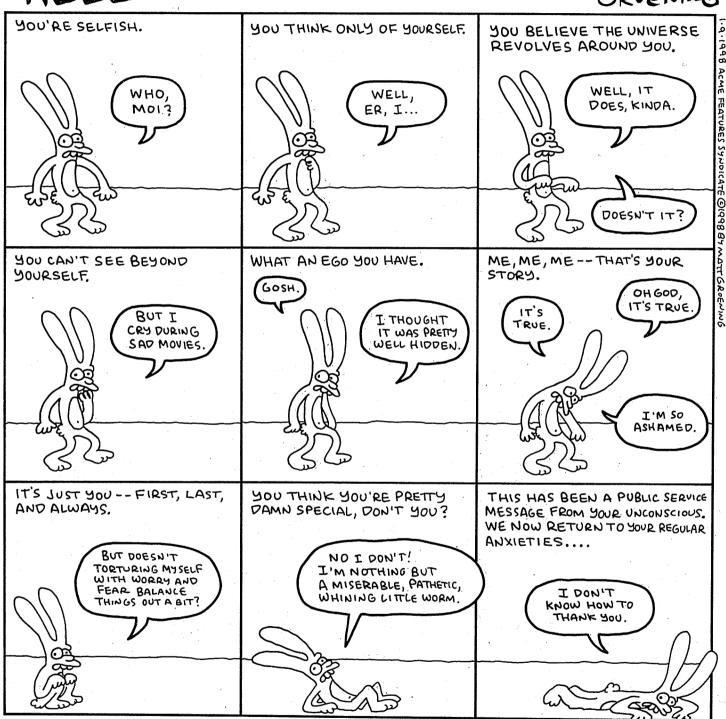
It's like heroin. The first time you see it, you wonder why you would waste your time doing something so stupid. Pretty soon you're hooked.

boast devoted viewers. Some students reportedly organize their class schedule around *Days*, leaving plenty of time in between classes in order to catch their soap.

Sophomore Casey Becker has been a *Days* fan for five years. "I know that soaps are stupid, but they're really addictive," she says. "I didn't think that I was going to become a fan when I saw *Days* the first time, but pretty soon I started to watch it more and

LIFEIN

©1998 B9 MAH GROENING





BY PATRICK DOWNES

istressed, depressed, bored, the young man bounced a ball against his dorm window. Two words, a simple sentence, repeated over and over in his tired mind. February sucks. February sucks. February sucks. February sucks. February malady, was victimizing the helpless freshman.

And this year the despair was deeper. His great alcoholic kiddieland was no more. Finis.

The young man wandered, sober and imprisoned, down his hallway. The walls, painted an institutional shade of white, were closing in on him. Nothing appeared before him but a row of locked doors and, in the distance, a small object.

A Godsend! An object! Something to break the maddening continuity! The young man sprinted and greedily reached for the object. He huddled in the corner with his new possession and examined its every detail. It was a lamp, he was sure. But it was unlike any lamp he'd seen before. It was shaped like an oblong teapot and had a smudge on the spout.

A strange idea struck the young man. He would clean the lamp! Yes he would. He retreated to the too-familiar surroundings of his room and took his tarnish remover from underneath his sink (doesn't everyone have some?). The young man grabbed an old pair of underwear, applied the solution to his rag and scrubbed. By God, he would clean that lamp!

But then something unexpected happened. A genie materialized in his room and stepped on his PlayStation. But the young man was too shocked to worry about his PlayStation—even though it cost a pretty penny. There was a freakin' genie in his room!

The genie, with his purple M.C. Hammer pants ruffling and his pecs rippling, crossed his arms and stood silently. The freshman examined the towering genie for several minutes and finally broke the silence.

"Who are you?" he asked, predictably.

"I am Balthazar ben Akbar ben Benjamin ben Billkirk al bar," answered the genie. "But you can call me Steve."

"Well, OK, Steve. But, what in tarnation are you doing on my PlayStation?" asked the young man.

"I have come to provide you with the answer to your woes," said the genie.

"Woohoo!" cried the young man. "I can finally wave away my woes! When do I get to make my three wishes?"

"Well," said Steve, "unfortunately, I haven't paid my dues to the wish-granters' union, so you'll have to settle for the wisdom I can dispense."

