CHRIS THOMAS DOMINATES THE COURT

SEE MY PLACE: THE RETURN OF CRIBS

SCHOLAST

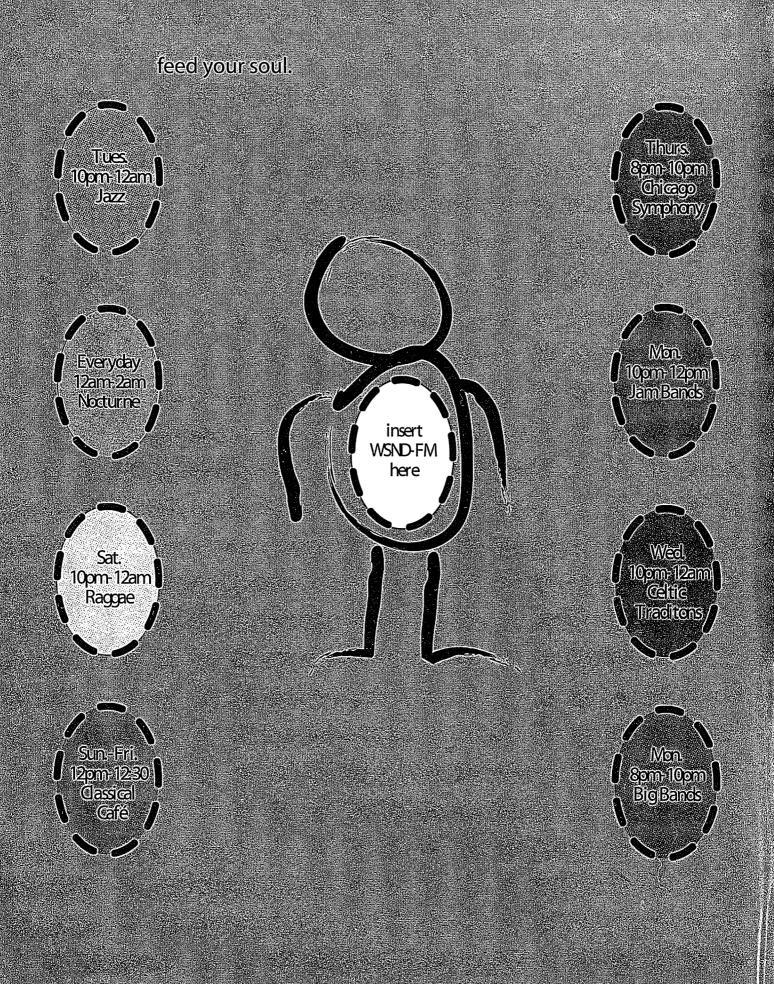
NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE



Notre Dame,

our Mothers

Unplanned Pregnancy at Notre Dame



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COVER ILLUSTRATION NICK ABRAMS

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RESPOND TO: AROBINS2@ND.EDU

Tender, Strong and True

She scribbles notes. She hands in the homework and takes the tests. She sits next to you in class, and she seems like just another Notre Dame student.

But, she isn't — she is a mother.

Or, she has given up a child for adoption. Or, she has terminated a past pregnancy. A child, and perhaps a family, might be in her near future. Whatever her situation, these are things you can't tell just by looking at her.

We have student-athletes and student-workers, but student-mothers? Yes, even here at Notre Dame. Some are married, others are single. Some have parents and spouses to fall back on, others are alone, struggling solo with motherhood.

And while fellow students complain about academic all-nighters, early morning exams, or a fledgling football team, these women carry a far heavier burden.

Before you judge, read. See what it's like to balance college with childcare. See how these women deal with both diapers and DART books, tantrums and teachers.

Whether you agree with the decisions of these women, don't pass up the chance to glimpse inside the unique lives of a few fellow Domers. They could very well be your classmates.

And, then, just maybe, that 10-pager might not seem so earth-shattering after all.

Some Notre Dame students today like to pride themselves on having it all planned out: their careers in cubicles, their nuclear families, their suburban dream houses.

Scholastic's Kelly Faehnle shows that it doesn't take much to turn these plans upside down. During a brief respite from obsessing over semicolons, Kelly stepped inside the world of Notre Dame women trying to raise a child, and their GPAs, at the same time.

A Slice of Humble Pie

urry home and let the tryptophan take over. Have a great Thanksgiving, and come back ready to devour our next issue on Dec. 4.

CUMIR Robinson

Annie Robinson, Managing Editor

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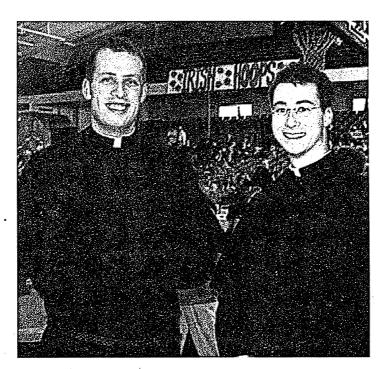
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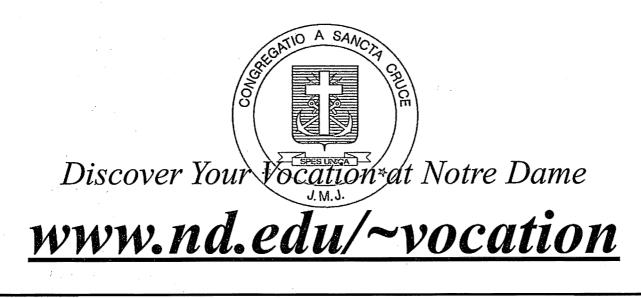
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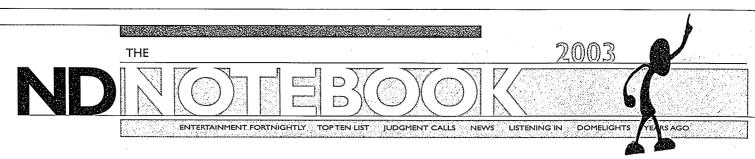
Congregation of Holy Cross We only take the best.

"In the discernment of God's call, we are a brotherhood at the service of the universal church under the pastoral direction of the Pope." ---Constitutions of Holy Cross, V.51



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





Next Time, Try Hitchiking American Airlines discontinues all flights out of South Bend Regional Airport

ANNIE ROBINSON

n Nov. 1, the lights at the American Airlines check-in desk at South Bend Regional Airport went out. Permanently.

American Airlines has discontinued all of its flights from South Bend Regional Airport to Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. The aviation behemoth's decision came as the company decreased the number of flights departing from its St. Louis hub by 50 percent and replaced the remaining flights with smaller regional planes.

"What is serious about the situation is that in South Bend's case, it was the only American Airlines service that we had," says John C. Schalliol, executive director of the St. Joseph County Aiport Authority Administration. "Airports had no say in this," he adds.

"This is a reflection of bad times for airlines since 9/11," says Pat Walsh, vice president of business services for Anthony Travel at Notre Dame. Walsh says Notre Dame students will not be affected drastically by the change, as they still have a number of flight options out of Chicago-O'Hare International Airport.

Despite the difficulty of booking flights to and from South Bend around breaks and home football games, Walsh expects the other airlines at the South Bend airport to be able to make up for the loss of American Airlines' service.

Schalliol and Walsh also both hope that the change is only temporary.

On Oct. 1, Schalliol and Anthony Travel representatives approached American Airlines with a compromise. Schalliol proposed that the airline company compensate for the discontinued South Bend-St. Louis connection with a new service from South Bend to Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport.

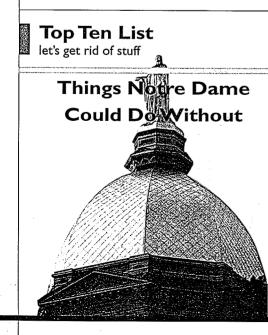
While Fort Wayne International Air-



ONE-WAY TICKET Students hoping to fly American Airlines out of South Bend this season find themselves grounded.

port currently provides flights to Dallas/ Ft. Worth, Schalliol says he told American Airlines that South Bend travelers would provide higher flight yields.

Walsh says he doesn't expect a definitive answer from American Airlines on the possible replacement service until next spring. "When the economy turns around and they get themselves reset," he says, "hopefully they can do South Bend to Dallas."



Love thee, Notre Dame. It's the official party line and, for the most part, it's true. But let's face it. This place ain't perfect. Whether you've been here half a semester or six years, there are a few things about Our Mother that just get under your skin. Scholastic takes a look at what we'd all be happier without.

Stepan Center

Yeah, we know, Stepan gets ragged on all the time. But seriously, it deserves every insult it gets. Besides serving as a massive corral for freshman test-takers, no one's really sure why it's there. And when was the bland, white geodesic dome considered the cutting edge of architectural design? Did anyone really think the future lay in buildings that looked like giant zits? It's time somebody popped this one.

Parents' Weekends

Because campus just isn't crowded enough on home football weekends, the university needs to go out of its way to invite everybody's parents to visit. Sure, it means dinner and laundry money, but it also means dredging up interesting factoids about random buildings on a packed campus. "And this here — oof, excuse me — this is Stepan. It, uh ... it looks like a giant zit." Ugh.

AcoustiCafe

Lame John Mayer and Dave Matthews Band covers are fine and all, but — no, wait. They're not fine. Cut it out. If you and your friends think you're the next big sound, save it for off-campus parties. At least that way people can drink away the pain that comes with your amateurish caterwauling.

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SCHOLAST@ND.EDU UNITYOUR VOICEDER AND 40 Years Ago

The Death of Football

Although the 2003 Fighting Irish football team has had a rough go of it this year, certain winning traditions in the program seem to remain unbreakable. Saturday the team beat Navy for the 40th consecutive time. Forty! There are three constants in life: Notre Dame will always beat Navy, Dustin Diamond will never portray a character not named 'Screech' and Notre Dame football will always return to prominence, regardless of what anyone says. From Nov. 8, 1963 (the last time Navy beat Notre Dame):

"In early September, the football coach of a prominent eastern university made this prognostication about Notre Dame's chances in 1963: 'Coach Hugh Devore definitely has his work cut out for him. If this team goes 5-5, it will be a tremendous accomplishment.'

Now, with only four games remaining, a 5-5 record ... would be a near-miracle.

... If the Irish are to come back ... (a) miracle is to happen."

– Mike Healy

<u>HEY YOU!</u>

Campus Prices

Just because most of the student body are sheep doesn't mean the university should fleece us for wanting anything from toothpaste to books. How many gold-plated Cadillacs does the administration really need?

Security Personnel From the guards at the gates to the sentinels placed in women's dorms at night, Notre Dame is more reminiscent of a police state than a university. Your friend's bleeding out of every pore and you need to get your car onto campus to bring him to the hospital? Nope. Sorry. Go around to D6.

Crappy Climate Control

Whatever ungodly amount of money we pay for room and board should buy us some decent, working heat. For the love of Pete, all we ask for is a radiator that'll turn on and off when we want it to. And that doesn't clank, hiss and spray scalding, brown liquid everywhere. We won't be holding our breath.

Squirrels

Maybe they're cute and furry and innocent. Or maybe that's just what they want you to think while secretly they construct an all-consuming engine of destruction with which they'll conquer all of humanity. On second thought, maybe the little guys aren't so bad after all.

Dining Hall Food

It's "quantity over quality" taken to its most shocking, horrible extreme. Mass quantities of leathery, meat-like products and pasty, tasteless side items sure don't hit the spot. Given a choice between rat poison and spicy sea nuggets ... well, you know what to do.

Parietals

Welcome to the wonderful world of Puritanical gender relations. Combine this astoundingly archaic tradition with the aforementioned heating problems, and the Notre Dame experience closely resembles living in a log cabin in 1600s Virginia.

South Bend

It's boring. It's ugly. It smells. Make it – Ryan Greene go away.

Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations



BAGPIPE PLAYING IN SOUTH DINING HALL

Hey, some of us are trying to work here. Then again, it does help fill the void of crushing loneliness of working in a basement. So alone. So very alone.



THE SHIRT SUBSTITUTES

If you can afford the fashionable green Lacoste golf shirt you wear instead, you can probably take the hit on the charity-supporting The Shirt purchase.



COLD WEATHER

On the one hand, cold weather is cold. On the other hand, cold weather does provide endless fodder for the campus' experienced cartoonists. Lucky us.



KROC

She gave over \$200 million to National Public Radio, a deserving cause. We'll refrain from pointing out the irony that a benefactor of a prominent conservative institution is giving money to a not-soconservative media outlet.



SPORTS ILLUSTRATED ON CAMPUS

Yeah, calling us over Flordia State was a bad idea. Way to follow that up by picking Navy to win. Got any lottery numbers for us to play?

ENTERTAINMENT FORTNIGHTLY

Christmas Comes Too Early

This year, the money-making juggernaut that is the holiday season starts sooner than ever.

RYANGREENE

erry Christmas, everybody! Happy Hannukah! Happy Festi — what? Oh, I'm sorry. It's only Nov. 13, which means the holiday season hasn't started yet.

Tell that to the geniuses in the advertising and entertainment industries.

Traditionally, corporations have had the decency to wait until after Thanksgiving before drowning the nation in everything from frightening, animatronic Santas to

endless playings of "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer" on the radio. Unfortunately, that deadline has been creeping ever earlier and this year they've gone too far.

Millions of trick-

or-treaters barely had the time to pass out from faded sugar-highs before every department store and media outlet broke out the tinsel and candy canes. November has barely begun and already soulless Santa automatons have invaded malls across the country. Grandma's already getting her fool self flattened on radio stations playing Christmas songs around the clock.

Even Hollywood's in on it. Last weekend, two holiday-themed films, *Love Actually* and *Elf*, made their way into box offices. Okay, so *Love Actually* features Colin Firth, Hugh Grant and many of Britain's other finest actors and revolves around a series of separate romantic relationships with the Christmas season remaining only a backdrop. And *Elf* stars Will Ferrell, who plays a human raised as one of Santa's elves only to be sent into

November has barely begun and already soulless Santa automatons have invaded malls across the country.



the real world to find his real family. But even given the strong cast and storyline of the former and the Will Ferrell-fulness of the latter, it's just too early for trimmed trees and eggnog.

Annoyingly enough, this isn't the first time this sort of thing has happened. One of 2000's biggest holiday hits, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, the nauseatingly commercialized take on the Dr. Seuss book, made it to theaters Nov. 8. Last year's most unwelcome

Christmas film, *The* Santa Clause 2, a painful rehashing of Tim Allen as a self-centered suburbanite-turned-jolly old elf, hit screens as early as Nov. 1.

