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# SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

VOL 144  
**10**  
20 FEB 2003



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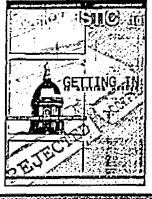
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Three future Domers discuss Barbies and application essays ✓ PAGE 12



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notes

## FROM THE EDITOR

RESPOND TO: SCHILDRE@ND.EDU

## A Whole New Campus

With a yelp, I tossed my acceptance letter to Notre Dame into the air and started dancing around the mailbox. In my revelry, all I could see was the first word of that letter, the only one I had bothered to read: "Welcome." I stopped prancing when I accidentally stamped a footprint into the tan paper. Undaunted, I caught up the letter with the rest of the mail and ran inside.

Since then, I have questioned the motives behind that warm welcome. I put a lot more on my application than checkmarks in the "right" racial boxes to earn the letter, but that wasn't what a friend's father implied, or what, I'm sure, others thought.

I've been called a lot of names, but the one I hate the most is "Diversity." I loathe the idea of being thrown into a homogenous pool just to make a ripple. I didn't come here to diversify the campus. I came here because I wanted to be a part of its welcome.

Slowly, the student body is changing, thanks in part to the admissions department's pursuit of that odious buzzword. It's a tough job to recruit diverse students — and not just along racial lines — especially with the new debate raging over affirmative action. And, as one friend once asked, "Why would a minority want to go here?" With a record number of applicants this year, it seems there's an awful lot who do. On page 12, *Scholastic's* Mike Borgia looks at the admission department's efforts to pick just the right mix for what could be the most diversified class of Domers yet — and their efforts to change the face of Notre Dame.

## A Long Goodbye

We hired Chad Sharon as our web designer last November. When I first met Chad, I was charmed by his energy and eagerness to take over the position. He was talented, quick-witted and had a warm smile. I couldn't wait for Chad to get to know the rest of the staff because I knew he would fit right in. He disappeared a day before our staff Christmas party. Although he wasn't with us long, Chad will always remain part of the *Scholastic* family.

## Step Right Up

Late-night editing can make you crazy — and usually does. I am consistently impressed by the group of people that voluntarily invests so much energy in this magazine. It is these staff members' ability to keep laughing even when things go wrong that keeps the magazine coming out each time, and the editor from yanking out her hair. It's been an honor to work with all of them, and I am so proud to have been able to serve as their editor.

This Thursday, a new editor and another talented staff will take the reigns at *Scholastic*. I am confident that they will do a wonderful job. Congratulations — and good luck — to all of them.



Sarah Childress, Editor

**Correction:** In last issue's "Judgment Calls," the office responsible for the 3/4=28% advertisements should have been identified as the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education. *Scholastic* regrets the error.

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*Disce Quasi Semper Victurus  
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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look for  
ISSUE 11  
on  
MAR 27

## 2003-2004 EDITOR IN CHIEF ELECTED

Junior Matt Killen was unanimously elected editor in chief for the coming year.

The political science major began his career with *Scholastic* two years ago. Since then, Matt has written the "Entertainment Fortnightly" column and served as assistant entertainment editor, as well as spent several long nights helping with production.

"I felt that while the magazine has been extremely strong the past several years, I could help clean it up and make it a more well-rounded magazine than it has been."

As a journalism concentrator, Matt plans

to get more students involved in *Scholastic*, especially those interested in writing. And while most of his changes will be internal, Matt does have one goal to make his term stand out.

"My visage will appear on every cover of *Scholastic*, much like George Washington appeared on the cover of *George* magazine. And yes, I'm comparing myself to George Washington."

Matt, who has a penchant for reading *The Onion* when he's supposed to be working, will no doubt need his sense of humor during late-night productions.



## FAREWELL AND THANKS



**Sarah Childress**, editor in chief, had so much fun making this magazine that she's off to meddle with another one in New York City. Before she leaves the Midwest, she will spend her days lounging luxuriously about and singing that Fleetwood Mac song, "Gypsy."



**Gerard Meskill**, sports editor, holds the distinctions of being *Scholastic's* all-time word-count leader and the only known staff member to work under six different editors in chief. Graduating as an ALPP psychology major, he hopes to go to medical school next semester, perhaps even in the United States.



**Jessica Daues**, managing editor, somehow completed an American Studies major and journalism concentration. She is looking for a journalism job within driving distance of St. Louis so that she can attend Cardinals games for the rest of her life.



**Carrie Sweeney**, entertainment editor, is a PLS major who'd love to write in Chicago next year, but is more realistic. She's interviewed extensively with monoliths in the culinary industry and expects embarrassingly lucrative offers from Burger King and Steak 'n' Shake by the end of the week.



**Cristin Fenzel**, executive editor, is a political science major with a concentration in philosophy, politics and economics. She will continue to be old and crotchety, at least until she graduates. Although she hopes to turn over a new leaf eventually, we all know that isn't bloody likely.



**Liesl Marx**, assistant photography editor, is a graphic design major. She thinks it might be a good idea to look for a job that has something to do with graphic design after she graduates. It's thoughts like these that encourage people to look to her for advice.



**Cecilia Hadley**, hyphen-happy copy chief, has not yet figured out how to parlay her PLS education into gainful, or even gainless, employment. Her friends Al and Jess think she has a future as a shot-girl at Heartland, but she remains unconvinced.



**Maryn Necel**, graphic arts editor, hopes her cartoon style soon will reach the hearts and homes of people around the world, helping her to open her own publishing company/design firm. After inspiring the world with imagination, she will retire to her London flat, where she will dine on Strongbow and shwarmas.



**Jamie Moran**, online manager, graduated last semester and has moved down to Columbus, Ohio. She will attend graduate school at Ohio State in September to study school counseling. Right now, she is enjoying being in a college town without any classes to attend.



**David Murray**, assistant sports editor, will graduate with a degree in aerospace engineering and head back to the West Coast (a.k.a. the Best Coast) where he will work in flight controls for the Boeing C-17 program in Long Beach, Calif. and, more importantly, play baseball.



## Pissed Off

A student's participation in bathroom protest lands him in trouble with NDSP

JIM RYAN

The message Brian Farrell and his collaborators sent wasn't subtle. "Piss on this," and "This is crap," read the anti-war cards hanging in bathrooms across campus. Missing from these cards was the "Approved for Posting" stamp issued by the office of Student Activities.

The cards were part of a project for Prof. Robert Sedlack's graphic design class. The assignment was to inform the student body about the impending war with Iraq by running a campaign on campus.

The group assigned to the anti-war message, including Farrell, did not go to Student Activities for the stamp of approval necessary to post their cards. DuLac states that all posted materials must be in good taste. "We felt that they wouldn't be approved," Farrell says. All four members of the group visited bathrooms across campus early on a Thursday morning last semester to hang the cards.

A security guard in the Snite museum, where Farrell was posting cards, said he saw Farrell in the building at an early

hour. The guard did not confront him at that time. As the day progressed, numerous complaints were lodged against the cards, at which point NDSP became involved. In addition to removing the cards from the bathrooms, NDSP sent two officers to confront Farrell during a class later that morning.

"They took me out and asked if I [posted the cards]," Farrell says. He admitted to the act.

Farrell isn't sure how NDSP knew who he was or why the officers confronted him during class. He believes that the Snite security guard recognized him from a class he had every Thursday in the building. A representative of NDSP did not remember the incident and could not provide details of the investigation.

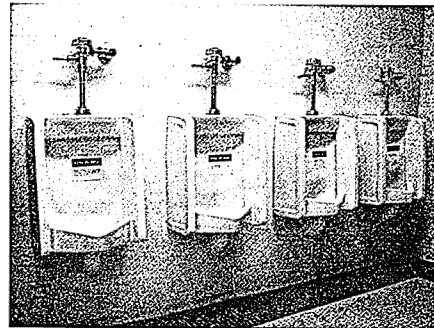
NDSP turned over a report of the inci-

dent to the Office of Residence Life and Housing, where Farrell attended a conference. After reviewing the incident with Farrell, ResLife did not pursue further disciplinary action.

Farrell is not angry that the cards were taken down or that he had to go to

ResLife; however, he is upset by the manner in which NDSP confronted him. "I didn't enjoy being taken out [of class] by policemen. It should have been handled a different way," Farrell says.

The confrontation also puzzled Professor Sedlack, who described the handling of the incident as "bordering on bizarre." Sedlack maintains that he was pleased with his students' work. "I'm proud of them for their passion and their commitment to the message." □



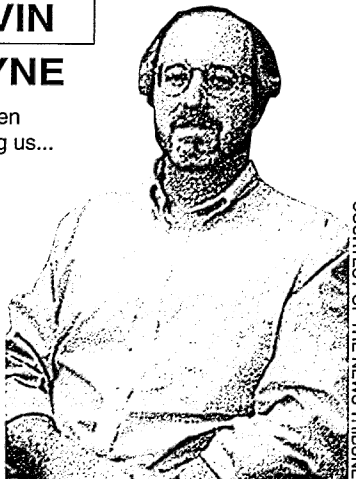
## Ten Questions

with Notre Dame's #1 observer...

KEVIN

COYNE

He's been watching us...



COURTESY OF THE NEWS TRIBUNE

*Ever wondered what student life looks like from an outside-the-bubble perspective? You can get an idea by reading the book *Domers: A Year at Notre Dame*, by journalist Kevin Coyne. After climbing the Golden Dome, watching backstage at the Keenan Revue and attending Moose Kraus' funeral, Coyne came to be what Father Poorman called "the 'Where's Waldo' of Notre Dame." Scholastic caught up with Coyne after his recent appearance at the 2003 Sophomore Literary Festival.*

**Why did you select ND as the topic for your book?**

Because it represents something larger in a way most institutions don't. It has to have character and a meaning that embodies some-

thing—a place that tells a larger story. A book about Nebraska, who's gonna read it but people from Nebraska?

**Do you find it hard to write about some of the more emotional experiences at ND?**

That's my job as a reporter, to find words. Notre Dame makes it quite easy because there's enough stories already ... It's an embarrassment of riches.

**Your most recent project, *Marching Home: To War and Back with the Men of One American Town*, was just released. How would you describe this timely work?**

Every community has these guys [war vets], and we need to hear their stories before they're gone. Notre Dame is a known place with a

# LISTENING

> "Notre Dame is like unprotected sex — you're glad you got in, but wish you never came."  
— student

> "So, I was singing in my underwear. Which, at the time, I thought was a good idea."  
— visiting speaker

> "Niiiiice, you worked for Dick this summer."  
— professor on student's summer internship

> "There were a lot of drugs back in those days."  
— staff member explaining Stepan Center's architecture

> "You know, I bet all these parents think this is really nice. But I work JPW, and I know they put the food on the plates with their bare hands."  
— overheard student

HEY YOU!

E-mail listening/jn quotes, letters to the editor, or other comments to  
**SCHOLAST@ND.EDU**

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

## 19 Years Ago

### Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! I Want You in My Bomb Shelter

**A**nd you thought non-nuclear winters were bad around here...

In the April 1984 issue of *Scholastic*, a young man named Dominic G. Gabaldon, fearful of the military prowess of the USSR, asked and answered the question, "What if the Notre Dame campus was indeed brought to its knees by a nuclear detonation?"

*"In the case of South Bend, Indiana, ground zero is the South Bend River Plaza area of downtown. The campus of Notre Dame is ... approximately 2.5 miles from ground zero ... Upon being subjected to the blast wave of the airburst detonation ... the pressure would be so tremendous that a blast wave would engulf the Architecture Building ... the building would collapse either immediately or incipiently, with only the interior reinforced concrete columns and ... walls left as a reminder of what once stood there."*

No word on whether Stepan Center could withstand the blast...

— Meghan Gowan

history. I wanted to see the story of six ordinary guys, and their histories ended up running deep.

**Now that we have a new student government, how do you think we can improve upon student issues?**

This is a place where students defer to authority. There is no open challenging of received wisdom ... and sometimes it's foolish, but sometimes it's good.

**When did you decide to study journalism?**

I worked for my [college] newspaper and ... I actually started a newspaper when I graduated. I was always a features writer, but my tastes were quite diverse.

**What traits stand out to you as particularly**

**valuable to your profession?**

The most important quality for a reporter that does stories like this is the ability to listen. You need a lot of patience to sit with people for a long time, to really hear what they're saying.

**When you were following students and faculty, how did you get people to open up to you?**

With different kinds of people, there are different ways ... with older people, it's sitting quietly, because they tend to talk. With younger people, it's finding a connection ... places where you intersect with them.

**Was it hard to earn subjects' trust, especially since you were an outsider?**

I was in this odd age [33], and clearly too old to be a student, but too young for a teacher. I

definitely felt like an outsider, but I wanted that, to see with a perspective of someone who wasn't part of it.

**How does a 'Domer' differ from typical college students?**

Faith, I'd say. Not that everybody shares that equally, but there's more open expression of it here. There's a sort of social conscience and an awareness of your responsibility to a larger world that's more apparent here.

**Do you feel the anecdotes in *Domers* still ring true for today's students?**

I'd like to think they do ... readers judge that, though. I was writing not just to chronicle one year but an experience that transcended the years.

— Tracy Evans

## Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations

### RECKER'S FLAT-SCREEN TV

We still don't know how to order an 'Artisan' sandwich, but at least the most popular selections are displayed in cutting-edge technology. Perhaps we were too harsh on the remodeling.

### NEW LAFUN BASEMENT FURNITURE

Finally, the old dungeon has transformed into a comfortable study space. Now, if only they could update that game room....

