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A CRIB WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS YOUR NAME

SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

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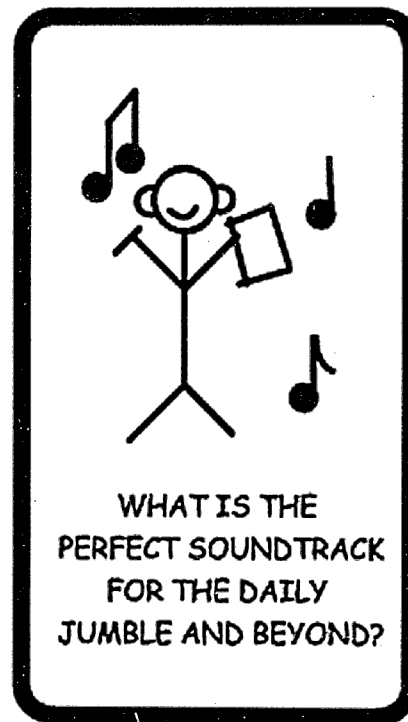
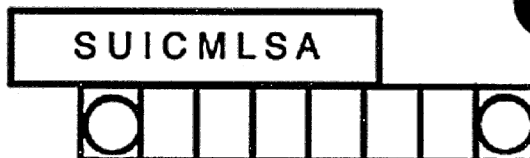
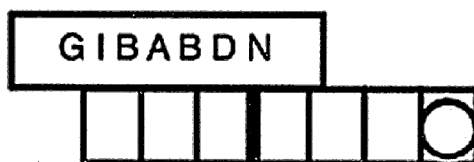
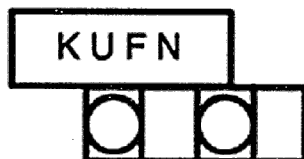
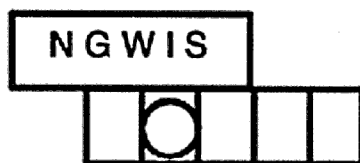
EMIGRATING TO EDUCATE

Professors at Notre Dame
Teach About Troubled
Times in Their Homelands

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*You know
what to do...*



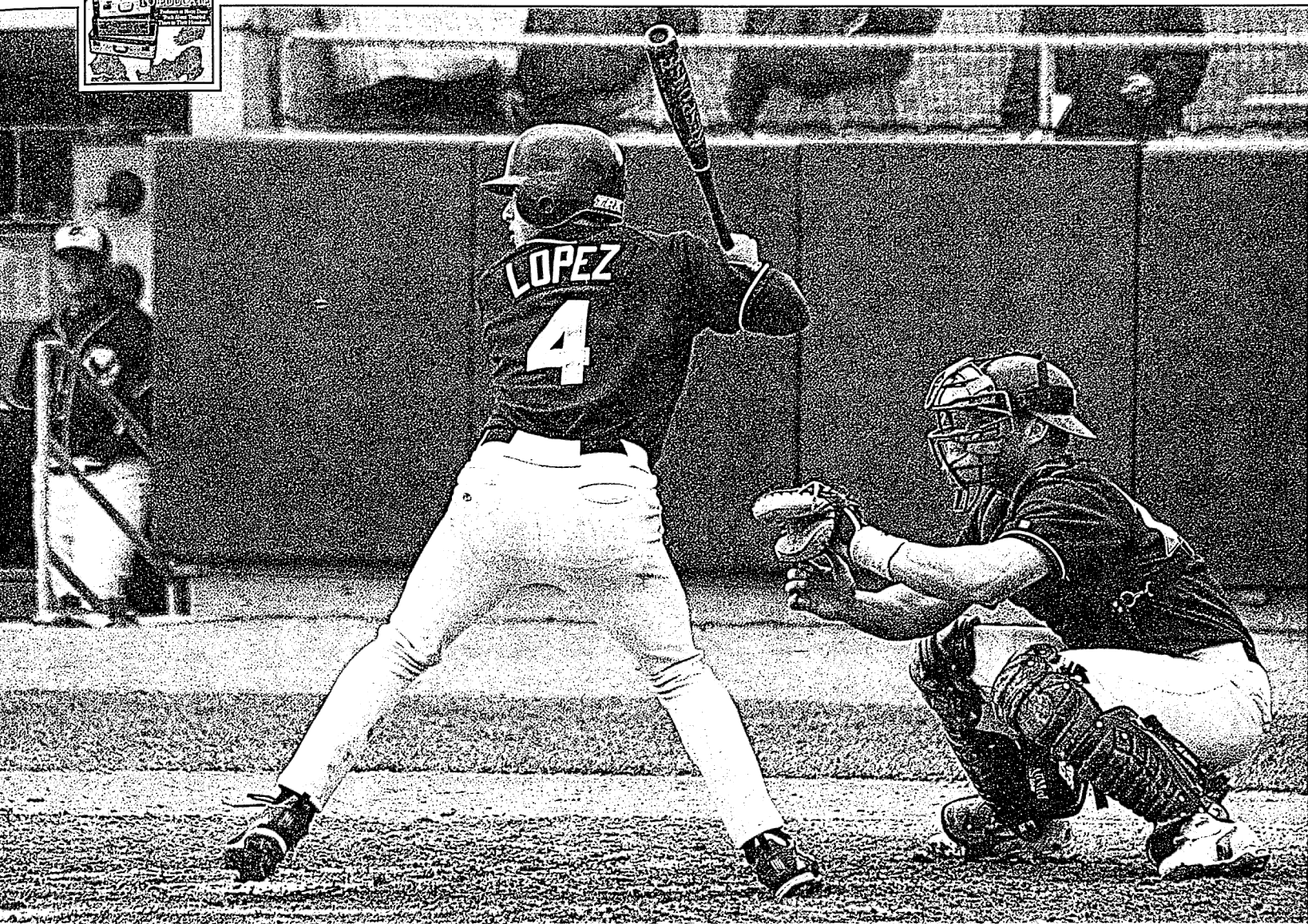
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your dial to 88.9 fm
and enjoy!*



COVER ILLUSTRATION
RYAN
GREENBERG

TABLE OF CONTENTS PHOTO
PHIL
HALL

Shortstop Greg Lopez at the plate against Boston College **PAGE 22**



THE FIFTEENTH OF APRIL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- >> **Coming Soon: A Theater Near You** by Katie Baron 15
- >> **ND Cribs** by Katie Solan 16
- >> **Campus Watch** by The Gipper 18
- >> **Great Thai Food, and for Peanuts** by Nick Kolman-Mandle 25

From the Editor 2
ND Notebook 4
Splinters 20
Out of Bounds 26

Calendar 27
Final Word 28

Not So Foreign

by Kelly Faehnle

COVER: Four professors who have fled their homelands educate Notre Dame students about their experiences.

09

Down One but Not Out

by Christopher Meskill

Notre Dame baseball looks to continue its success despite an injury to captain Steve Sollmann.

22

Student Stand-up

by Beth Murphy and Nick Kolman-Mandle
Aspiring comedians take the stage at Legends.

24



FROM THE EDITOR

RESPOND TO: RGREENBE@ND.EDU

On The Road Again

The first time I remember it happening was just after first grade. It happens to everyone eventually, but I wasn't expecting it. The Air Force had relocated my parents from Wiesbaden, Germany to San Antonio, Texas. So everything went into boxes and suitcases, we said our goodbyes to friends, and we were off.

I was apprehensive about going to a new place with a new school and new friends. My dad tried to comfort me with a watertight argument: I really liked my old school, Hainerberg Elementary, so I was sure to like my new school, Harmony Hills, because it had not one, but *two* H's. I wasn't convinced.

Things worked out, though. I said, "Let's be friends," to some neighborhood kids, which, at that age, is as good as brotherhood. My new teacher Mrs. Goodenough (no kidding) was just that. After almost no time at all, things had returned to your typical, idyllic childhood bliss where life's biggest concern is whether your tree fort is cool enough (it was).

Then we moved again.

Moving can be tough, even for little kids, and *Scholastic's* Kelly Faehnle examines the stories of four professors who moved from their homelands for more serious reasons. One left to escape Communist Russia, another to leave behind South African Apartheid rule, one to find opportunities unavailable to women in Senegal, and the last to teach about the Troubles era in his homeland, Northern Ireland. Now all of these professors are at Notre Dame, teaching history from a special perspective: personal experience. To hear a part of their story, move yourself to page 9.

Until Next Time

This is the last *Scholastic* of the school year. Wipe the tear from your face — we'll always have the Gipper. With so few days left in the semester, now seems like a good time to hit the books hard to make up for a semester of slacking. Don't worry — I hear all the smart kids are doing it, too. In any event, good luck with those tests. Seniors, best wishes for whatever life brings you come graduation. As for the rest of you, enjoy the summer. Let's do this school thing again next fall, OK?

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*Disce Quasi Semper Victurus
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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in
THE FALL

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---Constitutions of Holy Cross, V.51



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



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Team No. 347's Real Name

Alumnus compiles an on-line list of censored Bookstore team names

RYANGREENBERG

For some teams in Bookstore Basketball, a name is all they've got.

Alumnus Dan Delgado understands, and when the number of censored team names peaked at 110 last year, he decided to do something about it.

"I acquired a team list and contacted each team captain asking what their rejected name was," Delgado says. Within a day, 85 percent of the captains responded. Delgado compiled a list of the rejected names and posted them on his website with commentary.

Delgado, who has seen more than 300 Bookstore games, was concerned by student activities' inconsistency in censoring. In 2002, the team name "Baller, I Just Met Her" was okayed, but the same name was rejected in 2003. "When I saw the censored names last year versus some of the ones that got through, I just didn't understand their criteria," says Delgado.

This year, the Bookstore Committee's

criteria is more clear, but still somewhat subjective. Names are rejected if they have offensive, ethnic, racial, heterosexual or sexually-explicit material. Using names of the university or its community without permission or "anything your mother would deem disrespectful" are also no-no's.

Delgado hopes that people will try to push the limits of the process: "I'd like to see a team name like 'Janet Jackson's Breast' get through. Would it be censored? Or would it be revealed, then condemned and later described as a 'team name malfunction?'"

When team names were rejected this year, the respective teams had the option to submit an alternate name — which was not the case last year. Some teams are making the best of the situation; one re-

placement name is "I Don't Know What's Worse ... That Our Name Was Censored or That The Bookstore Committee Knew What We Were Talking About." Other

teams failed to submit an alternate name; 20 teams — down from 110 last year — are known simply by their team number.

Delgado hopes to compile a list of rejected names again next year. He says, "I'm not a vehement proponent of free speech. I'm just doing this for laughs."

Until this year's list is posted online, we'll just have to kick back and watch the matchup between two clean-cut

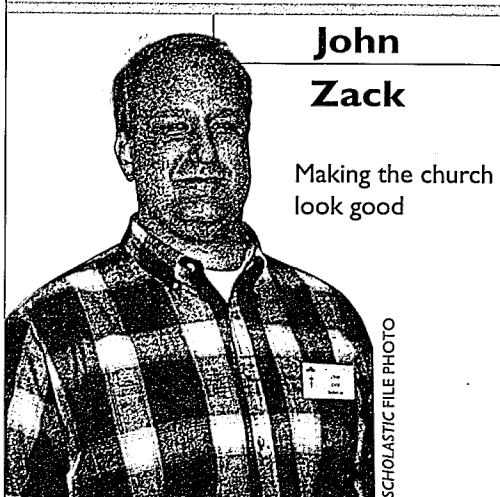
teams like "Fruity Booty" and "Ralph Nader and the Other 4 Guys Voting For Him."

To see Dan Delgado's list, visit <http://www.verminnet.com/news/news032.html>



Ten Questions

with the man who buys the bread and wine



**John
Zack**

Making the church
look good

SCHOLASTIC FILE PHOTO

The acting university sacristan this year, John Zack is in charge of the building, staff, security and church services at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. He also oversees the upkeep and supplying of dorm chapels across campus. During Easter weekend, he and only a handful of full-time, part-time and student staff members were able to convert the atmosphere of the Basilica from bleak to vibrant in just one day (or three, if you count like Jesus). On Monday, Scholastic spoke with Mr. Zack about his work.

What are the best and worst parts about your job?

The best part is just dealing with all the people and the workers here. The worst part is the hours.

What's your favorite part about decorating the Basilica?

When it's done. When everything gets in place, like, [Holy] Saturday afternoon when we finally get every single last detail done. That would be my favorite time.

What is your favorite service to prepare for and participate in?

The Easter Vigil, I guess really for the emotions involved more than for the work involved.

What services draw the biggest crowds?

The biggest service we would have is about 2600 people. I would say Good Friday is probably our largest crowd.

LISTENING

"I really need to make out with someone right now."

— overheard female student walking to class at 10 a.m.

"You never know who you're going to run into in the men's room. Yesterday it was a two-inch cockroach. Today it was Mike Brey."

— overheard staff member

"If you're in my Communion line, you're going to get Communion. Spread the word to all the infidels."

— priest, discussing the intricacies of sin and receiving the Eucharist

"We're going to get money from people who have money."

— philosophy professor

"The tests are graded and I've got good news: Everybody passed. Of course, some people passed other people."

— theology professor commenting on class exams

Email listening quotes letters to the editor or other comments to

SCHOLAST@ND.EDU

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

4 Years Ago

A sense of history ...

For all the students soon to be graduating from this institution, Notre Dame must indeed seem a very different place from the one they encountered four years ago as freshmen. Here are some excerpts from the 2000 freshman summer issue, the very first *Scholastic* the class of 2004 ever got their hands on:

"After witnessing a 5-7 football season that included losses to rivals such as Purdue and Boston College, many Irish fans were ready to hang up their shamrocks."