The young man replied that any wisdom the genie could share would be welcome, but secretly he damned Jimmy ben Hoffa and the rest of the wish-granters' union. "Whadya got?" asked the young man.

"I am here to offer you four Sacred Activities that will become entertainment staples for all under-21s stuck in the winter doldrums at Notre Dame," said the genie. "First of all, Thou Shalt Attend Basketball Games."

"But how is a basketball game more fun than an evening of debauchery at a nowdefunct underage bar, O great Steve?" questioned the young man.

"It's simple, my young friend," responded Steve. "Alcohol is a depressant and so is your basketball team's record. Who needs Bridget's when you can experience a more natural angst in the Joyce Center?"

"Truly, you are wise," said the young

man. "And what is the second Sacred Activity?"

"Since Bridget's demise, I feel that there is an unfortunate absence of moral depravity on this campus," said the genie. "Therefore, Thou Shalt Browse For Porn On The Internet. If you can't get your fill of immorality from a bottle, get it from your mouse."

"Ahh, surely a wise prescription, O great Steve."

"Thirdly, Thou Shalt Watch TV."

"That seems pretty obvious, O great Steve," said the young man sarcastically.

"Watch your tone with me, sonny," replied Steve. "TV mimics alcohol in its detrimental physical effects. More than one person has had their stomach pumped after watching an episode of *Xena: Warrior Princess*. So thou shalt shut up and watch TV."

"Yes, O great Steve."

"And finally, If Thou Insisteth On Drinking, Thou Shalt Play Old."

"How shalt we do this, O great Steve?"

"Simple, young one. Dye your hair white, strap on some Depends and a hospital robe, grab a walker and go to the nearest carousing establishing. Thou art bound to fool the most intelligent of bouncers."

"Thou art crafty as well as wise, O great Steve."

"Don't I know it."

Just then there came a knock on the door and the genie vanished in a glittery cloud of dust. The young man's neighbor came into the room and asked, "Dude, do you want to check out the hoops tonight? Hey man, what happened to your PlayStation?"

The young man stood silently for a moment, glancing around the room. After collecting his thoughts, he replied, "Sure, I'll go to the game. I just have to catch this episode of *The Pauly Shore Show*."

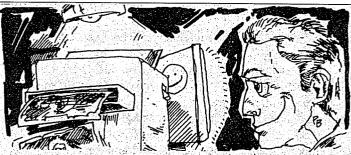
Chelsea Gets Social

The country's most famous college student, Chelsea Clinton, reportedly had a fairly normal first term at Stanford University despite constant surveillance by the Secret Service and being singled out by her fellow students. A correspondent for OOC stated that Chelsea is often seen at a variety of campus events including fraternity parties where she is routinely kicked in the head by crowd surfers. Many students wonder how Chelsea can fully experience college life, including dating, while being constantly watched, but reports coming out of Stanford say that Chelsea is having more success of late after getting hints from her father on sneaking dates past the Secret Service.



Study For Nothing

The University of Akron recently paid \$992,000 to settle four lawsuits filed by 28 graduates who claimed the university had failed in its promise to accredit the program they were enrolled in. The graduates, after receiving their surgeon's assistant program degrees, sued UA in 1996 when the program was dropped for the 1996-97 school year. The graduates charged that the lack of accreditation made their degrees less valuable, thereby making them surgical assistants whose jobs would pay less and carry less clout. Akron officials declined OOC an interview to comment on the settlement, but a statement released by the university called the dispute "the result of a misunderstanding over state professional-licensing requirements." The statement concluded that the university meant no harm and did no wrong except for sucking large amounts of money from students and giving them worthless diplomas for their efforts.



Technology Aids Students

Three university students in North Carolina are being investigated by the Secret Service after they were arrested and charged with passing counterfeit money at a fast-food restaurant and several other businesses. Police in Greenville, N.C., arrested a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and two East Carolina juniors. Officers seized 13 counterfeit \$20 bills from the students and turned the bills over to the Secret Service. Investigators said the students used their own computers in their dorm rooms to make the bills. Apparently these students have not progressed to the level of Notre Dame students, as we have used computer technology for years to make dazzling fake IDs that could fool any Bridget's (R.I.P.) bouncer.

