

TOUCHED BY A MULE: JAM BAND TAKES THE STATE

BOWLERS RALLY IN THE ALLEY

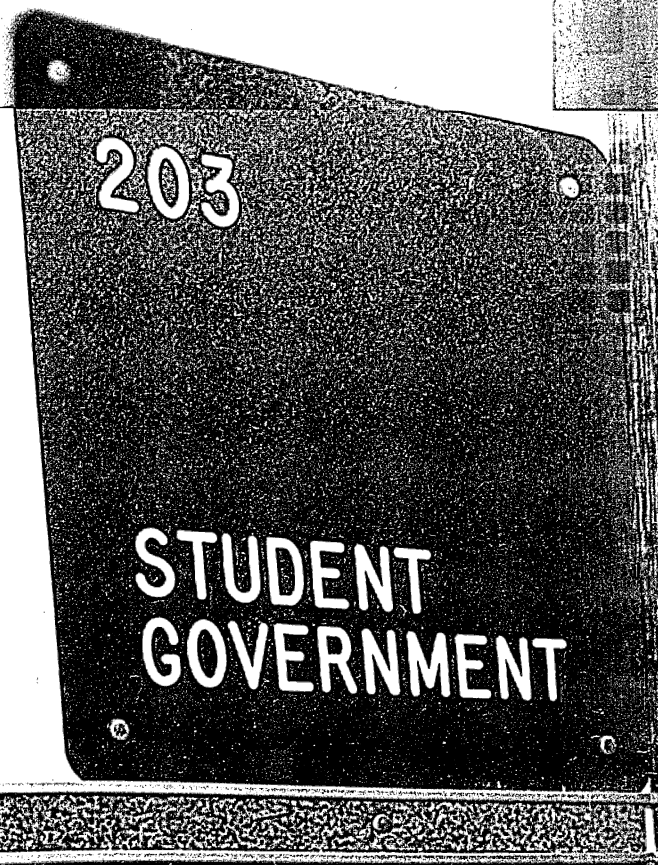
SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

VOL 144

09

06 FEB 2003

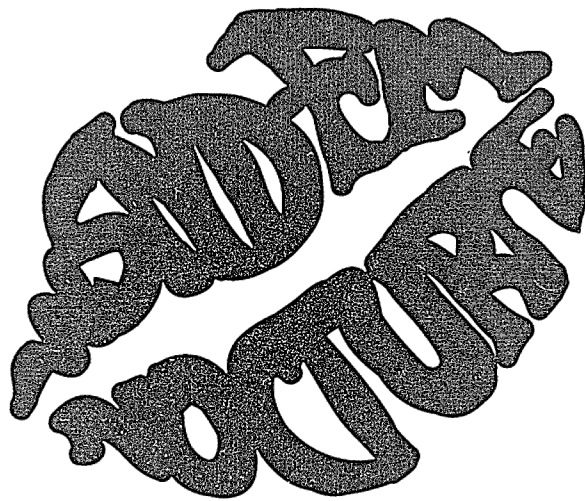


**A guide to the 2003
student-body presidential
election**

PUBLISHED SINCE 1867

www.nd.edu/~scholast

Meet at 88.9 fm...
midnight 'til 2
xoxoxo,



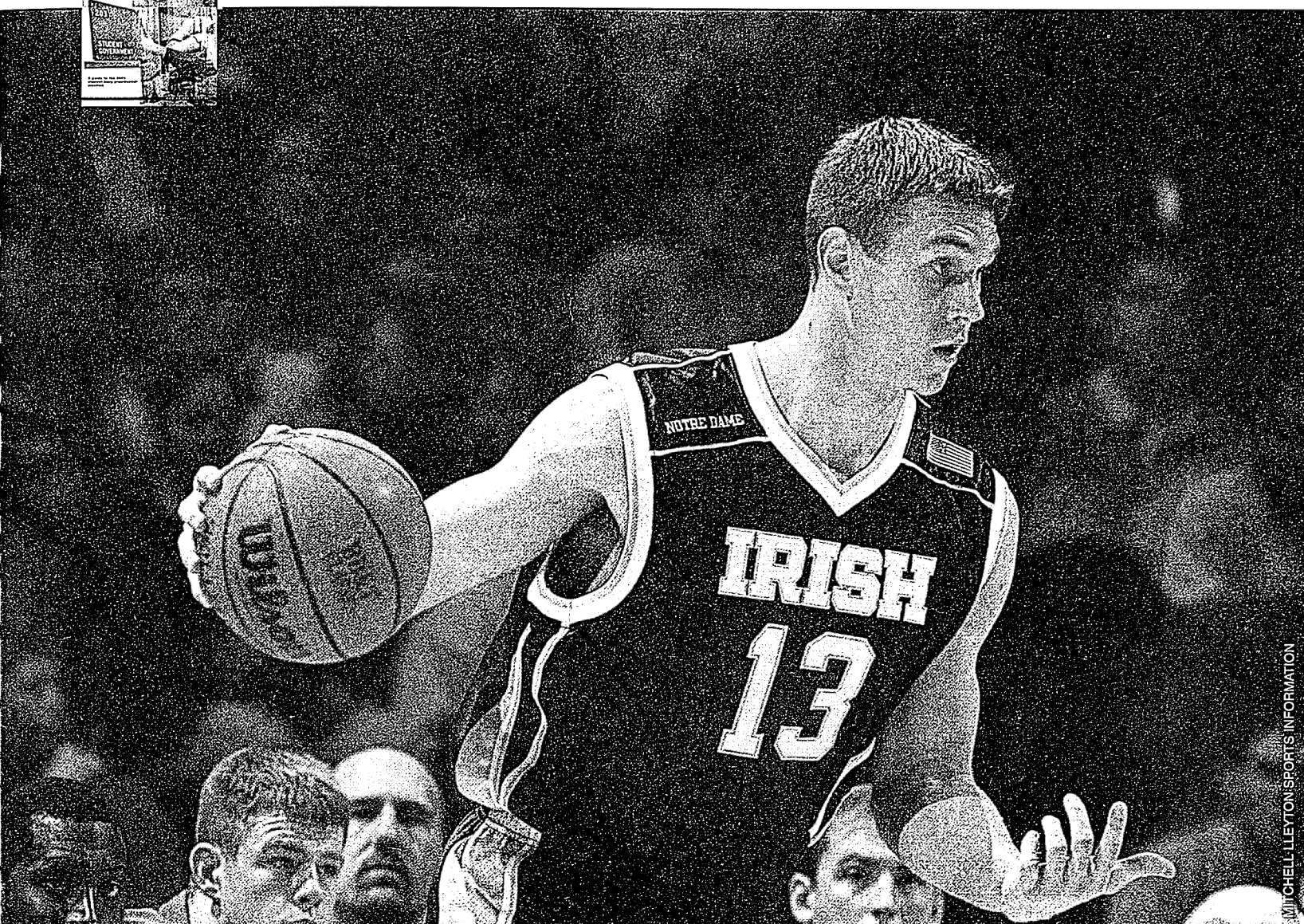
Nocturne



COVER ILLUSTRATION COVER PHOTO
ERIC MIKE
DOVERSBERGER MCNARY

Senior guard Matt Carroll's shooting has carried the Irish team all season

PAGE
25



MITCHELL LLEYTON-SPORTS INFORMATION

THE SIXTH OF FEBRUARY, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- >> **Struggling with Policy Changes** *by Nick Kolman-Mandle* 17
- >> **Presidential Endorsement** *by Scholastic Staff* 18
- >> **Methods for March Madness** *by David Murray* 24
- >> **Bowling for Domers** *by Peter Keefe* 25

From the Editor	2	Out of Bounds	27
ND Notebook	6	Week in Distortion	30
Campus Watch	19	Calendar	31
Splinters	22	Final Word	32

2003 Election Coverage

by Scholastic Staff

Scholastic compares the platforms of the seven pairs running in this year's student body presidential election to help you make an informed decision.

09

Fifty Years of Memories

by Sean Dudley

After half a century, The Morris Inn tries to balance its 50s charm with modern amenities. Scholastic tours behind the scenes at the place all the celebrities stay on campus.

20

Keep on Truckin'

by Tracy Evans

Jam band Government Mule overcomes personal tragedy and shows it still knows how to rock.

28

FROM THE EDITOR

RESPOND TO: CFENZEL@ND.EDU

I Have a Plan!

We've been electing student body presidents and vice presidents since we were, what, nine years old? You remember those grade-school contests. Parents designed the best posters. Billy traded you his sour cream and onion chips for three Oreos and your support on election day. If your best friend heard you weren't going to vote for her, she waited on the playground to change your mind ... with a fistful of sand. From all of this, we learned an important lesson: A politician without a strategy is like the child who walks up to the cool kids' table with a lunch *box* instead of a lunch *bag*. Can you say "reject," Thermos Girl?

In fourth grade, convinced that I had the savvy to make it in the world of elementary-school politics, I ran for student body treasurer. I lost. Later that year, I created a potential mascot for my class. I presented it. And lost. The next year, in a display of Susan Lucci-esque endurance, I ran for homeroom representative. I was elected — the alternate. Alternates do not get to sit at the aforementioned Table of Coolness with the other student council types. But I was patient. And one sweet, sweet spring afternoon, when our regular rep was out sick, I helped choose the waterpark for fifth grade Splish-Splash Day. It was a proud moment.

"Biding one's time" is a popular political strategy, and most of the candidates *Scholastic* interviewed for this issue plan to employ it if elected. They know they will have to work long and hard to get the university to even begin to consider their proposed changes. This reality also inspires voters to engage in some strategizing of their own: They abstain from voting to protest the actions of an administration that is more responsive to rich alumni than it is to students.

I, however, have a different plan for election day. I will vote for the candidates that best represent my views. And I will vow that if the university doesn't give the winners' proposed changes fair and reasonable consideration, it won't get a penny from me after I graduate. My boycott will continue until the administration begins to take student opinion seriously. Employ this strategy yourself, and you will become one of the founding members of a coalition between current students and alumni who care about more than the prestige of having their names on a donor list.

You might think my strategy is too idealistic, and that this kind of cooperation will never occur. I respect your opinion and probably will let you escape sand-free next time I see you on the playground. But you still should check out our election coverage, which begins on page 9. All the cool kids are reading it.



Cristin Fenzel,
Executive Editor

Editor in Chief
Sarah Childress

Managing Editor
Jessica L. Daues

Executive Editor
Cristin E. Fenzel

Assistant Managing Editor
Annie Robinson

News
Mike Borgia
Christopher Kelly
Jim Ryan

Campus Life
Sean Dudley, editor
Nick Kolman-Mandle, assistant

Sports
Jimmy Atkinson, editor
Gerard J. Meskill, editor
David Murray, assistant

Entertainment
Carrie E. Sweeney, editor
Tracy Evans, assistant
Matt Killen, assistant

Departments
Jennifer Osterhage, editor
Meghan Gowan, assistant

Design
Ryan Greenberg, editor
Eric Doversberger, creative director
David Redenbaugh
Tekla Sauter

Photography
Mike McNary, editor
Liesl Marx, assistant

Graphic Design
Maryn Necel, editor

Copy
Cecilia Hadley, chief
Kelly Faehnle, assistant
Jen Belliveau
Mo Ertel
Claire Hadley

Distribution
Mike McNary, manager

Business
Jessica B. Potish, manager
Mary Ursu, manager

Online
Chad Sharon, manager

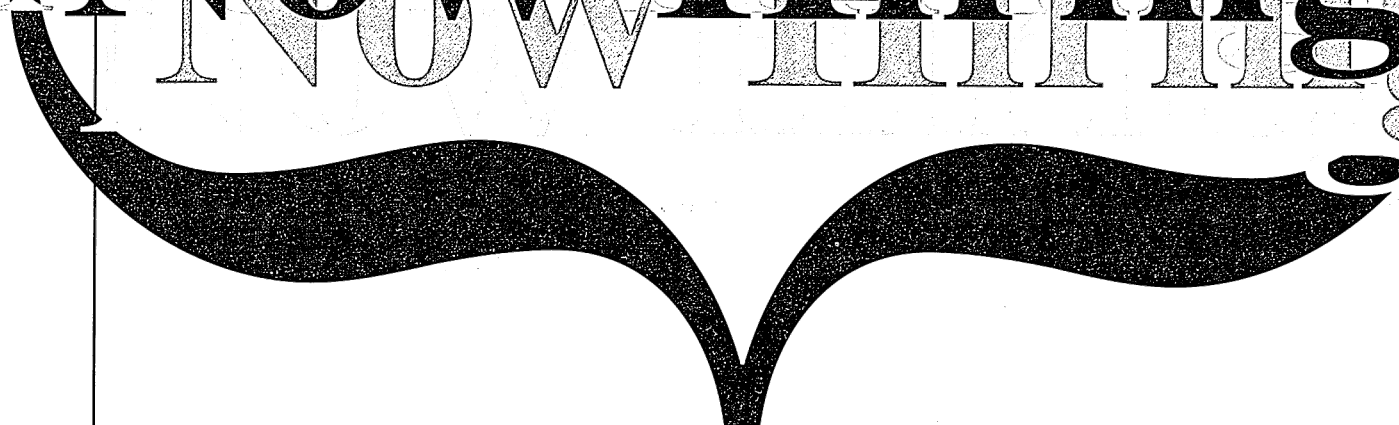
Adviser
Robert Franken '69

Disce Quasi Semper Victurus
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus

Published biweekly at the University of Notre Dame and printed at Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, IN, 46556. The entire contents of *Scholastic* magazine is Copyright © 2003. All rights reserved. No contents of this magazine, either in whole or in part, may be reproduced in any manner without written consent of the publisher. *Scholastic* magazine does not assume liability for unsolicited manuscripts or material. I've got a cane and I'm not afraid to poke you with it. All correspondence should be sent to *Scholastic* magazine, LaFortune Student Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556. To be published in the next issue, letters must be received by 5:00 p.m. Monday before the issue. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number. All letters must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request in certain instances. *Scholastic* reserves the right to edit letters for space. Requests for corrections made more than 21 days after publication cannot be guaranteed. The subscription rate is \$35 per year. Available back issues are \$2.50 per copy; please specify volume and number, or date. Copies of the annual football review are available at \$5 per copy. Advertising rates available on request. The opinions expressed in *Scholastic* magazine are not necessarily those of the University of Notre Dame or the student body.

look for
ISSUE 10
on
FEB 20

Now Hiring:



7,500 copies of *Scholastic* distributed twice a month:
7,500 chances to make a difference

Applications are due February 13th.

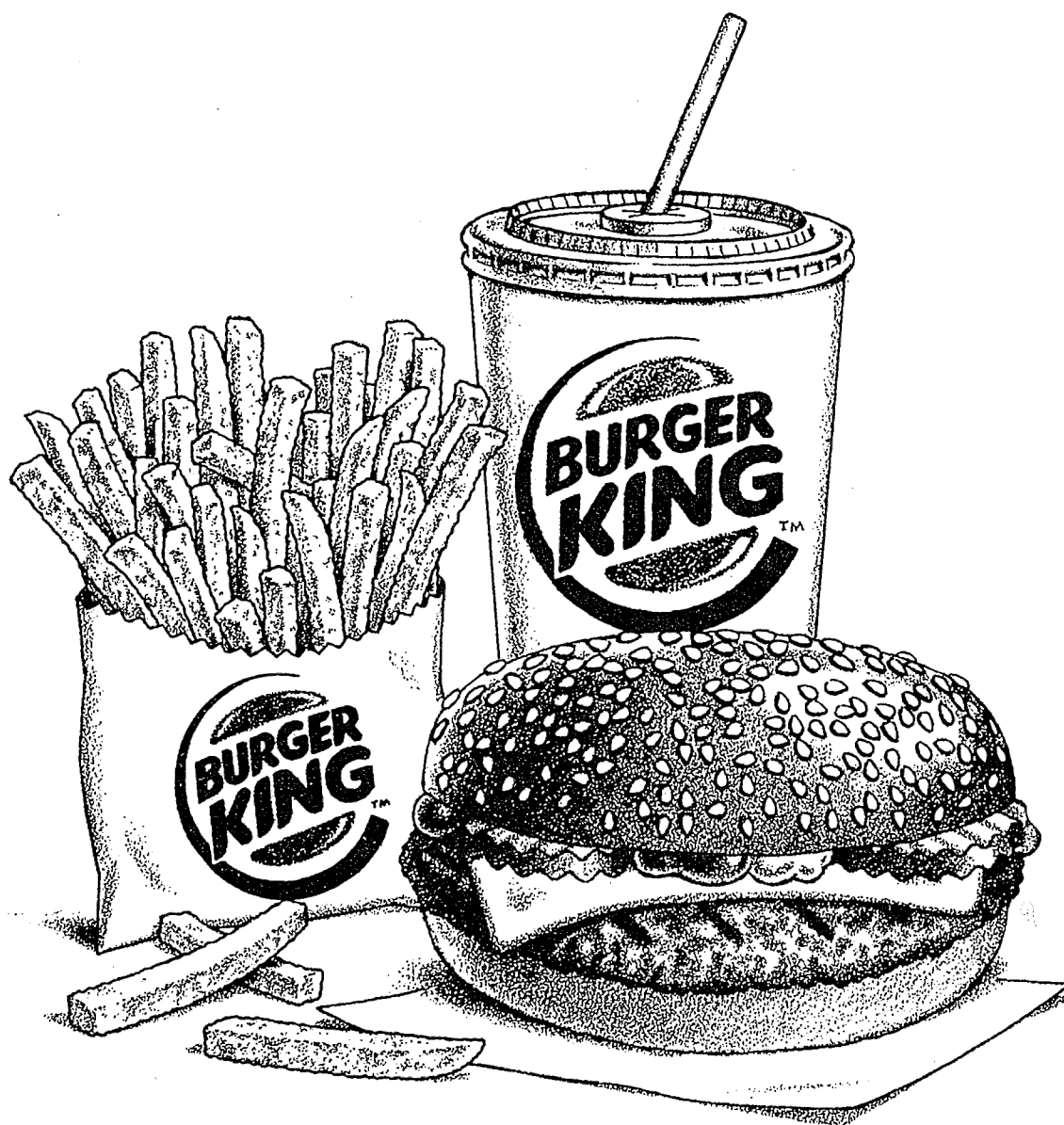
Pick up yours by the *Scholastic* office in the basement of the South Dining Hall.

