

CONTROVERSY OVER THE "V"-WORD

SCHOLASTIC

VOL 146 09

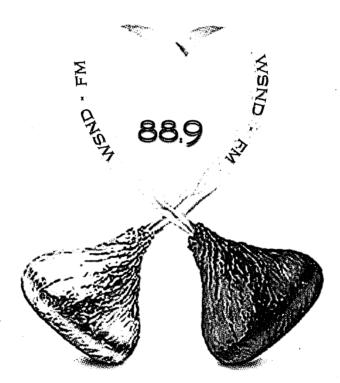
NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

Who's It Going to Be?

Scholastic rates the 2005 student-election candidates and their issues



SUPPORT THE ARTS



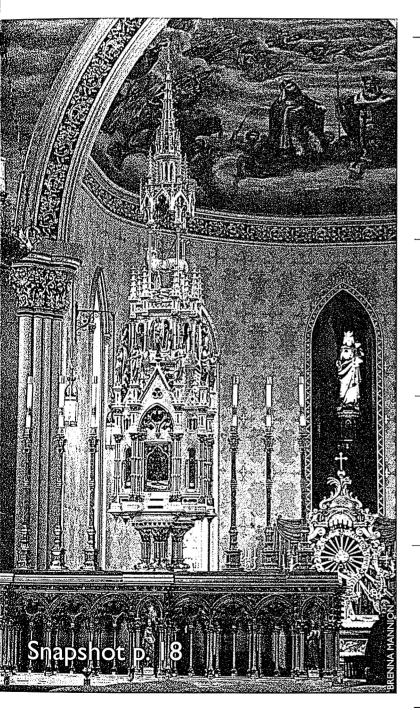
Kiss a DJ



SCHOLASTIC

WHO'S IT GOING TO BE?

THE THIRD OF FEBRUARY 2005



NEWS 04

STUDENT-BODY ELECTION 2005

Scholastic Staff

Staff members review the candidates and highlight our favorite planks.

SCHOLASTIC DECIDES

We recommend our top pick for student body president and vice president.

06

CAMPUS LIFE 21

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE

Katie Solan

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed on campus this month for the fourth consecutive year.

22

ENTERTAINMENT 24

A PLAY ON WORDS, LOVE AND SCIENCE

Dana Ergas & Katie Galeone

Tom Stoppard's "Arcadia" combines intellect and emotion in this FTT production.

28

SPORTS 30

RECRUITING A GOLDEN CLASS

Bryan Lowery

Scholastic takes a look at the next generation of Irish athletes.

32

From the Editor 2	Snapshot
ND Notebook 4	Campus Watch 29
Strew For You	Freshman Reflection 35
Cribs	Scholastic Interview 36

What have you done for me?

e'll spare you the annual lecture that castigates readers for (we assume) sume) not caring about student government. Instead, we propose slightly adjusting your view. This might be the year to look at student government a little differently.

Student gripes tend to have little variety, and — thus — so do the candidates' platforms. More Flex Points, cable in the dorms, Hot Grab 'n' Go items, and did we mention more Flex Points? It's not a wonder that the election is hard to get excited about when the majority of the "issues" are culinary-related.

So our student representatives are deemed successful based on these limited demands. Year after year, most of the tickets promise the same things. In interviews, they address issues like DVD rentals with such sincerity and passion that the student body gets caught up in it. We find ourselves believing that take-away coffee cups from the dining halls are our God-given rights.

But therein lies a problem. While it may not be a grave one, it is the assumption that student government at Notre Dame must be reactive, rather than proactive. The candidates that impressed us the most were the ones who suggested events or committees that we didn't even know we needed, rather than pandered to students' annual laundry-list of demands.

Yes, the student body will elect two candidates it hopes will represent the students and voice their concerns. If students want to get Gurley Leep out of the parking lot, then it should be considered by our representatives as an issue deserving of attention. However, we urge voters to read our candidate profiles (Pg. 7) and endorsement (Pg. 14) carefully. It is Scholastic's hope that, after doing so, our readers will be able to distinguish those candidates who are rehashing the same stale ideas from those who will create something fresh.

> Annie Robinson Editor in Chief

anni Robinson Mike Boyin Editor in Chief

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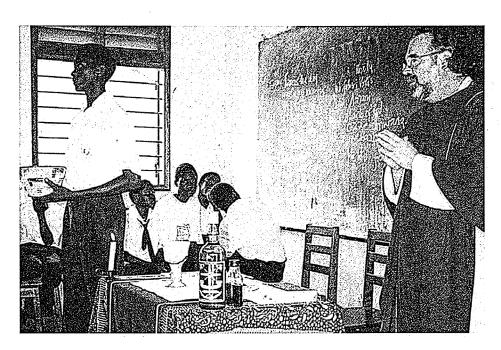


COVER DESIGN NICK ABRAMS

Disce Quasi Semper Victurus Vine Quasi Cras Moriturus

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Congregation of Holy Cross



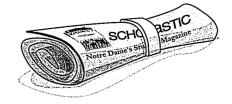
Lifetime service opportunities with multinational organization for graduating seniors.







THE SERIOUS TO THE STRANGE



Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations



SCABIES

Yes, it is a parasite requiring many expensive treatments. But at least the outbreak brings a bit of excitement to our dull lives.



WALKING BILLBOARDS

The newest trend: selling your forehead for advertising space on eBay. Looks like Arts & Letters seniors have financial futures after all.





That's right, it's not a mistake.



ROLFS' SPRING-BREAK CHALLENGE

It's as if this campus just wasn't quite obsessed enough with working out. Personally, we're more likely to sleep our way to Cancun than to run the necessary miles on the treadmill.



"FORGETTING THE BC GAME"

Made for a good story, didn't it?

Stars In Their Own Right

Women's sports should not be judged by their subjective entertainment value

SCHOLASTICEXECUTIVE STAFF

As *The Irish Rover*, Notre Dame's conservative campus publication, has made clear, the mild, passing interest in Notre Dame women's sports lags far behind many students' passionate enthusiasm for men's sports. With its headlines lamenting that the women's soccer team's national championship had not been won in football and proclaiming that attending a women's basketball game is "like watching paint dry," *The Rover* called into question the significance that women's sports bear on the university community.

Entertainment value is a subjective evaluation, and a person should not be thought of as ignorant because he or she finds women's sports to lack excitement. Neither should students feel obligated to attend women's sporting events simply because they feel badly about poor attendance — female athletes should be treated as athletes, not as charity cases. However, the determined significance of women's sports on this campus and around the world should not be dependent on an analysis of the sports' entertainment value. Such a standard is insulting to the athletes who dedicate themselves to athletic excellence and ignores the broader importance of sports — particularly women's sports — in our society.

Athletes decide to take up their sports out of much more than a desire to entertain; most sports — men's and women's alike — draw few spectators below the professional levels, and even some professional leagues are poorly attended. Most athletes also are driven by desires for competition, team unity, and/or personal challenge.

Sports can instill important virtues in those who play them. Regarding female athletes especially, these values are important for girls' and women's self-confidence and sense of achievement, and for greater gender equality in our society. The growth of women's sports across the world has helped to break down gender stereotypes and allowed women and girls the opportunity to achieve in areas that were once off-limits to them.

On a college campus, particularly one with already-unbalanced gender relations, the presence of female varsity athletes is essential to furthering gender equality. Notre Dame, which *Sports Illustrated* rated in 1999 as a top-20 university for women's sports, should be proud to take part in this tradition as a collegiate leader in women's athletic achievements. Regardless of whether students find women's sports entertaining or choose to attend women's games, they should respect women's athletics as a valuable part of the school community and honor the recent successes of our women's teams.

