

G. LOVE SET TO HIT CAMPUS

UNCOVERING NOTRE DAME'S NETWORK OF STEAM TUNNELS

SCHOLastic

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

VOL 142

11

22 MAR 2001



MONEY TO BURN

WITH BILLIONS COMING IN,
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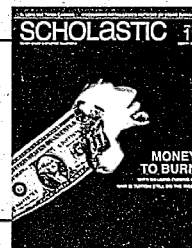
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Design by Mike Griffin
Photo by Jim Pastore
and Mike Griffin



Brother, Can You Spare a Grand?

from the editor

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*Disce Quasi Semper Victurus
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

Well, it's official: I'm a law-school applicant and, in all likelihood, a future attorney of America. It was a daunting process — personal statements, letters of recommendation, the mysterious Law School Data Assembly Service. But the most intimidating facet of law school? The price tag.

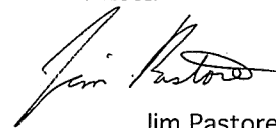
Incredibly, the bill for spending a year at some schools can approach the stratospheric sum of \$47,000. Which leads me to wonder: Just where is all that tuition money going? At Notre Dame, the question seems to be a perennial concern of students and, perhaps even more so, the parents who pay the bills. It's clear from the rumors and legends surrounding Notre Dame's own finances that most undergraduates — and a good number of parents — are befuddled by the university's constant need for cash. With a boom year for the endowment and the extraordinary success of the Generations fund-raising campaign, many are scratching their heads about the latest tuition increase. *Scholastic*'s Sarah Childress set out to untangle the issue and figure out why tuition is on the rise. Her report is on page 14.

End of the Road

This is it — my last issue as editor in chief of *Scholastic*. It's been an absolutely fantastic year. When I reflect on my time at Notre Dame, I know that the hours spent working on *Scholastic* will be some of my most cherished; not because of the magazine, but because of the people I've had the privilege to work with. It's an amazing feeling to look up from editing a story and to see a group of people laboring through the early morning hours, to the detriment of health and grades, in a united effort to create something for this university. It's amazing to see in front of you people for whom you have great admiration and respect. And, after it's all done, it's amazing when your classmates approach you in the dining halls and the dorms and the classroom buildings to say, "I liked it" or "Good job."

So I want to close my last letter as editor in chief by thanking the readers and the staff. I would be remiss if I did not also thank Bob Franken for all of his guidance and advice, and Mary Edgington for her support. Finally, I want to extend my best wishes to the new editor in chief, Mike Griffin. With a young, talented and dedicated staff, Mike will no doubt lead *Scholastic* to bigger and better accomplishments during the next year. I only hope that the ties formed in the basement of a dining hall will not disappear with the passing of time.

And now, if you'll excuse me, I've got to get to law school.


Jim Pastore
Editor in Chief

Correction: In our February 22, 2001, issue, the CD review carried an incorrect byline. Tim Bradley authored the piece. *Scholastic* regrets the error.

✓ Griffin Elected 2001-2002 Editor in Chief

The Terror of Tenaflly (N.J.), Michael P. Griffin, has won unanimous approval from the *Scholastic* editorial board and will become the magazine's next editor in chief. New Jersey-born and -bred, "Griff," as he is more commonly known in the office, majors in biochemistry and has worked on *Scholastic* since his first semester at Notre Dame.

"Though I loved seeing my work in print, I was very intrigued by the crazy atmosphere of the office," Griff recalls of his decision to join the staff. "It seemed that the work, while sometimes stressful, was a heck of a lot of fun." Signing on as a designer, Griff's talent and personality moved him quickly through the ranks. Serving as design editor his sophomore year and associate editor during the past year, Griff is ready for the challenge of editor in chief.

"It will be a great honor to serve the rest

of the staff and the University of Notre Dame in this fashion," he says of the position. Griff sees the readers' needs as the guiding force behind the magazine. "I want to be sure that *Scholastic* addresses the concerns of the readers. ... mainly, the students of the University of Notre Dame." He hopes the strength of the incoming staff will help him accomplish this goal.

"I think this is one of the most well-rounded, most enthusiastic and most talented staffs to work for *Scholastic* ever," Griff emphasizes. Although he does not foresee any drastic changes for the magazine, Griff notes that he may amend the official title of the editor in chief. "I would ... like to knight myself, sort of like the student-body president who named himself king [in the 1970s]," he says. "I think I might become a 'Sir.'"

The iron reign of Sir Griff begins today. Look for his first issue on April 12. □



✓ Scholastic Seniors Set to Move On



◀◀ **Jim Pastore**, editor in chief, graduates with an English and computer applications double major. Jim is still stunned that this is over and wonders how he will fill up all the extra free time. He hopes that law school is even half as great as his undergraduate experience.

Katie Caspersen, news editor, is an English and computer applications double major from Rochester, Minn. She has no plans yet for next year but hopes to find luck at the Arts and Letters Career Fair next week.

>>>



◀◀ **Carol Wolf**, graphic arts editor, graduates as a BFA in industrial design, with a minor in Italian. Next year, Carol will pursue graduate studies abroad in Milan, Italy at the Domus Academy to further her design skills and also eat lots of delicious pasta — what more could one want? No more dining-hall ziti!

Tina Zurcher, former campus life editor, graduated in January and will start law school in the fall. She loves to tell people, "I know the Gipp," and then she smiles sweetly — it's a great ice-breaker.

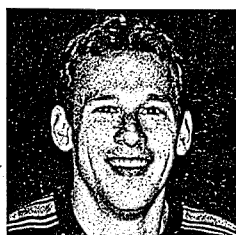
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◀◀ **Morgan Anderson**, marketing manager, is graduating with a degree in economics and hopes to travel for a bit before starting work on the "real world."

Kara Zuaro, entertainment editor, is an English and film major with plans to return home to New York upon graduation to start work or, at least, to start workin' in NYC. Kara would like to thank everyone who not only humored her and went along with her journalistic shenanigans but who also became friends in the process.

>>>



◀◀ **Christopher Hamilton**, sports editor emeritus, graduates with an English and finance double major. Chris will return back home to the San Francisco Bay Area, where he will work as a financial consultant with Deloitte & Touche and will work even harder at just being a dude.

Angela Polsinelli, distribution manager, somehow survived as a computer engineering major. After a long history of delivering pizzas and magazines, she is off to become a pilot in the United States Air Force.

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ndnotebook

cd review ten questions judgment calls news listening in domelights years ago

Ticket to Ride

The administrative shuttle will take you to D2 for free

Story by Matthew Ziegler
Art by Michael delaRosa

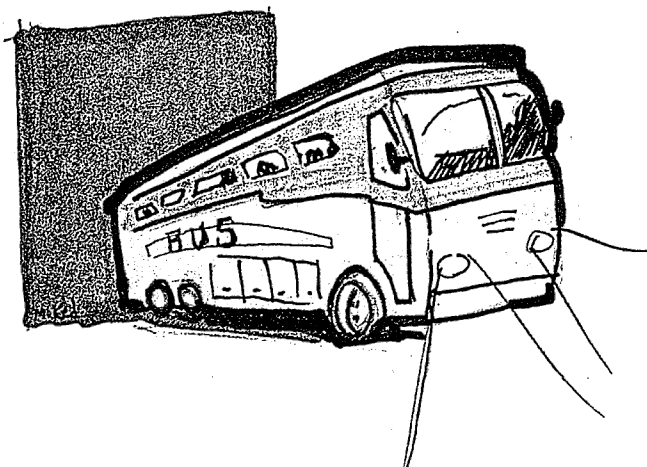
Next time your teeth are chattering and the wind is whipping in your face as you trudge out to D2000, take note of the United Limo bus whizzing by. That's the administrative shuttle, toting faculty and staff to and from their parking lots. It runs daily in three shifts of two hours apiece, stopping behind the Main Building, going by Stepan Center (servicing B16), then to the corner of Bulla and Juniper, and finally swinging down to Pasquerilla Center.

The administrative shuttle has been going since the early '90s, and has been used primarily by staff in the Main Building and Brownson Hall. But, says Chris Carlin of Administrative Services, anyone can ride the shuttle. That it services faculty and staff parking lots only indicates the intent behind it, but Carlin asserts that the bus will gladly pick up "anyone who's standing at the bus stop. We never put any

restrictions on it." Although no official restrictions exist, the bus services staff-oriented locations only.

Considering that the bus, contracted from Mishawaka-based Shoup Buses Inc., has a capacity of dozens more than are usually aboard, the question arises: Are our dollars being burned up in a puff of diesel fumes? Carlin assures that the shuttle is paid for by a "special transportation fund" that does not come out of student fees or tuition. Unfortunately, there is no shuttle that services student parking lots, but you can still make some use of

what is available. So if your feet are getting sore in your Army boots and you notice the administrative shuttle approaching, hop on and relax while it whisks you off to Pasquerilla Center. Don't worry — it's free, and there's plenty of room. □



Ten Questions

with a real live Texan governor

Michael Newhouse



>>

"Article I: God Bless Texas. The name of this organization is the Texas Club." So begins the Texas Club's constitution, one of Notre Dame's newest campus organizations. Although club founder Michael Newhouse may not initially scream "Texan" if you see him ambling on the quad (Where're the boots? Where's the hat?), Gov. Newhouse soon proved to Scholastic that he can talk the talk when it comes to his home state.

How many flag-carrying members of the club do you claim as Lone Stars?

There are about 65 dues-paying members and around 600 on our mailing list. Roughly one in every 15 students here is a Texan.

Define 'Texanism.'

It's impossible. It's ... everything that's good in the world. If you're not from Texas, you just can't understand. It's like, I flipped on *Survivor* one time and this guy brought as his one luxury item a huge — like 20-inch by 30-inch — Texas flag, and he said, "Every morning when I wake up, I thank God for two things: One, that I'm alive, and two, that I'm a Texan."

What, pray tell, do Texans have to be so thankful for?

It's like being an American, only better. It's the best of all worlds: The best music, the best food, friendliest people, prettiest women.

Aloha

That's Your Fire

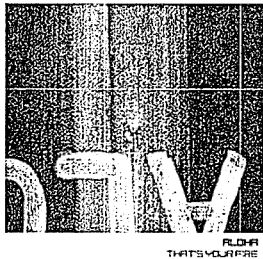
label: Polyvinyl

recent concert: Higher Grounds on March 17

Story by Kara Zuaro

if you've ever played the glockenspiel you'll groove to Aloha

You're going to want to stick around for this," I said to my newfound high-school friend, motioning to Aloha's Eric Koltnow as he unpacked his vibraphone. Higher Grounds, a coffee shop on Washington Street, was packed with kids smoking generic cigarettes. The all-ages crowd huddled close as Aloha began to play.



Aloha's most recent release, *That's Your Fire*, explodes with a staggering fusion of free-jazz and rock. Lead vocalist Tony Cavallario's lovesick lyrics complement the dreamy timbre of Koltnow's vibraphone, grounded by the solidity of Matthew Gengler's bass line and Cale Park's untiring percussion. Call it what you will — experimental or post-rock — Aloha's sound is even more savory in live performance. But Aloha doesn't leave room for applause. Between songs, the band

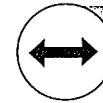
continues to play, its members turning away from the crowd and toward each other, improvising interludes that aren't duplicated on disc. During "One Hundred Stories," the foursome sent out a cacophony of shouts to the center of their circle, raucous and delicate, loose on the microphone's reins.

Some fans have debated whether Gengler's habit of playing with his back to the crowd was pretentious or unpolished. But after talking to him, I was pleasantly surprised. The band tours on weekends only because Parks is still in school at Bowling Green, Ohio, the site of Aloha's conception, and the rest have day jobs to uphold during the week — no pretension detected here.

The soft-spoken Koltnow apologized for his lack of things to say after the set. "Something happens to you psychologically after a show," he said. Judging by the number of high-school kids who lingered, silently smoking their cheap cigarettes and smiling, Koltnow said it all. □

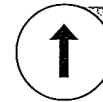
For more information on the band, check out <http://www.insomniaville.com/aloha/>.

judgmentcalls



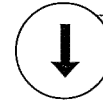
Spring Break

A week off. Too bad we need another week to recover from it.



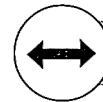
Penn State

Those Nittany Lions made sure Doherty didn't get farther than the team he abandoned last spring.



Construction near LaFortune

Afraid Hayes-Healy would re-open early, the administration rips up some sidewalks to further inconvenience us.



NCAA Tournament

Well, the women are still doing well



In 30 words or less, is President George W. Bush a true Texan or an outlander?

George W.? He's Ivy League-educated, butchers Spanish like it's his job ... I don't know. He makes an effort, but if you're a true Texan, you know he's not the real deal.

Are Texans secure with their position in the United States? Is there a chance of secession?

No, we're perfectly at peace with our 49 colonies.

What do Texans do at Texas Club gatherings?

Right now we're still just getting the club rolling, so we'll go to dinner, go bowling,

movies, etc.

Texas vs. Canada. Who would win?

Oh boy. I don't think Texas would bother because it'd be too cold, and Canada wouldn't be able to handle Texas because the food and the weather would be too hot. I'd say it'd be a draw ... unless oil was found up there, in which case we might have to annex it.

Why aren't you wearing a cowboy hat? Don't all Texans wear cowboy hats?

No, we don't all wear cowboy boots or hats, and if one more person on this campus tells me I don't talk like I'm from Texas, I'm going to slap them upside the head.

The constitution says that the club is open to "all who nourish in their hearts a deep love of the Lone Star." Let's be honest — how many non-Texans are actually in the club?

That's a fine, fine question. I actually have no idea. Once you're in the club, we assign you a hometown, so that doesn't become an issue, and we don't get into any class-stratification problems.

What's your prophetic vision for the club's future?

World domination. Actually, what we want to do is move Notre Dame to Texas. It'd cut down on the commute for us, and the school would jump from No. 19 to No. 1, no problem.

— Kristin Kramer



125 Years Ago Pay Up

The following were among the fees and requirements listed in an ad that appeared in the September 6, 1876 issue of *Notre Dame Scholastic*:

Matriculation fee: \$5.00

Board, tuition (languages, linear drawing, and vocal music included), bed and bedding, washing and mending of linens: \$150.00 per five-month session

Instrumental music: \$2.50

Telegraphy: \$10.00

Elocution — special course: \$5.00

Use of library (per session): \$1.00

Use of philosophical and chemical apparatus: \$5.00

Students who spend summer vacation at the university are charged an extra: \$40.00

Payments to be made invariably in advance.

Students received at any time, their session beginning with date of entrance.

Received at any time? I think a self-imposed extra week of spring break might be in order. ...

— *Cristin Fenzel*

LISTENING



"My professor is always talking about sex, which is kind of funny because she's not very attractive."

— *overheard student*



"That's enough. It's not a democracy here, and you can't haul me off."

— *government professor*



"I think I'll go home and drink."

— *Grab 'n' Go lady, when asked how her day was going*



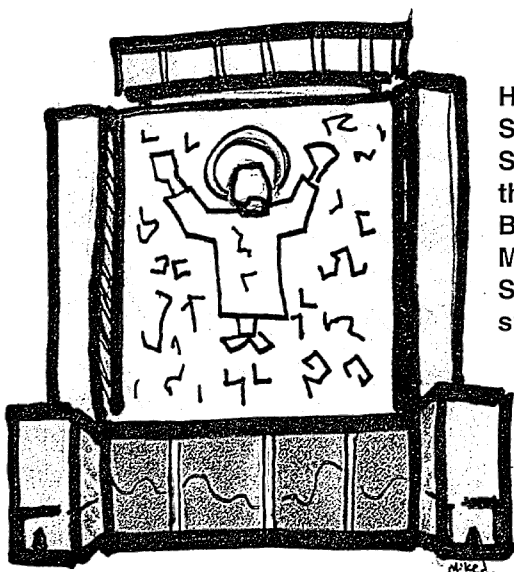
"The test sucked, but I did my job: I brought down the curve, I took a bullet for the rest of the class."

— *overheard student*



"You think they'd perforate these."

— *student, in reference to the pages of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit edition*



Height: 210 feet

Size of interior: 429,780 square feet

Separate pieces of granite used to create the "Word of Life" Mural: 6,700

Books: More than 2.5 million

Microfiche units: More than 2.6 million

Serial (journals, magazines, newspapers) subscriptions: 23,000

Oldest article in special collections: Cuneiform clay tablets from the Sumerian civilization, 2300-2100 B.C.

Oldest printed article in special collections: a leaf from the Gutenberg Bible, 1450-1455 B.C.

domelights

COMPILED BY CRISTIN FENZEL

Most of us spend endless hours in the library, but do we really know anything about it? Here's a chance to read up on the Theodore M. Hesburgh Library.

Sources: University Libraries and Christian Dupont, Curator for Special Collections.

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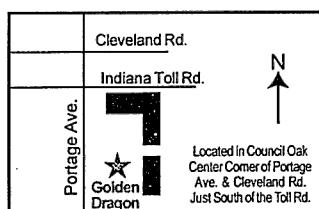
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What Lies Beneath

Take a trip through Notre Dame's tunnel system

JACKLYN KIEFER

Beneath the campus of Notre Dame there is a force keeping students safe, warm and connected to the outside world. And no, it's not the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The Notre Dame Department of Utilities maintains and operates nearly seven miles of tunnels that help keep the campus running. Containing everything from three-foot-wide steam pipes to ResNet cords, the tunnels not only keep campus functioning, they also fascinate students endlessly. The rumors abound . . .

In those wonderful bygone days, students used the tunnels to get to class when the campus was buried under five feet of snow, and, of course, there are the legends of students going from dorm to dorm via tunnel. There is even a rumor that the Sorin Society has a fully furnished, secret meeting room connected to one of the tunnels. But how many of these

BLACK HOLE This tunnel leads to the North Quad network of tunnels as well as to older tunnels via a connecting path.