Editor in Chief
Managing Editor
Executive Editor
Assistant Managing Editor
News Staff
Campus Life Editor
Assistant Campus Life Editor
Sports Editor
Assistant Sports Editor
Entertainment Editor
Assistant Entertainment Editor
Departments Editor
Assistant Departments Editor
Design Editor
Creative Director
Design Staff
Photography Editor
Assistant Photography Editor
Graphic Design Editor
Copy Chief
Assistant Copy Chief
Distribution Manager
Business Manager
Online Manager

For more info
e-mail:
scholast@nd.edu
or call:
1-7569

SCHOLASTIC

*It's hard to put a price on good taste. How does \$2.99 sound?
The Bacon Cheeseburger Value Meal.*



Got the urge?™

The Huddle- LaFortune Student Center

sharro sharro sharro sharro

sharro

Hours
 Sunday 6 am - 2 am
 Monday 10:30 am - 2 am
 Tuesday 10:30 am - 2 am
 Wednesday 10:30 am - 2 am
 Thursday 10:30 am - 4 am
 Friday 10:30 am - 4 am
 Saturday 9 am - 4 am



- the Italian eatery in LaFortune Student Center

www.sharro.com



THE STANDING
 COMMITTEE ON
 GAY AND LESBIAN
 STUDENT NEEDS

University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Students

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs

(Confidential information, education, and resources)

Contact: Sr. M.L. Gude, CSC, 1-5550, or student
 members (see web site for student contact info.)

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students
 and their friends; pertinent library resources in
 304 Co-Mo; confidential discussion and support)

Contact: Fr. J. Steele, CSC, at Steele.31@nd.edu

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

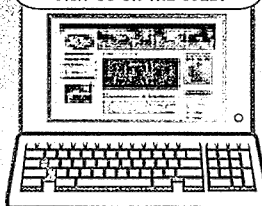
Contact: Dr. Pat Utz at Utz.1@nd.edu, or Maureen
 Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

For more information, check out our web site: <http://www.nd.edu/~scglsn/>

Copy Shop Print Services

On the Campus of the University of Notre Dame

VISIT US ON THE WEB!



Full-Service
 Copying
 and
 Printing

Full-Service
 Fax Service
 24-Hour Fax Reception

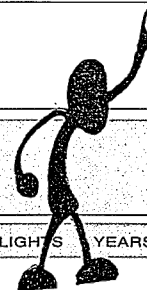
www.ndcopyshop.com
www.ndprintservices.com

Quality Copies. Quickly!™

2 locations on campus for ALL your copying/printing needs!

ND COPY SHOP
 LaFortune Student Center
 (574) 631-COPY
 FAX: (574) 631-FAX1

ND PRINT SERVICES
 Information Technology Cntr.
 (574) 631-9286
 FAX: (574) 631-9376



No Extra Dollars for D6

Administration shelves plan to charge students and employees more for parking

COLLEENGANEY

Thanks to budget concerns plaguing the university, Notre Dame students still will have to shell out only \$89 for a campus parking decal. The university recently tabled plans to raise the decal price to \$100 for students.

Students aren't the only drivers who would have felt their pockets getting lighter: The plan also proposed to charge employees a parking decal fee of \$25. This would have marked the first time in university history that employees would pay for parking.

Under the plan, employees also could spend between \$250 to \$350 to reserve spaces in more convenient lots, such as A1 and B16. The \$25 fee could be paid as a lump sum or in 50-cent weekly installments for those employees who, like the university, have felt the claws of economic downturn scratching at their pockets.

The university planned to use the difference in price to fund longterm plans to construct parking lots near Ave Maria Press on Douglas Road behind campus and in the radio tower

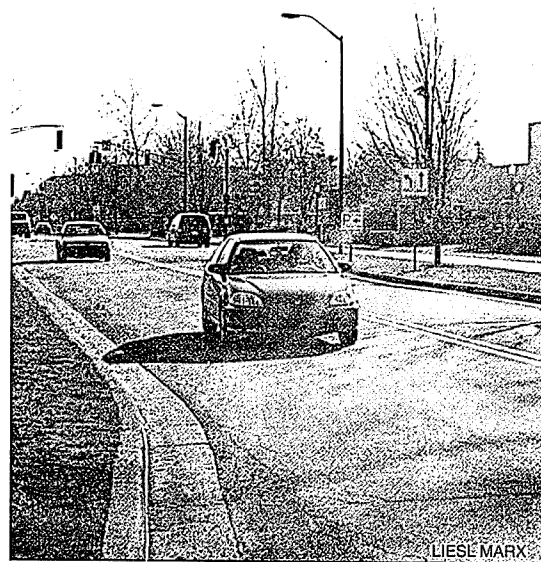
lot near Notre Dame Stadium, which currently serves as the student tailgating area. Shuttle services also would have been expanded to accommodate students.

"The administration realizes that [the policy] was not particularly popular," says Matt Storin, vice president for news and information. But he says plans were scrapped primarily because of concerns over the university budget problems, not public outcry.

In fact, the policy was proposed to recover maintenance costs, not make a profit. Because of the recent decrease in its endowment and incoming donations, Notre Dame no longer has the same amount of funds to devote to plowing and salting campus parking lots.

Storin says that the proposal has not been rejected, but merely filed away until Notre Dame has more financial flexibility. "[The administration] will wait until the

cost-cutting is complete," Storin says. At the earliest, this parking policy will be reconsidered at the beginning of the 2003-2004 academic year. □



LIESE MARK

Ten Questions

with the owner of Fiddler's Hearth ...



**CAROL
MEEHAN**

PHOTO BY TRACY EVANS

Fiddler's Hearth quickly has grown in popularity for its combination of Celtic food and drink with a cozy atmosphere. The restaurant and pub, open since October of this year, has become a favorite for those who prefer a more relaxed evening with friends, or the opportunity to take in some authentic Celtic tunes entertainment. Scholastic was able to steal owner Carol Meehan away from serving up another Guinness to hear her philosophy on service Irish-style.

Why did you choose an Irish Pub as the theme?

My husband is Irish and I'm Scottish...my son started playing bagpipes when he was 12 and has been to the world championships in Glasgow. It's really more of a personal thing, and having Notre Dame here is convenient,

but coincidental.

How did you select the name 'Fiddler's Hearth'?

I wanted it to sound warm and very clearly a place of music. The one instrument that seems to be common to all of the Celtic nations is the fiddle, so we liked that idea.

Where did you get your inspiration for the more authentic menu items, and what's the favorite choice so far?

We got a lot of it from our own visits to Scotland and Ireland, and other pubs in the Midwest that we frequent. The favorite is fish 'n' chips, with a close second being shepherd's pie.

How authentic is your Irish

LISTENING

"Wouldn't it be hilarious if we showed up drunk to our ResLife hearing?"

— overheard student

"I know people in theology always feel they need to start off with how much they love Jesus."

— theology professor, on writing papers

"When grandma spills red wine on the white tablecloth, you say, 'Good job.'"

— overheard student on table etiquette

"There are people who read Plato and there are people who go to Corby's and act like swine."

— philosophy professor

"One of them is hot; the other one I could be friends with."

— overheard student, talking about his study-group prospects

HEY YOU!

Email listening in quotes, letters to the editor, or other comments to

SCHOLAST@ND.EDU

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

9 Years Ago

Die-hard Domers

Past issues of *Scholastic* often highlighted strange stories and happenings from around the nation. The September 8, 1994 issue of *Scholastic* tells of Oak Grove International, a company that specialized in caskets decorated with the colors of the "user's" alma mater.

Oak Grove decided to "capitalize on the casket market" with this innovative product. The company's Web site reveals that these "alumni caskets" still are available. The article urges anyone who is a true Notre Dame fan to invest in a blue and gold, fight-song playing casket with the leprechaun etched on top.

Both the article and Web site fail to mention the prices of these fine products, skirting the fact that the additional features make them much more expensive than standard caskets. Why anyone would want to spend that much money on something that goes in the ground never to be seen again is beyond me. Besides, the true Notre Dame lover would know the university would rather see that money in the form of a donation.

— Jennifer Osterhage

entertainment?

There are several local bands that play traditional Celtic music. ... We have entertainment Friday and Saturday, and Wednesdays we have open-mike night.

What is your reaction to the recent underage bust of Boat Club?

I can sympathize with [the bar owners] but you have to be willing to give up revenue to gain control. We've just recently seen a lot of students hitting us late in the evening. We now are shutting things down at 10:00 at the door and controlling how many people are in here.

What is your policy then for underage patrons? Are you implementing a 21 and older policy on the weekends?

It doesn't mean that [underage patrons] don't

[ever] get in. It means that we are checking IDs at the door [on crowded nights] because we have so many people in here that it's hard for the servers and bartender.

Are you tolerant of underage kids patronizing your pub?

If we feel that we have a problem, [like] if it's too full or if we have a large bar crowd here that we don't think we can manage, [then no].

How big is your restaurant business?

The majority of our revenue comes from the food because that's the only way we can maintain the atmosphere as a public house and not a bar.

What are your plans for St. Patrick's

Day this year?

Monday will be our big day of celebration ... and the one thing that we will have that will be special will be corned beef and cabbage. We don't have it on our menu because it's actually not Irish; it's a concoction of the New Englanders.

Many people have praised the mood of Fiddler's as a pleasant alternative to the more hyperactive and crowded dance clubs. Do you agree?

Yes. ... We've laid in a supply of books and games, and we encourage people to pull tables together to play the games. And they do that. ... We never even had to tell them! We want to make it a place that everyone can gather, not just 21 and older.

— Tracy Evans

Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations

3/4 = 28%

Instead of spending \$10,000 on feel-good stats, Student Activities could have sponsored a non-alcoholic activity for those three-quarters — one that doesn't involve needlepoint. But they didn't. Go figure.

KEENAN REVUE

We expected a few low blows, especially at St. Mary's students, but did they have to slam Christopher Reeves?

NEW RECKERS SANDWICHES

I go in, hungry for a turkey and cheese deli sandwich. What do I get? A pita-like bread pocket filled with giant chunks of chicken. Maybe I'll run for student-body president on the platform to bring back the old sandwich. Hey, I bet if I bug the administration about it every day, they'll recognize that the real power is in the students' hands.

VALENTINE'S DAY

A holiday glorifying the beauty of inter-gender relationships has no place being celebrated at Notre Dame.

STONEHENGE LIBERATION

Finally, our favorite war memorial is freed from the clutches of construction workers and their scary cranes.

ENTERTAINMENT FORTNIGHTLY

Confessions from the Past

A new movie reminds viewers just how contrived the new wave of reality *really* is

MATTKILLEN

It certainly is ironic that the week *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, the biopic of television producer Chuck Barris' bizarre life, debuted in theaters nationwide, television's top shows included *The Bachelorette*, *Joe Millionaire* and *American Idol*.

Barris pioneered reality television as the mind behind *The Dating Game* and *The Newlywed Game*, the first shows to exploit romantic relationships in front of a national television audience.

He was the creator and host of *The Gong Show*, a memorable showcase for the best and entertainingly worst amateur performers in the nation.

The Bachelorette, *Joe Millionaire* and *American Idol* lack the light-hearted fun and craziness that characterized their predecessors 30 years ago.

Decades later, these themes still are the center of many television programs. *The Bachelorette* and *Joe Millionaire* push the simple *Dating Game* concept to an extreme. Contestants of the old show competed for a date or trip, but these shows feature people looking to bag a spouse — preferably a rich one. Competitors are eliminated through elaborate rose-and-necklace ceremonies where the tears flow and the losers are as shallow as kiddie pools.

The film *Confessions* is based on Barris' own 'unauthorized autobiography,' a book in which Barris claims to have been a game show producer by day, CIA assassin by night. The film has a surreal quality to it, painting Barris' life/fantasy in the same absurd yet fascinating reality that characterized the shows he produced.

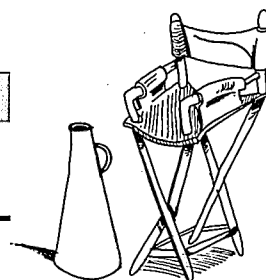
That same dye is cast in the modern-day, super-sized successors to Barris's shows. *American Idol* takes *The Gong Show* idea of amateur performance on a public stage and sets it in a competition for money and national recognition. Instead of being gonged off the stage by B-list celebrities, however, *Idol* contestants are lazily derided by a panel of bored judges.

But a different quality in these modern shows make them distinct from Barris' breed.

Barris, his life and his shows, all had only a semi-serious attitude about them. At their heart, they were comedic game shows that never took themselves all that seriously.

The Bachelorette, *Joe Millionaire* and *American Idol* lack the light-hearted fun and craziness that characterized their predecessors 30 years ago. Instead, they feature hyper-dramatic elimination rounds, strung out for the greatest possible manipulative effect.

Confessions has fun with Barris's life in the same way that Barris seemed to have fun with his game shows — by understanding that what was 'real' was nothing more than entertainment. The current successors of those lighter shows don't grasp this concept, and the result is a series of disturbing melodramas drained of any real fun. So while tears are shed over the rose petals of rejection, in *Confessions*, Barris spends his free time on covert assignments for the CIA. What could be more real than that? □



DomeLights

COMPILED BY MEGHAN GOWAN

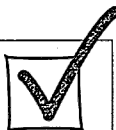
Source: Bill Thistlethwaite, Landscape Services

No one likes to have their sweet slumber disturbed by grinding, blowing, scraping snowplows at 3 a.m. However, most students do enjoy de-iced slush-free sidewalks to ameliorate their early morning navigation through the tundra from cozy dorm room to DeBartolo. Who is responsible for the 3 a.m. clatter? The men and women of Landscape Services.

After a snowfall, time the de-slushing process begins: about 1:30 a.m.
Time snow removal complete: 7 a.m.
Approximate number of men that work night shift: 21.

Grinding, blowing, scraping equipment: four brooms, five pick-up trucks, five dump trucks, and three loaders.
Amount of liquid de-icer dumped on sidewalks: 1,000 gallons.
Amount of snow removed after an average snowfall: 15 tons.

ELECTION 2003



MIKE BOTT
MIKE KIRSH
page 10



JOE MUTO
MIMI MATKOWSKI
page 14



CHARLIE EBERSOL
LAUREN MEAGHER
page 11



MATT PADBERG
DAVID RAIL
page 15



RYAN GAGNET
JOHN MCCARTHY
page 12



DREW UPDIKE
ERIC TARNOWSKI
page 16



PAT HALLAHAN
JEREMY LAO
page 13

OUR ENDORSEMENT page 18
PAST YEAR page 17

It's time again to elect the heads of next year's student government. *Scholastic* sat down with the six pairs — and one triumvirate — running for student-body president and vice president. To help sort out what's what and who's who, we gave the candidates 40 minutes each to talk about their platforms and favorite dining-hall item. Read on to see what they said. And when it comes time to vote on Feb. 10, choose wisely.

OUR FAVORITE IDEAS

Career mentoring and networking program — Every undergraduate would benefit from communication with alumni in their prospective fields of study. (Bott/Kirsh)

Printers in the dorms — Because waiting an hour for a PC in DeBartolo doesn't fit our already cramped schedules. (Bott/Kirsh)

Bringing entertainers to campus — It's sad when the highlight of the semester is a visit from Chris Mathews. It's time to bring some names to Notre Dame that will actually entertain. (Ebersol/Meagher)

Publish the TCEs — There's no reason not to, and it'd be nice to know whether we're wasting our time in that 8:30 before it's too late. (Hallahan/Lao)

Campus diversity — One-credit courses might provide incentive for students to learn

about an on-campus issue that's largely ignored. (Hallahan/Lao)

Tiered system for ResLife — Having separate boards of review for different levels of ResLife violations is practical and fair for a student body forced into a flawed blanket system. (Muto/Matkowski)

AnTostal improvements — It's the springtime tradition that many don't even recognize anymore. A revamp would get people out of the dorms after a long winter hibernation. (Updike/Tarnowski)

The Pyramid — Replacing Stephan Center with a massive replica of one of the Giza pyramids would look much better than a new security building. Better yet, we could enslave Donny Osmond and

Dick Clark to build them. (The Triumverate)

National newspapers in the DH — Fox "News" Channel in LaFortune just doesn't cut it. The university should put papers like *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* in the dining halls as a public service. (Ebersol/Meagher)

We asked the candidates to use "defenestration" in a sentence without giving them the definition. What would you have said?

defenestration: (de-fen'e-strashen) *noun*.
An act of throwing something or someone out of a window.