McDonald at the Mellon

Saturday Night Live star Norm McDonald recently made a speaking appearance at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh where he spoke on every college student's three favorite subjects: drugs, alcohol and sex. A university spokesperson stated that inviting McDonald to speak was just one of many attempts to spice up the boring campus atmosphere at CMU. McDonald was led on a tour of the campus where he took in numerous sights, including the newly "expanded" football stadium (now able to accommodate a whopping 1,200 spectators) and the campus bookstore, where he refused to buy anything with Carnegie Mellon printed on it.

An unconfirmed source reported that McDonald appeared completely plastered when he took the podium but that he sobered up over the course of his speech. When asked about his reasons for being intoxicated, McDonald replied in vintage Weekend Update fashion, "Well, after the Steelers got knocked from the playoffs, there's nothing else to do in this city but get drunk."

Recruits Race to U of M

Many college football fans believe the season ends once the bowl games are over and the final poll comes out, but it is just the beginning for the hundreds of football coaches trying to recruit the best high school stars. Lloyd Carr, after coaching the University of Michigan to a national championship, had further reason to celebrate as sports analysts named the Wolverines the unofficial winner of this year's recruiting wars. Michigan even stole a prospect from the grasp of the Fighting Irish: David Terrell, a speedy wideout from Richmond, Va., who had given Notre Dame a verbal commitment. OOC was not able to contact Terrell and inquire as to the reasons for his change of heart. A source from the Michigan coaching staff, however, explained that it was actually an easy decision for Terrell, saying, "Coach Carr simply laid down the law that David would be required to attend all his classes but that the new BMW should help him get there on time."

by Eric Yuva

ithe editor has chosen morto anything this issue. His explanation. ils rebuirty, But here's a random fact to enterem your

One of the reasons maniformaris illega today is ibeenise cotton growers in the 30s lobbied asams chemp farmers they saw it as competition. Anyone want to go smoke a colton

EDITOR'S CHOIC

- •Sophomore Literary Festival: Readings by Harlan Ellison, 8:00 PM, Washington Hall
- Kiss the Girls, 10:30 PM, Cushing

THURSDAY

- ·BACF Blak Koffee House, an evening of literary works, 7:00 PM, LaFortune
- •Folk dancing, 7:15 PM, Saint Mary's
- Eve's Bayou, 7:30 & 9:45 PM, Snite
- Higher Learning, 7:30 PM, Little Theatre, Moreau Center, Saint Mary's
- Kiss the Girls, 8:00 & 10:30 PM, Cushing

FRIDAY

- Concert: ND Jazz Band, 2:30 PM, Band Building
- Eve's Bayou, 7:30 & 9:45 PM, Snite
- Kiss the Girls, 8:00 & 10:30 PM, Cushing

SATURDAY

- Basketball: ND men vs. Miami, Noon, Joyce Center.
- Le Colonel Chabert, 2:00, Snite

SUNDAY

•Henry James' Memories of Old, New York; Hand/Written; The Wormwood Star; Fragment of Seeking, 7:00 PM, Snite

MONDAY

- Seminar: "Democracy Without Accountability: The Paradox of Institutional Reform in Russia," Martha Merritt, 12:30 PM, C-103 Hesburgh Center for International Studies
- •Basketball: ND women vs. Rutgers, 7:00 PM, Joyce Center-
- Valley of the Dolls, 7:00 PM, Snite

TUESDAY

- •Ash Wednesday
- Basketball: ND men vs. Georgetown, 9:00
- •African Film Series: Malcom X (2nd half), 7:00 PM, 155 Debartolo
- Lecture: "Reaffirming the Affirmative Action Debate," Lani Guinier, 7:00 PM Hesburgh Auditorium

WEDNESDAY

NOW SHOWING FEBRUARY 19-25

University Park West

¢ 277-7336

All Shows in Stereo

Titanic (DTS)

2:00 7:30

The Wedding Singer

2:30 5:00 7:15 9:30

The Apostle

2:15 5:30 9:00

University Park East

c 277-7336

All Shows in Stereo

Senseless

1:45 4:00 7:20 9:30 11:30

Sphere

1:15 4:15 7:10 10:00

Titanic (DTS)