PHOTOS BY KATE FOSTER

stories are true, and how many are merely legends passed down through the years?

The tunnels date back to the late 1800s. In those days, the power plant was behind the Main Building, so the oldest tunnels are beneath the central part of campus. It's likely, however, that they were never intended for pedestrian use. "The original tunnels were all made of brick, and they were arched at the top," says director of utilities Paul Kempf, a 1980 Notre Dame alumnus. "They were maybe four or five feet in width . . . and some of them you can't even enter.

They are more like a pipe-chase."

In the early 1900s, the power plant moved to where University Health Services is now located, and many of the tunnels were just extended to reach the new location. But since the final power plant relocation in 1932, the tunnels have changed a lot. "When the plant moved, they transitioned to concrete tunnels," Kempf says. Also, there are now four main tunnels radiating from the power plant: one running north, one toward the library, one down North Quad and one that connects with the old tunnels near the Dome and branches out. The average tunnel is about six feet wide and seven feet high. Most contain a three-foot rack that holds pipes, including steam pipes for heating, and cable trays for telephone and ResNet wiring. This doesn't leave much room for pedestrian traffic.

The only tunnel built with pedestrians in mind runs between the Center for Continuing Education and the Morris Inn. Used mostly by people visiting for conferences, it is well-lit and is slightly larger than the other tunnels. "If you've ever been in that one, I think it gives you an idea of what people think the other tunnels are," Kempf says.

As far as the Sorin Society rumor goes, Kempf says that he's pretty sure that there are no furnished rooms in the tunnels. There are, however, places where the tunnels widen to create small rooms for equipment storage. Kempf assures *Scholastic* that none of these rooms would be very conducive to meetings, "unless you like 100-plus degrees, dirt and cockroaches."

The tunnels are connected to almost every building on campus, even the residence halls.

The tunnel that runs from the power plant

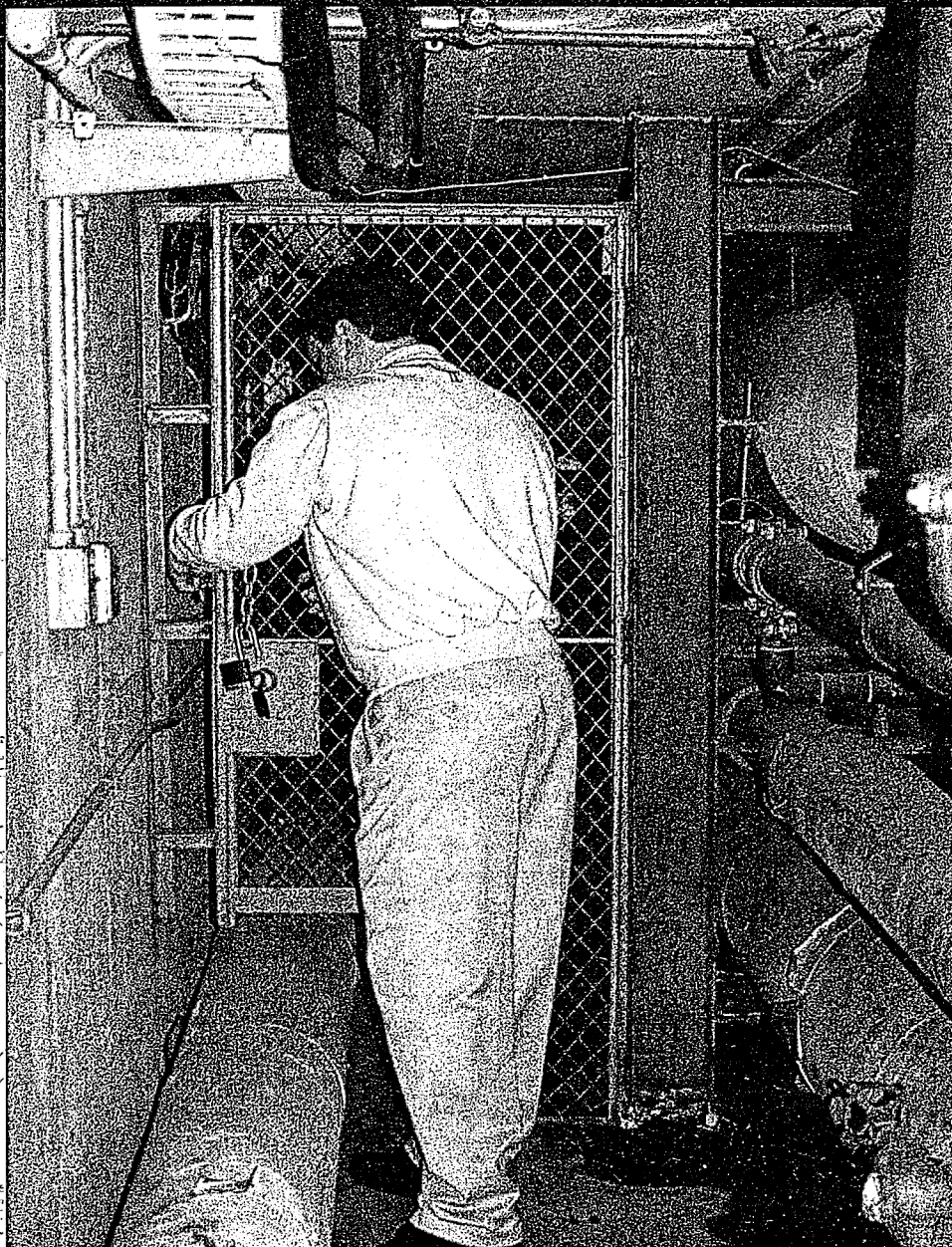
down North Quad leads to North Dining Hall and the North Quad dorms. "Pretty much all of [the buildings] have connections, but sometimes there are buildings that are fed through other buildings," Kempf says. This is the case

with Zahm Hall, which does not have direct access to a tunnel but is supplied by a steam main that feeds from a tunnel attached to Keenan Hall.

Although direct connections are preferred for repair purposes, they also open up a potentially sticky issue. "We must maintain the integrity of these entrances, so they are all locked shut to keep people out," Kempf says. "I know a lot of students would like to [get in], as it is a big thing to say they got in the tunnels, but it is a big security issue, especially with the change to women at Notre Dame. . . . We don't want anyone to be able to get into a building unseen." Security is also a problem when dignitaries visit the university. "We had to review all this with the Secret Service [when presidents visited], and they made requirements that manholes be welded or bolted shut, and they wanted to inspect the tunnels."

Entrance hatches are scattered throughout campus. Many years ago, they were left unlocked, making it easy for anyone to get into

"We just noticed the padlock was missing, so we went down and snooped around for a while."
—anonymous student



LOCKED UP TIGHT Paul Kempf, director of utilities, unlocks one of the entrances to the steam tunnels in the power plant. It is very important to maintain the integrity of the tunnels for both student safety and to keep the Notre Dame campus running smoothly.

the tunnels. Now, they are all locked, which has made gaining entry to the tunnels a challenge for many students.

Some have even accepted the challenge. An anonymous senior said that he and some friends found the entrance to a tunnel that runs between Bond Hall and Sorin College. "We just noticed the padlock was missing, so we went down and snooped around for a while," he says. "We only were able to go about 500 feet in, though, before we couldn't go any further." The students tried to go down a second time, but to no avail. "We tried to get in through the janitor's closet or boiler room in a building, but it was locked up," he says.

Even Kempf says that he tried to explore the tunnels when he was an electrical engineering student 20 years ago. His father was the director of utilities then, and Kempf actually had a set of keys to access to the

tunnels. "I thought the same thing that students today think: 'Wow, when it's cold or when it rains wouldn't it be neat [to use the tunnels]?' " he says. So, one day he sat in his father's office with huge drawings of the layout of the tunnels, and he made a little fold-up map to use to walk to class. "I can tell you from a practical standpoint that it doesn't work," he says with a laugh. "I gave up very quickly because [the tunnels] are not designed for traffic, so there are intersections where there is piping, and I had to crawl under and over it. It's very hot and dirty — it just doesn't work very well."

Nevertheless, students still try, even though unauthorized visits to the tunnels are subject to disciplinary action, according to *du Lac*. "Students caught in the tunnels would definitely be referred to our office, and penalties would range from fines to community service

to disciplinary probation," says Lori Maurer, associate director of the Office of Residence Life. "The penalty would depend upon if the student had been drinking or whether they were cooperative upon being caught."

The hatches exist mainly for the safety of the maintenance workers who go into the tunnels, since most of the buildings are locked from the inside. So, even if a worker was in the tunnel and had a key, he still couldn't gain access to the building. "We treat [the tunnels] with special care and try to keep track of people when they go in," Kempf says. "We don't like to send people down alone, and when people go down, we like to know when they plan to be back."

Kempf says that he can usually tell when someone has been in the tunnels. "Our biggest problem is that there are a variety of people who have access from a work standpoint who forget to lock the hatches, so what we do is periodically have someone go down and walk the tunnels to make sure things are secure," he says. "There are certain times of the year when we tend to be a little more focused on it — there's something about Senior Week."

Campus security plays a large role in making sure everything is locked up. Officers monitor the hatches and doors as they patrol campus, and they report those that are unlocked to the Department of Utilities. Usually the most visible evidence of uninvited visitors are the lights and occasional names written on the wall.

Kempf stresses that anyone who goes into the tunnels should be aware of the risks present, including hanging pipes and extreme heat, as well as the danger of damaging a system, such as ResNet or the telephone lines. So leave the tunnel traversing to the experts — Leonardo, Donatello, Raphael, Michelangelo — and, of course, the Department of Utilities. And, if you do choose to visit the tunnels, heed your mother's advice and turn off the lights when you leave. □

Writing by Heart

Bilingual author and Notre Dame senior Carlos Gomez-Meade prepares to release his third book

KATIEFREDDOSO

Poetry and writing come to me as very simple things," says Keenan Hall Resident Assistant Carlos Gomez-Meade. "I don't see a paper and pen when I write — I just feel the words as

if they were written by my heart and my mind, not my hand. I guess that is when you really know it is a gift, when it comes to you that naturally." He has used his natural talents well — Gomez-Meade has published two books in two languages and is now working on a third.

Gomez-Meade grew up in Matamoros, Mexico, a small town on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico about a half hour across the border from Brownsville, Texas. He did not learn to speak English until the fourth grade, when he wrote his first book, a compilation of short stories entitled *Cuentos Juveniles (Juvenile Stories)*. After he was featured in a local newspaper for his literary talent, a publishing company expressed interest in his work and published it.

Over the next few years, Gomez-Meade continued to compose stories and began to write poetry as well. In 1992, *La Vida en Resumen — Poesia (Life in Summary — Poetry)* was published by the same local company. The book became so popular in the Matamoros area that people in Brownsville asked for an English version, and the translation was published shortly thereafter.

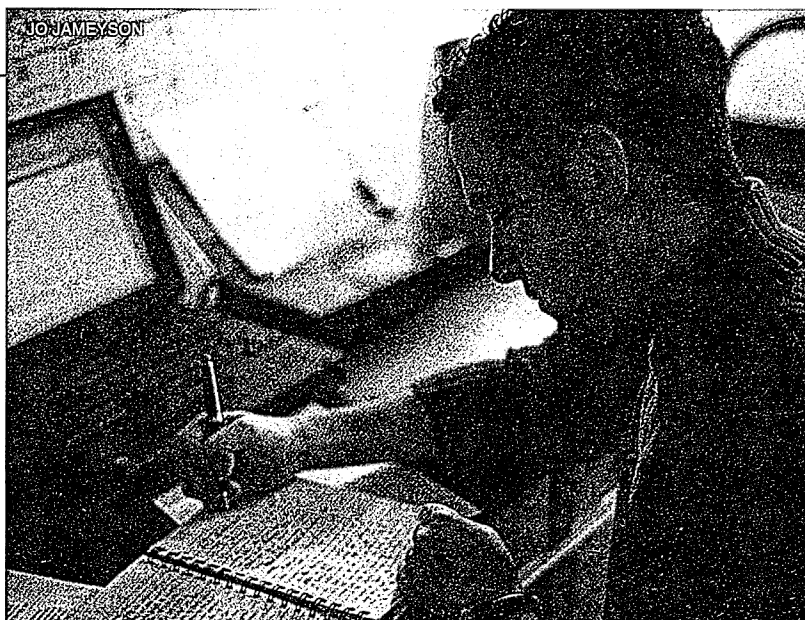
Throughout high school and his time at Notre Dame, Gomez-Meade continued to write, including a book of short stories, which will be entitled either *Treinta Centigrados y Descamizado (Thirty Degrees and Shirtless)*, or *El Principio, El Final y El Espacio Intermedio (The Beginning, the End and the Space In Between)*. He hopes to be published by a national company within the next year. The original version of the new book will be in Spanish, but Gomez-Meade says he will probably translate it into English as well.

The themes in his next book will reflect a more mature outlook on life than that of his previous work. "The first [books] were experimental. ... Mostly I wrote about friendships," he says. "My best friend is my cousin, Fernando, so a lot of the stories have to do with him and me, the things we went through, things like that. But now, my writings are a lot more complex."

The central theme of his next book is appreciating what you have and not taking things for granted. Gomez-Meade says

A TALE OF TWO COUNTRIES Meade weaves his experiences from both Mexico and America into his stories and poetry.





that whenever he is asked to elaborate on this idea, he tells the story he calls *Thirty Degrees and Shirtless*, which is based on an experience he had as a child on an unusually chilly morning in Mexico. The temperature was hovering around 30 degrees, which rarely happens in Matamoros, so he sat outside wearing two long-sleeved shirts and a jacket, complaining about the cold. Suddenly, in what he says was "probably delirium brought on by the cold," he took off his jacket and his shirts and sat there, freezing, just to feel what it was like to be that cold. After a few minutes, he was turning blue and feeling numb, so he put his shirts and jacket back on. That made him feel very warm — almost hot. The lesson he learned? "I didn't really know how warm I was until I actually took it off," he says. "In other words, I didn't really know what I had until I lost it."

His eye for detail and memory of small incidents from his past such as this one serve as a great source of story ideas for Gomez-Meade. "I notice everything and anything ... and those are usually the things that I write about. ... For me, it's like life is one big novel, and it's just a matter of writing it down," he says. "When you notice details in life, you notice there's a lot of symbolism ... to the way your life unfolds. ... Writing is not like a typical job — it is based strictly on spontaneous inspiration. I can be sitting on a bus or walking to class when suddenly something will catalyze an emotion in me. Next thing I know, I'll be writing what I felt."

When it comes to writing what he feels, Gomez-Meade says that he includes the bad as well as the good. "Depression is just as important as happiness in life, and they can both serve as inspiration. I embrace tragedies in my life as much as I do success ... they make my character more interesting and they make my writings better. Any person can easily accept good

things in life, but what makes a real person's character, and hence me as a writer, is that I can learn to accept difficulties as well. Those are the challenges that make life worthwhile."

Although he is a dual citizen, he says, "Mexico is my identity and character — it is who I am. Admiration for my country of Mexico is not only what defines my everyday life, but also serves as inspiration for 90 per-

**"Depression is just as
important as
happiness in life, and
they can both serve as
inspiration."**

— Carlos Gomez-Meade

cent of my writing." Gomez-Meade says his country, as well as his family and friends there, have helped to form his unique perspective on life. His best friend and cousin, Fernando De Leon, is a senior at Harvard University and edits all of his writing.

Despite these strong ties to his country, Gomez-Meade chose to come to school in the United States because of the quality of the education here. Coming from Matamoros to Notre Dame was a culture shock because of differences in everything from music to social interaction. But he says that attending college in the United States has been a great learning experience, both academically and culturally. "You're a lot more on your own here.

WHAT'S UP, DOC? Although Gomez-Meade loves writing, he plans on studying medicine at Mexico's Universidad de Autonoma de Guadalajara immediately after graduation.

... But a pretty positive thing is that people around here want to learn a lot more [about other cultures] ... The

impression I've gotten is that most people here have lived in the same homogeneous ambience their entire life, so ... they are willing to learn."

As an Arts and Letters pre-professional and Spanish major, Gomez-Meade has been able to devote time to both his writing and his aspiration to become a doctor. He says that his talent and success in the literary arts have made decisions about his future a bit more difficult. "I have confidence in my writing," he says. "I know that I can probably make a living out of it, because it's a talent, and you know when you're good at something, and you know when things come to you easily and when they don't. [Writing] comes to me naturally ... and I've done it my entire life. So now, it's like, OK, do you *really* want to be a doctor or do you *really* want to write, and I love both."

For now, it looks like medical school is in his future, but Gomez-Meade refuses to rule out more writing in the future. He jokes that if he gets his M.D., he could combine his talents and be the next Michael Crichton. "And if I just write, I'll be the next Octavio Paz [a famous Mexican poet and Nobel Prize winner]," he adds.

Gomez-Meade has recently been accepted to a program sponsored by the New York State Medical School that allows him to study medicine at Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara. "It's a dream come true ... Mexico is my inspiration, so I feel so complete to have been accepted to [this program] because it gives me a chance to give back to my country after having grown academically in the U.S." □

Something to Talk About

A look at the dialects of Notre Dame students

JENNIFER MORGAN

Pop or soda? It's the eternal question that can define who a person is—or at least where he comes from. At a national university like Notre Dame, there are bound to be some differences in dialect, and the debate over what to call soft drinks is often heated. Some call it "pop," others call it "soda," and some students choose to call it something different altogether.

"I had never heard the term 'pop' or 'soda' until I came here," says Lianette Campos, a junior from Miami. "I thought it was funny because I call it 'Coke.'"