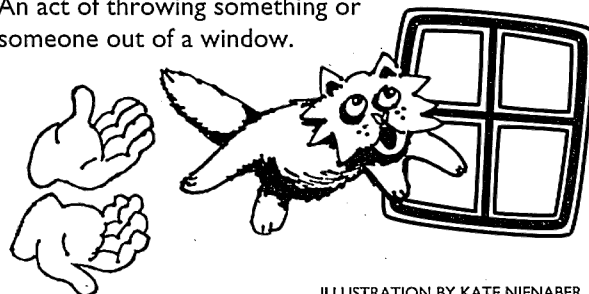


ILLUSTRATION BY KATE NIENABER

MIKE BOTT MIKE KIRSH



"Realistic ideas, Immediate action."

Although he served as Alumni Hall president this year, junior Mike Bott considers himself an outsider to student government. And that isn't a bad thing, he insists. Bott and his running mate, sophomore Mike Kirsh, believe that their relative inexperience with student government has allowed them to keep in touch with what the students desire. "We are normal students, not in student government," Bott says. Both work as campus DJs and participate in campus service.

Much of their platform revolves around drawing students back to on-campus events. "The administration is pushing people away from campus," Bott says, and the need exists for alternatives to SUB- and Flipside-sponsored events.

In order to spice up the campus social scene, the pair would turn to improving LaFortune Student Center. Though they admit they need to conduct more research on many of their proposals for LaFortune, Bott and Kirsh want to give students more reasons to hang out on campus: Namely, they want more restaurants, a bowling alley and a dance club in LaFortune. They do not see this future establishment infringing on Legends, the renovated Alumni-Senior Bar which will break ground this summer and open next fall. Though these plans do not appear immediately feasible, the pair says these are their most important planks.

Bott and Kirsh propose alternatives to the possible Flex 10 plan. Although they have not spoken with Food Services about their proposals, the pair believes giving students more dining flexibility is necessary. Some of their ideas include a "block meal option," similar to off-campus students' plans, and turning unused meals into Flex points at the end of every week.

The ticket views the current structure of student government as a failure, pointing out that the student body is not adequately represented. Bott and Kirsh believe the Campus Life Council needs increased student representation. They also promise to push for the return of signature dorm events, such as the Alumni Wake and O'Neill's Mardi Gras. The pair says the dorms deserve more funds and better venues for such events. They plan to work with

administrators on a campus-wide dance for the end of the school year that could help bring back social life to campus.

Bott and Kirsh's Career Mentoring and Networking Program stresses capitalizing on alumni connections. The program would begin when students are freshmen, pairing them with upperclassmen who have the same major or career goals. Bott and Kirsh believe this pairing would simplify the class registration process for new students. The second tier of the program would rely heavily on contacts through Notre Dame alumni clubs. Bott and Kirsh believe that increasing alumni club involvement would assist students in finding internships and post-graduate work.

Although Bott and Kirsh believe TCE results should be published, they expressed concern over the benefits of such a move. Both said they believe students are too harsh in their feedback, and that the suggestions represent the "extreme opinions" of a few students.

Bott and Kirsh propose several ideas that differ from other platforms. The two want to move the ROTC Pass and Review military ceremony from Loftus to South Quad and would allow potential protestors, such as Pax Christi, a sectioned-off area to demonstrate. They envision bleachers running down both sides of the quad to encourage the public to view the ceremony and support the 15 percent of Notre Dame students involved in ROTC.

The two also propose that Food Services create a Hot Grab 'n' Go option, allowing students to take a to-go container through the dining hall and select a certain number of hot items.

Making sure every dorm is outfitted with printers is really a "convenience issue," says the pair. Kirsh points out that this would alleviate congestion in campus computer clusters at peak times.

Bott and Kirsh see the need for a shuttle to off-campus apartments as the least feasible option given the university's current budget crisis. Still, the two would like to see the shuttle run every hour to Turtle Creek, Castle

PRESIDENT

Name: Mike Bott
Class: Junior
Major: Marketing
Dorm: Alumni Hall

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Mike Kirsh
Class: Sophomore
Major: Finance/History
Dorm: Alumni Hall

PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"My bookstore team's name is 'Defenestration.'"

If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Bott: Root beer float. "I'll throw in a cone there if you'll allow it."

Kirsh: Mint chip with rainbow sprinkles. "That's your dairy fulfillment. If you get a cone, you squeeze in the grain."

IDEAS

Most Important

LaFortune renovations

Least Important

Providing a shuttle to accommodate off-campus students

QUOTE

"We're real students looking to satiate the needs of real students."

Point, College Park and Lafayette in order to provide upperclassmen with a safe and inexpensive mode of transportation.

Kirsh says that, with the possible exception of expanding LaFortune, "we are not asking for things that can't be done." The pair believes all of its planks can be achieved simply by re-allocating existing student government funds. "We are just real students looking out for the needs of other real students," Bott says.

—Annie Robinson

CHARLIE EBERSOL LAUREN MEAGHER

"Make the choice. See the change."

Charlie Ebersol and Lauren Meagher hope to bring fresh ideas and an enthusiastic spirit to the Office of the President.

Although neither has served in student government, they both believe they have solid leadership experience. Presidential candidate Ebersol has co-founded and led two companies, including the Changing Times Foundation, a non-profit organization started by Notre Dame students. Ebersol also is no stranger to the administration and athletic department, as he worked closely with them this past football season to implement his idea for the green shamrock posters that were displayed by fans during the games.

Vice-presidential candidate Lauren Meagher has served as a board member and project leader for the Student International Business Council, worked as a student tutor and been involved with the Investment Club and campus service group Circle K.

"I feel that as part of student government, I should work to improve the extracurricular, the things outside the classroom," Meagher says. This view is evident in the pair's various plans to improve social life and foster a campus community.

One of Ebersol and Meagher's most ambitious planks is to bring high-profile entertainment and events to campus: Popular bands, comedians and nationally-televised "town hall" meetings, where students would discuss current events with politicians, activists and actors, are all part of their plans for improving student life. Some might question the feasibility of such a plank, but Ebersol sees this plan as well within the university's ability and budget, citing its name recognition, national identity and corporate connections. For example, the two say that they have already spoken with the president of NBC and believe that the televised town halls could occur as early as next fall.

The two also hope to get the students themselves involved in rejuvenating student social events. Their plans include a monthly dinner theater, opening and closing ceremonies for Bookstore Basketball and improved pep rallies through increased student input via an online poll. They incorporate Legends, formerly Alumni-Senior Club, into

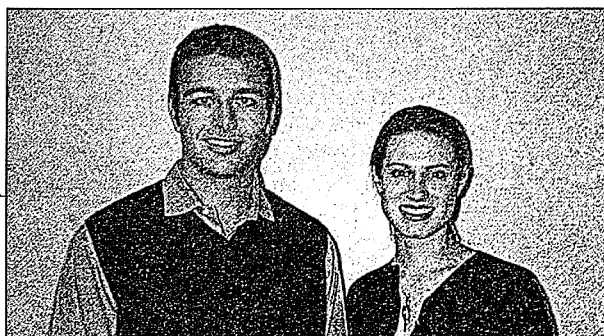
their approach for improving student life by planning to use it as a venue to hold a variety of social events.

Ebersol and Meagher's platform also tackles the problems that dorms have experienced in planning and financing hall dances. They promise to work closely with the newly-created Total Dance Resources organization (TDR) which, according to Ebersol, combines all the possible resources for dances, such as possible venues, and catering prices, and organizes them so as to allow dorms to pay discounted rates. Also, TDR will alleviate pressure on hall presidents and dance commissioners by helping to plan events and find necessary funds.

Although Ebersol and Meagher do not know where they ultimately will stand on the return of in-hall dances, they hope to discuss the issue further with administrators and students and believe that their plan will effectively represent student opinion. "TDR is a direct channel to the administration," Meagher says. "It's a way to let the administration know that SYRs are still an important tradition," Ebersol says. "Students want hall dances to be an important part of [campus life] and we do too."

Other essential planks of their platform include various improvements to the First Year of Studies program and the institution of an improved student advising system. They believe the current system in the College of Arts and Letters is inadequate and hope to begin laying the groundwork for a new program modeled after the one used by the College of Business, which offers professionals employed solely for advising.

Also in the academic plank, the two plan to work with OIT and the registrar to improve the system for class registration, to distribute national newspapers in the dining hall in order to heighten awareness of national and global issues, to create new options for the math and science requirements and to work with the theology department to increase the number of available theology electives. They also would propose the administration of teacher-course evaluations (TCEs) in the middle of the semester as well as at the end, allowing professors to make



PRESIDENT

Name: Charlie Ebersol
Class: Sophomore
Major: Film, Television & Theatre
Dorm: Keough Hall



VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Lauren Meagher
Class: Junior
Major: Finance
Dorm: Turtle Creek



PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"Most presidential candidates are on the fence, but we're defenestration."

If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Ebersol: Waffles. "So I can stare at the Notre Dame emblem."

Meagher: Chicken fingers.



IDEAS

Most Important

Revamping academic advising

Least Important

Voluntary swipe cards around the lake for added security



QUOTE

"[Our platform is] reasonable and feasible."

adjustments while their classes are still meeting.

With enthusiasm and a well-organized platform, Ebersol and Meagher are certain to make a serious run for the Office of the President this year. "We're about improving student life immediately through reasonable and feasible means," Ebersol says. "We've already started working on many of our ideas and we want to create an atmosphere that everyone can get excited about."

— Mike Borgia

"B. L. A. H. (Basically Lacking All Hope)"

It's hard to understand our vision," says the Triumvirate. "Sometimes we don't understand it at times." The Triumvirate's vision is mysterious at the very least. Refusing to refer to themselves by their real names throughout the interview, the candidates also protected their anonymity by donning red and blue ski masks.

Aside from participating in dorm events and knowing their hall senators, the Triumvirate has little student council experience, though it says that it "ran the elections" last year. It was during those elections that the Triumvirate became concerned about students who feel disenfranchised by a lack of options. "There are a lot of students on this campus who don't want to vote for a serious candidate," the Triumvirate says. "We are running to give them a choice."

The Triumvirate's dire campaign slogan, an acronym for "Basically Lacking All Hope," has not stopped it from mounting an ambitious and detailed platform. Tired of the many points that candidates typically include in their platforms, the Triumvirate has narrowed its focus to five planks: campus transportation, campus beautification, academic life, rule enforcement and spiritual life.

The focal point of the Triumvirate's campaign is its new campus transportation plan for a massive network of underground tunnels inspired by the Chunnel connecting England and France. Students would travel to various campus locations by pumping handcarts on a single rail. To finance the expedition, cameras situated at the many blind turns throughout the network would videotape crashes. The tapes would then be sent to *America's Funniest Home Videos*, where they would be expected to win the show's weekly prize money. When asked about liability issues that might stem from such a system, the Triumvirate says, "The university has insurance." It says students would sign waivers before traveling through the tunnels.

The Triumvirate's campus beautifica-

tion plan includes removing "the disgusting golf ball building" known as Stepan Center and replacing it with an exact replica of a pyramid at Giza. In the warmer months, students could enjoy a waterslide that would run down one face of the pyramid, while in the winter months it would serve as a slope for sledding. In an effort to defray costs and maintain its Egyptian authenticity, the pyramid would be constructed entirely by slave labor or a work-study program. The size of the structure is not a concern for the Triumvirate, which says, "If we have to close Juniper, we have to close Juniper."

Disgusted by the university's selective enforcement of DuLac, the Triumvirate promises increased efforts in rule enforcement. They aim to focus on the little-known rule requiring students to carry their university ID at all times. The Triumvirate plans to establish military checkpoints across campus to be manned by "Navy SEAL-caliber personnel." "It will piss a lot of people off," says the Triumvirate, but it claims that this system will ensure that no student is caught without identification. The Triumvirate also promises to place machine-gun nests above every dorm to punish students who violate parietals.

The Triumvirate's stance on spiritual life is very simplistic. "We like God," it says, "and the point is that we want everyone else to like God as well." The Triumvirate is open to deities other than the Christian God, though it says in regard to atheists, "We may try to pound this into [their] heads." The Triumvirate, however, asserts that admiration of God is "just a suggestion," not something that could be enforced.

The Triumvirate has chosen not to focus on one of this election's most popular issues. "We don't care about the alcohol policy much," it says. "People are still having a good time, still drinking." It acknowledges that the policy must be doing some good: "Hospital visits are down." The Triumvirate has, however, formulated an aggressive plan to bring back SYRs. It calls for a siege of the Main



PRESIDENT

Name: Ryan Gagnet
Class: Junior
Major: Math/Classical Civilizations
Dorm: Stanford Hall

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: John McCarthy
Class: Junior
Major: Accounting
Dorm: Keough Hall



PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"The machine-gun nests are a primary source of defenestration." **If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?**

Gagnet: Low-fat ranch dressing.
McCarthy: The nasty goop by the Mexican food.



IDEAS

Most Important

The Chunnel

Least Important

Feeding students



QUOTE

"If you were running for student government, we would vote for you." (*The Simpsons*)

Building, claiming that if the student body can starve the administration, the administration would have no choice but to allow SYRs. When asked about the feasibility of such a siege, the Triumvirate says, "We haven't thought about that."

The Triumvirate implores the indifferent student to vote for them. After all, the Triumvirate says, borrowing a line from *The Simpsons*, "If you were running for student government, we would vote for you."

—Jim Ryan

PAT HALLAHAN JEREMY LAO

"Students first."

With a combined five years of experience in student government, Pat Hallahan and Jeremy Lao have seen firsthand what is required to lead the student body. As current chief of staff to President Libby Bishop, Hallahan has coordinated with Bishop and Vice President Trip Foley on a number of issues, including the revised alcohol and in-hall dance policies. Together with his running mate, sophomore class president Jeremy Lao, the two are running a campaign based on mutual experience. Says Lao, "We've gotten to know how the system works. We know who to talk to."

The pair's platform is organized into six categories which address both student needs and bettering the university on the whole.

Part of a plan to improve student life, Hallahan and Lao consider the fight for the return of SYRs to the dorms an extremely important part of their campaign. In contrast to Bishop and Foley's current method of using the Board of Trustees report to inform the trustees about the dances, Lao and Hallahan would directly recommend to the administration that the dances be reinstated. "It was a real slap in the face to have the dances taken away when the university promotes dorm life so heavily," Hallahan says. The two contend that, especially with the revocation of hard alcohol, students are mature enough to handle dances in the halls. "We would work with the university to address concerns with the old in-hall dance setup, but be unyielding on the point that we want these dances back in the hall," Hallahan says.

The candidates also would push for the publication of teacher course evaluations. "Teachers not only need to see where they're going wrong, they need to be held accountable," Hallahan says. He hopes the growing number of peer institutions that release evaluations will help convince the university to publish its TCEs.

Hallahan and Lao also hope to make students' course selections more flexible for freshmen and to provide better advising in all areas. The candidates will work at

both the college and departmental level to provide more personalized advising.

College advisors would be more proactive in updating students on requirements and letting them know what track the students need to follow in order to graduate. At the departmental level, advisors would help students determine post-graduation plans.

Looking beyond life at ND, all students would have the opportunity to meet with an alumni mentor in the student's field who could offer them relevant advice. The pair also plan to provide programs that would help ease the transition out of college by teaching students basic life skills, such as avoiding bankruptcy and maintaining proper business etiquette.

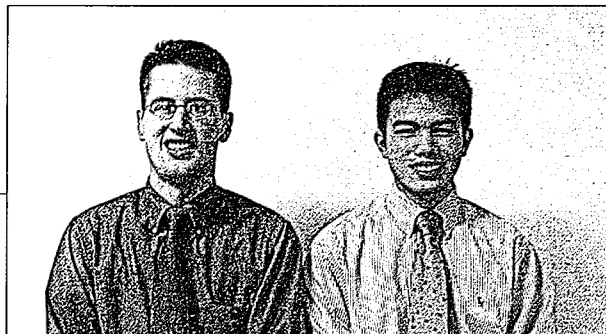
Hallahan and Lao also have broader objectives. They propose several discussion-centered, one-credit courses to increase recognition of diversity issues. These courses, along with more open coffeehouse-style dialogues, would expand students' awareness of different cultures.

The two say they are committed to making changes not only within the university but for the larger community as well. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, Notre Dame ranks No. 6 among national universities in service.