10:30 2:30 6:45 10:45

Titanic*

1:00 5:00 9:00

Good Will Hunting*

1:30 4:15 7:00 9:45

Replacement Killers

4:30 7:10 9:15 11:20

Kundun

1:15

Sneak Preview of KRIPPENDORF'S TRIBE Sunday, February 21 at 7:30 PM

(replaces 7:00 showing of Good Will Hunting) Shows after 10:00 PM shown Fri & Sat only

* Digital Sound

Movies 10

c 254-9685

All Shows in Stereo

Palmetto*

1:10 4:00 7:10 9:50

Ulee's Gold

1:25 4:10 7:40 10:25

L.A. Confidential

1:15 4:05 7:00 10:00

Blues Brothers 2000* 1:40 4:30 7:30 10:20

Wag the Dog

Desperate Measures 12:55 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:10 1:00 3:25 5:50 8:15 10:35

Deep Rising

12:45 3:00 5:15 7:35 10:05

Amistad

12:40 3:45 7:05 10:15

Mrs. Brown

1:20 3:55

The Wings of the Dove 7:15 9:40

Spice World

1:10 3:20

Boogie Nights

7:05 10:05

* DTS Sound

Self-Definition

by Jennifer Johnson

he sun beat down on top of my head with so much heat, I felt the part in my hair. I sat at an outdoor cafe and the light blinded me every once in a while as it glinted off the passing traffic. On the table lay a map and a schedule. I glanced at them as if they held the key to Shangri-la. But it was just a pretense for listening ... to the drone of the traffic in the background, to nonchalant talk of Nobels and Austria in the foreground. I swore that was the best iced coffee I'd ever tasted. And I was alone.

But not anymore.

This happened in Boston the summer before my senior year of high school. I had been chosen to participate in a program where I took two college-level classes and in return, got to see what college life was supposed to be like. College seemed like the deep end of a pool, and I had been thrown into it. No one helped me — they just waited to see if I could swim.

There were no counselors, no single-sex dorms, no parietals and there was no First Year of Studies. Everyone was competitive and seemed smarter than me. They wrote articles for Seventeen or programmed for National Public Radio. Some had internships at the Centers for Disease Control. They differed from each other in every way imaginable. One roommate's idea of a good time was hiking through mountains in Greece, and the other's was going to raves in Long Beach. I couldn't fit in, not because I'm some sort of misanthrope, but because there was no base group into which I could assimilate. Everyone was so completely different, there was no chance to conform. For the first time in my life, I had no choice but to be myself.

This presented a problem, for I found, much to my surprise, that many of the essential components that I thought comprised me weren't essential at all. Hanging around the same people in high school had determined the way I dressed, the music I listened to, and my attitudes toward others. But while I was in Boston, I became me. It was great. I discovered sides of myself that I never knew existed. I started doing the things I wanted to do. I went places alone if no one else wanted to go, and I met people I never would have considered talking to before. It was one of the best times of my life.

Now I've been at Notre Dame two years. The longer I stay here, the harder I find it to stay myself. There are 8,000 other Notre Dame students out there, with (supposedly) the same background and the same goals as I have. And I've found that if everyone already seems a lot like you, it's hard not to conform. J. Crew is beginning to seem like an attractive (although somewhat expensive) resource for clothes. And worse yet, the music on 92.9 seems to be getting better and better. What is happening to me?

We all like to think we're individuals, but how do you know who you are if you go out with the same people every weekend, or if you always go to the same places? How do you know you're not just part of the amorphous mass of those around you? A little Dave Matthews Band here, a little plaid-shirt-and-khakis there, all stuck together with some beer and plenty of Papa John's. This is not necessarily such a bad thing. Papa John's is pretty good, and khakis go with everything. But how do we know where our surroundings end and we begin?

It scares me to think that I'm blending in. The place where you live has a great effect on what type of person you become — not simply in surface characteristics, such as music and clothing, but in deeper ways as well. Music and clothes are outward reflections of who we are, and superficial changes are signs of changes within. Have you ever heard the saying, "If you smile enough, eventually you will feel better"? In the same way, if all I listen to is the sugary pop on the radio and all I wear has been shipped directly from Prep Central, eventually I will become a prep who listens to sugary pop. It's easy to become so comfortable in a setting that we end up not just comfortable, but complacent — and start to reflect our surroundings, not ourselves.