Doubting the Degree Audit

Why is the online guide often flawed?

DARICSNYDER

n theory, it should be a Notre Dame student's most dependable academic ally: an online degree audit that keeps tabs on an individual student's completion of his or her course requirements. Especially for those with multiple majors, the degree audit provided on IrishLink was implemented in 2003 to act as an online tool for students and advisors.

While this tool proved useful for many, a number of students have told Scholastic that, often times, the degree audit is outdated and inaccurate. Although the degree audit screen appears with a disclaimer warning that the information might be inaccurate, it still causes headaches for many.

These audits display the list of courses taken by a student, the credits earned toward a student's intended degree, the degree requirements currently being filled and the requirements a student has yet to complete.

Senior Alissa Mendoza, an economics major, recently experienced difficulty with the degree audit when it showed that her 400-level Spanish poetry class did not fulfill her university literature requirement, although the registration booklet stated it would. A College of Arts & Letters dean told her that the degree audit is used only as a guide when periodically

at the Office of the Registrar, explains the problems with the online degree audits are the result of the limited scope of the system. "The degree audits are online as a tool only; they're neither intended or designed for full advising," McKenna says. He told Scholastic that maintaining and updating the auditing system is more complex than it may appear to the average student. The current structure requires that classes and degree requirements must be entered manually. Each school year, requirements are modified, classes are changed, and more Notre Dame students enroll in study abroad programs, taking courses that do not always transfer easily. The class numbering structure can

In order to fix these persistent programming flaws, McKenna says a new degree audit system is slated to go online this fall as part of a large information technology upgrade.

also create difficulties for the system, as

a variant of a course — like ANTH248A

instead of ANTH248 — may not get en-

tered into the system. Unless an academic

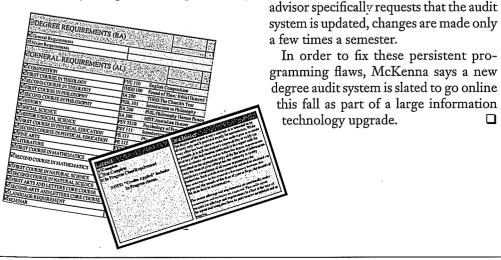
checking on students' academic progress and acknowledged that the guide is often inaccurate. "So why do we use a guide that has a reputation for being false?" Mendoza asks. Senior Katie Laskasky, a management and math double major, also says that advisors have told her the degree audit is just a rough estimate. "You just have to talk to your advisor to make sure you're on track," she says.

Doug McKenna, degree audit specialist



Promises Scholastic would make if it were running for student body president

- A magazine journalism building half as fancy as the one at our aspirational peer ... Ball State University.
- **Board of Trustees** composed entirely of students.
- Sharks with freakin' laser breams attached to their heads.
- An end to parietals. Members 2. of the opposite sex are free to mingle at all hours in the Scholastic office — so long as they're slaving in front of a computer screen.
- A Scholastic on every doorstep.



Outgoing President and Vice President

ALISAFINELLI

ast April, Adam Istvan and Karla Bell began their term as student body president and vice president, respectively. For both, it was their first time holding any position on student government. Now, with more than half of their term completed, they have proved that experience is not a prerequisite for making progress in student government.

During last year's election, Istvan and Bell developed a platform with three major goals to accomplish as president and vice president. First among them was an effort to get SYRs back in the residence halls. While this was one of the first issues Istvan and Bell addressed once in office, it was not considered for discussion by the administration. Istvan says that pressing the issue would have potentially destroyed student government's relationship with the administration. Rather



ADAM STVAN KARLABELL

risk losing support for future proposals, Istvan and Bell decided to drop in-dorm SYRs from their agenda.

Istvan and Bell saw much greater success in achieving their second goal of making DVD rentals available to students at an on-campus location — LaFortune Student Center. Over the summer, Istvan and Bell researched and planned the details of implementing the rental system and had it ready for use by the start of the school year.

The third major goal Istvan and Bell set during their campaign was the creation of a late-night transportation system for students to use when going off-campus on the weekends. It is expected to reach completion in the coming weeks, but not as originally planned. In early October, Istvan and Bell presented their Safe Bus proposal to the Board of Trustees. After meeting with the board and hearing their potential concerns regarding Safe Bus, Istvan and Bell continued working with student government to explore different options for providing transportation to students. They considered South Bend's Transpo bus service as a possibility.

Now Istvan says they have found an alternative solution that will still accomplish the goal of providing students with transportation on weekend nights. Though details of the arrangement have yet to be settled, a private bar owner has purchased a bus for the purpose of bringing students home from the bar late at night.

Istvan says he is pleased with how he and Bell tackled their major platform goals. They have had success with several other student-government projects during their term in office. Though they originally had not planned on working for the Fair Trade coffee initiative, Istvan and Bell say the decision to support and work for the cause was an easy one. As a result of their help, Fair Trade coffee was made available throughout campus. Istvan says he is most proud of this accomplishment because it reflects the great values of the Notre Dame student body.

Most recently, the president and vice president have been planning their second presentation to the Board of Trustees. They chose to devote the presentation to issues of equality and diversity on campus. Istvan says this decision sprung from recent campus events that indicated the presence of racial insensitivity on campus,



Everything we worked on we did wholeheartedly.

-Karla Bell, student body vice president



including the reaction to former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham's firing.

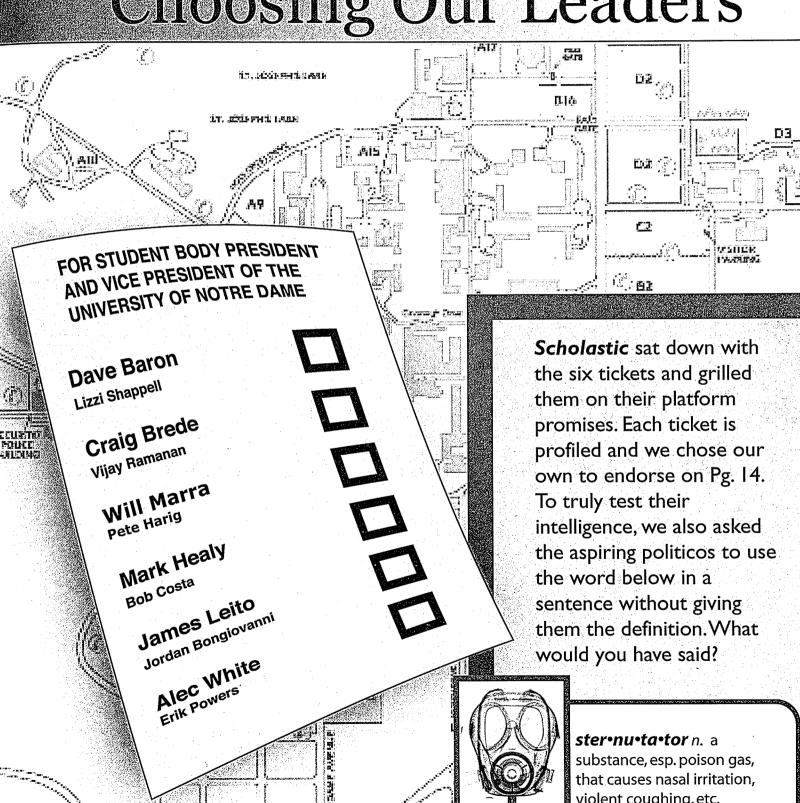
In order to present an accurate report, student government sponsored several focus groups inviting students to discuss issues of equality and diversity regarding race, gender and sexual orientation on campus. Istvan and Bell believe that many students are reluctant to admit there are inequalities that exist on campus. Istvan says that merely holding the focus groups is a step toward addressing the existing problems. They plan to publish their report for the entire student body to read.

