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## FROM THE EDITOR

RESPOND TO: MKILLEN@ND.EDU

## **Two Different Worlds**

The new staff's first issue of *Scholastic* is supposed to be light-hearted. It's been a tradition each spring for it to present *Sarcastic*, a less-than-serious, not-quite-true account about the goings-on at Notre Dame. But then last Wednesday happened. Like anyone else, I was glued to my television as our nation went to war. Suddenly, our little adventure in collegiate satire seemed somewhat insignificant compared to the "shock and awe" of warfare.

There's that delicate balance to be struck between covering world-changing events and moving on with business as usual, and few people know where that balance lies — least of all me. But here goes.

*Scholastic* has asked students, faculty and administrators around campus to take some time and personally reflect on the situation in which the world finds itself. Many have been kind enough to share their thoughts. On page 4, Christopher Kelly presents the results of this endeavor.

At the same time, we proudly present the tradition that is *Sarcastic*. These are the stories so shocking, so secret, so utterly and completely false that the powers that be will deny their truth, even centuries after this issue's publication. But by then, our brains will be floating in jars of formaldehyde, attached to elaborate machinery. So life will be pretty sweet.

Until then, I shall leave this issue as proof that, beyond a doubt, our staff should all be fired immediately.

## **A Note of Thanks**

or the first time in many-a-moon, Sarah Childress was (probably) sleeping soundly when this magazine was finished early Wednesday morning. *Scholastic* thanks Sarah and all of the seniors who have selflessly devoted their time to this publication over the past few years. Farewell and good luck.

## Correction

n the previous issue of *Scholastic*, the article titled "Admitting Success" quoted from a document written by Dan Saracino, assistant provost for enrollment. The document was an op-ed piece, not an amicus brief. *Scholastic* regrets the error.

Matt

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SCHOLASTIC

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Disce Quasi Semper Victurus Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus

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look for ISSUE 12 on APR 10

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---Constitutions of Holy Cross, V.51



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



## Looking Inward Reflections on the war in Iraq

Scholastic asked various students and faculty members to provide us with personal reflections on the current situation in Iraq. We asked them three questions in light the developing events: How has this affected you personally? Do you feel safe? How do you feel that Notre Dame (as a community) should respond? Below is a sampling of the responses. To view the complete collection of responses, please visit www.nd.edu/~scholast/reflections.htm

"At this point, at this particular place and time, I feel physically safe enough, but I don't feel psychologically safe at all. I feel that 'we' — Americans grouped together, or at least Americans as seen by many in the world — have now made the world the most unsafe it has been since World War II."

-Jacqueline Brogan, professor of English

"...I think

the best way for the Notre Dame community to respond is simply through prayer

"I think it's important to keep the dialogue open and to remember that just because events have been set in motion we don't have any control over, it doesn't mean we can or should forget about them."

-Kim Fletcher, anthropology and CAPP major, member of Amnesty International

"As an American, I do feel very safe. I feel safe knowing the FBI and other agencies are tracking down those bent on terrorism within our borders. I feel safe knowing that American armed forces, the CIA and others are tracking down those engaged in terrorism outside our borders ... I feel safe knowing that our country, as a whole, puts its trust in God."

-LTC Mosinski, Department Chair and professor of military science

"The recent events have affected me in a profound way because I know that the people fighting this war are my age or slightly older. This realization has given me a deeper respect for the sacrifices that the members of our armed forces make every day on and off the battlefield." —Chris Hammer, political science major

"Certainly, regardless of one's views about the rightness of the war, we can pray for the safety of our troops, and for the civilians of Iraq, and even, because Christ commands it, for our enemies in Iraq. We can pray for a quick end to the hostilities, and for the wisdom and grace that will allow something good to emerge from the ashes of the war. And when the end of the hostilities arrives, ND should also provide appropriate opportunities to give thanks for the victory, but also to mourn for the dead."

> —The Reverend Steven Brey, instructor of theology

"When will we elevate ourselves from the trenches nationalism, of intolerance and greed, into the waiting arms of love, compassion and mercy?"

> Michael Poffenberger, peace studies major

"The community [of Notre Dame] should be calling for our government to act justly. Violence cannot be used to put an end to violence..."

—Tom Samaras, computer engineering major

"As a citizen, I feel as safe as any other time in my life. While I do feel that the threat of terrorism on our soil is, at this moment, as high as it has ever been, I refuse to succumb to it and fail to see such a 'threat' as confronting my own safety."

---Nicholas Anhut, political science and philosophy major, ROTC student

"I do not believe that the university needs take a stand for or against the war. Many students have fathers, mothers, brothers and friends who are serving in our military, and we should do what we can to support them. But I think the best way for the Notre Dame community to respond is simply through prayer — prayer for the safety of our troops, for the safety of Iraqi civilians, for a quick end to the conflict and for a just peace to come."

—Kathleen Collins, assistant professor of political science and Fellow of Kellogg Institute for International Peace Studies

"I believe that Notre Dame must respond as a leader. As a both a top university and a Catholic one, we need to find ways to aid in the rebuilding of Iraq and to work for peace in the region when the war ends. Right now, we must be supportive of the men and women fighting and

"The recent events have affected me in a profound way because I know that the people fighting this war are my age or slightly older."

quick with aid to the civilians being affected."

—Patrick Hallahan, political science and history major, student body president

- Compiled by Christopher Kelly

The expressed views are not necessarily those of Scholastic.

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





Got the urge?™ The Huddle- LaFortune Student Center



## **Putting a Boatload of Fines to Use** ResLife's "Fine Fund" assists students in need

### **EILEENVARGA**

he 231 underage students busted at the Boat Club can now take comfort in the fact that they are indirectly helping their fellow Domers. While students may think the university directly profits, the many Residence Life and Housing fines handed out as a result of the January bar raid will actually be used to subsidize miscellaneous student needs.

The fines typically ranged from \$150 to \$200, but students did not have to complete the community service hours that usually accompany ResLife citations. Lori Maurer, Residence Life associate director, estimates that the total fines from the Boat Club bust were "very close" to \$30,000, leading some students to joke that their tavern-going should be paying for another student's tuition.

All ResLife fines feed into a "Fine Fund" that is managed by Student Affairs and assists students with unforeseen expenditures not covered by financial aid. For example, it covers some of the financial needs of campus sexual assault victims and their family members. Also, the fund is used if a



student cannot afford a diagnostic test, such as a learning-disability assessment. In most cases, a student pays what he or she can, and the fund absorbs the difference.

"Because the fund aids students in need,

it's not really publicized," says Bill Kirk, assistant vice president of Residence Life and Housing and the administrator of the

> Fine Fund. He adds that some students prefer to pay back what is donated, seeing the money as a temporary loan.

The Fine Fund can also subsidize transportation to and from campus if a student demonstrates significant financial need. Recently, the fund paid for the university-owned plane to fly the parents of Chad Sharon to Notre Dame, and for the hosting of the Sharon family.

Previous uses of the fund, which included sending flowers and gift baskets to the faculty and staff, have been discontinued because they.do

not benefit students.

"We're very conscientious about having appropriate reasons to use the fund," says Kirk. "We always want to make sure that it flows back to the students."

## Ten Questions

with the — wait, where'd he go? ...



From levitating over the Grand Canyon to walking through The Great Wall of China, and even making The Statue of Liberty vanish, David Copperfield has entranced audiences on an international scale. He has had 18 award-winning prime-time television specials that have reached an estimated three billion viewers in over 40 countries. The master of illusion recently materialized on the stage of South Bend's Morris Performing Arts Center, adding to his count of over 550 sold-out shows. Between his escaping and disappearing acts, Scholastic managed to find out a few of the magic man's secrets.

At 12, you were the youngest inductee into the Society of American Magicians.

### Was magic simply a hobby to you?

It was my hobby, what I had a knack for ... As a kid, I went to the library and took out all the books on magic. I was teaching magic at NYU when I was 16. I auditioned and they picked me. It was quite an honor!

# How long does it typically take to formulate and perfect a routine for performance?

About two years, but flying took seven.

## What inspired some of your recent illusions?

Lately, I've found that my inspirations are people's dreams. No one dreams of disappearing, so I do things like make a car appear on stage, or traveling to a desert island.

Emaillus competing to the state of the state

Une college of other comments to <u>SCHOLAST@ND.EDU</u> HEY YOU!



**17 Years Ago** Sweeter than Sbarro

When the large rear addition to LaFortune was completed in 1986, the businesses that called it home were much less brandname. The Huddle's pizza was served from the Leprechaun Pizza Company bar. In the basement, The Country Harvester sold nuts and fruits, and a student-run store called The Cellar sold records, tapes and CDs. *Scholastic* described the candy store located where Sbarro is now:

"The Sweet Shop ... will carry homemade fudge, 16 or 17 flavors of Bonnie Doon ice cream, popcorn, and a large selection of candies."

The Sweet Shop didn't boast the cheese or grease that Sbarro offers, but at least students still had a tasty way to clog arteries and rot teeth.

With the arrivals of Burger King, Subway and Sbarro, the Huddle has upgraded to better known restaurants, perhaps losing a kind of personal feel from the past. Long live Buen Provecho!

— Sean Dudley

## Has anything ever backfired or put you in danger?

Every night I'm doing stuff that's extremely dangerous ... Right now I'm doing sleight of hand with a black African scorpion. Mistakes happen all the time, but I have to cover it and make sure no one can see it.

David Copperfield's Tales of the Impossible draws upon your magic profession in fictional form. What inspired you to capture this in writing? I was a big fan of Rod Sterling and Alfred Hitchcock in the '50s and '60s ... They both got writers to write about their passion. I got the best writers, like Joyce Carol Oates and Dean Koontz, to contribute. I also wrote a

story, which was pretty scary for me.

### Project Magic is a program that you have started for the rehabilitation of the disabled. How does sleight of hand movement help?

It helps dexterity; it's a therapeutic goal. It started when I got a letter from a young magician who was also disabled ... and the program has been going now for 20 years.

## Do you find it more difficult performing on television or in person?

TV is actually harder for me because it's going to last longer. I enjoy the process of working in front of an audience. I'm always developing new things little by little, and when it becomes good enough, I put it in the show.

If you could influence something in the

## world today through magic, what would you do?

Make people get along with each other.

### As the first person to escape from Alcatraz, have you ever been solicited by prisoners for the secret?

No one has contacted me as of yet ... I thought I'd get more calls.

## What is it about magic that transcends cultural and language differences?

We really need it. We need to dream, especially in times like this. We need to be transported, and magic, in a very profound way, does that.

— Tracy Evans



PLASTIC GROTTO CANDLES Does this mean that our prayers aren't worth as much anymore?

### SOFT CHARMIN T.P. IN THE PASQUERILLA CENTER Sure, it's a hike at 9 a.m., but

ROTC funds ensure that your baby-soft skin stays that way.

CEREAL STATIONS AT NORTH

Having cups within a three square mile radius would help, but the new dispensers are cool when they don't fall apart, and the cereal is closer to the milk.

A LATE EASTER IN APRIL Only two weeks before finals, Easter break will be a perfect time for professors to turn the long weekend into a paper-writing, project-finishing first round of study days.

### WARMER WEATHER

Although the sun may bring more weather jokes from everyone's favorite comics, it still means lighter hearts, a prettier campus and more quad sunbathing.

### ENTERTAINMENT FORTNIGHTLY

Too Many Superheroes ... Hollywood's recent success in the comic book film genre is approaching overkill

## RYANGREENE

he golden age of comics may be long gone, but Marvel Comics' characters like The X-Men, Spider-Man and Daredevil are as popular as ever, as comic book films have taken theatergoers and critics by storm in the last few years.

Fantastic ticket sales and mild critical acclaim have been enough to whip Hollywood into a comic book feeding frenzy. With two comics films nearing release and at least another seven in the works or under serious consideration.

the industry might find itself choking on all the spandex-clad craziness.

The recent boom began in 1998, with the release of *Blade*. Based on the little-

known Marvel Comics character, it featured Wesley Snipes as a half-man, half-vampire dedicated to annihilating a worldwide subculture of blood-sucking fiends.

Blade's success, despite its gore and sexual content, helped pave the way for the lighter fare of Marvel's two biggest hits, *X-Men* and *Spider-Man*. Both films embody what one would expect of a comic book film: young men and women in silly costumes fighting bad guys with the aid of spectacular powers. And fans couldn't get enough of it.

Ben Affleck's stint as a blind, crime-fighting lawyer in *Daredevil* generated a fairly impressive gross and varied critical success, despite leaving a rumored 30 minutes of runtime on the cutting room floor.