### INCREASED APPLICATIONS

Sure, everyone wants to go here. But will the competition mean that the class of 2007 will be a bunch of Screeches?

### JPW

Raisins in all the food, trite dinner speeches at every corner. Tip for next year? Get some Papa John's, cut the prices in half and no more Mad-Libbed speeches.

### MICROWAVABLE COOKIES

The best technological breakthrough since penicillin. Too bad microwaves aren't allowed in dorm rooms.

ENTERTAINMENT FORTNIGHTLY

## That's Entertainment!

The current path of film and television is a bleak one

MATTKILLEN

February 2003: A network showcases nearly two dozen women competing for a millionaire who isn't, only to anger viewers, who had expected a resolution, by showing a glorified clip show. A talking, rapping kangaroo outsmarts his competitors at the box office. And three networks scramble to be the nation's top source for exclusive and increasingly disturbing Michael Jackson news.

This is entertainment?

It's a world where people would rather see who Trista chooses than what happens during Bartlet's inauguration speech, or watch Jackie Chan's kicks to the head instead of Roxie Hart's kicks in

the air. In this world, the only thing that matters is what people want to see. So Hollywood goes extreme, spawning embarrassments like *Kangaroo Jack* and, in a truly disturbing example of tinseltown depravity, *Are You Hot?* It doesn't seem like it could possibly get any worse — and yet, it can.

And it will. Fox is already planning *Married by America*, where the public will get to vote on which complete strangers marry one another. Meanwhile, there's talk of a sequel to last year's hit non-movie, *Jackass*. The people to blame for this, however, are the TV viewers who surf to these shows and the moviegoers who fork over hundreds of millions of dollars for tickets to these movies each month.

Many people probably don't care. In fact, most people relish these poor excuses for entertainment, vicariously engaging in spec-

tacles like image-conscious Americans standing half-naked on stage while a sign above them dictates approval or rejection.

But for every slack-jawed viewer absorbing this tripe, there is someone who genuinely appreciates quality television and film. Those who do are steadily losing a voice in programming and movie choices. It's time for them to stand up. It's time for a revolution.

Stop watching *Survivor*, *Joe Millionaire* and *American Idol*. Instead, watch *Gilmore Girls*,

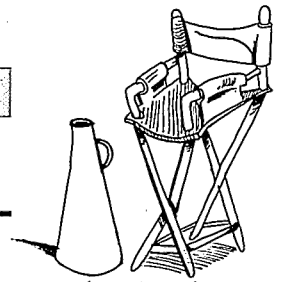
*Alias* and *Law and Order*.

And don't just watch them — buy the products that advertise during them. Is Ensure being pushed during *The West Wing*? Buy a case of it. Anti-fungal medicine during *24*? Stock up.

Go see *Far From Heaven*, *About Schmidt* and *Adaptation*. And if you can't resist watching a kangaroo outsmart that guy from *Sliders*, at least buy a ticket for *Chicago* and sneak into the other one. Let the money go to a noble cause.

What is the future of entertainment? If the current path goes unchecked, imagine a world of all Michael Jackson, all the time. Entire specials on his nose, his facelifts and his nose's facelifts. It will be a world where finding a mate on a television show is as common as a blind date or office romance.

Such an apocalyptic future can be avoided. Changing it, however, will take a Herculean effort on the part of anyone who claims to love decent entertainment. If nothing is done, soon the world of real entertainment will be overrun by a nefarious mob of bouncing kangaroos. □



It doesn't seem like it could possibly get any worse — and yet, it can. And it will.

## DomeLights

COMPILED BY JENNIFER OSTERHAGE

Source: Kimberly McComb, lead at Starbucks

Guilty of needing a jolt of caffeine to wake you up for your morning classes? It's likely that you've turned to the folks at Starbucks to jump-start your day. Here are some little-known facts about this stylish campus hangout.

**Most popular hot drink:** caramel macchiato

**Most popular cold drink:** caramel frappuccino

**Average number of customers per day:** 700-800

**Busiest time:** before the first class each morning

In warm weather, it gets busy around 3:00 p.m., when people start making frappuccino runs.

Since *Zoolander* came out, people have been ordering orange (Valencia) mocha frappuccinos. They're so hot right now — I mean, cold.



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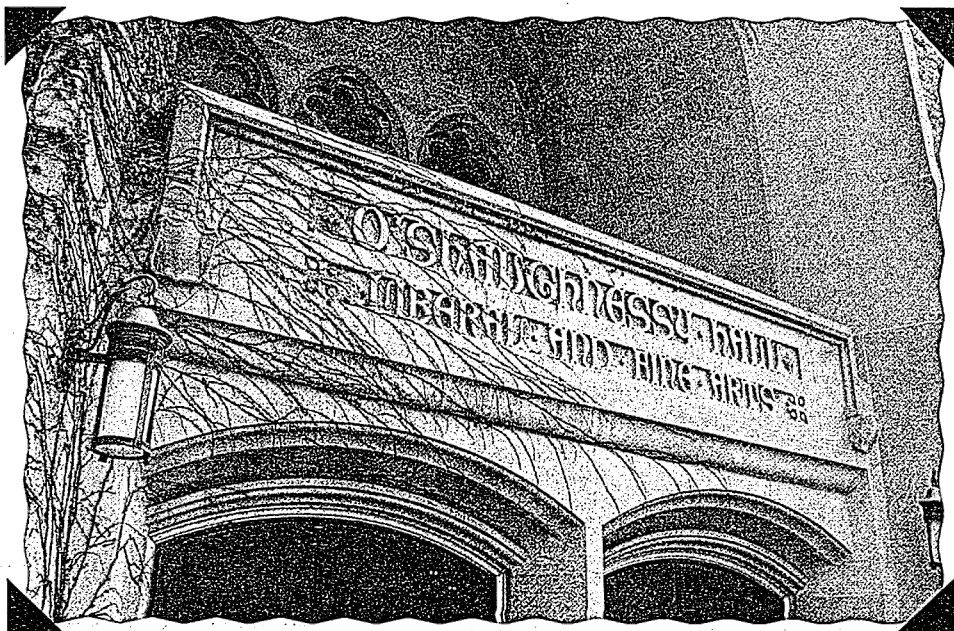
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# BUILDING A NAME

NICKKOLMAN-MANDLE

Strolling around campus one day, I. A. O'Shaughnessy casually asked then-president of the university, the Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, to point him in the direction of the liberal and fine arts building.

"We don't have one," Cavanaugh said. "The fine and liberal art classes are scattered throughout the campus."

O'Shaughnessy was surprised — so surprised, in fact, that he donated an entire building to the university to house the College of Arts and Letters. "It has always been my opinion," he would say later, "that the heart of education lies in the liberal and fine arts."

At the time of the building's dedication in 1953, O'Shaughnessy, creator and one-time president of the Globe Oil and Refining Company, was considered to be the single greatest benefactor of American Catholic higher education. He had been honored numerous times by the Church, and in 1953 was awarded Notre Dame's highest honor, the Laetare Medal. But perhaps the most obvious and enduring evidence of his generosity to the school is the familiarity of his name (or a popular corruption of it) to everyone on campus.

Notre Dame's earliest buildings often were named after university presidents or

important priests and religious. As the university and its graduates increased in prestige, however, a new group of benefactors emerged, eager to donate their money for construction — and their names for cryptic abbreviation by generations of students. Behind those names lie many stories. Not all namesakes were graduates, and not all were even Catholic. But they all loved Notre Dame.

Hoping to earn a degree in law, Ernest Morris rode a horse and buggy to the steps of the Main Building in 1905 and asked to see the university president, the Rev. John W. Cavanaugh. Morris hoped to work his way through school, but he warned the priest that he was not Catholic and had no money. Notre Dame did find work for Morris and he graduated with a law degree. He went on to become a successful businessman and civic leader in South Bend. Morris's Associates Finance Company grew to become the third-largest auto-finance corporation in the United States.

Morris was so grateful to Notre Dame that he presented the university with a "thanks-a-million" check to build an on-campus inn. "I never got over a Catholic school doing all that for a poor Protestant farm boy," Morris said in 1950 at the ground-breaking ceremony of his \$1 million hotel. "Now you know why I've always had a warm spot in my heart for Notre Dame." Unfortunately,

Morris did not survive to see the completion of his namesake building in 1952.

Three years after the dedication of the Morris Inn, Mr. and Mrs. Romy Hammes made possible the construction of a new bookstore on a site affectionately called the "Badin Bog" — where Coleman-Morse stands today. It was not their first gift to an academic institution — Hammes and his wife already had been honored by Pope Pius XII in 1951 for their dedication to Catholic education. In addition to supporting Catholic schools and churches within their own housing developments, the Hammes also contributed to the construction of churches in Japan and Formosa, Africa, and an orphanage in Italy.

The Hammes name moved with the bookstore to the Eck Center in 1998, whose benefactor, Frank Eck, has been involved with Notre Dame since his graduation in 1944. Eck made his fortune after World War II in the budding plastics and petrochemical industry, and eventually was elected president of Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc., a company that revolutionized farm drainage. Eck has served on the Advisory Council for the College of Engineering, but his first love is Irish athletics. In addition to funding the Frank Eck Baseball Stadium, completed in 1994, and the Eck Tennis Pavilion, he was winning coach of the 1992 Blue and Gold football game.

Eck wasn't the first Notre Dame alum to make it big in the chemical industry. In 1931, Alfred Stepan graduated and founded the Stepan Chemical Company, which still exists today as a global chemical-producing corporation.

The construction of the Hesburgh Library in 1961 required the demolition of the University Drill Hall, where most student concerts were held. Stepan felt that students needed some type of convocation center where concerts and music venues could be hosted, which is not surprising considering that he served for several years as the president of the Lyric Opera of Chicago. Described in the Winter 1961 issue of *Notre Dame Magazine*, the new Stepan Center would be a "modern and completely equipped" geodesic dome, one of the nation's first.

Later, Stepan donated a building to the campus that mirrored his career. Stepan's interest in chemistry stemmed from his exposure to his father's German chemical business, as well as mentors at Notre Dame like the Rev. Julius Nieuwland, inventor of synthetic rubber. The \$9.3 million Stepan

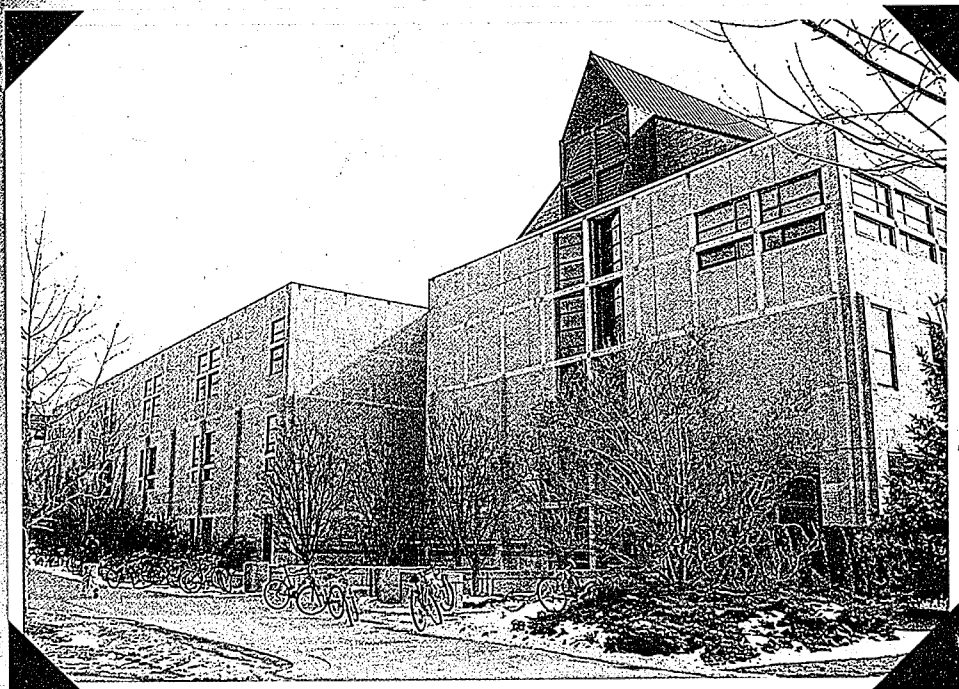
Chemistry Hall was finished in 1982, and the dedication included a scientific symposium moderated by legendary news anchor Walter Cronkite.

One year prior to Stepan Chemistry's campus inauguration, 500 women were admitted to Notre Dame with the aid of two new dorms underwritten by the \$7 million gift of a man who would make his presence on campus known with no less than three buildings to his name by 1990.

In 1979, the university received the gift from an anonymous donor without fanfare. When the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh finally convinced the private benefactor to reveal himself, many people, especially those friends in his hometown of Johnstown, Pa., were surprised to see Frank Pasquerilla step forward.

Pasquerilla, the son of an Italian immigrant and coal-miner, never attended college. When he was 15, his father developed black lung disease, and was forced to work to support his family. After high school, Pasquerilla got a job with the State Highway Department. In 1950, Frank joined the ranks of a new company — now named Crown American Corp. — and after 11 years became the owner of this construction and real estate firm, one of the largest mall developers in the world. Pasquerilla eventually bought the old post office where he once worked and transformed it into his headquarters. To this day, the Crown American building sits in Pasquerilla Plaza, Johnstown, Pa.

**DEBARTOLO UNIVERSITY** Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr. ND '32, who donated a whopping \$33 million to his alma mater, made his money in the construction business.