Hallahan and Lao hope to boost this rating to No. 1 over the next few years. They would do so in part by asking local groups, such as the Kiwanis Club, to help subsidize the transportation costs of service programs which have had trouble in the past year defraying the increased cost of renting the Center for Social Concerns vans used to shuttle students to off-campus projects.

They also are taking steps to further publicize the actions of student government by releasing its financial records. "We want to show you how your money is being spent and create a new avenue of constructive criticism for what we do. These are our books. We create our own budget. Getting it out will not be difficult," Lao says.

"We tried to find a balance between



PRESIDENT

Name: Pat Hallahan
Class: Junior
Major: Political Science
Dorm: Sorin Hall



VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Jeremy Lao
Class: Sophomore
Major: Finance/Chinese
Dorm: Stanford Hall



PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"Last week, I signed up for a defenestration class at the Rock." If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Hallahan: A hamburger. "The classic."

Lao: Stir fry. "Beef with red peppers, some onions, Szechuan sauce...I could have it every day."



IDEAS

Most Important

Making Notre Dame no. 1 in service

Least Important

TVs in the dining halls

QUOTE

"We would like to maximize the potential of the students of this university by challenging both the students and the administration to do more for each other and the world."

ambition and providing the little things," Lao says of the campaign.

The two say they realize they cannot accomplish everything in one year, but they want to lay the foundation of lasting changes, making their administration, in the words of Lao, "far-reaching."

— Eileen Varga

JOE MUTO MIMI MATKOWSKI

"No slogans. No schmoozing. No bull."



Last year, when people told Joe Muto to run for student body president, he thought they were crazy. The junior from O'Neill was a vocal leader against the changes to the alcohol policy last spring, but never pictured himself as the head of student government.

But Muto, who served as dorm president last year, gave more consideration to the idea this year. He eventually decided to team up with Lyons Hall president Mimi Matkowski to make a serious push for the coveted LaFortune office.

Two of the most important planks in the Muto-Matkowski platform are a call for the return of SYRs and a reversal of last year's alcohol policy. "I think the administration acted in haste, especially on the SYRs — banning them out of nowhere," Muto says.

Matkowski says that as hall presidents, both she and Muto saw firsthand the effects of new dance policies and therefore know how to fight for a change. "I think they made a judgement without asking the people right at the core," she says. Muto says that they will ask for a probationary year in which the students would have the chance to prove that they are mature enough for in-dorm dances.

Concerning the alcohol policy, Muto says that the administration's course of action last year was the "lazy solution," because it did not address the root of the problem. "I don't feel that it has made Notre Dame a safer place," he says.

Muto looks to amend the university's stance on hard liquor. "If a student is 21, he should be able to drink whatever he wants in his room," says Muto.

Muto and Matkowski also say they have many creative ideas designed to brighten the Notre Dame social life. One of these is "Summer Send-Off," an all-day concert on South Quad at the end of the school year.

Another idea is to host "Our Lady's Cup," a *Billy Madison*-inspired knowledge

bowl for charity between the females of Notre Dame and St. Mary's. "There's been an unspoken rivalry [between ND and SMC girls], so why not turn it into something people can benefit from?" Matkowski asks. The duo also is planning a campus-wide Halloween costume contest.

Matkowski wants to push for a type of food service in DeBartolo Hall, such as a "DeBart Bagel Cart." And to further students' food options on campus, Muto thinks the Senate should ask for more than just a "Flex 10" meal plan: he wants even fewer meals and more Flex points.

Addressing the issue of the growing number of students moving off-campus, Muto and Matkowski want to set up an off-campus resource center which they say would serve as an "off-campus stall notes."

A few of the pair's ideas are related to the Office of Residence Life and Housing. "ResLife doesn't even pretend to be fair anymore," Muto says. To combat this, the two aim to add at least one or two students to the ResLife panel to give a student perspective to any incident at trial. They also want to establish a lower court in the ResLife system to handle less serious infractions.

Related to these goals is the pair's desire to establish a representative for students who claim mistreatment at the hands of their hall staff. This representative would act as a liaison between the administration and students who believe they have been treated unfairly by an RA or rector.

To many students, the most eye-catching aspect of Muto's campaign will be his call for "an end to parietals in our time." He says everyone knows that parietals cannot be eliminated in one year. But with a lot of work, says Muto, "the class of 2006 should be able to graduate in a parietals-free environment." The ticket also is intent on providing a sibling exception to parietals.



PRESIDENT

Name: Joe Muto
Class: Junior
Major: English/ Film, Television & Theatre
Dorm: O'Neill Hall



VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Mimi Matkowski
Class: Junior
Major: Marketing/Anthropology
Dorm: Lyons Hall



PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"It was an ugly scene as the victim of the defenestration hit the ground."

If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Muto: Spicy sea nuggets: "Why not?"

Matkowski: Loaded baked potato: "I love potatoes."



IDEAS

Most Important

Make ND more fun

Least Important

Halloween costume contest

QUOTE

"We see a lot of flaws in the system. We're here to shake things up."

Muto and Matkowski also want to develop a policy of "total transparency" with student government. "Student government in the past has been too much behind closed doors," says Muto.

Dances and alcohol policies might fuel their campaign, but Muto and Matkowski won't stop there. They say they want to form interesting new traditions which will, in the words of Matkowski, "help everyone just have more fun."

— Christopher Kelly

MATT PADBERG DAVID RAIL

"More Flex points."

Talk is cheap, and the Huddle is expensive. Let's have less talk and more Flex points," proclaims vice-presidential candidate David Rail, summing up the campaign of Rail and his running mate, presidential hopeful Matt Padberg. Padberg and Rail's platform is based on a single issue: Students need \$20 to \$30 more in Flex points each semester.

After doing some research online, Padberg deduced that the Flex 14 plan, which gives students \$230 in Flex points, amounts only to about two to three dollars per meal. He says that the amount is not enough for students to pay for meals at on-campus eating establishments.

"With the addition of Subway, Sbarro and Starbucks at the Huddle, a student can go in there and easily drop five to six dollars on a small meal," Padberg says. "An addition of \$30 might mean an additional six to seven meals per semester for a student."

The pair plans to speak with Dave Pretkowski, director of Food Services, about the feasibility of their platform this week.

Padberg recognizes that the university recently increased students' Flex points under the Flex 14 plan to \$230 from \$210. However, he does not consider it an unrealistic goal to have the administration raise it again, despite the university's widespread budget cuts planned for next year.

Students pay more each year for tuition, he says, so it is within reason to ask the university to add more Flex points each year to a student's meal plan.

"The bottom line is, students are here, and that's why the university exists," he says. "The most important thing is students because eventually we'll be alumni and donating to the endowment fund."

In terms of the newly proposed Flex 10 plan, Padberg believes that the plan will only cost the university more money, and that it is largely unnecessary, because Flex 14 works well for most students. The problem with Flex 14, he says, is that stu-

dents don't get enough Flex points to make up for their lost meals. His proposed increase will solve this problem.

"Or maybe [the administration] could cut back Huddle prices," he says. "That could make a difference, too."

The pair plans to accomplish their goal by going to different levels of the administration and constantly reminding them of students' desires.

"The administration wants to listen to students," he says. "They just need better student representation."

Though neither Padberg nor Rail have any experience in student government, Padberg says he is very active in his dorm, Zahm Hall, and he doesn't foresee the pair's lack of experience to be a problem.

"You just have to be willing to do a lot of work," Padberg says. "And I know I already do that. And I definitely like to work with people."

The pair plans to keep in touch with their fellow students by dropping by dorm rooms and getting residents' opinions firsthand. "I know students are busy with class and don't have time to go find the student body president, whoever it is, to talk about issues," Padberg says. "So I'll take time and go to them."

Although the two have no planks besides the increase in Flex points, they see this singular focus as the strength of their campaign.

"We noticed for awhile that when students are campaigning, they make lots of promises," Padberg says. "And only about half of them get done, maybe because they don't have time to get them all done, or they only try for half of them. We want to promise only one thing: More Flex points."

"I'm not saying we're not going to do anything else," he adds.

Padberg has only opinions, not planks, on other campus issues, such as returning SYRs to the dorm and publishing TCEs. "It's not about what I think; it's what the students think," he says.



PRESIDENT

Name: Matt Padberg
Class: Sophomore
Major: Environmental Geosciences
Dorm: Zahm Hall

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: David Rail
Class: Freshman
Major: First Year of Studies
Dorm: Zahm Hall

PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"Defenestration can be defined by defending the student body in the face of the administration."

If you had to eat one dining hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Padberg: Cracklin Oat Bran. "You have to have it with milk. It's tasty. Could I have some banana on it too, or would that be taking it too far?"

Rail: Pancakes. "You can eat pancakes for dinner, but you can't eat most other things for breakfast."

IDEAS

Most Important
Flex point increase
Least Important
Not applicable

QUOTE

"More Flex points."

If elected, the two plan to focus their attention on his Flex point plan because that is clearly what is foremost in students' minds. "If students care about Flex points, then they'll vote for us," Padberg says. "If you don't feel this is a worthwhile issue, I'm not twisting your arm to vote for us."

— Jessica Daues

DREW UPDIKE ERIC TARNOWSKI



"Don't fake the funk."

I think we're a bit cooler than some of the other candidates," sophomore Drew Updike says about his campaign with fellow sophomore Eric Tarnowski.

Instead of attempting a broad platform with a multitude of planks, Updike and Tarnowski have limited their campaign to four goals.

At the top of their platform is a plan to resuscitate the springtime tradition of AnTostal. Updike says that while AnTostal used to be a major week-long campus event, the beleaguered tradition has died away in recent years. "Frankly, I think it's embarrassing," Updike says. The pair hope to distribute money for more interesting events during the week.

"Instead of giving all this money to rep-tile shows and tie-dye demonstrations out on the quad, you go and give money to dorms and tell them that they need to do something that week that's going to be fun," Updike says. He plans to allow dorms to work together on events, such as mud volleyball tournaments. "Why don't we do something cool, where people get to touch each other? Why don't we lighten up and have a little freaking fun?" Updike says. "You can't run a campaign on a mud volleyball tournament, but it's that kind of bulls—that people want to do around campus."

They also plan to address the types of meal plans offered by the university. "It's really unfair to charge the students more than you're expecting them to use," Tarnowski says. In response, Updike and Tarnowski would create a meal exchange plan. Under their plan, students would be able to convert unused meals each week into Flex points. While the current Flex 14 plan theoretically equates each meal to \$1.60, their plan would call for \$5 worth of Flex points for each unused meal. The switch plan would be viable for up to four meals per week per student, a figure that adds up to approximately \$570 per semester. "This plan sounds a little optimistic, doesn't it?" Updike says. The candidates plan to use this plan as a bar-

gaining position. "They might agree to some middle ground, so you shoot a little bit higher than what you can," Updike says. "You're playing a game with them."

The platform also includes improving the student seating in the JACC for basketball games. Updike says that students aren't getting their money's worth with the current seating arrangement. Instead, Tarnowski says they would return to a style that was used 20 years ago, which that allows for more students to be closer to the court.

Financial disclosure rounds out their campaign. They feel that student government ought to make its records open to the student body. Though they would push for financial disclosure, the pair admits that most of the student body probably does not care about the issue.

Their platform consists of these four issues and does not address any other specific problems faced by the student body.

Updike says that it simply was the idea of running that appealed to the pair initially. "We just wanted to run, get the experience of running for an office at school," Updike says. "But we started looking at some of the things student government was doing here at the school, and we looked at our own stances on the issues."

Though neither candidate has held an office in student government, both feel an outside perspective would be a key advantage. "We're people who've been active on campus, but never on the student government side of things," Tarnowski says. Both candidates have served as social commissioners for Zahm Hall.

Updike says that this involvement gives them a fresh perspective. "We've put on some interesting social events," Updike says. They are co-founders of the Leprechaun Legion, a student spirit group that supports the basketball team during home games. "I go to campus events. I participate in events around campus, feeling different things out," Updike says.



PRESIDENT

Name: John Updike
Class: Sophomore
Major: ALPP/Anthropology
Dorm: Zahm Hall

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Eric Tarnowski
Class: Sophomore
Major: Marketing
Dorm: Zahm Hall



PERSONALITY

Use "defenestration" in a sentence.

"I went over to BP the other night, and the rectress gave me defenestration."

If you had to eat one dining-hall item for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Updike: Shrimp Gumbo.
Tarnowski: Pizza. "Just so I would die faster."



IDEAS

Most Important

AnTostal improvements

Least Important

Making financial records public



QUOTE

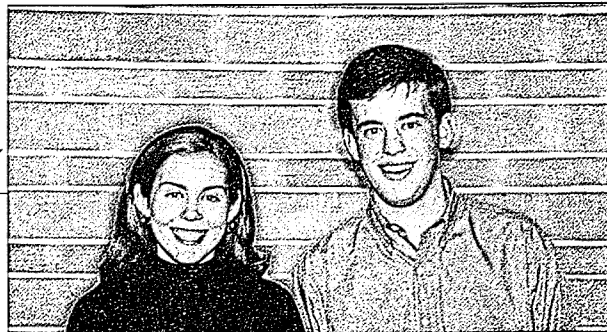
"Alcohol has done more for me than I've done for alcohol."

However, Updike says that flexibility is an important characteristic of any presidential candidate. "You have an agenda, but as stuff comes up you're able to address it as if it had been on your agenda," Updike says.

For now, their agenda is limited to specific ways to increase student activity at AnTostal and benefit students through Flex points and basketball games. "If we won," Tarnowski says, "I think there are some really cool things we could do."

—Matt Killen

Struggling With Policy Changes



Last spring, Libby Bishop and Trip Foley prepared to take office as the newly elected student body president and vice president, with a focus on improving communication with students and bringing variation to the meal plans. On March 18, however, less than two weeks before student government turned over, an e-mail from the administration to the entire student community set the stage for a continuing debate that thrust Bishop and Foley to the front lines of the argument.

The change in the alcohol policy and the abolition of in-dorm dances quickly grabbed the attention of students. According to Bishop, it became a new major issue that she and Foley found especially frustrating.

Bishop says that it has been tough to know "how to make the administration open to listening to students," especially in the case of the new alcohol policy.

"I think the biggest thing we've done is really try to stand up and fight for students," Foley says. "That was something we had talked a lot about last year, that we were going to represent them, in tailgating for example, and that was something we worked on all during the summer."

Both are proud of their upcoming presentation to the Board of Trustees concerning the improvement of residential life on campus, including plans and ideas for new dorms and living options.

While their administration has been dedicated over the past year to voicing student opinions on the new alcohol policy, they have not ignored their previous priorities.

Foley feels that communication between the students and student government definitely has improved. "The [student] senators have been very helpful in letting us know what goes on," he says. "I think there has been an improvement there, trying to find out what students want and bringing that up to the right people."

Throughout the year, the two visited every dorm on campus, talking and listening to its residents. Bishop and Foley hoped to gain insight into the true concerns of Notre Dame's students. That endeavor, they believe, was very successful. "Basically, I let them complain to me," Bishop says, "and I learned a lot."

"We wanted to tell students everything. The tough part of that is that it takes up a lot of time, and after the first few months, we let communications slip."

—Student Body President
Libby Bishop

Bishop's predecessor, Brooke Norton, had been criticized in the 2001-2002 academic year for not fostering communication between her office and the community. Bishop sought to change that, and while she does feel that the student government office has better related their daily routine to students, she admits that the whole process could have been more creative.

"We had such high hopes," she says, "We wanted to tell students *everything*. The tough part of that is that it takes up a lot of time, and after the first few months, we let communications slip."

Meal plan variety was another of Bishop and Foley's top priorities, both on the campaign trail and while in office. Both believe that a good amount of students would support a Flex 10 meal option, providing 10 dining hall meals per

week plus more Flex points than the \$230 included in the Flex 14 plan. Late in January 2003, Food Services was pessimistic about a Flex 10 plan, saying that it was not practical economically and that the university would like to keep dining halls at the center of students' eating lives.

Bishop and Foley describe Food Services' reaction as disappointing, especially because their proposal was a top priority. "We think it's important to the students," says Bishop.

Adds Foley: "We tried to work with Food Services to try and be open about their budgeting issues and ways we could cut costs, and we've had a little difficulty there. ... We're still going to keep fighting for it."

With two months left in office — official administration change will take place April 1 — continuing negotiations on meal plans is only one issue that Bishop and Foley plan to tackle. In the works is a comprehensive online calendar which would let students know all the campus events to take place on any given date. The two also are working with the college deans on starting the Notre Dame Lecture Series, an endowed, student-run program to bring in famous speakers. They plan to let their work pass into the hands of next year's administration to see the projects through.

Bishop and Foley also plan to work on the publication of TCEs, sponsor Black History Month events and hold focus groups for improving next year's pep rallies. They also will continue to put pressure on the topic of tailgating, hard alcohol in dorms and the ever-pressing issue of in-dorm dances.