While the comics film renaissance is a welcome turn of events — after director Joel

Fantastic ticket sales and mild critical acclaim have been enough to whip Hollywood into a comic book feeding frenzy.



Schumacher single-handedly ruined the Batman franchise in the atrocious *Batman and Robin* — the concept of too much of a good thing is one idea Marvel seems happy to ignore. Instead, much like the reality-show boom, the folks in charge seem intent on milking their success for all it's worth, despite the danger it poses to the long-term popularity of comics films.

To wit: *X-Men 2* hits theaters May 2, with *The Hulk*, the Ang Lee-directed flick about the savage green behemoth, slated for

release in August. While that might sound reasonable, there's more. Marvel is also working on a plethora of films focusing on both well-known and obscure characters. These projects include several films ranging

from the web-slinger's sequel, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, to *X-Men* spin-offs featuring Hugh Jackman's character, Wolverine, and Halle Berry's character, Storm.

This already is a lot for fans to chew on without Warner Bros. trying to get in on the action. The company has been trying for years to revive their once-popular Batman and Superman franchises, and seems on the cusp of finally doing so. Films about both characters are in the works, as is one featuring the well-known villain Catwoman (starring Halle Berry).

Sooner or later, studios will let quality suffer in favor of excessive visuals and action — picture what George Lucas did to Yoda, and you're halfway there. The public will tire of the weaker fare in a flash, leaving loyal comics fans wondering where all their favorite heroes have gone.

## **DomeLights** COMPILED BY SEAN DUDLEY

Source: The 2002-2003 Notre Dame Men's Basketball Media Guide

The men's basketball team has advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1987. Although the Irish have never made it to the championship game, there is a lot in Notre Dame men's basketball history to be proud of. For example, only six teams have more top ten finishes in the AP rankings than Notre Dame: Kentucky, North Carolina, Duke, UCLA, Kansas and Indiana. Here are some other interesting Irish stats (win-loss records are pre-Arizona 3/27/03 game):

Number of trips to the NCAA tournament: 27 (including this year) Number of Irish players who have played in the NBA: 55 Record of Notre Dame men's basketball since 1898: 1547-837 (.649)

Number of trips to the Final Four: 2 Number of end-of-season top ten AP rankings: 14 Record under current head coach Mike Brey: 66-30 (.688)



## University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Students

# The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs

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

### **Office of Campus Ministry**

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources in 304 Co-Mo; confidential discussion and support) *Contact: Fr. J. Steele, CSC, at* Steele.31@nd.edu

## **University Counseling Center**

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

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





# conflicting interests The university tries to resolve scheduling conflicts and curb Thursday-night drinking

MIKEBORGIA

o collegiate scheduling system will ever be perfect, and Notre Dame's is no exception. 75-minute courses conflict with 50-minute ones. Students are forced to choose among desired courses scheduled for the same block of time. Professors must vie for use of valuable and heavily-demanded teaching technologies. Small classes are sometimes assigned to large lecture halls, while in other classrooms, students are forced to sit on the stairs. Regarding the campus's social scene, some faculty and administrators worry that the Thursday night has become the beginning of the weekend for students. A recent Academic Council proposal sought to solve all these problems with a single change.

In the spring of 2001, the university began to take a serious look at its scheduling difficulties. At the April 23 meeting of the Academic Council that year, Mark Roche, dean of the College of Arts and Letters and chair of the Undergraduate Studies committee at the time, expressed his committee's concerns over three specific problems, the first and most significant flicts resulting from the large number of classes being scheduled at a few specific times.

The university currently offers three main course schedules: one comprised of 50-minute courses on MWF, and two comprised of 75-minute courses on MW or TH According to statistics from the Office of the Registrar, scheduling conflicts are most common during the 75-minute FH time slots at 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and the 50-minute MWF slots in the late morning and early afternoon when a substatitial majority of those courses are scheduled. For example, approximately, 66 percent of Arts and Detters MWF courses commence between the hours of 10:40 and 1:55 - only about 44 percent of the college available 50-minute time slots on those days. Having such a large number of courses concurrently scheduled often makes it difficult or students to go. Registrar Dr. Harold Pace. "If we group an on our classes in the middle of the day, students in efficient. Students in the middle of the day, students in efficient. Many people see [this:issue]-as a class "Many people see [ for students to get the classes they want, says Registrar Dr. Harold Pace. "If we group all of are going to have a hard time putting together a schedule because a lot of things are going to conflict.

art, from the significant freedom that Notre at a premium making it difficult to match up

Dame allows its faculty and departments in creating their schedules, Pace says. "[The departments] are scheduling their classes for their instructors to meet the specific needs in that department at the times that they think are best." The departments commonly schedule classes in the middle of the day based on convenience, without considering that the other departments are doing likewise, Pace explains.

An increasing popularity in the two-day-aweek MW and TH courses has exacerbated scheduling issues. Says Ava Preacher, associate dean of the College of Arts and Letters: "There's a push to become a research institution, so faculty don't want to teach three days a week when they can teach two. Therefore [the two-day-a-week time slots] are becoming more and more in demand." Faculty members prefer to teach fewer days a week "so that they have more options for giving lectures elsewhere and for concentrated work on their own projects," explained Roche in a later Academic Council meeting.

"Pedagogically speaking," Preacher says, of which concerned the substantial course con- . "the longer, two-days-a-week courses make more sense for a lot of arts and letters and business courses which are based on discussion." But this increased popularity has had some adverse effects, adding to the already substantial TH scheduling difficulty and to the conflict between the MW and MWF courses. One 75-minute block occupies two 50-minute time slots.

> Although the university tried to minimize the MW/MWF conflict by allowing only 400 level courses and above to use the MW rotaexample, lists all major courses as 400-level or above.

Related to the problem of schedule conflicts is the Undergraduate Studies committee sisecond concern that of classroom space and technology allocation. The minutes from the 2001 Academic Council

peak times, large lecture halls and classrooms that are equipped with special technology are

all the courses with their specific needs. "We physically have the technology to meet all student and faculty needs, it's just a matter of using it efficiently."

These inefficiencies are very pervasive on Tuesday and Thursday, again at the 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. timeslots. At 11:00 a.m., for example, the College of Arts and Letters holds 166 classes — the most taught by any college at the university during a single time slot, putting a serious strain on available classroom space. In comparison, the college holds only 68 classes during the 10:40 slot on Wednesday. As a result, specific classrooms and technologies are unavailable at some times while sitting unused at others.

Pace, however, does not see resource allocation as the real problem since when needed classrooms or technologies are not available, classes are simply forced to meet at another time. "The problem, as we see it, is making sure that students are able to schedule the courses they need to get through the institution in four years."

The concerns of the Academic Council, went beyond both course conflicts and resource allocation, however. In a proposal submitted -by the Undergraduate Studies committee to the Academic Council at the April 2001 meeting, a third concern was listed - the so-called "Friday Problem."

According to the proposal, due to the heavy use of the two-day-a-week MW and TH schedules, "15.4 percent fewer classes are offered on Fridays vis-a-vis Mondays through Thursday. The drop-off in Friday classes has been related tion, departments side-stepped the restriction, to the issue of student drinking over extended Pace says. The Department of English, for \*\* weekends .... We believe ... that one of the strategies [to curb student drinking] should involve increasing the number of classes that are offered on Fridays in relationship to the overconcentration of classes earlier in the week." The underuse of Friday also means cramming classes into the other four weekdays, therefore worsening scheduling conflicts and allocative inefficiencies. The committee proposed two possible policy changes aimed at both resolving scheduling and resource issues and at countering Thursday night drinking.

The first proposal called for a regulation allowing no department to offer more than 65 percent of its courses during prime time and



EXIT AT YOUR OWN RISK Although often packed, DeBartolo Hall is relatively empty on Friday afternoons.

requiring that 20 percent be taught on Fridays. The proposal further recommended that MF and WF schedules be instituted in addition to the pre-existing MW one.

The committee's second proposal was geared specifically at increasing the number of two-day-a-week courses. This model, developed by Sam Gaglio of the College of Business, recommended that a new calendar be implemented including 75-minute MH and TF courses, and the offering of MWF courses at only four time slots spread throughout the day. This proposal does not intrude on the faculty and department's substantial scheduling freedom, unlike the first.

At the April 2001 Academic Council meeting, Roche and other members of the Undergraduate Studies committee presented these proposals to the Council members. Of the 32 members present, 10 said they favored the first proposal, 21 the second, and one abstained. A year later, the committee returned with a different solution.

The April 30, 2002 meeting revisited the scheduling issue. There, Roche and the Undergraduate Studies committee presented another proposal to resolve concerns including the "Friday Problem." In the "Proposed Resolution to the Academic Council on Course Scheduling" prepared by Pace, it was recommended that the current MW schedule be replaced by a WF one. The plan was approved by the council with only one opposing vote and was scheduled to take effect this semester.

The issue was far from resolved. "After the proposal was approved ... we got a lot of reaction about how it really wouldn't work because of various things that we hadn't really thought about," Preacher says. Among the major criticisms were the arguments that Friday is used as a traveling day by professors and athletes.

Further, trying to schedule tutorials, which require many small classrooms, along with 50-minute and 75-minute courses would cause a glut on Friday. Pace amended to the proposal the moving of tutorials from Friday to Monday. According to Preacher, however, this change did not make sense for many faculty members who felt that having a Friday tutorial after Monday and Wednesday lectures was most practical.

For many, though, the idea just seemed ineffective. The main problem with the proposal, Preacher says, is that it "wasn't really solving the problem that [the subcommittee] thought it was solving." The change would transport the problem from Friday to Monday more than it would resolve scheduling concerns. Melissa Rauch, a student member of the Academic Council, believed that given the proposal's ineffectiveness in solving issues of high course concentration at certain times, the real goal was to curb Thursday-night drinking.

There was also some concern as well over how well the proposal actually addressed the "Friday Problem." According to the 2002 minutes, some asked if Thursday- night drinking would simply be shifted to Sunday night drinking. Roche doubted that it would, given the current use of Sunday as a day for studying and attending Mass. Rauch argued that students would continue to drink on Thursday despite the change. Fellow student member Samantha Schmid, however, argued that the change would in fact address the "Friday Problem," as students who had assignments due on Friday would be unlikely to go out on Thursday night.

In the face of such heavy criticism, the Council officially reversed its decision at its December 3, 2002 meeting. Says Preacher: "We realized that you can't solve both [scheduling and allocative problems] and the 'Friday Problem' with one proposal." The Undergraduate Studies committee will explore alternative options "to address the issues that gave rise to the original proposal."

Although these issues are still being addressed, Pace does not foresee any large changes in the near future. "The fact is, students aren't yet having that much difficulty in getting the classes they need to graduate and many would rather deal with these conflicts than go to class at 8:00 on Monday or 5:00 on Friday." So while it may not be any easier during the upcoming registration period for students to get the classes they want, many will be thankful in light of the alternative.



They make the decisions. They pull the strings. Scholastic finds out who they are.

#### JIMRYAN\_

hen Notre Dame students think of who's in charge, a few names immediately come to mind: Monk, Poorman, Hesburgh.

However, the halls of the Morris Inn tell of different names — the people who actually control the university. Peering from photographs on the hotel's corridor wall are the men and women of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees. While some of the names are familiar - Mc-Glinn, Haggar, Siegfried — the group works in relative anonymity compared to the officers of the university whom they appoint. The men and women who comprise the board are charged with "all powers for the governance of the university," according to the university bylaws. With ultimate governing control over a myriad of university operations and activities, the board is heavily involved with the decisions that impact student life.

With ultimate governing control over the university, the board of trustees obviously has a tremendous impact on the student body. One of the youngest board members, Sharmien C. Swinton '96, a consultant with Accenture in Houston, worries that students are not sufficiently informed about the board's work. "I don't remember as a student paying attention to the board of trustees," she says. "I encourage the students to make themselves more aware [of the board] and get to know [what they do]." Swinton works on the Student Affairs committee and cites her committee's work on the Strategic Plan as one of its most notable accomplishments during her

tenure. The Strategic Plan is rewritten every ten years and establishes goals for the university in the decade to follow. Included in this plan is the framework for new dorms and the future of the campus structure. She is also proud of the committee's work with the new alcohol policy. Though the Student Affairs committee did not write the policy, committee meetings have included significant dialogue about the policy with the Rev. Mark Poorman, C.S.C., vice president for Student Affairs. While Swinton acknowledges that it is notpopular with the students, she believes in the policy, saying, "I am proud to see the reduction of incidents and accidents that relate to the alcohol policy."