PHOTOS BY RYAN GREENBERG

#### PAPA PE AND PW

Originally an anonymous \$7 million donor, Frank Pasquerilla, pictured here with his wife, Sylvia, was reluctant to have three buildings bear his name, but relented in the name of diversity.

Opposite Page: **MAN OF LETTERS** I.A. O'Shaughnessy felt liberal and fine arts were the heart of education, so he gave the university a building for Arts and Letters.



Pasquerilla has been honored by governments of Israel and Italy, and has received honorary degrees, including one from Notre Dame.

"I always knew he loved the school, was pleased with its approach to education and its graduates," said a friend of Pasquerilla and a resident of Johnstown, "I thought [the donation] would be \$100,000."

At first, Pasquerilla was reluctant to have the dorms named after him, but after walking around campus, he decided that too many buildings had Irish names. The dedication events for Pasquerilla East and Pasquerilla West Halls included a speech by actress

Helen Hayes, an evening of Italian opera, an exhibition of Italian paintings in the Snite and a dedication dinner dubbed the "Festa di Pasquerilla."

Pasquerilla donated another \$5 million to Notre Dame to facilitate the construction of the ROTC Pasquerilla Center in 1990.

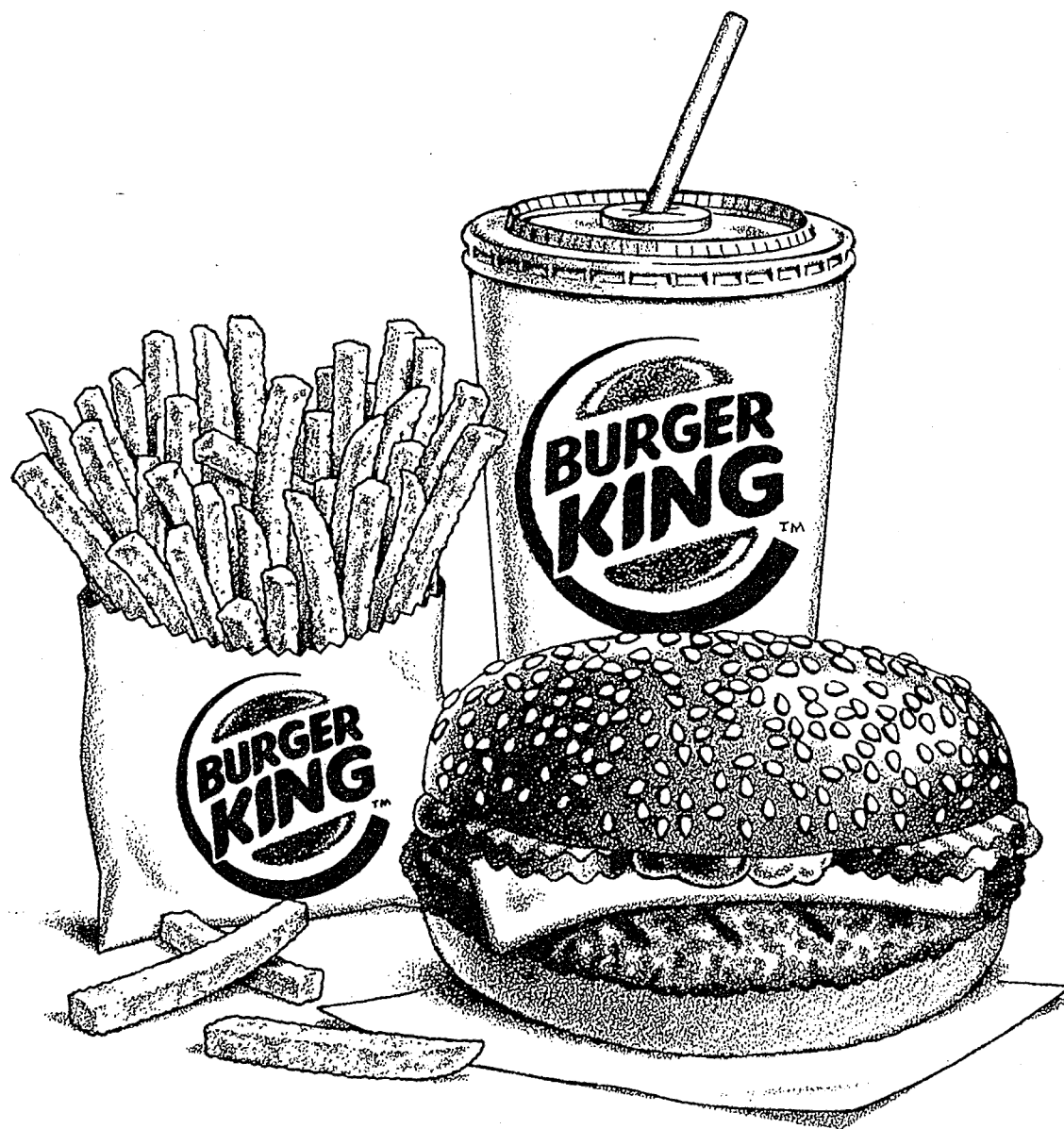
Perhaps the one name on campus that students know better than any other is DeBartolo. In 1989, Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr., a Notre Dame graduate of 1932, donated \$33 million to the university to finance two new buildings, one of which most students enter on a daily basis, and the other, the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, currently under construction.

When his mother insisted that he go to college, DeBartolo hopped on a train bound for South Bend. He hadn't even applied to Notre Dame, but as he would later say, "Everything seemed to work out." To pay his way, DeBartolo worked the graveyard shift on construction sites.

After graduating, DeBartolo returned to his hometown of Youngstown, Ohio where he organized his own construction company before enlisting in the army in 1941. After the war, DeBartolo concentrated on expanding his business. At the time of DeBartolo Hall's dedication in 1992, DeBartolo Corporation had become the world's largest developer and manager of shopping malls.

To be sure, the tradition of preserving the memory of prominent figures won't die anytime soon, with several new buildings planned for the future, including an extension of the law school, and new hotel, a new post office and NDSP headquarters, and new science facilities. □

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STUDENT NEEDS

### 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/>

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MIKE McNARY

# Admitting Success

A record number of applications could mean tougher competition and a more ideal student body.

MIKEBORGIA

To high-school seniors, Dan Saracino, assistant provost for enrollment, is the gatekeeper they hope to dazzle with a quirky personal statement and sky-high SATs. This year, they'll have to try even harder than before.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions received a record number of applications for the class of 2007, up 23 percent from a year ago. To keep the class size down, Saracino will, like his colleagues at other elite universities, turn away more than half the applicants, moving even closer to what he believes is the ideal student body — which is not one like Harvard's or Stanford's. "What we're trying to do is become a better Notre Dame," he says.

As of February 6th, 12,025 applications had been processed for a class projected to consist of approximately 1,960 students. Such impressive numbers reinforce Notre Dame's place among the nation's most selective schools, as it stands with Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, Dartmouth, Brown, MIT and Rice as the only schools to admit fewer than half of their applicants and enroll more than half of their acceptees.

For Saracino and the rest of the admissions office, this vision encompasses a student body that demonstrates the Notre Dame values of "faith ... academic excellence, strong residentiality, proud athletic tradition, [and] strong commitment to community service" along with a new emphasis on campus diversity.

So, why the sudden rise in applications? Saracino points to increased efforts by the admissions office to attract students from a variety of different locations and backgrounds. "I think that the story of Notre Dame is reaching more areas, not just in the country but all over the world, than ever before," he says. "The students who are thinking of Notre Dame are very similar to the students who applied in previous years ... but they are more ethnically diverse and from areas from where we previously wouldn't have received applications." According to Saracino, admissions officers are now making frequent, regular visits to global destinations such as Latin America, Southeast Asia, Europe and Canada in addition to their traditional routes.

The rise in applications is also due to more aggressive marketing to students the school believes exemplify its ideals. "We're in-

creasingly requesting that students interested in Notre Dame visit Notre Dame," says Saracino. "And when they do visit, we roll out the red carpet for them." Students can spend the night in a residence hall, shadow a current student and eat in the dining halls — all experiences that the admissions office believes help prospective students discover if the school is right for them.

This increasingly widespread marketing is also made possible by the university's Web site. Says Saracino: "Students can apply electronically, they can request material electronically, [and] they can see streaming video of the university."

The hiring of Tyrone Willingham as head football coach also has helped draw more minorities to campus, Saracino says. "[Willingham] has made it clear that he'll do anything and everything to recruit more ethnic diversity."

The realization of Saracino's vision of a more diverse Notre Dame is made possible in part by the Board of Trustees's recent decision not to slash financial aid funds for next year despite the recent budget crunch. "That's critical to my success," he says. "I can't bring in the type of students that we want without financial aid." This decision

involves a significant trade-off however, as salary increases for faculty and staff next year may be as low as two and three-percent. "But if that's what it takes to get the students we want, then it's worth it."

For the admissions office, the increase in campus diversity carries a far greater purpose than simply raising the number of applications. In fact, Saracino sees such an increase as essential to improving the Notre Dame education. "We believe strongly at Notre Dame that the education here takes place outside of the classroom as much as in the classroom ... and it's just not exciting to go to a school where everyone is the same." Saracino believes that an acceptable level of geographic diversity has already been achieved. "Every year we have every single state represented...not even Harvard has that." "You learn from [students with different geographic backgrounds] and its part of your education."

There is, however, another aspect of diversity that Saracino sees as badly lacking. "[Lack of Ethnic diversity] is the only thing that is keeping Notre Dame from being a better Notre Dame," he says. Nevertheless, Saracino believes that great strides have been made and is hopeful that change is coming. "This place is better than it was a decade ago ... now you have [activities] that we can be very proud of," particularly for the school's Hispanic population. For other minority groups such as African-Americans however, Saracino believes that cultural activities are far too rare.

Saracino's belief in the importance of ethnic diversity is shared by several students. "I think that the admission office should try to attain racial diversity," says O'Neill sophomore Justin Alanis. "I believe it's a very important part of a college community." "A liberal arts university like Notre Dame can really benefit from a racially diverse student body with different experiences and opinions," adds Fisher senior Jeff Goett. "Also, it seems appropriate that Notre Dame, a school interested in social justice, consider whether a student's race has prevented them from equal opportunities in the past."

This year, Saracino estimates that applications from ethnic minorities are up by as much as 48 percent, allowing for the Class of 2007 to become potentially the "most dramatically diverse" class in school history.



**Sometimes, you just have to do the best you can to balance all forces and accept that not everyone is going to be happy."**

**– Dan Saracino**  
assistant provost for enrollment

According to a February 7 article in the *South Bend Tribune*, minority in enrollment may, for the first time, exceed 20 percent next fall.

The steady supply of financial aid supported by the Board of Trustees will also allow the admissions office to increase socio-economic diversity, another change that Saracino sees as important to improving students' educational experience. "We're trying to get the word out to our students

that this year is a great opportunity to make some big steps [towards a better campus]."

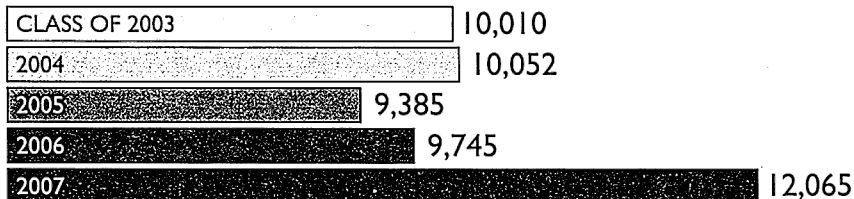
The practice of recruiting for diversity — particularly racial diversity — at academic institutions is not without controversy. The U.S. Supreme Court recently decided to hear two cases originally filed against the University of Michigan in 1997 by three white students who claim they were denied admission in favor of less-qualified minorities. The situation gleaned even more national attention when President Bush criticized Michigan's admissions policies, claiming it was unfair and suggesting the university apply a "colorblind" approach modeled after the system used at the University of Texas. Following the 1996 Supreme Court ruling in *Hopwood v. Texas*, which banned race-conscious admissions practices by the state's universities, a system was employed which guaranteed admissions to the state's top high school students. Other states have since followed suit with similar policies, including Florida and California.

Regardless of the Court's decision in the Michigan cases and the controversies surrounding them, the lawsuits will not affect Notre Dame's admission's practices, Saracino says. "We're in the process of signing on to an amicus brief supporting the University of Michigan," he says. In the document, Saracino says Notre Dame's commitment to and support of affirmative action and argues against calls to "level the playing field." "A simple fact which cannot be emphasized sufficiently is that we have administered affirmative actions as long as we have had American colleges and universities," the document reads. "For the past 24 years, we have aggressively sought out underrepresented students for our campuses ... [and] it's just hypocritical ... that this group [ethnic minorities] that has benefited from special attention ... for the least amount of time is the group that's under attack right now."