"The men's basketball team [had] wins over several top 10 teams [...] and posted a winning record, making an appearance in the National Invitation Tournament."

"It was a bizarre, controversial year for student elections at both Notre Dame and St. Mary's."

What a difference four years make, eh?

— Mike Healy

Then the 10:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday. Actually all the Sunday Masses are large on Easter Sunday. And obviously after football games at 5 p.m.

How do you hang the large ribbons from the ceiling?

We have two guys up in the attic. We have wires up in the attic and two cranks up there. They lower the wires down and we hook up the bunting [...] and then they crank it up. It's quite the process.

What's your favorite dorm chapel?

Alumni. It's just a beautiful chapel, very well decorated. I like St. Ed's, too, and Dillon. All of them are nice, but those three I would have to say would be my top three.

What's the oldest thing in the Basilica?

The relics [...] back in the reliquary. That would have to be the oldest thing.

Whose relics are under the main altar?

St. Marcellus and his companions, I believe. I don't know the history.

What's your favorite artistic aspect of the Basilica?

I'd have to say the stained glass itself, the whole collection. I can look at a window for the thirtieth time and see something different. They change so much with the light coming from behind them.

Who do you feel is the most important

person to have said Mass at the Basilica?

Fr. Hesburgh. Just because of his status in the world of academics and of peace. His peace institute speaks for itself.

Who plays the songs on the church bells?

Dr. Gail Walton records those. She's the director of liturgical music here at the Basilica and the head of the Liturgical Choir.

What is the most important part of your job?

Making sure people feel comfortable and welcome coming into the Basilica for services, and making sure everything is provided for.

— Sean Dudley

Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations



AWESOME IRISH TEAMS

The women's lacrosse and men's baseball squads are establishing themselves as national powerhouses this year.



BANDS AT LEGENDS

Legends pulls in a lot of great talent, but low weekend turnout may make that harder to do in the future.



LATE SEMESTER PROJECTS

Would even spacing of assignments just make too much sense for professors, or do they really enjoy watching us suffer?



23 DAYS TILL SUMMER

The last day of final exams is only three weeks away. Get ready for the Olympics, wherever the heck they'll be.



STEPAN COURT CONSTRUCTION

A classic Bookstore Basketball site is gone for the sake of a new building, and they didn't have the decency to tear down Stepan Center.

ENTERTAINMENT FORTNIGHTLY

Bloody Summer Cinema

Action movies dominate this year's lineup, so strap on your spandex and start pumping iron

RYANGREENE

Frisbees are flying. Flip-flops are flapping. And those ladybug things are once again infesting campus. This can only mean one thing: Summer is almost upon us.

And with the warmer months comes, as ever, Hollywood's annual onslaught of budget-baffling blockbusters ... and time-wasting disasters. Knowing what to hit and what to miss can be a tricky business, so here's a look at some of the movies coming soon to a theater near you.

If you're as tired of *Dawn of the Dead* and *The Passion* as you should be by now, then things are looking up as early as this

weekend. For the action-hungry among us, grab a helping of *The Punisher*, based on the cult-favorite Marvel Comics anti-hero. When an evil mob boss (John Travolta) kills the family of Frank Castle (Thomas Jane), the latter goes on an all-out war to punish the killers — and anyone else who gets in his way. Ignore the star's embarrassing surname and enjoy all the mob-murdering mayhem.

And then wash that down with a tall, frosty glass of *Kill Bill: Vol. 2*. The not-so-long-awaited second half of Quentin Tarantino's fourth film, starring Uma Thurman as a bloodthirsty ex-assassin out for revenge, also hits (and slashes, hacks, disembowels and decapitates) theaters this weekend.

May offers yet more carnage-heavy fare. Hugh Jackman trades his adaman-

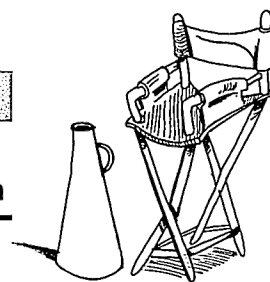
tium claws and leather X-Men outfits for silver bullets, crossbows and trenchcoats, as the title character of *Van Helsing*. Based extremely loosely on the vampire-hunting doctor from Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Jackman butts heads with the Wolfman, Frankenstein's monster and the Count himself.

Troy, starring just about every attractive, young male actor on earth, promises stunning visuals, expansive plot and, from what I hear, a war. And in *The Day After Tomorrow*, the world ends. Sounds like fun.

For those without an appetite for death and destruction, The Olsen twins' *New York Minute* and Mike Myers' *Shrek 2* offer trite, saccharine fluff that should never have been filmed in the first place. Enjoy.

Other summer highlights include *The Stepford Wives*, a remake of an awful B-movie and novel about a town in which the men have replaced their wives with home-making robots (no comment), and *I, Robot*, which promises to use Will Smith's "cool factor," as it were, to finally make the work of Isaac Asimov hip and with it. Thanks, Hollywood!

At least there's always *Spider-Man 2*, the much-anticipated sequel to 2002's record-breaking hit. This summer has plenty of movies, good and bad, to offer, but nothing beats a spandex-clad teenager with spider-powers squaring off against a murderous lunatic with four metal arms. Am I right or am I right?



DomeLights

COMPILED BY MIKE HEALY

Source: The University Archives, a calendar and a calculator

This is the last time *Scholastic* will be published while this year's seniors remain on campus. While they may seem to have passed by quickly for our upperclassmen, the past four years have been loaded with major national events: President Bush was inaugurated, the country entered into major armed conflict, and Keifer Sutherland's career saw a resurgence of Travolta-like proportions. That being said, here are some numbers that the outgoing seniors of 2004 can lay claim to for the last four years here:

832 Number of days spent on campus by an average senior over four years

1189 Number of meals eaten at the dining hall, at an average rate of 10 per week

17 Home football wins

7 Home football losses

49 Issues of *Scholastic* indulgently enjoyed over the course of one's college education

THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE SALUTES ITS 2004 INDIANA COLLEGIATE PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNERS:

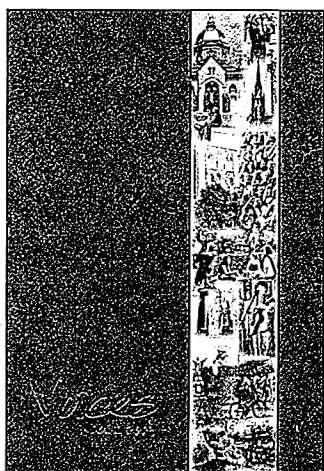
Juggler magazine – 2004 Literary Magazine of the Year



Editor: Kelly Ninneman

Staff – Best single issue, first and second place
 Mercy Bachner-Reimer – Best rhymed poem, first place
 Kate Maich – Best free verse poem, first place
 Liz Melly – Best short story, first place
 Design staff (Crispin Prebys, Krista Lehmkuhl, Nicole Kenney and Katie Hakenewerth) – Best overall design, first place
 Stephanie Hanna – Best hand-drawn illustration, first place
 Kelly Ninneman – Best short poem, second place
 Tarrah Krajnak – Best photo illustration, second place
 Katie Boyle – Best short poem, third place
 Michael Rampolla – Best free verse poem, third place
 Design staff/Ally Klutenkamper – Best cover design, third place
 Megan Denby – Best hand-drawn illustration, third place

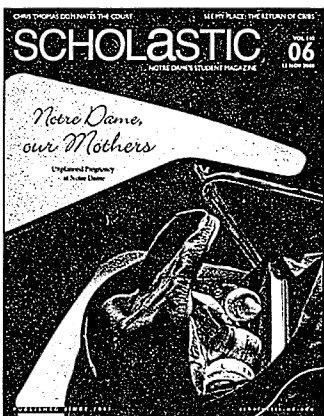
Dome yearbook – runner-up, 2004 Division I Yearbook of the Year



Editor: Sally Hosey

Staff – Best execution of theme, first place
 Meaghan Denney – Best album/portrait section, first place
 Nicole Phillips – Best student life section, first place
 Sally Hosey and Molly Walsh – Best academics section, first place
 Tina Robinson – Best organizations section, first place
 Jennifer Morgan – Best sports section, second place
 Kate Dinardo – Best special section, second place
 Sally Hosey – Best overall design, second place
 Dan Robinette – Best feature photography, second place; best sports photography, third place

Scholastic magazine – runner-up, 2004 News Magazine of the Year



Editor: Matt Killen

Sarah Childress – Best editorial or essay, first place
 Kelly Faehnle – Best in-depth story, first place
 Tracy Evans – Best entertainment review, first place
 Nick Abrams – Best cover design, first and second place
 Ryan Greenberg – Best feature photo, first place; best informational graphic, second place
 Ryan Greene – Best feature story, second place
 Christine Armstrong – Best Entertainment review, second place
 Joe Muto – Best column, second and third place
 Staff – Best single issue, third place
 Annie Robinson – Best in-depth story, third place
 Jimmy Atkinson – Best sports story, third place
 Phil Hall – Best sports photo, third place
 Mike McNary and Liesl Marx – Best photo essay, third place
 Matt Killen – Best informational graphic, third place



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)

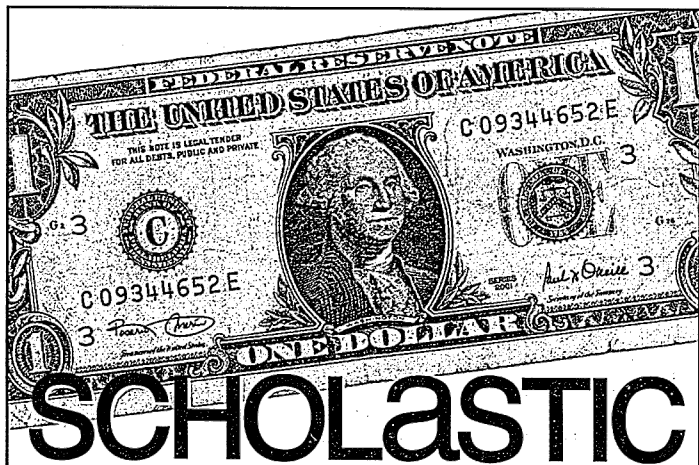
Contact: Fr. J. Steele, CSC, at Steele.31@nd.edu

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

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




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4:30-7:30 at North Dining Hall (south porch)

Wednesday, April 21:

11:30-5 in Room 108 LaFortune

4:30-9:30 at South Dining Hall (main lobby)

Thursday, April 22:

11:30-5 in Room 108 LaFortune

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- Students who are abroad may have a friend pick up a copy for them, or they may come to 315 LaFortune next fall.
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Thank you and enjoy your yearbook!



Not So Foreign

The stories of a few professors who bring awareness
of tumultuous societies to Notre Dame

by Kelly Faehnle

SHE LEFT Senegal with dreams of living in her own apartment and being free to relax in a cafe. ¶ HE LEFT southern Africa with a wife and three children when the Apartheid regime proved too much for the Catholic bishops running the university where he taught. ¶ HE LEFT Russia to get out from behind the Iron Curtain. ¶ HE LEFT Northern Ireland to further his education and advance his career, having lived through the worst of the Troubles. ¶ Where are they now? DeBartolo, Decio, O'Shaughnessy, the Hesburgh Center ... These are the stories of just a few of the professors here at Notre Dame who come from foreign countries and now are teaching about them. They have experienced some of the most troubled times in those countries, and just hearing about their lives is almost a history lesson in itself. They have all made it part of their life's work to study their respective countries' culture and/or history. And now they are in classrooms, sharing all this with students in the American Midwest.

"In Senegal, Women Don't Go to Cafes"

Growing up in Dakar, Senegal, in western Africa, Ayo Abietou Coly used to write and dream about having her own apartment, her own car, a job, the freedom to do what she wanted — and to do it all alone, if she preferred. For a woman in the extremely patriarchal Muslim culture of Senegal, however, these sorts of liberties that Americans tend to take for granted just were not possible. Her road has taken many turns, but at the young age of 31, she has realized these dreams.

Coly is an assistant professor in Notre Dame's Department of Romance Languages & Literatures and a fellow of the Nanovic Institute for European Studies. In her two and a half years here at Notre Dame, she has taught various classes in French, including several focusing on French-African literature and culture.

The distance that Coly has traveled to Notre Dame is not merely geographical, either. Her father, well-educated himself, anchored her as she grew up, but it was truly her mother who inspired and pushed her along the way. If Coly was not first in her class, this was a "problem." Her mother told her, "As a woman, you do not have a choice; you cannot fail at school." When Coly almost got married at the age of 18 and again at 24, it was her mother telling her to wait until she had the Ph.D. that had eluded her mother because of familial



FEMINIST MOVEMENT Ayo Abietou Coly left the paternalistic society of Senegal for the liberties of the U.S.

responsibilities. Coly promised that she would get her doctorate.

When she graduated high school at 17, Coly spent a year in South Carolina studying to be a journalist, but returned to Senegal when her family determined that she “was not behaving properly.” The early return did not deter her, however, and after earning a degree at the University of Dakar in Senegal, she returned to the U.S. to study at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, then worked in Georgia at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, and moved around the deep south of the U.S. before returning to Dakar for her Master’s degree.

Coly then was going to get her doctorate in Lyons, France, but she “got into other things” there: French fashion, disk jockeying at a night club, and hosting a talk-radio show. Coly is especially proud of the radio show, *Akody* (slang for “What’s Up”), which addressed

African and French issues and was geared toward the African immigrant population in Lyons. She vividly remembers her show about female circumcision in Africa when she had numerous callers, some denouncing the practice as inhumane, some defending its meaning and tradition.