Just about everyone on campus has an opinion on this question. It can often be amusing when pizzas become "pies" and water fountains become "bubblers," but most people have their pet peeves regarding other dialects.

Mike Romano, a Dillon freshman from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., picks on the phrase "all y'all."

"I just think 'all y'all' sounds a little silly and redundant," Romano says. On the other hand, "you guys" is usually a dead giveaway for a Southerner that they are talking to a Northerner. "I do say 'you guys' a lot," Romano admits.

Notre Dame is a melting pot of dialects. Some students add syllables or letters to their words, and some students take syllables or letters out. Some have slow Southern draws, while others talk so fast that people can barely understand their words. Most students fall somewhere in between. Not surprisingly, in a place where many dialects converge, many awkward misunderstandings can occur. Freshman Leanne Jochin ran into some trouble with the New York dialect.

"Two of [the girls on my floor] are from Long Island, and they said 'mad' before certain words instead of 'really,' such as

'mad cool,'" Jochin says.

Suzanne Stryker, a freshman from Nebraska, thought her friends were saying "man" until she asked the Long Island girls, and they explained that they were saying "mad cool," not "man cool."

"They talk so fast, anyway," Stryker says. "I was trying to imitate the way they talked, and when they corrected me, I was the one everyone was laughing at."

Although misunderstandings are often funny and may seem trivial, some are not easily resolved.

respond to different dialects. When students listened to a tape of dialects provided by Brogan, their reactions—both unconscious and conscious—revealed much about the way they perceived each dialect. Depending on what region of the country they called home, different students had different reactions to the voices on the tape. For some, certain dialects were easier to understand than other dialects, which many students met with looks of confusion. At times, also, students frowned, scowled, smiled or laughed—

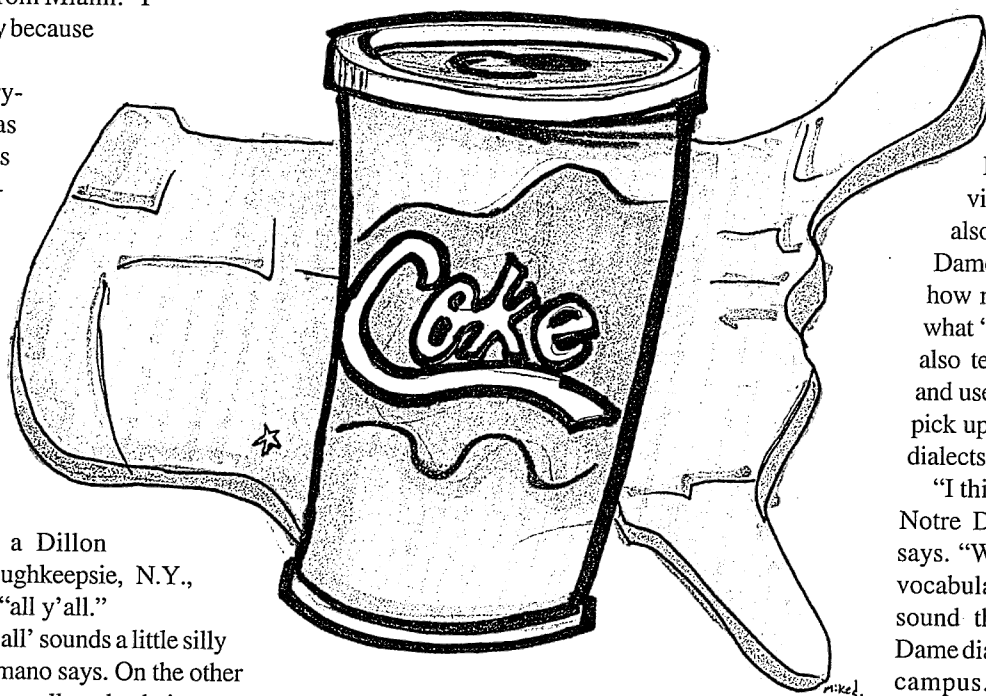
most often unconsciously—when certain words were said on the tape with different accents.

Not only does Notre Dame host many individual dialects, but students also often develop a "Notre Dame dialect." For example, how many non-Domers know what "parietals" are? Students also tend to lose their accents and use words and phrases they pick up from friends with other dialects.

"I think we do start to have a Notre Dame dialect," Campos says. "We start to use the same vocabulary, and we all start to sound the same." The Notre Dame dialect even transcends the campus. "When I go home, people tell me I have an accent," she adds, laughing.

Brogan agrees that students start to sound similar, although the effect is usually only temporary. "Students lose their home accents," Brogan says. "They go home for two days, though, and they have their home accent right back."

The debate between Coke, pop and soda may never be settled, but, in the end, most believe that the diverse array of dialects at Notre Dame contributes positively, rather than negatively, to the atmosphere. "I think it is kind of cool," Campos says. "Dialects tell a lot about a person, and it gives people something to talk about when they meet. Dialects open up lines of communication." □



"Dialects can be a serious matter," says Jacqueline Brogan, an English professor who teaches linguistics courses. The way a person speaks may say more about the person than he or she would normally think. "For example, people tend to privilege Northern over Southern accents or white vernacular over black vernacular," she says.

Brogan also notes that although Notre Dame students tend to be conscious of ethical values, "a lot of prejudices are completely unconscious," she says. "A student hears another student speak and immediately makes assumptions about that student's intelligence."

Brogan performed tests in previous classes to show students how they re-

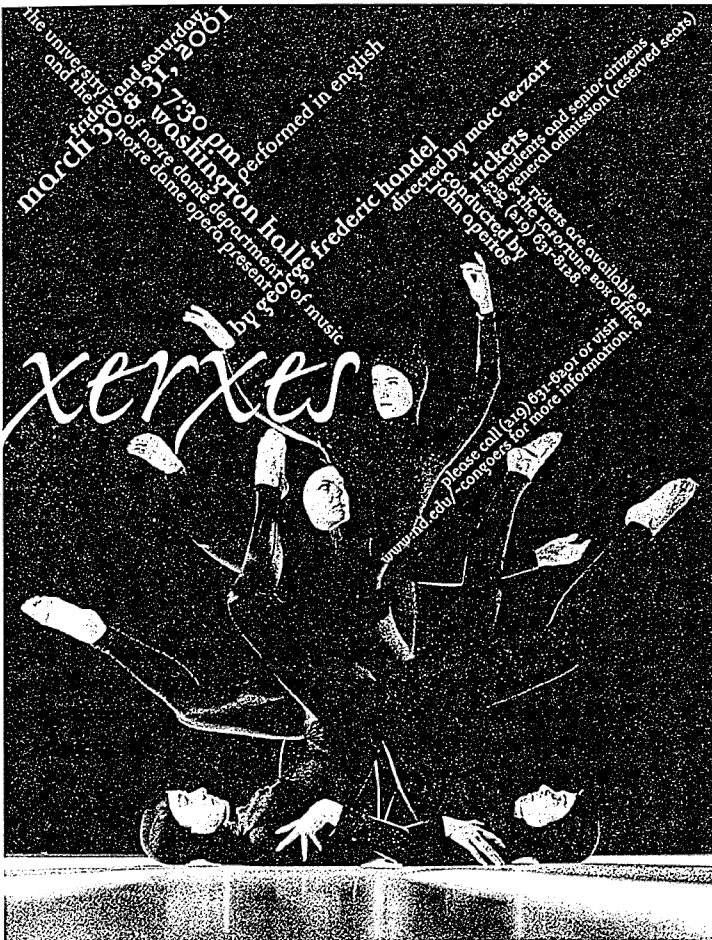
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must be

THE MONEY

BY SARAH CHILDRESS

The price of a Notre Dame education just went up again. Why?

An arm and a leg. That's what many students and their families feel it costs to attend Notre Dame. Even if the university's tuition ranks a few thousand dollars below most top private institutions, few think that the price is inexpensive.

Now, however, administrators say that one of their top priorities is to lower tuition — and with a growing endowment and a large influx of donations, they may have the funds to do it. But with yet another tuition hike approved for next year, some students might doubt the university's intentions.

Are administrators really working to cut costs? If so, where is all the money going? Despite its top-20 ranking as a national university, Notre Dame's endowment has only recently experienced significant growth. Until 13 years ago, the university had left investment of the endowment in the hands of a three-person staff. They invested the money in blue chips — stocks from large, consistently profitable corporations. Although these stocks are relatively stable, they don't have a high yield. So for years, the \$2 billion endowment saw relatively little gains.

Enter Scott Malpass. A Double Domer, he returned to Notre Dame in 1988 as the assistant investment officer before rising to become the vice president of finance and chief investment officer, with full control of investing the endowment pool. Malpass and the investment committee decided to make a few changes to the office's structure. He expanded

to a staff of 18 — all alumni — and reevaluated the university's portfolio. "Before, it was pretty plain-vanilla," Malpass says of the investment strategies. "When you have everything in one market, that's risky, because there's no diversification." He expanded the university's portfolio to include overseas investments and venture capital.

The transition paid off. Within a year, Malpass and his team raked in \$1.3 billion, making Notre Dame first in higher-education investment returns for the 2000 fiscal year. Suddenly, its endowment was worth \$3.5 billion, and Notre Dame was on track to do some big spending — well, almost.

Not all of the university's assets are available for use. "It's not like you have a checking account with \$3.5 billion in it," says Linda Kroll, assistant director of budget and planning.

The university's endowment is divided into three sections: restricted, temporarily restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are gifts to the university from donors who simply want to build the endowment. Neither the original donation nor the interest it earns may ever be used. The university may use temporarily restricted funds only for the donor's specified purpose — often a scholarship or a building. Unrestricted funds are comprised of gifts, auxiliary funds — such as the university's revenue from on-campus food operations, the Morris Inn, the golf course and rental property — and tuition.

Many of these monetary gifts are solicited by the Department of Development, which

handles university fund-raising. With one of the highest alumni-giving rates in the country at 48 percent, Notre Dame is well-supported.

Dan Reagan, the executive director of development, says that the majority of funds are solicited three ways — through the phone center, direct mailing and personal contact.

Groups of 10 students at a time work nights in the phone center, calling alumni, friends of the university and parents of current students to ask for contributions. For the Annual Fund — the departments' yearly pool of donations — Reagan says that the majority of those contacted are alumni, although Jane, a student caller at the center whose name has been changed, says that some calls are "pretty random."

Students are given a script to follow when calling, which includes the potential donor's name, title and home information. "The majority of times, you find that people aren't home or that people aren't interested in giving," Jane says. But when she does reach them, she says that people have a lot to say about the university. "You get an earful, either good or bad," she says. When it's bad, students rely on pre-written responses for a series of typical complaints, such as "Child didn't get in," or "[The university's treatment of] gay and lesbian students."

Each semester, Jane says that the phone center sets a goal of \$1 million "and we hit it." The department uses incentives to motivate callers, including membership in the Century Club, exclusive to those who receive \$100,000 in pledges in one semester.

To distinguish the university's fund-raising

**BY THE
numbers**
COURTESY OF LINDA KROLL



FISCAL YEAR 2000 ENDOWMENT INCREASE

\$1.3billion

CURRENT WORTH OF ENDOWMENT

\$3.5billion



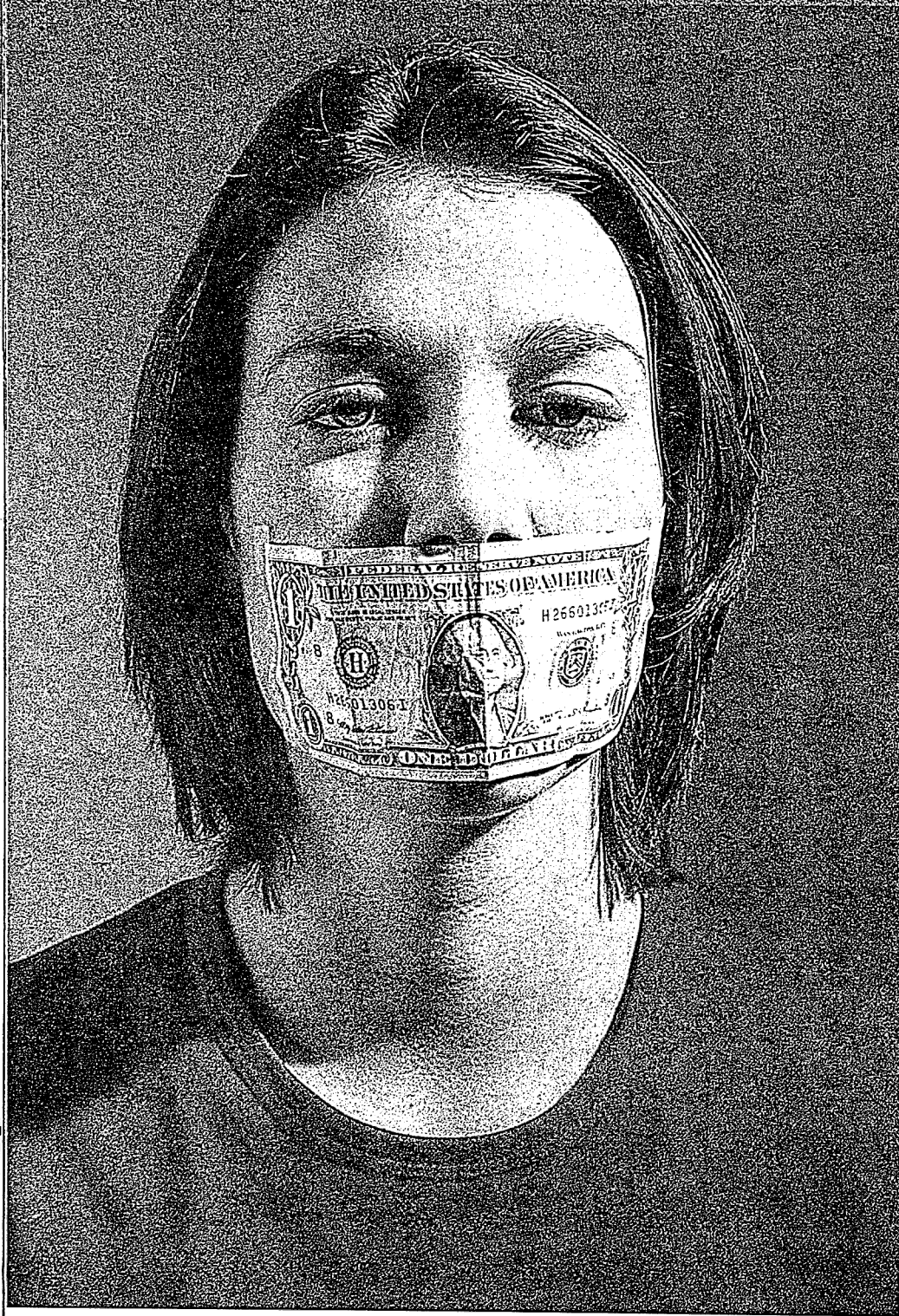
EMILY CEROW

ALUMNI GIVING RATE

TUITION INCREASE FOR 2001-2002

AVERAGE VALUE OF
FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE

48percent 4.9percent \$11,000



EMILY CEROW

COST

OF ATTENDANCE

ND compares itself to several top universities divided into three groups. These are the averages of total student charges for 2000-2001.

Top tier private schools: **\$33,165**

Top six overlap schools (Boston College, Georgetown, Duke, Northwestern, Vanderbilt, Washington University): **\$32,559**

US News & World Report top-20 national: **\$31,967**

University of Notre Dame: **\$29,000**

AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR FINANCIAL AID

\$34million

from a commercial telemarketing organization, the phone center works in conjunction with direct mailings. "We try very much not to do cold-calling," Reagan says.

Before receiving a telephone call, most alumni are mailed a pledge card asking for a donation. Jane says the suggested amount on the card corresponds to past giving records and the potential donor's occupation. "If someone has a more prestigious job title, we're probably going to ask them for more money," she says. "It also depends on how long they've been out of the university. We usually ask for a three-year pledge, because that kind of gets them committed." Jane says, however, that they rarely ask for more than about \$15,000 over three years.

Although pledges for a specific amount or purpose are generally solicited during campaigns — such as the four-year Generations Campaign, which ended in December 2000 — most of the department's fund-raising works toward receiving year-to-year, unrestricted donations. "The main focus is participation," Reagan says.

The department does keep records of contributors' donations, however. "We try to raise the sights of the donors and ask them to move up," he says of the department's fund-raising. "Basically, we want to encourage them to become a member of one of the [giving] societies."

The university has four such societies. The Edward Frederick Sorin Society requires an annual, unrestricted contribution of \$1,000 or more, and it has an inner "Founder's Circle" for those who contribute \$3,000 or more. The Stephen Theodore Badin Guild was established for those who make an estate gift to the university. The Order of St. Thomas More requires annual gifts of \$1,000 or more to the Law School, and the key to the John Cardinal O'Hara Society is donations of \$1,000 or more per year to the MBA program.

Despite the societies' focus on unrestricted gifts, Reagan says, "In terms of what we raise each year, most gifts are restricted." Although he emphasizes the importance of all gifts, he adds, "Unrestricted [gifts] can be the most precious, because the university can use the money for its most urgent and pressing needs."

Jane says that the student callers' goal is to get unspecified donations. "Then the univer-

ASSISTED BY FINANCIAL AID THIS YEAR

PROPORTION OF TUITION INCREASE
DISTRIBUTED AMONG COLLEGES AND
DEPARTMENTS

3,000 students 55percent

sity can use [the money] for whatever they want, including day-to-day operations," she says. "Most people don't specify. It's very rare that someone will ask for [the donation] only to be used for a specific thing."

For larger projects, such as the construction of a new building, Reagan says the department often relies on personal contact with donors. "We seek out an anchor donor and fill that around with various other leadership givers," he says. The Department of Development has regional offices scattered across the United States, which work on direct-contact campaigns and contact friends of the university who have contributed in the past or who might be interested in contributing.