Bishop and Foley are optimistic about making progress in their final months. "Seeing government input having an impact ... is very rewarding," says Bishop, "There are little rewards every day, the things that keep you going, and I think that has made the entire effort worthwhile."

— Nick Kolman-Mandle

VOTE HALLAHAN / LAO

The only ticket with the experience, energy and determination to get the job done

The student body's apathy finally has spread to student government. One week from the election, the only indication there's going to be one is a few campaign posters taped up in dorm bathrooms. Most of the candidates talk about the administration as an automatic veto machine — or a deaf ear — when it comes to discussing their platforms. This year's candidates talk of getting something — *anything* — done.

This year, vote for a candidate who not only wants to make changes, but knows how to do so. Someone who has watched the administration stamp out proposals but still can formulate a new plan of attack, and knows that real changes take longer than a single term to implement.

This year, the only ticket that meets those standards is junior **Pat Hallahan** and sophomore **Jeremy Lao**.

Hallahan, chief of staff for Student Body President Libby Bishop, has a wealth of experience from his work with the current student government administration. He's had the opportunity to see what works and what doesn't — especially in terms of the in-hall dance policy. Lao, as freshman class vice president and sophomore class president, also has experience battling red tape. Both have forged relationships with administrators key to the decision-making process.

The pair's combined experience has allowed them to put together a thoughtful, well-researched platform, in which almost every proposal has been scrutinized for feasibility. The candidates would work with currently available resources, such as NDbay.com, to better student life rather than spend time and scant funding forming other committees.

Hallahan and Lao won't limit themselves to conventional dorm visits to gather student opinion. They plan to initiate petitions and e-mails asking for student support on issues.

The candidates also emphasize accountability. They want to publish student government's financial records because, they say, students should know what's going on. The candidates also advocate publishing teacher-course evaluations to encourage faculty to focus more on students.

Funding, especially in light of recent bud-

get cuts, remains a problem for student government. Hallahan and Lao would collaborate with student groups to streamline funding, preventing costly overlap and combining funds to sponsor better events. They also would appeal to donors and businesses for endowments to help service groups that can no longer afford to rent CSC vans for transportation to off-campus events.

Perhaps as important as having a feasible platform is a realistic attitude. Hallahan and Lao recognize from experience that many ideas won't be accomplished this year. Plans to improve LaFortune and publish TCEs, for example, will take time to implement. Unlike the other candidates, this pair knows that they will be laying groundwork for many future changes — and they know how to do it.

Charlie Ebersol and **Lauren Meagher** are brimming with optimism, but lack the experience to pull off the big changes they hope to see. Although they have held leadership positions in on- and off-campus groups, neither has student government experience.

Perhaps their most ambitious plank concerns bringing high-profile entertainment to campus by relying on the university's national identity and corporate connections. But Notre Dame long has had a national identity and still can't hook big names: What student groups have consistently lacked is sufficient funds, which still aren't available.

Unlike Hallahan and Lao, Ebersol and Meagher aren't sure where they stand on the in-hall dance policy, although they ultimately plan to represent student opinion. The pair says it wants to work with the administration, but last year proved that the administration isn't interested in working with students. In the meantime, the pair would establish a quick-fix committee to direct dance planners to already available resources, such as a Web site with dance venues and prices. The last thing students need is more bureaucracy to plow through.

Ebersol and Meagher want to publish TCEs, but don't seem to be aware of the time required to implement such a controversial change. They also would establish mid-semester reviews to keep professors improving their courses along the way.

The pair isn't in touch with student government the way Hallahan and Lao are, and with Meagher already living off campus, it seems they'll have an even greater challenge staying in touch with student needs and their office's obligations.

Joe Muto and **Mimi Matkowski** are full of creative ideas to improve student life, but they lack the experience to represent student opinion to the administration. Unresearched ideas won't yield many positive results, especially with their more radical proposals such as abolishing parietals.

Junior **Mike Bott** and sophomore **Mike Kirsh** want to spice up the campus social scene, but many of their planks are poorly researched. The ticket's main plank would add a bar-restaurant to LaFortune Student Center much like Legends, the renovated Alumni-Senior Club due to open next fall. Perhaps the greatest weakness of this ticket is that they believe they can accomplish all the ideas on their platform.

Juniors **Drew Updike** and **Eric Tarnowski** narrowed their platform to four planks, including a creative revival of AnTostal. But their plans, too, are unresearched, and although the candidates crunched some numbers to come up with a student-friendly meal plan, it's doubtful the administration would be interested in forking over the required cash.

Sophomore **Matt Padberg** and freshman **David Rail** are running on a single plank: more Flex points. But they haven't considered the pending Flex 10 proposal or researched past initiatives to see what worked. Even if the pair had a feasible, well researched proposal to give students more Flex points, Padberg and Rail wouldn't have the experience to wade through the red tape.

The **Triumvirate** of Ryan Gagnet and John McCarthy would establish machine-gun nests to snag parietals-violators and distribute helper monkeys to each student. Sure, they're funny, but at a time when apathy is high, do we need a student body president whose slogan is "Basically Lacking All Hope"?

The only candidates with enough experience, energy and determination to get the job done are Hallahan and Lao. Vote for them on Feb. 10. □

CAMPUS WATCH BY THE GIPPER



TIP THE GIPP: GIPPER@ND.EDU

Welcome back, Gippings. A new Gipper's in town, here to extend a very-belated "Happy New Year" to all. As for our old Gipp — he's pursuing a life abroad, apparently under the impression that lessons can actually be learned outside of our protective bubble...sucker.

While a little disappointed with the deficiency of tips about adventures in winter break wonderland, the Gipper will, as always, find a few things to rant.

In Memoriam

First up, the surprise we've all seen coming for years — the downfall of the Boat Club, our favorite freshman stomping ground. The owners of the bar, who were shocked to learn that three-fourths of Notre Dame students are actually not 24-year-olds from New Jersey, will most likely be levied with back-breaking fines. Two hundred and thirteen underage students were given citations in the foray.

The Gipp has heard various entertaining stories regarding why that number should have been higher, but doesn't want to indulge in them for two reasons. First, the Gipp assumes the student body will not be comforted by the fact that heavily intoxicated teenagers can so easily outsmart those trained to protect us. And second, the Gipp doesn't want to slander our local municipal police department. Why? Well, the Gipp fully respects the NDSP's claim on the title of "laughing stock security force of the greater South Bend area," and does not to release stories that would tip the scales of incompetence toward another organization. But after hearing about this next tip, even yours truly must give into temptation.

House Arrest

Last semester, some students were hosting a few out-of-town guests. They showed them some South Bend fun by taking them binging at classy local watering holes. Then the group "decided to beat the hell out of a

four foot plastic Santa Claus at Turtle Creek." Hmm ... who needs nightclubs, anyway? The fun then continued with their weekly "bush-jumping" activities. (Don't worry, feminists, that's not some dirty euphemism.) The sight of grown men engaging in shrubbery wrestling must have intrigued local police who were nearby. According to our tipster, "Upon arrival, the cops got to talking about how they are corrupt and that certain athletes get away with anything, and proceeded to ask if we had any porn to watch at our party we were having." Sure enough, a *Girls Gone Wild* videotape was lying around. "The South Bend Police asked to join the party, inserted the video and watched gleefully for nearly an hour," says our source. Before leaving, the students gave the cops a "homer hankey," which, to the Gipp's relief, was nothing more than a piece of Minnesota Twins memorabilia.

Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head

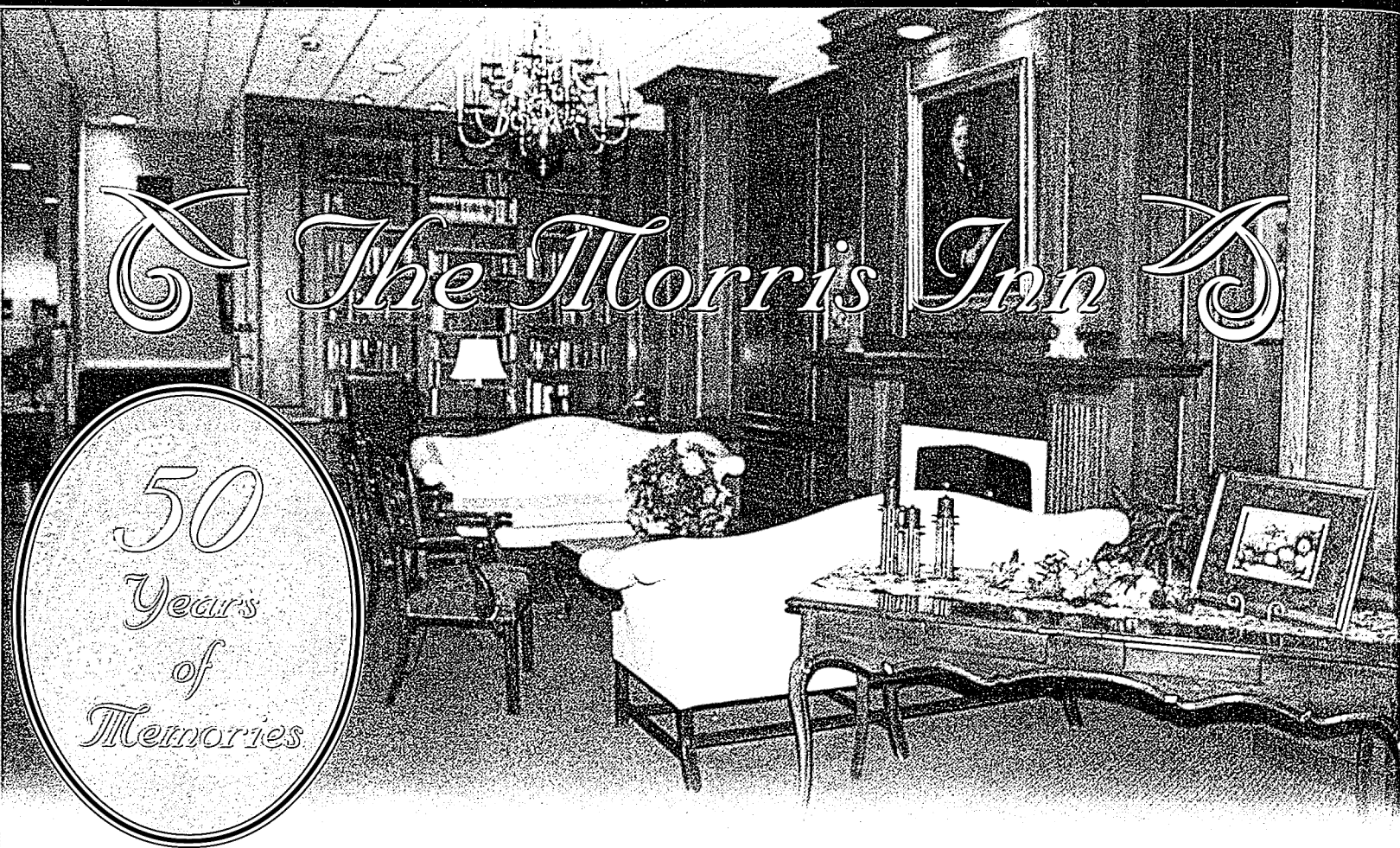
During a Gator Bowl vacation, a group of Notre Dame students realized the fiscal

beauty of splitting one hotel room eight ways. Problem was, that left two beds and one floor for eight people. The story goes that after a night of "heavy" fluid intake, one fellow woke up asking, "Is it raining?" The Gipp will let you use your imagination to figure out what actually was trickling down onto another passed-out student that night. But thanks to our old pal alcohol, the recipient of the unholy water didn't wake up during the downpour, and supposedly was nearly convinced that he caused the flood himself. Since nothing tickles the Gipp's fancy like underthought puns, we'll let our sources finish this tip: "I am happy to see that the friend who was urinated on is no longer 'pissed off' at our other friend, but I was more than happy to 'leak' this story to the Gipp."

Goodbye for now, faithful readers. Try not to cry a river for your sunken boat. And don't worry, that loud ringing sound you hear is only the cash register at the suddenly happy-go-lucky *biblioteca*. □



GOLDEN OPPORNTUNITY The producers of *COPS* missed a great chance to record some serious cop-perpetrator bonding at an anonymous tipster's bachelor pad.



SEANDUDLEY

In 1975, 200 Secret Service agents swarmed The Morris Inn, Notre Dame's on-campus hotel. The hotel wasn't being infiltrated in a government siege. The agents were there as part of then-President Gerald Ford's personal entourage. The hotel quickly was made fit for the leader of the free world. The agents installed a red "hot line" phone near the lobby in case of a world catastrophe. When an open Ming vase in a private dining room was deemed a prime hiding spot for a bomb, the Secret Service demanded that hotel staff seal it.

Although Ford is the only U.S. president to have slept at The Morris Inn, the seemingly sleepy hotel is no stranger to hosting high-profile celebrities and politicians during its five decades on campus. In fact, the inn has been visited by several of the past 10 presidents, according to veteran Rooms Manager Sherri Tubinis.

Last spring, The Morris Inn celebrated its 50th anniversary; it is the only South Bend hotel to offer continuous service for that many years, says Tubinis, who has worked at The Morris Inn since 1967. Plans for a new hotel, The Notre Dame Inn, to replace The Morris Inn have stalled, so the staff and

management of the Morris aren't sure how many years their hotel has left. "The future is today," says Hotel Director Bill Beirne. He says some of the longtime staff members of The Morris Inn are planning to retire when the new hotel eventually is built.

In many ways, walking into The Morris Inn is taking a step back in time. The dark wood furnishings of the lobby are reminiscent of an old gentlemen's club, and to the right of the front desk are two large, fully-functional, antique wooden phone booths with glass doors.

The walls of the Inn pay tribute to the history and beauty of Notre Dame. The lobby and rooms feature paintings of campus locations which were donated by two local painters. Along the hallways hang framed maps and paintings of each of Ireland's counties. "So one of the questions at the front desk is, 'Where is County [such and such]?' " says Beirne. "And we tell them to go look around."

Of the inn's 92 guest rooms, 27 have two twin beds separated by a nightstand, much like the 1950s bedrooms only now seen on *Nick at Nite* sitcom reruns. Beirne says The Morris Inn is one of very few hotels, if not the only hotel, in America that still has any such rooms with two separate, twin-size

beds. They work well, he says, for hosting sports teams whose players like their own beds, and many older guests appreciate the 1950s throwback.

The inn's rooms are designed with the privacy of individual guests in mind. While most modern hotels emphasize spaciousness, rooms at Morris Inn are each equipped with a dressing room that connects the bedroom area to the restroom. The two areas are separated by a door that ensures privacy while changing clothes. "At the time when this hotel was built, privacy was a little bit, I think, more popular then," Tubinis says. A few decades later, management proposed removing the door between the two rooms to make the bedroom seem larger. Complaints poured in, Tubinis says, from guests who staunchly supported the privacy of the dressing room. The doors quickly were re-installed and remain to this day.

Other attempts at modernizing the hotel have been more successful, but change always has been slow in coming, as the hotel strives to maintain its nostalgic atmosphere. When the hotel opened in 1952, each room had a radio, but the management didn't add televisions for another decade. It was only three years ago, according to Tubinis, that the front desk computerized their reservation

system. Until then, all reservations still were recorded and kept by hand. And it was only two years ago that The Morris Inn removed all the key holes from guestroom doors and changed to electronic room keys. "We were probably the last hotel in the United States that I can think of that actually had hard keys," Beirne says.

The most recent additions to the hotel have been free high-speed Internet access and mini-bar refreshment centers in every guest room. "We have all these different amenity-type things that people look for," says Beirne. "We're either equal to or have more than any hotel in town."

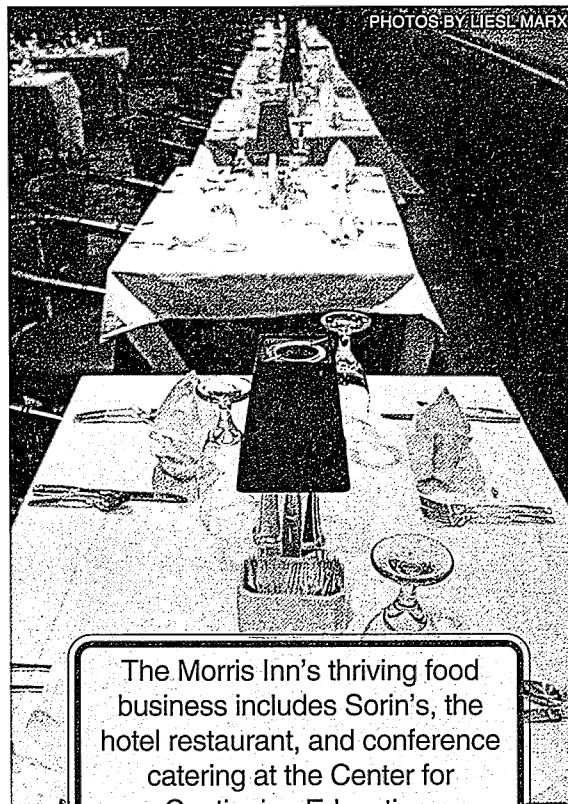
In 2000, Beirne decided it was time to put The Morris Inn on the map, and he focused on the dining room and cocktail lounge. He wanted each to have its own identity, and the management decided to revamp the dining room into a fancy restaurant called Sorin's. Working with the veteran executive chef Donald Miller — who has been at the hotel for 16 years — they overhauled the menu, and now the restaurant specializes in healthy, seasonal dishes. Winter dinner entrees range in price from \$17.25 to \$25.25. Beirne calls Sorin's "the best restaurant in South Bend." One wall of Sorin's is painted with three murals representing the center of campus as it appeared in 1844, 1859, and 1890.