She still had her dream — and promise — of gaining her Ph.D., however, and returned to the U.S., where she felt the university system to be more structured and more personal. Coly decided on Penn State University and finished her doctorate in only four years instead of the usual five or six.

Having achieved her educational goal, she could have returned to Senegal, but one major thing kept her in the U.S.: She had her space. She had gotten used to independence and the space to be herself, and did not want to give these up. Coly decided that Notre Dame had the best position available to her and, despite caveats from advisors and others that it was too conservative a campus for her, she came to Notre Dame in the fall of 2001.

“The Racist Cocoon of South Africa”

Though Peter Walshe also came from Africa, his story differs greatly from Coly’s. An English-speaking native of South Africa, he lived on the white side of the color barrier of Apartheid. He’s been at Notre Dame since 1962, when Father Heshburgh was president of the university and only men could be students. Walshe has seen many changes at Notre Dame and in South Africa, and he has played at least a small

part in those changes.

A professor of Political Science and fellow of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Walshe teaches classes on the politics of both tropical and southern Africa. Besides teaching here for 40-plus years, he remains deeply involved in events in southern Africa, though he is “in exile.”

“Notre Dame gave me the chance to pursue my interest in South Africa. But South Africa formed me,” he says. He remembers the extraordinary wildlife, especially in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) where he went to high school — lions, elephants, antelope, zebras, buffalo — that are now rare due to poaching and the guerilla wars that have flooded the area with small firearms. Then there were the school days that went from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., followed by “afternoons in glorious sunshine” playing rugby, cricket, tennis, squash and field hockey and practicing riflery.

Walshe also remembers being profoundly touched by the humanity, decency and patience of the Africans that he had contact with — who were mostly servants. While living in South Africa and Rhodesia, he knew nothing of the protests against Apartheid: He experienced segregation, but the separation of the races was just “the way life was” in the 1930s and ‘40s. It wasn’t until he left for the University of Oxford and had contact with people from all over the British Commonwealth — the Caribbean, India, Pakistan and other parts of Africa — that he became aware that there was something seriously wrong with the race relations in South Africa.

So when the first mass protests began in South Africa while he was at Oxford in the 1950s, it was difficult to see the unrest in his country from the outside, but he found it easy to relate to the black South African cause.

After Walshe finished his degree

at Oxford, he returned to southern Africa and began teaching at Pius XII College, a small Roman Catholic university in the country of Lesotho. Lesotho is a small country completely surrounded by South Africa, and the Catholic bishops of southern Africa had opened Pius XII there as a non-racist, non-Apartheid school where black and white southern Africans could work together. Being in this environment convinced him of the need for full equality of the races under the law and for the black South African majority to "take control of their own destiny." He became very interested in and began his study of the black protest movements.

After Walshe had been teaching at Pius XII for a few years, the

Apartheid regime in South Africa withdrew support of all schools that the



IRELAND

Size: 84,400 sq km
(slightly larger than
West Virginia)

Population: 5,610,000

"The Troubles" were a period of political and social conflict starting in the late 1960s with civil rights marches and ending with the Good Friday Agreement of 1998. According to BBC reports, over 3,000 people — mostly civilians — were killed during this time as the Irish Republican Army and other paramilitaries battled in the streets."

Catholic bishops were running. In order to keep their mission schools in South Africa open, the bishops were forced to close Pius XII. After Walshe had contacted several

American universities, Notre Dame was the first to reply, offering him a one-year contract for 1962-3. With a family of five to consider, Walshe jumped at this chance.

At the end of that year, George Shuster, then special assistant to the president of the university, made a deal with Walshe: Notre Dame would support him in the pursuit of his doctorate on the condition that for each year he took to do so, he would come back and teach at Notre Dame. Walshe accepted the opportunity and returned to Oxford for his doctorate. When he came back to Notre Dame, he started the African Studies program and stayed for his obligatory five years. He has been here ever since.

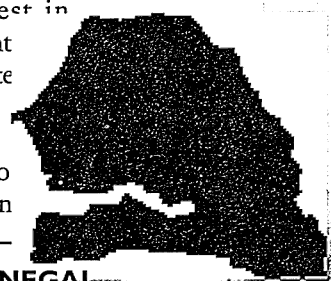
"We Were Living Behind the Iron Curtain"

What made Semion Lyandres leave his native land was not Apartheid rule, but a different sort of oppressive government: Communist Russia. He speaks matter-of-factly about the evils of this regime that punished people "for being people." And he insists that although he is culturally and linguistically Russian, South Bend is his "home."

Some 20 years ago, 19-year-old Lyandres found out about a chance for a limited amount of people — many Jews — to leave the Soviet Union. Suffering political repression and the lack of basic freedoms, he weighed his prospects in the Soviet Union. He decided that he could not allow this small window of opportunity to pass. Lyandres had the choice between Israel and the U.S. Considering himself a Zionist at the time — though that "fascination" didn't last very long, he laughs — he chose Israel. It seemed more attractive to him, an "interesting challenge," even.

After about five years of living in Israel and serving in the army to support himself, he realized that he wanted to go back to school

to pursue a serious study of history. He was driven not by thoughts of a career, but rather by a deep and sincere interest in early 20th-century Russia; he wanted to understand what happened to the country in



SENEGAL

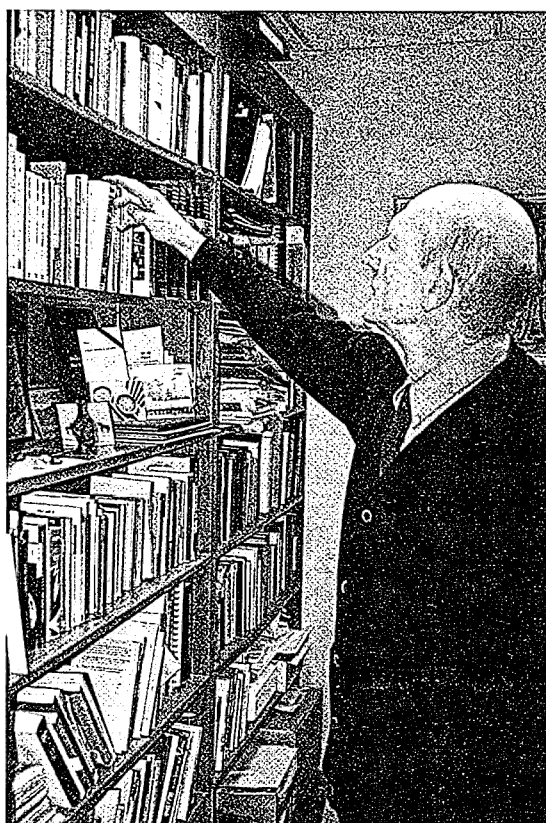
Size: 196,200 sq km
(slightly smaller than
South Dakota)

Population: 10,580,000

"On Thursday, September 26, 2002, the state ferry running between the Senegalese ports of Dakar and Ziguinchor capsized. Designed to hold a maximum of 550 passengers, the vessel carried 1,034 people when it encountered a storm and sank well off the coast of Gambia ... Despite divers' rescue efforts, all but 64 died."

which he was born and educated, why people were leaving, and why the 1917 revolution happened in the first place. Not unable to study and support himself at the same time if he stayed in Israel, he wrote to friends in Boston and Washington, D.C., who helped him settle in the U.S. He soon realized that the only way for a serious study of history to happen would be to become a professional historian, and that became his goal.

Lyandres reached that goal after some undergraduate work at Boston University and finishing his doctorate at Stanford University. He then taught at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., for six years. Then he became aware of a position at Notre Dame and, since jobs in Russian history "just don't exist," Lyandres says it wasn't a matter of choice, it was a matter of



WORLDS APART Peter Walshe's experiences growing up in a segregated South Africa have allowed him to educate South Africans and Notre Dame students alike.

pursuing opportunity. For the past three years, he has been an associate professor of history and a fellow of both the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, and is currently working to improve the program in Russian history here at Notre Dame.

"I Was Quite Nearby"

A colleague of Lyandres in the Department of History and a fellow of both the Nanovic Institute and the Keough Institute for Irish Studies, Professor Jim Smyth is originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland. While his homeland's "Troubles" had "nothing to do, whatsoever," with his reasons for leaving the country, this Catholic Republican's adolescence directly coincided with the outbreak of that turbulent era.

"The Troubles" were a period of political and social conflict starting

in the late 1960s with civil rights marches and ending — for the most part — with the Good Friday Agreement of 1998. According to BBC reports, over 3,000 people — mostly civilians — were killed during this time as the Irish Republican Army and other paramilitaries battled in the streets. Bloody Sunday, remembered in the U2 song of the same name, was one of the major events during this time, involving much bloodshed and bombing. As unimaginably difficult as the events seem to many people, many of them happened while Smyth was not too far away, and some he even witnessed.

But there is more to Smyth's life in Ireland than bombs and turmoil. He went to Trinity College Dublin for his undergraduate degree and left in 1985 to pursue further education in England — not necessarily to get out of Ireland, but rather to go to the University of Cambridge. After spending 10 years in England getting his Ph.D., being a research fellow at Cambridge, and teaching at Oxford, he was attracted to Notre Dame by the Irish Studies program.

Smyth has been here teaching Irish and British history for eight years now, but still goes back to the United Kingdom at least once, usually twice per year, especially to Cambridge and Dublin and to the mountains of Donegal.

What does he miss about Ireland? "Draught Guinness," he quips, "which is undrinkable outside the island of Ireland." But he really misses every facet of life there, from such niceties as listening to BBC Radio

4 and reading the print version of the *Guardian* to the larger sense of ironic wit that pervades Irish society. "I miss irony," he says. "America is largely irony-free."

But Smyth is glad to escape Dublin traffic and the economic strains in the schools of the United Kingdom. He appreciates the resources that Notre Dame has, and the resulting "can do" mentality when it comes to organizing conferences and intellectual endeavors.

And Smyth does find the whole Notre Dame Fighting Irish phenomenon "quite entertaining." Not only is there "almost zero connection" between the Fighting Irish and Ireland, but he says that Irish journalists have joked that "[Notre Dame] got their Celts mixed up with their kilts." The specific reference is to the Irish Guard, who, Smyth says, look like "a Walt Disney version of a Scottish regiment in the British army."

"But who cares?" he says. "It's harmless." In fact, he can appreciate that the leprechaun mascot originated in the attempt to put a positive spin on a negative stereotype.

Tragedy and Triumphs

While Smyth was right in the midst of the turmoil for the worst of the Troubles, Coly, Walshe and Lyandres were at Notre Dame when some far-reaching events happened in their respective countries.

On Thursday, September 26, 2002, the state ferry running between the Senegalese ports of Dakar and Ziguinchor capsized. Designed to hold a maximum of 550 passengers, the vessel carried 1,034 people when it encountered a storm and sank well off the coast of Gambia, according to BBC news reports. Despite divers' rescue efforts, all but 64 died.

Coly lost 15 members of her extended family that day.

And they still are affected deeply by the tragedy. One uncle lost his wife and five children. One cousin

survived the capsizing and has yet to recover fully after spending hours in the water before his rescue, hearing and watching others suffer and drown.

Coly spent three weeks in Senegal then, after being away for four years, and was able to attend the national funeral. She had been afraid to go back, not only because she had been away for so long but also because going back meant acknowledging the reality of the tragedy. Coly was especially grateful for the support and understanding from her students and the Notre Dame faculty as she dealt with the aftermath both personally and with the rest of her country.

In a very different time and region of Africa, chaos reigned in the offices of the African National Congress. Phones didn't work. People scrambled all over. The noise was deafening.

It was 1990: Nelson Mandela recently had been released from prison and the African National Congress (ANC) was rushing to put the headquarters — declared illegal and abandoned for 30 years — back on line. Walshe had come to Johannesburg, South Africa, and it was in this office building that he agreed to meet up with a man named Inlade Seke, who had been in prison with Mandela.

As they were walking out of the building, Seke told Walshe the reason for his wanting to meet. In 1971, Walshe had published the first academic study of the African National Congress — Nelson Mandela's political organization. The book, *The Rise of African Nationalism in South Africa: The ANC, 1912-1952*, had been banned in southern Africa. Seke wanted Walshe to know that in the early 1980s, the prison authorities had permitted the prisoners to get a copy of the book, and that they used it to teach the prisoners about

the South African situation.

"And the hair on the back of my head just stood up," Walshe says. "I couldn't believe it. One felt very useless at times in exile. To know that the book had been used by the prisoners around Mandela, part of their ongoing educational program: It sort of m a d e

"A fundamental part of our education is that we are not the center of the world, neither as Americans nor as ordinary individuals."

James McAdams,
director of the Nanovic Institute
for European Studies

life worthwhile."

In 1994, the white Apartheid regime stood down, a new constitution was put in place, and Nelson Mandela gained presidency by winning the first non-racist elections in the history of South Africa.

And Walshe was here at Notre Dame, applauding wildly.

The fall of another oppressive regime came in 1991, two years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and just after a major coup, as Mikhail Gorbachev ceded power to Boris Yeltsin, thus ending decades of Soviet Communism, the USSR and the Cold War.

"Almost nobody expected that this monolith one day would fall apart like a house of cards — and that's exactly what happened," Lyandres

says.

Lyandres says that the event was one of the most emotionally important events that he'd ever witnessed. He was in graduate school at the time, and says that there was a sense of incredible relief watching the statues of soviet leaders being torn down — in much the same fashion as was the statue of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad, Iraq, last year.

Under the Dome: Impressions

So, after growing up in parts of the world very different from our little microcosm, what do these professors think about the students of Notre Dame? Here are some opinions from these outsiders-turned-insiders.