Tuition also brings a significant amount of revenue for the university. Each year's base amount — not including the yearly increase — is incorporated into the operating budget and is used to cover general expenses, such as utilities. "So when we're looking at existing tuition, it's already committed to things we're doing today," Kroll says. It is the sum of these unrestricted funds that essentially composes the university's budget each year.

But who determines the yearly budget increase — and where does the new money go?

The budget isn't just thrown together. Several committees and groups work year-round to establish an acceptable proposal.

Each fall, colleges and departments on campus submit proposals detailing their plans for using new money. Provost Nathan Hatch reviews the proposals and decides which ones would most benefit the students and the university as a whole. "The easy thing would be to say 'OK, let's fund everything,'" Kroll says. "If they were not to make those tough decisions, tuition would be much higher."

In the meantime, the Budget Working Group assembles information on environmental factors, higher education, historical trends and other factors that might affect the budget, such as improvements in technology and health care.

Finally, the Officers' Budget Committee, composed of the university's top officers, receives both the working group's summaries and the provost's prioritized list of objectives to outline a budget with a calculated increase for the next year.

The proposed budget must then be ap-

proved by the Board of Trustees' Budget subcommittee and finally be ratified by the general board before it becomes official.

Previous tuition raises have provided funds to build Rolfs Sports Recreation Center, operate DeBartolo Hall and improve technology across the campus.

Next year's 4.9-percent increase in tuition, combined with the rest of the new money, will fund several new and developing programs, including the Northeast Neighborhood project which was established to redevelop the northeast area of South Bend.

The Office of Student Affairs will receive funds for the Office of Campus Ministry, the University Counseling Center and the Office of Student Activities to improve international and multicultural planning, alcohol and drug education, and security.

The funds also will cover the opening of the Coleman-Morse Center. "A lot of times, we'll get gifts for buildings, but then we have to operate them," says John Sejdinaj, assistant vice president of finance and director of budget and planning. This requires extra dollars.

In addition to helping its undergraduate students, the university has set aside some of the new money for graduate students. "The university feels they have fairly good support for career and placement sources for undergrads," Kroll says. "And they want to increase support for graduates," such as establishing a better network of alumni for contacts and career support.

Fifty-five to 65 percent of the money brought in from the tuition increase, however, will be distributed among colleges and departments to fund their proposed projects. "A lot of times, the students have this impression that the administration is just raking it in, but over half is going back to academic programs," Kroll says.

Another factor that helps to determine tuition increase is educational costs at comparable universities. "We're always making sure our tuition and fees are in line," she says. To do so, Notre Dame looks at 22 of *U.S. News & World Report's* top national universities to study trends in tuition increase. Last year, of those 22, all but three reported total student charges at or above \$32,000. Notre Dame, at \$29,000 was one of the three with reported student charges

below the average.

But the question still remains: Why doesn't the university draw on the endowment to cover the increase in funds?

"People ask, 'Why can't you just use that?'" Kroll says. "We've made a conscious effort ... but we don't want to just run and raid it." Because of the impressive returns this year, the university did approve a 20-percent increase in spending of the endowment, which allows for the 0.3-percent cutback on the rate of tuition increase — down from last year's 5.2-percent hike. "It means we can do a lot of things without raising tuition," Kroll says. "It offsets the costs for students."

And why not a 40- or 50-percent increase in spending? Sejdinaj explains that although this year's investments were successful, there are no guarantees for the future. "We don't want to overspend just because of good market returns," he says. "This year we have a 20-percent increase. ... That's a huge increase, and we spend a lot of time trying to figure out what the potential impact will be."

Malpass emphasizes, too, that the overwhelming success of the 2000 fiscal year, which provided returns approaching 60 percent, was atypical. "We probably won't see that again in our lifetime," he says. "It's a dream year in the capital market." In the 2001 fiscal year, which ends in June, the endowment is projected to return only zero to five percent, which he says is "still pretty good, relative to our peers." But because of the potential for such a discrepancy in the future, Malpass stresses the need to exercise some caution. "We don't change our strategy — we're investors," he says. "We're in this for the long haul." In other words, the university is treading — and spending — carefully, and students are still paying more each year.

Luckily for them, the spending increase, spread across every part of the budget, also reaches the Office of Financial Aid. "Financial aid is something we're really proud of," Sejdinaj says, citing the \$34 million set aside for aid this year. But this wasn't always the case.

About seven years ago, the university provided aid for 700 students at an average of \$5,400 per student. "We weren't meeting the full need [of each student]," Sejdinaj says. And only about 40 percent of students received

scholarship assistance.

Dissatisfied with the situation, Notre Dame decided to make financial aid one of its top priorities and began searching for additional funds to boost its budget. "We put [football] postseason revenue and extra money from the operating budget into the financial aid [part of the] endowment," Sejdinaj says. This year, enough money was available to aid 3,000 students at an average of \$11,000 per student, allowing the office to meet the demonstrated need for all undergraduates, and ensuring that no student pays the full costs of instruction, which includes faculty salaries and benefits as well as classroom utilities.

Of the \$535 million budget, \$135 million comes from temporarily restricted funds, of which almost \$34 million is earmarked for scholarships. Only \$1 million comes from the unrestricted pool. Tuition, then, covers very little of students' financial aid, meaning that the university does not engage in tuition discounting. This practice, which John Russo, director of financial aid, refers to as the "Robin Hood Theory," takes money from students who can afford tuition and gives it as "scholarships" to those who need assistance. Under this system, if a student receives a scholarship, the university loses money and must raise tuition to cover costs, forcing students who can afford full tuition to pay extra. Those who receive aid pay a "discounted" tuition.

"The university does not do that," Russo says. "All of my scholarships are funded by income from endowment or annual gifts designated by donors. All my dollars are real dollars."

Peer institutions that do discount tuition have been impressed by Notre Dame's system, Sejdinaj says. "That's really the right way to go about it," he says. "It took us longer to get there, but now we don't have to charge tuition and turn around and give it to another student."

Despite having reached the goal of meeting demonstrated need, administrators say the university is far from finished when it comes to financial aid.

Although the Generations Campaign surpassed its goal by millions of dollars, the effort to raise money for financial aid fell short of expectations. The university had hoped to

raise \$190 million to support scholarship packages, but missed the mark by \$30 million. "The original goal was very lofty, but we are still working toward reaching that point and surpassing it," says Reagan. "We did very, very well in raising money for financial aid in the Generations Campaign, but that's only one major step."

By keeping undergraduate scholarships a top priority, Reagan hopes to realize the university's ultimate goal — to eliminate all student loans. "I don't think anybody would tell you that they're satisfied with where financial aid is or with the rate of tuition," Reagan says. "We have to look for those non-traditional resources which can accelerate financial aid as well, such as [football] bowl[-game] revenues and the NBC contract."

Indeed, the athletic department makes substantial contributions to financial aid. The department generates \$40 million but operates on a \$28 million budget. Much of the remaining \$12 million is spent on scholarships.

Of the department's revenue, \$4 million is donated to the general scholarship fund as part of the contract with NBC. The department also takes care of its own — it spends \$8 million on athletic scholarships each year.

Although the NCAA dictates the maximum amount of scholarships allowed, Tom Nevala, assistant athletic director of business operations, says that Notre Dame certainly has not fully funded every sport. Plans to do so in four to five years are already underway, however, with 10 fully funded sports — six women's and four men's — and two scholarships added to women's lacrosse this year.

The athletic department also receives money from any bowl games the football team plays — revenue that is kept separate from the budget. After covering expenses from the game, the rest of that \$8 million goes to financial aid.

Another sector that benefits from additional funding and the spending increase is the instructional faculty. Over the years, the average salary for full professors at Notre Dame has increased each year to allow the university to stay ranked between 20th and 23rd in faculty salaries among the top 190 institutions in the

last decade.

In 1999-2000, the average salary for full professors was about \$100,000. "Across the board, measures show that we are competitive," says Assistant Provost Jeff Kantor. "Like any other university, we're challenged in areas that are supposed to be 'hot,' such as finance or technology, but across the board, we seem to be competing well."

In addition to increasing salaries, the university is working to build on the almost 146 available endowed chairs in the colleges, adding 11 new chairs this fall through funds from the Generations Campaign, as well as from temporarily-restricted funds from the endowment. "This is a very, very solid number for a university of Notre Dame's quality," Reagan says.

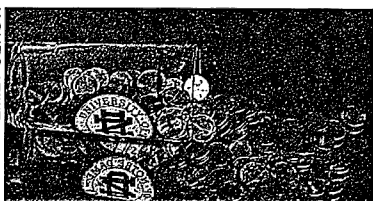
The university offers four types of chairs: 14 collegiate chairs to attract academia's "newer stars"; 188 university chairs — senior-level positions for established educators who have distinguished themselves over time; four visiting chairs to attract professors for a short period of time; and 10 endowed directorships for directors of entities such as the Center for Social Concerns.

This year, the university spent \$660 million in chairs, which allowed it to fund only 150 of 900 professors' salaries, benefits and research. "A very small portion of faculty is supported," Sejdinaj says. "What we try to do is make as much money available as we can."

But in terms of increases for administrative purposes, the university has been fairly stringent. "The university has held all non-salary expenses for three years at zero-percent increase," Kroll says. "They're trying to encourage people to be more frugal."

Despite the university's attempt to cut corners, the price of a Notre Dame education remains high. And as the university strives for higher levels of excellence, the price tag will inevitably rise, too. "There's a really diligent effort to weigh and really make focused decisions so they can do their best job for students to keep it affordable," Kroll says. But whether administrators can strike a balance between improvements and reasonable pricing remains to be seen. □

EMILY CEROW



FISCAL YEAR 2001 TOTAL BUDGET

\$ **535million**

FISCAL YEAR 2001 INCREASE IN
ENDOWMENT SPENDING

20percent

Campus by the Gipper Watch

Stretch your arms, open your eyes and wake up to reality. That's right, spring break's over, and finals are lurking just around the corner. Whether you spent your week watching every episode of *Saved by the Bell* or ogling every piece of exposed skin in some tropical paradise, the Gipp hopes you enjoyed yourself and welcomes you back to the land of meatless Fridays. And to those sorry saps who spent spring break studying for the MCAT, the Gipp hopes you managed to sneak in a little fun between practice tests, and that you'll remember the Gipp when you're obscenely wealthy.

Long, Hard Research

While the Gipp can't vouch for the MCAT-takers, he knows that there are at least some people on this campus enjoying themselves — in the library. One tipster reports that a group of high-school boys makes frequent trips to the first-floor periodicals room to take advantage of the free Internet access. Unfortunately, they're not doing research for term papers. Apparently, the boys sometimes show up two or three times in a single day. They also reap the benefits of free paper and ink, printing out, in full color, the results of their searches. Proving they have absolutely no sense of shame, the hormonal high-schoolers actually ask the library work-

search (an effort to embarrass them out of the library), the boys replied bluntly, "Oh, we're not doing any library research."

No, they're certainly not. Instead, they're looking up ... how shall the Gipp put this? ... photos of "older" people. With their printouts in hand, the boys scurry to the basement bathroom to, er, take a long, hard look at their findings. (On a truly appalling side note, not all of the boys feel the need to relocate to the bathroom to continue their research activities.)

Library officials are apparently aware of the situation, but privacy regulations prohibit them from kicking the boys out of the library. Now, while the Gipp thinks this is absolutely disgusting (not to mention hilarious), he is upset at how the library has decided to handle things. In typical Notre Dame fashion, library officials have chosen to take the easiest route out and punish the many for the sins of the few. Library officials recently barred Internet searches on the computers in the periodicals room. Instead, the computers now feature catalog-only searches. While Notre Dame students have lost out on two more research options, the restriction seems to be having the desired effect — the boys haven't come in the library since the change.

Hungry Eyes

In a related tip, it appears that the high-school boys aren't the only deviants in the library. An older gentleman likes to set up camp to watch the female librarians reshelve the books. Sporting dark sunglasses and a hunter's cap, this mystery man saunters into the library and grabs a newspaper. Pretending to read the paper, he waits until the librarians start stocking the shelves. When the women have to crouch to replace books on the bottom shelves or stretch for books on the upper shelves, the sunglasses-

concealed eyes pop up from behind the newspaper. Eventually, the guy puts the paper down altogether and simply stares at the women while they work. Maybe he should just find himself a computer instead.

Death by du Lac

Old men aren't the only ones keeping an eye on the goings-on at Notre Dame. Administrators like to keep up-to-date on campus events as well. In fact, some of our esteemed upper brass apparently rely on that most reliable of news sources — *the Observer* — to keep them informed about what's happening in the residence halls. When some folks in Res Life saw the paper's "best dorm rooms" feature, they noticed the rooms pictured had multiple violations, including microwaves and illegal lofts. The violators were duly contacted and told to clean up their acts. Look for *the Observer*'s five-part feature next week entitled, "Parietals Violators Caught in the Act."

AT&T: Reach Out and Stomp Someone

We've all heard stories about money-hungry business majors and the heartless corporations they go to work for after graduation. Well, the Gipp would like to report a tip that confirms his worst fears. During an interview with AT&T, one student was shocked by the interviewer's pitch. While most corporations at least pretend to care about you and discuss the "friendly work environment" at the office, this guy was brutally honest:

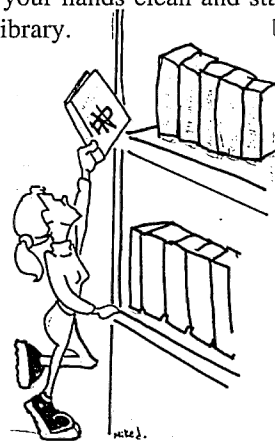
"We want people who are motivated by money, who want to make a lot of it quickly and who are willing to step over others to get it."

Wow.

Well, that's it for the Gipp this issue. Tune in next time, and remember to send all those scandalous spring-break tips to gipper.1@nd.edu. Until then, the Gipp suggests you keep your hands clean and stay away from the library. □



ers for more paper when the supply in the printer runs out. In fact, when one female library worker approached the boys to ask if they needed help doing re-



JUNIORS

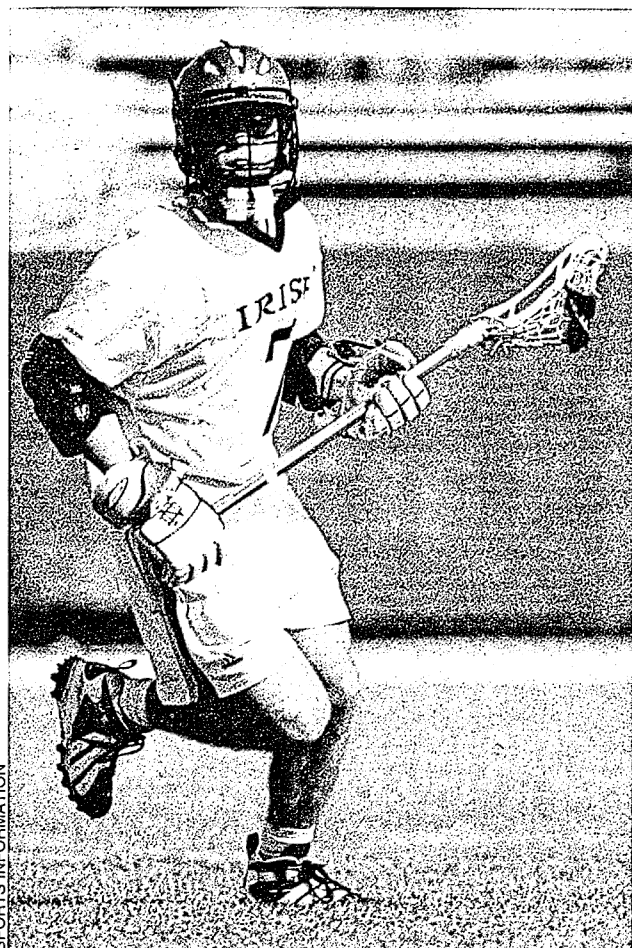
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SPORTS INFORMATION

IRISH EYES ON



DAVID
ULRICH

Senior David Ulrich, an attack for the Notre Dame men's lacrosse team and one of the team's four captains, has led the team since he arrived his freshman year. Ulrich was recently named one of 15 finalists for the Tewaaron Award, an award given annually to the top male and female lacrosse players in the United States.

My favorite aspect of lacrosse is: playing with a team. It is a wonderful experience to have people depending on you and you depending on them.

The biggest challenge the team faces this year is: our spring-break schedule, with three games in one week and our conference games.

My most memorable experience is: upsetting Loyola in the first round of the [NCAA] Tournament last year. They had beaten us pretty badly earlier in the season, and it was a very rewarding experience to beat them.

The hardest thing about being an athlete is: finding the time and energy to go to practice, study and do everything else I have to do.

To prepare for a game I: try to go to bed early and go over in my head what I have to do in the game.

My favorite class was: any computer applications class with Lou Berzai.

My least favorite class was: accounting.

What I miss most about my hometown of Baltimore is: the weather. It is not exactly the tropics, but it is warmer than here.

What I will miss most when I leave Notre Dame is: all the great people, especially the friends I have made over four years.

After my senior year, I plan to: get a job in finance, probably in Chicago or New York. There are also post-collegiate lacrosse opportunities that I might pursue, but none that would be a career.

My feelings on being named a finalist for the Tewaaron Award are: I am honored and surprised. I am not even sure if I am the best player on our team! I do not expect to win, but I am very proud to have been named a finalist.

— Jennifer Morgan

Jerry's Jabber

The men's basketball team was eliminated from the NCAA Tournament just two days after winning a game in the tournament for the first time in 12 years.