It's understandable that, as in the summer

months, studios look to milk the holiday season for every penny they can grab. But the vast majority of Christmas films are such schlock that they only last in theaters a few weeks. Releasing unremarkable drivel like *The Santa Clause 2* seven weeks before Christmas instead of four only accomplishes two things. It decreases the film's already lousy chances of still being in theaters when Christmas rolls around, and it starts annoying people that much sooner. So really, waiting at least until Thanksgiving can't hurt all that much.

Besides, if this trend continues, what's next? Painting Easter eggs on Dec. 26? Breaking out sparklers and fireworks in April? Before you know it, talking apes will rule the world and Charlton Heston will be our only hope for the future. Oh, the humanity!

DomeLights COMPILED BY MIKE HEALY

Source: Notre Dame course selection booklet

At an academically rigorous institution such as Notre Dame, there is bound to be an air of competitiveness between the various disciplines. Students from different colleges and majors are always trying to proclaim the superiority of their education in comparison to other fields of study. Often heard is the contention of an engineering student that, "Without engineering, there would be no buildings," or an English major that, "Without English, there would be no words." These various proclamations beg the question: Which major allows you to have the most fun? Well, through a great deal of hard work, and a few papercuts (seven), yours truly did a little research and found out which majors are most likely to offer late classes, allowing you to party the night away.

Percentage of classes starting at or before 9:35 a.m. (by major/college) English 5.7% History 25.86% Engineering 21.7%

Mathematics 20.16% Business 18.78% Architecture 26.6%

Life Support

when a Notre Dame woman faces unplanned pregnancy

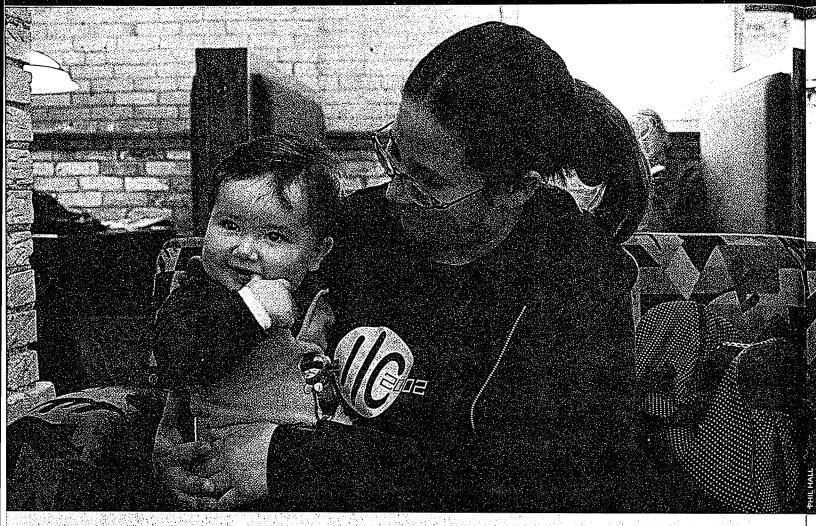
KELLY**FAEHNLE**

enny Hunsberger walked around Notre Dame campus her senior year feeling like a different woman from the one she once was.

"You have this persona of somebody who's really fun and can be kind of crazy, and then, all of a sudden you're walking around feeling very different from everybody else that you see because your life has dramatically changed over the last nine months. And you're not like everybody else anymore. You're a mother."

Jenny, now the director of the Women's Care Centers of Marshall County, Ind., found out that she was pregnant in August of 1993, four days before she was supposed to fly to Rome and spend her junior

year there as a student in the Notre Dame Architecture program.



LIKE MOTHER, LIKE SON Notre Dame sophomore Cecilia and her six-month-old son, Samuel, smile in the basement of LaFortune Student Center.

So, what happened? This is, after all, the University of Notre Dame, where the student handbook; *duLac*, says: "Because a genuine and complete expression of love through sex requires a commitment to a total living and sharing together of two persons in marriage, the University believes that sexual union should occur only in marriage. Students found in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary suspension or permanent dismissal."

Ask Notre Dame students what they think happens to Notre Dame women who get pregnant, and the responses range from guesses to cynicism:

"Don't they get kicked off campus?"

"Don't they get sent to ResLife for having sex?"

"Notre Dame girls get pregnant?"

Speculation, rumors and ignorance all contribute to a grim perception of the consequences for pregnant female students. There are a few obvious facts that stimulate such ideas, however: There are not many unmarried, pregnant girls walking around campus; and Notre Dame, following Catholic teachings, not only discourages premarital sex, but will not allow information or materials regarding contraception on campus. Does Notre Dame shun girls who become pregnant? Not quite.

Jenny Hunsberger graduated in 1995 — on time — leaving Notre Dame with a degree and a small family of her own: baby Patrick and husband Ryan.

Regardless of the premarital sex rule, duLac also states, "For pastoral reasons, unmarried students facing an unplanned pregnancy will not be subject to disciplinary action for the pregnancy."

In reality, there are no "consequences" as far as the university is concerned, explains Sister Mary Louise Gude, C.S.C., assistant vice president for Student Affairs. "The Church supports life," Gude says. "So if on the one hand, the Church is preaching Right to Life, and on the other hand, somebody is pregnant and agrees to carry this child and not have an abortion, how can a school that calls itself Catholic operate out of a double standard?"

To avoid this double standard, she says, the university recognizes that the sanctity of human life takes precedence over any other university rules. Ultimately, the life of the child is more important than punishing the woman for premarital sex, and threatening a woman with expulsion would only increase the pressure to terminate the pregnancy.

Women are not immediately kicked out of residence halls, either. Gude says that when she is asked this question, her response is an adamant "No! Are you kidding?" She says the university realizes that many times the best support comes from the woman's dorm friends and rector, and it would not want to separate the woman from that valuable companionship. Women often choose to move out of the dorm once they start "showing," but they are welcome to stay as long as they want, up until the birth of the child.

"No one should tell anyone to leave because you are pregnant and single," says Ann E. Kleva, R.N., director of University Health Services. She does acknowledge, however, that some girls choose to leave campus or school until after the birth simply because they feel more comfortable elsewhere.

So the actual reaction of Notre Dame

is quite different from what most students seem to expect: Instead of a disapproving frown, the women receive psychological and tangible support. Gude and Sister Jean Lenz, O.S.F., also an assistant vice president for Student Affairs, work with students in a role that Gude compares to being a sort of "control tower," helping the women manage housing, academic exemptions and financial assistance.

Gude is responsible for the classified that appears daily and the ad that appears biweekly in *The Observer*; which lists contact information for some resources available to Notre Dame women who are facing an unplanned pregnancy. Gude and Lenz are at the top of that list, followed by John and Sylvia Dillon in Campus Ministry; Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich at the Counseling Center; and Kleva, at University Health Services. Two South Bend community resources are also listed: the Women's Care Center (WCC) and Catholic Charities.

Finding Out

Each case of unplanned pregnancy differs from the next just as the women themselves do. Jenny's situation was unique from the start because she worked at the Women's Care Center (WCC) when she found out she was pregnant. She had come across the WCC at a Center for Social Concerns open house her freshman year, and signed up to volunteer. She continued working there during the summer, since she lived in South Bend, and into her sophomore year as well. In August between her sophomore and junior years, she actually administered her own pregnancy test, a service that the WCC offers for free. The test result: positive.

"All of a sudden," Jenny says, "you feel like your world is just crashing down around you. And you had this plan ... [but] all that changes in the two minutes that it takes to run the test. Most women find that terrifying."

Various Notre Dame resources try to assist these women. Health Services is one of the first places women tend to go, because the physical signs of pregnancy are the first to worry them, says Kleva. She says that her first move would be to empathize with the woman and reassure her. Kleva has been with Notre Dame for 10 years, but it is her previous experience that helps her sympathize with these women the most: she spent 13 years as a

Registered Nurse (RN) in the maternity unit at Memorial Hospital in South Bend and one year helping an obstetrician.

Letting People Know

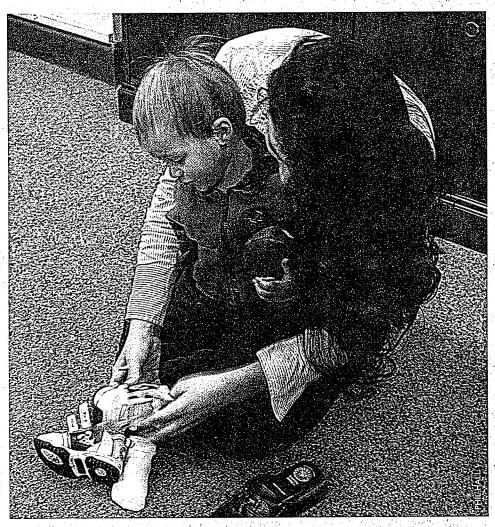
The next major step is figuring out how to tell people. Jenny says that although telling Ryan, the baby's father, was difficult, it was not as difficult as telling others. Ryan, not a Notre Dame student, and Jenny had been dating only since the beginning of that summer. They told their respective families about the pregnancy the day after she found out. Jenny counts herself lucky that both families received the news well and were supportive.

That's not always the case. Kleva remembers one example of a woman's mother taking the news fairly hard. The mother had been a nun, but left the sisterhood to get married. Kleva recalls speaking extensively with the woman's mother: "[She had] all this guilt inside. 'I'm Christian. I thought I brought my daughter up in this Catholic environment. I thought I had done all the right things. Where did I go wrong?' Trying to love and support her daughter, but trying to handle her own feelings."

Kleva says that the fear of disappointing people, especially parents, seems to run high among women facing unplanned pregnancy. This is especially true among typical Notre Dame women, who are generally high-achievers, many of whom plan their futures with ambitious careers in sight — not a baby.

Another fear arises when women are unsure of how the university will react. But Sr. Carrine Etheridge, I.H.M., the rector of Farley Hall, reinforces the idea put forth by *duLac* and Gude: Notre Dame acts on behalf of the woman and her child, rather than against her. "These [women] are the people we should be tipping our hats to for really being pro-life: it's easy to carry a placard, it's tough to carry a child."

Etheridge has had several experiences with unplanned pregnancies in her dorm



THE NOT-SO-TERRIBLE TWOS Notre Dame student-mother April helps her son, Logan.

during her 11 years as rector. "It's a good thing God gives us nine months," she says, since this gives time to recover from the shock, denial and fear that the pregnant women often feel. She tells the girls, "We've got nine months to work on this, you don't have to decide everything. You don't have to decide the baby's future, where they're going to college, tonight. It will all be one step at a time."

Now What?

The largest obstacle comes next: What to do now? The three main options — adoption, abortion, raising the baby — all come with their own complications that make a decision far from easy. The first decision is whether to carry the baby or to terminate the pregnancy. As far as the Notre Dame administration is concerned, there really is only one option. Catholic doctrine dictates that life begins at conception.

Jenny says that abortion was never an option for her and that, in fact, she has never met a woman who *wants* to have an abortion. Instead, the woman might see it as her only escape or "the least terrible

of a lot of really awful options." Kleva agrees: "À lot of girls will entertain that option out of fear, out of lack of knowledge of what support and resources there are. Also maybe sometimes denial: They just want it to go away because of all the responsibilities they have here."

Barbara Burlingham, an adoption specialist and counselor with Catholic Charities in South Bend, says, "We do get some people who come in and kind of want to be talked out of [abortion] or see what their other options are." The free counseling available at Catholic Charities is not meant to be persuasive, however, but rather a way to look at all the options. Individual counseling is available, but it also offers the unique service of introducing women to others in similar situations. Burlingham and her staff can put a woman in touch with someone who has gone through an abortion, for example, to talk about the decision and the after-effects.

Catholic Charities also has a program called Project Rachel for post-abortion counseling. The program involves mostly grief counseling, and also the chance for reunification with the Catholic Church if the woman chooses.

Most women who come to Catholic Charities, and to the other Notre Dame resources, have already made the decision that they will carry the baby and now are looking at the option of adoption versus keeping the child. Catholic Charities provides assistance for adoptions. Burlingham describes the typical woman who chooses adoption: "She has to be intelligent enough to understand what being a parent means and to know that she is not ready at that point in her life. Secondly, she has to have enough love in her life in order to trust other people. If she can't trust other people, she's never going to be able to relinquish her child to another family forever."

Because of the wisdom, love, and trust that the decision requires, Burlingham insists, "Girls who choose adoption today, of their own free will, are girls who would be good mothers someday, but the timing is not right."

Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich, the director of the University Counseling Center and a concurrent assistant professor of

Living it now

Two single mothers balance Notre Dame student life with raising their children

pril Driver and Cecilia Stanton-Espinoza know what it's like to be simultaneously students and mothers at Notre Dame. They have a few things in common: They are attending Notre Dame, living in University Village, and raising baby boys as single mothers. But the similarities end there.

Cecilia is a second-semester sophomore romance languages major raising her sixmonth-old son Samuel. April is finishing her Chinese major and Russian supplemental major this semester — a semester early — and raising her 22-month-old son Logan. And while things have gone fairly smoothly for Cecilia so far, April has traveled a rough road the past couple years. The disparity between these two women's experiences illustrates the complexity involved: No two students are the same, so no two situations are the same, and the complications are worked out in very different ways.

Cecilia has much of her time at Notre Dame still ahead of her. And though she knows the next two years won't be easy, she's extremely optimistic. She found out that she was pregnant at the beginning of her sophomore year in the 2002 fall semester. The father is in Chile, where she is from. They are still together, but separated for now, while she is studying here.

Cecilia says that when she first found out, her rector, Candace Carson in Welsh Family Hall, was very helpful and directed her to the right people. Sr. Mary Louise Gude, C.S.C., assistant vice-president for Student Affairs, helped her make arrangements for housing in University Village. She is also especially grateful to Ava Preacher, assistant dean in the Office of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Arts & Letters, who helped her with housing and planning her academic future. She took the spring 2003 semester off, and baby Samuel was born on April 30.

Cecilia is fortunate because her school expenses are covered by scholarships and her parents have been able to help with her other financial needs. Cecilia's mother has even lived with her this semester to help with childcare, though her mother returns to Chile this week. Cecilia says that she is confident that she will be able to work things out even after her mother is gone, since her friends, as well as other University Village mothers, have been there for her and have offered their help any time she would need it. "But you never know," Cecilia says. "Anything can happen, so I'm taking it step by step for now."