As their term comes to a close, in addition to working on diversity issues, Istvan and Bell hope to make some improvements to student government. Both believe the new structure of student government that was created last year has proven to be an effective system. However, as Istvan points out, "There is always going to be flaws to any system." Specifically, they hope to improve the transition between old and new administrations. Student government also now is considering moving the changeover date to the last day of classes.

So far, Istvan and Bell have no regrets about their term as president and vice president. "Everything we worked on we did wholeheartedly," Bell says. Her advice to next year's student leaders is simple: "Stay passionate."

Elections

Choosing Our Leaders



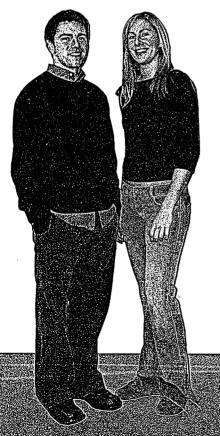
violent coughing, etc.

DAVEBARON LIZZISHAPPELL

ALISAFINELLI

andidates Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell believe they have a unique vision for student government. "The focus of student government needs to be uniting the student body and mobilizing [it]," Baron says.

Between the two candidates, Baron and Shappell have a significant amount of experience in student government. As a freshman, Baron served as the president of the class of 2006 and has participated in Morissey Hall government for the past two and a half years. However, serving as the chief executive assistant to the current president and vice president, Adam Istvan and Karla Bell, is by far his most notable experience. By the end of his term as chief executive assistant, Baron will have met three times with the Board of Trustees, something no other candidate may claim. As the chief executive assistant, Baron says he is constitutionally mandated to attend more meetings than the student body president. As a result, he has a thorough understanding of all the various groups within student government. Baron's running mate has had her own share of experience this past year, serving as the Badin Hall senator and the senate Gender Relations Chair.



In addition, Shappell is a member of the Sophomore Class Council.

Their platform includes many ideas for improving student life. One priority is improving on-campus programming through the development of the concert endowment that the current student government has discussed. Baron and Shappell propose using \$100,000 from student government to form the endowment and seeking additional donations from alumni. The endowment money would be used to bring big-name concerts to campus. Baron and Shappell also propose creating a rally fund that would provide student clubs and organizations with the necessary money to sponsor rallies and demonstrations on campus. Baron says the student group would have to be one officially recognized by the university. Ideally, the fund would encourage activism from students representing a wide range of opinions.

Another program Baron and Shappell propose is a speaker series, entitled "the Catholic Think Tank of America." The series would feature prominent Catholics and non-Catholics and would aim to increase the level of student discussion regarding aspects of spirituality. Other priorities for Baron and Shappell include a project to put a printer in every dorm on campus and a bookstore alternative to buying and selling used books.

Baron and Shappell also plan to devote increased attention to diversity issues on campus. They hope to do so by creating a minority affairs committee on the student senate. Gender issues are another concern for the two candidates. This past year, working on the gender relations committee, Shappell played an active role in planning and organizing the campuswide sexual assault awareness week that

"One student voice, eight thousand strong."

took place in November. She and Baron believe the project was a success and plan to make it an annual event, along with an eating disorders awareness week that will take place later this year. They also believe improved resources for sexual assault and eating disorders are needed on campus and hope to work with Health Services and the Counseling Center to address these issues.

Official recognition of the Gay-Straight Alliance [Alliance ND] is also important to Baron and Shappell. "There seems to be interest in attacking [recognition of the alliance] in a new way and we want student government to support it," Shappell says.

Another important goal for Baron and Shappell is to improve Notre Dame's relationship with the South Bend community. They believe there are "too many incorrect stereotypes on both sides." Having grown up in the area, Shappell is particularly interested in addressing the issue by creating a student senate committee on community relations. The candidates also hope to improve off-campus students' transition into local communities by encouraging student participation in neighborhood coalitions and by providing services such as off-campus safety seminars and security alerts sponsored by the Notre Dame Security Police and the South Bend Police Department.

If elected president and vice president, Baron and Shappell plan to visit every dorm at least once during their term in order to get as much student input as possible. These visits and other efforts to expand communication with the student body would be a primary focus for Baron and Shappell to ensure they fulfill their vision to unify and mobilize the student body.

PRESIDENT

Name: Dave Baron

Class: Junior

Major: Political Science and

Economics

Dorm: Morrissey

Hometown: Kankakee, III.

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Lizzi Shappell Class: Sophomore

Major: Political Science and

Peace Studies Dorm: Badin

Hometown: Mishawaka, Ind.

PERSONALITY

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: "The FDA wouldn't approve the new Howard Sternutator drug."

Combined SAT Score: 2810

IDEAS

Most Feasible: Creating a Committee for Community Relations Least Feasible: Gynecologist on

campus

CRAIG BREDE VIJAYRAMANAN

MOERTEL

or Craig Brede and Vijay Ramanan, both residents of Alumni Hall, all that it takes to serve the campus' needs is a simple formula: Well-researched intentions plus careful preparation will equal implementation, leaving a remainder of student satisfaction. Although the duo has set numerous lofty goals for its potential tenure as student body president and vice president, they emphasize the overt practicality of their propositions. "[Everything on our campaign] is entirely feasible," Brede says. Brede, a junior finance and economics double major, and Ramanan, a junior math and philosophy double major, have spent a lengthy amount of time researching the achievability of their platform. For example, Brede and Ramanan have marked the creation of a "young trustee" — an undergraduate student selected by a thorough application process for a threeyear term on the Board of Trustees — as paramount to their ticket. The idea was sparked by similar practices of the student governments at universities comparable to Notre Dame, such as Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Boston College.

Despite their limited collective experience in student government, Brede and Ramanan still conceived a platform that reflects the commitment the pair has made to representing the entire student body, especially groups that often are overlooked by the university. In fact, the Brede-Ramanan ticket has devoted a portion of its platform to celebrating diversity at Notre Dame. Aside from their desire to "express strong, official endorsement

of the Gay-Straight Alliance [Alliance ND]," the candidates have proposed to meet monthly with representatives from the university's Diversity Council.

Brede and Ramanan also pledge to commission formal reports on diversity and gender relations at Notre Dame and to hold a campus-wide Mass to begin the week dedicated to Martin Luther King, Jr. According to the Brede-Ramanan '05 Platform, "Too many opportunities have been wasted where student government, in the name of the student body, could have taken a clear and definitive stance to help our peers."

In an effort to provide students with courses and instructors that best suit their preferred method of learning, Brede and Ramanan have proposed the creation of a Student Course Evaluation (SCE) system. Similar in form and function to the Teacher Course Evaluation (TCE) that students are asked to complete as the semester draws to a close, the SCE will include a set of approximately 10 to 15 multiple-choice questions designed to gauge students' impressions of the material and instructors of their courses.

Brede and Ramanan also would like to expand the academic resources available to Notre Dame students. Of particular interest is the pair's desire to curb the sometimes outrageous amount of money students spend on textbooks for classes. According to Brede and Ramanan, they will attempt to "take into account the differences among various colleges and academic programs" to allocate the maximum amount that can be spent on books for a single class. "Spending hundreds of dollars for books that are used sparingly is in no

"Leaders, for a change."

one's best interests," the ticket says.

While the Brede-Ramanan ticket sees an influx of money issued to the university through various mediums, the duo has voiced concerns about the university cutting funds for the Center for Social Concerns (CSC). Aside from pushing for additional university funding, the candidates also want to collaborate with the CSC to better publicize the service opportunities that are available to students via the CSC. Brede and Ramanan want to get the message across that the CSC is "an ideal venue for service and unity," with break seminars and summer service projects that can be described as the "crown jewels of the university." With student government's help, Brede and Ramanan hope that the CSC will be able to re-establish its importance on Notre Dame's campus.