Troy Murphy scored 17 points and posted 10 rebounds and **Ryan Humphrey** added 15 points in Notre Dame's 59-56 defeat at the hands of Mississippi in round two of the NCAA Tournament on Sunday Meanwhile, the Lady Irish returned to the Sweet Sixteen after routing Michigan 88-54 on Monday. **Ruth Riley** scored 21 points and **Kelley Siemon** added 16 points in their final game at the Joyce Center. No. 1 seed Notre Dame faces No. 5 Utah on Saturday Notre Dame men's lacrosse reached a new peak, reaching No. 2 in the latest USILA/STX poll. This highest ranking in school history is the result of a 5-0 start, including a 10-7 victory over No. 5 Loyola On March 10, the Irish fencing team qualified the maximum 12 fencers for the NCAA Tournament to be held in Kenosha, Wis. starting today. Despite the absence of top sabreman **Gabor Szelle** and top sabrewoman **Natalia Mazur**, only the Irish and Saint John's managed to qualify a full squad Track-and-field athletes **Ryan Shay** and **Liz Grow** earned All-American honors at the NCAA Indoor Championships held at the University of Arkansas on March 9 and 10. **Grow** ran .4 seconds slower than her school-record 53.3 en route to an eighth-place finish in the 400-meter run. **Shay** finished ninth in the 5000-meter run, falling 10 seconds short of his school-record 13:52.66 in the event. □

1949

BY JESSICA DAUES

FROZEN MOMENTS



Overcoming injuries and struggling bats, the Notre Dame baseball team makes its first NCAA Tournament appearance in Irish history.

NOTRE DAME: 5
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS: 1

The Notre Dame Fieldhouse was a legend in its time. Originally built in 1898, the structure, with its dirt floor, exposed rafters and room for 6,000 screaming Irish fans, was a terror to Irish opponents. By the late '40s, however, the Fieldhouse began to draw more than just opponents' blood. One by one, athletes on both teams suffered due to the hazardous conditions at the aging Fieldhouse,

especially on the track. The Notre Dame baseball team fell victim to the track in March of 1949 when its starting shortstop, Pete Koblosh, suffered what appeared to be an ankle separation while running in practice. The loss of Koblosh, who had hit for the highest batting average among the team's regulars during the '48 season, was a big blow to an Irish team that was already considered offensively poor.

"There never was much of a question about the fielding ability of the club," said Ray Fitzgerald of *The Notre Dame Scholastic*. "Hitting was, and is, the biggest problem." Hitting became an even-bigger problem when the Fieldhouse brought down Koblosh, a player on whom Head Coach Jake Kline had counted as one of the team's offensive leaders for the coming season.

Kline knew that a team needed good offense as well as defense to play with the best, and he looked to spend considerable time working with his players on their batting. Kline's plans were thwarted, however, when the March weather in South Bend proved inhospitable to baseball practice. Two weeks before the season-opener against Indiana, the Irish still had not practiced outside. Although batting practice indoors in the Fieldhouse was better than nothing, as Fitzgerald pointed out, "Hitting in the windless, airless Fieldhouse is a little different from hitting under game conditions, with a 25-mile wind blowing in from center field and a fast left-hander on the mound."

This indoor practice seemingly did very little to help the team's offensive skills. Notre Dame lost both of its first two games against Indiana and then went on to split a series with Iowa. After starting the year 1-3, this season looked to be a painful one for the Irish faithful.

Out of nowhere, though, Notre Dame bounced back from its 1-3 record and won its next six games. Kline's team had finally

learned to hit, and this translated into wins for the Irish. After a close loss to Michigan that broke their winning streak, the Irish faced their biggest challenge of the season as yet — the University of Illinois. Illinois, a perennially strong team, started the season 4-1 and, while playing a tough schedule, had only improved since then.

Notre Dame came to Champaign, Ill. ready to fight and won the first game 6-1 behind an excellent performance by pitcher John "Soup" Campbell. Determined not to be swept by an upstart Irish team, the Fighting Illini kept the second game close, and by the top of the fifth they led Notre Dame 1-0. The Irish tied the game up after a triple by first baseman Dick Giedlin and a sacrifice fly by shortstop Emil Garafolo. Illinois quickly fell apart soon after, walking four and committing three errors. When the game ended, the score read 5-1 in favor of the Irish.

Notre Dame finished the second half of the season with a 9-2 record, earning a 20-8 regular-season record and a place in the District Four playoffs. There, the Irish beat both Purdue and Western Michigan to advance to the NCAA Tournament — the first team in the program's 47-year history to do so. Unfortunately, the first round pitted Notre Dame against a strong Wake Forest squad, and the Irish lost two straight games to the Demon Deacons, 4-1 and 10-7. Wake Forest went on to advance to the College World Series, where it eventually lost to the champion Texas Longhorns.

Still reeling from their first-round knockout, Notre Dame receded from the spotlight and began planning for next year's season. The future looked bright for a program that had risen from nowhere to earn Notre Dame its first-ever seed in the NCAA Tournament and national recognition of a school usually known for its football success only. After 47 years, Notre Dame baseball had finally earned the nation's respect. □

OUR CALLS >>

SPORT: WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
OPPONENT: UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
WHERE: DENVER
WHEN: SATURDAY

Thus far, the Irish have not been challenged in college basketball's elite competition. Top-seeded Notre Dame continues to roll in the NCAA Tournament when it meets Utah on Saturday, winning 77-61.

Although the boys may have made an early exit, the Irish women show they are in it for the long haul. Seniors Ruth Riley and Kelley Siemon lead the Irish to victory, defeating Utah 82-70.

Don't expect the Irish to have a problem disposing of Utah. They continue their streak of crushing opponents and dismantle Utah 84-56.

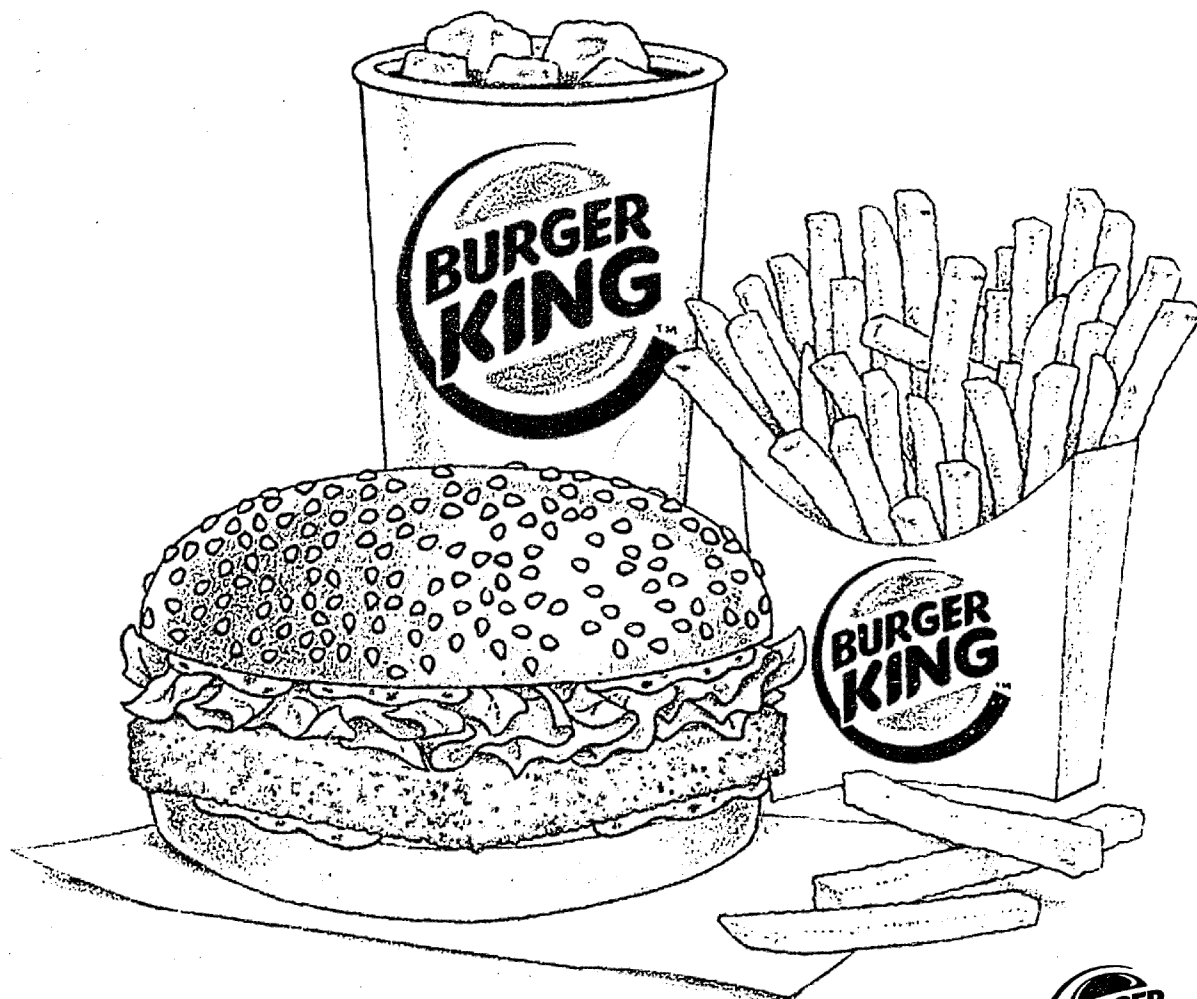
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— Jessica Daues
Assistant Sports Editor

— Jim Pastore
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OnTRACK

Despite a strong performance, the Irish are still a few steps away from full potential

LEEDELEON & JESSICADAUES

While many students left off the lycra-clad physical activity with the onset of the South Bend winter, the Notre Dame men's track team began its winter indoor season — a season that, while successful, was a bittersweet one. Combating a lack of team experience and chemistry, Notre Dame completed the 2000-2001 season knowing that though they had achieved many great things, they were capable of doing much more.

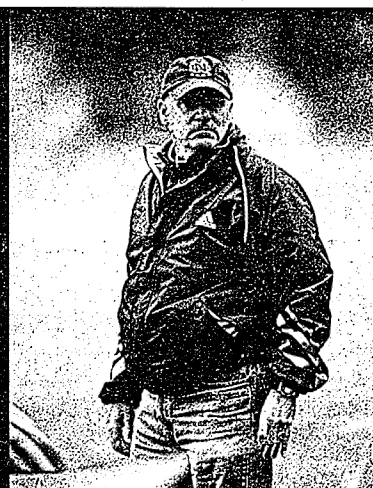
On paper, the team lived up to many expectations. Since joining the Big East in 1995, Notre Dame has finished as one of the top three teams in the conference for five consecutive seasons. The Irish continued the streak this year, finishing third in the Big East Championships behind Georgetown, which captured its fourth consecutive Big East title, and Seton Hall, which edged out the Irish

Wilson Invitational, Shay ran his personal best in the 3,000-meter, posting a time of 8:05.44. This finish, although good enough to rank Shay 20th nationally among 3,000-meter runners, was not good enough to reserve him a spot in the NCAA championships.

Looking back, Shay is very satisfied with how he performed this season. "I'm pretty pleased with my times this year," Shay says. "I really feel like I've improved a lot."

Shay has improved — significantly. He put up amazing numbers this season, shaving a whopping 15 seconds off his lowest 3,000-meter time and an equally impressive 16 seconds off his best 5,000-meter time.

Track Coach Joe Plane had nothing but praise for his senior captain. "He's the hardest worker I've ever had," he says. "He gets a lot out of the talent he has. Ryan has the fire in his belly to do great things."



FULL SPEED AHEAD During the Big East Indoor Championships, Terry Wray closes in on the lead (left), Tom Gilbert competes in the long jump (center) and Coach Joe Plane observes from the edge of the track (right).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: MATT CASHORE AND DERRICK PEYNADO OF SPORTS INFORMATION

by only seven points.

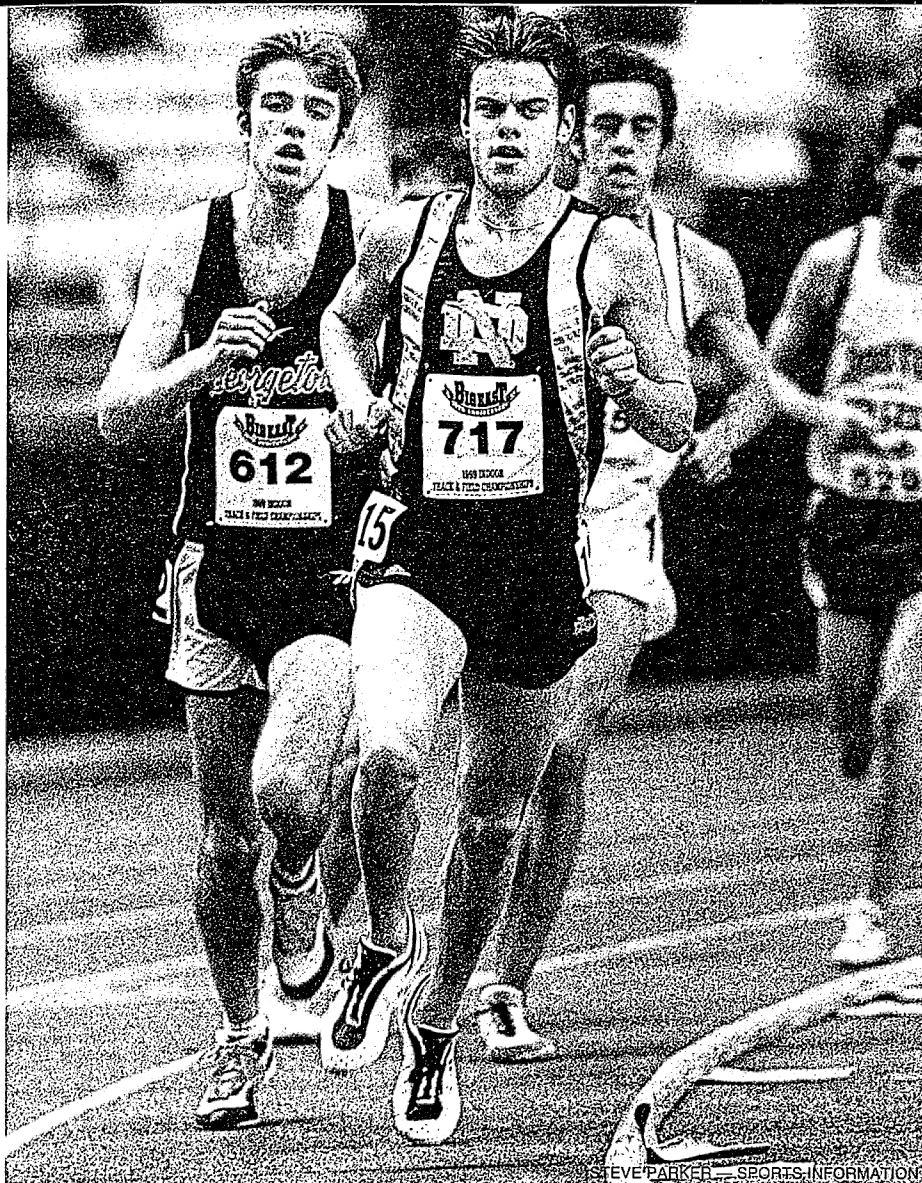
The track team members also fulfilled many individual expectations by posting some dazzling performances. Perhaps the most recognizable of all the track members, senior co-captain Ryan Shay, the only Irish All-American in track, finished first in the 5,000-meter race — marking his fourth career conference championship — and second in the 3,000-meter.

Winning is nothing new to Shay, a nationally known track star who finished 10th in the Olympic Trials. His school-record time of 13:52.66, recorded at the Mevo Invitational earlier this season, earned Shay a place in the NCAA National Championships where he finished ninth and earned his third consecutive All-American title. In the 3,000-meter, a mere second separated Shay's time from the qualifying time. In another meet, the Alex

Other track members have earned high honors as well. Freshman triple-jumper Godwin Mbagwu finished second in the Big East Championships with a jump of 48-2 3/4 and also holds the honor of the longest triple jump for the Irish this season with a 50-3 3/4. Senior Andrew Cooper won the high jump at the Alex Wilson Invitational with an impressive leap of six feet, nine inches, an unexpected but not undeserved win for the high-jumper.

"I was not the top-ranked guy," said Cooper after the meet, "but I was jumping really well and everything else just fell into place for me."

Although the individual performances and the team's third-place finish were far from an embarrassment, senior co-captain Terry Wray was not quite satisfied with the team's performance during the winter indoor season. "We had a lot of promise



LEADING THE PACK
Ryan Shay
races in Big
East
competition.
Shay owns
the school
record for
the 5,000
meter at
13:52.66.

track team members know anything about the events as a whole or other athletes as individuals, and many have complained that this has caused a lack of unity in the team. No team meetings were held this year to combat the problem, nor were there many forums for members of the team to interact with each other.

This lack of communication killed the team's chemistry before it even had a chance to form, and many members believe the lack of unity to be the team's downfall. Even Shay admitted that there was "not as much of a team aspect this year as there has been in the past," and "not everyone knows each other ... there is a lack of leadership."

Leadership has indeed been a problem for the team. At the end of the year, when asked who the captains of the team were, some of the track members still had no

coming out of the off-season, but things just didn't work out," Wray says. "We just didn't do as well as we had wanted. Finishing third in the Big East was actually a disappointment in my opinion."

Many team members recognized the same potential Wray saw in the team. And while the majority of the team performed well in practice, its members admitted that they always seemed to underachieve in meets. "In practice things went so well," Shay says, "but when it came down to the actual races, not everyone put it together."

Sophomore Nick Setta agrees. "So many guys run workouts really well, but there's something missing during the meets."