April, on the other hand, is nearing the end of a very difficult two and a half years psychology, says that the decision is a continual process right up until the actual birth of the child. In fact, that's when Jenny made her final decision.

Almost from the onset, Jenny thought adoption would be the best option. She went to Rome for the first semester of her junior year and received prenatal care there. She says it became clear that, even though she was not due until May, Rome was not the best place for her to be, and she came home at the end of the semester. She decided to take the spring semester off. Instead of living with her mother in South Bend, Jenny moved in with her sister in Washington, D.C., where she met with several prospective adoptive parents. And even though Ryan wished to keep the baby, he still flew out to D.C. to meet with the families.

Even the search for adoptive parents and the extensive counseling that she received in D.C. didn't prepare her completely for May 5, 1994, when baby Patrick arrived. "I thought, 'I knew how much I would love you, I just didn't know how beautiful you would be!' He was perfect," she recalls. She decided to keep him.

Complicating Issues

As harrowing as the decision is in and of itself, an array of factors further complicate the situation: housing and financial concerns, childcare debates, relationship issues with the father, and academic worries. Fortunately, there is help out there for Notre Dame women who need guidance answering these daunting questions.

"When you find out that you're expecting a child, if you burn your bridges and begin to pull out, then I think you kind of shoot yourself in the foot," says Andrea Feay, rector of University Village. "You've got to continue embracing the decision that you're making and draw the community around you and let people help you. And people will."

University Village, located at the northwesternmost corner of campus, just across Douglas Rd., is one of Notre Dame's strongest supports in the way of housing and other financial issues. Most students don't realize it, but University Village is "student family" housing, which welcomes not only married couples, but single parents as well. Feay was the manager of the University Village complex for four years and has been the rector there since the creation of that position a year and a half ago. Students come to her either through contact with Student Affairs, or they apply directly online through Residence Life and Housing. Either way, they are able to enter a community that immediately supports them.

For a rent of \$375 a month plus phone and electric bills, "student families" can enter this supportive community that resembles a dorm in many ways. Each building has a representative almost equivalent to a resident assistant. Currently, 130 children ranging in age from newborn to a sophomore in college live in the community, making it fairly easy to find someone who's been in the same situation for advice on resources, or even, as Feay quips, what to do about your child's mysterious rash.

Besides the human support network, University Village also has the Village Exchange, which is a source of used clothing and bedding — especially the most

of facing pregnancy and single-motherhood at Notre Dame. A Mishawaka resident, she found out that she was pregnant while on a Center for Social Concerns Summer Service Project at St. Margaret's House in California, working with lowincome and homeless families. April says, "That reality of being pregnant [and seeing these families] really pushed me to be like 'I am going to go to school, and I'm going to finish it. And I'm going to find a way." And she's almost there, with just over a month of classes and exams left before she will graduate. But much has happened between those initial moments of shock and today.

April had been dating Logan's father, Steve, for about two years when she discovered her pregnancy. But, Steve was in the Army Rangers, and he pushed for adoption. April wanted to keep her baby, however, and started making plans to raise the child on her own. Steve was deployed in Afghanistan when Logan was born Jan. 10, 2002 and has been deployed three more times since then. April says that while at first he didn't support her, his support has grown tremendously since then and they are currently working through their relationship problems.

April's most cumbersome burden, however, has been financial. She came to Notre Dame on a full Army ROTC scholarship, so when she had to give that up, she had to find money elsewhere. She got some help from the Office of Financial Aid, but it was nowhere near sufficient for her needs. She has had to take out multiple loans just to cover tuition and work several jobs to cover living expenses — not to mention books. She says, "If you're trying to decide, 'Do I want to eat this week, or do I want to buy a book?' You're not going to [choose the book]."

She only took two weeks off after Logan's birth, and has kept up 17 credit hours per semester for the past three semesters, in addition to working several hours per week. Although sleep-deprived, she gets by with her friends' support. With her parents both working full time, she depends on these friends for daycare during classes and work, e-mailing them her schedule each week. "Sometimes [Logan] would have 13 babysitters a week," April says, "which, at first, was very upsetting to me. But no one's ever angry with him. He's very calm; he's really happy."

Through the whole experience, she says she has seen two definite types of people at Notre Dame. There are those who lack a realistic conception of what it means to be a woman and a mother. Then, there are those who take it upon themselves to understand and be compassionate, including many people whom she didn't expect to do so.

Though the university hasn't been as helpful as she hoped, April attributes this to lack of understanding on the part of the administration concerning what a woman in her place needs. She has one suggestion for the university: "If you could get the people who are making all the rules and have them sit down with the people who actually had to [raise a child here], I think there would be a lot more progress."

As one of these mothers stands at the beginning of student-motherhood, and the other finishes her final semester of student-motherhood, these Notre Dame women have a few more things in common: determination to make it, and overwhelming love for their little boys.

— Kelly Faehnle

sex, lies and notre dame

The truth behind campus rumors about contraception and counseling care

hen college life meets Catholic teachings, it all too often creates conflict.

While there are resources for Notre Dame female students who decide to have a child, some females believe the university turns a cold shoulder to students considering more controversial options when faced with an unplanned pregnancy. Are they right?

"No student is turned away," says Ann E. Kleva, R.N., director of Health Services. "It's about support, not judgment. I want the students to know that just because we are a health center at a Catholic university does not mean we will not support them with any medical need."

While many Notre Dame students think otherwise, Health Services treats students with sexually transmitted diseases daily. Kleva also says pregnant females who plan on carrying the baby are directed to off-campus resources for prenatal care, regardless of marital status.

Female patients are often referred to local gynecologists or other specialists (UCC) stresses the sanctity of medical

in town. Health Services provides transportation for these off-site referrals, if they have pre-approved the physicians. The university administration asks that the staff not refer female students to specialists who perform abortions, Kleva says.

Health Services does dispense birth control medication to female students with certain medical needs. "We won't dispense it for contraception, but we will for many medical conditions," Kleva says. Many female students take the medication to treat severe acne, painful menstrual cycles or amenorrhea. A Health Services physician needs to approve the dispensation, Kleva says.

Kleva stresses the importance of confidentiality in these sensitive cases. Will a female student who is single and pregnant or considering an abortion be reported to the administration? Absolutely not, says Kleva. "They can rest assured, no matter what, their medical records are not shared," she says.

The University Counseling Center

confidentiality. The UCC and Health Services do not share patient records, unless students are suicidal or sign an information release, says Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich, director of the UCC.

If a female student is struggling emotionally after deciding to have an abortion or give up a child for adoption, the UCC will not refuse to provide her with counseling. Although there is not a UCC specialist in abortion or adoption counseling, Steibe-Pasalich says that the generalists on her staff are well-trained to deal with problems that typically afflict college students.

"I would say every one of our counselors has dealt with grief and loss issues, whether that's abortion, a breakup or divorce," she says. "It's a very common issue, no matter what the precipitating cause of it is."

Steibe-Pasalich insists that no student will be refused support because of a decision contrary to Catholic teaching. "We want to help [the female student] deal with those feelings, because it's interfering with her ability to function as a student."

-Annie Robinson

needed: maternity clothing. Feay and the community also help with the furnishing of the apartment, helping find couches and lamps, and with finding childcare either through the girl's dorm or with other families living in University Village.

Other resources for tangible support come from Catholic Charities and the WCC, both of which have programs for financial aid. These sources, as well as many government programs, provide a backbone of support making the choice of keeping the baby feasible.

Jenny's mother, who lived a few minutes from campus, was Jenny's main support as Jenny embarked on her new life. It meant Jenny could live at home and leave Patrick with her mother during classes. After her semester off, she came back to Notre Dame for two summer school sessions to catch up before her senior year. She switched from an architecture major - which has studio requirements that were overwhelming as she

to art history. She is appreciative of the support and understanding she received from professors, friends, and especially Ryan, who stood by her through it all.

Working out the relationship with the father is another major struggle many women face. On one hand, the young mothers are trying to make decisions for their own lives and the life of their child; on the other hand, they have to deal with potentially difficult relationship issues. John and Sylvia Dillon, the directors of Marriage Preparation and Enrichment in Campus Ministry, try to help couples decide if marriage is the right route — because, John says, it's not always right. "Choosing your partner is a very discerning choice," John says, "and pregnancy usually speeds up that decisionmaking process. We always try to slow it down, but sometimes they make the best choice they can under the circumstances,

and you always hope it's the right one."

Jenny and Ryan did choose marriage. During her time in D.C. they grew closer, but, she says, "We didn't even consider getting married before the baby was born and wouldn't allow ourselves to consider getting married until after we knew what was going on with the baby because we didn't want to get married for the wrong reasons." But on July 4, 1994, two months after Patrick was born, they got engaged and were married Dec. 30 of that year.

"For me, it was a tremendously grounding experience," she says, describing coming back to Notre Dame. "Life became, in some ways, simplified: I had a baby to take care of, a wedding to plan, and school to work on. So I just did those things and didn't try to do 50 other things."

"The Notre Dame Family"

Notre Dame does what it can to balance its rules and regulations with its concern



FAMILY AFFAIR Jenny, her husband, Ryan, and their five children now live in South Bend. Jenny became pregnant with her first child as a junior at Notre Dame in 1993.

and compassion. "The university has very high standards, a very high and demanding code of conduct and very high standards: for itself in terms of support — regardless of how someone arrived at a point," Jenny says.

Is there more that the university could do in order to support these women better? In the opinion of a few rectors, the support that does exist on campus could be better advertised so that it is more accessible. But some say that with the Observer ads and published resources in duLac, Notre Dame does as much as it should. "It's a delicate balance," says Sylvia. "It's not a matter of advertising in the sense of making it sound like it's no big deal if you get pregnant. You don't want to bend over backward and make it so easy for people to not even skip a beat, because then what are we saying in terms of responsibility? This is a huge responsibility now, to have another life to be concerned about and make decisions around ... it's not something we can just 'fix.'" Steibe-Pasalich adds, "You can advertise all you want, but people don't take that in because it doesn't pertain to them, yet."

With the on-campus childcare not beginning until age two and the sky-high price of textbooks, Feay sees room for improvement, but she also sees the university slowly but surely implementing positive change. Sr. Susan Dunn, O.P., rector of Lyons Hall, says that Notre Dame shows a willingness to offer resources and contact information for off-campus help, and that is what is most important.

Jenny and Ryan's family — which now includes four more children — is only the story of one family with a happy ending. What if she had it to do over again? "I certainly wouldn't want the outcome to be any different than it is," she says. "I think that we made really kind of big mistakes that profoundly hurt a lot of people that we loved. But, at the same time, the good that has come out of this life is really a great blessing."

And there have been other positive stories that beat the stereotypes at Notre Dame. Farley Hall rector Sr. Etheridge remembers several. There's the student who brought her baby back and her dorm friends threw her a baby shower. There's, the student who got married and lived in University Village until she graduated. There's the student who depended on the babysitting talents of girls in her dorm and continued attending classes. There's the student who, after receiving too much flak at home, lived with her professor, allowing her to finish the semester. There's even a student who had her child baptized at the closing Mass of Pop Farley week.

Gude, Etheridge, and Jenny agree: This is the Notre Dame Family, taking care of new Notre Dame families.

Spirit of Philanthropy

Benefactor Joan B. Kroc left millions to Notre Dame in her will

EMILY**PALADINO**

n a spirit of generosity and dedication to the pursuit of peace, Joan B. Kroc, the charismatic philanthropist who founded Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, left \$50 million to the institute upon her passing

in October, which is the largest single gift in university history.

Kroc, the widow of Mc-Donald's founder Ray Kroc, was a close friend of the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C., and left the money to the university in Hesburgh's name. The donation will establish the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Fund for Graduate Peace Studies.

Joan Kroc first met Hesburgh at the University of California – San Diego in 1985, when he lectured on the importance of peace studies at the university level and efforts at Notre Dame to institute a new studies

institute a peace studies program.

The auditorium was packed, but one woman in particular stood out in the crowd. "I noticed that this lady in the front was very intent on every word I said," Hesburgh recalls.

After the speech, the woman approached him and said that she was impressed by his work and wanted to support his cause. She left without telling Hesburgh her name.

Six months later, he received a phone call from Kroc, the woman who had approached him at the lecture. Kroc, who had no previous affiliation with the university, gave \$6 million to the university in order to establish the Kroc Institute.

Hesburgh kept in close contact with Kroc over the years, and she continued to contribute to the peace studies program. In 1988, she gave another \$6 million to the university to build the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, which houses both the Peace Studies program and the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies. In all, she contributed \$69.1 million to Notre Dame.

"There's no question that, because of her generosity, we're going to have the best Peace Studies program in the whole world," Hesburgh says.

Kroc Institute Director Scott Appleby first met Kroc while serving as a fellow



PEACE HOUSING The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies is located in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

for the Institute nearly six years ago. He became director in 2000 and kept in close contact with Kroc, whom he describes as a very private woman.

The money will be used mainly to expand the institute's masters program to two years, Appleby says. The program currently has 24 masters degree candidates from 17 different countries, so most of the students do not speak English as their primary language. As a result, these students need more time to perform reading- and writing-related activities. A two-year program would enable the students to spend more time researching and reading, in addition to doing field research.

Under the redesigned program, students will spend their first two semesters in the classroom, perform fieldwork away from the university in their third and then return to campus for their last semester to synthesize their academic work and handson experiences.

Field research is an important new aspect of the program because it will help peace studies students to "develop and apply their book knowledge and their academic knowledge in a concrete peace-building setting," Appleby says.

Although the gift is for the graduate program, Appleby says he believes that undergraduate programs will benefit from Kroc's generosity as well. "As you can imag-

> ine, with a gift that big and that much money, we'll be able to hire excellent professors who will also be teaching our undergraduate students," he says.

Peace studies graduate student Josh Moore says that although he never met Kroc, she did make an effort to reach out to the students in a personal way. Even after she found out that she was dying, she sent each student in the program two books: *Face to Face With the Bomb*, a photographic essay on nuclear weapons, and *War is a Force that Gives Us*

Meaning "She was dying, and yet she was thinking about nourishing our consciences and minds in a personal way," Moore says.

"We feel that we're endowed with a certain responsibility to carry on the legacy of Joan Kroc," Moore says. "How do you repay that? You try to stay as true as you can to her mission and her sensibilities. You work for peace and justice in all aspects of your life," he explains. "To go through the program and do nothing would be ungrateful."