Despite the width and breadth of their campaign, Brede and Ramanan feel that all of their proposals are attainable. Both candidates believe that they bring strong leadership abilities to their respective offices, which ultimately will bring about positive results. The pair adds: "Leadership ... accounts for the difference between mediocrity and excellence. It is what we will bring to the offices of president and vice president of the Student Union of Notre Dame."

PRESIDENT

Name: Craig Brede

Class: Junior

Major: Finance and Economics

Dorm: Alumni

Hometown: Bloomfield Hills,

Mich.

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Vijay Ramanan

Class: Junior

Major: Math and Philosophy

Dorm: Alumni

Hometown: Granger, Ind.

PERSONALITY

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: "The hot and spicy sea nuggets upset my

sternutator."

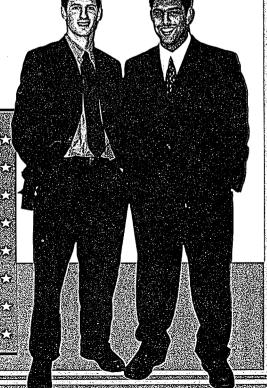
Combined SAT Score: 2920

IDEAS

Most Feasible: Creating SCEs Least Feasible:

Student on the Board of

Trustees



WILLMARRA PETEHARIG

EMILYPALADINO

fill Marra and Pete Harig are serious about one thing: making sure the concerns of freshmen are represented in student

The current Zahm freshmen say that, even though they'll be sophomores next year, they believe that they will be able to represent the interest of the youngest Domers better than any other ticket in the race. Although they have very little experience in student government, Marra and Harig say their main strength is their optimism. "We have a more pure view of student government than a lot of people who've been here for awhile and might have pessimistic views about what student government can do," says Marra, Zahm's

Freshman Class Council representative. "We've never seen things not get done,"

Marra and Harig also want to bring Hi-C Ecto Cooler to the dining halls. Their Web site promises that, if they are elected, the student body's "cravings for green 'juice' that tastes like oranges will not go unquenched."

The freshmen also want to institute a safe program to facilitate campus traffic. Such a program would involve dividing campus sidewalks into lanes, one of which would be designated as an "express lane."

Marra and Harig's platform is small, but they say their goals are large. "We want to bring together not only the



PRESIDENT

Name: Will Marra Class: Freshman Major: Biological Sciences

Hometown: Gibsonia, Penn.

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: N/A Combined SAT Score: 2760

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Pete Harig Class: Freshman Major: Biological Sciences

Dorm: Zahm Heights, III.

Most Feasible: Ecto-Cooler in the dining halls

IDEAS

Least Feasible: Ecto-Cooler in the dining halls

freshman class, but also the university as a whole." Marra and Harig say a more united freshman class would translate into a more united student body.

ALECWHITE ERIKPOWERS **EMILYPALADINO**

ophomore Alec White and Junior Erik Powers are the tallest candidates for student body president and vice president. And, according to them, that is reason enough for Notre Dame students to elect them.

Showing off shirts that read "Size? Does. Matter!," the Sorin residents said that their height would be beneficial if a heavy blanket of fog ever descended upon campus. Such weather might hinder the leadership obligations of other, much shorter candidates, White and Powers say. "They would also be much more susceptible to attack by minotaurs hiding in the bushes," Powers notes.

If elected, White and Powers say that one of their top priorities would be replacing the gold on the dome with platinum. White and Powers also want to increase the wattage of every indoor light bulb on campus. They say their Campaign for a Brighter Tomorrow cannot apply to outdoor lighting, as it would hinder the abilities of campus astronomers to see the stars. "Light pollution is a problem on this campus," White says. "We have to be cautious about those kinds of things."

White and Powers also are concerned that the bookstore is not making enough of a profit on their goods. They believe

that higher prices would be acceptable if students were able to shell out alternative methods of payment. "Liters of blood, appendages or digits would be acceptable as compensation," Powers says.

White and Powers say one of the most important things they plan to do if elected is give Notre Dame women the right to vote. "Women have been voting in this country for 79 years," White says, "but not at Notre Dame. I think it's time we change that."

While concert programming has been a major issue in this election, White and Powers say that the university doesn't need to look very far to find a good band. "We need to tap into our own band resources," White says. "Plus, they don't only play; they also march."

Powers says that opposing candidates Will Marra and Pete Harig's idea to place Hi-C Ecto Cooler in the dining halls is dangerous. "You could be just sitting there enjoying your drink when, all of a sudden, Slimer comes through the wall and attacks you. You'd lose a meal, too," he says. "As we all know, once you've swiped your card, that's it." The duo also is against Kool-Aid, he says, because they don't like the implication that Notre Dame students need aid in being cool.

PRESIDENT

Name: Alec White Class: Sophomore Major: Math and Spanish Dorm: Sorin

Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Erik Powers Class: lunior

Studies Dorm: Sorin Hometown: Evergreen

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: "Boy, Erik, Mr. Potato Head sure has been a sternutator here.'

Combined SAT Score: 3110

IDEAS

Most Feasible: Women's suffrage at ND Major: English and American Least Feasible: Replacing the Golden Dome with platinum

Powers also says that he is so committed to the campaign that he is willing to change drastically his hairstyle. He shaved patches of his head bald and arranged long strands over the bald spots to create a look commonly referred to as a "comb over." He says he was aiming for the Dick Cheney look, although the hairstyle also resembles those of Chester A. Arthur and Martin Van Buren. "The way I see it," he says, "male pattern baldness is a symbol of male pattern leadership, and that's something that's very important

Although I'm not bald," White adds, "male pattern leadership is also important to me."

MARKHEALY BOBCOSTA

DARICSNYDER

ophomore Mark Healy and freshman Bob Costa believe that to get things done, it is important to know the right people. Whether these people are university officials, high profile performers or members of the student body, the Healy-Costa ticket believes these relationships are the building blocks for progress.

Healy already is familiar with the presidential race; he ran for student body president last year. "I'm a man of action," Healy says. "If something's not getting done, I've never been afraid to jump in." He has served as a student senator on the Committee for Residence Life and as Ideas and Issues programmer on the Student Union Board (SUB). As programmer, Healy helped coordinate the appearance of Gideon Yago — a news reporter for MTV — on campus prior to the November election. Currently, Healy serves as the director of programming on the SUB. He also sits on the SUB Executive Board and the Student Government Executive Programming Board.

Costa first met Healy through mutual friends in Zahm Hall. "People kept tell-

ing me, you've got to check this guy out," Healy says. While at his large Pennsylvania high school, Costa served on student government and worked as a reporter for several local newspapers, reporting on teen issues, politics and music. Using the many connections he made in the music industry, Costa arranged for a couple of famous musical acts to perform free concerts at his school. He says one of his greatest achievements was bringing John Mayer to perform at his senior prom. "If rock music has taught me anything, it's that anything is feasible," Costa says.

With Healy's experience in student programming and Costa's record of bringing in big performers, better programming is the primary issue of their campaign. "We're all about better concerts and bigger names, more often. We're the ones that can do it," Costa says. "We have the connections. I have the number of the manager of the Dave Matthew's Band in my cell." They argue that the talk of creating an endowment to support larger concerts is unrealistic. "A lot of bands have expressed interest in playing here for free; it's just about doing it the right way," Costa says. Healy and Costa vow to focus on cutting through the red tape that complicates bringing in performers and to lure A-list performers with serviceand charity-related concerts.