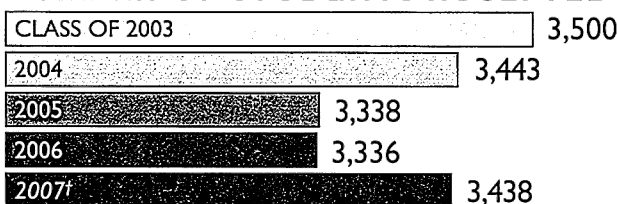
Says Saracino: "There have always been special interests ... first we had children of legislators and wealthy parents, then we had children of alumni ... special consideration given to athletes and to development office interests (students from families who are likely to donate large sums of money), and

# Undergraduate Admissions

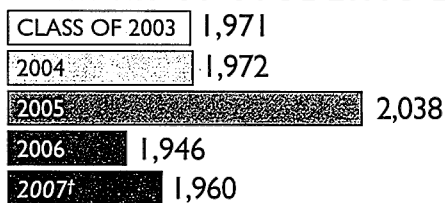
## NUMBER OF STUDENT APPLICATIONS



## NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCEPTED



## NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED



† estimated data

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (estimated)
alumni children	24%	24%	22%	23%	23%
ethnic minorities	16%	17%	16%	16%	20%
international	1.7%	3.1%	4.2%	4.2%	5%
women	47%	47%	47%	48%	48%
Catholic	83%	84%	84%	85%	82%
top 5% of class	66%	68%	69%	68%	68%
ACT composite	30.1	30.5	30.7	30.7	31.4
SAT composite	1337	1341	1351	1351	1359

SOURCE: DAN SARACINO | ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN GREENBERG

faculty and staff children.” In his amicus brief, he also lists “fine arts departments and others in need of specific talents” as “perpetual beneficiaries of ‘special consideration.’”

While the consideration of any special interests in college admissions may be controversial, Saracino stands by the policies of his department and believes that they meet student desires. He says, citing information gathered from surveys given to outgoing seniors: “Our students are overwhelmingly as graduates satisfied with their education here ... [but] if they have one criticism of Notre Dame, it’s a lack of diversity.”

Along with racial diversity, Saracino believes that there is nothing wrong with considering special interests in the admissions process and sees the practice as beneficial to the school community. “I would love to say to those people [who do not believe that special interests should be considered] ... ‘OK, let’s level the playing field and let’s see how exciting your football team is and let’s see how the fundraising goes and let’s see how many people you tick off ...’”

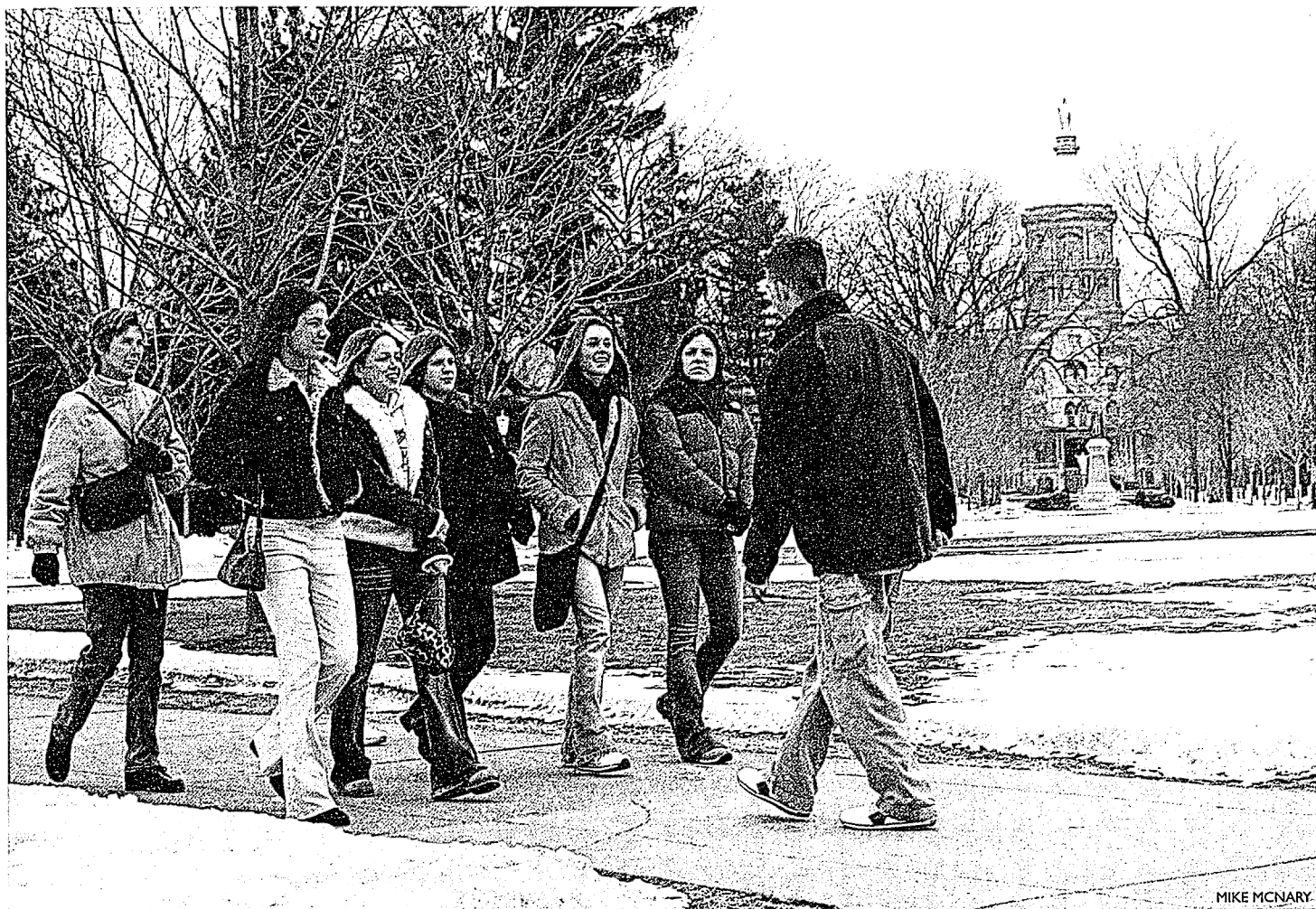
Saracino argues that the consideration of applicants based on legacy or family wealth is necessary for campus improvements, particularly at a private university. “We don’t get the money from the government like UCLA and the University of Michigan [do]. We count on loyalty from our alumni... [and from] benefactors to build new buildings that are needed and to provide scholarship money for students that couldn’t normally come,” he says. “It would be disingenuous if we didn’t do it and hypocritical if we denied it.”

Still, Saracino says that with a newer set of applicant standards and a larger pool, it may be more difficult for those would-be students to secure a slot.

Not everyone, however, agrees with this practice. “I don’t believe that money should be an issue when applying to college,” Alanis says. “No one person should be admitted based on what their family can give to the school.” The sophomore would also like to see family income become less of a factor in admissions decisions.

While Goett does see a certain necessity to considering applicants on this basis, he also believes that it currently plays too great a role in the admissions process. “Admitting students because their parents may donate could serve the common good of the school. In most situations, though, this should be the consideration with the least





**AND TO YOUR LEFT** Prospective students get a glimpse of campus on one of several daily tours.

weight.” On the consideration of legacies he says: “The university needs to be careful with its pro-legacy admission policy. There probably are some good reasons for it, but in a sense it’s unfair to students whose parents may not have had the resources to come to Notre Dame for their education.”

Says Saracino in his amicus brief: “Do we want gifted scholars who might find a cure for cancer and ways to bring peace to the world? Do we want loyal alumni who will support our university financially in order to keep our tuition as low as possible and provide scholarship monies to those in need? Do we want competitive athletic teams? Do we want diversity in the broadest sense in our efforts to [educate] the Catholic leaders for tomorrow? The resounding answer is ‘Yes!’ to all these goals and many others.”

When asked how the admissions office considers these and other factors in prospective students, Saracino explains that the entire application is reviewed. He stresses that there are no quotas or rigid point system like the one used at the University of Michigan. (In that system, a certain amount of points is allotted to a particular applicant with desir-

able qualities.)

Saracino also emphasizes that the school does not admit students automatically simply because they are athletes, legacies, minorities, etc. “Quotas are illegal...and they should be...but goals are reasonable and we have goals every year.” Along with increasing ethnic diversity and pursuing development office interests, the admissions office’s current goals include admitting athletes who can make the school’s sports programs successful, maintaining the percentage of legacy students at 22 to 25 percent and of Catholic students at around 84 percent, and increasing the percentage of international students to five percent, all while continually strengthening the school’s academic profile.

Attempting to meet all these goals, however, means trying to reconcile conflicting interests. “I’ve got to juggle a lot of [interests] and ... the overall class size isn’t getting bigger,” Saracino says. “Sometimes you just have to do the best you can to balance all forces and accept that not everyone is going to be happy.”

And not only is the student body growing

more diverse, but it is also becoming academically stronger. Says Saracino: “The academic profile (mean SAT and ACT scores and average class ranking, for example) of all 12,000 of this year’s applicants is almost identical to that of the students who enrolled 10 years ago. In other words, all the applicants for the Class of 2007 generally are as strong numerically as the very best applicants for the Class of 1997.”

While the strengthening of the school’s academic profile has been a great achievement in and of itself, it has also helped to achieve the admissions office’s other goals. “Our admissions generally aren’t based on who can do the work ... most of applicants now can do it,” says Saracino. This allows the admissions officers to concentrate less on numbers and more on other specific needs of the academic community. He says in his amicus brief: “I daresay that 80 percent of our applicants could be successful academically at Notre Dame. Rather, our decisions are based upon a thorough review and careful consideration of each candidate’s file as well as identification of our specific ‘needs’ as an academic community.” □



**Girard Sagmiller,**  
 Author of *Dyslexia, My Life*

**Thursday, February 27, 2003**  
 7p.m. DeBartolo 101, Free Admission.

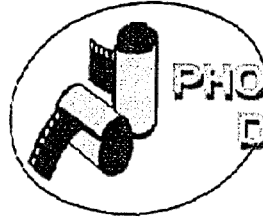
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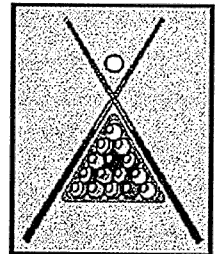
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**G**ood day, ladies and gentlemen. The Gipper hopes you all had a healthy and productive Valentine's Day and Junior Parents Weekend. The Gipp proudly announces that with the arrival of hundreds of mothers in South Bend this past Saturday, the number of male students who have eaten dinner with a female this year finally broke the five-percent barrier. And they say we have gender-relation problems.

Before we begin this edition of tales, the Gipp would like to issue a friendly public service announcement: Remember, sending in tips is *always* in your best interest. The Gipp's got a word count to meet, baby, and is not afraid to punish his tight-lipped constituents by running old "School Daze" comic strips to fill space. That's right — who'd be laughing then? On a side note, the Gipper would like to congratulate himself for finding a way to use a form of the word "laughter" in the same paragraph as the aforementioned "comic."

### Full House

When some residents of a house on Madison Street decided to host a little get-together, they probably never imagined their post-party responsibilities would involve a call to Mr. Bob Vila. The hosts of the soiree brought in their friend's band to entertain their esteemed guests, but a few hours after the music started filling the air, things started to go south. Namely, the living room floor. Four floorboards began to cave in, and, according to our tipster, the only things keeping the whole floor from collapsing was a big hollow air vent in the basement ceiling.

Obviously, this did not amuse those standing in the basement of the house. The scared students sprinted out of the house quicker than Farley

girls to the frozen yogurt machine. The hard-core partiers who remained in the house were left with a keg of beer and the bragging rights of having seen a band that really brought down the house. (Sorry, even your uncle Gipp can't resist sometimes.)

Later in the evening, the residents made a huge "X" out of masking tape and put it over the caved-in floor. However, since there were supposedly many St. Mary's ladies in attendance, the Gipp hopes this was very, very strong masking tape. (Yes, for those of you keeping track at home, that was a double-sided joke.) The Gipper was informed that heavy fines were levied upon the dwellers of this dilapidated domicile, but that the residents believe it was worth it. As the Gipp has always said: Money is fleeting. Near-death experiences are not.

### Pardon Me for Asking

Before proceeding with this next tip, the Gipp would like to explain some things, disclaimer-style. First, ol' Gipp

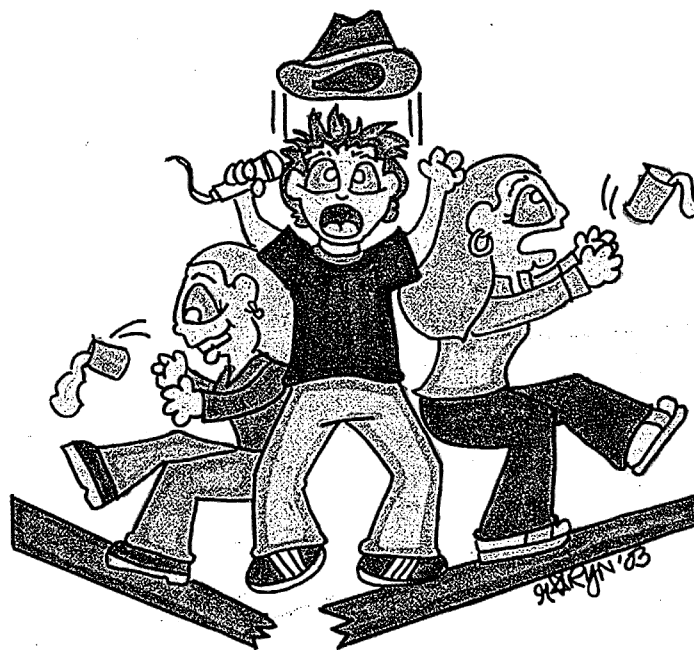
understands that the hunt-and-chase game of finding a date for dances can be very competitive. Secondly, the Gipper knows that there's nothing inherently wrong with simple curiosity. But we have to draw the line somewhere, ladies and gentlemen.