The graduate students in the Kroc program contributed money to plant a tree outside the Hesburgh Center for International Studies in memory of Kroc. The blossoming tree will be planted and dedicated later this fall. Under the tree, a bronze plaque will read, "In memory of Joan B. Kroc: May her legacy of peace blossom within each of us and in our communities around the world. From the graduate students of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies."

Fighting For a Cause

A small group of students venture off-campus to engage in protests

HALLEKIEFER

very Friday, a group of University of Notre Dame students gathers outside Taco Bell on La Salle Avenue in downtown South Bend. These students are not satisfying their appetites; they are there to protest.

The group is primarily made up of Notre Dame's Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) members, who are working in support of a nationwide boycott against Taco Bell. Holding posters and handing out leaflets to people driving or walking by the intersection, the students say they are protesting on behalf of farm laborers who hold Taco Bell accountable for alleged poor treatment and low wages.

Group member Brigette Gynther says that the demonstrations, which they call "Fair Food Fridays," were implemented in response to an issue first introduced to several Notre Dame students in 2001. That year, Notre Dame students visited Florida during spring break for a Center for Social Concerns Migrant Experience seminar. Students then had the chance to meet with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a group founded in 1997 in Immokalee, Fla.

The coalition is a community-based organization created to represent migrant tomatopickers in southwest Florida. The CIW began a boycott of Taco Bell on April 1, 2001 in an effort to draw national attention to alleged harsh working conditions facing migrant farmers, as well as to call for the institution and maintenance of a living wage.

Two former Notre Dame students, Julie Hodek ('01) and Joanna Garcia ('02), and senior Gynther took part in the seminar. When they returned to Notre Dame, they and other students staged demonstrations at a Mishawaka Taco Bell. The effort was the first CIW protest against Taco Bell outside of Florida.

After a few more demonstrations, the PSA started weekly protests at other local Taco Bells in the fall of 2002. The group was spurred by Gynther's involvement with Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida, where it was suggested that those college students who do not have a Taco Bell on campus should protest the ones in their communities. Gynther, Notre Dame graduate Angel Castelan ('03) and other members of PSA have since continued their work on the boycott.

The protest centers on conflicting claims from Taco Bell Corp. and the CIW. According to the CIW, Florida laborers employed by tomato growers that supply Taco Bell make approximately 40-50 cents for every 32pound bucket of tomatoes they pick. Migrant laborers reportedly have to pick two tons of tomatoes in order to make \$50 for a 12-hour work day. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the median income of farm workers is \$7,500 a year. (But many farm workers are



YO QUIERO JUSTICE Several students protest a local Taco Bell in downtown South Bend.

not employed for all 12 months of the year.) The CIW also alleges that these workers are not guaranteed protection in terms of overtime pay, health insurance, sick leave or paid holidays.

Sally George, manager of public relations for Taco Bell Corp., says the efforts of the CIW are misdirected at Taco Bell. She says that the Immokalee farm workers are employed by Six L's Packing Company, not Taco Bell. This packing company is one of many across the country that supply tomatoes to Taco Bell. "We do not believe it is our place to interfere with the labor issues of a company unrelated to ours," George says in a Taco Bell press statement.

In the same statement, George says that Six L's Packing Company informed Taco Bell Corp. that its farm workers earn an average of \$9 an hour, and that some farm workers earn up to \$12 per hour. George says Six L's Packing Company reserves the right to decide wages for its workers and prices for its tomatoes.

George also says that Taco Bell purchases less than one percent of the 360 million pounds of tomatoes that Six L's produces annually. Nevertheless, the CIW hopes that by pressuring Taco Bell publicly, the company will then pressure Six L's Packing Company to increase wages or allow workers to unionize. The CIW also encourages college students to lobby their administrations to keep Taco Bell franchises off of their campuses.

"It's people's right to protest, and they can certainly do it," George says in an interview with *Scholastic*. "It's unfortu-

nate, really, when they're protesting and targeting local business owners." George says that Taco Bell Corp. does not object to outdoor demonstrators, as long as they are peaceful and the demonstration does not take place on Taco Bell-owned property or inside the restaurant. George also says that all Taco Bell management staffs are provided with informational fliers explaining the company's position on the controversy. Employees are told to give to these fliers to inquiring media outlets and interested patrons.

On Friday, Nov. 7, members of PSA, as well as the staff director of the Citizen's Action Coalition of South Bend, Mike Comini, lined the sidewalk in front of downtown South Bend's Taco Bell. Located near a stoplight, demonstrators hold signs and proffered information sheets to interested bystanders. Often drivers rolled down their car windows to take a flier. "We get a lot of reaction. There a lot of working class people in South Bend, and they respond well to the boycott," says Kamaria Porter, the current coordinator of Fair Food Fridays. Adds Gynther: "The people who drive by are, in general, more receptive and supportive than at the other Taco Bells we have been to. They also often ask us for more information and give us supportive comments or honks when they find out what is going on."

Despite the heated debate, Taco Bell's George says the company does not see any reason to inhibit protesters' right to demonstrate. "It's freedom of speech," she says, "And we're not going to interfere with that."

— With reporting by Annie Robinson

Thinkin' 'bout Drinkin'

A new study continues the ongoing debate over campus alcohol use

ANNE**HELTZEL**

otre Dame's Irish-Catholic character has always led to certain preconceptions about the campus' alcohol consumption. Students, faculty and administrators continuously debate how Notre Dame's drinking culture compares to that of other schools. Recent studies indicate that Notre Dame might be more susceptible to instances of heavy drinking due to several factors pertaining to the campus culture and its student body composition.

Dr. Henry Wechsler, PhD, one of the most published researchers in the field of alcohol abuse. is a leading authority in the study of binge drinking on college campuses. He is a social psychologist and the director of the Harvard School of Public Health's College Alcohol Studies Program. According to Wechsler, Notre Dame could be particularly vulnerable to binge drinking due to a number of factors he says are associated

with heavier drinking. "Binge drinking" is defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in a row at least once in the past two weeks by males, and four or more by females.

Wechsler says those factors relevant to Notre Dame are its low diversity, high level of athletic interest and competition, location in the North Central region of the United States and religious affiliation (non-fundamentalist-Protestant). Wechsler's studies show that college administrations wishing to reduce alcohol problems should take into consideration the demographic diversity and student body composition of their universities.

According to Gina Firth, director of Notre Dame's Office of Alcohol and Drug Education, Notre Dame is average in relation to other schools with respect to alcohol intake. Firth says that although five to ten years ago alcohol consumption at Notre Dame was above average, numbers are going down due to the recently tightened alcohol policies, along with the fact that more students coming into the school are choosing to abstain from drinking. Although 44 percent of all college students are binge drinkers, surveys show that 77.5 percent of Notre Dame students drink once a week or less, and 67.1 percent of students consume four or they will have fewer non-drinking role models. Such social situations are quite common at a predominately white school, making Notre Dame more susceptible to binge drinking.

Wechsler's work, though highly controversial, has had significant influence on the administrations of many colleges across the country. According to Firth, another highly influential source of information is *College Drinking: Changing the Culture* — the largest report currently in circulation regarding alcohol and alcohol policies on college campuses. The

report, co-chaired by Notre Dame President Rev. Fr. Edward Malloy, C.S.C., is found on the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAA) Web site and serves as the primary guide for the formatting of alcohol policies at many colleges.

CNN.com also reports that binge drinking is a problem at colleges in the U.S., and has many negative effects including violence and vandalism. Firth concurs, saying that as binge-drinking

levels rise, so do incidences of secondary problems. Firth does, however, consider the term "binge drinking" to be subjective, as the determining factors of a binge drinker could either be under the legal alcohol limit or far past it, depending on the physical makeup of the drinker.

One extreme complains of the overly indulgent lifestyle here, while the other claims there is a complete lack of a "party scene" due to rigid regulations that are widespread across campus. However, no matter where personal opinions fall, Wechsler's study shows that Notre Dame's demographic characteristics make the student population statistically more likely to be deemed at risk for bingedrinking behavior.



less drinks in a drinking situation.

Despite these statistics, Firth says

Notre Dame does show typical signs

of a binge-drinking school, such as its

homogenous student body. Since Notre

Dame is comprised primarily of white,

upper-class Catholics, its student body

could be considered more susceptible to

tured on CNN.com states that white

males and younger students have higher

drinking rates than do African- and

Asian-Americans, females and older

says that when young, white males in-

teract to the exclusion of other groups,

Wechsler, as quoted by CNN.com,

A recent report of Wechsler's fea-

situations of high alcohol intake.

students.

Feminism: Not Another Dirty Word

A new campus group hopes to raise awareness about feminist issues

LAURENWILCOX

an-haters. Angry whiners. Feminazis that want to take over the world and suppress all men. These are only a few of the negative stereotypes associated with the word "feminism." A group of Notre Dame students intends to combat these stereotypes by raising awareness and educating the student body about a truer meaning of feminism.

This group, currently called the Pangborn Hall Gender Council, is in the initial stages of applying for university club recognition. Members meet every Sunday at 5:00 p.m. in Pangborn Hall's social space to discuss feminist issues and make plans for achieving recognition as an official student club. If they attain recognition and club status, their name will be changed to "Feminist Voice."

Junior Mayra Gomez initiated the creation of the feminist organization last year.

"The main reason that triggered everything was when we had the 30th anniversary for coeducation [at Notre Dame]. There wasn't much talk about it, just one day and a couple of fliers," Gomez says. This gave her the idea of developing a club dedicated to curbing inequalities so women and all minorities will be recognized.

After receiving support for a feminism group from Heather Rakoczy, the rector of Pangborn, Gomez began investigating the school's process for club recognition. Rakoczy agreed to be the group's staff advisor.

The group's first goals include providing awareness of feminism and feminist issues, promoting equality and developing a newsletter that targets the central issues of feminism. The feminist group hopes to attract a diverse membership from Saint Mary's College women and Notre Dame women and men.

Senior Rose Lindgren, the unofficial vice president, starts off Sunday meetings by asking members to define feminism. Members shout out phrases about the equality of all people, inclusion of all classes, empowerment of women and fighting against ageism.

"Our purpose is to raise awareness about feminism and feminist causes. We talk about how feminism causes are not just women-only causes, but include work against discrimination and ageism," Lindgren says.

Group members are currently in the process of composing a constitution and applying for recognition as an official university club. However, they face hesitance from Notre Dame's Club Coordination Council. Initially, speculation arose that the university would not recognize a feminist club. The university does express concern about the club's stance on feminist issues that are contrary to Catholic teachings on birth



GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS Pangborn Hall Gender Council founder Mayra Gomez (left) and staff adivsor Heather Rakoczy discuss feminist issues at one of the group's meetings.

control, abortion and homosexuality.

"With certain clubs we want to make sure they aren't contrary to the Catholic character of the university," says Amy Geist, student groups coordinator for Student Activities.

After the Student Activities coordinators viewed a preliminary draft of the club's constitution, they informed the group that a clause must be added to the introductory paragraph stating that the club will not take a public stance contrary to the Catholic Church's teachings on birth control, abortion and sexual preference. All clubs must state that they will uphold the university's Catholic character.

"I do not think they would ask any other club to add this [clause], because feminism contains certain ideologies," Lindgren says.

While some group members fear that this clause will hamper the group's purpose, other members say that there are many issues more central to feminism.

"When they gave us a clause, it seems that these [teachings contrary to the Catholic Church] are the issues they think we discuss the most. I think they are stereotyping us," Lindgren says. "When we started the group we knew that we would run into issues for the reason we wanted to start a club — misconceptions about what feminism is."

Official club status grants the club pay off in the end."

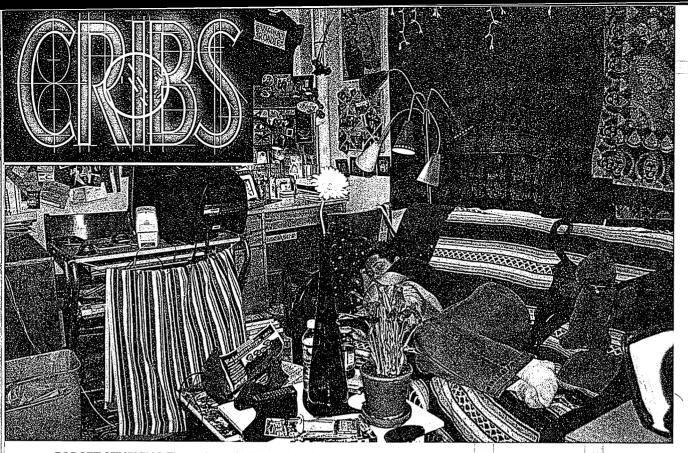
funding from the university, the ability to hold meetings on campus, permission to hang up posters around campus and means to work with other groups and departments to co-sponsor events and speakers.

The group plans to publish a newsletter approximately twice per semester to educate students about definitions of feminism and feminist issues. It will include articles, book reviews, CD reviews and a page about social work opportunities and campus events concerning feminism.

Service opportunities will be a major factor for the group. "As much as we talk, it is not as good as action," Lindgren says. Some of the volunteer opportunities may include working at the battered women's shelter and promoting benefits such as fundraisers for AIDS patients. In order to combat age discrimination, group members intend to work with the elderly.

Additionally, they want to set up alliances with other diversity-oriented student groups and organizations such as the Progressive Student Alliance, Black Cultural Arts Club and Outreach ND.

The road to attaining club recognition has been a difficult one, but group members remain hopeful. As Gomez says, "It has been a back-and-forth process, but will definitely pay off in the end."



FORGET STUDYING The residents of 34/36 Pangborn have filled their rooms with every odd and end imaginable. But nothing beats a good, old-fashioned nap.

Fun and relaxation in Pangborn Hall

ANNAO'CONNOR

smiling, folded-paper penguin welcomes visitors to rooms 34/36 Pangborn Hall.

Marco, as the rooms' residents call him, is the first glimpse of the spirit and cheerfulness of this quad.

"We knew we had a penguin. We just built the room up from that," resident Sarah Sibley says.

The four sophomores who reside in the room — Sibley, Jessica Maciejewski, Jacquelyn Kramer and Kaity Redfield — are especially proud of the array of colorful decorations within. The multicolored lights that line the tapestry window curtains, various movie and art posters that cover the walls, and vivid coffee tables hand-painted by Sibley, give the room an eclectic feel.