Another important duty of the Student Affairs committee is to hear from the student body president. The president typically gives a 60- to 90-minute presentation at every board meeting. Student Body President Libby Bishop spoke with the Student Affairs committee in October and February, and is due to speak again in May. Included in her presentations have been suggestions for alternative living at Notre Dame, including the possibility of coed dorms, and advice on ways to improve SYRs. Bishop says the committee was "very responsive" to her suggestions. While the board did not call specifically for coed dorms in its Strategic Plan, Bishop maintains that the board remains open to that possibility. And, while it intends to stick with the new SYR rules for at least one or two more years, Bishop says that the board will ensure that Student Affairs makes the

most popular on-campus dance venues more available, and that Student Affairs annually allocates \$1,000 to each dorm for dances.

But alcohol policy changes and indorm dances weren't on the agenda at the board's inception over 150 years ago. Beginning in 1844, a board of trustees consisting of six Holy Cross priests exercised ultimate control over the university. In 1920, the university established the Associate Board of Lay Trustees that served in an advisory capacity, but had no official powers of governance. The power structure changed dramatically in 1967, when the University Fellows replaced the sixman Holy Cross board. The Fellows, consisting of six Holy Cross priests and six laypeople, received all power and authority granted by the university's charter. They delegated most of that authority to a new board of trustees, predominantly consisting of laypeople. According to Dennis Moore, associate vice president of Public Affairs and Communication, the change in power was a reaction to the Second Vatican Council. "In the immediate aftermath of the Second Vatican Council there was an emphasis of the Church to involve. laypeople in positions of control," says Moore. "Among the institutions that reacted fastest were Catholic colleges." He adds that Notre Dame was one of the first Catholic colleges in the country to grant official power to a predominately lay board.

Currently there are 57 trustees on the board, though university bylaws stipulate that the number may fluctuate between 30 and 60. Certain people automatically become trustees by virtue of their office. These *ex officio* trustees include the 12 University Fellows, the provost, the executive vice president and the president of the university and the president-elect of the Alumni Association. The Fellows are charged with appointing the remainder of the board. The Rev. Paul Doyle, C.S.C., rector of Dillon Hall and trustee from 1991 to 1997, says the Fellows look for people with expertise in their fields and influence within the university, seeking those who have contacts with and goodwill for the university. Sev-

eral business minds fill the board,

with 23 of the trustees serving as chairman, president or CEO of their respective companies and several more occupying executive positions. Lawyers, educators, and clerics also serve on the board. Among the members are Mary Anne Fox, chancellor of North Carolina State University, William J. Shaw, president and CEO of Marriott International, Inc., and Judge Anne Clare Williams of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Past trustees include Donald R. Keough, former-COO and director of the Coca-Cola Company and Condoleezza Rice, former provost of Stanford University and current National Security Advisor.

The university bylaws call for the board of trustees to elect a chairperson who will preside over meetings and appoint *ad hoc* committees,

among other duties. Currently, the chairperson is Patrick F. McCartan, managing partner of the prestigious Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue law firm. The bylaws also state, "Two trustees shall be recent graduates of the university, one male and one female, under the age of thirty at the time of their election who shall serve only onethree-year term." Currently, the twounder-30 Trustees are David J. Sullivan '96, a teacher from Salinas, Calif., and Swinton. Of her unique role on the Board, Swinton says, "I am not so far removed from what student life is like ... It is important to have people with a

different outlook to best suit the needs of young people," adding that, "[Being on the board] is an awesome opportunity for me to shape the future of the place I love."

The board of trustees meets three times a year: during the first weekend of October, February and May. The October and May meetings are held on campus, while the February meeting is typically held elsewhere — usually in Florida, where many of the trustees spend their winters.

Athletic Affairs, Facilities and Campus Planning, and Compensation.

Despite so many separate committees, the only direct communication between the board and the student body is through their meetings with the student body president. Commenting on the interaction

between the

THE EYES FOLLOW YOU AROUND THE ROOM Photographs of board of trustee members adorn the main corridor wall of The Morris Inn. Past and present board members include judges, CEOs, politicians, priests, and lawyers.

Doyle says that, at these meetings, the board works to "give direction" to the university. Among the board's specific duties are appointing the president and other officers when necessary, writing and updating the mission statement, and approving construction and other major financial endeavors. To accomplish these and other duties, the board is separated into 11 committees that specialize in a specific aspect of the university: Executive, Governance and Nominating, Academic and Faculty Affairs, Student Affairs, Investment and Finance, University Relations, Social Values and Responsibilities, Audit,

board and the students, Bishop says, "Ideally, there could be more, but realistically, [the trustees] are some of the busiest people in the world." She insists that the trustees "do know what's going on" with regard to student sentiment, as many of them read *The Observer* and have children who are students or recent graduates of the university. Doyle concurs with the Bishop's contention that the board shows tremendous concern for the students, asserting that the board of trustees is "all about students."



appy spring, Gipplings. The Gipp hopes y'all had a memorable St. Paddy's Day — of which you remember nothing. As long as you didn't jump off any balconies and ruin the fun for the rest of us, you're in good favor with Uncle Gipp. We've got a full plate of tips this week, so let's dig in.

### Let Me See That

Near the end of February, one of South Quad's palaces experienced a flood in its basement. To clear the pipes, ND Maintenance Services brought in a machine with some serious giddy-up. However, this machine, which the workers supposedly claimed could "blow the guts out of anything," popped out something that you don't find in our dorm pipes everyday - a red thong from Victoria's Secret. According to our tipster, he and the rest of the amused hall staff are curiously looking for the culprit of this heinous crime, which, by the way, would only be newsworthy at two places - Notre Dame and a retirement home for priests. The Gipp is left to ask one simple favor: The next time you Zahmbies bring your "Boys' Night Out" activities to other dorms' bathrooms, please remember to take all of your party supplies home with you.

### Please Burn My Eyes

Here's some advice for the investigators of the hanky-panky described above: The owner of this undergarment in question is *not* a certain dorm's rectress. This sista' still owns her unmentionables, and proudly displays them to anyone who happens to live in or visit her dorm. The Gipp has been informed that many eyes have painfully witnessed this naughty nun walking around wearing nothing more than a green Notre Dame shirt and white cotton Hanes. And we're not talking about walking around the room with the door open. This sight can supposedly be seen all hours of the night in all parts of the dorm. Like most of you readers, the Gipp is still very confused as to the reason behind this display. However, the Gipp is very thankful that no photograhic evidence was included with this tip.

### I Guess You Had to Be There .

A few weeks ago, some Irish students decided to celebrate Fat Tuesday by — gasp! — drinking on a weekday. According to these party animals, "after a few drinks, (Gipp's translation: two) my friends, with their Mardi Gras masks on, proceeded to go to Coleman Morse Center with beads around their necks." Two of the rebels then tossed beads out to those studying in the lounge. The End.

Still waiting for the funny part? So is the Gipp. Boys and girls, this is embarrassing. The combination of college girls, alcohol and beads whose sole function is to make people do tip-worthy deeds should lead to much, much more than non-stories such as this one. Fortunately for the Gipp, any depression brought on by reading this last tale was easily overcome by tips from God's gift to debauchery, a.k.a. spring break. But, please, don't read on if you're currently consuming food. Seriously.

### Three's Company

Our next adventure concerns a fairly high-profile ND student vacationing on a sunny island. Our friend and his drunken cronies were socializing in a nightclub (hopefully not past 2 a.m.), when he decided he needed to use the establishment's men's room. The bathroom was momentarily empty, because, says our tipster, most males were busy watching some sort of "wet T-shirt contest." (Not being able to locate these key words in the index of DuLac, the Gipp hopes all Irish students closed their eyes for the duration of this heathen display.) Alone in the bathroom, this fine exemplar of Notre Dame was using the facilities for their designed purpose when his dinner started to come back up.

So, with the southern river still flowing, he leaned over and let it out into the urinal.

As if simultaneously emitting two bodily fluids wasn't enough, this Gippling then felt something knocking at the back door. And then it happened: Standing in the middle of the restroom, he let the snake creep out of the hole, thus completing the trifecta of human byproducts. If this illustration didn't rile you up enough, reread this story the next time you're consuming oatmeal, chocolate and lemonade at the same time.

Some tips make the Gipp laugh. Others, like the previous narrative, make the Gipp cringe. And then some tips, well, just read on for yourself ...

### Bottoms Up

During his break from academia, one Domer decided that he could not completely leave his biochemical knowledge behind. This student reasoned that his mouth was not the most efficient in-hole when one desires rapid intoxication. So the sailor grabbed a bottle of a local brew and decided to follow a simple five step process: 1.) Lay naked on your back. 2.) Pull legs back over head. 3.) Apply lubrication to both the battleship and the port. 4.) Insert gently. 5.) Repeat steps one through four the following night, using vodka instead of beer. The catcher was supposedly on record saying "It was not ribbed for my pleasure - I'll tell you that." Have fun explaining that one to your future wife. Wait, sorry ... future life partner.

The Gipp knows it's hard to follow a story like that, but don't be discouraged. You have two weeks to top our pal, Penetration Pete, so get cracking on finding foreign objects to place in underutilized parts of your body. Some words for motivation: It may hurt going in, but the glory the Gipp will thrust upon you is well worth it. SUBWAY ASKS, "PICKLES?"

IS IT REALLY PEANUT BUTTER JELLY TIME?

 $\mathbf{SII()}$ 



NOTRE DAME'S INSENSITIVE MAGAZINE

# DOME MARY TO DON ADIDAS WARMUPS

> Discreet logo added to Main Building

OLDER THAN MOSES

odlogs

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# Student Smells Alcohol on Roommate's Breath

NDSP in breathalyzing frenzy, university officials "deeply disappointed"

### ROYCETHIBIDEAUX

nott Hall freshman Andrew Granger reported smelling alcohol on the breath of his roommate, Michael McAtee, an incident in apparent violation of both the university's alcohol policy and Indiana law regarding underage consumption, sources told *Sarcastic* Tuesday.

NDSP is currently investigating the incident, and there are no suspects.

"It was really weird," said Granger, a prospective theology/philosophy major from St. Charles high school in Columbus, Ohio. "At the beginning of the semester, our rector gave us these big lectures about drinking — how to recognize signs of alcohol poisoning, what you can and can't bring into the dorms and so on — but I always assumed they were just getting it out of the way so they didn't have to bother talking to us individually when we turned 21. Which is, of course, when we'll finally be able to drink."

Granger reportedly questioned McAtee regarding his whereabouts when McAtee arrived back at their room at approximately 3 a.m. Sunday morning. McAtee allegedly responded by mumbling something about "Reckers with some friends" before collapsing on Granger's futon. Granger claimed that McAtee's movements were somewhat uncoordinated, and that his breath smelled vaguely of Jim Beam, a brand of bourbon whiskey popular among those of legal drinking age.

"I know my dad likes to drink it sometimes, so I remembered smelling it before, but it was really odd that Mike would have eaten something at Reckers that smelled so much like bourbon," Granger remarked. "Maybe they marinate their sandwiches in it or something. I mean, we can't even *buy* alcohol anywhere, let alone manage to get it onto campus supposing we somehow found a half-empty bottle or something."

Added Granger, "It's not like the kids here would break the law or anything."

When reached for comment, Shill Smirk, assistant vice president of Residence Life, called the incident "disappointing and certainly atypical of the traditional student experience within the Notre Dame family."

"Certainly we're upset if somehow this impressionable student was able to procure alcohol — perhaps from a disgruntled T.A. or drunken vagrant — but the fact remains that this is just not the sort of thing that normally occurs. I'm not sure if you were aware, but 75 percent of the alcohol here on campus is drunk by only 28 percent of the student body. Or, wait, maybe it was 28 percent of the alcohol is drunk by 75 percent of the stution of McAtee himself. A business major from Topeka, Kansas, and a self-described "potential dynamo," McAtee earned the coveted moniker of "the Tank" at freshman orientation activities, presumably for an ability to consume and retain large quantities of food and soft drinks in a short period of time. His portion of the room is also adorned with various posters advertising or providing mixing recipes for alcoholic beverages — a strange temptation, considering he must wait

When does

 $b\Sigma e^{r} = f(u)^{n}$ ?

Always.

dent body. Whatever. I know that 91 percent d o n ' t smoke on a regular b a s i s, though. "This

interview is over," a d d e d Smirk, before having media

members escorted from the premises.

If the smell is indeed confirmed as bourbon, the incident would mark approximately the 23,512th time that a student has somehow violated the Notre Dame alcohol policy. The number has risen dramatically in the past year, presumably in response to the university's recent ban on hard alcohol, in-hall dances and fun.

"They're basically good kids," said the Rev. Gin Scuzzy on a routine hall inspection, sidestepping the body of an unconscious student lying in the hallway. "Every now and then you have a few bad apples come through, but most are just up for a quiet game of euchre or some TV-watching most Saturday nights. And Flipside is always doing something fun, like hayrides or potholder making. Honestly, I don't even know why kids would *want* to drink."