The missing piece, it appears, is team chemistry. Despite many personal achievements and a respectable finish, track members still perform in relative obscurity, overshadowed by higher-profile sports such as basketball and baseball. This can sometimes be a positive thing, as members perform for the sheer joy of their sport. "Track athletes are like offensive linemen. They work incredibly hard, but don't get nearly the amount of recognition that they deserve," Setta says.

This lack of recognition can also be detrimental to the spirit of the team. Lack of publicity leaves many talented track members unknown to the general public and even to other members of the team itself. Track, a largely individual sport, features many distinct and specialized events, and many team members never communicate with other members who compete in different fields. Few

idea. Even Shay, a captain himself, admitted there was confusion surrounding the team's leaders, and that he "still [didn't] know who this year's track captains actually are."

The problems surrounding leadership were perhaps especially troublesome to this year's team because of its youth and inexperience. Out of the 63 members of the team, only nine are seniors, and 23 are true freshmen — freshmen who may have benefited from a strong senior presence. "We just need more experience," Setta says.

While this inexperience put the team at a disadvantage this season, it may prove beneficial in years to come. No one believes this more than Piante. "The future of this program is very bright," he says. "We aren't graduating many athletes, and I have a lot of outstanding recruits coming in. I think we will have a much better team next year."

As the snow melts, the team will begin its outdoor season, and this year the Irish are hungry for more than just another third-place finish. The team knows it has the potential to do well — very well. It also knows that its success is dependent on the team's performance as a whole, and not simply as individuals competing in specific events. The members of the team recognize their past problems and refuse to dwell on them as they prepare for the indoor season. "I am just going to use this indoor season as a motivation for outdoor," Wray says. "I am not going to dwell on it. It will just serve as inspiration for me to work harder and do better." □



net gains

Tallying up the results of
Coach Brey's first season



TRUE PLAYAS Strong performances by players like Martin Ingelsby helped the Irish squad capture the title in the West Division of the Big East. However, many questioned the depth of the Irish bench.



GERARDMESKILL

This is a big day in my life, one that I did not see coming," said Matt Doherty. "I was just cruising along in South Bend, and then the phone rang, and here I am. Maybe a lot of you saw this coming, but I never did."

Doherty was not the only one caught off-guard. His departure was the last thing any of the Irish faithful could have predicted or wanted. After leading the Fighting Irish to a 22-15 record and a second-place finish in the NIT Tournament in his first year as head coach, Matt Doherty was leaving Notre Dame for North Carolina.

Prior to the announcement, everything was heading in the right direction for the Irish basketball program: All-American forward Troy Murphy had passed on the NBA draft to return for another year, All-Big 12 forward Ryan Humphrey was eligible for play after transferring from Oklahoma to Notre Dame in 1999 and point guard Jimmy Dillon was the only graduation casualty to the team's nucleus. Irish fans smelled an NCAA Tournament berth looming. But just as the Irish basketball euphoria threatened to reach an unparalleled peak, coach Doherty introduced a cruel dose of reality.

Athletic Director Kevin White, also new to the Notre Dame scene, wasted little time in beginning a full-fledged search for a replacement. Within days, University of Delaware's Mike Brey was named the third Notre Dame men's basketball coach in three years. Unlike Doherty's inaugural season, Brey's came with some major expectations and difficulties: Win the trust of the players — especially of Murphy and Humphrey — and return to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 11 years. After all, it was Doherty who convinced Murphy to stay and

Humphrey to transfer, and if the Irish were to have any hope of success in 2000-01, these two men had to be part of the formula. Brey understood this well.

"I think you can be very clear saying that [Murphy] sticking around is the key for us getting back into the NCAA Tournament after an 11-year drought," Brey says.

And so Brey made every effort possible to ensure that Murphy's stay this year would be pleasant. Due in part to Brey's efforts, Murphy saw the change in power as a long-term positive experience on his career.

"It was a learning experience meeting all these new assistant coaches," Murphy says. "It was difficult, but it made me a better basketball player."

Humphrey's situation was even trickier, as he had never even played a game for the man who brought him to South Bend. After news of Doherty's departure, Humphrey had doubts whether or not to remain at Notre Dame but was reassured by his teammates and the new coach.

"[Remaining] was a tough decision," Humphrey says. "I think my teammates and everyone around here did a good job on helping me get through [the coaching change]. Everyone, including Mike Brey, knew I wanted to stay because of the team we have and just this coaching staff."

When Humphrey and Murphy both bought into his plans for the 2000-01 campaign, Brey and his team were finally able to focus on basketball. After falling just short of an NCAA Tournament bid in 2000, everyone on the squad knew that it would take something special to earn the right to play in basketball's premier tournament.

"We all worked as hard as we could to be a good team [last year], but unfortunately we lost some games to teams we weren't

supposed to lose to," says center Harold Swanagan. "We should have been in, but we didn't get there."

Despite falling short, the 1999-2000 campaign was considered a great success for the Irish basketball program. But no one was shouting "encore!" The Irish began the season knowing that if they did not make the NCAA Tournament, many would consider the year a failure.

Notre Dame's early response to this challenge was extraordinary. For the first time ever, the Irish scored more than 100 points in back-to-back games to open the season. Notre Dame then defeated both highly touted Cincinnati and Vanderbilt on the road to post a 4-0 record and earn a No. 10 ranking in the AP poll.

Then the Irish pendulum swung. The unranked Indiana Hoosiers embarrassed the Irish at home, holding Notre Dame to 38-percent shooting from the floor and dominating the Irish in front of a national audience.

Things went from bad to worse for the Irish when Miami of Ohio rolled into town. Following an incident in which Troy Murphy was caught using a fake ID to enter a local bar, Brey opted not to start the All-American as punishment. Less than five minutes into the game, Murphy came off the bench, but in the end it was irrelevant. The Irish were reeling as Miami handed Notre Dame its second consecutive loss to an unranked opponent at home. The defeats dropped Notre Dame to No. 21 in the AP poll.

From there, the Irish coasted to four consecutive victories against teams with ratings percentage indices (RPIs) all above 100. Notre Dame then faced Syracuse on the road. For the second straight time, the Irish played poorly on ESPN, losing 79-70. Less than a week later, Seton Hall edged the Irish on

ESPN and Kentucky trounced Notre Dame on CBS. In the eyes of the nation, Notre Dame was failing badly to make its case for an NCAA Tournament berth. The AP poll reflected the slide, dropping Notre Dame from the top-25 for the first time in the season.

Nevertheless, forward David Graves insists that the Irish did not feel pressure to perform.

"Pressure is what you put on yourself, so we just went out," Graves says. "We knew we were a good team. We just went out and played."

This attitude was just what the Irish needed to swing the pendulum back to prosperity. Notre Dame rattled off eight consecutive victories, spanning from mid-January into February. Of those eight victories, two in particular caught the nation's eye: back-to-back wins over No. 11 Syracuse and No. 10 Georgetown. The marquis victories ended Notre Dame's four-week drought in the AP polls, earning the Irish the No. 23 ranking. More importantly, Notre Dame had gone from a likely NIT tournament bid to the No. 5 seed in most experts' NCAA Tournament projections.

"That was a huge stretch for us," Graves says. "A lot of people wouldn't win those two games [against Syracuse and Georgetown], but we did and we gave ourselves a cushion."

From that point on, never again did the Irish fall out of the polls or the NCAA Tournament projections. By the end of the winning streak, the Irish had climbed back to No. 14 in the AP poll and had a solid lead for first place in the West Division of the Big East. Seton Hall finally ended the Irish winning streak immediately before the Big East showdown between division leaders Notre Dame and No. 10 Boston College. In a game that became an instant classic, Martin Ingelsby provided a heroic off-balance jumper with less than four seconds remain-

ing to secure a one-point Irish victory. Three days later, Notre Dame clinched its first-ever division championship in Blacksburg, Va. after massacring Virginia Tech. At the end of a turbulent season, Notre Dame finally had something tangible for its efforts: a championship trophy.

"When you lock the league with three games to play, you've played a pretty good season," Graves says.

Following the division-clinching victory, the Irish suffered a considerable letdown, dropping their final three games, including a bad loss to Pittsburgh in the Big East Tournament.

"I think if you look at conference tournaments this week, it was kind of a little bit of a rule of thumb where the teams that have secured bids maybe didn't play as well and didn't play like their life was on the line," Brey says. "I can certainly say that we looked like that at times."

The letdown was irrelevant once Selection Sunday arrived. After 11 years of watching the NCAA Tournament, Notre Dame was once again a participant, earning a No. 6 seed in the Midwest and drawing an opening-round game against Xavier.

"It is an honor to be a part of [the NCAA Tournament]," Brey says. "It has been a long time for the young men that have been at this institution but also for Notre Dame fans around the world."

Once again immersed in unfamiliar waters, the Irish looked to their new coach for guidance in the postseason.

"[Coach Brey's] been there before, coaching at Duke and leading Delaware teams to the NCAA Tournament," says team captain Ingelsby. "He's just kind of showing us the way."

The way to NCAA success for the Irish ran through Xavier. Going into the contest, many analysts questioned whether the Irish could be successful in the

NCAA Tournament, citing that Notre Dame had not won a game in almost a month. Brey brushed such concerns aside, assuring the world that after an 11-year hiatus, the Irish would be ready for competition.

"I think momentum going into the NCAA Tournament is overrated," Brey says. "I just think that motivation and hunger and focus are going to take care of themselves."

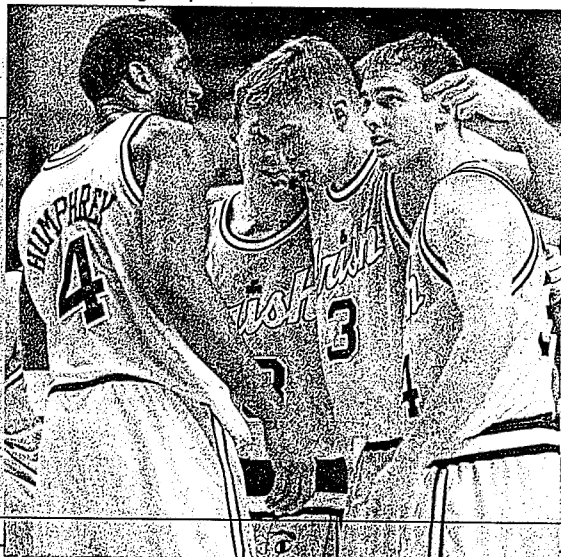
If hunger was scoring potential, then Graves entered the first-round showdown starving. Graves scored 20 points on a 7-for-7 effort that saw the Irish shoot 63 percent as a team. Carroll scored 21 points and Murphy added 19, despite shooting just 6-for-17.

After trailing early in the first half, the Irish built a double-digit lead and never looked back, winning their first NCAA Tournament contest since 1989.

Then the Irish pendulum took a swing for the worse. Less than 48 hours after the Irish won their first NCAA Tournament game in a dozen years, they were packing for South Bend after a season-ending 59-56 defeat against Ole Miss. Notre Dame opened the contest 0-for-8 from the floor, setting the tone for a mere 29-percent shooting, its worst performance of the year. Despite the team's offensive woes, the Irish stayed with the Rebels until the game's final possession. Five-foot-5 Rebel point guard Jason Harrison's three-pointer with under a minute to play sunk the Irish, giving Mississippi the lead for good.

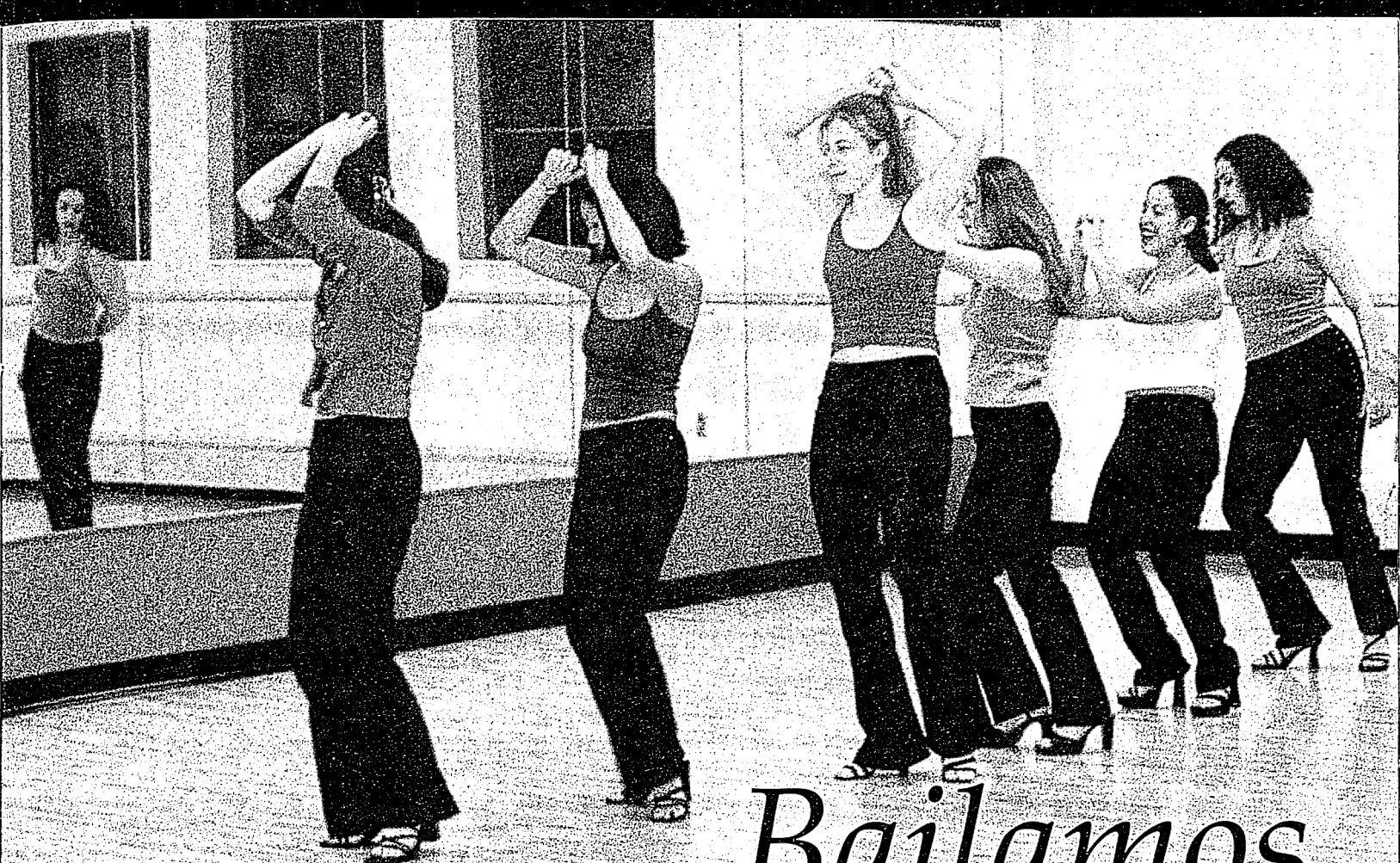
With the defeat, serious concerns are once again revolving around Irish basketball. Although Murphy's future remains uncertain as he contemplates entering the NBA draft, at least the Irish can be sure that Brey will stick around, and that no matter what happens next season, nobody can take this year's accomplishments away. □

HUDDLE The team's fraternity played a large role in its success during the past season.



I think momentum going into the NCAA tournament is overrated. I just think that motivation and hunger and focus are going to take care of themselves.

— Coach Mike Brey



Bailamos

Latino rhythms take over Notre Dame

KATHLEENCORTE

Forget those Ricky Martin and Enrique Iglesias videos on MTV. You won't have to depend on TV or the radio for the infectious rhythm of Latin music when Notre Dame and St. Mary's students take to O'Laughlin Auditorium for the 11th annual Latin Expressions.

The event showcases the musical and dancing abilities of Notre Dame and St. Mary's students and Latino groups in the South Bend community. "It's almost like a talent show, but it focuses more on the Latino traditions," says Heriberto Rodriguez, president of La Alianza, the Latino student organization that sponsors Latin Expressions.

Instead of spotlighting the culture of just one Latin American nation, the show will offer a variety of dances and music. "We try to include all the different types of cultures," says Latin Expressions commissioner Vanessa Assad, a sophomore who coordinated this year's event. "Our decorations will include flags from every single Latin American country."

The night's entertainment includes ev-

everything from poetry readings to live band performances. Coro Primavera, a choir that performs at Spanish Masses on campus, and Mariachi ND are both slated to appear.

A highlight of this year's Latin Expressions is the Oxib K'ajau Guatemalan Cultural Marimba Group, which will introduce the audience to marimba, a type of music unique to Guatemala.

Although Latin Expressions focuses on Latino traditions, students and groups of all backgrounds will appear in the show. "Just take a look at our opening dance," Rodriguez says. "There's so many different cultures just in that." In keeping with its theme of diversity, Latin Expressions will also feature performances by groups such as Troop ND and First Class Steppers.

The event has grown and changed in presentation as well as in attendance since it began in 1990. "We used to have bands [come from off campus], but it went away from the mission, which is to present to the Notre Dame, South Bend and St. Mary's communities with what we have in our schools," Rodriguez says. "The Latin population here is so diverse. Before, it was so

small and they all flocked together. Now a lot more people are going to the events."

The school's talent will be showcased mainly through dances performed by several groups and individuals. The two longest dances — salsa and merengue — were choreographed by computer science and engineering professor Ramzi Bualuan and feature groups of eight dancers.

Assad expects the current popularity of Latin music and dancing to draw people to the event. "I've been to a lot of dorm dances, and when we put on Latin music, people just go crazy," she says. "They're like, 'Oh, Vanessa, how do you dance to that?'"