"We got a lot of stuff for free," says Sibley. "I found the carpet and the futon behind Lyons Hall last spring. And the rest of the stuff we collected from a bunch of yard sales over the summer." They say the decorations not only enhance the room, but also reflect their personalities. "There is a lot of variety in our room, and there is a lot of variety between us – in where we are from, our majors and our interests," says Maciejewski.

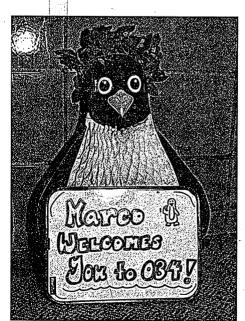
In addition to Marco, the girls have a fish named Oscar, a cactus affectionately called Ouch, a dying peace lily named Gandhi and Rob, "... a teddy-fairy that wears pearls," says Sibley.

The residents are pleased with the results of their collaborative decorating efforts.

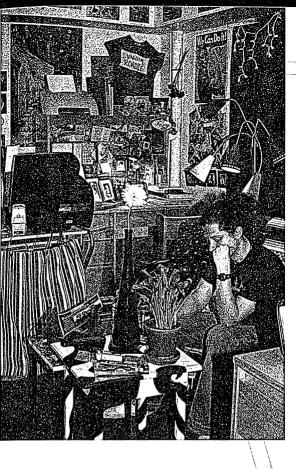
"I would add on another 10 feet in all directions, but other than that I wouldn't change anything," says Maciejewski.

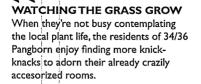
"I am not here very often," says architecture major Kramer, who logs many hours in the studio. "But when I am, it's good times."

So if you are wandering the halls of Pangborn, stop by rooms 34/36. Marco will let you in.



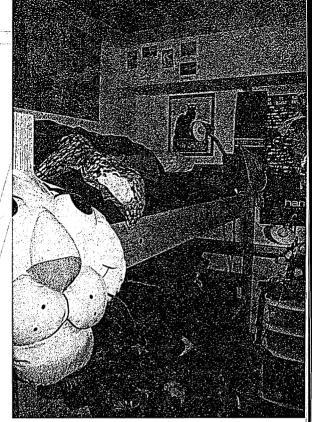
WADDLE ON IN Marco the Penguin greets visitors to 34/36 with a smile.





DON'T MIND THE MESS The Pink Panther stands out among countless posters, pictures and postcards. And he won't mention the unmade beds if you won't.

>>



A Fish Called Oscar (and a Penguin Called Marco)



FOUR WOMEN AND A FUTON The residents of 34/36 Pangborn — Sarah Sibley, Jessica Maciejewski, Jacquelyn Kramer and Kaity Redfield — love nothing more than the chance to hang out together in their uniquely decorated rooms. Featuring all sorts of decorations, from handpainted furniture to a pet fish named Oscar, 34/36 has a little of everything.



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. Maureen Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

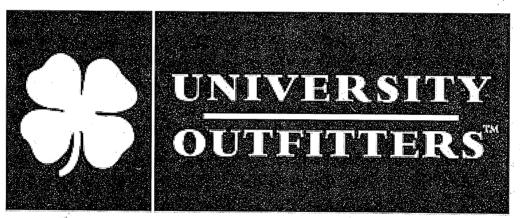
For more information, check out our web site: <u>http://www.nd.edu/~scglsn/</u>

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to the Editor

... and see your name in print. scholast@nd.edu



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EGIPPER

TIP THE GIPP GIPPER @ND EDU

Vell, Gipplings, our fun in the sun is finally over. After a few unseasonably warm weeks, the Bend's cold hand of winter has finally grabbed us. And this seems to put some students in a mood so foul that even a football victory combined with a few Gipp "seamen" puns wouldn't cheer them up. That's perfectly fine though, as these next few tips should allow the Gipp to fulfill his gratuitous joke quota for this week.

Not That There's Anything Wrong With It

First, we travel back to this past weekend, and meet a birthday girl who says she had the noble and classy 20th b-day wish of having all of her friends get some sweet lovin'. Now, the Gipp wasn't provided pseudonyms, so he'll have to give his own names to our five-member cast of characters: Tipster's Dirty Roomie, Destiny, Ginger, Ace and Gary.

The drama began when Ace (Destiny's boytoy) and Gary decided that they would sincerely enjoy witnessing Roomie, Destiny, and Ginger enter into some type of arrangement dubbed "a triple kiss." Why the hell not, replied the ladies. But, alas, their acceptance was contingent on one minor detail: Ace and Gary must swap spit too. So, as the story always go, the females lived up to their end of the bargain but the males reneged. Ah, the old "you go first" trick — brilliant.

Roomie proceeded to tell Gary that he will, in our tipster's eloquent phrasing, "get laid" if he tickles Ace's tongue. Destiny swears that she will never lay next to Ace again if he doesn't do as he promised.

We all know that sex sells, and apparently it persuades, too. "This was no peck ... everyone at the party saw it," says our birthday baby in describing the encounter. Then, in logic-defying fashion, the two couples joined forces in the upstairs bathroom for four times the fun.

In our denouement, both gents got lucky

(Ah! Crucify those bastards, ResLife!), but they weren't winners in all senses of the word. As expected, the subsequent ridicule was harsh, and probably was expressed best by the "Go Ace, Love Gary" signs that appeared on an interhall football field the following afternoon. Hmm, maybe that's why Alumni's players are known to be softies.

Usually, this space would be reserved for Gipp's standard post-tip social commentary. But in this case, he seems to have no witty comments to add, or at least no witty comments that wouldn't step on some very sensitive toes. So, um ... moving on ...



REBELLION Seriously, officer, I've just been working my legs a lot at the Rock...

Do You See What I See?

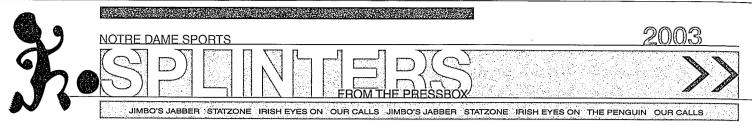
Would a Gipp column be a Gipp column without lowbrow urine jokes? Don't answer that.

It has been brought to the Gipper's attention that certain flaws exist in the architectural design of our campus' most recently updated edifice. The Gipp is sure that when the clever engineers dreamed up tinted glass that would allow restaurant patrons to see out but not passersby to see in, they didn't run through this scenario: You're eating a pre-game cheeseburger and enjoying "Beer #507" from the sophisticated list, when a subway alum six cans deep into his tailgating routine decides to cut the port-a-pisser lines and relieve himself on the innocent-looking wall of a nearby building. He sees only brick and black glass, but you get a free show. "Hey waiter, nix that lemonade order, please." For some asinine reason, probably something like "Pleasing customers" or "Not ruining business," the staff of this eatery sent an employee outside to warn the clueless performer.

Bootleggin', ND style

Sure, the whole marshmallow debate is old news, but this one was too good to leave unpublished. The Gipp recently received a pictorial explanation of exactly how those sneaky students slip by stadium security (see photo). The Gipp usually doesn't allow tipsters to use the Gipp's pen as a campus-wide microphone to spread their propaganda, but he'll make an exception this time: "This reader wants to express his disgust at the rest of the seniors for being scared of the ushers and not continuing the tradition," concluded our tipster. The Gipp agrees. They can't possibly have 2,000 pairs of handcuffs. So listen up, seniors. If everybody smuggles in a bag or two, nobody can get in trouble. Plus, confiscating your empty ticket book isn't too much of a threat at this point. The Gipp strongly urges you to unify and make your last halftime a memorable one.

Nothing brightens the Gipp's day like the combination of tricked-out mirrors and four-ways. If only we had photographic evidence of those first two tips ... Have a great Turkey day, all. Next time we meet, we'll be having white dreams. Of Christmas, you perverts.



Jimbo's Jabber

five-hour drive up Interstate 94 would lead you to Collegeville, Minnesota and the campus of St. John's University, a small all-male Catholic liberal arts college about 75 miles outside of Minneapolis. But this is no ordinary small town. Here, football is king, as the Division III Johnnies now have won conference titles in 10 of the last 13 seasons. And behind it all is a man who himself is an institution.

A unique man with an even more unique coaching style, John Gagliardi (pronounced guh-LAHR-dee) is now in his 51st season at the helm of St. John's. He began coaching football at the age of 16 when his high school coach was drafted during World War II. As captain, Gagliardi took over the reins and hasn't put them down since.

And just this last Saturday, on a day which saw Notre Dame beat Navy for the 40th time in as many seasons, Virginia Tech fall at Pittsburgh, Miami lose for the second straight week and Oklahoma hang 77 points on Texas A&M before the fourth quarter, Gagliardi quietly became the winningest coach in college football history. With St. John's 29-26 win over Bethel, the Johnnies clinched another conference championship and Gagliardi recorded his 409th win, surpassing the mark that Eddie Robinson set in 1997 with Division I-AA's Grambling.

In his 55 seasons as a college head coach, Gagliardi has won three national championships (1963, '65, '76) and 26 conference titles. More impressive, however, are his coaching tactics. As a football player in high school, Gagliardi encountered many things about Saluting the new king of college football, John Gagliardi by Jimmy Atkinson — jatkins1@nd.edu

practice that he did not like. He, therefore, has put together a list of things that he does not allow during his practices. They are referred to as his "Winning With No's," which include:

No blocking sleds or dummies. No scholarships. No spring practices. No compulsory weight-lifting program. No whistles. No "Coach." Players call him John. No tackling in practice. ics, drills, lengthy practices and weight lifting, Gagliardi simply takes football as a game of common sense and teaches it as such. His practices are purposeful in that he focuses simply on flawless execution. By simplifying the game, his players gain much enjoyment in coming to practice and learning from him. Each year, over 150 of the 1,700 men at St. John's turn out to play for Gagliardi's football program.

Although the program has been a great success under

Gagliardi takes out all that is not entirely necessary from his practices. And all he simply does is win.

Short practices. Ninety minutes or less. No cuts. Everyone who tries out makes the team.

No calisthenics.

Yes, that is right, no calisthenics. Well, his version of calisthenics includes ear stretching, in which the player takes his lobes by the fingers and pulls them back and forth, up and down. Another favorite is the nice day drill, during which a player lies on his back, looks at the clouds and pronounces, "Nice day."

And there is no question who the leaders of the team are. Gagliardi simply makes every senior on the team a captain. That way, they can all put on their resume that they were captains.

So while at thousands of high schools and colleges across America, coaches discipline their players into the ground with calisthenhis tutelage, Gagliardi down-

plays it all. After the game on Satur- day, Gagliardi was asked how it felt to break the all-time wins record. "It's nice, I guess," he said. "It sure beats being at the bottom ... It was a win, just like any other. But I guess this one was a little more special because of the occasion."

Indeed it was special. Bobby Bowden, the Division I-A leader and second-most victorious active coach in wins with 340, would need six undefeated seasons after Gagliardi retires to break his record. It is quite possible, therefore, that several decades may pass before this record is ever broken again.

While so many others make football a complicated game, difficult for fans, players and coaches alike to fully grasp at times, Gagliardi takes out all that is not entirely necessary. And all he simply does is win.



Men's Soccer (14-3-3): Led by the National Player of the Week, goaltender Chris Sawyer, the Irish defeated the Connecticut Huskies (8-8-3) the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 9 in the Big East quarterfinals. The win propelled the team into the Big East semifinals where they will face Providence (6-9-3) on the afternoon of Friday, Nov. 14 in Connecticut.

Women's Soccer (19-2-1): The Notre Dame women's soccer team was rewarded on Monday for their great play this season with the number 2 overall seed for the upcoming NCAA Championship. They will host the first two

rounds of the tournament this weekend

and will take on Loyola of Chicago (7-10-

RISHEYESON



Senior defender Melissa Tancredi from Ancaster, Ontario is the core of the Irish defense that has allowed a mere 11 goals in their 22 games this season. She grew up playing forward and was not moved to the backfield until halfway though the 2002 season. Tancredi leads the defense in scoring with three goals and five assists and recently was named Big East Defensive Player of the Year.

What position did you play growing up and in high school? Forward.

Why were you switched from forward to defense in the middle of last season?

Because of all the injuries in the back, they needed someone to step in, and with my size and athleticism I was called upon to fill that spot. My coaches always thought I would make a great defender, but I never really gave it a chance. If you ask me, it was their plan the whole time. Don't let them tell you otherwise.

What has been the most difficult part of the transition? Being aware that mistakes made in the backfield can cost your team the game. I found this out the hard way.

What is your most memorable moment as a Notre Dame soccer player? Honestly, I am still searching and waiting for that moment. I have an exact idea of what it is going to be like, and I'm trying my best to make that dream to come true.

What is the difference between this year's 19-2-1 team and last year's 13-8 team?

Depth, consistency and a successful team concept of pressing. Last year we had talent, but this year I feel like we can attack a team from any point of the field with every single player.

What is one word that describes the Notre Dame defense this year? Intense.

What is your favorite color and why? Blue. It matches so nicely with everything

– Mike Iselin

NOTIRE DAME Our Calls Football opponent: season where: the gridiron when: saturdays

At last, the Irish are nearing the end of their season and do not face another ranked opponent. Wins over BYU, Stanford and Syracuse may just be enough to propel Notre Dame to a berth in the Continental Tire Bowl. Irish Final record: 7-6.

> JIMMY**ATKINSON** SPORTS EDITOR

OUR CALLS

Notre Dame will sweep out the rest of the season to finish 6-6. The Irish will handily
 defeat BYU 31-10. Two weeks from now the team will travel out to California where coach Willingham will get a bittersweet victory over the team he previously coached defeating Stanford 20-13. The Irish will dismantle the Orangemen 34-17 in the last game of the season.