The Healy-Costa ticket also seeks to improve aspects of student life beyond programming. Healy has played a role in the push for the Flex 10 meal plan and wants to improve other aspects of Food Services, such as an enhanced Grab 'n' Go system. "There's certainly some things "No-nonsense solutions."

to be looked at when ice sculptures show up outside South Dining Hall," Healy says. The platform also is interested in bringing cable television to the dorms and the Safe Bus program to campus, as well as reforming the process of purchasing textbooks at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Healy and Costa want the bookstore to publish a list of books and their buy-back prices in order to promote more competition with other book-exchange services.

Technological enhancements are another aspect of their campaign platform. Healy and Costa would like to see the Office of Information Technologies' (OIT) new dorm-printer program extended to all dorms. They plan to create a committee that will explore what improvements can be made to WebMail, as well as to the university's online search services. Wireless Internet is an integral aspect of their goal to improve technology, and they aim to bring wireless Internet to all 24-hour lounges by the start of the fall 2005 semester. "There's no good excuse for it, really. It wouldn't be that expensive or difficult to implement," Healy argues. "If the OIT is unwilling to get this done, I'll personally go around and install it."

Healy and Costa believe that all student government meetings should be open to interested students; they will seek to create a more accountable student government. The best way to accomplish this is through greater accessibility, they say. "You just can't fix student apathy. Yet when they do care, you've got to make it easier for them," Healy says, "that's your best bet."

PRESIDENT

Name: Mark Healy Class: Sophomore Major: Engineering Dorm: Zahm

Hometown: Orlando, Fla.

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Bob Costa Class: Freshman Major: American Studies

Dorm: Zahm

Hometown: Yardley, Penn.

PERSONALITY

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: "Monk Malloy is such a total sternutator."

Combined SAT Score: 2750

IDEAS

Most Feasible: Better concerts,

bigger names.

Least Feasible: Getting the dining hall to cut back on uncessary extravagances, like ice sculptures.

JAMES LEITO JORDAN BONGIOVANNI

DAVEPOELL

ames Leito and Jordan Bongiovanni want to make sure that the concerns of students come first. Both are confident that they can reach out effectively to students and implement a full slate of issues that they believe have gone unrealized for far too long. By stressing the importance of communication between student leaders and their constituents, Leito and Bongiovanni hope to preside over an administration that will listen attentively to student input in order to improve the negative perceptions some students have about student government.

Leito, a junior who ran for vice president last year with current senior Charlie Ebersol, is currently a student senator from Siegfried Hall and chair of the Campus Life Council Task Force. He and junior Bongiovanni, who has served as Cavanaugh Hall's student senator since her sophomore year, believe that their consistent involvement in student government makes them the most experienced and battle-tested ticket on the ballot. "Our experiences cover every facet of student government," Leito says.

Leito and Bongiovanni hope to combat student apathy toward student government by stressing the importance of accessibility and accountability. "Making ourselves easily accessible to students is the best way to get student input," Leito says. In order to make themselves more accessible and the encourage a free flow of information between student leaders and the student body, the candidates plan to provide office hours — which will be

open to all students — in popular oncampus locations. In addition, Leito and Bongiovanni would like to encourage students to voice their student government concerns by consistently writing letters to the student body that could be published in *The Observer* and *Scholastic*.

Leito believes that the students recently have not had ample opportunities to express critical issues to student leaders. "As far as students holding government accountable and student leaders holding other leaders accountable, that's something that's been completely absent this year," Leito says. Both candidates are confident that they can turn this trend around. "You can talk to students as much as you want, but until they see results, they're not really going to think you do anything," Leito says.

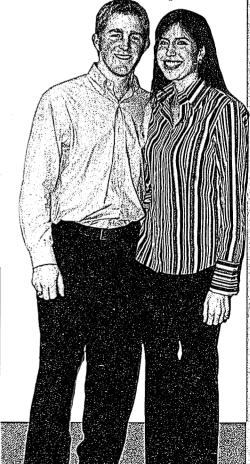
Bongiovanni echoes Leito's sentiments: "I refuse to believe that students don't care about anything on this campus." She cites the three years she has spent listening to student input as evidence of this. Ultimately, she says, the pressure falls on the student leaders to address the list of student grievances and do something about it.

Keeping with their overall theme of communication, Leito and Bongiovanni pledge to do everything they possibly can to secure a spot for a student representative on the Notre Dame Board of Trustees. Currently, the only method of communication between students and trustees is a series of three one-hour presentations that the student government makes to the board annually. Leito and Bongiovanni

"Students first."

see this system as terribly inefficient. To remedy the problem, they propose having a permanent student on the board who would attend every meeting. "If we want the highest body of the university to constantly have student opinion, this is the way to do it," Leito says. "I know this can happen. It's just a matter of two student leaders going forth, asking for it, and making a good presentation to the Board. This is, without a doubt, a priority I promise we will make."

Leito and Bongiovanni believe that one of the strongest aspects of their vision is the fact that all but one of their platform ideas have been presented to student government prior to this campaign — the exception is a welcoming tour for Charlie Weis, the new head football coach. Leito believes that student government's familiarity with their platform will make it much easier to implement new endeavors that have been tabled in the past.



PRESIDENT

Name: James Leito Class: Junior Major: Accounting

Dorm: Siegfried

Hometown: Fort Worth,

Texas

VICE PRESIDENT

Name: Jordan Bongiovanni

Class: Junior Major: Accounting

Dorm: Cavanaugh

Hometown: Guilderland, N.Y.

PERSONALITY

Use the word "sternutator" in a sentence: "Schwarzenegger is the 'governator.' We want to be the sternutator."

Combined SAT Score: 2780

IDEAS

Most Feasible: Head Coach Charlie Weis' welcoming tour Least Feasible: Pre-football

game fundraising

PLANKS

Scholastic breaks down the candidates' ideas

We Approve



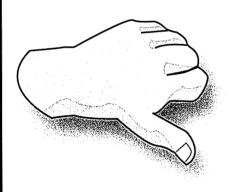
Annual Sexual Assault Awareness and Eating Disorder Awareness Weeks and improved resources for victims — Lots of candidates talk vaguely about devoting resources to diversity, but these candidates have concrete, feasible ideas. (Baron-Shappell)

Increased funding for CSC transportation — Concert endowments are nice, but these guys understand that there are less exciting but more important issues. (Baron-Shappell, Brede-Ramanan)

A university-recognized Gay-Straight Alliance — No matter who wins, the fact that four of six tickets explicitly promote this effort says something. (Baron-Shappell, Brede-Ramanan, Healy-Costa, Leito-Bongiovanni)

Acquiring NDBay — To take full advantage of this campus-wide book exchange, someone needs to adopt it before its creators graduate this year. (Brede-Ramanan)

We Disapprove



Late-night on-campus driving privileges — Is it really safer to let students returning from the bars drive on campus rather than walk from D2? (Leito-Bongiovanni)

Capping maximum spending on books for each course — While we want to save the little money we have, we value our learning as well. (Brede-Ramanan)

Rewards for attending Olympic sports — The effort is valiant, but students should not have to be bribed to attend athletic competitions. (Leito-Bongiovanni)

Student Course Evaluations — Students already are unwilling to do the existing end-of-semester TCEs. Why not just improve the existing evals? (Brede-Ramanan)

We've Heard It Before



Student on Board of Trustees — Even if it happens, will students have measurable influence? (Baron-Shappell, Brede-Ramanan, Leito-Bongiovanni)

Cable in dorms — We haven't seen it yet, but the apartments at St. Mary's College are equipped with cable. (Healy-Costa, Leito-Bongiovanni)

Flex 10 — Hasn't the university already said that less than 14 meals is not feasible because Food Services counts on students skipping a few dining hall meals each week? (Healy-Costa)

SYR Committee — Another committee to organize dances seems like a waste of time and resources to us. (Leito-Bongiovanni)

13 SCHOLASTICCOVER STORY 3 FEBRUARY 2005

SCHOLASTIC ENDORSEMENT

VOTE BARON - SHAPPELL

t wasn't easy to pick a ticket to endorse; the majority of the tickets had platforms that were hardly distinguishable from one another. When it came to the small things, most of the candidates were in agreement: Get Gurley Leep out and TRL acts in. However, one ticket was able to win us over with its serious and sincere approach to two topics that Scholastic believes merits unwavering attention: gender issues and diversity at Notre Dame. That ticket is Dave Baron-Lizzi Shappell.