That's why the Gipp was so shocked to hear the story of a young dame who was a little annoyed when she found out that her dream date had already been asked to her dance by another member of the hall. She was even more annoyed, apparently, by the fact that her crush couldn't even remember the name of the girl he had agreed to escort.

So, this gal decided to listserv her entire dorm and explain her dilemma. She claimed no cruel intentions: She was just wondering who had beaten her to the punch. Apparently, she was not concerned with embarrassing herself or the poor girl who had asked the man in question. The Gipp extends a warm, figurative handshake to this fellow who either had a) successfully tricked this curious young lady into thinking he actually couldn't remember

who he had said "yes" to, or b) become intoxicated in the middle of a weekday afternoon and thus couldn't adequately answer her inquiry. In either case, the Gipp asks that dorm listservs only be utilized for valuable purposes, such as sending your buddies pictures of you throwing quarter dogs at blind monkeys.

The Gipp's signing off for now, boys and girls. We won't meet again until after your spring break, so be sure to drop the Gipp a line about your parties in paradise. And don't leave that video camera at home — the Gipp is willing to move to a multimedia format if the footage is tip-worthy. □



**SPLINTERS**  
FROM THE PRESSBOX

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

**The Rant** *The basketball teams deserve a home-court advantage. Put the students on the floor.*  
by Gerard Meskill — respond to the king of sports at gmeskill@nd.edu

For the first time in recent memory, the Notre Dame men's basketball team is rubbing elbows with the nation's elite. The Joyce Center is enjoying record crowds. But something is missing.

It certainly isn't support from Notre Dame's students. After the Irish knocked off then second-ranked Texas earlier this season, over a hundred students braved chilling weather for over an hour to welcome the Irish back from Washington, D.C., singing the Notre Dame fight song as the team left the bus. And since the establishment of the Leprechaun Legion, the student section has been boisterous and informed, a combination that has given the Irish a new advantage. This band of zealous students has made their voice heard, researching facts to heckle opposing players, synchronizing student chants and organizing sleepovers in front of the Joyce Center, as they did on the evening before Notre Dame's thrilling 93-92 double overtime victory over Georgetown.

But the entire student section is crammed behind one basket, cut off from the rest of the crowd. Due to this seating irregularity, they simply can't jumpstart the Joyce Center on their own.

My call now is for the university to recognize the inspiring performance of its basketball team by giving it the greatest possible home-court advantage. Only the university itself can further the progress that the students and basketball players have made so far in restoring excitement to this program. Only when this university acts decisively

for the purpose of improving the atmosphere at our home games will Notre Dame ever truly compete on all levels with the rest of the nation's elite basketball schools.

The team already has risen to that level. But for the Joyce Center to rise to the level of the nation's other elite basketball facilities, Notre Dame must follow those schools' lead. Take Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium as an example. In that facility, Duke's student body surrounds the court at

opposing college foe would wish to avoid. The reputation this environment would create would make recruiting elite basketball players easier. Notre Dame would still have all the attractions it uses now to lure talent, and now it would also have a reputation as a fervent basketball environment. Bringing in better recruits would lead to more seasons like the one the Irish are now enjoying. A chain reaction would ensue.

Is this a little naive or oversimplified?

Those who designate seating in our venerable facility should take some tips from the wise organization of that court in Durham.



the floor level. This practice allows the students to dictate the atmosphere of the arena, creating what is recognized as the most intimidating environment in college basketball. And while it would be asking a lot to expect the Joyce Center to rival that court's intensity, those who designate seating in our venerable facility should take some tips from the wise organization of that court in Durham.

What is stopping Notre Dame from implementing a similar seating plan? Perhaps it is the fear of inconveniencing those who now enjoy those seats. We all have to make tough decisions in life, but, fortunately for the university, this should not be one of them. Should the Joyce Center surround its court with students, the results would create an environment that every high-school standout would want to play in, and every

Perhaps, but great programs are built on excitement. For all of this season's success, that excitement is still lacking in our fans. Those who currently enjoy courtside seating at the Joyce Center support the team, but they don't bring the same enthusiasm as the student body. If the university fears these fans would withdraw their support on losing their current seating, this is a poor reason to deny this school's basketball team a true home-court advantage. If those people are Irish basketball fans, they will return, especially if the program continues to skyrocket.

But if this program ever will enjoy anything more than sporadic success at the highest level, things need to change. Until they do, folks in South Bend can continue to watch the Dukes and Kentuckys of the world come late March. □

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**FOOTBALL:** Seven former Irish football players are among 77 selected to appear on the 2003 College Football Hall of Fame induction ballot: safety **Dave Duerson** (1979-82), linebacker **Bob Golic** (1976-78), quarterback **John Huarte** (1962-64), defensive end **Walt Patulski** (1969-71), end **Jim Seymour** (1966-68), quarterback **Joe Theisman** (1968-70) and defensive tackle **Chris Zorich** (1987-90).

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** Notre Dame put forth perhaps its most pitiful effort of the season, but still managed to win 56-55 at West Virginia on Tuesday. Senior **Matt Carroll** led the Irish with 16 points, but shot just 35 percent. **Chris Thomas** and **Torin Francis** scored 13 and 11 points, respectively. Notre Dame next takes action Saturday at 1:00 p.m. versus Virginia Tech at the Joyce Center.

# IRISHEYESON

JOHNSOUCH.



Senior long-stick midfielder John Souch from Watertown, N.Y., is one of four captains on the men's lacrosse team, which is ranked 17th in a preseason poll. After playing as a long-stick defenseman during his first two years with the Irish, Souch (5-10, 185) has flourished in his new role and is one of the top players in the country at his position. Last year, John played in all 13 games and was second on the team in ground balls with 37. A talented all-around athlete, Souch played varsity lacross, football and basketball in high school.



**My best experience so far at Notre Dame has been:** making it to the Final Four in my sophomore year.

**After playing three sports in high school, I chose to pursue lacrosse in college because:** it was just something that I loved to do. I had the opportunity to play football but my heart just wasn't with it.

**Once I graduate from Notre Dame, I will work as:** a sales manager for Pepsi-Cola.

**I was attracted to Notre Dame by:** the academic environment. On top of that, I saw that we had a young program that was on the rise and I wanted to be a part of that.

**I started playing lacrosse:** my freshman year of high school. All of my friends convinced me to play.

**My toughest class in college was:** freshman year calculus. It gave me a lot of trouble. I had a foreign teacher who barely spoke English.

**The best advice I have ever received is:** to treat every day like it is your last. My dad always says this to me.

**Though I have never been there, my dream vacation spot is:** the Cayman Islands.

**To prepare myself for a game:** I listen to music in the locker room. I have an African doll in my locker that is supposed to bring good luck. I tend to get pretty fired up before games.

**My favorite professional sports team is:** the Cleveland Browns.

**The song that I've been listening to a lot lately is:** "In Da Club" by 50 Cent.

**My dream car is:** definitely a 2003 Lexus LX 470.

**My favorite cartoon is:** the Flintstones.

— David Murray

YOUR CALL?



vs.



NOTRE DAME

VIRGINIA TECH

## Our Calls Men's Basketball

**OPPONENT:** VIRGINIA TECH

**WHERE:** NOTRE DAME, IND.

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22,  
1 PM EST

After putting up a sub-par performance on the road against West Virginia, Notre Dame looks to regain its shooting stroke. Torin Francis plays like a man-child against the Hokies, putting up 19 as the Irish win 81-66.

GERARDMESKILL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Will Notre Dame's perfect record at home be ended by a team called the Hokies? Please. The Irish will rain down 3-pointers and play stifling defense all afternoon, burying Virginia Tech at the JACC by a score of 84-67.

DAVIDMURRAY  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Sophomore point guard Chris Thomas drops five threes and 29 points on the Hokies to lead the Irish to a 78-71 victory at the Joyce Center. After the contest, a pumped up Mike Brey asserts, "That's a dunk!"

JIMMYATKINSON  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

### OUR CALLS RECORDS

GERARDMESKILL: 5-2

DAVIDMURRAY: 5-2

JIMMYATKINSON: 5-2

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** Alicia Ratay posted a season-high 30 points, including seven three-point goals, to lead Notre Dame to a 67-61 victory over Providence Sunday. Ratay's effort earned her Big East Player of the Week honors for the third time.

**FENCING:** For the third consecutive year, the men's fencing team claimed the top national ranking in the U.S. Fencing Coaches

Association poll. The Irish are 19-0 overall after sweeping through competition at the Duke Duals on February 7. Foilist Ozren Debic led Notre Dame, posting a 15-0 record in dual competition. The women's team followed suit at Duke, winning all five of its matchups. Sabres Maggie Jordan and Destanie Milo posted 14-1 and 13-1 records, respectively.

**TRACK AND FIELD:** At the Mayo Invitational here on Feb. 8, Senior Luke Watson ran the second sub-four-minute mile in Notre Dame history, winning the Mayo Mile in a time of 3:57.83. Selim Nurudeen won the 60-meter hurdles in a season-best 7.83. On the women's side, Molly Huddle shattered the school record in the 3000-meter run, posting a 9:14.33. — Gerard Meskill

# Gone in 237 Seconds

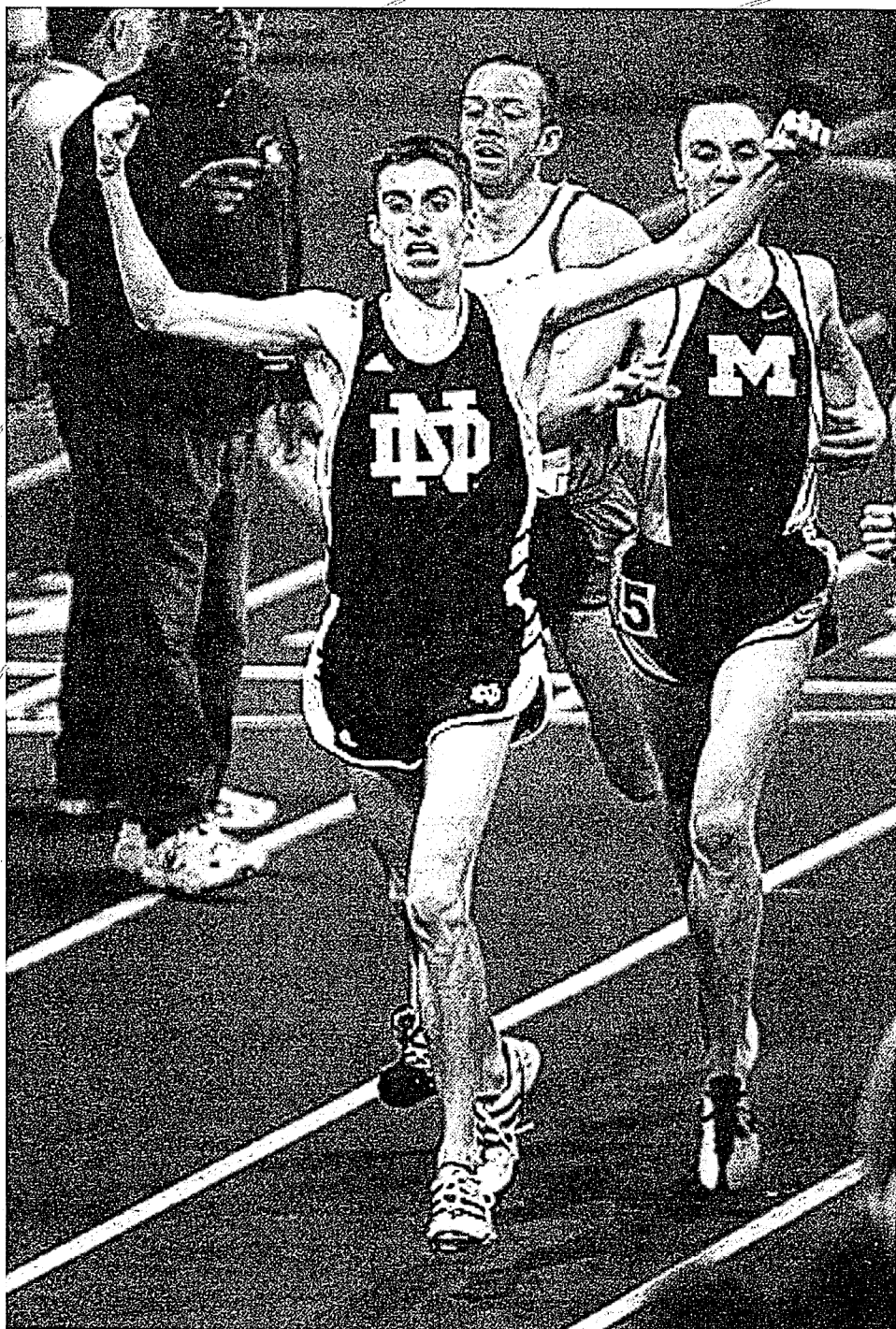
**Luke Watson stays humble despite record-breaking mile**

GERARDMESKILL

**P**rior to 1954, most people assumed that it was impossible for a human being to run a mile in less than four minutes. Determined to prove the running world wrong, Oxford alumnus Roger Bannister decided to train for the sole purpose of running a sub-four-minute mile. Using his knowledge as a physician, he researched and developed training tactics that would allow him to topple the track milestone. With Chris Brasher and Chris Chataway running with him as pacers, Bannister took to the track at Iffley Road on May 6, 1954 and ran the mile in 3:59.4, setting a new world record, and becoming the first man in the world to eclipse the four-minute barrier.