MIKE**ISELIN** ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Key to the Season:

Momentum

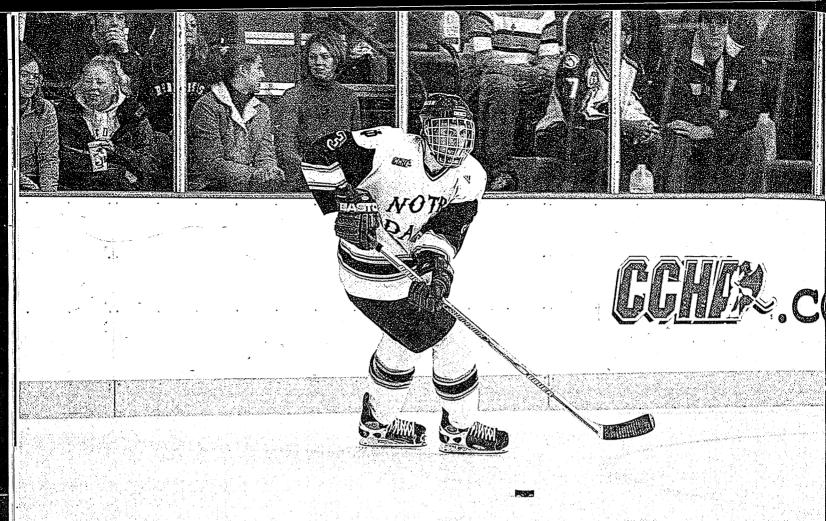
The Irish finally have something to celebrate about after last week's victory over Navy. And with a schedule that features considerably less talented teams than the first portion of the season, it is quite conceivable that Notre Dame could finish the regular season 6-6 if they can keep the momentum meter swung to their side.

0) at home on of Friday, Nov. 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball (21-3): After an impressive sweep of Miami (21-8) last Sunday the Irish lost for the first time in 15 matches on Tuesday night against 13th ranked Northern Iowa.The final two games before the start of the Big East tournament are at West Virginia (9-19) and Pittsburgh (20-4) this Saturday, Nov. 14 and Sunday, Nov. 15.

Hockey (6-3-1): Led by the goaltending of the National Rookie of the Month, David Brown, the Irish have gotten off to a great start this season. They suffered a slight setback against Michigan State in East Lansing last weekend, Nov. 8-9, coming away with a loss and a tie, but are looking forward to next weekend, Nov. 15-16, when Lake Superior State (3-3-2) will come into the Joyce Center for two games.

NEL STREET



ICE BREAKER Walk-on Mathieson's stellar performance on the ice is paralleled by his excellence in the classroom.

Checks Hard,

Studies Hard

Defenseman T.J. Mathieson excels on the rink and in the classroom

CHRIS**MESKILL**

hile most collegiate student-athletes bear the unfortunate stereotype of "not exactly being rocket scientists," 6'1", 200-pound Notre Dame senior hockey player T.J. Mathieson really is one. The Clarksville, Maryland, native, an aerospace engineering major, walked on to the Irish Hockey team his freshman year and has played defense for the team every year since. As evidenced by his making the Dean's List for the past three years, as well as his carrying a cumulative 3.81 GPA, Mathieson's work ethic is more than impressive. Among his many accomplishments, Mathieson has been a member of the Tau Beta Pi national engineering honor society and also earned a 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2001 semester. Mathieson is one of the few multi-time winners of the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rockne Student-Athlete Award. In addition, Mathieson was awarded the Patrick J. Deviny Scholarship for persistence and enthusiasm among Notre Dame engineering students.

"His work ethic is tremendous," ninth-year hockey head coach Dave Poulin ('82) says. "I think [Mathieson] draws on [both academics and athletics] to crossover. A large part of his discipline on the ice, he learns in the classroom. Likewise, he takes the aspects of the great game we play into engineering projects and his working

in the summer."

Mathieson's work ethic is well-known by both his coaches and his teachers. "A lot of coaches along the way knew that I liked to do well academically," he says. "Likewise, teachers encouraged me with hockey. It has been a give-and-take relationship along the way."

An average day for Mathieson consists of balancing practice and homework. Mathieson estimates that he works about four to six hours a day on homework, in addition to attending classes and daily hockey practice. However, this tight schedule keeps Mathieson on track. "I know that once I am done with dinner, I have got to get to work because I just don't have the time to waste," he says.

Not surprisingly, Mathieson's hockey career began at an early age and of his own volition, choosing hockey over his



ENGINEERING A VICTORY Always on the run, Mathieson hopes to work with jet engines after college.

familial sports: His father was a swimmer at the University of Maryland and his cousins were baseball players at Virginia Tech.

Mathieson developed a love for

hockey while watching Washington Capitals games as a young boy. The intrepid Mathieson starred on his high school hockey team as a four-year letter-winner, two-time captain and team MVP.

Mathieson had another passion in high school: aerospace engineering. However, his dueling interests made choosing a college difficult for Mathieson.

"Maryland isn't much of a hockey hotbed, so I had to get out of the state," Mathieson says. After playing for a year in Chicago, Mathieson discovered Notre Dame to be the perfect setting to showcase both of his talents. "It's a school that had aerospace engineering, which is something I've always wanted to do, and hockey on top of that," he says. "I was drawn to it."

After entering into Notre Dame's Class of 2004, Mathieson successfully walked on to the hockey team. It was not easy, however. "Being a walk-on freshman, you don't speak up quite as much, but as you got into the role, you learn what you can say." In his first two years, Mathieson quickly made a niche for himself on the team.

Mathieson has tackled different roles during his hockey career. During his freshman and sophomore years, Mathieson played 35 games for the Irish, with one goal and one assist. With strong defensive recruits choosing to play for Notre Dame, Mathieson was bumped out of the spotlight for the Irish and played only nine games during his junior and senior years. However, he has continued to impact the team.

"At some points he has played more than at other times, but whatever role he's had, he's accepted it," Poulin says.

Mathieson has also contributed to the recent marked progress of Notre Dame's younger players. "He's been an ideal role model," Poulin says. "[Mathieson] shows the freshmen that they can do this. So, when they feel totally overwhelmed, you can point to T.J. and say, 'here's an example of proper time management at the highest level."" Now that Mathieson's collegiate hockey career is coming to a close, he has begun to look into the future, even though he indicates that it is still up in the air.

Although unsure of what career path to take after Notre Dame, Mathieson's work as an intern at General Electric Aircraft Engines in Cincinnati, Ohio this past summer helped him get a feel for some real-life aerospace engineering.

Mathieson's work dealt mostly with jet engines and completing stress analyses of the engine turbines. After reviewing this data, Mathieson worked on modeling a program to run tests on a computer and wrote reports on their findings.

"It was a great experience for me," Mathieson says. "I learned a lot about how things work in industry and how things I learned here are applied out in the real world. Here, you solve problems that other people have already done, but out there, you solve problems that no one has solved before."

Mathieson is now considering entering into a technical field and continuing to work with jet engines. But he has not yet committed to any particular future career. Mathieson is also a candidate for the esteemed Rhodes, Mitchell, and Marshall scholarships for post-graduate studies.

"I know he is considering being an astronaut," Poulin says. "I'll be cheering for him at Cape Canaveral: when the shuttle takes off and T.J. Mathieson, the former University of Notre Dame hockey player, is driving the thing."

A student-athlete in the truest sense of the term, T.J. Mathieson exhibits the qualities that bind a team together. Whether that is a hockey team or an engineering team, Mathieson has shown that he has the ability and the drive to go places — possibly even outer space. Now, he is left with only one athletic aspiration to reach: winning a national championship. Mathieson's career, however, has been successful no matter what the result of this year may happen to be. Poulin says it best: "[Mathieson] has really got the best of both worlds."

The One and Only

Junior point guard Chris Thomas returns to lead the Irish men's basketball team

JIMMY**ATKINSON**

e is No. 1 — the only player ever to wear that number at Notre Dame. And it suits him well. A unique player in a class all his own, junior point guard Chris Thomas is Notre Dame's returning leader in points and assists from last season. After leading the Irish to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1987. Thomas returns once again to anchor the Irish backcourt and pace the attack.

As co-captain of this year's squad, Thomas

leads the team not only in offensive statistics but also in character. His ability to take control of a game marks him as a playmaker. His athleticism and confidence make anyone believe that he is the real deal.

The first Mr. Basketball from Indiana to attend Notre Dame. Thomas led his alma mater Pike High School to a state championship in his senior season. One of 12 McDonald's All-Americans, he arrived at Notre Dame with the expectation that he would make an immediate difference. And he did just that, setting the pace from the get-go when he recorded a tripledouble in his first collegiate game as a true freshman. In that game against New Hampshire, he also shattered the Notre Dame record for steals in a single game. He came away

with 11, breaking the previous record of seven set by Ray Martin in 1974. Since he set foot on this campus, Thomas has been the starting point guard for the Irish and is helping put Notre Dame men's basketball back on the map.

On May 6, Thomas disheartened Notre Dame fans by entering his name in the 2003 NBA Draft. But, after being named the National Freshman of the Year in 2002 and an honorable mention All-American in 2003, he had all the credentials and talent to make it in the pros.

During the following weeks, Thomas carefully considered his options, always returning to Notre Dame in the back of his mind. He worked out with several NBA teams in pre-draft camps, including the Boston Celtics, Seattle Supersonics, Orlando Magic, Miami Heat and Phoenix Suns. Thomas' goal was to be drafted in the first round. If he felt as though this was unattainable, he said he would return to school. He took care never to hire an agent, which would have made him ineligible to return to NCAA competition.

On June 16, Thomas, predicting that a second-round selection would be the best that he could hope for, withdrew his name from the draft just days before the deadline. He returned to Notre Dame and allowed fourthyear head coach Mike Brey and the Irish faithful to breathe a collective sigh of relief.

The process was not without its benefits, however. Working out with professional basketball teams made him a better player. "It improved my game a lot," he says. "I was playing with the best players. I was playing with smarter, faster, more athletic players, and the more I played with them, the more I caught up with them."

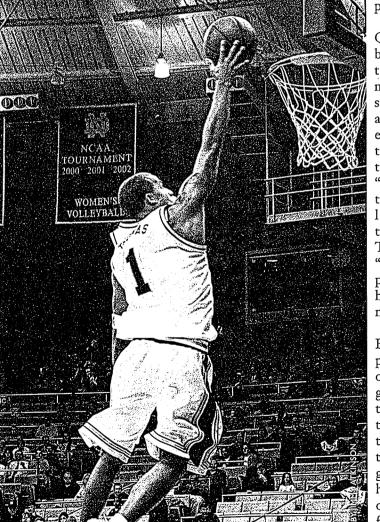
But Thomas no longer wishes to talk

about the decisions he made regarding his professional status. "To be back here at school and get the season underway, that's what I've been waiting for since I declared I would be coming back," he says. "That's in the past. I'm moving on. I'm looking forward to the next game."

Nor has he had any regrets about backing away from the NBA. "Ever since I did that, I felt a huge weight lifted off my shoulders, because I really thought I made the right decision," he says. "From here on out, my focus is on the Irish and making each one of these players on my team better."

With his selfless attitude and crafty ability to dish the ball off to teammates, it is no wonder why Thomas prefers his No. 1 jersey. He started wearing No. 1 during the Indiana-Kentucky high school all-star series following his prep career. "I felt that it would be an opportunity for me to establish my name at Notre Dame and it's worked out so far," Thomas says. "I asked Brey about it and he said I could have it and after that, everybody told us I was the first player [to wear that number]. Now I'm sure there will be many more players."

Thomas easily has stepped back into his role as leader of the Notre Dame squad. In the first exhibition test of the season against Hoop Group, he played 38 minutes, led the team with 25 points, and finished with nine assists and only one turnover. More impressive, however, was the effective teamwork between Thomas and sophomore guard Chris Quinn, who played 33 minutes and finished with 12 points. The two guards assisted each other for



HOOP DREAMS Chris Thomas goes in for a lay up.

a combined points.

Certainly, Ouinn can be expected to contribute much more this season. Thomas definitely expects good things from the two guards. "We're going to surprise a lot of people this season." Thomas says. "Not many people have heard [Quinn's] name."

Accordingly, Brey's game plan will rely on the two guards to set the pace for the rest of his team. Before the exhibition game last week, he pulled them over just before the tip-off to have a word with them. Brey instructed the two guards

Career Statistics

67 games started
37.3 minutes per game
.396 shooting percentage
.326 three-point FG percentage
.879 free throw percentage
3.7 rebounds per game
488 assists
134 steals
1,153 points

that he wanted them to control the game. "I said, 'You should control the game with two guys like you on the floor," Brey says. "They love playing with each other [and] they know how to play off each other."

It is no surprise that Brey puts so much confidence in his backcourt. Thomas' ability to single-handedly change the pace of the game with his quick speed and hands may be his strongest attribute. Yet, it may also be what he needs the most work on. A fast and confident guard, Thomas occasionally becomes overconfident, which can lead him to speed up the game's tempo unnecessarily. But with two years now under his belt, Thomas seems like he is settling into a more mature role on the team.

And the team is in need of a playmaker with the departure of three-point specialist Matt Carroll.

Brey certainly has given Thomas his approval to be that playmaker when necessary. "When we do stall, and you sense we need a play to get out of trouble, he's the guy, he'll always be the guy, and we better get the heck out of his way and let him be the guy, quite frankly," Brey says.

While Thomas has not indicated yet whether or not this will be his final season in an Irish uniform, he is focused on the present. He has no individual goals at this time, only team-oriented ones. "I just want to make each player better," he says. "I want to be the best teammate I can be ... [and] I want to help this team win the championship."

Major Decisions to be Made

The age-old question: Sell your soul or work in a liquor store?

'm about to register for classes for my last semester at this hallowed institution, and all I can say is that I'm jealous of those who are graduating early. It's not because I'll have a hard course-load next semester. Technically, I could graduate at Christmas as well, with a degree in Film, Television, & Theatre and a respectable GPA. However, in my ongoing attempt to make myself a more well-rounded unhirable person, I'm going to stay an extra semester and take a back-breaking grand total of two classes so I can finish my English major. Two. Count 'em.

No, I'm jealous of the early graduates because they're actually getting out of the beer-soaked halls of academia, and entering the oh-so-scary real world. To me, that's a big step, akin to a

baby bird leaving the nest. Only in this case, the nest is a patriarchal, intrusive institution dedicated to churning out baby birds who conform to Catholic doctrine, and Mama Bird is sending out bills for \$100,000 worth of debt. All of that for a major you weren't even sure you wanted in the first place.

There are no hard and fast rules for choosing a major. Two schools of thought do exist, however. The first method is, of course, to study what interests you. If you enjoy following current events, political science may be for you. If the Internet is your thing, computer science will be, too. If you like to get high and discuss Voltaire, then you are a PLS poster-boy. And so on.

The *other* school of thought is the one which dictates that you choose your major with an eye toward a future career. Pre-meds are, of course, a prime example of these high-strung individuals. They spend three years slowly freaking out about the MCATs, only to spend one frantic year wondering if they'll be forced to go to a tiny, disreputable medical school on one of the Caribbean islands.