Like their opponents, Baron and Shappell focus on many of the everyday concerns of Notre Dame students — such as installing printers in dorms and creating a Wish List for LaFortune improvements — and also address broader issues that are common points of student contention — like pushing for a student on the Board of Trustees and an endowment to fund concerts by A-list performers. But this ticket ultimately separates itself from the others by tackling serious issues that have long lacked serious attention from student government.

While the majority of the tickets —

with the exception of Marra-Harig and White-Powers — specifically addressed the dire need to increase diversity and examine gender issues at Notre Dame, only Baron-Shappell has concrete plans to do so. Baron — the current chief executive assistant to the student body president and vice president — and Shappell — who has a proven track record of conceiving of and implementing activities such as last fall's Sexual Assault Awareness Week - clearly bring the experience necessary to inact their ideas. With this spring's Eating Disorder Awareness Week organized by Shappell — and pledges to push

more than just vague promises to "advocate resources" or "form a committee."

Leito-Bongiovanni was a close second for *Scholastic*'s endorsement, as the two senators bring a great deal of experience and enthusiasm to the election. Like Baron-Shap-



The Baron-Shappell ticket ultimately separates itself from the others by tackling serious issues that have long lacked serious attention from student government.



pell, this ticket promises to promote issues of diversity on campus, but their strategies are slightly more vague. Their most unique planks promise to help increase the visibility of student government. To accomplish this, they plan to hold office hours at such venues

as Reckers and LaFortune and hope to communicate with the student body by writing letters for publication in *The Observer* and *Scholastic*.

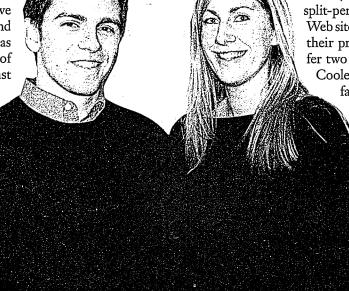
Brede-Ramanan addresses several important issues, but many of the other goals—like keeping Decio Commons open late, encouraging the repair of D6 and installing security cameras near the dining hall lockers—seem thinly researched. But Brede and Ramanan's proposals to take control of NDBay—an online book market for the Notre Dame community—and to increase funding for the CSC are worthwhile objectives.

Healy-Costa has a broadly-defined platform with good ideas but little proven research. The candidates' purported connections with big-name bands is attractive, and their commitment to service and religious diversity is commendable. But the bookstore reform and proposed Flex 10 planks do not seem feasible.

White-Powers provided a welcome break from the seriousness of the other candidates with ideas like a labyrinth on God Quad, the procurement of a minotaur and replacing campus light bulbs to provide for a brighter future. Though a few of their many ideas seem implausible at best, they gave us a laugh, most of the time.

Marra-Harig is a difficult ticket to react to, as they seemed to portray a split-personality. On their campaign Web site, both candidates joke about their presidential potential and offer two ill-researched planks: Ecto Cooler for the dining halls and a fast lane on campus sidewalks.

During their formal interview, however, laughs were few and far between, as the pair stumbled over answers to serious questions and claimed to be freshmen advocates without providing any details.



for the unlikely but

necessary on-campus

gynecologist, Baron and

Shappell show that they tackle tendentious ideas optimistically and with

God, Freedom, Liberty, God



An abridged rough draft of Bush's inaugural speech

ice President Cheney, Mr. Chief Justice, President Carter, President Bush, President Clinton, reverend clergy, God, liberty, money, cash, hoes:

On this day, prescribed by law and marked by to wicked parties, that cost some \$40 million, we revise the durable wisdom of our Constitution and recall the deep commitments that unite a pretty big part of our country.

We are led, by events, common sense and the Christian Bible to one conclusion: The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands, besides Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, China and Uzbekistan. The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom and Christianity and

Wal-Mart.

America's commercial interests and our Christian beliefs are now one. From the day of our Founding, we have proclaimed that every man on this earth has rights, dignity and matchless value because they bear the image of the Maker of Heaven and Earth — except for, you know, black people, for a little while there. Man, yes, then woman, eventually. Across the generations we have proclaimed the imperative of self-government — except, well, in Iran or Chile or wherever. Details.

So it is the policy of the United States to seek and support the growth of democratic movements and market capitalism in every nation and culture, with the ultimate goal of ending tyranny in our world. Russia, of course, doesn't count. Or China or Pakistan or Saudi Arabia. No democrats there.

We will encourage reform in governments not called "Pakistan" by making

clear that success in our relations will require the decent treatment of their own people and conversion to Christianity.

Some that I know personally — I'm looking at you, John - have questioned the global appeal of liberty, though this time in history, four decades defined by the swiftest advance of freedom ever seen — is an odd time for doubt. Very un-American, .not to mention

un-

Christian. Americans, of all people, never should be surprised by the power of our Christian ideals. Especially if, like me, you avoid newspapers.

The rulers of outlaw regimes can know that we still believe, as Abraham Lincoln did: "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves; and, under the rule of a just God, cannot long retain it." No, Alabama is not an outlaw regime. Segregated schools, poll taxes? That is just liberal rhetoric, all right?

And all the allies of the United States can know: We honor your friendship, we rely on your counsel, and we depend on your help. Division among free nations is a primary goal of freedom's enemies. Come on, though; that inspection process was just molasses-slow.

From all of you folks without private

jets, I have asked patience in the hard task of securing America, which you have granted in good measure. For the rest of you, enjoy those tax cuts, and those sweet jets. Because we have acted in the great liberating tradition of this nation, tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians lost their lives. And as hope kindles hope, millions more will find it. By our efforts, we have lit a fire as well — a fire in the minds of men. Ignore that National Intelligence Council report about that whole Iraq as breeding ground for terrorist nonsense. Because it

is liberal nonsense. Two plus two equals five, now, by the way.

> In America's ideal of freedom, the public interest depends on private character — on integrity, on tolerance for fellow Godfearing heteros, and on the rule of conscience in our own lives. Self-government relies, in the end, on the governing of the self, unless you have a womb. That edifice of character is built in

families, supported by communities with standards, and sustained in our national life by the truths of the

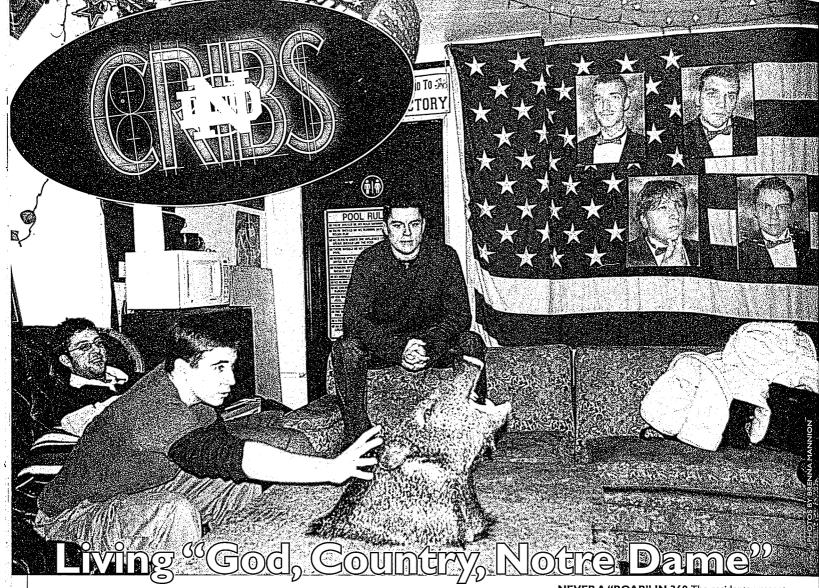
Christian Bible.