All four note the drive and work ethic of Notre Dame students. Coly says that Notre Dame students are extremely receptive, generous and well-behaved, adding that, if she ever left, she would miss the students the most. Smyth appreciates the dutiful attitude of Notre Dame students, but he laments the American system's way of stretching them too thin, erring on the side of breadth of knowledge. And while Walshe has seen many improvements in the quality of the student body over his years here, he does wish that current students were more concerned with international affairs, as students tended to be in the '60s and '70s. While realizing that their students may represent a minority in the student population, Lyandres and Coly both commend the genuine intellectual curiosity about the non-Western world.

While Coly is delighted about the open-mindedness of Notre Dame students, she has encountered resistance from some fellow professors, at times feeling all too aware that she has five "differences" working against her: she's a young, black, Muslim, African

woman. She attributes the occasional awkwardness to the fact that they may not be used to such a close encounter with diversity.

Coly insists, however, that being Muslim is not difficult at Notre Dame. In fact, she has become more devoted to practicing her religion, praying and fasting more since coming here. She says that this is perhaps the result of being touched by Notre Dame's religious environment.

Playing Fair

All four professors seem to agree on how to approach teaching about their native countries: acknowledge that the viewpoint is not — and neither can nor should be — objective; embrace the fact that it is subjective, and be fair to the other side.

Walshe believes that part of his mission is to teach not only about Africa but also about the values involved. He stresses the ethical issues involved in African politics, especially in the struggles against racial injustice and the polarization of rich and poor. He says that teaching is "not a value-free operation.

We all bring our values to what we do, and we better make them explicit and talk about them."

It is also important to try to understand the other side of the battle, however. Walshe gives the example of the Dutch Afrikaansers who dominated the Apartheid regime: While one can write them off as power-hungry "demons," it is more important to take an empathetic approach and find out why they were such a defensive minority, how even the deepest thinkers could promote the idea of "separate, but equal," and why it was always separate, but devastatingly unequal and discriminatory.

Smyth and Lyandres agree that whether one was raised in the culture about which one is speaking or not, true objectivity is unattainable. Smyth prefers the label "fair-minded," while Lyandres uses "scholarly" to describe his treatment of opposing sides and views.

Coly adds that it is sometimes interesting being an "insider" teaching about a culture and hearing the "outsider" views of students, all of whom have very different cultural and intellectual "baggage." She insists upon not "taking custody of meaning" just because she comes from the country of study: The interpretation taken by the students can also be quite valid.

Diversity Support

All four of these professors are fellows of one or more university institutes — but what does that mean? George Lopez, the director of policy studies for and senior fellow of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, explains that the various institutes supply organizational support and funding, describing the institutes as "horizontal weaves through a vertically organized departmental system," since the institutes corroborate and strengthen the work done by the Departments of History and Political Science

and various foreign language departments. The institutes have the resources and manpower to attract professors to Notre Dame who may not consider Notre Dame. The Kroc Institute, for example, "is an institute that takes seriously



SOUTH AFRICA

Size: 1,219,912 sq km
(slightly less than
twice the size of Texas)

Population: 42,770,000

"In 1994, the white Apartheid regime stood down, a new constitution was put in place, and Nelson Mandela gained presidency by winning the first non-racist elections in the history of South Africa."

the prospect that religion can be a source of peace-building or of violence," Lopez says, adding that this perspective of peace and religion is a strong attraction of the institute, and therefore Notre Dame.

James McAdams, the director of the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, expresses how valuable these professors are: "As wonderful an educational environment as Notre Dame is, we tend to get a pretty rarified view of the world from our isolated campus. Most of us haven't had to deal with the challenges of a tumultuous society in our day-to-day lives." He adds, "A fundamental part of our education is that we are not the center of the world, neither as Americans nor as ordinary individuals."

All in all, these professors are happy to be at Notre Dame. In the eyes of each, the advantages heavily outweigh the disadvantages. And the students, faculty and administration of Notre Dame are happy to have them here, embodying a little bit of history and current events from outside the American sphere. □



RUSSIA

Size: 17,075,200 sq km
(approximately twice
the size of the U.S.)
Population: 144,530,000

"In 1991, two years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and just after a major coup, as Mikhail Gorbachev ceded power to Boris Yeltsin, thus ending decades of Soviet Communism, the USSR and the Cold War."



Coming Soon: A Theater Near You

The future home of performing arts at Notre Dame is stacked with 21st-century features

KATIE BARON

When you think of the "Notre Dame Experience," what comes to mind? An outstanding education? Action-based spirituality? Football weekends? The university has long provided its students with a wide variety of both academic and extra-curricular opportunities to enhance the Notre Dame experience. With the completion of the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, Notre Dame will be able to provide its students an even more comprehensive college experience.

The new addition to campus will offer academic and cultural opportunities to students, faculty and the surrounding community. In the words of John Haynes, the Judd and Mary Lou Leighton Director for the Performing Arts and Executive Director of the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, "We are not replacing anything in the life of Notre Dame, but merely adding to it."

Washington Hall, the current performing arts building, was constructed in the 1880s. The fact that Notre Dame's current main stage was built in the 19th century illustrates Haynes' belief "that the arts have not received adequate attention at Notre Dame." Haynes and many others agree that Notre Dame has done a wonderful job in other areas, including science, ethics and athletics. The arts, however, have not benefited from the same amount of attention; this lack of attention inspired the creation of the new Performing Arts Center. In May 2004, the Performing Arts Center will be completed, adding a masterpiece of modern technology to Notre Dame's campus.

The new facility is outfitted with professional equipment and up-to-date technology. As opposed to Washington Hall, the main stage in the Performing Arts Center

is fully trapped, has 10 times the capacity in lighting and has a greatly improved sound system, which includes adjustable acoustics that permit acoustic quality to be altered from event to event.

The building features highly specified performance rooms, including a main stage theater, a concert hall, an organ and chorale hall, a studio theater and a THX-certified cinema. The 200-seat Browning Family THX Cinema is equal to the best

student-run productions will continue to take place in Washington Hall. The Performing Arts Center is not suited for student performances, as the stages in the new facility must be attended to by professionals due to the costs and dangers of the modern technology. However, because professional performances will be moved to the Performing Arts Center, student-booking time in Washington Hall should increase dramatically (pun intended).

The Performing Arts Center also will benefit the general community of Notre Dame and South Bend. Haynes says, "There will be almost continuous opportunities available [for the community to take advantage of the Performing Arts Center]."

Among these opportunities are a number of

performances already booked for next year. The impressive list includes the Chieftans, the Emerson String Quartet, Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Emanuel Ax, as well as various musical groups from both Notre Dame and the South Bend community: The South Bend Symphony Orchestra has already scheduled a chamber music series for next year. Haynes feels this wide range of classical and world music will help to further broaden the Notre Dame experience for all students. "Whether you're a biology student, in the School of Architecture ... or a graduate student, the number of cultural experiences available to you is about to go up tremendously," he says.

The Performing Arts Center has something for everyone: For those interested in film, the Performing Arts Center will program a new series of films to play on Friday and Saturday nights. The ND Cinema series will also relocate to the new center.

Haynes and his colleagues have great expectations for the new Performing Arts Center. The expected benefits will make the university, as Haynes puts it, "a campus where the arts are not merely available, but become a cherished part of Notre Dame life." □



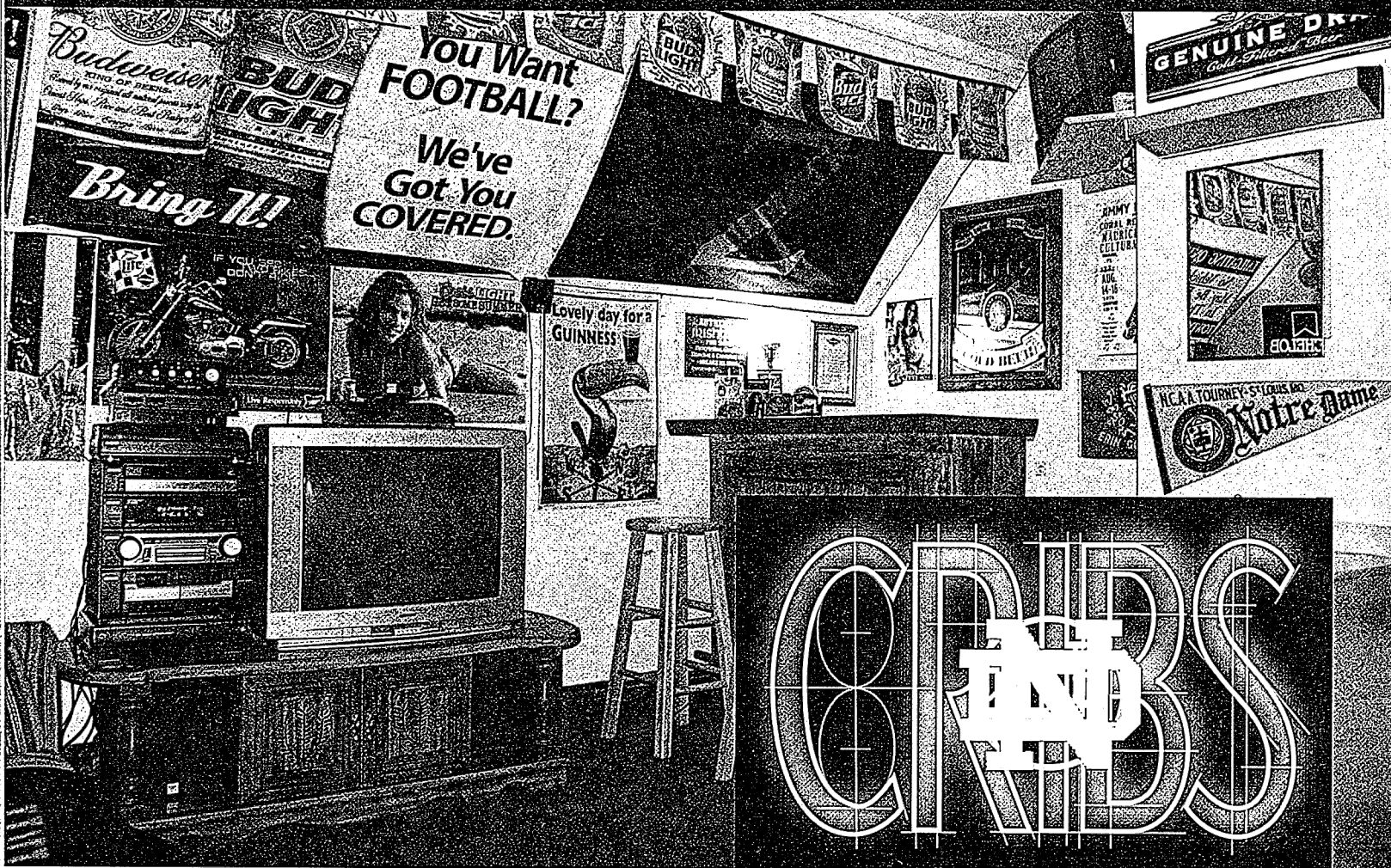
CONCEPT TO REALITY As its completion approaches, the new DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on the south end of campus looks very similar to this concept drawing.

movie theatres in the Midwest; in fact, it is only the fourth THX-certified cinema in Indiana.

The building is constructed on seven separate foundations to ensure that sound is not transmitted from one stage to another. As Haynes explains, on a given night there may be "a loud movie in the cinema and a symphony playing in the concert hall, and one will not disturb the other."

Although the Performing Arts Center will function primarily as the main stage for the Notre Dame campus, its uses will vary. Haynes asserts that the Performing Arts Center also will serve as a tool for enhancing the education of all Notre Dame students. In particular, the facility will serve as the new home to Notre Dame's Film, Television and Theatre Department. Students will benefit from this move, as they will be able to practice and perform on fully rigged, professional stages and make use of the dozen state-of-the-art film and video editing bays located in the basement. "There is a big difference between working on 15- to 24-year-old equipment and working with thoroughly modern equipment," Haynes says.

The equipment housed within the Performing Arts Center is so modern that



Let the Good Times Roll

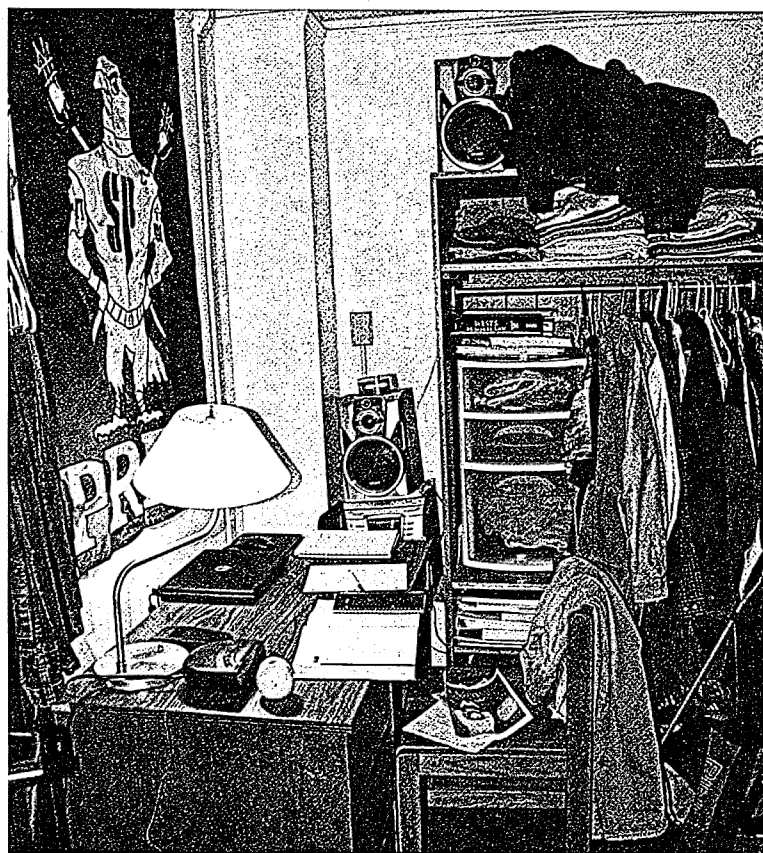
KATIESOLAN

A ny dutiful Notre Dame bar-hopper begins his Thursday night of revelry at Legends, lured in by the bar's surprisingly potent \$2 margaritas. However, tucked away at 459 Zahm lies "the other campus bar" — Good Time Charlie's — complete with a hand-made bar-top, a signature drink and, of course, a certified beer master.