Business majors are another example of the latter school of thought. At this point I should add the disclaimer that I came to this school fully intending to be a business major. This intent lasted until my very first business class. Everything was going fine at first, but a few weeks into the course, I'd notice a small, sharp pain in my chest. That's when I realized that my soul was being slowly, methodically sucked from my body.

I feel strongly about the business major, mostly because I believe that it is a somewhat less-than-noble academic pursuit. First, the majority of the people who choose business as a major do so because they are interested in making money after they graduate, as opposed to being interested in studying the art of business. I say "majority" because there are a couple rare birds who actually were interested in the business world before they began formally studying it. You know these types. These are the guys who in high school wore starched Polo shirts to class and always had a thermos full of coffee and the stock page of the local paper.

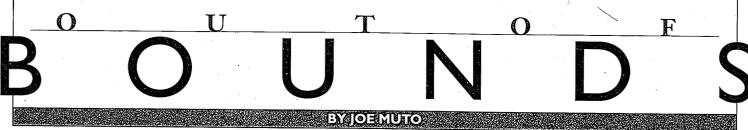
The second reason that I question the academic legitimacy of

The COBA may as well have a Statue of Liberty-like inscription above its doors: "Give me your slackers, your athletes, your huddled freshman yearning for an easy B." the business major is that it just *reeks* of practicality, which, per my understanding, is a cardinal sin of degree acquisition. Apparently, Domers are a pretty practical crowd, because a whopping one-third of the school is enrolled in Mendoza College.

This has led to the administration's public ruminations about limiting the number of business students, perhaps requiring applications for admission to the college. This has sent, I'm sure, scores of people into a panic. Business has long been the catch-all major for those who have absolutely no other interests. The COBA may as well have a Statue of Liberty-like inscription above its doors: "Give me your slackers, your athletes, your huddled freshmen yearning for an easy B." An application pro-

cess would ruin the b-school's street cred as a four-year daycare center for the guy who's just going to graduate and go to work for Daddy's Company.

Maybe I'm being a little harsh. After all, I'm enrolled in two majors that welcome all comers. Never mind that said majors have a rather limited appeal, attracting those who are bound either for grad school or for their parents' basements. And maybe, just maybe, business majors are smarter than I give them credit for. One of my roommates is a finance major with a high GPA, currently getting job offers in the high five-figures from companies in New York and Chicago. Meanwhile, I'm contemplating a job at a liquor store to complement my two classes next semester. Who's the idiot now?



28 SCHOLASTICOUT OF BOUNDS

13 NOVEMBER 2003

Go Beyond Grape

Authentic Italian dining is not far from Notre Dame's campus

CHRISTINEARMSTRONG

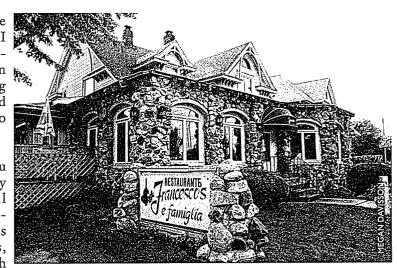
What was a solution of the second state of the

Owner Francesco Catanzariti and his family treat guests like relatives stopping in for a warm meal. Catanzariti's family has a rich history and intimate relationship with the Notre Dame community, which is evident from the entranceway walls adorned with photographs of both the Catanzariti clan and their Notre Dame cousins. The stone decor, array of photos, cozy fireplace and soft background music create a welcoming ambiance reminiscent of a family dining room.

Catanzariti and his family emigrated from Calabria, Italy, to the United States. During his 25 years as a university chef, the Notre Dame priests helped Catanzariti learn English. Then, in 1983, his culinary expertise led him to embark on his first business adventure: An Italian eatery that he operated for three years on Ironwood. In 1984, Catanzariti also began remodeling a house on Lincolnway West, and a year later the Canzariti family opened the doors to Francesco's.

Catanzanariti's son and restaurant manager, Joe Catanzariti, says that formal meals and parties make up the bulk of business. The banquet room, which displays a mural designed and painted by Notre Dame architecture students, is a favorite for Christmas parties, rehearsal dinners, Junior Parents Weekend dinners and graduation celebrations. "Football weekends are big here. It has slowed down a little this year, and I think it is because the team isn't winning like they used to," Francesco Catanzariti says.

The menu offers a variety of traditional Italian appetizers, entrees and desserts, as well as both imported wines and beers. A



imported wines LITTLE ITALY Francesco's authenticity isn't just limited to the food. The atmosphere compliments the menu.

fresh green salad or pasta fagiolo soup is served with each entree. The house salad is a simple combination of fresh greens, tomatoes and onions topped with a homemade Italian dressing. The soup has a tomato base, beans and pasta, and is a good beginning to the delicious meal to come.

It was difficult to choose from a variety of reasonably priced entrees that include Italian favorites such as pasta calabrese, fettucini alfredo and eggplant parmiginana. Seafood lovers can enjoy such favorites as seafood canneloni. We selected the chicken parmigiana and spinach lasagna. Though it took some time for the entrees to arrive, they were well worth the wait. The chicken parmigiana plate included a sizeable piece of chicken and spaghetti topped with a rich Italian tomato sauce. The spinach lasagna plate was tasty, with a simple tomato sauce, but perhaps disappointing for those who enjoy more flavorful dishes.

It was difficult to choose a dessert from among such tantalizing options as amaretto cheesecake, tiramisu, and cannolies. These desserts can be complemented by a cup of cappucino or espresso. We settled on a divine slice of cheesecake drizzled with raspberry sauce.

The restaurant also provides an opportunity to enjoy some great conversation. Francesco Catanzaniti's warmth and honesty make him a favorite among guests. He chats with customers both during and after meals and is eager

tell you to about both of families his — the Catanzaritis and Notre Dame. He fondly recollects his workdays ing at Moreau Seminary, the Fatima Retreat Center and the dining hall. His affection for Notre Dame is shown through



his stories about Monk Malloy's days as a student and of the friendships he made with university priests.

Francesco Catanzariti encourages students to come out for a meal. A few years ago, Jerry Lewis and the cast of *Damn Yankees* traveled from Chicago to Francesco's to enjoy a meal. Likewise, Muhammed Ali has been known to drop down from Michigan for some restaurant specials.

Francesco Catanzariti says, "It's a hard business. You have to advertise to get people to come to us. Once they come, they always come back."



Blast! takes the stage at the Morris Performing Arts Center.

LAUREN KIEHNA

are drums tapping in measured rhythm, shining brass instruments gleaming as fingers dance over their keys, and brightly colored flags swooping and flying in time with the music: All of these images normally are associated with the marching bands that parade across football fields in the crisp autumn air. The latest production to head for the Morris Performing Arts Center in downtown South Bend, however, is not your traditional drum corps presentation.

Blast! combines traditional elements of marching band field shows with the flash of a choreographed stage production in the tradition of such shows as Riverdance and Stomp. In an interview on the Blast! Web site, creator James Mason describes the show as a "Disneyesque" animation that comes to life on a theater stage. The show currently inhabits the theater stage, but its roots of drum corps presentations.

Blast! was born in 1984 as the Star of Indiana Drum & Bugle Corps in Bloomington, Indiana. The corps'

founder, businessman Bill Cook, created it with the intent of providing a musical outlet for the young people of Bloomington. He hired James Mason, a veteran of several drum corps, as the director. Under Mason's direction, the corps soon began to travel and attend competitions, placing 10th in its first appearance at the Drum Corps International World Championships. Their score was the highest ever attained by a novice group. In 1991, the corps won the World Championship.

In a 1995 interview, Cook explained that the secret to the corps' achievement was "experience, a work ethic that goes beyond saying 'I worked hard." The success of the corps inspired Mason to start exploring new creative ideas for performances. The group continued to compete until 1993, when Cook and Mason decided it was time to take the corps to a new level of performance.

In the summer of 1994, the Star of are entrenched firmly in the tradition -- Indiana was invited by the Canadian Brass to be a part of its indoor show tour, "Brass Theater." The 10-city engagement was so successful that they paired again to tour in 1995 and 1996.

"Brass Theater" entertained audiences at venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, Chicago's Ravinia Festival and the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York. The Lincoln Center performance aired on a live national television special on PBS. "Some viewers told us that it was their greatest emotional experience with music," Cook recalls.

In 1997, the "Brass Theater" production moved to a more permanent home in Branson, Missouri. During its tenure in the Branson theater, James Mason began to formulate ideas for a new show that would eventually become Blast! He toyed with color and lighting to give new depth to the show and add a strong visual interpretation of the music. He was confident that the new presentation would be unique among all other stage shows at the time. "Nothing has ever been staged like this before. We're truly creating a new musical genre with Blast!," he said in an interview on the group's Web site.

After the group ended its commitment in Branson in 1998, the company took a summer off to put the finishing touches on the new show. Nearly 500 musicians applied for 70 positions. The youthful ensemble is composed of talented musicians and performers in their 20s and 30s, most of whom performed with marching bands and drum corps while attending college around the country. The group then abandoned the moniker "Brass Theater" for something that would better describe the energy level and excitement of the new show. The new name, *Blast!*, was exactly what they had been looking for.

Soon after, the new ensemble traveled to London to debut *Blast!* The show premiered in London's West End theater district in December 1999 to solid reviews. Performances began to sell out regularly after the cast appeared on two 15-minute television segments for the BBC. The combination of bright col-

ors and familiar, stirring music enchanted the crowds in London until the show moved back to the United States in 2000. The show opened at the Apollo Hammersmith Theater in Boston on August 23, 2000. That same year, another PBS special aired, this time an hour-long look at the show with a behind-thescenes look. A recording deal with RCA for a CD version of the show's music was soon announced, and the ensemble of *Blast!* prepared to launch its Broadway career.

Blast! made its Broadway debut on April 17, 2001. Critics hailed the show's originality; the New York Daily News exclaimed, "What a cast, what a Blast! Their high spirits and enthusiasm are as great as their talent. An exhilarating evening." The New York Post called it "beguiling" and described the energy level as "a Fourth of July translated into a month of Sundays and then squared." The Star-Ledger noted, "Blast! blows away all preconceptions one has about band geeks. Some 15 bravura numbers comprise the swift-footed two-hour event. Blast! thunderstorms through a well-plotted program that mixes classical, jazz, blues and other musical genres."

Mere months after the opening, tragedy struck. *Blast!* was nearing the end of its Broadway engagement when the World Trade Center was attacked in September 2001.

In a 2001 interview, Cook reflected on the involvement of the cast in the aftermath of the attacks: "Members gave freely of themselves to perform for a thousand relief workers and families who lost loved ones in the disaster. The cast was there to help victims' families try to forget for a moment what had befallen them."

Blast! reopened along with the rest of Broadway's shows a few days after the attacks, and completed their run in New York at the end of September.

Since ending its Broadway run, *Blast!* has continued to dazzle audiences all over the country. The show was honored with the first-ever Tony Award



JUST BEAT IT Drum players in Blast! really get into the show.

for Best Special Theatrical Event in 2001, and also received a 2001 Emmy Award for choreography, as well as a Kennedy Center nomination for Best Musical Performance. To reach broader audiences, two production casts began different engagements after the Broadway show closed. One ensemble performed *Blast!* as a part of Disney's California Adventure, and another began touring in the United States and internationally.

The current tour has taken *Blast!* all over the world, beginning in Japan, then traveling through Ganada and the United States. Critics have hailed the touring cast as "wildly creative" and "rhythmically intoxicating." *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch* wrote that

Blast! "ultimately leaves its audience begging for more."

Andrew J. Hoffmann, executive director of the Broadway Theatre League and a Notre Dame graduate, hopes that the production will leave South Bend audiences with the same feeling when it comes to the Morris Performing Arts Center this month. "This is a sort of homecoming for the show," Hoffmann explained, noting the production's Indiana roots. "Marching bands and drum corps are very popular here in the Midwest. People love the marching band at Notre Dame."

Hoffmann says that Notre Dame students will enjoy the show, which runs from Nov. 18 to Nov. 23, because of its interactivity, describing the performances as "very visually exciting."

Much of the music performed at the South Bend show will be familiar to

students. The repertoire of the touring company is composed of favorites like "Gee, Officer Krupke" from *West Side Story* and Aaron Copeland's "Appalachian Spring." The Morris is offering a special run targeted at students for November 18, 19 and 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., where tickets are available at a flat rate of \$25 for any seat in the house. Tickets are regularly priced from \$26 - \$54.

The cast and creators of Blast! bring an infectious energy to their audiences. Those who go to see the show can expect an intense musical and visual experience.

Director James Mason said in an interview on the *Blast!* Web site that "for years musicians have been trapped in the pit and now they have crawled onto the stage. Throwing away the stands and chairs, they now act, leap and lunge creating a new musical and theatrical experience." He is confident that audiences will enjoy the show. "I believe our audiences will be blown away by the power and presence of this type of brass, percussion and visual ensemble performance in a theatre."

Ticket information for Blast! can be obtained by visiting the Broadway Theatre League or by calling the box office at the Morris Performing Arts Center at 574-235-9190.

Homecoming A former campus band returns to its roots at Notre Dame

RYAN RETARTHA

he long road to success has brought Umphrey's McGee full circle. Originally a Notre Dame campus band, the group returned to its alma mater on Oct. 31 as the headliner at Legends. With a growing fan base and emerging presence on the national music scene, the band proved it has come a long way from its humble beginnings.

Joel Cummins, Mike Mirro, Brendan Bayliss and Ryan Stasik combined two campus bands to become the Notre Dame Undergraduates in December 1997. After their days at Notre Dame ended, they decided they had what it took to be successful in the jam-band music scene. Only months later they released their first album, Greatest Hits Vol. III.

In 1998, the band picked up drummer Andy Farag before releasing their sophomore work, Songs for Older Women. Jake Cinniger added his guitar talents in September 2000. Recently, founding member Mirro left the band to pursue medical school.

"If that's what he wants to do, then we wanted him to do that," Cummins says of the loss. "We totally support him." The loss was compensated for by the acquisition of drummer Kris Myers, which finally rounded out the unique Umphrey's vibe.

That sound is made up of everything from driving funk beats to electric melodies in the vein of Pink Floyd. Umphrey's also relies on heavy percussion solos a la Rusted Root and more traditional guitar solos reminiscent of Queen and The Who.