Americans, at our best, value the life we see in one another, and always must remember that

even the unwanted have worth. Sometimes you have to execute a lot of the unwanted, though. Personally, I'm a fan of the electric chair. Zap! And our country must abandon all the habits of racism, because we cannot carry the message of freedom and the baggage of bigotry at the same time. Alabama, again: not an outlaw regime. Doesn't count.

History has an ebb and flow of justice, from thesis to antithesis to synthesis, but history also has a visible direction, set by liberty and the Author of Liberty. I'm talking about God here.

May God bless you, and may He watch over the United States of America. God, freedom, liberty, God, freedom, God. (Note to editor: scan and delete references to Iraq.)



Exploring a dorm rendition with tradition

LAURA**MARRS**

n this edition of "Cribs," Scholastic returns to a classic dorm room with decor firmly rooted in tradition. The men of 369 Dillon Hall have lived out the motto "God, Country, Notre Dame" with their eclectic and fitting design theme. This spacious triple offers superior amenities and a collection of captivating decorations that reflect each aspect of the theme of the room and the personalities of its inhabitants.

This featured triple has three rooms, shared by junior roommates Brett Brennfleck, Joe Rehmann and Mike Rehmerr. The first room — said to be three times the size of a typical Dillon double — is set up like a lounge. It is easy to see why it has become a popular place for the roommates and their friends to relax after class or before dances and football games.

There are three large couches, a dart-

board and a surround sound system to be enjoyed. Each aspect of the "God, Country, Notre Dame" theme is represented on the walls by a cross, an enormous American flag and, of course, the requisite Notre Dame paraphernalia. There are two televisions as well, which, according to Rehmerr, are "necessary for simultaneous television watching and video-game playing."

This room boasts not only luxuries, but also a timeless collection of decorations that pay tribute to the room's past. The common room is home to the memory wall, where four large portraits of the room's previous inhabitants have been hung.

"Sometimes the room just feels empty, and we look up at the memory wall, and it reminds us of the good times," Rehmann says. "Sometimes we catch Brett talking to them." **NEVER A "BOAR" IN 369** The residents present ham it up in this spacious Dillon triple. The framed photos on the back wall are tributes to residents past.

Like most of the furniture in their room, many of the decorations have been inherited from the previous inhabitants or been given as gifts from friends. The walls are covered in movie posters, and another wall is adorned with an European license plate and an Egyptian wall-hanging. Decorative lights hang from the walls and the ceiling. The dorm pep rally representative — a javelin head — also resides in this room.

Past the common room is a bathroom with its own shower, as well as, a bedroom decorated in the same manner as the lounge. The roommates say that they do not know how they ended up with such a great room, and that it just must have been luck. Brennfleck says, "My favorite part of the room has to be the convenience of having our own bathroom; and my two roommates, of course."

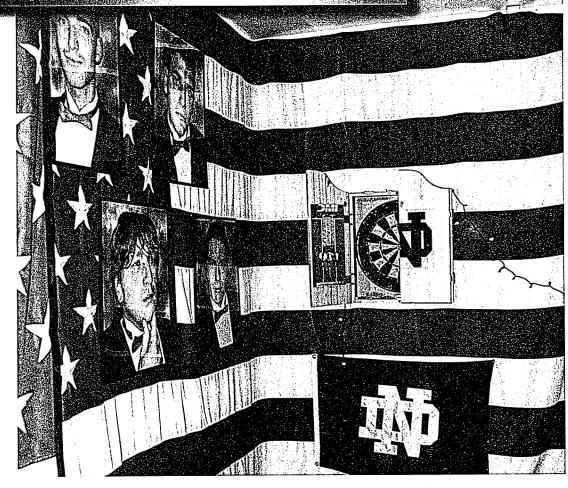


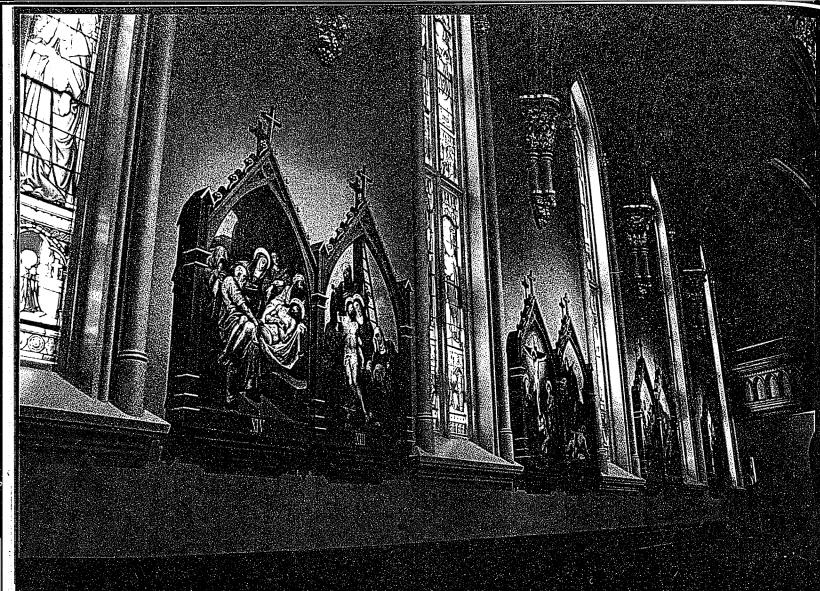
SEEING DOUBLE

Two televisions maximize viewing time and videogame tournaments during down time. There's no need to fight over the remote in this room.

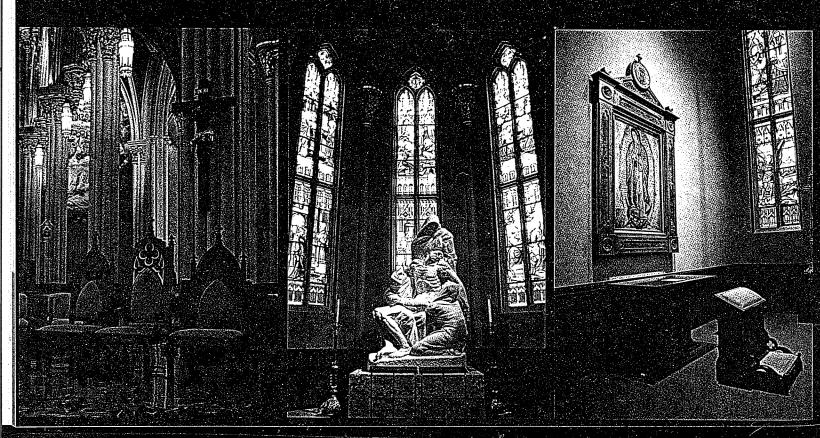
IT REALLY TIES THE ROOM TOGETHER

Sticking to the theme of the room, a giant flag sets the backdrop for the





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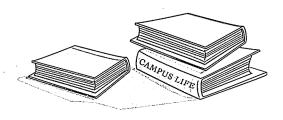






CAMPUSLIEE

WHAT'S GOING DOWN ON THE GROUNDS



LISTENING

"I want no snow or utter chaos and nothing in between."