He then suggested the hall staff clean up residual vomit from section 3A's ongoing influenza epidemic.

Most puzzling in the incident is the reac-

over two years before he can finally imbibe any such beverages.

McAtee claims he had no idea why his breath would smell of alcohol, adding that it had nothing to do with a "monster-ass blowout" over in College Park with Pete, JJ, and Sully.

Commenting on his roommate's inquisitive nature, McAtee remarked, "Well, you know, it's sort of like the nature of the beast when you get a freshman year roommate, you know? I mean, I could have gotten some weird foreign kid, and I guess Andy's OK, since he doesn't smell bad or worship Buddha or anything, but it's just like Nazi Russia coming back to my room some nights, you know? It's cool that he's all concerned and everything, but I just need my space. It's not my fault if the kid wouldn't know a good time if it handed him a 40, but he doesn't need to be hassling me about every damn thing I do, right? 'I smelled alcohol on his breath?' Honestly, who says that?"

Added McAtee, "Douche."

# **Kibby Dissolves Student Senate**

## Declares herself omnipotent, pending university approval

DOWNYFRESH

n a bold move Thursday, student body president Kibby Mishap formally dissolved Notre Dame's Student Senate and declared herself the Sovereign Student Premier.

"I want you all to know that as much as I appreciate your input, I don't really care what you say," Mishap told the senate at what soon became the body's final meeting. "I'm the president, and that means I make the deci-

sions."

This move came after a conflict arose between Mishap and the rest of student government over how to address the possibility of allowing one hall dance back in the dorms after the administration's ban on in-hall dances this year. The senate didn't believe that Mishap would push for the reinstatement in her annual report to the board of trustees, and asked to see her report.

"Yeah, like I was going to show you my report," Mishap scoffed.

Mishap informed the senate of its dissolution in an e-mail Wednesday night.

"As the president, I feel I am a better gauge of student opinion than the students are themselves," she wrote. "And the focus group I've been meeting with has made it very clear to me that in-hall dances are a very bad idea, because they create an atmosphere where students feel pressured to drink and mix with the opposite sex.

"You're not the boss of me. I'm the boss of you! Or have you forgotten that?" she added in a postscript.

The senators' reactions were mixed.

"Yeah, I know who her focus group was," said John Doe, Hall senator of O'Neill. "[The Rev. Poor] Marksman, that nerdy freshman in my section that never goes out and the BP rectress."

Others supported the move. "I'm kinda glad she put us out of our misery," said a Pangborn Hall senator who wished to remain anonymous. "I mean, what does the Student Senate actually do? Now I can spend more time at No Funnigans rather than at these stupid, boring meetings."

Regardless of whether or not the senate actually remains a body, in a final



HAIL TO THE PREMIER This propaganda poster is among the many Sovereign Student Premier Kibby Mishap is circulating around campus. The above can be translated to say "One Student IS Government."

vote today senators unanimously agreed to allow themselves to keep the title of student senator on their resumes.

Seressie

Mishap held a press conference at Starbucks shortly afterwards to address student concerns with her new role as Premier.

Mishap justified her decision by looking at historical precedent. "Charles I of England dissolved Parliament for 11 years when he didn't like what it was saying," she said. "And Joseph Stalin

> ruled what was supposed to be a republic of workers with an iron fist for 30 years. Why can't I?"

> When a *Sarcastic* reporter pointed out that Charles I was eventually beheaded and Stalin will go down in history as one of the world's most ruthless dictators, Bishop simply nodded. "Yeah, and your mom will go down, too," she said.

The conference's only interruption came when the Rev. Gin Scuzzy, executive vice president, stumbled into Starbucks and took a few swings at Mishap, accusing her of illegally sitting in a seat exclusively reserved for his use. Mishap's elite Republican Guard quickly subdued the zealous priest with a few punches and shipped him off to Siberia.

Mishap urged the administration not to worry about the change in student government. "I assure you, it will be just as easy to ignore me as Sovereign Premier as it was when I was president," she said in a special message to University President Drunk Lovetoy. "Now you have one less student group's opinion to throw by the wayside."



VOL. 867-5309

# Stepan burns newer, prettier expansion to group

By TROGDOR Staff Burninator

A concentrated effort to beautify the north end of campus went up in flames Thursday after the Notre Dame Fire Department discovered that Glorious Hall, the gleaming new Stepan Center expansion, had been reduced to ashes overnight. The hall, which would have housed the new Center for Sanity in Architecture, was barely a day old.

Officials immediately suspected foul play, but had no leads until they found a giant, gaudy, hexagonal print in the mud, west of the burn site. Their suspicions were confirmed when they approached Stepan Center for questioning and it tried, in vain, to burn itself down.

Stepan declined to comment at the advice of its lawyer, Lee Gallegal, a member of the Association for the Ethical Treatment of Buildings, who plans to incorporate Stepan's history of psychological trauma into its defense. "It's far more than just the constant verbal abuse from students, faculty and staff," Gallegal says. "Stepan also had a difficult childhood." Stepan's creators were unable to comment in a phone interview with The Obscurer because they were high on crack. Gallegal remains committed to his defense strategy, however, and hopes that after all this is over, Stepan will be able to relocate to Orlando, where the makers of Epcot Center run a refuge for misunderstood geodesic domes.

But not everyone agrees that Stepan should be let off just because it's had it rough. Experts in building law cite, for example, the measured calm with which Flanner Hall endures the gigantic, illuminated "#1" sign atop its neighbor, Grace Hall, as evidence that buildings can shoulder jealousy with remarkable resolve. Many campus buildings agree. "We've been having an identity crisis since

birth," said the Center. "And that ALWAYS WITH 7 IN THE LOBBY! us trying to kill m don't. And neither looking around the

"Clearly, Stepan But I still conder Touchdown Jesus, spiritual advisor. GOOD!" he adde one-quarter of the l to plummet into t and cause irrepara World of Life Mu

Other campus Stepan's side. "Se bastard. So what? Hall. "If I was woulda put the in concrete and le the fishes. Come bastard's shoes pro in concrete! Whad

## Students pillaged in Boat Club raid By SWASHBUCKLER

Editor's Note: Thirteen and a half weeks after The Boat Club Bust, The Obscurer examines what effect the

raid had on outraged underclassmen. It's not very newsworthy, but we've got nothing else to print.

On this special anniversary of The Boat Club Bust --- notorious across the proverbial seven seas ---- students still find themselves navigating rough waters. On that fateful night thirteen-and-a-half weeks ago, 11,489 underage students were run aground by scalawag police officers looking to plunder fake IDs.

Most cited students feel that they were accosted unfairly. Says 18-yearold white upper-middle class Notre Dame freshman Katie McMickerson, "Who do these guys think they are, upholding the law like that? Going to Boat is like my Constitutional right or something. I'm sick of this oppression."

"Those landlubbers!" added sophomore Patrick O'Sullivan.

In response to the Indiana State Exercise Police force's dastardly caper, students have staged a protest. "At first we were really bummed-out, but then I saw these people on the news protesting about some war or world hunger or something," says sophomore Katie Patterson. "Don't think I'm supporting those dirty hippies though," she added. "This place is way too liberal as it is. We're

just standing up for Go back to saving

The protest will on Saturday and wi diatribes and sma the front steps of Students will also the sidewalk, vor blast bad '80s me of the keel-hulled

"We've got to says freshman who goes by "K I'm being crucifi of humankind. I t understand my pli

Now that stude voyage for seve steady 35 knots social life will though we have about how. Either probably find anot the students walk

### Campus News In Briefs

God Confesses: Tyrone Willingham, head football coach of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, ended widespread speculation yesterday when he announced in a press conference that he is, in fact, God. Long-held suspicions came to a head last week when a Notre Dame student on a run around St. Mary's Lake reported seeing Willingham standing on top of Holy Cross Hill, "transfigured."

As she later told the The Obscurer, Nina Joyboy was making the circuit around the lakes at about 3:00 p.m. on March 19 when she spotted the popular coach. "He was just kinda standing there," said Joyboy, "but his face was shining like the sun." Word of the sighting spread quickly and the football office was inundated with calls, prompting the announcement of yesterday's press conference.

Willingham appeared before university officials and members of the press in a white robe and his trademark sunglasses. Witnesses later remarked that he looked human, but somehow divine. His remarks were characteristically measured and brief. He offered no proof or demonstration of his omnipotence, but students interviewed for this article expressed complete faith in Ty.

"I knew it," junior Ginger Littlejohn said, when told the news. Junior Agatha Runcible concurred, "This confirms what I have believed for a long time. Once, when I was having a really rough week, I prayed to Ty that Saturday would come, and sure enough, a few days later, it did!"

University President Drunk Lovetoy gushed, "I knew there was something special about that man. We think it only right, of course, to give him a raise."

A major overhaul of the theology department, in light of this revelation, will begin next year.



**Professor steals** Following a Bio



# nd

Coleman-Morse constant trickling! THE TRICKLING But you don't see ie, now do you? I do I," it said, while e quad nervously. is a troubled dome. nn murder," said resident building "It's ... NO d, causing nearly ibrary's collection he reflecting pool ble damage to the ral.

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nts can no longer ral leagues at a to the Boat Club, certainly change, n't thought much way, ResLife will her reason to make the plank.



# Professor lectures class

By ANDROGENOUS SUCKUP Master of Headline Masterfulness

Yesterday, a Notre Dame professor gave a lecture to a class in DeBartolo Hall. The lecture, given by Professor Matthew Ellis, lasted for 50 minutes and was attended by about 60 students. The material covered in the lecture was related to electrical and magnetic fields. *Obscurer* investigations revealed that the lecture topic, coincidentally, is also the name of the class that contained yesterday's talk.

"I felt like I had a strong performance in class today, although it was certainly no transductive radio-magnetism lecture," remarked Ellis, who has been at Notre Dame for 15 years.

Ellis said that this lecture almost exactly followed his "course syllabus," the typed document he distributed to every student who attends his class. *The Obscurer* obtained a copy of said syllabus, and was able to confirm that this course is indeed compromised of a series of lectures related to electricity and magnetism.

Students, however, noted that this lecture was a slight deviation from the course syllabus. "Today was supposed to be the last part of chapter 18 and the first half of 19, but we only did the first third," says junior engineer Hans Stübenson.

The syllabus also outlines a policy which requires attendance at all lectures, including yesterday's showstopper. According to an exit poll taken by *The Obscurer*, 87 percent of students, or 21 of 60, said they only attended yesterday's lecture because they were required to do so.

Ellis scoffed at the suggestion that students attend his class only because of his policy. "My lectures are as exciting as quantum electrodynamics! I feel that yesterday's lecture was one of my most interesting of the year," Ellis said after the lecture.

Sophomore major Patrick McMichael disagrees: "Professor Ellis sucks ... and so do you guys." McMichael also commented on Ellis' use of diagrams to illustrate points in his lecture. "Did you guys really need to use all those nautical references?" he said. "And why do you run that comic that blows?"

Concerning the future of this lecture series, Ellis is very optimistic. "I structure my lectures so that every one builds off of previous lectures."

Yesterday's lecture was the 9th in a 37-part series. The next lecture is scheduled for tomorrow in the same location and at the same time as yesterday's. *The Obscurer* will provide continued coverage.



## BLOTTER A.K.A. "WHAT IS GOING DOWN, YO"

on bicycle a bicycle was in-After ascertaining as talking on a cell ng, NDSP assigned nbass student."

### from student

101 lecture yes-

terday a student alleged that the professor "stole 75 minutes of my life." There are no suspects.

**Pen thieverizer apprehended** An anonymous tip helped solve a rash of ballpoint-pen thefts that occurred last week. NDSP allowed rabid squirrels to feed on the arrested student. **Correction:** In yesterday's *Obscurer*, Fr. Malloy was quoted saying, "Wasted money! The endowment! Sex! Wheee!" Due to a production error, we forgot that we never talked to him. *The Obscurer* cherishes the error.



# Marksman Proposes Mass Destruction of Activities

Students "shocked and awed"

### DANRATHER

ne year after a coalition led by the Rev. Poor Marksman decided to ban in-hall dances and the possession of hard alcohol on campus, the board of trustees is expected to vote against a plan that would prohibit all campus activities, reports a top administrative official on the condition of anonymity.

The proposal, titled "Operation No More Freedom," cites the strong positive correlation between many student activities and physical injuries and the equally strong negative relationship between activities and free time as the major reasons for the resolution.