But while Bannister shattered the record, its mystique remains. After almost 50 years, running a four-minute mile is still one of track's most respected accomplishments, as only a handful of the world's greatest track athletes are capable of the feat.

On February 8, Notre Dame's Luke Watson joined those ranks, defeating a field of talented runners to win the Meyo Mile in a time of 3:57.83. Although few collegiate athletes achieve such an accomplishment, Watson's effort was worth more than the Notre Dame record it set, or the distinction of becoming the second Irish athlete ever to run the mile in under four minutes — the first since Chuck Aragon's 3:59.9 in 1981. It even was worth more than gaining the distinction of running the fastest mile in the world in 2003 up to that point. For distance runners, the four-minute mile is a rite of passage. On that Saturday afternoon, Watson added to his resumé an accomplishment that only the finest track athletes in the world



**I'M THE MAN.** Luke Watson joined the ranks of the greatest track athletes of all time with his 3:57.83 mile.

share.

"Nobody even ran a four-minute mile until the 1950s, and for a long time people thought it was impossible," says Irish teammate Kevin Somok, who posted a 4:03.82 in the Meyo Mile. His teammate, Eric Morrison, ran a 4:01, which would have placed him first in the country had Watson not run the fastest time in the world this year.

"It's a real milestone as a runner," Somok says. "There are only a couple of hundred Americans that have ever run a four-minute mile, so Luke's in that club now."

"For anybody who runs track, that's a

goal," Irish Head Coach Joe Piane says. "If you think of the literally hundreds of thousands of people who have run track, only a handful have broken four. It's the culmination of eight or nine years of work for him."

Hours before the race began, the Meyo Invitational public address speaker systematically announced every 20 minutes that the winner of the meet's signature event, the Meyo Mile, might eclipse the four-minute barrier, as the field of runners to compete in the mile was perhaps the strongest the event ever had seen. At the forefront of that field was Watson, whose previous efforts in the

PHOTOS COURTESY MATT CASHORE - SPORTS INFORMATION

mile had left him just shy of breaking the elusive barrier.

"Last year, I got a couple of opportunities to go after [the four-minute mile], trying desperately," Watson says. "I ran a 3:58 relay split for the 1600 meters, which converts to about a 4:00.2 in the mile. I then had a last chance to do it indoors in the mile and ran a 4:01.1. I missed by 1.1 seconds. Then outdoors, in one of the last meets of the year, I ran 4:00.2."

"It just took the right race on the right day that I felt good, and the right competition. And everything came together on Saturday."

Lined up against some of the finest collegiate milers in the country, Watson once again took to the track seeking to break four minutes. When the signal was given, the field exploded off the line to establish a brisk early pace. Curiously, Watson didn't follow. Instead, he followed the wisdom of his experience and remained near the end of the pack, biding his time.

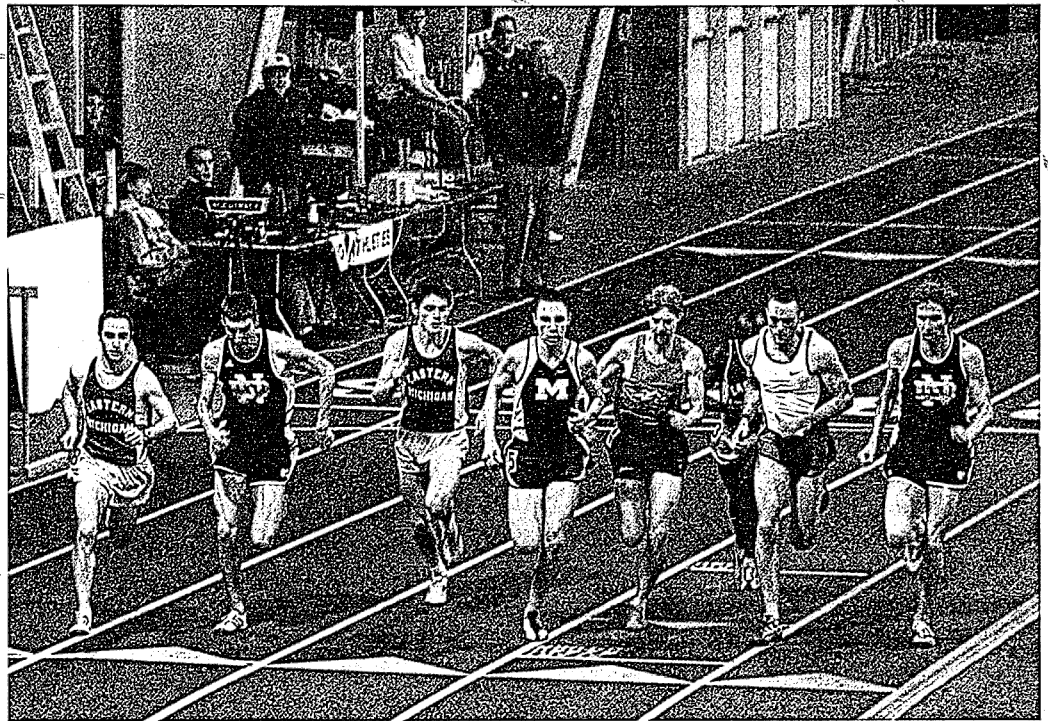
"It was pretty much my strategy the whole time to just hang back a little bit, because I knew that the pace would be fast," he says. "So I did that, and I gradually worked my way up into position."

Says Piane, "We had talked about running even splits, which is exactly what you want to do."

Early in the competition, Watson ranked as far back as 10th out of the field of 12. Nevertheless, he never fell farther than a few seconds behind the leader. As the field approached the half-mile mark, Watson methodically began picking off the athletes in front of him. By the time the runners reached the final quarter-mile, Watson had ascended to the top five, in position to make a memorable finish to the race.

"I know the track well enough that I know exactly where I need to make my move," Watson says. "In the last quarter-mile, I got right on top of the lead pack, and I knew that I would make my strike late and try to catch everyone by surprise, maybe."

"Everyone" is a relative term. Watson not only caught the rest of the field by surprise, but also the raucous crowd watching the competition. As Eastern Michigan's Boaz Cheboiywo accelerated to take the lead in the race, Watson followed his example, surging forward to equal his pace. Watson's energy was matched only by that of the crowd, which grew more vocal as the race pro-



**THE BEST OF THE WEST** The race was dubbed the year's greatest mile, with five athletes finishing with times faster than four minutes.

gressed.

"The crowd reaction was incredible," Watson says. "I mean, there were literally a ton of people, like five or six people deep, lining the track on both sides for the last two laps of the race. You can't hear any individuals, you're not even thinking about the crowd at all, but just the energy they were making, the energy they were kind of conferring, that definitely, I think, played a role in my performance, and I think it inspired all of the competitors to run."

"[The crowd during the Meyo Mile was] probably the loudest I've ever heard [at] Loftus," Somok says. "I'm sure it helped Luke a lot."

As the lead pack advanced to the final straightaway, Michigan's Nathan Brannen replaced Cheboiywo in front with Watson following closely behind. With less than 50 meters remaining, Brannen's lead began to fade as Watson closed on him with an impressive late kick.

"Brannen and I were going stride-for-stride. But every stride I took, I was gaining maybe an inch on him, and I could feel that every stride. I just concentrated on maintaining my form and driving to the line."

Those inches accumulated as Watson crossed the finish line just 13 hundredths of a second faster than Brannen to capture the Meyo Mile title. Cheboiywo, Michigan's Nick Willis and Ian Connor of Nike Track Club finished off the top five, all with times faster than four minutes. Almost immedi-

ately, the event was branded the greatest mile in the world this season, as the top five athletes posted the five fastest miles in the world this year to that point, and each time would have been quick enough to win the 2002 NCAA indoor mile championship.

Nevertheless, Watson stole the spotlight that day on his home track, at least temporarily claiming the title of the world's fastest miler in 2003. But while he sat at the top of the list, Watson was aware that his newfound title is not as exclusive as it sounds.

"Well, I take it with a grain of salt. I know that there are a slew of great runners out there that might be in Africa in altitude training," Watson says. "It's a great motivator for me, and it's a great accomplishment to run 3:57. But I know people are going to come along and destroy it."

Watson was right, as another runner has since eclipsed his mark. But as far as Piane is concerned, that doesn't diminish the accomplishment.

"At least for a week, he was the world leader, and that's pretty impressive. It just indicates that his future in running is going to be even brighter."

Even though another athlete inevitably did run a faster mile this year, he did not take away Watson's moment of glory. For on that Saturday afternoon, Watson defeated an opponent much more daunting than Brannen and Cheboiywo. He raced against himself, and he won. □



IMPENETRABLE Senior Elizabeth Knight controls the field in a matchup against the Ohio State Buckeyes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

## The Crossroads of Victory

MIKEISELIN

**W**inning is addictive. Just ask Notre Dame's women's lacrosse team.

Last season, the team earned a berth in the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history. The Irish defeated Ohio State 11-7 in the first round of the tournament. Not bad for a program in its sixth year of varsity status with a winning percentage barely above .500 in its first five years.

The win advanced Notre Dame to the quarterfinals, where it was defeated 11-5 by No. 1 Princeton. Their breakout season ended, but it left the Irish anxious to return to the NCAA tournament.

The entire team, from head coach Tracy Coyne down to the freshmen, has had this

aim in mind since the first day of practice in the fall, along with the goal of winning the Big East conference. But accomplishing these goals will not be easy.

"Each opponent brings different challenges to the table," senior tri-captain Elizabeth Knight says. "The Big East is amazingly competitive, making every game a battle."

Fellow senior tri-captain Kelly McCardell agrees. "The Big East is such a competitive conference that just keeps getting stronger, so it's hard to pick just one game," she says. "But Georgetown has won the Big East the past few years, and I think we really are ready to strip them of that title."

The team has not faced many expectations up to this point in its short six-year

existence, but that clearly is no longer the case. After its appearance in the NCAA tournament quarterfinals last season, the team earned the respect that comes with success. But with that respect comes new obstacles.

"The biggest challenge that we face being a relatively new program is that we haven't been in the position that we've had to defend anything before," Coyne says. "Last year, we had the culmination of a lot of hard work, now this year we're still going to have to beat the teams that are always our rivals but also take it a step further and beat the premier lacrosse schools like Duke and Georgetown."

The Irish took a proactive stance in preparing for a strong spring season full of top-ranked opponents. The team not only practiced throughout the fall, but it also played preseason games against top-level competition on the east coast. The fall matches opened with the Irish playing 30-minute halves in a round-robin format against Northwestern and Ohio State in Evanston, Ill., where the Irish won five of the six halves they played. Following that success, the team returned home and defeated Massachusetts 12-8.

Notre Dame hit the road again to face perennial powerhouse Maryland. The Irish got off to a slow start in College Park and couldn't quite get in their groove against the Terrapins, losing the game 14-11. The fall schedule ended on a high note, however, as the Irish handed North Carolina a 13-8 defeat at Chapel Hill.

Despite the loss to Maryland, Coyne was pleased with the team's effort, which displayed the mettle of the underclassmen, a key part of this year's team. "I was really happy because we graduated five starters last year. I was happy that we hung in there, and we were very competitive," she says.

On the surface, this year's squad is young, with 11 freshmen and six sophomores. But Coyne does not believe that the youthful roster will hurt the team. "What I think is unique about this team is that we have returning starters like Danielle Shearer, Kelly McCardell and Elizabeth Knight, but then we also have people who have been waiting their turn for their chance to show what they can do," she says. "We have a bunch of people who are really good who no one has heard of before."





**STRIDING ALONG** Senior tri-captain Kelly McCardell races downfield during a home game at Moose Krause Stadium.

Knight believes that youth, despite its inexperience, “adds a level of enthusiasm to our program,” she says. “This is new and exciting for our freshmen, and they have been able to fit right in.”

Though the freshmen were not around to witness the team’s success last season, the seniors have taken the responsibility of ingraining the team’s philosophy and hunger to win into the psyche of the freshmen.

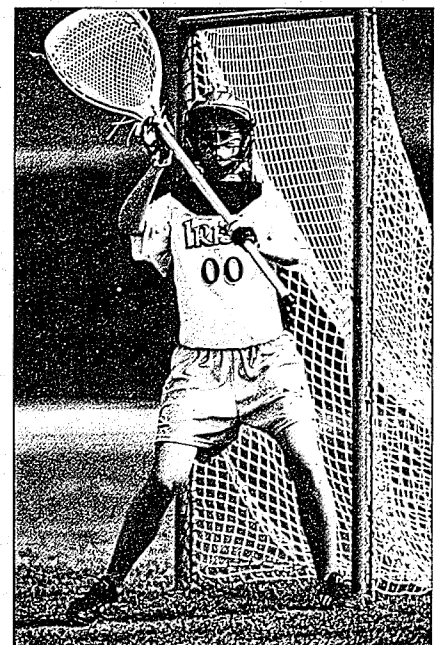
“The role of the seniors is to prepare the freshmen,” senior goalkeeper Jen White says. “We definitely have the ability to go to them if the time comes, and

that’s going to take the senior’s leadership telling them the in’s and out’s of the game.”

Freshman Mary McGrath stresses that each girl, including the 11 freshmen, adds a different element to the team that gives them the opportunity to be successful. She says that there are many gifted upperclassmen to look up to and to learn from, and that they have helped make the transition from high school to college-level lacrosse much easier than it might have been.