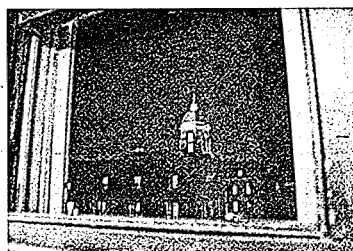
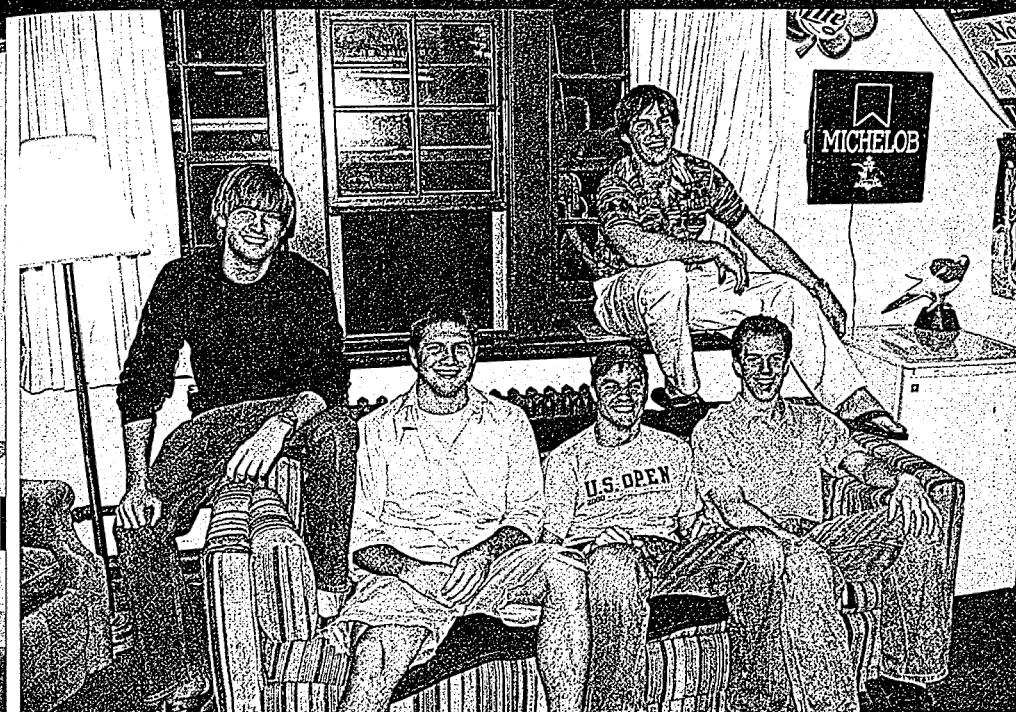
The idea for Good Time Charlie's, as residents Joe Hetler, Bryan Logan, Matt McConnell, Eric Tarnowski and Drew Updike term their unique living space, arose from the need to have "a place where everyone knows your name," Logan says.

The spacious common room is the heart of Charlie's, the northeastern corner of which features a smooth wooden bar-top hand-crafted by Tarnowski. Always fully stocked, the bar has a small fridge snugly fitted behind it, above which is proudly displayed Tarnowski's certificate of mastery from the Budweiser Beer School (fully accredited, of course).

Pull up a barstool, grab a coaster, gaze at Sports Center on



HIT THE BOOKS Parents concerned by the amount of beer paraphernalia in this Zahm quint need not worry. The residents are fine, upstanding American boys who, as this tidy desk attests, devote time to both work and play.



Location, Location, Location Bottom Left: Beer signs mingle with a Morrison poster and plush seating; Top Left: The residents of 459 Zahm recline and grin — it's the Charlie way; Right: The foreboding door belies the room's inviting atmosphere; Center: As if the bar and the decorations are not enough, 459 Zahm even has a clear view of the dome.

the mounted TV behind the bar, and the bartender will serve you "Charlie's Special:" 24 ounces of cold Natty Light in a tall pilsner glass.

With much for the wandering eye, Charlie's decor is as much kitschy as it is classic. On the left of the entrance is a large tie-dyed print of Jim Morrison, basking in the eerie glow of a black light; on the right is a rustic wood-cut of the Anheuser Busch logo and its graceful, proud eagle.

Next is a framed image of a wood-carved, slightly toothy old man in a John Deere cap with a pint in his hand. The caption below him reads, "I spent most of my money on beer and women — the rest I just wasted." The men of 459 nicknamed the old wooden man Charlie, and he serves as general overseer of the bar.

Although there is an eclectic mix of Zahm pride (a flag with Zahm's token "Z" takes up a large portion of the north wall) and Americana, beer paraphernalia is, of course, 459's dominant decorating theme. The room features a Jack Daniel's clock, an elegant Miller Lite mirror behind the bar, a neon Michelob sign and Budweiser beer flags hung from the ceiling.

Situated in the room's southwest corner, a rather charming Moosehead beer 3-D picture box is displayed and is aptly described by one resident as a "moving-light-picture thing."

McConnell describes Charlie's as "a bar on the weekends or at night, but a lounge during the week." Attesting to its multifunctionality, Charlie's has a certain coziness created by its plush green carpet, two large sofas across the west and south walls, and a floor lamp between the two, bathing a well-worn recliner and Jeff the Plant in soft, white light.

Jeff the Plant, who proudly guards an autographed poster of Carmen Electra, is seen as something of an oracle. Residents maintain that Jeff miraculously came back to life after a near-death experience during the World Series — a sure prophecy, Tarnowski says, of a triumph for the Cubs next season.

Although Charlie's always welcomes a good time, residents insist that Good Time Charlie's is more than just a site for parties, fight nights and poker tournaments. "Charlie's is more like an attitude, a state of mind," says Tarnowski. "It's like Jimmy Buffet and Margaritaville."

So the next time you're at Charlie's enjoying a tall, cold Natty Light, glance away from the game once in a while to behind the bar and take note of the vintage Jimmy Buffet poster. Let Island Jimmy, perhaps the quintessential proponent of good-ol' fun, remind you to return often to the Charlie's good-time state of mind. Just don't forget to tip the bartender when you're there. □

CAMPUS WATCH BY THE GIPPER



TIP THE GIPP: GIPPER@ND.EDU

Ahoy, Gippings. Jesus is back. Spring is in the air. Thanks to an ad that recently ran in the campus daily rag, I hear the sports office at *Scholastic* has been flooded with applications for editor. And the Gipp's e-mail box is full of good tips. Speaking of e-mail, does anyone else find it ridiculous that OIT is asking us for our help? Many of you more astute Gippings may have noticed a news bullet on the WebMail login page that reads: "URGENT: Please help the OIT reclaim disk space..." I don't know about you, but OIT is near the bottom of the Gipp's list of people to help. Could you imagine if other departments behaved this way? "GRAB 'N GO EMERGENCY: Please take only one side item today." Anyway, on to the good stuff.

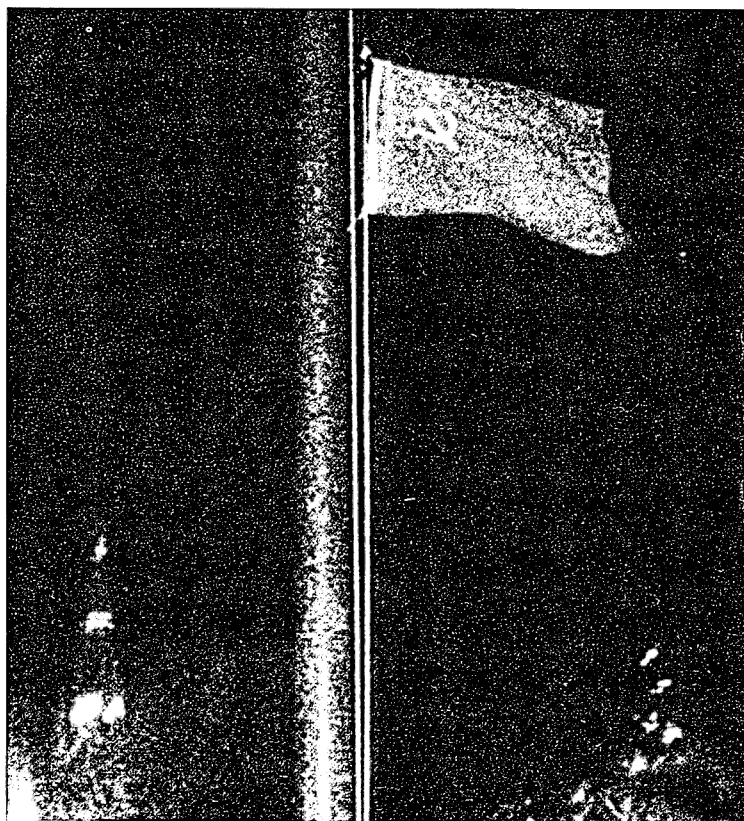
Soviet Takeover

It looks like the collapse of the Berlin Wall almost 15 years ago may not have done away entirely with our comrades to the East after all. A Gipping visiting South Quad shot these predawn photos one weekday morning, immortalizing an act that left the Gipp wondering, "Why didn't I think of that?" You see, the Gipp always has taken a fancy to Communism and all that it has to offer. The Gipp suspects that the culprit is none other than the vice president for student affairs. He's already brought Stalinism to campus in practice; propaganda is the next logical step. For that, the Gipp would like to award this distinguished gentleman with the 2004 inaugural Gippie Award. Congratulations!

An Unholy Trinity

So two roommates, let's call them Neo and Morpheus, are watching *The Matrix: Reloaded* and get a little too into it, wanting to act it out themselves. Neo brings his girlfriend, "Trinity," to the room, and he enters her matrix. While reloading, however, alcohol levels unplug his mind, and he passes out. Morpheus, feeling lonely and ready for action, decides that Trinity isn't named Trinity for nothing, so he joins in

the struggle. Neo re-awakens to a strange reality, and because of a mental short-circuit, he pulls the trigger on Morpheus' gun instead of his own — teamwork at its most unfortunate. Luckily, Trinity is more clear-headed and helps Neo convert his software to hardware, so he can finish the mission. The Gipp doesn't really understand what all this means, but is sufficiently disturbed and can't wait for the sequel.



Pac-Man Destroys Fountain

Apparently, Pac-Man, after escaping the Gipp's TV screen, dashed through the Coleman-Morse Center last month and mistook the main pipe that routes water to the granite ball fountain for his ghost nemesis Blinky. No news as to when the water will once again be flowing.

Reflections at the Grotto

The Grotto: a reverent place of prayer, a mecca for Notre Dame visitors, a strip

club? Apparently a young Gipping in training for his new gig as a bachelorette party dancer thought it would be a good idea to practice his act by candlelight ... prayer-candle light. Well, after stripping himself down to his boxers in front of St. Bernadette and all the world, our soused stripper swooned, having to be awakened by students who had come to the Grotto to get some praying done.

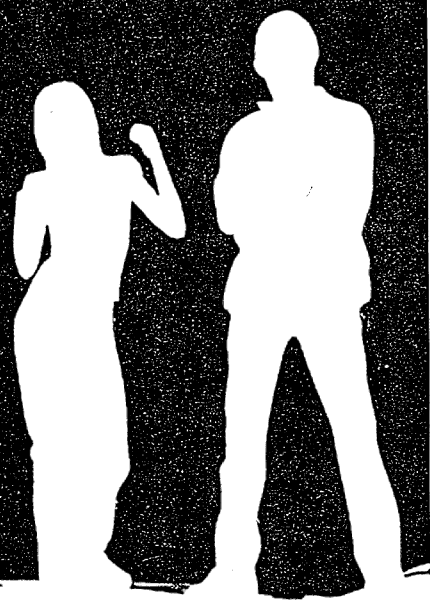
The nerve! After coming to, stripper boy alertly made his way to Corby Hall, only to pass out there, as well. Good idea, pal! Minutes later, a priest found our protagonist, brought him to his senses, and escorted him back to his dorm. On the way, they recovered the articles of clothing that he had left at the Virgin Mary's feet. And some say the Gipp has been irreverent at the Grotto. Just

look at this guy!

PS — the Gipp is unsure ... isn't stripping at the Grotto one of those instant-damnation sins?