"The coalition believes very strongly that activities on campus lead to injurious behavior and take away from potential studying time," said Marksman. "It is the belief of this partnership of freedom-loving members that students come to a university to study, not to have fun."

The proposal, reportedly an 833-page document, targets a number of familiar activities on campus. Most notably, it calls for the dissolution of the varsity football team. The board of trustees insists that insufficient proof exists to warrant such a drastic measure, but Marksman insists that no further evaluation is necessary.

"Football is a mindless game that prevents students from doing the work that they came to this university to do," he said. "One percent of the student population suffers 78 percent of this campus's blunt-force collision injuries, and it is the one percent who play football here. This is a significant statistic. What's even worse, the football team's combined GPA is significantly lower than the general student population's."

Marksman continued: "These students came to this university for free so that they could get the best education possible. It is unfair to use the threat of making these students pay for their educations to force them to engage in an activity that both injures their bodies and obviously costs them so much free time that they have lower GPAs than the rest of the students. Waiting any longer will only further damage the minds and bodies of these young men."

Sources close to the administration speculate that if the coalition is reasonably sure that the resolution is doomed to be vetoed, it might be withdrawn before the board of trustees can vote on it.

In discussions leading up to the formal drafting of the proposal, several members of the board recommended that representatives inspect the daily proceedings of activities like football practice before committing to Marksman's hard-line stance against all campus activities. However, it is suspected that the coalition is seeking a way to circumvent the authority of the board of trustees altogether.

"This coalition recognizes the evils of activities designed to inhibit higher learning, and the only way to inhibit these evils is to remove them at the source," said Marksman. "If that protests are for dirty hippies."

Asked about how quickly the proposal would be put into action should the coalition decide to act independently of the board of trustees, the president refused to give a quantitative answer, saying, "It depends on how quickly we can assemble and position an organization of rogue police officers willing to inflict severe and continual violence upon students who violate the policy, for the benefit of all. I can't say how long that would take, but considering how corrupt and wicked ghetto the neighboring community is, I would guess it won't take more than 90 minutes."



HIT THE BOOKS OR GET HIT HARD Quarterback Carlyle Holiday was injured while engaging in a dangerous campus activity. He was not studying at the time.

means we'll have to force the issue without the consent of the board of trustees, then so be it. It's not like any of us value their opinion, anyway."

Students organized protests at several sites on campus to voice their disapproval of the measure. University President Drunk Lovetoy dismissed the demonstration as further evidence of the need for immediate action.

"Look at these cretins marching around with signs and megaphones like it's going to change anything," he said. "If it were illegal to conduct an activity like this on our campus, these morons would be studying in their rooms, and then they'd be smart enough to know that Lovetoy denied a report that he labeled every member of the board of trustees "dirty Frenchmen," but added, "Whoever did make that remark about those filthy Frenchmen is a wise gentleman."

Fearing that the proposal could become a reality, virtually every student moved off campus in an effort to flee the radius of the university's control.

"Hey, that's fine. We're still going to proceed as planned," said Marksman. "We don't care if they get hurt or don't study when they're off campus. As far as we're concerned, we're only responsible for them when they're on our land."



## **28-Meal Plan Finally Approved**

Students plan hunger strike in retaliation; university administrators say, "Flex this!"

### ITZALOT

oday the university announced sweeping changes to students' meal plan that officials believe will effectively placate students and further line the pockets of Food Services.

The plan, which will replace the Flex 14 and Premium 21 meal plans, does away with Flex points entirely. Instead, all students will have the single choice of a 28-meal plan, which allows for 28 meals per week per student.

The Rev. Poor Marksman unveiled the plan today at a ceremony in front of North Dining Hall, after which attendees were allowed one piece of fruit or pastry as a refreshment.

Marksman said the plan is the culmination

of two years of serious research involving national statistics and focus groups composed of professors and members of the South Bend community, as well as a few students from IUSB and Bethel College.

Under the new plan, Notre Dame students would be allowed to consume up to three meals every day, but only during the current dining-hall hours. When *Sarcastic* asked how students would be able to use all 28 meals when they were only allowed to eat 21, Marksman replied calmly that the administration had spent two years researching extensively to come up with the best plan for all involved.

He also noted that Food Services would implement some serious improvements to make the dining hall a "happier, hipper" environment. Marksman said plans are already under way

to have monitors in both dining halls to wear backwards Adidas baseball caps. Circus Day also will be offered twice a year, and Spicy Sea Nuggets will be served daily. Marksman believes the changes will get students excited about going to the dining halls to meet friends and interact, under supervision, with members of the opposite sex.

"South and North will become the new LaFortune," Marksman says. "Where else

can you go to see almost the entire student body, talking, laughing and enjoying themselves over a bowl of vegetarian vegetable soup? It will be like the watering hole of the olden days."

While he claims that students are largely optimistic about the new plan, junior Mo Booto, best known for his effective protests against last year's ban on in-hall dances and hard alcohol, expressed his frustration with the administration by burning a basket of paper napkins in front of the Main Building. "We want our Flex points back!" he shouted at no one in particular. "I'll fight the administration to the death!"

Booto says he and a small band of rebel students are planning a hunger strike to protest

disappointed. But those students who just want good, clean, dining-hall food are going to be happy."

Student Body President Kibby Mishap's administration had worked tirelessly to design an appropriate meal plan as an alternative to the current Flex 14 and Premium 21 meal plans this year. Mishap and Vice President Skip Bowley presented their proposal to Marksman yesterday. After lining his birdcage with the report, Marksman patted them each on the head, handed each of them a cookie and announced that, after careful consideration, the final plan would be revealed today.

Nevertheless, Mishap broke from Bowley, the Student Senate and the Hall Presidents' Council to personally thank Marksman for



EAT AS MUCH AS YOU'D LIKE INSIDE THE DINING HALL Students now must use up 28 meals each week. While most students (above) doggedly consume as fast as they can under the watchful eye of God, others have begun sidewalk-chalking in protest.

what he calls a "grave injustice." "We're in the middle of a war, here, people, and I don't mean in the Middle East. It's time to stop this oppression."

Marksman dismissed the students' protests out of hand. "I know some students aren't going to like this plan," he said. "You can't please everybody. Those students who think that eating whenever they want is part of the college experience are going to be his excellent work and applaud the focus groups for their intelligent contributions to the research effort.

"I am the student body president," Mishap said proudly. "That means I know what students want without talking to them, and I know they want 28 meals."

The 28-meal plan is scheduled to go into effect tomorrow.

At this week's **CRAFTING CORNER...** Make Your Own Dining Hall Refuse Collage When you're done, you can eat it!



In an effort to combat the rampant lesbianism and promiscuity/promoted by the Vagina Monologues, the Knights of Columbus proudly/present

The GENITALIA DIALOGUES "Talkdon"timake Catholic babies"



# traderace

▲ JUST LOOKING, THANK YOU Dana Santiago and Kathleen Degnan browse the offerings at the store that sells SYR gifts in LaFortune .

The cutthroat world of business plays out at Notre Dame

### JENNIFEROSTERHAGE

nnovate or die! So goes the battle cry for businesses today. Now, more than ever, firms must find novel solutions to everyday needs in order to stay ahead of the pack.

With the initiation of a new program called the Student Business Incubator, Notre Dame students who have caught the entrepreneurial bug can try their hands at operating their own businesses on campus. The purpose of the Student Business Incubator is "to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit within the undergraduate student body," Entrepreneurs Club Vice President Willa Qian says. The Incubator is modeled after the \$20 Challenge project, part of the Introduction to Entrepreneurship course taught in the Mendoza College of Business, in which students are graded on the amount of profit generated from an initial \$20.

"The experience for the students includes identifying markets, taking risks, experiencing stress, building networks, dealing with outside imposed constraints and feeling the 'thrill' of success," Professor David Hayes of the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies explains.

According to university policy, students are not allowed to run for-profit organizations using any of Notre Dame's resources, such as phone lines, e-mail addresses, bulletin boards and dorm rooms. The Entrepreneurs Club, in conjunction with Student Activities and the Gigot Center, has created the Incubator as an opportunity for students to apply their business skills in a real-life setting on campus.

According to Hayes, each of the teams or individuals generates product or service

ideas, chooses the most feasible, develops marketing and operational plans, creates timelines and contingency plans and then implements them. While the Entrepreneurs Club encourages the groups to operate nonprofit businesses, they can choose to retain 100 percent of the profits.

The teams must receive the approval of Student Activities before beginning business and are not allowed to invest more than \$500 out-of-pocket. These constraints are representative of the restrictions real world entrepreneurs face while working within the laws and regulations of their environments, Hayes explains.

At the end of the 10-week competition, the officers of the Entrepreneurs Club, professors and local entrepreneurs judge each student business not solely on profit, but also on how its owners operated the endeavor and how feasible it would be to continue the business. The best nonprofit entrepreneur and the best for-profit team will receive awards at the McCloskey Notre Dame Business Plan Competition's final event, which hosts successful alumni, venture capital representatives and other entrepreneurs.

In this, the program's first year, 12 teams have enrolled in the competition. "[The Student Business Incubator] is an opportunity to experiment with those great business ideas students throw around the dorm all the time, but never do anything about," sophomore English major Judah Wilson says. Wilson has begun a trivia game called RiddleMeIrish in which two-person teams compete to answer a series of Notre Dame riddles via e-mail. The first five teams to respond correctly receive prizes, such as gift certificates to campus restaurants, and the winning team will receive a grand prize of a \$1,000 shopping spree at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Participants pay a \$5 entry fee, and a portion of the profits goes to charity.

Marketing/psychology major Stephen Dick and accounting major Mike Iselin (a Scholastic staff member) have opened a nonprofit SYR gift shop called The Hook-Up, which operates out of the Dooley Room in LaFortune on Friday evenings. The idea has been lurking in Dick's mind since last year. "I had this drawer full of random items . . . so my crazy drawer became a hot spot for gifts on dance nights," he says. They took a survey before opening up shop to see what kinds of items students wanted, and they keep an ongoing product suggestion list. "We view our product suggestion list as an integral aspect of our store because we always want to be offering gifts that students demand," Dick says. "Our service directly satisfies the needs of our market." The two Keenan sophomores feel this unique approach to their market is what distinguishes them from the competition.

Accounting major Beth Androski and marketing major Diana Laquinta decided to create Wollabee Pie Company after Androski fell in love with Australian meat pies while studying in Fremantle last semester. The snacks, which the team makes in the test kitchen of North Dining Hall, have fillings ranging from breakfast food to Mexican food to vegetables to dessert. Selling their goods from 12:00 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. on Sundays at Main Circle, the Farley juniors hope to catch students returning from their nights out with the \$2 pies.

"The goal [of the Student Business Incubator] is to learn about yourself," Androski says. "You learn about your limits and you learn what you can accomplish if you put your mind to it."

Many of the student entrepreneurs plan to pursue their own businesses upon graduation and see the incubator as an opportunity to learn what entrepreneurship involves. "ND is a safe environment to start out in," Entrepreneurs Club President Fran Larkin says.

Dick already knows he wants to be an entrepreneur. "The possibilities truly are endless, though. I have some plans already in mind for next year's competition."



BY BETHGIUDICESSI PHOTOS BY MIKEMCNARY

nce upon a time, in a house on 18312 Bulla Road, there lived three seniors by the names of Tim Bradley, Jesse Fa and Max Wallhausser.

A foosball table, a dinner table and a life-size Freddy Krueger cutout fill the spacious welcoming area near the house's back door, the only usable entrance. Just beyond the dinner table is the living room, complete with an impressive stereo system, B&W speakers, about 18 different video game systems and an extensive DVD collection. The world's most comfortable 10-dollar chair, patterned with flowers, is the perfect complement to the wall-to-wall teal carpeting.

The house's main attraction is a wood-burning stove which has the ability to heat most of the house as well as complement some of its residents' risky fetishes. "I'm a class-A pyro, so it allows me to vent all my frustrations," Fa says.

The living room is now the size of a large Notre Dame dorm room, but it once was twice as big. The trio used foam insulation to separate the living room from the former foyer space, which now serves as Fa's shag-rug bedroom, complete with his own artwork adorning the walls. Fa blocked off his bedroom door to shut out the draft and discourage unwanted solicitors.

The other bedrooms don't suffer much from an identity crisis. Bradley was labeled "the poster king" by Fa because his room is home to multiple NAZZ battle of the bands insignia, an autographed Elle McPherson poster, and a calendar that depicts ferrets in various states of dress-up.

Wallhausser's room originally was pink before the property owner painted it a shade of brown. Now posters pay tribute to two of Wallhausser's favorite objects of affection: the band Piebold and the Olsen twins.