So this semester, do something that reflects you. Do something that stretches your conception of yourself. Buy the CD that your roommate will hate, but you love. Learn how to play the sport you always thought was so cool, but never seemed to have time for. We shouldn't be shy in this pursuit, for this is the pursuit of life. What may look like the more difficult path may be the one that opens a side of ourselves we never knew we had. Being a Domer is great, but we must also be true to ourselves.

Jennifer Johnson is a sophomore from Crown Point, Ind. As a committee member for the Sophomore Literary Festival, she was last seen carousing with filmmakers and poets.

Fried Rice

	<u>Pint</u>	<u>Qt</u>
Vegetable Fried Rice	3.29	5.29
Chicken Fried Rice	3.79	5.79
Shrimp Fried Rice	3.99	5.99
Beef Fried Rice	3.99	5.99
Combination Fried Rice	5.49	7.49
Chicken~Shrimp-Vege	table	
*Szechuan Fried Rice	5.49	7.49

Chicken~Shrimp~Vegetable

Soup

Hot and Sour Soup	1.49
Wonton Soup	2.49
Egg Drop Soup	0.99

Customer's Choices

Customer's Choi	Ces
*Chicken in Hot Garlic Sauce	5.99
*Kung Pao Chicken	5.99
Cashew Chicken	5.99
Almond Chicken	5.99
Curry Chicken	5.99
Chicken Chop Suey	5.99
Sweet & Sour Chicken	5.99
Chicken with Broccoli	6.49
Fresh Mushroom Chicken	6.49
Chicken with Zucchini	6.49
Chicken with Peapods	7.49
Orange-Flavored Chicken	7.99
Empress Chicken	7.99
Sesame Chicken	7.99
*General Tso's Chicken	7.99
*Hunan Beef	6.99
Mongolian Beef	6.99
Pepper Steak	6.99
Fresh Mushroom Beef	6.99
Beef Chop Suey	6.99
Beef with Broccoli	7.49
Beef with Peapods	7.49
Orange-Flavored Beef	7.99
Beef in Oyster Sauce	7.99

Fat Free Dishes

Vegetable Deluxe Stir-Fry Broccoli	5.49
in Brown Sauce	5.69
Steamed Broccoli	4.99
Steamed Cauliflower	4.99
Steamed String Beans	5.25
Steamed Cabbage	3.99

House Specials

Noodles with Sauce	<u>Pint</u>	Qt.
Vegetable Sauteed Noodles	3.69	5.69
Chicken Sauteed Noodles	3.99	5.99
Beef Sauteed Noodles	4.69	6.69
Shrimp Sauteed Noodles	4.69	6.69
Combination Sauteed Noodles		
Chicken~Shrimp~Veg	5.79	7.79
*Szechuan Sauteed Noodles	5.79	7.79
Chicken~Shrimp~Veg		

Appetizers

Egg Roll	0.99
Cream Cheese Wonton (6)	2.29
Pot Stickers (6)	2.49

Luncheon Specials

11:00 am to 2:30 pm [Served with Egg Roll, Soup of the Day, Cookies]

1. Sauteed Noodles	3.99
[Choice of Vegetable, Chicken, Be	ef or Shi
2. Fried Rice	3.99
Choice of Vegetable, Chicken, Bee	f or Shri
3. Vegetable Deluxe	4.75 ₹
4. Steamed Broccoli w/sauce	4.75
5. Chicken in Hot Garlice Sauce	4.75
6. *Kung Pao Chicken	4.75
7. Cashew Chicken	4.75
8. Sesame Chicken	5.25
9. General Tso's Chicken	5.25
10. Sweet & Sour Chicken	4.75

* Hot and Spicy *



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Mon-Sun

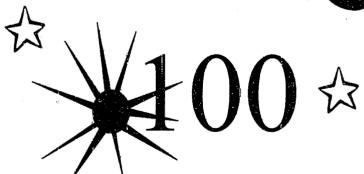
5:00 to Midnight 271-0125



(\$8 minimum order)

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