For the restaurant's other walls and for all the private dining rooms, Beirne went to the University Archives to find and frame pictures and paraphernalia from Notre Dame's past. One small dining room features an old photograph of a beardless Fr. Sorin, the original signed contract to build the first Main Building and samples of Notre Dame's own official currency from the 1860s.

The staff added Notre Dame sports memorabilia and new furniture to the cocktail lounge, naming it Leahy's. It serves beverages to hotel guests and the public Monday through Saturday.

Beirne says the hotel is unique in its emphasis on food service. Between Sorin's, Leahy's, the hotel's private dining rooms, and conferences, "We actually do more food business here than we do rooms business," he says, "which is a little unusual in the hotel industry."

The distinguished dining only is one of the Inn's many attractions. Famous Notre



The Morris Inn's thriving food business includes Sorin's, the hotel restaurant, and conference catering at the Center for Continuing Education.

Dame alumni are known to frequent the Inn, especially during the Irish football season. A guest might see past Heisman Trophy winners eating in Sorin's or mingling in the lobby on a football Saturday, Beirne says.

Weekends always are busy at The Morris Inn. "We do a better weekend business than we do during the week," Tubinis says, thanks to tourists and parents visiting and social events like on-campus weddings. "Weekends are stronger here, which is not usually the norm in the [hotel] business," Beirne says.

In addition to Notre Dame sports legends, a number of celebrities have stayed at The Morris Inn. Ann Landers was often a guest at the hotel, as was Perry Como, for whom rooms 109-111 are nicknamed because of his frequent visits. Paul Newman and Howard Cosell have stayed at The Morris Inn, and Tubinis says Tom Jones kissed all the waitresses when he ate in the dining room (now the present location of Sorin's). More recently, Regis Philbin and Sydney Pollack, a new addition to the Notre Dame Performing

Arts Advisory Council, have stayed in the hotel.

Most guests of the Inn, however, are people with a direct tie to the university. Trustees, parents of students, advisory council members, guest lecturers and professors fill most rooms on any given day. Many are on campus for the numerous conferences at the Center for Continuing Education (CCE) in McKenna Hall or at the Mendoza College of Business. The Morris Inn is responsible for catering all CCE conferences and most attendees stay at the hotel, so there is a broad tunnel beneath Notre Dame Avenue connecting the hotel to McKenna Hall. The walls of this concourse are, not surprisingly, adorned with more photographs and paintings from the university's past.

The university owns The Morris Inn and buys all the rooms every home football weekend for university trustees or advisory council members, whose autumn meetings are normally scheduled around home games. It is impossible to reserve a room at The Morris Inn on those weekends, says Tubinis. "We actually don't even sell the rooms to the public," says Beirne. "The university assigns rooms, and then we're told by way of a rooming list."

The Inn is named for Ernest M. Morris, who graduated from Notre Dame's Law School in 1906. He became a wealthy businessman and founded what is now the Associates Corporation of North America, a financial services organization. As a university trustee, he donated one million dollars to the university for a hotel, which opened April 21, 1952, just under a year after Morris died. It was the first, and remains the only, hotel on campus.

"He thought that a hotel would be a window on the university," says Tubinis, "for guests to come from all over the world ... and have an opportunity to experience Notre Dame and be right on the campus." □



Opposite page:
The Morris Inn's lobby features antique furniture and a portrait of Ernest Morris, the hotel benefactor.
This page:
The hotel's facade is a true monument to the 1950s.



SPLINTERS

FROM THE PRESSBOX

THE RANT JIMBO'S JABBER IRISH EYES ON OUR CALLS THE RANT JIMBO'S JABBER IRISH EYES ON OUR CALLS



The Rant

Those guys who insist figure skating and NASCAR aren't sports are right
by Gerard Meskill — respond to the king of sports at gmeskill@nd.edu

If you've ever watched an Olympic sport with a group of people, you know that whenever an event like figure skating or synchronized swimming comes on, there is always at least one person who boldly proclaims, "That's *not* a sport!" Predictably, an endless argument ensues.

While I have the floor, or in this case, the word processor, I will offer a definition of "sport." When it's all said and done, you might not agree, but within the parameters of this definition the concept of "sport" will be airtight.

sport (spôrt) *n.* [ME *sporte*, aphetic for DISPORT] Any physical event in which two or more people or groups of people interact in such a way that one side is capable of directly influencing the competitive behavior of the other side without violating the rules of the competition. Furthermore, the outcome must be determined objectively.

The opening half of the first sentence of this definition is straightforward and contains two parameters. The first emphasizes that the event must be of a physical nature, thereby ruling out video games, chess and any other event that does not involve physical exertion. The second requires that there be two or more sides in direct opposition, which rules out events like miniature golf when played alone.

The latter half of the first sentence is where things get tricky. According to the statement, each side must be capable of contributing to its own victory and preventing the other side's success *directly*. This parameter rules

out a number of types of events, including speed events such as track, motor sports, swimming, cross country, skiing and rowing.

In each of the above events, the competitors are unable directly and legally to prohibit their competitors from performing. In a track race, for example, one runner can influence indirectly how another might run, by trying to pass him, but he is unable to inhibit the other runner's performance. His real competition is the clock, which is used to compare the two performances. All events that use a clock as the medium for determining success should be defined as "races."

Sports are football, soccer, basketball, baseball, fencing, wrestling and any other event that meets the definition's criteria.



To a similar degree, this parameter also rules out golf and field events in track and field. Golfers compete directly with the golf course, not each other. No one golfer can dictate how another strokes the ball. Instead, he only can try to master the course more soundly than his competition by taking fewer strokes to put his ball in each of the 18 cups. As in races, golfers compete against an intermediate entity, and their individual performances against that medium are compared subsequently to determine a winner. Any event that uses a medium other than time to determine its winner should be labeled a "contest."

Finally, the second sentence of the definition insists that the outcome of an event be determined objectively to be deemed a sport. This parameter rules out figure skating, gymnastics,

diving and boxing. In each of these events, some or all of the results are determined by an arbitrator who declares one side a victor based on subjective observations. In fact, the only event listed above that does not determine all of its matches subjectively is boxing but, because boxing sometimes resorts to judges, it cannot be considered a sport. Instead, these events are "competitions."

So what does that leave? Sports are football, soccer, basketball, baseball, fencing, wrestling and any other event that meets the definition's criteria.

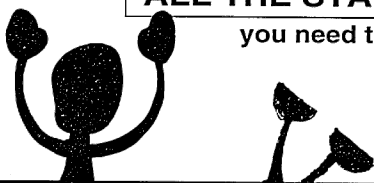
Some might question this conclusion, citing that these "sports" still rely on subjective mediators who make rulings throughout the matches. The difference is that referees of football and other sports are ruling on specific instances of a game, but an objective factor, in this case points, finally determines the match. In a boxing decision, the judges determine which fighter wins each round based upon a variety of factors, and there is no set system dictating which factors should be considered most heavily. Football's rulebook explains that certain grasps constitute holding. In contrast, there is no equivalent manual in boxing to explain, for instance, that three landed jabs are worth more than one landed hook. Even though both calls require some subjective analysis, one is defined and the other is not. □

Jimbo's Jabber

The man himself brings you...

ALL THE STATS

you need to know



FOOTBALL: Notre Dame signed one of the top 10 recruiting classes in the nation Wednesday. Notable incoming freshmen include QB **Brady Quinn** and TE **Greg Olsen**, brother of red-shirt freshman quarterback **Chris Olsen**.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: After squandering a 15-point lead, the No. 10 Irish (6-1, 18-3 overall) rallied in double overtime to defeat Georgetown 93-92 last Saturday at the Joyce

Center. Senior G **Matt Carroll** finished with 36 points and was named the Big East Co-Player of the Week.

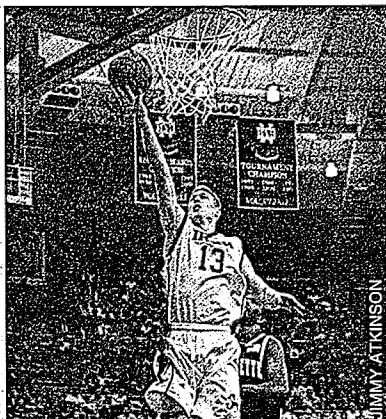
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Senior G **Alicia Ratay** and sophomore F **Jacqueline Batteast** each scored 21 points, leading the Irish to a 69-64 win over West Virginia last Saturday to snap a four-game home losing streak. Sophomore F **Kelsey Wicks** has decided to leave the team for personal reasons.

IRIS HEYESON

MATT CARROLL



Senior guard Matt Carroll, from Horsham, Penn., is one of three captains of the men's basketball team this season. After playing in the shadow of current NBA players Troy Murphy and Ryan Humphrey during his first three years at Notre Dame, Carroll (6-6, 212) has emerged as a team leader on and off the court. He leads the team in scoring with just over 20 points per game, is second on the team in steals and third on the team in rebounds and assists. One of the best 3-point shooters in the country, Carroll is lighting it up from the arc at an impressive 38 percent.



JIMMY ATKINSON

One of the most memorable games of my Notre Dame career was: the Georgetown game at Georgetown last year. To be part of history in the Big East, the longest game in Big East history, the highest point total in Big East history, just to win after we played 60 minutes of basketball was amazing.

Despite the added responsibility that comes with being one of the team captains this season: I really haven't felt too much added pressure. I just try to stay level-headed. I don't get too high with the highs or too low with the lows.

I started playing basketball: when I was very young. My grandfather was a high-school basketball coach. I remember just going to his games and trying to get the ball into the basket when I probably couldn't reach it.

One of the toughest arenas that I've had to play in: is probably the Carrier Dome. I don't think we've won at Syracuse since I've been here. It's a tough atmosphere. It's very big. It's actually a football arena. It's not an easy place to shoot.

If I could drive any car right now: I might take a Hummer H2 because they're pretty sweet, especially up here in the snow. Maybe not in the summertime, but in the wintertime I could use one of those up here.

My favorite movie is: the *Godfather Part II*. I think that's probably one of the best movies of all time.

My favorite professional basketball player is: Larry Bird. I've always been a big fan of the Celtics, and I think that he was one of the best players of all time.

The song that I have been listening to before each game is: Eminem, "Lose Yourself." That's been my song the last couple of games.

When I am preparing for a game: I just like to hang out. We go through our regular routine every game. We have a pre-game meal. Sometimes we have Mass either the night before or that day. I just start thinking positively. My roommate actually gives me a verse in the Bible each game to think about, just to kind of try to get some strength from God and just keep doing my thing. — David Murray

YOUR CALL?



vs.



NOTRE DAME

PITTSBURGH

Our Calls Men's Basketball

OPPONENT: PITTSBURGH

WHERE: NOTRE DAME, IND.

WHEN: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH,
3:30 PM

In last month's contest, Pittsburgh exploited the inside to pound home baskets against the Irish. Prepared and enjoying the home-court advantage, ND shuts down the Panthers' inside game as the Irish defeat the nation's No. 4 team 83-71.

GERARD MESKILL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Irish will come out and play with great intensity and focus in an attempt to make up for their earlier loss to the Panthers and will retain the top spot in the Big East West Division. In a defensive battle, Notre Dame remains undefeated at home by knocking off Pittsburgh 62-56.

DAVID MURRAY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Matt Carroll drains seven shots from behind the arc and finishes with 35 points to lead Notre Dame — with a bit of help from the Legion — to an 80-77 win over Pittsburgh, avenging an earlier loss to the Panthers.

JIMMY ATKINSON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

OUR CALLS RECORDS

DAVID MURRAY: 4-2
JIMMY ATKINSON: 4-2
GERARD MESKILL: 4-2

FENCING: The second-ranked men's team upset top-ranked Penn State 15-12 at the Notre Dame collegiate duels Saturday at the Joyce Center. On Sunday, the Irish completed the weekend undefeated and moved to 14-0. Senior foilist **Ozren Debic** finished the weekend 15-1, bringing his season record to 27-1, tops on the squad. The women's team, also ranked second in the nation, moved to 12-2.

TRACK AND FIELD: Both the men's and women's teams defeated Michigan State last Saturday. Senior **Jaime Volkmer** set a school record in pole vault by clearing 3.9 meters. She also won the triple jump with a 12.06-meter measurement.

MEN'S TENNIS: Notre Dame (1-4) secured its first win of the season, shutting out Wisconsin 7-0. **Ben Hatten** and **Nicolas Lopez-Acevedo** improved to 3-1 as a

doubles team, winning 8-3.

WOMEN'S TENNIS: Despite winning the doubles competition, the 21st-ranked Irish lost five of the six singles matches against fifth-ranked North Carolina and suffered a 5-2 defeat Saturday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Sophomore **Sarah Jane Connelly** earned the only singles point for Notre Dame by winning her match 7-5, 7-6 (7-5).

— Jimmy Atkinson

Methods for March Madness

The Irish must improve in three ways if they are going to make it to the Final Four

DAVID MURRAY

Coach Mike Brey has a blank NCAA Tournament bracket framed on the wall in his office. When he was first brought in to coach the Irish in 2000, his goal was to be able to write his team into one of the 64 first-round slots at the end of the regular season.

While he certainly would like to do that again this season, his sights are undoubtedly set higher. According to senior guard and tri-captain Matt Carroll, the team's perspective on the NCAA Tournament has changed drastically from what it was when Brey first arrived. "The difference is that [in previous years] we *hoped* to get to the tournament," Carroll says. "Now, we *expect* to get to the tournament. That's how this program has changed. We start the season with the goal of going to the tournament, but we expect to be there every year."

So far this season, the Irish have been nothing short of remarkable. The thrilling double-overtime victory over Georgetown on Saturday improved them to 18-3 overall, the team's best start in over 20 years. The Irish are also 6-1 in conference play, best in the Big East West Division. Their sixth-ranked Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) rating and 19th-ranked strength of schedule are further evidence of the success they have had against a very challenging set of opponents.

While Notre Dame already is a lock for an NCAA Tournament berth, it has deviated from some of the good habits which helped it beat top teams like Maryland and Texas early in the season. Here are a few improvements that the Irish must make in the next month in order to play deep into the NCAA Tournament.

Balance the scoring. The victory over Georgetown marked the 12th consecutive game in which either Matt Carroll or sophomore guard Chris Thomas has led the team in scoring, indicating a tendency for Notre Dame to rely too much on those two. The Irish have other capable scorers, most

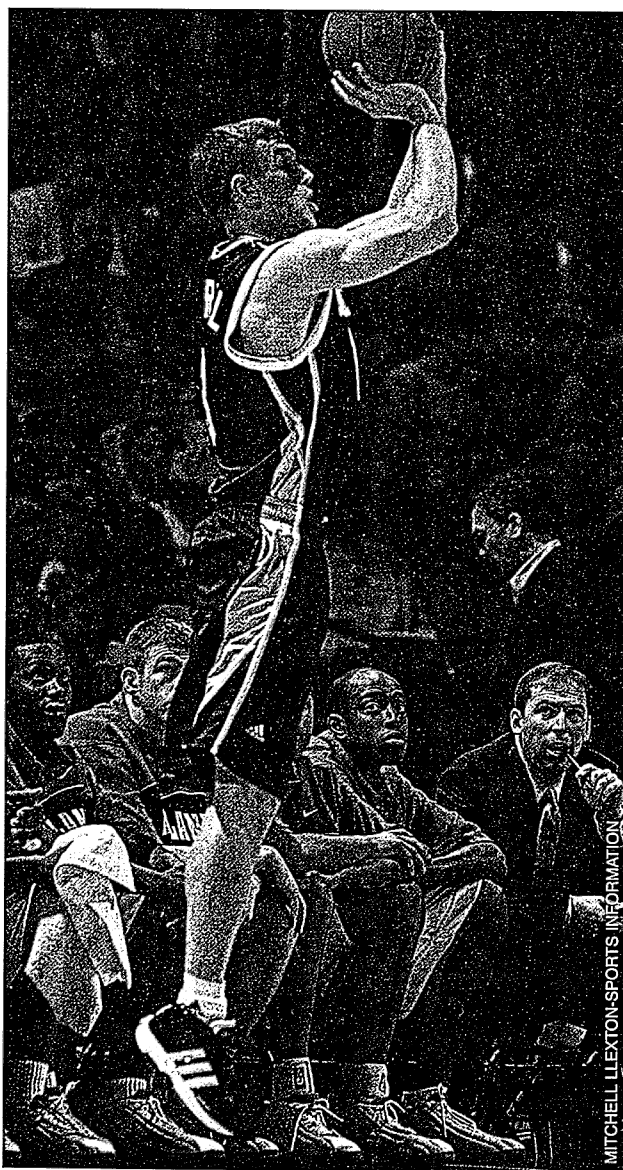
notably senior guard and forward Dan Miller and freshman forward Torin Francis, whose production has tapered off after a strong start. As the postseason draws near, teams will place greater focus on defending Carroll and Thomas, meaning that other Irish players will need to put points on the board. Bench contributions from junior guard Torrian Jones and freshman guard Chris Quinn will play an important role as well.