In the hall between the bedrooms is a stunning piece of art created by the early-'90s fifteen-minutes-of-famer Wesley Willis. "I like my Wesley Willis artwork," Bradley says about the original pen drawing of the Dan Ryan Expressway in Chicago. He bought the piece from the artist for about \$35.

Through a waist-high black metal gate and down majestic (read: "ratty") red-carpeted stairs is the basement. This bleak underground lair gives Bradley and Fa, along with senior non-residents Dan Schmid and John Fanning, a place to create house music. Their band, Completing the Square, uses the basement as practice space. Outside, the garage is large and well-heated enough to hold concerts, even in the winter. "It's an awesome place to be in a band and to live in a house where you can play," Fa says.

The house rocks so much that it may not be available anytime soon. This is the first year the crib has been leased to undergrads for a full term, and the owner already has had rental requests for the next two to three years. So while it may not be music to their ears, parietalhating, shower-shoe-loathing students across campus must search for cribworthiness elsewhere.

YOU OUGHTA SEE MY ROOM Want your on- or off-campus place to be featured in ND Cribs? Tell us about it. Send an e-mail to Cribs writer Beth Giudicessi at egiudice@nd.edu with your name and phone number. Tell her what makes your room cribworthy.



The Bulla Road boys have it all: a huge house, multiple game systems, artwork adorning the walls, shag carpeting, a basement to jam in and even a life-size Freddy Krueger

Nice Digs The guys' living room pays homage to Kevin Smith, Notre Dame and circa 1970s flowerpatterned furniture. ARcom with a View It may look like an average dorm oom, but the Notre Dame trio boasts a parietals-free zone in their spacious Bulla Road residence. Nightmare on Bulla Road Alifessize cardboard cutout of mass-murderer and psychopath Freddy Krueger puts the finishing touch to the cozy living room.







# The Rant

The NCAA selection committee snubbed the Big East, which is now 8-0 in the tourney by Gerard Meskill — respond to the king of sports at gmeskill@nd.edu

With the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament under our belts, the time has come once again to evaluate the selection committee's decisions regarding placement and seeding. And by "evaluate," I mean "criticize harshly."

Let's put aside the fact that they put Kentucky and Arizona on the same side of the bracket. Let's also forget that they put Brigham Young in a region where they would be scheduled to play a third-round game on Sunday, which is a forbidden practice for Mormons. These mistakes have already been noted, and we certainly didn't need to wait until the end of the second round to address them.

Instead, let's turn our focus to the committee's treatment of the Big East. This year's committee deemed the conference worthy of just four NCAA bids, denying Boston College (18-11, 10-6) and Seton Hall (17-12, 10-6) trips to The Dance.

Those Big East teams who were invited to the tournament were also slighted. Pittsburgh (26-4, 13-3) was seeded at No. 2 in the Midwest region, despite winning both the Big East regular season title and the conference tournament. Meanwhile Texas (22-6, 13-3), who won neither title in the Big XII, was given the top seed in the South and pitted against play-in winner UNCAsheville, a decision that essentially deemed the Longhorns the best team in the tournament. Connecticut (21-9, 10-6) was disrespected even more, when it was given the fifth seed in the South region despite finishing in a first-place tie with Boston College in the Big East's East division and advancing to

the conference tournament's final. Notre Dame and Syracuse were given fair seeds, although one could also make a case for the Orangemen to be a second seed. It has been suggested by experts, such as ESPN's Joe Lunardi, that the committee seeded Big East teams lower to punish them for tackling weak non-conference opponents.

Ironically, the lower seeds gave the Big East teams the opportunity to send a message back to the committee by compiling impressive victories over better opponents. Indeed, each Big East team responded to the disrespect shown by the committee, going 8-0 selected into the field of 65. If this indeed is true, then it is impossible to explain how the Tigers earned a ten seed and the right to play a shaky St. Joseph's squad. Upon defeating the Hawks, Auburn drew Wake Forest, who despite winning the ACC regular-season title can be considered the weakest of the secondseeded teams. How does the last team into the tournament get put in such a weak pool of teams, while a team like Notre Dame draws a field that includes Arizona, Kansas, Duke, Illinois and Gonzaga?

If the Auburn Tigers were the last team to receive an at-large bid, then Indiana and

An upset victory for either Notre Dame or Connecticut will likely ensure that the Big East sends at least two teams to the Elite Eight.

in the first two rounds of the event. The feat gives the conference four teams in the Sweet 16. The Big XII is next, with three teams (Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas), while the ACC (Duke and Maryland), SEC (Kentucky and Auburn) and Big Ten (Wisconsin and Michigan State) each advanced two teams into the third round. With the Orangemen facing No. 10 Auburn and the Panthers squaring off against No. 3 Marquette, an upset victory for either Notre Dame or Connecticut will likely ensure that the Big East sends at least two teams to the Elite Eight.

Although I believe the Big East was the most victimized this year, unfair seeding occurred throughout the bracketing. The greatest benefactors of these errors were Auburn and Indiana. Speculation by experts contends that Auburn (20-11, 8-8) was the last team to be

**FENCING:** For the first time since 1994, Notre Dame has won the national championship. The Irish edged Penn State, the defending champions, 182-179 in the NCAA Championships at Air Force's Cadet Field House. Sophomore **Michal Sobieraj** finished second in the men's epee and sophomore **Alicja Kryczalo** finished first in the women's foil. Senior **Ozren** "Croation Alabama could not have been far behind. But by the whim of the committee, these two struggling teams had the good fortune of meeting each other in the opening round. In other words, one of them had to advance to the next round. The fact that Indiana, Alabama and Auburn all got tenth seeds or better while Butler (25-5, 14-2) received a 12 seed and an unfavorable match-up against Mississippi State shows that the committee is still far from being experts at evaluating a team's talent level, especially if the team does not play in one of the six major conferences.

Yet the talent almost always wins out in the end. And so, the Sweet 16 field includes two mid-major conference teams and four from the Big East. With any luck, come Thursday the Pac-10 will be the first major conference to be eliminated from The Dance, and the Big East

Sensation" **Debic** finished fourth in the men's foil.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** Head-shaved Notre Dame has reached the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1987 when **Digger Phelps** was coach. **Chris Thomas** leads the Irish with 44 points in the first two games of the tournament. Freshman forward **Torin Francis** finished with 23 points and 14 rebounds and scored the

Jimbo's Jabber

The man himself brings you...



NOTIRE DAME

VS.

**OUR CALLS** 

ARIZOINA

# IRISHEYESON SHANNONBYRNE

Junior Shannon Byrne is a three-time monogram winner for the Notre Dame women's golf team. She has played in every tournament to date in her three years at Notre Dame and holds the second-lowest scoring average in school history. In the summer of 2001, she qualified for the USGA Women's Amateur Public Links. A native of Arlington Heights, III., Shannon played four years of golf at Buffalo Grove High School and was named a high school All-American in 1999.



What is the most memorable round of golf that you have played since coming to Notre Dame? I guess maybe a round my freshman year at our William & Mary tourney. I had to finish my last three holes in torrential downpour, and I managed to hang in there and play well. When we combined our scores at the end we managed to win that tournament. It was our third tournament that we won that season, and it was great that we could do it even in those conditions.

Have you ever had a hole-in-one? No, even with all the golf I have played I have never had a hole-in-one.

What is the nicest course you have played while at Notre Dame? Recently, we were at Pinehurst. We played number eight, which was a great course, made even greater by the fact that it was in February, and there was snow on the ground in South Bend, and we were playing golf in North Carolina.

Why did you choose to come to Notre Dame? I knew I wanted to play golf in college but academics were also very important to me, so I was looking for a balance. I felt, academically, ND was a great school, I really enjoyed the religious aspect and I felt that our golf program was on the way up. So I felt, overall, this was a really good fit for me in a lot of ways.

What one accomplishment means the most to you here at ND? Can I pick two? Having the opportunity to spend so much time with my teammates. I'm really blessed to have all of them as wonderful friends. I know it's something I will look back on with wonderful memories. The other would be last year. I was named to the National Golf Coaches Association All-Scholar Team as an Academic-All-American. I thought that was really cool because it represented my success both in the classroom and on the golf course.

What is your lowest round ever? In high school I shot a 69. What is your favorite color? Green, for the luck of the Irish. — Mike Iselin

game-winning basket in a 70-69 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee last Thursday. Senior guard **Dan Miller** scored a careerhigh 23 points in a 68-60 win against Illinois last Saturday. Notre Dame faces top-seeded Arizona in the West Region semifinals in Anaheim, Calif. on Thursday. **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** The No. 11 seed Irish beat No. 3 seed Kansas State on Tuesday to move on to the Sweet 16. Le'Tania Severe scored 17 points in the 59-53 win.

**FOOTBALL:** Former All-American quarterback **Joe Theismann** (1968-70) was named to the 2003 College Football Hall of Fame class on Monday. **MEN'S TENNIS:** A 5-2 win over Virginia Tech on Sunday has the Irish atop the Big East standings. Junior **Luis Haddock**, sophomore **Brent D'Amico**, **Our Calls** Men's Basketball WHERE: ANAHEIM, CA WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 7:27 PM EST Thursday's showdown between fiveseed Notre Dame and top-ranked Arizona will be a shootout, as neither team is known for its defense. However, the hot perimeter shooting of Carroll and Miller, and Francis' inside game keep the Irish rolling, 83-81. GERARDMESKILL SPORTS EDITOR Matt Carroll is en fuego from threepoint land and leads the Irish to a thrilling 66-65 win. Arizona's lastsecond shot goes in-n-out. Irish coach Mike Brey yells, "That's a dunk!" after the win. JIMMYATKINSON SPORTS EDITOR

The Irish continue playing great basketball and bring their hot hands to Anaheim. The Wildcats are the first number one seed sent packing in this year's tournament. Notre Dame wins, 82-77. MIKEISELIN ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR OUR CALLS RECORDS JIMMYATKINSON: 6-2 GERARDMESKILL: 6-2 MIKEISELIN: 0-0

senior Brian Farrell and freshman Patrick Buchanan all won their singles matches for Notre Dame.

MEN'S LACROSSE: Freshmen Pat Walsh and Drew Peters each scored three goals, leading the Irish to a 17-3 victory over Harvard on Sunday, moving to a 4-3 overall record.

- Jimmy Atkinson

# **Sweet Springtime Success**

Victory over Illinois sends Irish to Sweet Sixteen for the first time in over 15 years

#### MIKEISELIN

he Notre Dame men's basketball team suffered through a late-season drought heading into the Big Dance. They lost four of their last five games coming into the tournament, including an opening-round loss to St. John's in the Big East tournament. This late-season skid, coupled with the fact that the team's leading scorer, Matt Carroll, who averaged over 20 points per game during the season, has been playing on a bad ankle, might have led many to

believe the Irish would once again make an early exit from the NCAA Championship.

But, as the Irish have proven, history wasn't going to repeat itself this year. The Irish set a team goal at the beginning of the year: advance to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1987. Last weekend in Indianapolis, the Irish accomplished their goal together. With an injured Carroll not able to perform up to his norm, head coach Mike Brey looked to his other players to step up. Fortunately for the Irish, sophomore point guard Chris Thomas and freshman forward Torin Francis answered the call. In their first-round victory over the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Thomas came ready to play and scored 27 points, and Francis put 23 points on the board and pulled down 14 rebounds. Nobody should have been surprised by the fact that Thomas shined in his hometown of Indianapolis - throughout his entire basketball career, he has never lost a game at the RCA Dome, including the 1998 Indiana State Championship game his freshman year of high school.

On Saturday, Notre Dame had a chance against the No.

4 seed Fighting Illini to accomplish their goal and move on to the Sweet Sixteen. Carroll was only able to contribute 11 points. However, on Brey's 44th birthday, the Irish coach received an unforgettable present from senior transfer Dan Miller. Miller, who boasts Final Four experience with his former team, the Maryland Terrapins, let the Irish ride his hot hand. Miller finished with a career-high 23 points and gave coach Brey a spot in the Sweet Sixteen after only three years as the Notre Dame head coach.

to take on the No. 1 seed Arizona Wildcats in



the hunt for their third win in the NCAA Tournament, a feat they have not accomplished since the 1977-78 season under head coach Digger Phelps. Arizona was ranked number one in the nation for most of this season, until they faced defeat at the hands of the UCLA Bruins in a Pac-10 Tournament first round loss.

The Wildcats will definitely provide the Irish with a tough test, but they are not unbeatable. In their second-round game against the Gonzaga Bulldogs, the Wildcats needed two overtimes and a last-second missed-shot by Bulldog Blake Stepp in order to squeak past

the West Region's ninth seed.