Perhaps the most important function of Latin Expressions is that it brings Latino cultures on campus into the spotlight. "It's really a great way for people to share part of their culture and also to show that people can appreciate other cultures," Assad says, "and it just gives me a chance to dance!" □

— Photo by Kate Foster

Latin Expressions will take place Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the LaFortune box office.

Yeah, It's That Easy

Having the time of his life both musically and personally, G. Love makes it all look simple

CARRIESWEENEY

G Love, the 28-year-old Philadelphia-based musician, has always managed to be pretty cool in that laid-back, do-your-own-thing, rock-star kind of way. Even before he was born, he was listening to pretty decent music — his first concert, *in utero*, was a 1972 Rolling Stones performance. During his teenage years in the 1980s, a decade infamous for its “creative” fashion trends and similarly questionable music, he listened to classic blues artists. He started playing guitar at age eight and wrote his first song as a freshman in high school. Today, with his fifth album, *The Electric Mile*, set for release on April 24 and with a concert scheduled at Notre Dame on March 30, G. Love is as confident in his musical instincts and abilities as ever.

Born Garrett Dutton, G. Love was hooked on blues early. After high school, he attended Skidmore College for a semester before dropping out and heading to Boston, where he met drummer Jeffrey “the Houseman” Clemens at the Tam O’Shanter, a local pub. After performing together a few times, the two added bass player Jim “Jazz” Prescott, and soon G. Love and Special Sauce were recording demo tapes. In May 1994, they released their self-titled debut album and followed it up with 1995’s *Coast to Coast Motel*, 1997’s *Yeah, It’s That Easy*, and 1999’s *Philadelphonic*. Each record signals an

advance in G. Love’s career as he refines his sound with each release.

Whereas his initial album paid tribute to cars, girls, summer and ball, by his third effort, he was addressing issues from slavery and drugs to gun violence and trust. And as his lyrics expanded and matured, his sound evolved as well. *Rolling Stone* called his latest effort, *Philadelphonic*, “the breeziest album the band has recorded,” and *Entertainment Weekly* said “G. Love takes a crazy variety of styles — hip-hop, rural blues, ’70s funk, ’60s folk — and stirs them into a gumbo that somehow tastes perfect. *Philadelphonic* is sleeker and more streamlined than its three predecessors.”

G. Love anticipates that *The Electric Mile* will again break boundaries and bring his sound to a new level. “This album is still kind of our trademark hip-hop blues, but it leans a little more towards classic rock,” G. Love explains. “It’s us, just doing our thing, and it’s the combination of a lot of material we worked on last year. We feature some special guests, and it’s just pretty cool.”

Things haven’t always been so cool, however. After *Coast to Coast Motel* didn’t sell as well as the debut album, the group toured and nearly broke up over financial disagreements. Clemens and Prescott decided to take a break, and G. Love worked with three other bands, King’s Court, All Fellas Band and Philly Cartel, on material for *Yeah, It’s That*

Easy.

The original trio soon regrouped for a tour, which, although it brought in approximately \$300,000, actually cost G. Love \$50,000, as he never received a dime of the earnings. However, the band persevered and went on to produce *Philadelphonic*. G. Love picked the title, which is a word he has long used to describe what he calls “the sound of Philadelphia.” G. Love epitomizes this sound, which encompasses “a little bit of everything — hip-hop, blues, funky beats, a little bit of jazz, street-smart lyrics, reggae,” he explains.

G. Love also formed a label with the band’s manager, Jason Brown, which he named *Philadelphonic Records*. “This is a great place for music right now,” he told the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. “The whole next phase of rhythm and blues is here [in Philadelphia]. It’s a breeding ground whether we know it or not.” G. Love and his label work to support and promote many up-and-coming young artists, including the Princes of Babylon, which performed at Notre Dame in the fall.

In addition to expanding into the production field, G. Love has managed to maximize his visibility as of late in other ways, with performances on Comedy Central’s *Turn Ben Stein On* and with songs on last year’s movie *Whipped*. He’s performed on *Late Night with David Letterman* and at numerous HORDE and MTV concerts. The guy is obviously all

Excerpt from

"WHEN WE MEET AGAIN"

My friends they were few but to me
they were true / All we was trying
to do was just make it through /
Always thought for the future, but
we shouldn't have cared / All the
best things in life we shared them
right there.

over the place. So why haven't a lot of people outside of the East Coast heard of him?

"Our biggest problem is that MTV doesn't know we exist," G. Love told the *Inquirer*. However, he deals with the band's sometimes-frustrating anonymity gracefully. "You have to live with all the choices you make," he says. "I've learned that much about the business. The executives have other artists to focus on. I'm just me."

The band hopes that its name will continue to spread with their current tour, which covers the entire United States. "It's mostly a club tour, but we're hitting up a few colleges," he says. "We're excited to see Notre Dame."

Whether or not they ever become household names, G. Love and his bandmates maintain an optimistic philosophy that spills back and forth between their lives and their music. "I have a thing I tell myself," G. Love says. "When the waves get rough, I try to think like a surfer. You just ride through stuff. You fall off, you get back on your board quickly. There are bumps — the key is how you ride them. If I'm backstage and people are pulling on me, wanting things from me, I tell myself, 'Just surf it.' If I'm dealing with record-company problems, I just surf it. Nothing is that extreme."

His evident self-contentment and his laid-back, worry-free outlook might stem from sources other than his ever-growing music career. "I have a lot to look forward to personally right now, as well," he says, ex-

plaining that his fifth album is not this spring's only cause for celebration. "My girlfriend and I are going to have a baby in July, so that's obviously awesome," he says. "Right now I'm just chilling, letting it all happen."

Despite his busy upcoming schedule, G. Love refuses to forget his personal philosophy when dealing with his hectic career. "The moral is, you have to chill out in a bad situation, go with what's in front of you," he says.

"The real stuff happens when you improvise. Besides all the crap you go through that you can't even believe you're

going through, to simply pick up a guitar and play — music is an incredible thing. I'm going to remember as long as I live looking up at the end of 'Stepping Stones' when we did Letterman, and seeing Dr. John [another Philly musician with whom G. Love worked during his break from Special Sauce].

"We let the last note ring out, and I looked over and gave him the respect, and he just nodded at me, both of us with a twinkle in our eye, just feeling this cool moment. I wouldn't trade that stuff for anything in the world." □



PHOTO COURTESY OF G. LOVE

◆ SHOW ME SOMETHING

Things Are Looking Up

OOB survives a Big Easy spring break

by Kara Zuaro

Before I even begin to tell you about the alligator stew, the toothless tuba player, the floating graves and bicycles, the flaming fountain and the gas-station casinos, I've got to let you know that I'll never get the whole story straight. You should talk to my two compadres, T-Bone and Slow Hand, because they might remember the stuff I forgot or snoozed through or erased from memory. They might even offer up some conflicting versions of the same stories I'm about to tell, but my point here is that if you want the real Big Easy experience for yourself, don't ask us: just take your own trip to New Orleans, the City that Care Forgot.

The Big Easy Tour was spring break's answer to fall break's Southern Comfort outing. The cast of characters remains loosely the same. T-Bone and Slow Hand dropped fall-break frat-boy monikers for jazz names, Nice Guy Lenny abandoned ship to kick the frat life in Florida, and we met up with some new folks, namely a bunch of post-Farley gals in an SUV with a British dude named Euro Tom.

I missed most of the trip down to the Bayou, having fallen into a heavy sleep in the back seat, waking only to hear bits and pieces of ethical debate between the boys, to see them shouting at a vintage limousine with a large rooster on its roof and a bunch of high-school girls within, to be told that I talk in my sleep, and to fill up the tank at every third gas-station stop.

At sunrise we hit Cracker Barrel for breakfast, and, when we were done, my fellow road warriors fell into a post-hashed brown-casserole coma, leaving me alone at the wheel all the way through Mississippi.

So, let's be honest here. We found New Orleans, a city fragrant with fried fish and urine, to be much more of a tourist trap than expected. Right away, we, the refined travelers, decided to find a restaurant off the beaten path for some authentic

local fare. Unfortunately, it being a Sunday, all the real restaurants were closed and we had to settle for some Gumbo Poopa at the Acme Oyster and Seafood House, a T.G.I. Friday's-like establishment in the French Quarter.

With Sunday evening came the heaviest downpour I'd ever witnessed. Standing forlornly under the hotel awning, we encountered a peculiar family, each member with a different accent. The mother was Southern, the father sounded English, the son either Scottish or Irish and the daughter had to be Eastern European. "It's great weather," quipped the dad, "if you're a duck." This inspired T-Bone and Slow Hand to don their swimsuits and sprint to the nearest liquor store, impervious to Mother Nature's assault. On the way back, they stole sleek glasses from the closed hotel bar, and one of them — I won't say which — celebrated his feat by peeing out the window.

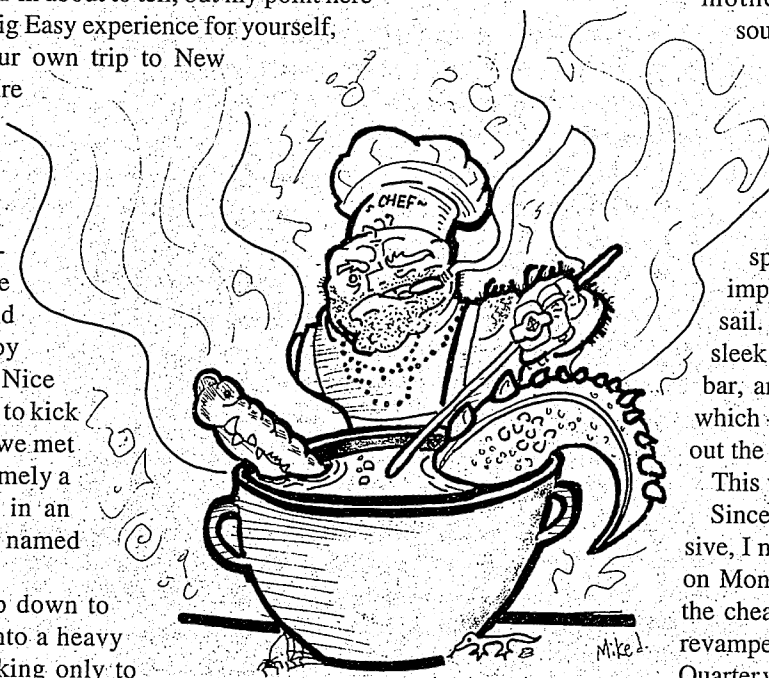
This was only the beginning.

Since our first hotel was too expensive, I met up with a couple of the girls on Monday morning and checked into the cheaper and cooler Ambassador, a revamped factory on the edge of the Quarter with hardwood floors and Marvin

Gaye playing in the lobby.

We loaded our stuff into the cars near the old hotel, but we were too hungry to move everything, so we rounded up the whole group and headed out for some Po' Boys, which are fried fish sandwiches to all you Yanks. When Euro Tom asked if he could smoke at the table, the proprietor said that he could smoke cigarettes at the moment but implied that he could smoke whatever he wanted later. Good golly, New Orleans sure is a crazy town.

After lunch we ran through the rain to nearby Pat O'Brien's, a bar famous for its Hurricanes. We got a round and got to chatting. We found ourselves right beside the raspy-voiced piano lady, got another round and sang fervently along as she played the Fight Song



O U T O F

for us. Nevertheless, when I journeyed to the courtyard for some fresh air, I was astounded to find that it was still light out and was spellbound by the courtyard fountain, which blazed with fire atop the water. After we all had a look at the fountain, somebody decided it was time to go.

While the rest of the group strummed guitars and sang in one of the hotel rooms, T-Bone and I decided to take a little nap. We headed back to the Big Easy headquarters, put *Blade Runner* on the tube and set the alarm so that we could rise and rally in a couple of hours. It was 8 p.m.

And then suddenly (*oops!*) it was midnight and somebody was pounding on the door! It was the girls, and I was very, very confused. Why was the TV so loud? Why was it midnight? Why couldn't I turn off the alarm clock and why did it sound like a river?

Apparently, the alarm was one of those gentle wake-up deals, meaning that it started out quiet and slowly worked its way up to a loud volume. And instead of "buzzer" or "radio," the alarm had been set to the "babbling brook" function. So rather than rouse us, the alarm deepened our slumbers and drowned out any attempt to wake us, including multiple phone calls and Slow Hand's incessant pounding on the door.

Having fallen asleep at 8 on Monday, an early Tuesday morning wake-up for T-Bone and I ensued. We enjoyed a breakfast of beignets and cafe au lait — coffee and doughnuts, N'Awlins style — at Cafe du Monde, among the tourists and locals who flock there, and then walked along the Mississippi River, which I had never seen before. We picked up a souvenir for Nice Guy Lenny — the ugliest Mardi Gras beads we could find, festooned with what appeared to be copulating babies.

We finally got the car and picked up Slow Hand, who was still a bit vexed about the night before, and all of us in our day-old clothes took a trip to a big cemetery we'd passed on the way into the city. Historically, so we learned, there have been some problems burying the dead along the bayou. Since the water level is so high, the coffins tend to float back up, and so the cemetery is a city of above-ground cement vaults, some ornate and others just broken down bricks. The guys proceeded to lie on the ground and stick their faces into the places where the bricks had fallen through. Super creepy.

Afterwards, we had a tasty and non-touristy meal at Uglesich's, and even got to sample some alligator stew. We followed up our authentic meal with some genuine old-school jazz at Preservation Hall. After the first song, the bandleader shouted, "Now you can go home and tell people you've been to New Orleans," and, by the end of the show, the drummer was beating the window panes, the glass, the walls, the floor — a wondrous racket.

A local jazz kid who used the word "cat" where we would say "guy" tipped Slow Hand off to a place called The Funky Butt. If the historic Preservation Hall brought us back in time, then The Funky Butt pummeled us forward to a new era of music, where a young girl

rapped over the grooves of a next-generation jazz ensemble, its members no older than us.

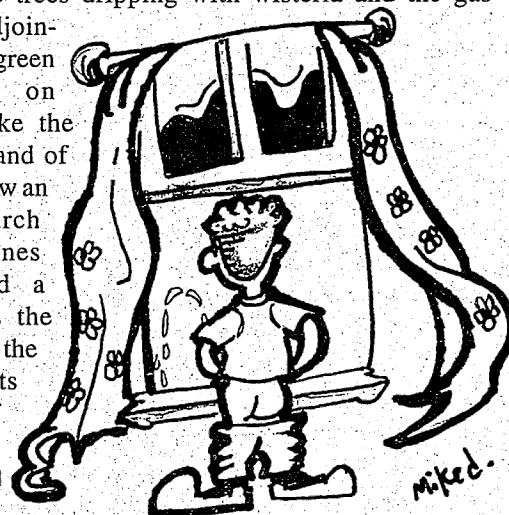
Everything was pretty chill inside The Funky Butt, but on our way out, we were accosted by a man with a bucket. (This where my version of the story will diverge from the others.) Trinidad was one of those tall and lovely Cajuns whom you read about in New Orleans fiction. He had a magical rhythm to his speech, crazy braids and a hazy cloud about him. He called himself the best street performer in N'Awlins, but I didn't like the looks of him. I crossed my arms and glared at him, and he told me to loosen up. He said we didn't have to give him money if we didn't like his trick, but I knew he had a bunch of cronies inside, and we were standing on a desolate street corner, away from the touristy Quarter, and I was sure we were going to die.

When we walked away, he chased us around the corner, wielding his bucket high in the air and beginning to sing into it, R. Kelly style. I was not as amused by this as the rest of the group. Once we gave him enough cash to buy a drink, he dashed back into the bar, and I was reminded by my fellow travelers of my inability to have a good time.

Oh, where is Nice Guy Lenny when you need him?

We retreated with the girls and Euro Tom to Erin's grandma's house for the rest of the week. It was a beautiful estate on the bayou, equipped with all kinds of water vehicles, like floating bikes and paddleboats and canoes. I'm a little afraid of the outdoors, so T-Bone started calling me City Mouse, and, along with Slow Hand, he tried to show me how to party with nature. Though this included paddling on the alligator-filled lake at night, I did my best, without crying too much, and I survived. On Friday afternoon, we headed back to South Bend.

With the sun in our face, the wind in our hair and the *O Brother Where Art Thou* soundtrack on the stereo, the boys sang along to "Big Rock Candy Mountains," and I watched the delta sail by, the roadside trees dripping with wisteria and the gas stations with adjoining casinos. The green algae swirled on brown water like the bayou's own brand of marble cake. I saw an abandoned church engulfed by vines and whispered a word of thanks the powers of nature, the graveyard ghosts and the gods of chaos for our safe deliverance. □



BOUND S

Sesame Street Invasions

Can you tell me how to get rid of this monster?

TONIPLUMMER

My friend and I get together certain afternoons to share in one of our greatest delights: *Sesame Street*. We laugh, we shriek. And then, we are appalled. For every day, a serious crime is committed. The *Sesame Street* we know and love is interrupted by a little segment called "Elmo's World." You all know Elmo. He loves his goldfish, his crayon too, but does Elmo love us? Is he really our friend? Or is he, in fact, the enemy of all that *Sesame Street* stands for? I realize that in saying this, I run the risk of debunking America's favorite red monster, but too much is at stake for me to remain silent: integrity, friendship and the psychological well-being of America's children.

One thing "Elmo's World" lacks is community. I can recall a disturbing incident that occurred during one of the few episodes in which Elmo actually interacts with others. The theme of the day is hair, and Rapunzel is telling her story to Elmo. Elmo, imagining the tale, puts himself at the center, wearing a wig of long yellow braids. The handsome prince comes by and climbs up Elmo's hair. At first, neither is sure how to get down again. But Elmo takes off his wig, fits it onto the prince's head, and climbs down the braids himself, running off and abandoning the prince in the tower. Now, not only is this not very funny, but it's also not very nice — not to mention what it has to say about gender roles. If Elmo wants to put on

a wig and talk like a girl (which he does numerous times in this episode), I have no problem with that. But, undeniably, Elmo deceived the prince to get what — or, rather, where — he wanted, to shed the disguise

and to make like a tree. Without explanation, without a care. An innocent misunderstanding? I don't think so.