Well, Gippings, unfortunately, that's the end of this year-long chapter of Campus Watch. We're all done until the fall. In the meantime, I have to get back to manipulating the movements of a big yellow ball through a maze of dots. If you can't find me, I'll be at Q*Bert's conspiring with communist penguins. OK, bye. □

Legends of Notre Dame.org



- APRIL 15** Danielle Rose
Notre Dame graduate releasing her second album. 10pm
- APRIL 16** Bill Bushart
Detroit comic who has worked with the biggest names in comedy. 10pm
- APRIL 17** WVFI presents Saturday Looks Good To Me
With special guest, Whatever You Want 10pm
- APRIL 20** Business Drinking Etiquette
- APRIL 21** Theology on Tap
- APRIL 22** Live at Legends - The Very Best of Acoustic Cafe
- APRIL 23** Swing Night with Bopology
- APRIL 24** SUB presents Slainte Mhath (TBA)





SPLINTERS

FROM THE PRESSBOX

UNDER THE SCOPE STATZONE IRISH EYES ON OUR CALLS UNDER THE SCOPE STATZONE IRISH EYES ON OUR CALLS

Under the Scope

Academic Standards — An Obstacle or an Accomplishment?
by Christopher Meskill — cmeskill@nd.edu

Everyone beware: Notre Dame is in an emergency. One year removed from a 9-3 season, the Fighting Irish football team finished with a depressing record of 5-7. Despite excuses about adjustment to a new offensive system and a true freshman quarterback, this past season was simply unacceptable. Obviously, Notre Dame football has hit rock bottom, a position from which it is incapable of escaping. The only possible way to ameliorate the current situation is to compromise the university's standards in a misguided, racist crusade, right? Wrong!

To most people, this statement is simply ridiculous. Notre Dame has a reputation for being a football school, but above all else it is an institution of higher learning. However, Notre Dame's 1956 Heisman winner, Paul Hornung, sees no other way to fix the football fiasco than to undermine the distinguished academic standards of the university. On a Detroit radio station, Hornung said, "[Notre Dame has] gotta get the black athlete. We must get the black athlete if we're going to compete." His solution for "getting the black athlete:" Notre Dame must relax its academic requirements.

First of all, I would like to note that the best way to *NOT* "get the black athlete" is to insult his race's collective intelligence across the airwaves of a city with one of the highest black populations in the nation. In addition, Notre Dame's graduation rates for both black athletes and white athletes have been largely even,

rendering moot the issue about whether African-Americans, especially those involved in varsity athletics, can succeed at this university.

Notre Dame's recruiting methods have traditionally been able to attract athletes of various ethnic backgrounds. This year, Tyrone Willingham, the first black head football coach at Notre Dame, recruited a talented class comprised of both black and white athletes. In the past, Notre Dame

to lower the academic standards for all of its athletes, not just blacks. However, this is still an ill-advised comment. Notre Dame's tradition has a dual nature — for the last century, we have been both a great football power and one of the most academically rigorous universities in the nation. Notre Dame is the only university to rank among the top five schools in the nation for both the graduation rate of football players

The only way to ameliorate the current situation is to compromise the university's standards in a misguided, racist crusade, right? Wrong!

football teams have been led by such renowned white players as George Gipp, Joe Montana and Paul Hornung himself, as well as by outstanding black athletes, including "Rocket" Ismail, Jerome Bettis and Julius Jones.

Hornung's comments elicited criticism from across the country and drew a response from Notre Dame's administration. Notre Dame spokesperson Matthew Storin commented that "[the University] strongly disagrees with the thesis of these remarks" and that "[Hornung's remarks] are generally insensitive and specifically insulting to our past and current African-American student-athletes."

Likely pressured by the university, Hornung retracted some of his comments. In his latest press conference, Hornung said that Notre Dame needs

and the number of players bound for the NFL. Notre Dame is also one of the only universities to be a top-20 university both in academics and in overall athletics. Our academic and athletic traditions should compliment, rather than oppose, each other.

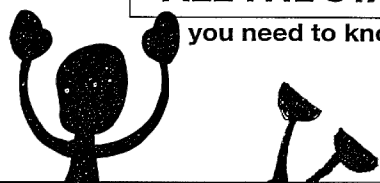
Notre Dame's balance of academics and athletics is one of the things that makes the university unique. Not many universities can offer an athlete the opportunity to play on television every week, to receive one of the finest educations in the land, and to walk away with a degree that is highly respected by employers. Notre Dame's academic standards are the most attractive facet of this university, and a return to football glory should not come at the expense of Notre Dame's tradition of academic excellence. □

STATZONE

Christopher Meskill brings you ...

ALL THE STATS

you need to know.



Baseball (25-4, 7-1): After losing their home opener on March 23, the No. 4 Fighting Irish baseball team has been in the zone, winning 12 of their last 13 games. The streak began with a 16-6 win over Detroit and continued as the Irish defeated Big East rivals West Virginia, Villanova and Boston College. Notre Dame's lone loss during the stretch was at home against Boston College

on Saturday, April 10. This loss was the only conference loss for the Irish so far this season, and they currently are atop the Big East standings. At noon this Saturday, April 17, the Irish will face Georgetown in Bethesda, Md.

Softball (31-11, 6-0): The Fighting Irish have been making up for lost ground lately, winning eight of their last 10 games,

IRIS HEYESON

MEREDITH
SIMON



Senior captain Meredith Simon has piloted the Irish women's lacrosse team to a No. 2 ranking in the nation this season. The midfielder from Flemington, NJ, leads Notre Dame in goals and assists this season. This comes as no surprise, since Simon is the top returning goal scorer from the 2003 squad. Already ranked in the top 10 in the Irish women's lacrosse record books in four different categories, Simon is a prime candidate to win all-Big East, all-region and All-American honors this year.

What are your goals for your last season under the Dome? Number one goal is to win a national championship. First, we have got to win Big East, though. I want to have a great season, have a lot of fun, and to have a good team where everyone is united. I think that, so far, we are on the right track.

How do you feel you aid the team as captain? I like to lead by example and work together with [Andrea] Kinnik to make sure that everyone is focused on winning a national championship.

What do you enjoy most about playing midfield? I like how it makes me feel like I'm a part of the entire game: defense, offense and transition. I can be a part of everything.

How do you prepare yourself for a game? Every game I wear the same socks and spandex. Right before the game, me and a couple of my teammates dance in the locker room. After that, I always eat a Snickers Marathon bar right before I walk out onto the field. I am pretty superstitious.

What are your plans for life after Notre Dame? I would like to coach Division I lacrosse. Then I would eventually like to get my teaching certificate, teach high school and coach high school lacrosse.

Who is your favorite athlete? Bernie Williams of the [New York] Yankees is definitely my favorite athlete, because he is modest, he is awesome, and he is a great leader. I just think that he is the perfect athlete.

What is your most memorable moment as a Notre Dame athlete? Sophomore year was the first time we got into the NCAA Tournament. We played Ohio State at home and we had a great game. We won and advanced to the second round. It was just a great day.

including five of six this week. The Irish recently swept Connecticut, Boston College and Syracuse, each in two-game series. Sophomore pitcher Heather Booth and junior pitcher Steffany Stenglein have been untouchable during the month of March, allowing three runs or less in all but one game. Meanwhile, the Irish bats have been alive, averaging over six runs per game

this month. On Thursday, April 15, Notre Dame will host Illinois-Chicago at Ivy Field. Game time is 5:00 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse (10-0, 3-0): With its best start in the program's eight-year history, the No. 2 Notre Dame women's lacrosse team looks to finish the season with an untainted record. The Irish have only six



NOTRE DAME

VS.

FRIARS

Our Calls Softball Double-header

OPPONENT: PROVIDENCE

WHERE: IVY FIELD – NOTRE DAME, IN

WHEN: APRIL 18, 11:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M.

In this matchup, the Irish carry a better record than Providence and do so with a tougher schedule. On Sunday, the Irish will continue their home dominance and will improve their record to 9-1 at home by winning both games of the double-header. Look for the Irish to prevent the Friars' offense from getting off the ground. Also expect offense from Meagan Ruthrauff and Megan Ciolli early in the game to give the Irish momentum that will carry them through the long day. The Irish will win with scores of 6-2 and 7-3.

CHRISTOPHER MESKILL
SPORTS EDITOR

KEY TO THE GAME:

Conquering the Mound
The Irish pitching has been remarkable so far this season, carrying a 1.73 combined ERA and holding opponents to a stifling .198 batting average. If Heather Booth (15-4) and Steffany Stenglein (11-7) show up with their "A" games, the Friars have no prayer against Notre Dame.

games standing between them and perfection. So far, the Irish have defeated powerhouses such as Stanford, Duke and, most recently, Ohio State (all ranked higher than the Irish in preseason polls). The Irish have been led by senior co-captain Meredith Simon, who has the most goals and assists for the Irish this season. Their next match is at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 17, at No. 5 Georgetown. □



ARE ARMS SUPPOSED TO BEND LIKE THAT? The men's baseball team has battled its way to the top five in the national rankings, looking to reach the College World Series for the second time in three years.

Down One but Not Out

Irish baseball continues hot season, despite losing captain Steve Sollmann to injury

CHRISTOPHER MESKILL

At 19-3, the Irish had everything going their way. The Notre Dame baseball team sat atop the Big East Conference, was on a five-game winning streak, and, most importantly, was solidifying a solid team chemistry. It appeared as though the Irish could overcome any obstacle that stood in their way. On Saturday, March 3, the Irish faced the first real test of the team's unity and determination, when senior team captain Steve Sollmann was knocked out of Irish baseball for an indefinite period of time. During the fifth inning of the series opener against Villanova, Sollmann — the starting second baseman — broke his jaw after colliding with Irish sophomore right fielder Cody Rizzo on a shallow pop-up. Sollmann

was sent home to Cincinnati, where he is scheduled to have surgery. Now, the Irish have to make their way without their team leader.

In a preseason interview, Irish head coach Paul Manieri said, "This is the deepest team — in terms of quality of talent more than simply the quantity of players — that we've had in my 10 years." However, with Sollmann's injury, questions remained unanswered. Will the Irish depth be enough to fill the void at second base? Can Notre Dame continue this dream season without Sollmann's talent and leadership? What will each individual player need to do in order to compensate for this loss?

Pointing out some of Sollmann's strengths that will be missed, Manieri says, "Steve is tough as nails, loves pres-

sure and always delivers in big-game situations, in addition to his amazing consistency the past three seasons." Sollmann's day-to-day consistency has been pivotal to the Irish success both offensively and defensively.

To open the 2004 season, the Irish traveled to Los Angeles, Calif., to play in the USC Public Storage College Classic. In a soggy series, Notre Dame defeated San Diego State, 7-1, and Southern Cal, 3-1, before their third game — against Louisville — was rained out. Sollmann's presence was felt, as he went 2-3 with two walks and two runs against San Diego State. He also was involved in a pivotal play that gave the Irish a two-run lead against the No. 20 USC Trojans. Junior first baseman Matt Edwards was another big performer in that series, driving in

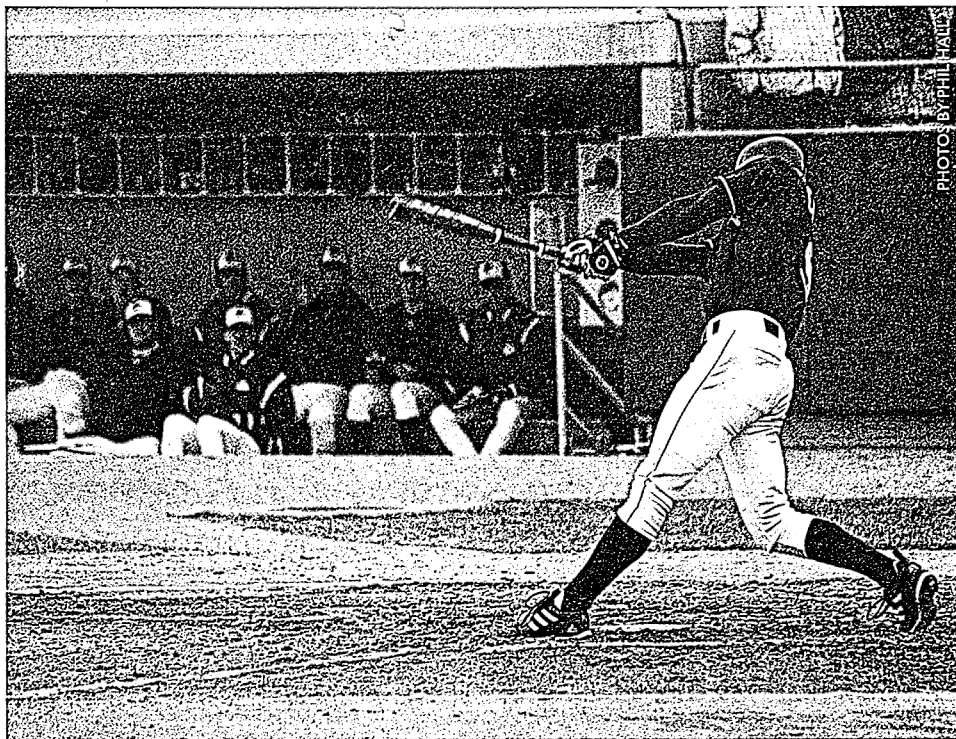
four RBIs against San Diego State, including a two-run homer in his first at-bat of the season.

At the Florida Atlantic University's Doubletree Diamond Classic in Boca Raton, Fla., the Irish continued their perfect streak, adding high-scoring victories over Winthrop and Minnesota, as well as a close 3-2 win over No. 12 Florida Atlantic. During the three-game road trip, Sollmann recorded three runs and two RBIs and played flawless defense at second base.

At the Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic in San Antonio, Texas, the Irish faced Southern Illinois, Texas-San Antonio and Penn State. The Irish took three of four games, defeating Southern Illinois, 12-11, and Penn State, 8-2, but splitting a two-game series with Texas-San Antonio. Sollmann continued to lead his team to victory by scoring seven runs, driving in five RBIs and getting hit by three pitches in the series.