The Irish are still alive in the tournament, chiefly due to an increase in the quality of their defense. During their last five games of the regular season, Notre Dame was not able to hold a single team under 80 points. The Irish stepped up to the pressure of the singleelimination NCAA tournament and played outstanding defense against UW-Milwaukee, holding them to a meager 34.8 percent field-goal percentage. Notre Dame backed that performance up by holding the Illini squad to 34.9 percent from the field. If the Irish want to stay alive in the tournament they are going to have to keep up their tremendous defensive efforts against a powerful Wildcat offense.

Arizona is led by seniors Jason Gardner and Luke Walton and is one of few teams with five players who have averaged more than ten points per game over the course of the season. As a team, the Wildcats shoot 46.1 percent from the field and average over 85 points per game. Most of Arizona's points are scored in transition and on second-chance opportunities.

If Notre Dame's shooters come to play, and if they can force the Cats to play a half-court game, they have a great chance to continue their season and move on to the Elite Eight. 



PAGING DR. CARROLL An injured Matt Carroll's tournament performance is understandably not up to par.

# Hail To The Champs

After years of close calls, the Irish fencers bring the national trophy to South

otre Dame returned to the pinnacle of collegiate fencing last weekend, winning the national championship in a 182-179 victory over defending champion Penn State. First-year head coach Janusz Bednarski has started his tenure at Notre Dame extremely well, to say the least. The victory gave the Irish their sixth national title and their first since 1994.

The championship was especially sweet for the team after a decade of coming up just short. Over the past eight years, the Irish have finished second five times (1996-2000) and third twice (2001-2002). With the exception of 2001, Notre Dame saw archrival Penn State hoist the championship trophy each of those years, and the outcome was often decided by only a few bouts. The competition was tight again in 2003, but this year it was the Nittany Lions who found themselves finishing a few points short.

"It is the sweetest possible outcome because they did it to us so many times," says senior foilist Ozren Debic. "It's especially great since many of our NCAA participants will be graduating this year, and our careers couldn't have ended in a better way."

The victory was a total team effort, with equal contributions from men and women, underclassmen and seniors. Success was not evenly distributed across weapons, though, as the foil squad did the best in the tournament. Sophomore Alicja Kryczalo posted a 19-4 mark in the round-robin portion of the foil competition and successfully defended her national title, defeating 2001 NCAA champion Iris Zimmerman 15-12. Meanwhile, teammate Andrea Ament, also a sophomore, matched Kryczalo's 19-4 mark in foil competition, but placed third nationally in the individual competition. The two combined to score 38 points for the Irish, the highest total for any of Notre Dame's six weapon classes.

"Last year ... we didn't lose any bouts to any other teams, so we felt pressure to perform as well this year," says Ament. "Both of us were very focused and very determined not to drop any bouts this year. Of course, we dropped some here and there, but we're a good pair and we support each other really well."

While the women foilists shined the brightest, their male counterparts followed closely behind. Debic competed in the national tournament for the fourth consecutive year, winning 18 of his 23 bouts, placing fourth in the nation and earning



SMILE FOR THE CAMERAS Irish fencers celebrate the end to a spectacular season.

first-team All-America honors for the third time in his career. Sophomore Derek Snyder finished 17-6, good for fifth place and second-team All-America honors. The efforts of the two foilists tallied 35 more points for the Irish, meaning the two foil squads combined to provide 40 percent of Notre Dame's 183 points.

"We knew that our women's [foil] team was strong from the results last year, and me and [Debic] worked hard all year to keep up with them," says Snyder. "We won a lot of bouts [at the NCAA championship] that could have been much closer if we hadn't practiced as much. But moral support was a huge factor. We supported the women, and the women supported us."

As strong as the foilists were this year, Notre Dame could not have returned to the peak of fencing without strong efforts from its two other weapons. Senior Matt Fabricant made a big statement in his second appearance in the NCAA saber competition, winning 15 bouts to finish sixth and earn second-team All-America honors.

In epee, sophomore Michal Sobieraj (20-3) fell one touch shy of the NCAA title, losing in overtime 8-7 to Air Force's Weston Kelly. What made the epee match even more heartbreaking for the Irish was that he scored a touch on Kelly during a period when the two closed in on each other, but the director discounted it, ruling that she had called halt before the touch was completed. Had the touch counted, Sobieraj would have won the match in regulation.

In women's epee, junior Kerry Walton posted impressive results in her second appearance at the championship. Although Walton failed to defend her national title, she won 15 bouts in a tough field of fencers. Senior Meagan Call also performed well in the field, recording 13 victories.

In women's saber, junior Destanie Milo turned in the biggest surprise performance for the Irish in the tournament, posting 16 victories to finish sixth. Milo's strong performance helped pick up teammate Maggie Jordan, who won just six bouts in saber. However, Jordan recorded a key upset victory late in the competition, defeating Penn State's Austin O'Neill. The win gave the Irish a two-point swing, which gave them breathing room en route to their three-point win.

"Everybody knew it was going to be a key bout," says Walton. "I was fencing while she was having her bout, and I could hear them cheering from the absolute opposite side of the gym. You could tell by how they were reacting how well she was doing. It was wonderful."

For a proud program that had fallen painfully short of the title so many times since 1994, "wonderful" might not be strong enough to describe the team's accomplishment.

## Bearing False Testimony The writer takes a stand on puppy-eating, cannibalism and hating plants

## ERICDOVERSBERGER

y friend Lilly is vegetarian and a peculiar girl: neither suicidal nor Catholic. She believes in humanity, and raises social consciousness at Notre Dame and the surrounding community, Monday through Thursday. But Lilly has gone too far. Her Scholastic contribution concerning puppy-kicking crosses the line ("Student activists propose new club in offense of animals," 02/20/03). I can only hope it was an attempt at humor. Either way, it was in bad taste. Malicious harm to animals is never permissible, and kicking puppies is particularly evil. It only serves to bruise the meat, and the puppy's ensuing adrenaline ruins all flavor. Keep in mind at all times: A happy puppy is a tasty puppy.

Owing to a lack of transportation or a desire to save money, some students bring puppy-processing into their dorm rooms. This is ill-advised. Years of experience go into the art of the proper puppy puree, and unless a student is well-versed, the prospective meal shall end in disaster-not even benchmarkable against the cafeteriastandard mutt taco meat. Instead, might I recommend a visit to one of the numerous friendly butchers in the South Bend area. The puppy will be overjoyed at the prospect of a car ride and this good deed will be rewarded in lush flavoring.

As I write this now, Lilly is eating a bowl of ketchup-drenched animal crackers and snarling at me from across the room. We are both activists, yet I fear her commitment to the calling dwindles as of late, as she indulges in too many self-help books. In my life, a single self-help book has sufficed: The Bible. The Bible, in summary, speaks of all people as protrusions of the universal bubble wrap. There are no empiric boundaries separating person-from-person in much the same way a road trip reveals the triviality of state divisions. Thank goodness for "now entering" signs or all these false mental constructs I use to separate state-from-state and to place empiric borders on all existence would need rethinking. The central protagonist (this guy named "Jesus") basically tells the world that maybe hurting the next person means hurting the centralized existence that is us all. Society responds by nailing him to a super-sized toothpick. As I look towards Lilly, I know The Bible tells it all: Opening



with a couple in a garden and ending with Revelations. 'Nuff said. Lilly says I'm too tall for her anyways.

I am also Catholic. Catholicism is about hedging one's bets; I know through sheer mathematics I've picked a winner. With birth control declared unholy, Catholicism guarantees exponential growth, making it, on a long enough timeline, everlasting in its dominance as the largest global Christian strain. Furthermore, more members mean more voices calling towards the Heavens, so whenever a member is having problems in life, the Church can more effectively petition God with prayer.

Whether it's about miraculously withering the weird growth on Aunt Laurel's right foot or halting Notre Dame's persistence in offering veal, petitioning is at the heart of changing the world around us. Lilly and I plan to petition hard until old age (where I expect to be rewarded with gratuitous helpings of cartoons and medication, but not necessarily in that order). I want to look

back at the world on my deathbed and know that my brief visit here has, in my own humble way, changed the world for the better. Next semester, I plan to take time off from academia and visit regions of Africa where I can contribute to putting an end to cannibalism. With something like cannibalism, you must bring change to those affected incrementally — my group's first step in the name of progress is to equip them all with knives and forks. However, if financing runs thin, an investment in sporks may be necessary.

Lilly and I recommend everyone become involved in changing the community. Please, either donate funds or time. This could help the current effort underway to provide free mulch for residential trees. That is merely one example though. I cannot in good faith recommend this particular activity (but there are many others), principally because I am a vegeterian. It is not that I like animals, I just hate plants.

Note: The above column was written from a fictional vantage point: The writer is, in fact, not an anti-puppite, Catholic, mathematically-inclined, anti-cannibalism, vegetarian, or an ardent activist. And, while he admits not all vegetables are intrinsically evil, he withholds his beliefs about the conglomerate powers of the cauliflower and brussel sprouts that be until their true intentions are at long last revealed.



## A Cut Above the Rest From South Bend to Mexico for under \$20

### LE'TANIASEVERE

tudents looking for a little spice in their lives need not worry. Within a ten-mile radius of campus, 15 Mexican restaurants can be found to provide an often much-needed break from dining hall fare. Mazatlán, located only about ten minutes from campus, at 507 E. Mckinley Ave. in Mishawaka, stands out by offering food in a family atmosphere with occasional live mariachi performances. This authentic Mexican restaurant boasts a variety of dishes, detailed in its sevenpage menu. There's a little something for everyone, including vegetarian dishes, seafood, traditional Mexican cuisine, and a long list of beverage choices. Depending on patron needs, there are dine-in, takeout and delivery.

Mazatlán's popularity is most visible on Friday and Saturday nights, but during the week, lunch and dinner bring in equally good business. Scholastic recently dined for lunch at Mazatlán and enjoyed everything from root beer to homemade chips and salsa to "Luncheon #3," which includes a sampling of a bean burrito and cheese enchilada with rice. For dessert, Scholastic selected the sopapilla: fried dough with several toppings or sauces that can add to the taste. The dish can be dessert or an appetizer, depending on the topping choices. For dessert, it is most common to top sopapilla with cinnamon, powdered sugar or chocolate. When served as an appetizer or snack, it is eaten with salsa, picante or guacamole. Mazatlán also serves a variety of Mexican beers and mixed drinks.



THE SOUTH HAS RISEN AGAIN Mazatlán offers spicy south-of-the-border taste at a reasonable price.

Lunch prices were all under \$6 and dinner is around \$12. The service was excellent, and the food arrives usually in 10 to 15 minutes, but the chips and salsa help to stave off hunger cravings before the meals arrive.

Although Mazatlán is only four years old, it already has a rich history. *Scholastic* caught up with owner Alberto Leon, who explained what makes his restaurant so unique. When Leon was a teenager growing up in San Jose, Guatemala, his mom took him to a beach in Mazatlán. "I always liked the name ... it sounded so nice and friendly." The impression stayed with him, so when it came time to choose a name for his family's restaurant, Mazatlán immediately came



FAMILY AFFAIR Mazatlán feels like home for college students and families alike.

to mind: "I was only there one time, but it stuck in my head for a long time."

Leon has been in the restaurant business for about fifteen years, since he started in Columbus, GA working with his father. Leon credits his brother-in-law — who owns restaurants in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina — with teaching him the ropes of the restaurant business. Mazatlán prides itself on using family recipes, giving the restaurant its traditional and home-like atmosphere. "Ninety percent of the recipes are from my mom and me," said Leon with pride, "They come from my family and the village of San Jose where I grew up."

If you're looking for an entertaining night out as well as an authentic meal, Mazatlán offers the genuine sounds of live mariachi music. "The band walks around and plays at each table," Leon described. "They ask what type of songs you like, upbeat or slow and then they play what you like." The performances are only on limited occasions, however, and the next time to catch one will be on Sunday, March 30 from 6 - 9 p.m. The band comes all the way from Indianapolis every couple of weeks.

Offering authentic Mexican food and an escape to the south-of-the-border, Mazatlán is sure to cure anyone's hankering for a delicious off-campus meal.

DELUSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND

## Mr. Jake and the Women The Farley Players branch out with a Neil Simon comedy

#### HATTILIM

pril 4 and 5 mark a slight change in the annual Farley Players production at Notre Dame. Traditionally, the players perform a musical for their annual event, but this year they will put on *Jake's Women*, a comedy by Neil Simon. Under the direction of sophomore Meghann Tabor, this year's cast has dedicated countless hours of work bringing two nights of entertainment to the stage.