Starring with Elmo is Dorothy, the goldfish. She is his excuse to retreat from the Street, but we don't actually ever see him feeding her or caring for her in any way. Dorothy doesn't speak, but she certainly has a lot of questions. Or, at least, that's what Elmo says. I think that Dorothy is a prisoner who will be cursing Elmo for the rest of her days for putting scary objects into her bowl and asking such stupid questions as, "How do people brush their teeth?" attributed to her.

Then there's Mr. Noodle, or, occasionally, Mr. Noodle's brother, Mr. Noodle. Mr. Noodle attempts to perform simple tasks, say brushing his hair or wrapping a present. He is not the brightest of fellows, so these take him a while. As he ponders his task, Elmo and a chorus of children yell at him, telling him how to perform it correctly. There is definitely a right and a wrong way to do things in "Elmo's World." This is not

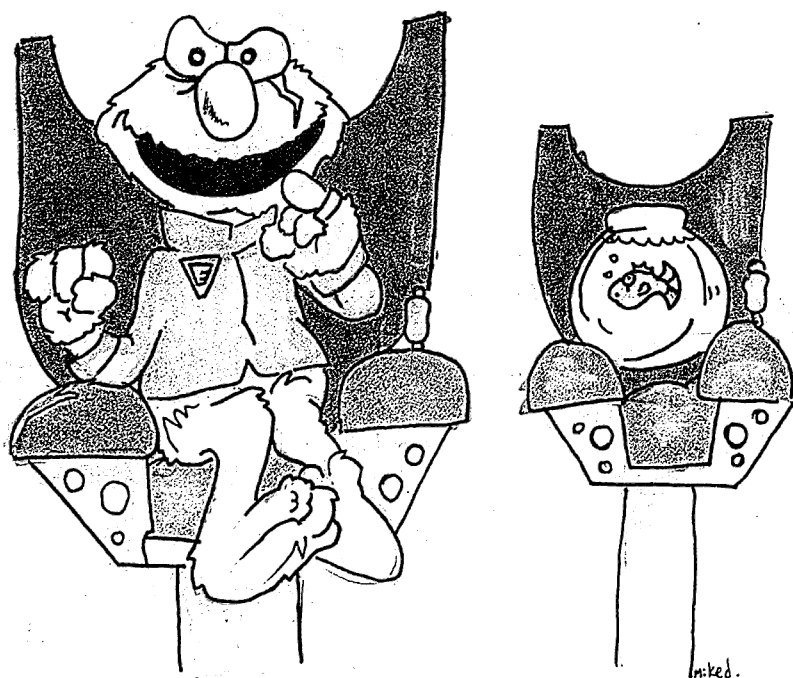
ent, uninteresting topic, but the routine does not change. The World largely functions as a how-to manual. It does not allow any room for individuality or surprise or for any true learning.

Each day, we are driven from the Street that we love and imprisoned within this poorly drawn alternate reality. On *Sesame Street* you might see a spotted, dancing letter "D," but at least that makes sense. All the objects in "Elmo's World" — the window shade, the TV, the dresser — are mobile, shape-changing, and faceless. This can seriously mess with your mind. Perhaps *Sesame Street*, like a person, cannot be perfect. Perhaps there is always this dark, shallow being living alongside of us. But I say we have enough problems. Let's at least strive for goodness where we can.

I must admit that my dislike for "Elmo's World" does go back to an instinctual distrust of Elmo himself. He refers to himself and to all others in the third person, as though he cannot fully acknowledge or accept anyone. He distances himself. This monster has serious issues. And this is how they are addressed! By giving him unsupervised free rein. Sure he's cute, but don't let that fool you. Remember what happened to the prince. Besides, there's more to life than being cute, buddy.

I challenge each of you, intelligent people that you are, to watch this program and to seriously consider the morals it supports: If *Sesame Street* at all shaped you in your early years, think about how it must continue to shape children today. The very idea of one's own world brings up the problems of alienation and egotism. I mean, we might as well tell our children, "Lock yourself in your room, learn how to do this and this and this, and then die alone in your own little psychotic universe." I may just be a philosophy major with a little too

much time on my hands, but I think Elmo should consider changing his ways. In the words of the Count, one of the *true* residents of *Sesame Street*: "I give you one, one warning, Elmo! Ha ha ha!" □



the case on the Street, where mistakes are handled much more compassionately and creatively.

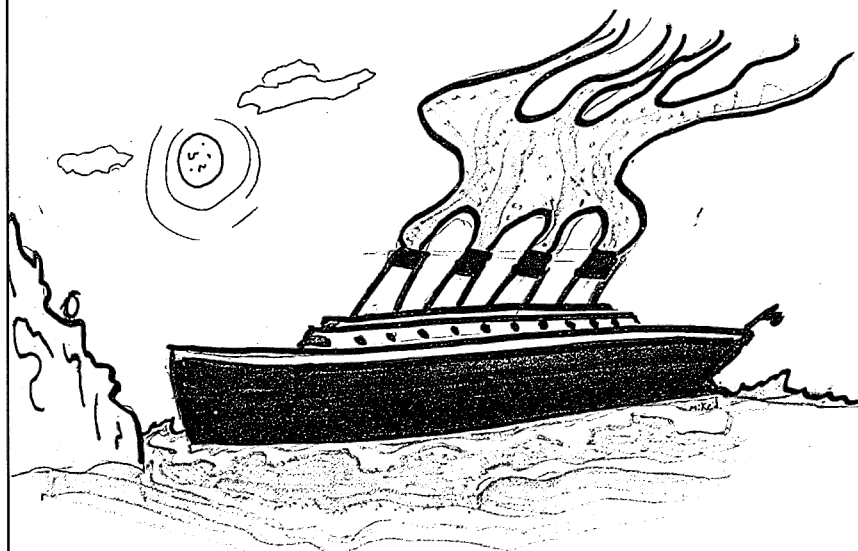
This same thing happens every time, which itself is a problem. There's always a differ-

comino distractions

editor's choice



22 march - 11 april 2001



Sure, you could go see *Titanic* (I personally have been boycotting the movie since it came out my sophomore year in high school. My then-boyfriend promised me repeatedly that he would see it with me. We never went; he dumped me soon after. Sorry, Celine: my bitterness will go on and on), but why settle for *Titanic*'s measly love triangle when you could experience the veritable love dodecahedron of Handel's opera, *Xerxes*, which will be performed by the Notre Dame Opera next weekend? King falls in love with girl and tells his brother, brother loves same girl, girl's sister secretly loves king's brother, foreign princess is betrothed to king and comes to court disguised as a man ... you get the idea. And it's in English, so you can focus all your attention on following the plot.

— Cristin Fenzel

movies

- **Thu 22** *Forrest Gump* 10:30 PM, 155 DeBartolo.
- **Fri 23** *Braveheart*, 8:00 PM, 155 DeBartolo.
- **Fri 23** *The English Patient*, 10:30 PM, 155 DeBartolo.
- **Fri 23 and Sat 24** *Bounce*, 8:00 PM and 10:30 PM, 101 DeBartolo.
- **Sat 24** *Titanic*, 8:00 PM, 155 DeBartolo.
- **Sat 24** *Shakespeare in Love*, 10:30 PM, 155 DeBartolo.
- **Mon 26** *Man with a Movie Camera*, 7:00 PM, Snite.
- **Fri 30 and Sat 31** *Requiem for a Dream*, 7:30 and 9:30 PM, Snite.
- **Mon 02 April** *Breathless*, 7:00 PM, Snite.
- **Sat 07** *Bamboozled*, 9:30 PM, Snite.
- **Mon 09** *Trust*, 7:00 PM, Snite.

the arts

- **Thurs 22 and Fri 23** Notre Dame Glee Club Spring Concert, 8:00 PM, Washington Hall.
- **Sun 25** Sergei Babayan, piano, 2:00 PM, Annenburg Auditorium.
- **Fri 30 and Sat 31** Notre Dame Opera presents *Xerxes*, 7:30 PM, Washington Hall.

student life

- **Thu 29** Belinda Womack, lead singer with Kool Reflections, 7:30 PM, Reckers.
- **Sat 24** Culture Fest, part of International Week, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, first and second floors of LaFortune.
- **Sat 31** Hawaii Club Luau, 6:30 PM, LaFortune Ballroom.

sports

- **Tue 27** Softball: ND vs. Western Michigan, 4:00 PM, Ivy Field.
- **Tue 27** Baseball: ND vs. Western Michigan, 5:05 PM, Eck Stadium.
- **Wed 28** Softball: ND vs. Valparaiso, 4:00 PM, Ivy Field.
- **Wed 28** Baseball: ND vs. Toledo, 5:05 PM, Eck Stadium.
- **Thu 29** Tennis: ND men vs. Illinois, 4:00 PM, Eck Tennis Pavillion.
- **Fri 30** Tennis: ND women vs. Iowa, 4:00 PM, Eck Tennis Pavillion.
- **Sat 31** Softball: ND vs. St. John's, 11:00 AM, Ivy Field.
- **Sat 31** Baseball: ND vs. Seton Hall, 12:05 PM and 2:05

PM, Eck Stadium.

- **Sun 01** Softball: ND vs. Seton Hall, 11:00 AM, Ivy Field.
- **Sun 01** Tennis: ND women vs. William and Mary, 11:00 AM, Eck Tennis Pavillion.
- **Tue 03** Baseball: ND vs. Ball State, 5:05 PM, Eck Stadium.
- **Sat 07** Track and Field: ND men and women, Spring Opener, 1:00 PM, Loftus Sports Center.
- **Tue 10** Tennis: ND men vs. Indiana State, 3:30 PM, Eck Tennis Pavillion.
- **Wed 11** Softball: ND vs. Bowling Green, 3:30 PM, Ivy Field.

Experiencing new traditions

by Aswini Ramkumar

F1, I20, IAP 66, I94, I765, J1 ... are these FBI codes, state highways or the latest in parking-lot numbers? To most international students, they are just part of a new language needed to apply for a visa and to complete immigration documents for entry into the United States. They get travelers cheques in U.S. dollars, apply for Social Security Numbers, pack their belongings, bid emotional farewells to family and friends and prepare to embrace a new culture, a new education system and a new people. I shared their same concerns and apprehension when I embarked on my trip to Notre Dame four years ago.

Since I was brought up in Bahrain, in the Middle East, I felt I had an advantage. The influence of Western culture back home — where, along with Lebanese falafel, American cheeseburgers had become part of life — was very dominant. However, freshman year definitely had its challenges, particularly cultural ones.

Like many other minorities on campus, I felt that the diversity at Notre Dame needed to be increased. I was initially overwhelmed — I was often the only Southeast Asian in the classroom — but I slowly became accustomed to it. In a way, it turned out to be an advantage, since many of my professors remembered me by face if not by name. I discovered the American teaching style and the system of hands-on

learning as almost a prerequisite to lectures and reading. I have also found education here to be more diverse: Learning ranges from understanding Euclidean theorems to practicing CPR to being environmentally

conscious. We learn how to be better people, not just better students.

It has also been interesting to witness the Catholic tradition on campus. I am a strict Hindu, and my introduction to Christianity started out with reading the New Testament for my theology final. My freshman-year resident assistant encouraged me to attend the weekly dorm Mass at least once, and I went along out of inquisitiveness. But the full impact of Catholicism actually dawned on me when, on my rector's recommendation, I went to Easter Mass at the Basilica. The Mass will remain cherished in my Notre Dame memories, as I had an opportunity to experience the grand Easter decor, the priest's sermon and hymns sung by the church choir. Most of all, I will remember praying in a different way, especially since my faith stresses the existence of a multiplicity of gods.

I guess there are a few things I will never under-

stand, like the American craze with fast food, football and certain prime-time television shows. I figured my friends would never let me live if I never went to a Notre Dame football game, so I finally summoned the enthusiasm to go to one. It also became one of my cherished memories. I enjoyed taking in the spirit of the team — the unrivaled synergy of the cheerleading squad, the student body doing the Irish jig and the "We are ND" cheer.

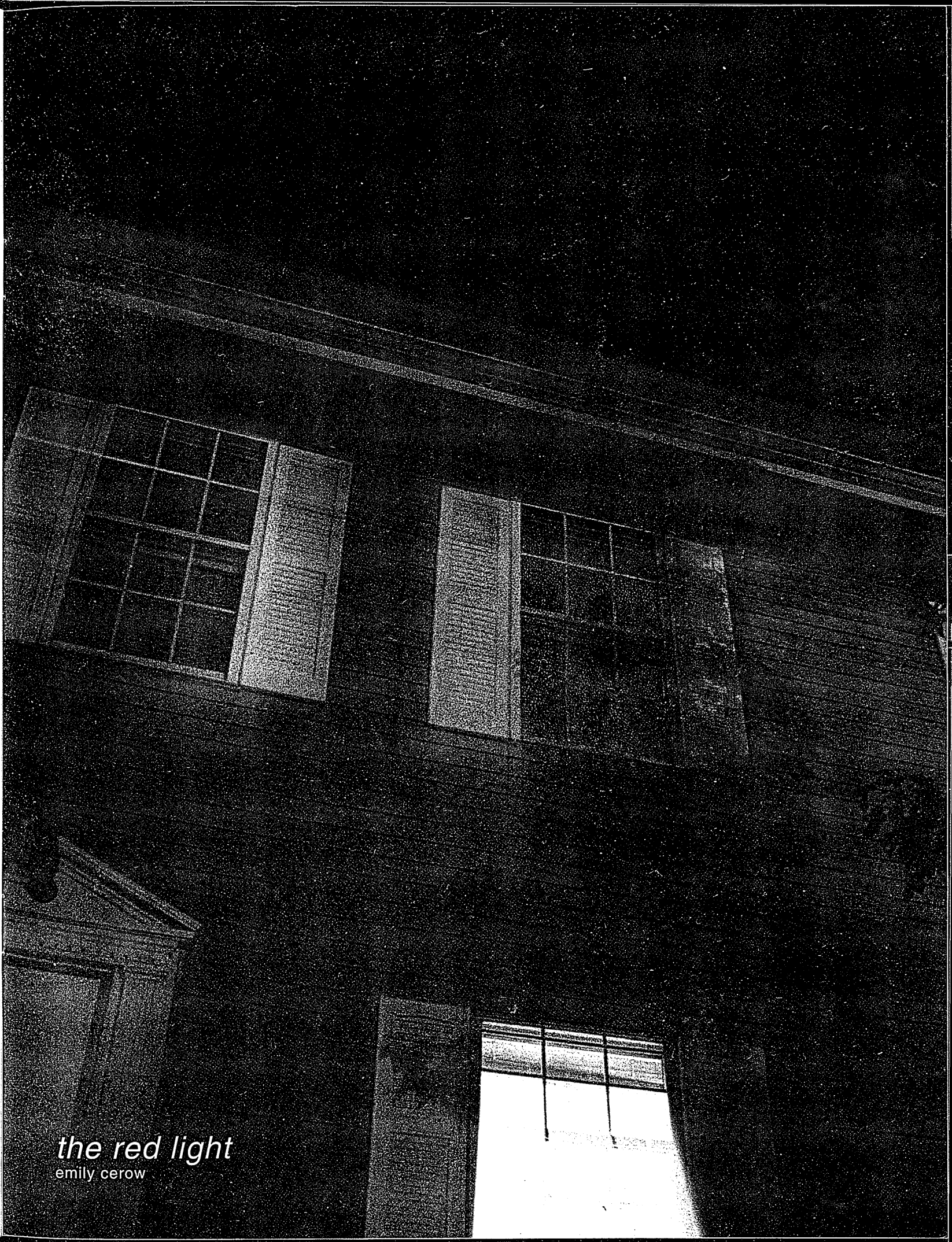
As I have sought to understand the culture here, American friends have tried to find out about mine. I have been asked about the legalities of an arranged Indian marriage — personal concepts of social equality, freedom and the practice of dowry. *Garammasala* (Indian spices) and *Lord Ganesha* (the elephant God) have surprisingly become part of some Americans' vocabulary and are often the center of their curiosity. The "red dot" (*bindhis*) that traditionally signifies the Indian woman's marital status was even the topic of one of our performances for the Notre Dame community. I have had people ask me about how to dress in a *sari*, how to make *naan* or how to ask "What's your name?" in Hindi. Last year, there was a good turn out at Bhangra Nite, an event the India Association hosted that included lessons in the *Bhangra*, a northern folk dance. I feel that all of these instances show that students here are interested in learning about foreign culture. And it makes me proud of my ethnic heritage to know that there is an overall appreciation for Hinduism, Indian cuisine, art, dance and music.

As I became accustomed to life at Notre Dame, I felt it necessary to help students that were in my shoes four years ago. In retrospect, having worked with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, I have had the chance to talk with and write to prospective international students who are at the proverbial crossroads of deciding whether studying 100,000 miles from home and spending \$100,000 on an education at Notre Dame is really what they want.

When they ask what made me choose to study in America and at Notre Dame, my answer is always the same: The strong feeling of tradition and community that reinforces the education and pursuit of excellence here. This week is International Week, and International Student Services and Activities is sponsoring events aimed at further strengthening this feeling of community. We can also do this year-round, by getting involved with other cultures on campus — not necessarily by learning to speak another language, but by learning the language of the traditions that have their basis outside Notre Dame and the United States — and the way they speak to all of us. □

The influence of Western culture back home — where, along with Lebanese falafel, American cheeseburgers had become part of life — was very dominant.

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3.27 bobby knight
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