Defend the paint. The Irish have played

pretty good defense — one of Brey's trademarks — all year, but they frequently have been burned by big interior players. Georgetown's Mike Sweetney scored 38 points, Boston College's Craig Smith had 24 and the Kentucky and Pittsburgh front lines attacked the basket at will. Notre Dame has had success against opposing big men when they mix defensive sets and double-team the low post. The Irish must be willing to concede the outside shot in order to prevent easy baskets inside as well as foul trouble for Francis, sophomore forward Jordan Cornette and junior center Tom Timmermans.

Avoid droughts. This is the most important piece of the puzzle. The Irish took themselves completely out of the Pittsburgh and Kentucky games because of long scoring droughts. They are an outside shooting team, and they run into trouble when their jump shots are well-defended or simply not falling. Carroll normally is good at driving to the basket in these situations, and either creating an easy shot or getting to the freethrow line in order to end a dry spell; others must follow his lead and become more assertive. Thomas must continue to use his explosive quickness to penetrate because doing so often leads to open looks for teammates who could not otherwise create their own shot. Carroll also points out that the Irish must start strong at the beginning of every half. "If we come out and try to set the tone and play our tempo basketball at the start, we will prevent [droughts]," he says.

Does Carroll think the Irish can play past the second round this year? "I think we can because we have experience," he says. "I've played twice to the second round and lost both times, and I think we're ready to take the next step to go to the Sweet Sixteen. A lot of that depends on seeding, and it's hard to tell now, but I think this program is ready to go to the next round." □



THERE HE GOES A CARROLLIN' Senior Matt Carroll is leading the team in scoring, averaging 21.1 points a game and notching three 30-point plus games already this season.

Bowling for Domers

Notre Dame's bowling team hosts nation's top college tournament

PETERKEEFE

Bowling isn't usually thought of as a violent sport. But at this year's Blue and Gold Classic, a college bowling tournament held annually at South Bend's Beacon Bowl, one bowler became so frustrated by his play that he kicked the ball return and broke it. It wasn't first time that a bowler at the tournament had taken out some anger on the equipment: Last year, in a fit of Bobby Knight-esque rage, another bowler broke a bowling ball in half when he threw it at a chair.

Held on January 25 and 26 and hosted by Notre Dame's own bowling team, the Blue and Gold Classic featured some of the best — and most passionate — college bowlers in the world. Though ND bowlers usually save their ire for kick-boxing class or *Vice City* on PlayStation, they are no less excited about the sport than their counterparts at other schools.

Founded in 1995, the Notre Dame bowling team is a club sport run almost entirely by students. Some money for the club comes from RecSports, Student Activities and their football concession stand, but members also must supplement these funds with money from their own pockets. The team practices twice a week at the local 52-lane Beacon Bowl. Since the students bowl there so often and use their own equipment, the manager, Jon Backstrom, cuts them a deal: only 50 cents per game. The club covers half of that, and individual bowlers must cough up the other 25 cents.

The team has no coach to oversee its activities, but local pro bowler Ray Szajko, a former Notre Dame baseball player, voluntarily comes to practices to give the team pointers. All in all, there are 15 guys and five girls who practice regularly with the team. Notre Dame incorporated women's bowling as an official club sport just last year; though women have been practicing with the men's team for a few years, this is their first full season.

Both teams travel to three or four tournaments, mostly in the Midwest, each semester. Last semester, the teams traveled to Beaver Creek, Ohio and St. Louis, and then to Las Vegas for a national tournament over Christmas break. Five people play in each game, and Notre Dame generally brings about six people for each tournament. Most tournaments allow space for only one team per school, but some let schools bring a B team.

B teams exist to help younger and inexperienced bowlers perfect their skills. "B teams are wonderful because it allows guys who aren't at the top and don't have the chance to compete normally to get excited about it," says club co-president Phil Nagel. Because the team is a club sport, there are no cuts and the practices are open to

all students.

The biggest tournament for the Irish this semester was January's Blue and Gold Classic. The tournament, in its sixth year, drew 58 teams (33 men's teams and 25 women's teams) from as far away as Arizona (Mesa Community College) and Florida (Florida State).

Morehead State, the No. 1 team in the nation, took home first place for the men, while Central State won the women's bracket for the second straight year, edging out Nebraska by only six pins.

The tournament has grown in its six years. It started as a small, 20-team competition; next year, the club expects between 80 and 100 teams. "It's one of the top three tournaments in the country," says Nagel.

The success of the Classic has gone a long way toward establishing Notre Dame as a legitimate program. Still, Notre Dame does not have a stellar reputation in the bowling

world and it is hard for the team to compete with top programs.

"Nobody goes to ND to bowl," says junior Michael Failor, the current treasurer and a three-year member of the team. "We have to look around for people who bowled in high school and convince them to come out."

But Nagel is confident in the future of the team.

"We have quite a bit of talent," he says. "It's just a matter of refining it. We could become, eventually, over the next couple of years, one of the better teams. It's just a matter of getting our act together." When Nagel started out with the team his freshman year, he would just go and bowl for fun. Eventually, he worked at his game and started competing in tournaments.

"We're open to pretty much anybody who wants to bowl, whether it be just for fun, or if you're looking to be competitive," says Nagel. "We have no requirements for coming to practice or anything. Anybody who wants to come out, Ray is perfectly willing to help them." □



SCREW IT DUDE, LET'S GO BOWLING Bowling club co-president David Gonzalez strikes while the alley's hot at a tournament in St. Louis.



NOBODY CALLS ME LEBOWSKI. I'M THE DUDE Ray Szajko, a local substitute middle school teacher and pro bowler, coaches the team on the finer points of bowling.

PHOTOS BY PHIL NAGEL

Congregation of Holy Cross **We only take the best.**

*"In the discernment of God's call, we are a
brotherhood at the service of the universal
church under the pastoral direction of the Pope."*

---Constitutions of Holy Cross, V.51



Dan Parrish, C.S.C. and Michael Wurtz, C.S.C.
Ordination Class of 2004



Discover Your Vocation at Notre Dame*

www.nd.edu/~vocation

Fun, But In No Way Civilized

Because before a Mogwai was a band, it shot flaming arrows at things

Well, the spring semester has arrived, and despite the predictions of certain ResLife directors, I've managed to arrive back in the Bend along with it. And maybe it's just me, but I've noticed that there seems to be a lot of snow around here. Perhaps I should comment on it in comic strips. Constantly. At great length. Whether others want me to or not. Yeah, a couple of cartoons about ice and snow could really spice up the old newspaper. Yes, indeed.

Winter weather advisories aside, spring semester always has a slightly different vibe than the first: Freshman SCPPers run screaming in the direction of COBA, pre-tentious London students trot around thinking they've genuinely experienced another culture, and the seniors mist up at everything from a Basilica mass to a toothless 'Backer townie. Perhaps the most important change, however, is the fact that everybody is strutting around with their respective Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanzaa presents like they're the Pope of Greenwich Village. While my friends cashed in with their various Xboxes and PS2s, I netted the ultimate gift: a little film by the unassuming name of *Gremlins 2: The New Batch*.

While *Gremlins 2* has been called everything from "harmless fluff" to "something akin to the breaking of the Second Seal," I believe that this unnoticed classic has everything a successful movie needs these days: drama, romance, pathos and Christopher Lee. And while those of us who had HBO in the early '90s likely saw the film so many times we can recite its dialogue from memory, I will present a brief plot synopsis for those few who remain ignorant of its brilliance.

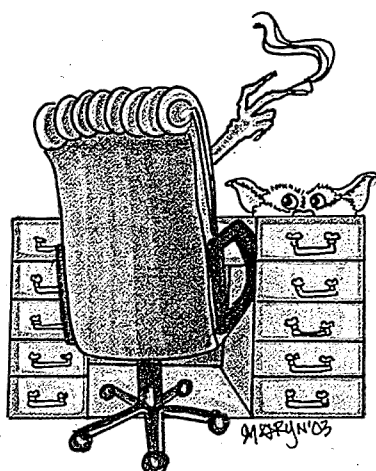
Proving to us that racism can be funny, the first movie introduced us to a Chinese man named Mr. Wing who ran an Oriental curiosity shop fueled only by the power of his Fu Manchu mustache, fortune cookies and opium pipe. When he introduces a strange creature called a Mogwai to hapless chump Billy Peltzer, the town immediately is assailed by demons with huge eyes and ears who would, in a different Christopher Lee movie, repeatedly be whining the phrase, "They stole it, my precious." Mogwai, you see, have very specific rules regarding their care. Get them wet, they multiply. Expose them to direct sunlight, they congeal into a rather unappetizing photochemical goo. Perhaps most importantly, any food after midnight causes them to mutate into the aforesaid little green monsters and generally

cause hilarious havoc on a *Stitch*-like level. While the first film confined their destruction to the small town of Kingston Falls, the second strives to put to rest the burning questions the first left unanswered, like, "Wouldn't it be sort of funny if they were somehow in New York? And looked weird? Oooh, and could talk really intelligently?"

Answering all these questions with hilarious results, the second movie places our gods and monsters in the Clamp building, a state-of-the-art office complex with everything from a hip TCBY to a genetic engineering firm. Unlike our good friends the Raelians, however, this firm fails to take into account what would happen if gremlins got a hold of its technology. By drinking various test tubes, the gremlins are transformed into (among other things) fruit, a she-gremlin, a sun-resistant bat, a spider and a hyper-intelligent gremlin capable of rational discourse and pure electricity. Why a lab would keep around a vial that turns things into beings of energy is anyone's guess, but my money's on the endless comedy potential in Christopher Lee shooting at said things before collapsing in an electrocuted heap.

Of course, *Gremlins 2* succeeds not only because it features a proto-Gollum creature with a dentist drill, but also because it provides scathing commentary on the level our society has reached. The fully-automated Clamp Center eerily echoes Zager and Evans' prophetic *In the Year 2525*, while the destruction created by the genetics lab poses the question, "What price technology?" years before *Gattaca* showed us that Jude Law looks hot even in a wheelchair. Finally, the most valuable lesson taught by the movie comes when sadistic gremlins destroy the projector in an attempt to render the rest of the film unwatchable. Rising from his seat, Hulk Hogan threatens the gremlins with all manner of bodily harm, until the movie resumes without further incident. Brief though the scene might be, the message still resonates today: You as an individual can do a lot of things, but pissing off the Hulkster is definitely not one of them. Come on, he has shirts that he tears off his body, for God's sake.

Pick it up on DVD and hear hilarious commentary, such as "In this scene, I was being chased by gremlins." It might be sort of kitschy, but that's part of its charm. And remember, praise is always in good taste: Leonard Maltin panned the first film, and in the second one the gremlins clawed him good. He ain't pretty no more. Not that he was all that pretty in the first place, but you understand. □



O U T O F
B O U N D S

BY JEFF EYERMAN

Get to Know Your Government ... Mule Band members Warren Haynes (left) and Matt Abts are coming to town Feb. 11.

PHOTOS COURTESY BIGASSLE.COM



keep on truckin'

Government Mule brings a taste of old-school rock to the Bend

TRACYEVANS

A bluesy organ-and-bass combination wails throughout Government Mule's song "What is Hip." The drum-driven tune packs a punch with each beat as the vocals come in:

What is hip?/Tell me, tell me/If you think you know/What is hip?/If you're really hip/The passing years will show.

The song, featured on the album *The Deep End Vol. 2*, reflects the band's philosophy about making music: If you want to stay hip, play some good, old-fashioned jams.

"We've always maintained that it's best to aspire to making timeless music rather than timely music," says lead guitarist and songwriter Warren Haynes. "If you play what's in your heart and let your audience come to you, you stand a better chance of

longevity, and we're in it for the long haul."

The band's sound defies classification. "Our fan base goes from young to old ... it's all over the map," Haynes says. "Our music reaches into a lot of different areas. It's a nice feeling to know that people from all walks of life are digging what you're doing."

Their songs' chugging rhythms recall the carefree attitude of the movie *Dazed and Confused* and perhaps those college days your parents never told you about. The long intervals of guitar jams conjure images from The Grateful Dead or Phish shows, inviting trance-like meditation on a message that balances universality with intimacy.

South Bend will get its own taste of the rock tradition on February 11, when Government Mule performs at The State The-

atre. "It's new territory to us ... it'll be a lot of new faces," Haynes says. "In really small theaters, you get enough of a crowd for a big ball of energy, but it's intimate enough that you can still reach them."

Haynes's talent for the guitar and his love of soul music were developed fully by age 14. He has been touring since he was 17, either in small nightclubs or as part of an opening act. His musical success has depended upon seizing opportunities — and a little help from his friends. When the Allman Brothers Band reunited in 1989, founders Dickie Betts and Gregg Allman immediately thought of asking their old friend Haynes to join. They had met years before when Haynes opened for the original Allman Brothers Band. The reunion brought Haynes on board for good as the band's singer, songwriter and lead guitarist. Haynes then developed a

close relationship with Allen Woody, the band's bassist. The two began toying with the idea of creating an improvisational trio as a side project. With the addition of drummer Matt Abts, the duo became a trio, and Government Mule was born. Haynes knew they had something worth continuing: "It really exceeded all of our expectations."

The band firmly established itself in 1995 with a self-titled debut album. It perfected a sound that built upon a deep tradition, traced back to Sly and The Family Stone and Eric Clapton's former band Cream, two of Haynes's greatest influences. In 1997, Woody and Haynes left the Allman Brothers Band to devote their efforts to touring full time. They produced two more albums and a live recording. But in August 2000, the band's success was brought to a standstill. Woody, Haynes's equal both on stage and off, died suddenly from a heart attack. Government Mule contemplated its end, but the encouragement of friends, including members of Blues Traveler, The Grateful Dead, Metallica and, of course, the Allman Brothers Band, convinced Haynes and Abts not to give up. It wasn't long before Haynes's creative energies led the band in a new direction.

The question of who would play bass on their next album remained, however. Haynes and Abts thought the search for a bassist would be particularly difficult because the diverse songs on the new album demanded a highly versatile musician. Yet the problem almost solved itself. By this point, Government Mule was no small name in the jam rock world. Phone calls came pouring in from numerous bassists offering to play on the album that would become a tribute Allen Woody.

The result was a compilation album that snowballed into a powerful two-volume set: *The Deep End Vol. 1*, released in 2001, followed by the second volume in 2002. The album boasts an all-star lineup

from the music world, including Flea of Red Hot Chili Peppers, Stephan Lessard of Dave Matthews Band, David Schools of Widespread Panic, John Entwistle of The Who, Phil Lesh of The Grateful Dead and Mike Gordon of Phish. The collection celebrated the band's conscious decision to play on and showed how many artists have been influenced by Government Mule.

The Deep End stands apart from most tribute albums in that it features only new songs and Haynes's previously unre-

fore a crowd still remains the band's number one priority. "It's kinda the lifeblood of our band," Haynes says. "There's something that happens, that you really can't express, that pushes the band to new heights."

The atmosphere of a particular venue and the experience of playing live are so vital to the band that they usually create set lists for each performance between sound check and the actual show. That's the way Haynes likes it. "We vary from the set list a lot based on the energy from the crowd," he says. "Our main concern, though, is that every night is different than the night before."