Although their repertoire grew with the recent additions of the live album One Fat Sucka in 2000, a DVD released in 2003 and their third album, Local Band Does O.K., the band's true love is the spontaneity and unpredictability of playing live shows.

"I enjoy creating music in the moment," Cummins says. The former music theory major is always experi-

menting musically and craves the chance to improvise on stage. "We try to stay away from cliched ideas," he says. The band's instrumentals and long jams display a wide range of musical genre, technique and creativity.

This range is due largely to the band's eclectic spectrum of influences.

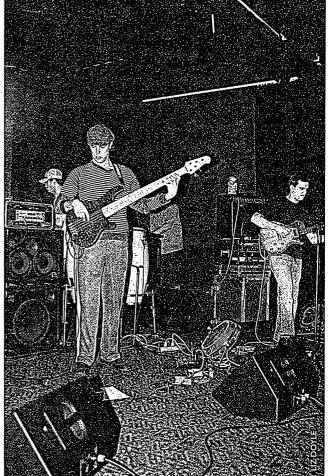
"Everyone in the band is a huge fan of Zeppelin and the Beatles," Cummins says. "We're also big fans of the whole Miles Davis thing."

Umphrey's also takes much of its influence from present-day bands. In 2002, the band was invited to play at the famous Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester. Tenn. The festival is a "who's who" of today's best jam bands. Getting the chance to play Bonnaroo put the band face to face with some of their biggest influences and favorite bands.

"Tortoise, Flaming Lips, I really dig them," says Cummins. "Everyone in the band really enjoys Ween and Phil Lesh. [Lesh] was actually a big fan of the band. That was very cool, something I'd never imagine would happen."

And now, the band's long, strange trip has brought them back to Notre Dame. In what was indisputably one of the best shows Legends has seen, Cummins and his crew gave the capacity crowd everything one would expect from a first-class jam band: excellent music, incendiary solos and fantastic, full-band jams.

The line to get into Legends began forming early on Halloween evening, a testament to the band's loyal fan



COMFORT ZONE Umphrey's McGee has found success as a niche jam-band beyond Notre Dame.

base. Many of the band's long-time fans, often known as Umphreaks or Umphiles, made their way to the front of the stage and mirrored the band's energy and enthusiasm.

Umphrey's has found a niche in the jam-band scene at Notre Dame and beyond. The band largely spreads its music by way of CD-swapping, and by band members' encouraging concertgoers to record and distribute their live shows.

Now, the band is looking toward the future. "Medical insurance," Cummins quips. "That's a big goal."

"Our goal is to do this as long as we can," he adds on a serious note, "to grow every step of the way and have as many people as we can get to listen to our music and, hopefully, enjoy it."

WEEK IN DISTORTION

The Keg Across the Lake

Like a deer caught in headlights, the author confesses to a shameful, shameful crime

MEGHAN**GOWAN**

ver fall break, in an Urgent Care facility in the greater Phoenix area, I was diagnosed with pink eye. My friend Margaret laughed, "Who, besides kindergartners, gets pink eye? ... No one." That short conversation inspired me to compose this reflection. Because sometime, somehow, though I'm not sure why, I have become a victim to all that can be classified as bizarre: diseases, persons, events, etc.

I used to think that I was simply circumstantially accountable for the weird events that I have witnessed — five friends completely losing sanity (one committed), an absurd Appalachia trip, a storage-unit robbery, carpel tunnel syndrome (acquired at a very young age) and now pink eye. A year after my first violently but well-received reflection, I have been confronted by modern psychology's interpretation of my troubles: When it seems as though the world is against you, you can point the finger at yourself.

Before I tackle that first step of admitting responsibility, I feel that it would be cathartic for me, if not entertaining for you, if I shared an event that happened this very evening, pink eye and all. I am in Father Baxter's class called "A Faith to Die For." One of the requirements of this class was to visit Moreau Seminary for dinner and then stay to watch *The Mission*, a very violent film starring Robert DeNiro unconvincingly playing a Spanish Jesuit.

Last year I went to Moreau for a retreat and became privy to one of the many secrets of the labyrinth-like seminary: It has its own kegerater. This kegerator sits unsupervised across from an unlocked entryway and next to a pool table. It serves chilled Bud Light. Tonight, two friends and I entered through that very same doorway. I spotted the kegerator alone in the dark room and wanted to show off to my sophomore friends (I am a junior and perpetually feeling inferior) my upperclassman insight.

This is where, in retrospect, I should have stopped, continued up the three flight of stairs, and enjoyed a simple meal of chicken in the pot soup and soda bread. I should have, but I did not. Instead I skipped over to the kegerator, and gave the handle a yank, that

I would soon learn was far too hard, because then, just as the beer began to emerge frothily from the spout, the handle broke off. Not broke off like you can just screw it back on.

Nope, off as in off, as in unfixably off, along with whatever kept the Bud Light sealed safely within the keg.

And the beer poured, Frothy and cold, into the spill reservoir, over the spill reservoir and onto the floor. And I ran, sprinted, bolted away from the scene. But then Reason, in the form of my friend Pete, convinced me that I could not leave the priests' and seminarians' Bud Light overflowing onto the carpet in the dark room — no, we had to do something. Pete placed an eight-ounce styrofoam cup under the spout, and then we left.

Twenty minutes into dinner in a room full of ordained and classmembers, I began to feel a bit guilty — a bit giggly and a bit guilty — and had the terrible feeling that Fr. Baxter's priestly insight would lead him to the culprit in a very short amount of time. So I decided I must muster all the courage within, and confess to the woman who worked in the kitchen. My confession went something like this, "Umm ... well, I did something

... well, you see ... I thought that that thingy downstairs in the poolroom was water, and well ... I was thirsty and, I broke it. I think it might have been beer."

"Well, did it stop pouring," asked the nice, albeit nervous, woman. "Well, no. I'm not sure if it did," I half-admitted.

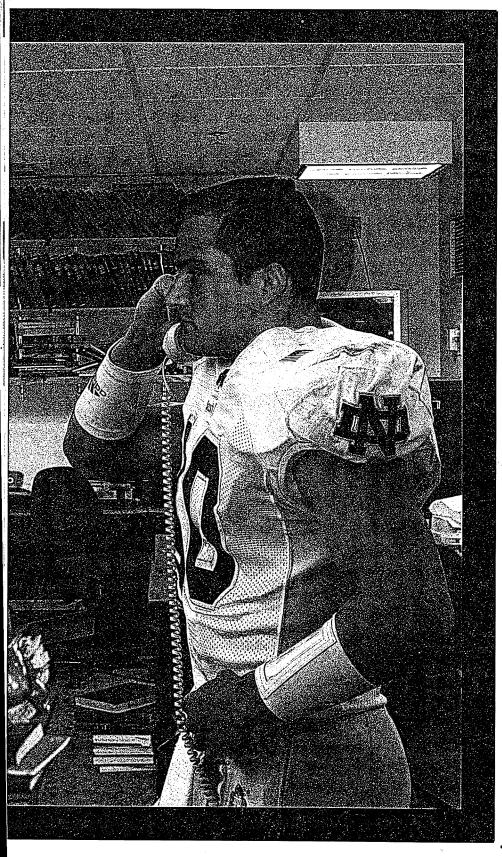
I returned to my soup feeling quite good and honest and sanctified by the confession. I decided I could admit my deeds to a table of friends, which (unbeknownst to me) was also the table that Fr. Baxter was sitting at, but had just gotten up to refill his glass of water. "So you're the one," he whispered over my shoulder as I related to my friends my similarity to Curious George with his washing machine.

"Yes," I said, "I thought it was water." Father led me downstairs and asked the kind English priest mopping the beer-soaked carpet if he needed help. He did not, but they did need to have it Wet Vac-ed tomorrow. I told Fr. Baxter that I was not trying to steal his beer, which is the truth, and he believed me.

And that, my dear friends, is the story of my Monday night. Moreau smells like a fraternity, their keg has officially been tapped, and I am now even more fully convinced that my life has been cursed by the ridiculous. \Box





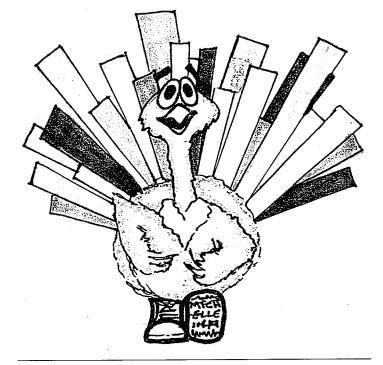


Maybe we're taking our preparation for the Football Review a bit *too* seriously. Coming January 2004.

Nov. 13 - Dec. 3

Instead of being productive, try: -C-O-M-I-N-G-D-I-S-T-R-A-C-T-I-O-N-S----

COMPILED BY MEGHAN GOWAN



EDITOR'S CHOICE Spirit of Generosity

Foster the Thanksgiving spirit of generosity by giving of a few dollars and receiving a basket in return. Next Friday, Nov. 21, you can participate in the spirit of the season and purchase a small woven token of affection any mother or grandmother is sure to enjoy at the American Cancer Society Basket Auction and Raffle. The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. at Little Flower Parish (located behind College Park apartments). And, if you are hungry, a pasta dinner will be available for the low price of \$1.

AESTHETIC

Notre Dame Brass Ensemble

Ensemble directed by Lane Weaver. Sunday, Nov. 16 from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Free.

The Glass Menagerie

FTT Production of the play by Tennessee Williams. Showing in Washington Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 19 through Saturday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$7.

BENEVOLENT

A Place at the Table: A Banquet For All

Dinner and Silent Auction to support International Summer Service Projects in Chile, Ghana and Thailand. Thai, Mexican and Indian foods will be served for \$5 on Thursday, Nov. 13 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse lounge. Bring extra money for the silent auction.

INTELLECTUAL

Lecture; "Strangers and Pilgrims: Spiritual Travels with Flannery O'Connor and Walker Percy" Final lecture in series by Robert Ellsberg. On Thursday, Nov. 13 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in 138 DeBartolo.

Siemens-Westinghouse Science and Technology Competition

Check out real smart high school kids on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21–22 at McKenna Hall and Eck Visitor's Center.

SOCIAL ACTION

"The Gospel According to Bono"

The final in a series. Gather to pray for an end to poverty and AIDS in Africa. Monday, Nov. 17 from 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in Coleman-Morse.

Close the SOA Rally

Protest to close the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Ga. Leave Friday, Nov. 21 and return Monday, Nov. 24. Signups at the CSC. Cost approximately \$25.

> <u>SUBMIT</u> your event for *Scholastic*'s Coming Distractions. E-mail your submissions to Meghan Gowan at gowan.1@nd.edu.

Loving Life

by Jennifer Getman

omen, rejoice! We have the ability to become pregnant. Only women are granted the blessed possibility to bring forth a new life from their bodies. The beautiful and dignified physical demands placed on women's bodies throughout pregnancy culminate in labor and the birth of a new person. The strong, immediate bond between a mother and child is unlike any other relationship in existence. Women everywhere have the opportunity to partake in this amazing, life-changing experience. Pregnancy is a bond that women from all backgrounds share, regardless of time period, geographic location, race, class or education. As with any privilege, this tremendous power comes with a great responsibility. It is this sometimes overwhelming responsibility, coupled with strong societal views that sometimes can cause pregnancy to be regarded as less spectacular than it truly is.

I spent the last two years living and working at a home for pregnant women in Phoenix — Maggie's Place. Many of the women there come from abusive backgrounds, some were once homeless, some are recovering addicts, all of them are about

to be mothers. In these

situations, it is difficult

for them to rejoice in

pregnancy. Valid fears

about being a parent un-

der less-than-perfect con-

ditions keep many women

The strong, immediate bond between a mother and child is unlike any other relationship in existence.

Jennifer Getman graduated in 2001 with a degree in ALPP/psychology. She is now in a Masters of Medical Science (concentration in bioethics) program at Midwestern University to become a Physician Assistant. parenting outside of the ideal situation is still a miracle to be revered. "You're only at four centimeters. I am going to speed up your Pitocin drip. This will make the con-

from this joy. However difficult, pregnancy and

tractions longer and more intense, but hopefully you will dilate faster and we can get this baby out."

"Okay," she replied so calmly between sweatproducing contractions. By this time, we had been at the hospital for eight hours. Tara was two weeks late delivering her son and had been extremely uncomfortable for the last month.

As we sat in the delivery room, I hoped that Tara's parents would decide to accept her decision to be a mother. Over the past two months, Maggie's Place had been the source of love, support and prenatal care for Tara and her soon-to-be-born son.

Tara was assured at her doctor visits that the little guy was perfect. The ultrasounds revealed a healthy 10-pound baby. Even with this confirmation, Tara was concerned that her past may have negatively affected her son. During the beginning stages of her labor, Tara continued to worry, "What if something is wrong? How could he be perfect after all I have done to him?"

When Tara got pregnant, she was living on the streets, addicted to meth. She took a pregnancy test when she was three months pregnant. Tara was scared that she would not be able to care for a child. Her parents shared this fear and asked her to terminate her pregnancy. Once Tara decided to be a parent, she stopped using drugs, found Maggie's Place and moved in immediately. At Maggie's Place, Tara made miraculous strides. By the time we made the final trip to the hospital, I was confident that Tara would be a wonderful, loving mother.

"Ahhhhh. Owwww." The contractions were very strong now. She was dilated to 10 cm and ready to push. This gorgeous, six-foot-tall woman was breathing hard as she labored. Her long blonde hair was wet with perspiration when she began to birth her baby.

After supporting Tara through the first ten hours of labor, I was thrilled to see her mother come through the door just in time to watch the birth of her grandson.

He was beautiful. She was amazing. They were perfect.

During my two years at Maggie's Place, I have seen many stories like this. Each woman that walks through the door is scared about pregnancy and becoming a mother. Each baby that is born from these strong, beautiful women is a miracle. Whether the moms choose to parent their children or to place them for adoption, it is clear — these women love their children, in the truest, most sacrificial sense.

Every woman faced with an unplanned pregnancy has a different story. Every mother has different fears that cause her to be apprehensive about parenting a child. It is difficult to know exactly what a woman needs when she comes to you with worries about an unplanned pregnancy: Her life is about to make a radical change. First, listen: She may tell you what she needs. If not, on-going love, support and encouragement are things every woman needs to be a great mom. Resources for housing and healthcare are the next important step. Then, a lifetime supply of diapers. BAREFOOT MOUNTAIN CLIMBING – Ryan Greenberg

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