In addition to the pressure that comes from winning while fielding a young team, the Irish face a geographic challenge. Due to South Bend’s inclement winter weather, the team plays its first six games on the road. They also have a few spans of back-to-back games or two games in three days, including an April 11 match-up against Duke in Durham, N.C., followed by a home match against the Stanford Cardinal, an up-and-coming lacrosse school, on April 13. Near the end of their schedule, the Irish play Northwestern and Rutgers on back-to-back nights at Moose Krause Stadium — two games that likely will have a big effect on the outcome of the final Big East standings, as well as a possible NCAA tournament berth.

Although the difficulty of their schedule could be viewed as a competitive disadvantage, the Irish refuse to see it that way. Instead, they consider it an excellent opportunity to prepare themselves for



**EXTREME BUTTERFLY CATCHING** Senior Goalkeeper Jen White defends the Irish net from enemy infiltration.

the games late in the season that will determine their standing in the Big East as well as their eligibility for the NCAA tournament.

Now that the women’s lacrosse team has established itself, Coyne sees no reason it can’t continue winning.

“A lot of people in the lacrosse community didn’t think Notre Dame could get it done, and I am very happy of the girls who came here and thought they could help us put lacrosse on the map,” Coyne says. “I feel like we’re going to maintain the success we’ve established with some new faces.” □



**THE REAL IRISH GUARD** The women’s lacrosse team keeps watch during a key match. The team had its best year last season, making it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament.

# And All That Jazz

The 45th annual Collegiate Jazz Festival draws national talent to Notre Dame

CAROLYNSWEENEY

Ask an average Notre Dame student about his or her exposure to jazz, and you'll probably receive a blank stare, a shrug, or maybe, if you're lucky, a reference to having seen the recent film *Chicago*. It's not surprising, then, that ND's annual Collegiate Jazz Festival, though one of the most prestigious events of its kind, is relatively unknown around campus.

"Other universities have also had jazz festivals, but Notre Dame's festival is the oldest and best," says music professor and Jazz Band director Larry Dwyer.

"A lot of students don't realize just how big it is," adds sophomore drummer Steve Schwall.

The Festival, known simply as the "CJF" in jazz circles around the country, was founded in 1959 by Notre Dame students who wanted to celebrate their music. Under the guidance of faculty advisor Father George Wiskirchen, C.S.C., the event flourished. Wiskirchen arrived at Notre Dame in 1972, and his extensive connections in the jazz world ensured that prominent musicians volunteered to judge the event every year.

This year's Collegiate Jazz Festival boasts ensembles from nine universities across the nation, in addition to Notre Dame's own two jazz bands. Milikin University, the University of Illinois, University of Nevada-Reno,

Roosevelt University, Southwest Texas State, Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, University of Missouri and the University of Texas-Brownsville all will be represented at the festival.

"These are the best of the best," Dwyer says. "One group on Saturday night which should be particularly exciting is Southwest Texas State's Salsa del Rio, which plays really hot Latin jazz."

Attracting this caliber of talent requires careful planning. Applications were sent out to colleges across the country, and Dwyer began recruiting judges last fall. The participating bands were selected in December, after a committee reviewed their audition tapes.

The festival kicks off with Preview Night on Wednesday, February 26, when ND's Jazz Band will perform an opening concert in the LaFortune Ballroom. On Friday, five bands will perform at Washington Hall, and then the five judges, each of whom are well-known professional musicians, will play together in the annual Judges' Jam. "They usually don't even decide what to play until that night, but they always put on an amazing show," says sophomore saxophonist Greg Salzler, who is coordinating the event through the Student Union Board.

On the last day of the festival, Saturday, March 1, the judges will host a free clinic,

in which they will give short speeches and then demonstrate various techniques on their respective instruments. Then, that night, each of the remaining six bands will each play a 45-minute set in Washington Hall.

The atmosphere of the weekend is relatively laid-back, according to participants. The festival dropped the "Best Band" award several years ago in an attempt to celebrate music instead of promoting cut-throat competition. "Instead, each band is assigned a rating, along with commentary from the judges," Salzler says. "This allows the bands and their directors to see where they stand in the eyes of professional musicians, and they can then work to improve based on the comments. The ratings are usually private, but the judges do present 'outstanding soloist' awards."

In addition to offering the bands valuable feedback and instruction, the weekend also serves as a forum for, quite simply, great music. "The highlight of the Collegiate Jazz Festival is always the Friday night Judges' Jam," Dwyer says. "The judges are chosen not only for their ability to give articulate evaluations of the performing collegiate groups, but also for their superior abilities as active jazz musicians. This year's judges are internationally recognized as among the very best players on their instruments."

"It's an opportunity to hear some of the best jazz musicians in the country," adds graduate student Emily Spargo, a bassist with ND's Jazz Band. "That's a very rare opportunity here in South Bend."

This year's judges include bassist John Clayton, Jr., saxophonist Greg Tardy, trumpeter Jimmy Owens, drummer Russ Miller and pianist Lynne Arriale.

Clayton has gained prominence as a performer, composer, and arranger of both jazz and classical music. The *Los Angeles Times* has called him "a phenomenon" and mentioned him as one of the top candidates to "assume the mantle of Miles Davis, and one of the most internationally respected bassists and composers, with good reason." Clayton spent five years as principal bassist with the Amsterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, and currently conducts, composes, and co-leads the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra. He received a 1991 Grammy nomination for his composition "Brush This" from his *Groove Shop* recording. He teaches at USC and has recently collaborated with the Northwest Chamber Orchestra and the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

Tardy, a New Orleans native, has played with the Neville Brothers, Ellis Marsalis and Elvin Jones. He has received critical acclaim for his albums, beginning with *Crazy Love* in 1992, followed by *Serendipity* in 1998, *The Hidden Light* in 2000 and, most recently, the 2001 release *Abundance*. He was nomi-





**ALL YOUR BASS ARE BELONG TO US**  
 Renowned bassist John Clayton, Jr. will be one of the festival's judges.

nated for a Best Debut Artist Grammy in 1998.

Owens has spent the last 35 years as a jazz trumpeter, composer, arranger, lecturer and jazz educator. Introduced to the trumpet at age 10, he went on to form the Jimmy Owens Quartet in the '60s, and then recorded his debut album *You Had Better Listen* in 1968. Owens' career and influences reach back to the days of the great jazz trumpeters, and he tells stories of meeting and playing with Miles Davis and Louis Armstrong. Currently, he composes music for movies, theater, television commercials and orchestra, and has appeared on National Public Radio's *Billy Taylor's Jazz at The Kennedy Center*.

Miller has played drums on over 250 records with such diverse artists as Ray Charles, the Bee Gees, Babyface, Toni Braxton, Meredith Brooks and Nelly Furtado. A multi-platinum, Grammy-award-winning musician, he also has performed on the soundtracks of dozens of movies including *O*, *Hardball*, *The Specialist* and *Lethal Weapon 4*, and has produced two solo albums, *Where's One?* and *Cymbalism*.

Arriale currently plays with a trio that has won accolades for the past eight years,

but she also has garnered individual praise. *The New York Times* called her one of "the top instrumentalists of the day," and *The London Times* recently wrote that "no American pianist has made quite as strong an impression over the past five years as Arriale." The group has recorded seven CDs and played at concerts and festivals throughout the U.S., Europe, and Canada as well as in Japan, where Arriale was part of the prestigious "100 Golden Fingers" group. The trio just finished its latest record. "Our new release, *Arise*, will be released in April. We'll be touring throughout Europe and the U.S. to promote it," she says.

Arriale says the tradition of excellence associated with the CJF makes the weekend as eagerly-anticipated by the judges as it is by students. "Larry Dwyer invited me to come, and I agreed immediately," she says. "Hearing the students play will be a tremendous highlight for me."

Arriale's reverence for her music is obvious, and she captures the passion that is a hallmark of the CJF. "Jazz is a universal language that has the capacity to reach all people, regardless of their background," she says. "Hearing musicians improvise in this uniquely fine art form is always an exciting experience. Jazz has

given me the opportunity to have a wide open field for my musical expression and constantly challenges me to take the next step in my personal development."

Everyone involved with the festival hopes that the weekend, and the big names associated with it, will spread enthusiasm for jazz through campus and bring greater recognition to the genre.

"Sometimes artists like Norah Jones, Diana Krall and Harry Connick, Jr. draw new listeners to the world of jazz, but in general, it's not the type of music that's played on most popular radio stations," says Emily Spargo. "It might be nice to see a night of Acoustic Café devoted to jazz, or the university could bring in some outside jazz groups to play."

"Jazz is not a mass-market 'popular' music right now," Dwyer says. "Less than 5 percent of all recordings sold are in the jazz category. These national trends are reflected in our student body. However, the 90 students who take the 'Intro to Jazz' and 'Current Jazz' elective courses find that they really come to like much of what they hear. Any student who comes to the festival programs will hear some great music played with intensity and fun." □

# Thirty-Two Short Films About Notre Dame

Who wants to push Joe Millionaire under a bus?

**D**espite the presence of sun and happy-faced children in the brochures that are sent to aspiring Domers across the country, I have arrived once again at the conclusion that South Bend is not the tropical paradise I was led to believe. Now, before you pitch my column into the garbage, let me assure you that this is *not* a column about the windy nonsense that passes for weather around here. After all, if you wanted witty commentary on all things meteorological, you'd be reading *School Daze* and, if you're like me, banging your head against a table. I only point out the terrible winter climate to explain that it gets to the point where even sustaining a reasonable dialogue becomes an exercise in endurance. In addition to this, there's basically nothing going on about this time of year. As such, this week's column will consist of small vignettes on various things I've been kicking around in my brain as of late. They're quick, they're digestible and, mercifully, over faster than the average Keenan Revue outrage.

*Helper monkeys.* Yes, the election has long passed, and even though I don't know as of this writing whether the puppet on Poorman's right hand or the puppet on his left ultimately won, I do know that the ticket with the best idea in years was passed over. I can already hear some of those backward-thinking friends of mine telling me that the monkeys are "not economically, spatially or morally feasible" and that the stench of a helper monkey would soon become unbearable, but is monkey stench really any different from the smell in the average guy's dorm? In fact, those students living in Stanford would almost certainly consider the smell of the monkey to be a fragrant change. Smells aside, I can picture the chilly winter morning when I climb out of bed into the slippers lovingly placed by Paul Eugene (I will name him Paul Eugene), peruse the *Sun-Times* in my smoking jacket, and sip a warm cup of monkey-prepared cocoa. And really, any good society should be measured by the quality and quantity of its monkey butlers. As far as I'm concerned, if I can't sit back, light a Cuban, crack open some VSOP, and have Paul Eugene skim and highlight my copy of *The Executive Brain* for physio, the terrorists have already won.

*Jose Million-Pesos.* I know, I know — I really shouldn't even

be watching this show, as it's just further proof of the depth to which our society has sunk and blah blah blah. Get off your high horse and come watch a substitute teacher and a bondage queen run after a moderately attractive imbecile who thinks Pablo Neruda is a Caribbean resort. People who condemn others for watching *Joe Millionaire* are the same closed-minded Puritans who think I shouldn't laugh when an old man gets hit in the crotch with a football. The show theoretically puts a nail in that age-old "for love or money" conundrum, but people watch it for the same reason people watched that other Fox gem, *Man vs. Beast*. Just as no one doubts that 50 midgets can't pull a plane farther than an elephant, no one doubts that most of these women are gold-digging bimbos who'd marry a pelican if Fox put a tennis bracelet on it. *Joe Millionaire* works because it points out

what everybody's secretly afraid of: Given the right price, there probably isn't much we wouldn't do. And while descriptions of what went on in the woods that magical evening are best left to the Gipp, let's just say that Fox's brilliant use of subtitles ("slurp, slurp, gulp") probably didn't leave as much to the imagination as our boy Evan had hoped.

*Being a shill.* If there's one thing *Scholastic* magazine has come to represent, it's honor, integrity, and an unwillingness to compromise principles to make a quick buck. To people who say I would tarnish the reputation of this fine periodical by using my power as a quasi-respected journalist to promote myself, I say, "That's

exactly the kind of argument that didn't stand up for Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew*." I realize most of the crowd won't dig the whole Shakespearean vibe with those fancy dickeys and ascots, and that is precisely why the show I'm in will be set in the late 1970s. If you even once considered growing your hair out into an afro, consider this play an intervention.

There's ultimately more I'd like to chat about — the escalating situation in Iraq, the stress of deciding what I want to do with my life, strippers — but space constraints dictate that only the most important topics be covered. We've had some fun today, sure. But if you didn't like this style of column, rest assured: I'll soon be back with a diatribe guaranteed not to enrage student government, gold-digging bimbos or midgets. □



# B O U N D S

BY JEFF EYERMAN



# Feb. 20 - Mar. 05

Let's do the Time Warp again ...

COMPILED BY JENNIFER OSTERHAGE

## COMING DISTRACTIONS

Time travel would be pretty cool if it were possible – and now it is! This installment of “Coming Distractions” brings you events that will take you on a trip through the decades. Participate in a hands-on history lesson that won’t induce snoozing. Don’t forget to submit your events to [scholast@nd.edu](mailto:scholast@nd.edu). (All submissions are subject to *Scholastic* approval.)