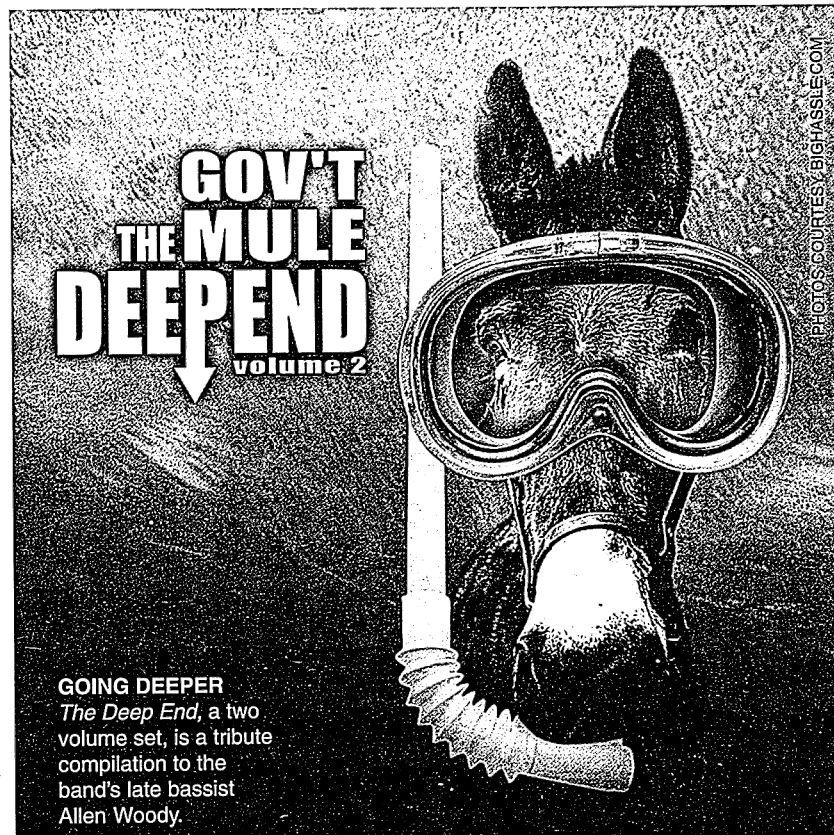
Government Mule recently wrapped up a sold-out series of East Coast shows and plans to appear at the renowned annual New Orleans Jazz Festival this year. Later this spring, the band will join Dave Matthews Band for a West Coast concert crawl. Haynes hinted at plans for a summer package tour with Moe. Even without the tour, Haynes has a full schedule. He is a continuing member of Phil Lesh and Friends, a spin-off project spearheaded by the former Dead member. He also is touring and co-producing a new album with the Allmans. Later

this year, he will release a solo acoustic live record.

Through it all, Haynes has stayed true to the style that shaped Government Mule. "Music comes in waves and cycles as far as trends," he says. "There are so many young bands that are more concerned with being famous than being good ... if you're true to your heart, then your time will come back."

It seems Government Mule has known the meaning of "hip" all along. □

Tickets to Government Mule's February 11 show at the State Theater are \$21, and can be purchased from the Morris Performing Arts Center Box Office. Call (574) 235-9190 or go to www.morriscenter.com.



recorded creations. Many of the lyrics reflect the mood of the title song, "Banks of the Deep End," a distinctly personal reflection on life and loss. Haynes wrote "Soulshine," one of the singles released from *Vol. 1*, in 1988. It was a favorite closer in live shows with the Allman Brothers Band. Its organ-infused tone and hopeful lyrics (Hey now people don't mind/We all get this way sometimes/Got to let your soul shine/Shine till the break of day) echo the classic crescendo-style Bruce Springsteen brought to his newest work, "The Rising." *The Deep End* consistently provides blues without cliché, rock without apathy and consistent head-bobbing rhythms.

Despite the efforts Government Mule has put into its albums, performing be-

Lend Him an Ear, and He'll Give a Mouthful

After a career of head trauma, who better than Tyson to speak at commencement?

GERARD MESKILL

Over the course of this past century, the University of Notre Dame has established a tradition of featuring some of the world's most important figures as keynote speakers at the yearly commencement exercises. Over the past three years, Notre Dame has been honored by the presence of several world leaders, namely Kofi Annan, George W. Bush and Tim Russert.

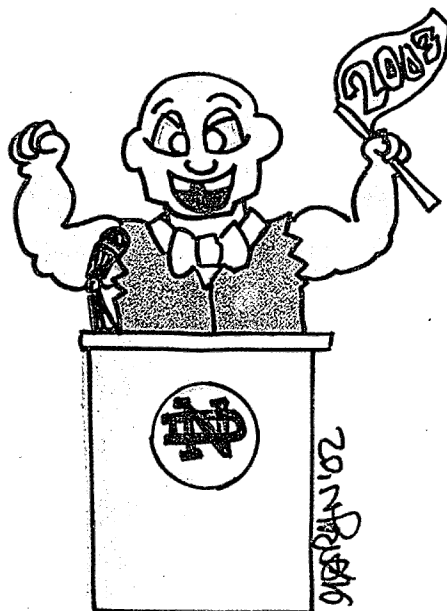
While the mere presence of leaders like Russert strikes fear into the hearts of graduates, it fails to inspire these young men and women the way only a true man of stature can. Father Edward Sorin understood this when he invited General William Tecumseh Sherman to speak before the graduating Class of 1865. For those unfamiliar with Sherman's work, he led the most controversial campaign of the Civil War, an assault on the South affectionately known as "Sherman's March to the Sea." On this march, Sherman's army burned every structure within 60 miles as it traveled from Atlanta to Charleston, S.C.

It's time once again to invite commencement speakers whose powerful words are matched only by a more powerful force. It's time for the university's graduating class to embrace the wisdom of a man who has paved his way to success with his own unstoppable strength and devastating right hook. The time has come for Mike Tyson to visit the Joyce Center.

I know what you're thinking: He's not the champion anymore. He's not tall enough. However, he proved his merit in a recent ass-whooping at the hands of Lennox Lewis. No normal man could fight that poorly and then still stand such abuse, but Tyson demonstrated his phenomenally large heart and dense head as he valiantly got the snot knocked out of him. Who better is there to prepare tomorrow's leaders for the incessant beating that the real world holds in store for them?

"I'm just a dark guy from a den of iniquity. A dark shadowy figure from the bowels of iniquity. I wish I could be Mike who

gets an endorsement deal. But you can't make a lie and a truth go together. This country wasn't built on moral fiber. This country was built on rape, slavery, murder, degradation and affiliation with crime," the former heavyweight champion might tell the class of 2003, just as he declared during a press conference before his bout with Lewis. Such a message would be valuable, indeed, coming from a man who grew up in a New York City ghetto. The world can be a tough place,



and Tyson's experience and elegance with words make his message powerful.

His speech continues: "The one thing I know, everyone respects the true person and everyone's not true with themselves. All of these people who are heroes, these guys who have been lily-white and clean all their lives, if they went through what I went through, they would commit suicide. They don't have the heart that I have. I've lived places they can't defecate in." While Notre Dame's graduates prepare to enjoy fabulous wealth,

Tyson responsibly reminds them to have compassion for their fellow Americans, many of whom still live in poverty.

"I want to rip out [Lennox Lewis'] heart and feed it to him," he says. "I want to kill people. I want to rip their stomachs out and eat their children." Human injustice can cause great pain to the oppressed. When Lewis defeated Tyson for the heavyweight championship, Mike felt like his world was collapsing. During his speech, he might reflect this experience of personal anguish and anger to warn the Notre Dame graduates about how deep-seated ire might drive a person to seek violence as a solution.

Knowing that Notre Dame is a Catholic school, Tyson might conclude with a message concerning Jesus, specifically addressing the current tension between different faiths.

"Everybody says they believe in God but they don't do God's work," he says. "Everybody counteracts what God is really about. If Jesus was here, do you think Jesus would show me any love? Do you think Jesus would love me? I'm a Muslim, but do you think Jesus would love me? I think Jesus would have a drink with me and discuss, 'Why you acting like that?'"

"Now, he would be cool. He would talk to me. No Christian ever did that and said in the name of Jesus even. They'd throw me in jail and write bad articles about me and then go to church on Sunday and say Jesus is a wonderful man and he's coming back to save us. But they don't understand that when he comes back, that these crazy greedy capitalistic men are gonna kill him again."

Tyson would remind the Notre Dame graduates that Jesus encourages tolerance of all faiths, and that intolerance led to Jesus' crucifixion. With such a Christian message already prepared, who better to speak at Notre Dame's next commencement exercise? □

Note: The quotes contained in this article are genuine Mike Tyson quotes, not some twisted, sick concoction of the writer.

THINK YOU'RE FUNNY?

Submit an 800-word essay for Week in Distortion. E-mail us at scholast@nd.edu.



Feb. 06 -19

Five thrilling diversions only a clean pair of socks away ...

COMING DISTRACTIONS

COMPILED BY MEGHAN GOWAN

The following calendar events are best suited for a sad, suffering student who has little desire to leave campus or spend time out of doors in this rather blah weather – all events listed are on campus and inside. Disappointed with this bi-weekly offering? Focus that sadness by voting in the election for Student Body President on February 10. Don't forget to submit your events to scholast@nd.edu. (All submissions are subject to *Scholastic* approval.)

Events are rated in “socks” according to the amount of exertion required.

Five thoroughly soaked socks.

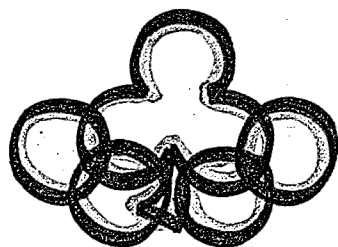
What: Laser Tag

When: Saturday, February 8, 7 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Where: Stepan Center

How Much: \$5 for the night

Why: Finally, the Stepan Center will host an activity suited to its outward appearance — Laser Tag — on one of the most technologically advanced sets in the nation (according to the Flipside Web site). This is a stellar opportunity to alleviate aggression in a legal, safe and mildly controlled manner.



Four sweaty socks.

What: Late Night Olympics XVII

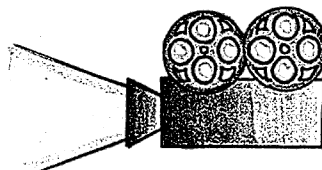
When: Friday, February 7, 7 p.m. – 4 a.m.

Where: Sports facilities across campus

How Much: Ice-skating = \$1 donation + \$2 skate rental.

For the less-than-athletic, raffle tickets are two for \$1.

Why: Participate in sports such as broomball, kickball, ice-skating and volleyball in the all-nighter of “sports, fun and fundraising” to benefit the St. Joseph County Special Olympics. No other university-sponsored event provides for late, sweaty nights with members of the opposite sex.



Three intellectually sweaty socks.

What: *Bowling for Columbine*

When: Thursday, February 13, 7 p.m.

Where: Library Auditorium

How Much: Free

Why: Michael Moore's award-winning documentary is neither boring nor about bowling, two assumptions that might be made based on the title of this flick. Rather, *Bowling for Columbine* explores violence in America from different perspectives, including that of Charlton Heston, James Nichols and a few Canadians while maintaining a delicate balance between earnestness and hilarity.

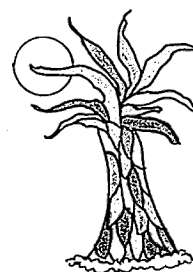
One mildly moist sock.

What: The Last Lecture Series: Al Tillery, “Black Exceptionalism: Why Reparations for Slavery are both Just and Good Public Policy”

When: Tuesday, February 18, 8 p.m.

Where: O'Neill Hall 24-Hour Social Space

Why: In celebration of Black History Month, the African and African-American Studies departments have organized a series of interactive workshops and lectures on traditional culture, food, film-making and public policy. For information about other activities, contact the African-American Studies Program at 631-5628.



Two sweaty socks.

What: PE Musical Company production of *Into the Woods*

When: Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 6 - 8, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Washington Hall

How much: \$6 students, \$8 adults

Why: Join Cinderella, Jack (of the beanstalk), the Baker and his Wife, and Little Red Ridinghood in their titillating quest for the elusive “happily ever after.” Just watch out for fairy-eating giants, the big bad wolf, and scantily-clad Little Red.

The Life-Consuming Obsessions of an *Onion* Writer

by Joe Garden

In order to give this self-indulgent bit of tripe a greater sense of purpose, both for purposes of reading and for writing, I would like to make a sweeping statement. Here goes. Comedy writers are driven by neuroses and obsessions, and even when they sate one, the other is left unsatisfied. Please just take that at face value, because under scrutiny, that statement will collapse under its own pretentiousness. Besides, the same statement could be applied about math teachers, paleontologists, cashiers, donut makers, assembly-line workers, Gap models, gap-tooth clowns and so on. I'm not writing about them, though. I'm writing about me, or rather, the flashier more self-indulgent "me!" So please, accept that and move on.

As a writer for *The Onion*, I am expected to come up with either 25 or 75 headline ideas a week, plus one or two full stories. Obviously, when one is paid to crack wise on a regular and prolific basis, the line between life and art (or craft), is blurred immensely, and our obsessions

Obviously, when one is paid to crack wise on a regular and prolific basis, the line between life and art (or craft), is blurred immensely, and our obsessions bleed through into the paper.

Joe Garden is the editor of the satirical newspaper, *The Onion*. He will speak at the *Sophomore Literary Festival* on Thursday, February 9th.

bleed through into the paper. Writer Chris Karwowski is obsessed with cooking and food, and, for some reason, the Supreme Court, inedible though it is. Maria Schneider is obsessed with her cats and 1920s nostalgia. Todd Hanson is obsessed with himself and being cool. *Onion* fans, try and guess which articles each of those writers created. But back to me me me. I have to give thanks for my obsessions, because, without them, I would never be able to write a word. And I'd love to set this up more eloquently, but I am brimming over with self-indulgence, so I'm going to let it fly with no further explanations or mea culpas.

Monkey movies: Can't get enough of them. Why? There is no better foil to expose the tragicomedy of man than a chimp. Watch *The Barefoot Executive* (the apex of actor Kurt Russell's career, I might add) and try to disagree. You can't. At least, I won't listen to you if you try to do so. Kurt Russell climbs to the top of the rat race when a chimpanzee helps him pick the winning shows at a television network. Genius! I think I can safely say that I have one of the nation's largest private collections of primate-related films and videos. This is an easy boast,

because there are few others that share my enthusiasm for simian cinema. I even joined a Yahoo news group called Simian Fiction, but it turns out they are more interested in discussing *Planet of the Apes* and *Congo*. Their loss.

Zombies: Mainly, it's zombie movies and video games. In zombie films, the zombie is a counterpoint to the humans who invariably fall apart by their own devices rather than at the hands of the zombies. With zombie video games, I just like shooting zombies. Or stabbing them. I am currently kicking around an idea for my own zombie movie, which can be summed up with the three-word pitch "Zombie sex island." So far, I have no buyers. I'm not terribly interested in reading zombie novels, although *Brand New Cherry Flavor* by Todd Grimson qualifies as a good zombie genre work.

Animal Crossing: This is a relatively new obsession for me. The Nintendo GameCube is the first new gaming system I have owned since our family had an Atari four years after the fact. I picked up some games that I could play with my fiancée, but I had more time to play and would mop the floor with her. This is not a good way to augment a harmonious relationship, but then neither is the introduction of a video game system. I got her *Animal Crossing*, a Sims-like game where you live in a town full of cute clothed animals, and you must live in harmony with them by pulling weeds, writing them letters and running errands. And you have to pay off a mortgage on your virtual house. On the plus side, she loves it. On the minus side, I do too. If I spent the time pursuing free-lance opportunities that I spend playing that game, I would be able to pay off the mortgage of a real house. In fact, I had to check out my virtual town this morning when I should have been typing this article.

Music: It used to be a much larger part of my life. All of my spare income would go to CDs. After a certain point, though, you realize that you can't keep up with current music. It's impossible. You can have favorites, but you can't listen to the radio, or hang out in record shops with the frequency you once did. Now I buy less frequently, and I DJ on occasion to justify all my past and present expenses. And I've gotten into Ray Conniff, because you can find Ray Conniff albums at any thrift store for a dollar or less.

All others: Sex, sleep, eBay. Not in that order. I am a pathetic human being. □



Fine Irish Weather
Mike McNary

These guys may not be Irish fans, but they wish they were this week with all the events happening around campus...

CELEBRATE THE POWER OF THE WRITTEN WORD AT WORDFEST
SPONSORED BY THE SOPHOMORE LITERARY FESTIVAL
FEBRUARY 5-13

MOVIE: RED DRAGON

feb 6-8

MOVIES: THE RING, and ANIMAL HOUSE*

feb 13-15

\$3, dbt 101, thurs 10 pm

fr and sat 8 & 10:30 pm

*\$2, dbt 155

Thursday, Feb 6 Sister Jean Lenz, author of *Love, Sons and Daughters of Notre Dame: A Memoir of Notre Dame*, with Cavanaugh Coffeehouse featuring Harmonia
7:30 pm, LaFortune Ballroom

Saturday, Feb 8 Nikki Giovanni, poet of *Quilting the Black-eyed Pea* and *Love Poems*, introduced by Ty Willingham
7:30 pm, Jordan Auditorium

Sunday, Feb 9 Student Slam Open Mic Nite hosted by Jelani McEwen/torrence
7:30 pm Washington Hall

Monday, Feb 10 Joe Garden, one of the founders and writers of *The Onion*
7:30 pm Washington Hall

Tuesday, Feb 11 Kevin Coyne, author of *Domen's* followed by the Undertones
7:30 pm Washington Hall

Wednesday, Feb 12 John Buffalo Mailer, playwright/actor, "Hello, Herman"
7:30 pm Washington Hall

Thursday, Feb 13 ND UNDERGROUND, all original work, songwriters, art, and spoken word
9 pm - 1 am LaFortune Ballroom

ND UNDERGROUND

featuring up and coming

solo piano player, emmeline schoen

friday feb 7

8-10 pm, LaFortune Ballroom.

TOM DELUCA, hypnotist

friday feb 14th

time/location tba



Back by popular demand! Give WVFI a listen...

It's a worthy cause.

student broadcasts all-day from 8 am to 1:30 am

only at wvfi.nd.edu