The Irish continued to roll at the Round Rock College Classic in Round Rock, Texas, the last of the regular season tournaments on Notre Dame's schedule. The Irish swept the competition in this three-game series. In one of the best pitching matchups of the year, the Irish defeated Penn State, 4-2. Freshmen pitchers Derik Olvey and Jeff Samardzija combined for a two-hitter, and junior third baseman Matt Macri drove in three RBIs. The Irish finished the tournament with a 4-2 victory over No. 19 Arizona and a 6-1 win over Texas Tech. Junior pitcher Chris Neisel and sophomore pitcher Tom Thornton shut down Arizona and Texas Tech, respectively, as Sollmann had four hits, a run and an RBI in 10 at-bats.

After opening 11-1 in tournament play, the Irish hit a rough patch and split their first four matches in the cold, Midwest weather. Despite solid efforts on offense, the Irish went 1-1 against Southern Illinois in Carbondale, Ill., and 1-1 in their first two home games — against Central Michigan and Detroit. Over this four-game stretch, the



IT'S AWAY! Sophomore right fielder Craig Cooper makes contact as the Boston College dugout looks on.

Irish showed their power, hitting seven home runs, three of which were the work of sophomore designated hitter Matt Bransfield. Macri added two home runs, and sophomore shortstop Greg Lopez and Sollmann each added one. After losing to Central Michigan, the Irish finally came around in the game against Detroit, with a definitive 16-6 victory.

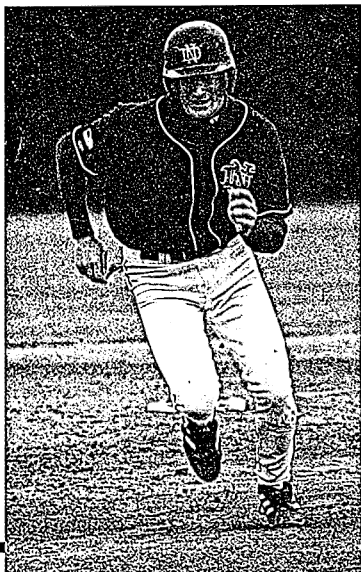
With momentum coming off of the win against Detroit, the Irish marched into Morgantown, W.Va., to open Big East play in a three-game series against the West Virginia Mountaineers. In the series-opening double-header, the Irish swept the Mountaineers by scores of 5-3 and 4-0, with Thornton shutting out the Mountaineers in the second game. On the next day, the Irish completed their three-game sweep of the Mountaineers with a 6-2 victory. Sollmann had a productive series with a triple, a home run and three RBIs.

Following two home wins against Western Michigan and Hillsdale, the Irish were set to host Big East rival Villanova for a three-game series. However, Sollmann was injured in the first game of the series, and the Irish needed to compensate for the loss. In the first game,

Macri tripled twice, and sophomore designated hitter Steve Andres and Bransfield both hit home runs, leading to a 15-7 victory. In the second game, the Irish edged the Wildcats, 6-5, in 10 innings. Macri and sophomore right fielder Craig Cooper each had two runs, and Thornton pitched five innings and allowed only two runs. The Irish finished the series with a 13-1 routing of Villanova. All of the Irish contributed to the victory with eight players driving in at least one RBI. This performance proved that the Irish could adjust and win without Sollmann.

The Irish continued to win in Sollmann's absence as they defeated Chicago State, 15-5, and Valparaiso, 9-3. In the contest against Chicago State, six players batted in at least one run, with Edwards and Cooper leading the team with four RBIs each. Notre Dame also defeated Valparaiso in a group effort, with seven Irish players scoring runs and five driving in runs. In last Saturday's doubleheader against Boston College, the Irish had trouble in the first game, scoring only four runs. However, the Irish returned to form in the second game, winning 6-4.

Despite the possible problems that could have arisen from the loss of Sollmann as a player and team leader, the Irish have found success. Their 6-1 record since Sollmann's injury shows that they do indeed have the depth to continue their dream season. □



RUN, MATT, RUN Junior third baseman Matt Macri advances to third base.

Student Stand-up

An unofficial comedy group lets young talent get experience and a few laughs

BETH MURPHY AND
NICK KOLMAN-MANDEL

Beer. Jesus. Sex. Politics. Ugly babies. These were only some of the topics covered by student comedians who performed at Legends on April Fool's Day, and some of the same subjects undoubtedly will resurface at the next comedic event on April 17. Featuring five young comics, the April 1 show was a major success and drew a bigger and more responsive crowd than the first show, held in September.

Leading the student stand-up troupe is Peter Wicks. Originally from London, Wicks studied at Oxford, and it was there that his comedy career took off. After working with the prestigious Cambridge University-based group called Footlights, Wicks relocated to Princeton University, where he left his mark by forming an informal stand-up group that is now a full-fledged student club. Currently studying at Notre Dame as a graduate student in philosophy, Wicks is attempting to work his magic once again.

"Essentially there's no real 'group', underground or otherwise," Wicks says. "There's just an e-mail list on my laptop of people who have told me that they're interested in performing stand-up comedy."

On that list are 57 people, although Wicks says there are only 12-14 active participants, many of whom are also members of the Notre Dame Humor Artists (HA). One of these dual members is senior Joe Nardino, who has performed in HA shows, as well as in several stand-up routines. According to Nardino, Wicks "got his hands on the HA listserv and just said, 'Hey, there will be a stand-up show. If you're interested, e-mail me.'"

Right now, the stand-up comics are not an official Notre Dame club, and neither Wicks nor the other comedians are rushing to become one. "At the moment, there isn't any pressing reason to become one," Wicks says. "Most of our shows are at Legends, and we don't need to be a recognized club to perform there. Becoming an official club would probably just generate unnecessary meetings and paperwork." Nardino is also content with the group's status. "There are



MAKE 'EM LAUGH Student comics try to tickle a few funny bones at Legends.

clubs who struggle to get people to go to activities. We go through Legends and have a full crowd every time."

The student comedians are learning as they go that there is much more to comedy than jumping on stage to tell a few jokes. "You need to have material polished and performable," says Nardino. "Funny people often fail at stand-up." There is a big difference between being funny with friends and getting up in front of people and generating laughs. "You have to really own the crowd and know it so well that you're comfortable," he says.

Freshman Justin Smith, another student comic, admits that he only uses one-third of his prepared material and usually practices in front of friends to see what does and does not work. One of Nardino's friends from home practices his material on his grandmother. "She's dirtier than all of us," Nardino laughs.

Another comic, Jack Kichura, says he prepares for approximately four hours before stepping in front of a microphone and admits to being extremely nervous before a performance. Audience reaction is "touch and go," he says. Nardino agrees, saying that every audience is different and the comic needs to adjust accordingly. "You could tell your worst joke, and depending on the audience, it could be your

best material," Nardino says. "You have to have a presence on stage." Bottom line: No practice means no laughs. "You could tell the funniest joke in the world," Nardino says, "but if you tell it wrong, it'll sound stupid."

Mike Bradt, who helps Wicks lead the group, has a good deal of experience with stand-up and even won a competition in Chicago before attending Notre Dame Law School. Nardino is looking to follow in Bradt's footsteps at a club in New York City. He hopes to catch the eyes of the scouts, who usually frequent comedic amateur nights.

For the future, Wicks is "currently trying to decide whether to be a funny philosophy professor or a comedian who knows an awful lot about Aristotle." Nardino aspires to teach, and is considering practicing his material on his future classes. He addresses an invisible student: "Don't think that's funny? Participation: F." □

Wicks encourages interested students to e-mail him (pwicks@nd.edu) or Mike Bradt (mbradt@nd.edu) to try out material or participate in a stand-up workshop. A special performance will be held Saturday, April 17 in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

Great Thai Food, and for Peanuts

For a hole-in-the-wall downtown restaurant, Siam has a big heart and tasty food

NICK KOLMAN-MANDLE

The next time you want a special evening out, for goodness sake, skip Grape Road. Skip Olive Garden. Skip Houlihan's. Siam Thai Restaurant is the perfect place for a date. No date? A friend or two will do just as well.

Siam is small, with only about 20 tables, and it is hardly visible from the road. Inside, the owners have done an impressively subtle job of transforming a bland block of space into a casually elegant dining room. The only thing that separates the front door from the rest of the room is a small folding partition, though, so ask to be seated toward the middle or back of the restaurant to avoid a draft.

The ambiance is contemporary with an understated Asian flair. It is definitely an ethnic restaurant, but instead of traditional Thai tunes, you'll hear classical piano. Upon entering, diners are captivated by the sweet, tangy and spicy smells wafting out of the kitchen. Tinted candles burn on tables covered with white tablecloths. The silverware is tucked neatly inside folded napkins. Servers wear traditional-looking outfits, and even if the uniforms aren't native Thailand attire, they still look sharp. The service is excellent: quick and attentive (but not overly-so). No bread is

served, but the food arrives very soon after being ordered.

Peanuts play a major role in Thai cooking, so we recommend ordering at least one dish that features them. For an appetizer, try the *satay* — skewered marinated chicken smothered in a

spiciness scale shown in the menu: one star for mild, two for spicy. The *Pad Ka Prow*, labeled spicy, was craving some kick. The *Masaman*, with no stars, was actually a bit spicier than the *Pad Ka Prow*. Ask the server for a more accurate gauge of the spiciness of menu items.

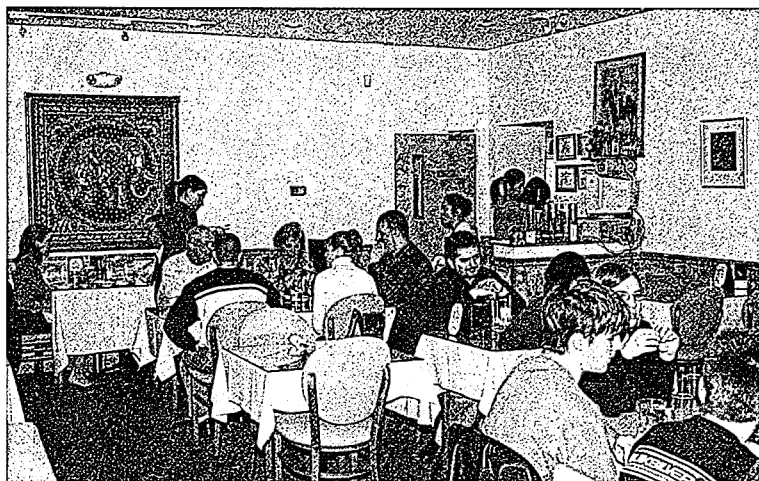
For tea connoisseurs, Siam will not disappoint. The restaurant features an entire menu devoted to different types of hot beverages, especially herbal teas. Try a glass mug of Thai herb tea, which smoothly counteracts the mild Thai spices, with less of a temperature shock than a cold drink.

For dessert, Siam's homemade specialty is "fried banana," a surprisingly tasty treat. They also have cheesecake and truffles for the less adventurous diner,

but the fried banana is the only dessert actually prepared in the restaurant.

Siam caters both to the couple looking for an intimate evening and to the hungry circle of friends. It's fancy enough to dress up for, but don't hesitate to go in jeans and sneakers. The prices are very reasonable, and the food is interesting, different, and delicious on the whole.

Siam only accepts reservations for parties of six or more. If you have a smaller group, call ahead to make sure there is room. With a distinct style of Asian cooking, Siam is a must for anyone looking to get a taste of Thai food.



TRADITIONAL FOOD, MODERN SETTING The one-room interior of the restaurant is both elegant and relaxed, good for intimate meals and casual dining.

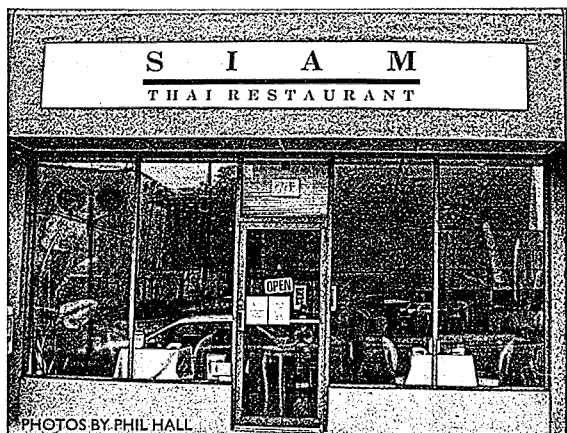
unique peanut sauce. If you're allergic to peanuts, an equally delicious appetizer is the *Siam Combo*, which offers a sampling of Thai egg rolls, fish cakes and fried tofu.

Under "Typical Dishes," avoid the *Pad Ka Prow*. The promised chicken was scanty, and the heap of vegetables were rather bland. We recommend the *Ka Tiam Prik Ta* — chicken with garlic, onions, peppers, and carrots. The chicken with ginger sauce is also very good.

If you prefer noodles, order the *Pad Thai*, another house specialty. The heaping plate of noodles, shrimp, eggs and veggies has a curiously sweet flavor that is unexpected and delicious.

For curry fans, the *Masaman Curry* is a great stew-like concoction of chicken, potatoes and vegetables in a peanut curry sauce, topped with raw onions. The sauce itself is very mild and the onions give an added "oomph." The charbroiled chicken curry is also a popular dish.

Don't necessarily trust the



The Passing of the Torch

A new women's interhall basketball champion is crowned

Over lunch the other day, I became engaged in a heated argument with a female acquaintance of mine about the unquestioned superiority of male athleticism over their more attractive counterparts (women). Don't get me wrong, I admitted that there are many areas in which women are far superior to men, such as multitasking and making out with guys, but in this one facet of our society it would seem that the Y-chromosome is the ultimate trump card. I contended that my friends and I would be able to defeat any girls' team in the upcoming Bookstore Basketball tournament, despite not having played organized basketball since 8th grade. Little did I know what cruel surprises the gods of Bookstore Basketball had in store for my friends and me. After an easy, yet eventful, opening round victory over Team Shawn Kemp, we were slated to take on The Bares, otherwise known as the McGlinn interhall basketball team, campus champions.