### 1950s-60s

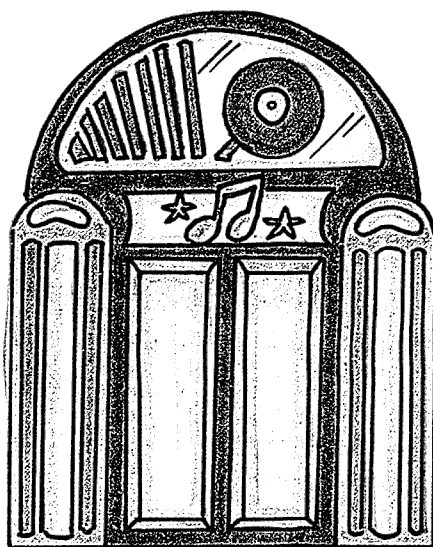
**What:** Smokey Joe’s Cafe

**When:** Thursday, Feb. 20, Friday, Feb. 21, 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** The Firehouse, 701 Portage Ave., South Bend

**How much:** \$12 Thursday, \$14 Friday

**Why:** What could be better than a play that is a musical tribute to 1950s rock-and-roll song-writing geniuses Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller? When you hear their hits “Charlie Brown,” “Hound Dog,” “Yakety Yak,” and “Kansas City,” you’ll be tapping your toes and dancing in your seat. You could even dress the part and show up in a poodle skirt or blue suede shoes. For more information and ticket availability, call 234-1112.



### 1950s-present

**What:** “Making Music: Motown to Jazz”

**When:** Thursday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Band Building, Middle Rehearsal Room

**How much:** Free

**Why:** It’s Black History Month, so take the time to appreciate African-Americans’ contributions to the world of music. This event features performer Bill Nicks, who will demonstrate various musical styles and techniques. I got rhythm, I got music ... who could ask for anything more?



### 1990s

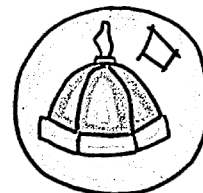
**What:** *The Working Poor in America: Climbing the Down Escalator*

**When:** Monday, March 3, 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Room C-100, Hesburgh Center Auditorium

**How much:** Free

**Why:** We could all stand to step outside the Notre Dame bubble and make ourselves more aware of the less fortunate. After all, we can’t change things if we don’t know about them. This film documents the earnings and employment experiences of working poor households in South Bend in the early 1990s.



### 1600s

**What:** *The Tempest*

**When:** Thursday, February 20, Friday, February 21, Saturday, February 22, 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Washington Hall

**How much:** Reserved seats, \$16; Seniors, \$14; Students, \$12

**Why:** Seeing as Shakespeare’s works are second only to the Bible in popularity, it seems right that we should pay our respects to the bard. Besides, it’s always an exhilarating experience decoding Elizabethan English, especially when the Actors from the London Stage perform. “... We are such stuff/As dreams are made on; and our little life/Is rounded with a sleep.”



### 2000s

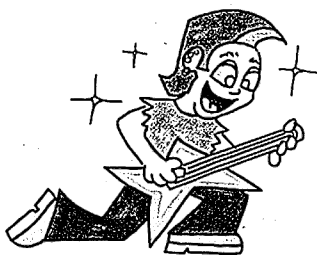
**What:** Make your own music video

**When:** Saturday, February 22, 8:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

**Where:** Sorin Room, LaFortune Student Center

**How much:** Free

**Why:** You know you’ve always imagined what it would be like to be a rock star. Well imagine no more, my friends. Flipside is providing the means — you deck yourself out in trendy duds and bring your smooth attitude.



# War Against Iraq: Too Many "Ifs"

by Dan Lindley

**S**addam Hussein is a determined proliferator of weapons of mass destruction, an evil man who has started two wars and has the blood of hundreds of thousands of his own citizens on his hands. Who wouldn't support a war to oust him? I would if the war was short, successful and did not cause too many deaths to our soldiers or to Iraqi civilians. If the war gained the support of a broad swath of other countries, and was supported by United Nations resolutions. If the war did not jeopardize other foreign policy priorities. And if the United States and its allies were committed to stability and democracy in Iraq, and could achieve both.

These are big "ifs." It is possible that a U.S./U.N. war against Iraq would be a success. But given current inadequate planning to turn the "ifs" into "yesses", the odds are against it. Today, the war is a bad bet.

Will the war be short? Probably. This is a decent bet because the Iraqi forces, and the key Republican Guard divisions, can read the writing on the wall. They will not fight a losing battle to save Saddam when they can be part of a new Iraqi army to which new equipment will soon flow.

The counterargument is that the Iraqis will be defending their homeland, and a nationalistic force on defender-friendly terrain can cause immense pain to any attackers.

Will we be willing to pay the blood price? Perhaps, but it might make the war politically unpopular. Consider that in the necessary

war in Afghanistan, the U.S. was not willing to risk our soldiers' lives when the enemy had attacked the U.S. and caused 3,000 U.S. deaths. Iraq did not attack the U.S. and nobody will ever know if they ever would. A war against Iraq will be almost thankless because no one will ever know what threat we prevented. The only sure things will be the casualties of this operation, and, hopefully, improved lives for Iraqis.

What of Iraqi civilian deaths? With Saddam fighting for his life, a good bet is that he will try to cause outrage against the U.S. He will place civilians at any target worth bombing. He will drag people from morgues (or kill them for the purpose) and scatter them at bombed targets. This will create gruesome pictures for the world press. Do we — should we — have the guts to see these scenes replayed in an optional war?

Will the war be considered a success if it prompts

Saddam to use WMD? What will we do if our troops or Israel are attacked with biological weapons? If we are fighting for the noble and just cause of saving lives, what if this war ends with an Israeli nuclear attack against Iraq? Even if the war goes well, what will the aftermath of an Iraqi war look like?

Most wars are bets, but some bets are worse than others. If we take the time to debate and avoid the rush to war, President Bush can use this time to markedly improve the odds of his bet. Reduce extremism by twisting arms and flowing billions to create a Palestinian state. Stabilize Afghanistan. Come up with concrete, funded plans for a post-war Iraq. Get the Joint Chiefs to publicly commit the forces to adequately peacekeep in Afghanistan and Iraq. Create domestic and international support for the war based on a shared sense of threat.

The debate over inspections and UN resolution 1441 has turned into a hall of mirrors where people see whatever supports their views. For proponents of war, if the inspections find nothing, then the Iraqis are lying because they have hidden their WMD. If they find something, then the Iraqis have not disarmed. For opponents of war, if the inspections find nothing, then the Iraqis have disarmed. If they find something, then the inspections are disarming Iraq.

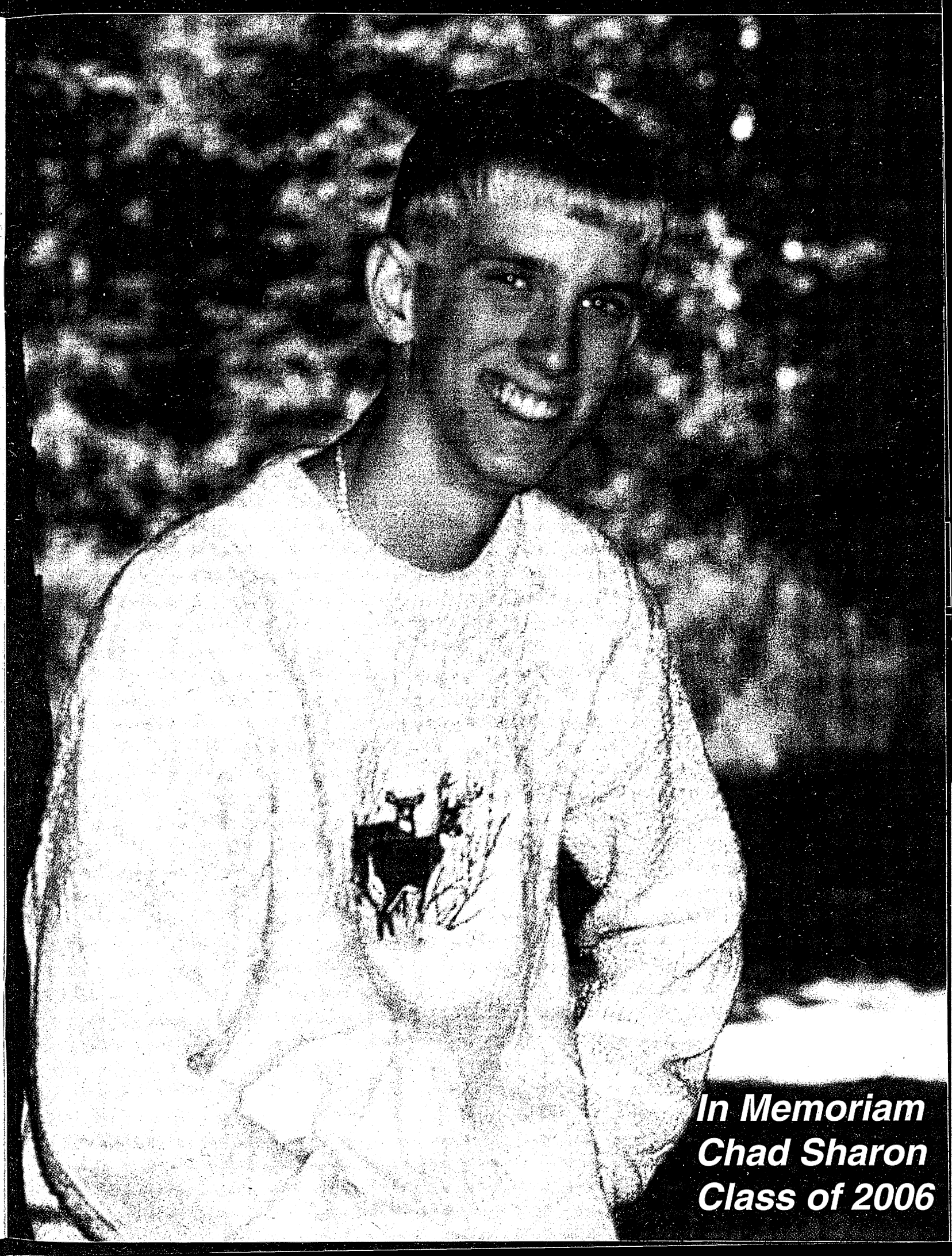
As chief weapons inspector Hans Blix indicates, Iraq is not cooperating on substance and is not disarming. Per U.N. resolutions since 1991 culminating in 1441, war is justified. Those using the U.N. system to delay war are playing into the hands of Saddam and justifiably earn the label of appeasers.

Unfortunately, the Bush/war vs. appeaser showdown at the U.N. is distracting. While a U.N. resolution explicitly authorizing force would in itself lower the risks of the war — and that is the substance in the U.N. debate — so would slowing down and planning to reduce those risks before war. The issue is not whether the war is legal; it surely is. Saddam Hussein is a liar, a cheat, and wants WMD more than ending deadly sanctions. The issues are whether war is wise, how the costs and benefits compare to alternatives, and what can be done to reduce the risks of war. As I write, war is inevitable, so the remaining tragedies lie in underplanning for the downside risks (and for capitalizing on the benefits).

This war may help reduce some threats, and exacerbate others, but it would be far more palatable if it were fit into a larger campaign to fight WMD terrorism. The campaign against terrorism requires international cooperation. One can hope that the war against Iraq will not reduce such cooperation. □

Most wars are bets, but some bets are worse than others. If we take the time to debate and avoid the rush to war, President Bush can use this time to markedly improve the odds of his bet.

*Dan Lindley is an assistant professor of Government and International Studies.*



***In Memoriam  
Chad Sharon  
Class of 2006***

**sub events**



**Punch Drunk Love**  
 Thursday 2/20 10 pm  
 Friday 2/21 8 and 10:30 pm  
 Saturday 2/22 8 and 10:30 pm  
 DeBartolo 101, \$3

**Collegiate Jazz Festival**  
 February 28 and March 1  
 6 pm, Washington Hall  
 Tickets at LaFortune Box Office



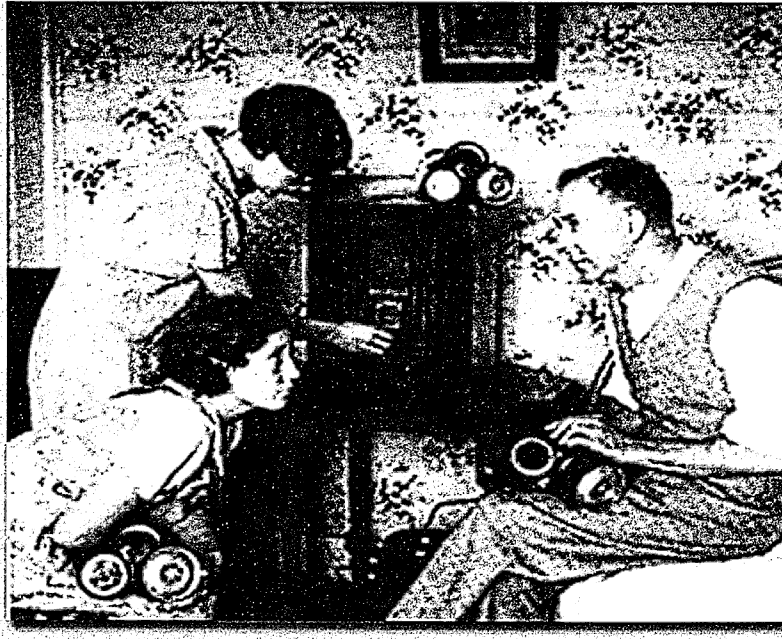
*Lads of Comedy*

Friday 2/21  
 9 pm  
 LaFortune Ballroom



**8 Mile**  
 Thursday 2/27 10 pm  
 Friday 2/28 8 & 10:30 pm  
 Saturday 3/1 8 & 10:30 pm  
 DeBartolo 101, \$3

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