The story is a playful comedy about Jake, an overly imaginative writer who engages in a flurry of daydreaming and treads a thin line between insanity and genius. Jake, played by Mike Dolson, tugs the audience in and out of his delusional relationships with the women - alive and deceased - in his life. The female characters that mold Jake's neurosis are equally eccentric, ranging from an obsessively unstable sister to a patronizing psychiatrist. Beneath its witty surface, the play also deals with the more profound notions of relationships and trust, captivating the audience with spells of emotional highs and lows throughout the play. "There's just so much to work with," says Dolson.

Overflowing with biting comebacks and hilarious rants, it's no wonder that the cast members can easily connect with their characters. Says Elizabeth Colombo on her role as Jake's irrational but loving sister, "We have a lot of similarities. I can really understand her nurturing side, but then she has a very dark side, too. It's fun to get to play with both worlds." The specific makeup of the characters in the play is reflective of the Players' intentions, as well. Tabor comments about choosing the right play, "I wanted to do a play with a lot of strong female roles, especially with so many leading male roles out there."

With only one leading male role and seven female leads, it seems only fitting that the players should choose this particular piece. Putting on such a production, however, comes at a high cost for many members of the cast. With auditions starting in February and rehearsals beginning a few short weeks later, the actor and actresses have less than two months to memorize lines and learn stage directions. The demanding rehearsal schedules require five to six practices a week that last as long as four hours. But for many of the players, arduous scheduling is nothing new. Many of the students juggle multiple theatrical projects simultaneously in addition to a full Notre Dame courseload. "If anything, it has been more detrimental to my sleep pattern than schoolwork ... It's just as hard as playing a sport," says Molly Topper, who stars as Jake's adulterous second wife.

With opening night drawing near, Tabor is excited about her first large-scale directing project. "The basic rules I learned in directing class really helped ... Plus, we have a



A GIRL THING Topper (left) plays one of the many women in Jake's (Dolson) life.



GOOD DIRECTION Tabor has her eye on the action.

really talented cast," she says. Despite her relative inexperience, she displays a certain comfort with all the players and holds little back when guiding their gestures and presentation. Members of the cast agree that despite her tame exterior, Tabor doesn't hesitate to take initiative in keeping things on track. Sophomore Lena Caligiuri adds, "This is Meghann's first big play ... But it's a really fun play and Meghann knows what she's doing." Caligiuri plays Edith, Jake's psychiatrist.

This year's performance will take place in the LaFortune Ballroom instead of the more conventional Washington Hall venue. The idea is to present a "coffee shop style" setup, creating a more intimate and modern atmosphere with the goal of increasing attendance, though the concern is not with ticket sales. "It's purely for entertainment purposes," Tabor explains. The hard work, creativity and chemistry of the friends on stage promise a weekend of fun for the cast and audience alike.

Tickets for "Jake's Women" go on sale March 25 at the LaFortune box office.

## Though Now You Wear No Seacap on Your Head Because the phrase "You've got a little Captain in you" isn't quite sexual

or the past few days I have debated about what name to assign the five or six people who actually look forward to and read my column when it comes out, and for some reason I came to the conclusion that "chillins" is an appropriate term for my reader base. Regardless of whether it is or not, I think "OOBlings" is a word that goes into territory we don't want to explore, and so I say to you, chillins, that spring is in the air and the school year is finally coming to an end. Cross-quad Frisbee is once again in full bloom, "School Daze" strips about snow are now both untimely *and* excruciatingly painful to read and the seniors who haven't come up with viable post-graduate employment-are-trying-to-findcareers whose titles don't involve the words "stripper," "fry cook,"

or "assistant to Crispin Glover." And despite my best efforts to get McDonalds or Mr. Glover to return my calls, I have yet to firm up any secure plans about what to do with my life after Monk makes me the proud owner of a \$132,000 piece of card stock.

I actually found a potential solution to all my vocational worries after seeing a play over the weekend. One of the main characters advises his hypochondriac spouse that losing an eye could be an avenue to a career in the exciting world of piracy. While the audience laughed, I seriously contemplated the prospect of creating a galleon of some kind and cruising around the warmer waterways of the world, extracting booty and women and thumbing my nose at the

tyrannical rule of that whoreson James I. Ever since my first ride through the air-conditioned wonder of *Pirates of the Caribbean* (soon to claim the dubious honor of being the only movie that God actually hates), I harbored dreams of hearing the roar of the cannonball and the thrill of endlessly chasing wenches around a table demanding food and sex. Scoff at my ideas and my column for being petty and inappropriate in the face of world events if you must, but the bottom line is, pirates kick ass and you know it.

Just look at the facts. Pirates claim among their members Long John Silver, the purveyor of some of the tastiest batter-fried treats this side of a Midwest state fair, and Captain Charles Morgan. Actually, Charles is just the name my friends and I came up with – if he has any first name, I'm almost entirely sure it's Captain. For the three freshmen not familiar with the Captain's body of work, suffice to say he is best known for providing what is perhaps the most versatile alcoholic drink in the world. There is officially no liquid that a splash of Captain can't improve upon, and that includes other types of rum. And whom do the non-pirates claim as their notable representatives? German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Shakira. That's really about it.

The piratical system of justice also far surpasses anything we have been able to muster as of yet in the United States. While America has crooked defense attorneys, ambulance chasers like Keller & Keller, and more judges with their own television shows than anyone-should-be-subjected to, pirates have *the plank*. That's it. The plank. There are no appellate courts, no mistrials and no studying

> for the bar exam for three weeks straight. Pirates sail out for a few miles, drop the unfortunate victim into Davy Jones' locker and head back to their secret pirate hideaways with the kind of satisfaction that only comes from a job well done. Also, pirates get secret hideaways. That's saying something right there.

> Piracy as a career doesn't even necessarily seem as demanding as your average desk job. I imagine that (aside from the wench-chasing and occasional sea fight) there's quite a bit of sitting around and laughing to oneself as booty is counted out and (if Captain Morgan is any indication) posing with one's foot on a barrel of spiced rum, so the physical aspect of the job isn't nearly as complicated as pirates would have you believe. An expensive

Notre Dame education would fall by the wayside, as the education required for your average pirate seems to be little more than an understanding of the etymology of "shiver me timbers" and knowledge of the complete conjugation of the word "Ee-yar."

There are, of course, more benefits to the pirate life, but space constraints are bogging me down once again. Some may call it imbecilic that I've devoted an entire column to pirates, but, as I see it, it's no worse than devoting a Viewpoint letter to the reasons Jesus hates people who break parietals. I probably won't end up becoming a pirate, but I can always dream. I've recently acquired a parrot and bandanna. As of now, the bandanna makes me look like a monkey, and all I've taught the parrot how to do is swear at Bill Kirk in three languages, but even Blackbeard had to start somewhere.







You'll find entertainment, sports, *club events*, speakers, and more at:

http://underthedome.nd.edu ND's new comprehensive calendar of campus events

# March 27 - April 9

## COMING DISTRACTIONS

COMPILED BY MEGHAN GOWAN

Spring is in the air, the ground has thawed, and vital energies have returned to healthy pre-summer levels. What to do with this new-found love of life? *Scholastic*'s suggestion — focus your springtime restlessness on expanding your cultural horizons (on campus, of course). *Send submissions for the next calendar to scholast@nd.edu*.

What: Shadows of War, Visions of Peace Student Conference

in just spring .....

When: Opening Dinner Friday 28, 6 p.m. to Closing Concert Saturday 29, 6:15 p.m.

Where: All sessions held at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies

Why: In this time of war, students provide different perspectives on various issues of the peace movement such as "Writing to make a difference: Journalism Promoting Peace and Human Rights" and "The Pacifism of Dorothy Day: Radical or not so Radical?"



What: Lecture on Pain: Why does it hurt? When: Tuesday, April 1 at 7 p.m. Where: Debartolo 102

Why: Dr. Michael Vasko from the South Bend Center for Medical Education speaks on why most psychologically healthy human beings desire to avoid agonizing maladies such as skinned knees, canker sores, and hangovers. If that weren't interesting enough, Pre-Meds will receive two CME credits for attending this session.

What: "A Night on Broadway" Musical Review When: Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29 at 8 p.m.

#### Where: LaFortune Ballroom

Why: Sing (to yourself) and dance (in your head) along with such classic Broadway hits as "Razzle Dazzle" from *Chicago*, "Let's Hear It For the Boy" from *Footloose*, and "Do You Hear the People Sing?" from *Les Miserables*.

What: African Dance Troupe, Lecture and Cultural Exhibition

When: Thursday, April 3 from 6-8 p.m.

Where: Hesburgh Center for International Studies

Why: After a winter of waiting, it's finally International Festival Week! Presented by the African-American Student Association, a visiting dance troupe will entertain audience members with fancy foreign moves followed by an educational lecture.



## What: Flipside Greek Dance

When: Friday, April 4 from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Where: Saint Mary's College Haggar Parlor

Why: You've undoubtedly seen My Big Fat Greek Wedding. Thanks to Flipside, you can dazzle the crowds with the styling steps you've unconsciously memorized. Also, you can freely master the kegstand with the provided root beer kegs.

# Farewell to Family

by Libby Bishop

veryone has heard of Notre Dame. That being said, it's only natural that when people find out I'm a student here they ask why I chose Notre Dame. Chances are they're thinking of some idyllic image; the grotto, touchdown Jesus, the Virgin Mary sitting atop the golden dome. But my reason has nothing to do with those cliched notions. My answer is always the same; I came to Notre Dame because of the people.

Now you're probably thinking my response is a cliche in itself, but think about it for a second. Think of the friends you've made and the relationships you've cultivated. Can you imagine what your life would be like had you not come here? I can't. I don't want to.

From the moment I set foot on campus as a

One of the great fears in life is to not appreciate something until it's gone. By now we've all learned that the things we treasure can be fleeting. It's the things we didn't treasure that we don't miss.

prospective student and trust me, as the child of two alumni I've been a "prospective student" since the age of five — the

Libby Bishop served as student body president for the past school year. She will graduate in May with a double major in psychology and economics. character of the people here was readily apparent. With each and every person I encountered, it seemed as though they were welcoming me into their home. I thought that then, and the last four years have only served to reinforce that belief. Without a doubt, it is the people that make this place great. The scenic campus is easy on the eyes, yes, but those that occupy its buildings work the same way on the soul.

The Admissions Office may have said it best. The saying "Nowhere else but Notre Dame" adorns every guidebook handed out to the high school juniors and seniors who dream of one day enrolling. The book does well to sell the quality of the "typical student," with its profile noting the high percentages of incoming students who were class presidents, valedictorians, captains of varsity athletic squads and the like, but to really see what makes the "typical student" so special, one need only visit this place for just a few hours. There is no outsider. A palpable welcoming feeling exists, something that you can't quantify in a statistic. You can't express the dedication, honesty, thoughtfulness and moral character of Notre Dame students in a guidebook. You have to be there. You have to visit. Notre Dame has one of the highest retention rates in the country, perhaps because students aren't really leaving their home, just relocating it.

Although I'm always asked the question of "why," I've only once been asked the question of "what," more specifically, what did I learn at Notre Dame. My first urge was to think of the many hours spent in the classroom. As a psychology and economics double major I was tempted to speak of Freud or the Gross National Product of Uzbekistan, but that just wasn't it. Sure, I learned a lot about these subjects. I could probably work professionally in either field, and you'd definitely want me on your team in Trivial Pursuit when questions of those genres arise, but when I think of the learning I did in college, it's the things I picked up outside the classroom that I'll carry with me the rest of my life. In my seven semesters here on campus — plus one spent in London — I learned a lot about myself what I want from life and what I value most. And as much as I learned about myself, I've learned twice as much about the amazing group of people I have come to call my friends. That's the knowledge that's most important. That's what college is all about. I have had most of my classes in DeBartolo Hall but the things I'll remember most were learned on the quads and in the dorms.

One of the great fears in life is to not appreciate something until it's gone. By now we've all learned that the things we treasure can be fleeting. It's the things we didn't treasure that we don't miss. I guess I'm glad I'm thinking that way now. I'm taking time to appreciate how lucky I am, how fortunate we all are, to be surrounded by such gifted people. All year I've been looking to the future, applying for jobs in cities I've never been to, without fully embracing the moment and living in the present. I know that in the months and years to come I'll begin to fully appreciate what a wonderful four years I've spent at Notre Dame, but it's not something that needs to wait. Now is the time to start to appreciate this place. I'll live in the moment. The "missing" can wait until after graduation. Six more weeks to make memories worth another 60 years of remembering.

They're two questions, the "why" and the "what," but I guess there's really just one answer. People. They're why I came and they're what I learned about and they're why these four years have been the most memorable of my life.

Hey There Mr. Blue Sky – Ryan Greenberg

...)



# food for thought:



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