When we learned of this, we were not afraid, as Team Curb Your Enthusiasm (us) consisted of five able-bodied and strapping young men: Alex "Stingray" Staffieri, Kenton "Dirty V" Villano, Sean "Stingray" Cahill, myself, Mike "Hollywood" Healy, and our intrepid captain, Andy "Mr. E." Astuno. Focusing our formidable abilities was our coach, Erik "Stingray" Christensen. So it was on the fated day of April 7, 2004, that Team Curb Your Enthusiasm was to enter a battle with the finest unit of female basketballers this side of the JACC. The account of the game is as follows:

7:15 p.m. We arrive at McGlinn Courts brimming with confidence and undaunted by The Bares' flagrant home court advantage.

7:20 p.m. The first basket is scored, a ten-foot jumper by the girl Mr. E. was guarding. Coach Christensen breaks his clipboard in disgust and switches our defensive scheme. As the first half progresses, it becomes clear that while we may be bigger, stronger and faster, these girls are clearly more polished basketball players. They are running a premeditated motion offense and crashing the offensive boards like cyborgs. Conversely, we can do little more than steal the ball and hope to convert an easy lay-up, but even that is no easy task, as our team misses roughly half of our lay-ups, with me contributing at least four misses.

8:00 p.m. The first half comes to a close with The Bares

leading Team Curb Your Enthusiasm, 11-9. Coach Christensen is very upset by this and gently informs us that we are "getting beaten by a bunch of girls." Only less calmly and with more swearing. Faced with the prospect of our ultimate emasculation, we resolve to play a more physical game in the second half, thus catering to our strengths as athletes and concealing our deficiencies as basketball players.

8:15 p.m. With the second half well underway, Team Curb Your Enthusiasm has jumped out to a commanding 16-14 lead. Inspired by our brilliant coach, we have redoubled our efforts. In the 15 minutes directly following halftime, I personally grab roughly 34 rebounds, but unfortunately I am able to convert a mere two of them into points. Furthermore, our newly emboldened style of play has heightened tension between the teams, and the McGlinn Courts are quickly becoming a battlefield.

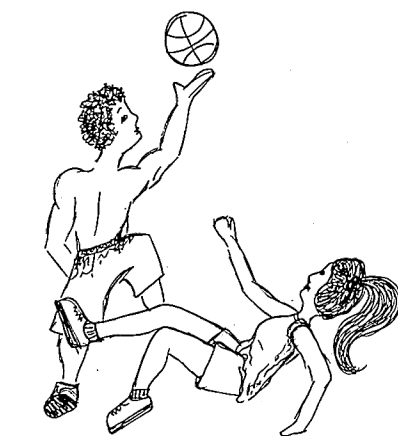
8:17 p.m. Kenton may or may not have just been deliberately struck in the face by the McGlinn point guard. Whether or not the blow was intentional may never be known, but all I can say regarding the matter is even strong men cry, Kenton. Even strong men cry.

8:21 p.m. Yet another one of my ill-fated lay-ups rims out. I haven't missed out on this many easy scores since my last trip through Chicago's red-light district. Thankfully, the rest of the team seems to have escaped their shooting woes, as Kenton and Staffieri have carried us to a "commanding" 20-16 lead.

8:23 p.m. Mr. E. executes a beautiful alley-oop to Cahill, as Team Curb Your Enthusiasm registers a 21-17 victory. This is something of a pyrrhic victory, as we defended our gender, yet had to play like barbarians in order to do so. Even worse, I re-aggravated an Achilles' tendon injury that I incurred playing football the previous week, leaving me vulnerable and immobile like some type of stuffed bear.

In retrospect, I realize that The Bares were in fact much more skilled basketball players than we were. We were impelled to victory by nothing more than our terrible fear of losing to girls. Bearing that in mind, we could conceivably take the tournament, provided that there are no teams consisting of guys or girls that are better than us.

Hollywood Healy's Final Stats: 2 points, 71 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 destroyed Achilles' tendon. □



O U T O F
B O U N D S

BY MIKE HEALY



April 15 – May 16

Instead of being productive, try:

COMING DISTRACTIONS

COMPILED BY MIKE HEALY



EDITOR'S CHOICE

Senior Week

Sunday May 9 – Sunday, May 16, all week.

Be sure to say goodbye to — or exact your vengeance upon — your favorite seniors as they prepare to go out into the real world and become grown-ups ... or at least try to. If you're lucky enough to still be on campus, the week after finals is a glorious opportunity to enjoy Notre Dame as it should be experienced: *sans* homework (that means "without"). The week culminates in graduation, May 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the JACC.



ATHLETIC

Blue-Gold Game

Saturday, Apr. 24, 1:00 p.m. in Notre Dame Stadium. Enjoy a brief return to the football season as the Irish conclude spring practice with their annual intrasquad scrimmage.

Fisher Regatta

Saturday, Apr. 24, 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Lake. Come and watch all the swashbucklin' adventures on the low seas as Carroll Hall looks to win for a fifth-straight year.

TROPICAL

Hawai'i Club Luau

Saturday, Apr. 17, 6:30 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom. Tickets are on sale in the LaFortune box office for \$7.

MUSICAL

Notre Dame University Band & Brass Ensemble

Sunday, Apr. 25, 3:00 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Main Building. Come and listen to the spring concert of the band. Admission is free.

LIBERATING

Last Day of Classes

Wednesday, Apr. 28, all day. Drag yourself to your last classes of the year, and get ready for study days and finals.

SPIRITUAL

Holocaust Remembrance Day Prayer Service

Saturday, Apr. 17, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in Dillon Hall's chapel. All are welcome.

SUBMIT your event for *Scholastic's Coming Distractions*. E-mail your submissions to Mike Healy at ehaley@nd.edu

Meaning Found

by Matt Killen

The past several weeks have been unusually quiet. The chaos and demands of *Scholastic* having fallen by the wayside, days once packed with meetings and projects are now empty. It's a feeling both wonderful and hollow, having absolutely nothing to do with my time but sit in my rocker quietly watching the birds, waiting for someone to put me in an institution somewhere. Like any person slowly slipping into senility, the blank canvas of the mind finds itself overcome with occasional bouts of alliteration and reflection.

I'm fairly fearful of the former, but I am notoriously awful at the latter.

As slow as the past few responsibility-free weeks have been (school work hardly counts), it has only served to highlight just how quickly it all passed by in the first place. Nearly four years have passed since I first stepped foot on this campus as a freshman. That's about 42 months, 1,248 days, nearly 30,000 hours and almost 1.8 million minutes as a Notre Dame student. Of that time (which admittedly includes those all too brief summers), only about 6% was spent in the classroom. A bunch of the remaining percentage I probably spent sleeping.

What's the point of this, other than the fact that really, really big numbers look cool and important? That the Notre Dame experience is about much more than the classes we take.

Cohesive narratives are illusory. It's the details that stick with us far beyond the general experience.

Matt Killen is the former Editor in Chief of Scholastic. He is a political science major and plans to attend law school next year. He would like to consider himself a master of self-deprecating humor, but he's just not that smart.

However, thanks to the aforementioned inability to effectively self-reflect, I have no clue, after four years here, what this all

actually means.

There seems to be no objective standard as to what embodies the Notre Dame experience, which evidently is the point: It is what you make of it. This doesn't help someone who is terrible at meaningful reflection, so I tried making a list of what the typical student is supposed to do before graduation. However, the typical student probably wouldn't include "spend 30 hours a week on a magazine, trolling away in the basement of the dining hall" as an important aspect of the Notre Dame experience. The list idea quickly died.

Perhaps the Notre Dame experience is akin to Star Trek: The Experience, the interactive ride/show in the middle of nowhere where people pay large amounts of money to live in an isolated fantasy where the real world can't reach them and everyone dresses the same. No,

that doesn't sound familiar at all.

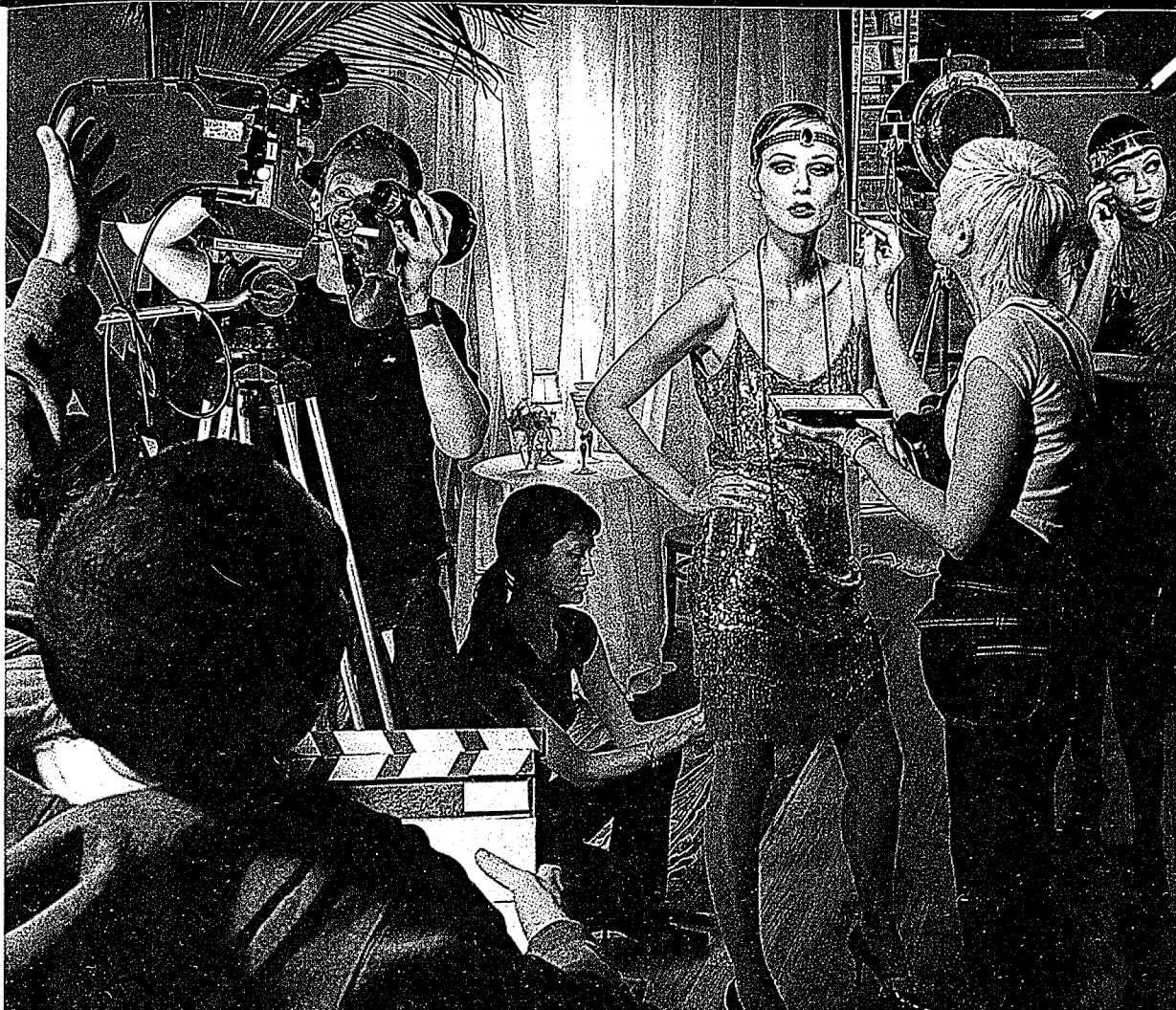
Maybe I can find out what my Notre Dame experience was like by looking at my writings over the last few years. But by this account, my Notre Dame experience is pretty well summed up by an irrationally frothy, obsessive anger with reality television in all its forms. That doesn't seem very accurate, either.

Let's go back to that list idea. Perhaps the experience really is nothing more than the aggregate knowledge learned since the fall of 2000, a conglomeration of seemingly random thoughts, ideas and memories that the frail mind retains. The question becomes: What sticks out the most in my mind as I think about the last four years? I've narrowed down everything I've learned as a Notre Dame student to several more or less comprehensive memories, lessons and experiences:

- The dining hall scrambled eggs are always too runny or too hard.
- Unlike everyone else, I enjoyed my Core class.
- The surest sign of a great professor is when she refers to herself in the third person.
- Nobody — who isn't related to the author or required to by job description — ever reads this magazine's Editor's Notes (turn to page 2!).
- Give people an inch and they'll take a mile.
- If there's one thing that being a political science major has taught me, it's that Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun wrote the "Poor Joshua" dissenting opinion in *Deshaney v. Winnebago*.
- Carroll Hall has many advantages, including ample parking and high ceilings.
- People around here are, overall, fairly generous individuals.

Some might look at this list and think it awfully random and sparse. It may indeed be a random conglomeration of thoughts, but that's pretty much what life is. Cohesive narratives are illusory. It's the details that stick with us far beyond the general experience, and they make that experience unique and rich with meaning. Having said that, this list is more than I knew before coming here as a freshman in August 2000. So at least it represents progress.

Overall, I'd deem my Notre Dame experience a "success," at least based on this list. Like any experience, college has had its high points and low points, but these past few years have been ones to treasure and embrace. I won't soon forget them. □



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