-student in SDH



-student-body presidential candidate

"I never wanna do drugs, but at the same time, I kind of wanna do heroin right now." $\,$



—student after viewing the movie "Trainspotting"



"You have to kill all the children before they turn into zombies."
—CSE professor explaining computer processes

"Hook it up, work the system, make it happen."

Q & A

With the Igloo Architects



Anyone can build a snowman or make a snow angel, but building an igloo takes real talent. This January, Notre Dame was bombarded by snowstorms, dumping piles of the icy, white precipitation on campus. Some resourceful domers have become igloo-building experts. Alumni sophomore Matt Medlock (above) initiated this phenomenon, bringing his Alaskan roots to South Quad. Here are his thoughts on the arctic endeavor.

What possessed you to build an igloo?

My brother and I always used to build igloos out of huge snow banks when we were little. In more recent years we have built them for overnight winter expeditions ... My friends and I built our icy crib here on campus partially because it is absolutely ridiculous to see a giant igloo in Indiana. It is also fun to just get out and build something with the guys.

What do you keep inside this humble abode?

Our igloo could comfortably hold 18 people and sleeps 10 people. We used candles

for lighting and about 20 blankets for warmth. We tried to get our 36-inch TV inside, but the door wasn't big enough. Our igloo also came complete with air conditioning and a freezer.

Has anyone slept inside the igloo?

We had three guys sleep in our igloo this year: Adam Lacock, Johnny Mospan and I. For the most part it was just us, with the exception of the random disoriented visitors that wandered through during the night.

How has the student body responded to your new dwelling?

For the most part people on campus really like the idea ... On the other hand, the day after I built the igloo I saw three guys aggressively stomping it down to the ground.

Stanford Hall sophomores Jesse Batsche, Grant Cummings and Dave Zychinski (bottom right) couldn't let South Quad have all the fun. They decided to bring the craze to North Quad, and here are their thoughts on some pressing questions.

What possessed you to build an igloo?

After a while, living in a 1960s cinderblock bomb shelter with the architectural inspiration of a cardboard box gets a little old, and we decided to take matters into our own hands.

How does one go about constructing an igloo?

We shoveled snow into a pile about seven

feet high, compacted it, watered it down to strengthen the walls, and then used an advanced Inuit construction tool called a Frisbee to hollow it out. We added some finishing touches with a drink dispenser, some shelves and a small chimney.

Have you thrown any sweet parties inside the igloo?

Let's just say that with natural refrigeration, room for eight and no parietals, rectors or RAs, good times can be had by all in an igloo.

How has the student body responded to your new dwelling?

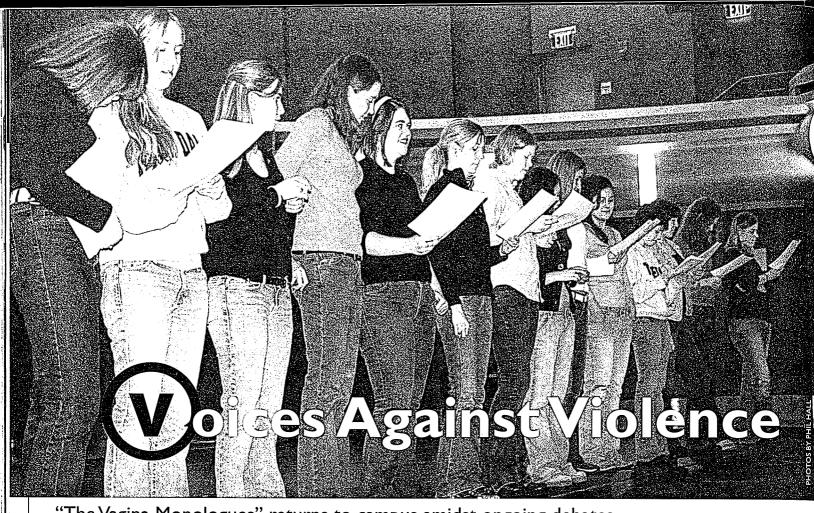
Due to the high demand for more igloos on campus, we're considering forming our own igloo construction company.

Any new opinions or thoughts on the Eskimo nation after dwelling in an igloo?

No, but we do have some questions we'd like to ask them. Is it a bad idea to take a bite out of the igloo if you're thirsty? Do Eskimos ever get smashed inside igloos (from cave-ins, of course)? Where do you go to the bathroom?

— Claire Sobczak





"The Vagina Monologues" returns to campus amidst ongoing debates

KATIESOLAN

agina fervor has already begun; opinionated letters can be seen highlighting the Viewpoint section of *The Observer*, opposition Web sites condemning the play have rooted themselves on the Internet, and posters advertising the controversial production cover the aged brick walls of O'Shaughnessy Hall. As the campus crosses the first days of February off the calendar, Notre Dame knows that V-Day and "The Vagina Monologues" are not far away.

Junior Kaitlyn Redfield is this year's organizer of Notre Dame's V-Day campaign, and senior Carole Kennelly will serve as the director for Notre Dame's 2005 performance of "The Vagina Monologues." Despite the controversy that surrounds Notre Dame's involvement with V-Day — an international campaign to raise money and awareness to stop violence against women and girls — Redfield and Kennelly are fully behind the effort to raise consciousness on campus about female abuse.

An array of events designed to empower women will be included in the 2005 Notre Dame V-Day campaign. For example, the Clothesline Project, which will appear in

O'Shag from Feb. 7 to Feb. 18, provides a medium through which women who have been victims of sexual assault or rape can express their emotions. These women are asked to decorate a shirt to be hung on a clothesline and viewed by others to testify about the violence to which they have been subjected. The V-Day Campaign also is planning to hold the Red Arts. Shirt Campaign — which asks members of the Notre Dame community to don red shirts on a specified date to express their support of V-Day and its message — as well as "Project Black: Confronting the Silence." As part of Project Black, Notre Dame's V-Day campaign is organizing approximately 120 female demonstrators who will dress in black and silently march from DeBartolo Hall to South Dining Hall on Feb. 10.

Those associated with the play and the other V-Day activities anticipate the annual uproar over the play's presence on campus. The most consistently debated of these events is "The Vagina Monologues" itself, the play that prompted the creation of the V-Day movement. This year marks the fourth consecutive year that the play — written in the mid-90s by Eve Ensler,

who will be visiting campus for this year's performance — has been performed at Notre Dame. Although "The Vagina Monologues" has been performed both nationally and internationally, it will find a new setting on campus this year in the Leighton Concert Hall of the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

The show is a mixture of blunt humor and sincerity, featuring women speaking frankly about their sexuality and, specifically, their vaginas. All the accounts are based on the stories of real women - Ensler wrote the play after conducting a series of interviews with women of all ages, races and socioeconomic backgrounds. "The play expresses the gamut of female experiences," Redfield says. Redfield urges those who are skeptical to approach the show with an open mind. "I would ask people to be willing to listen to stories of their peers and of women of the world and to accept a different perspective and point of view," she says.

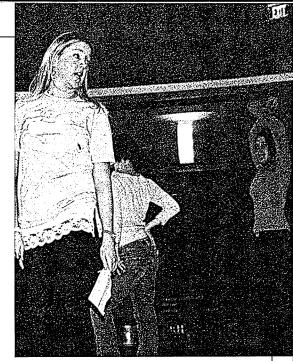
"The Vagina Monologues" is sponsored by the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre, the Gender Studies Program, and the Department of English. The three academic bodies rotate primary sponsorship each year, with FTT serving as this year's primary sponsor. Because of FTT's central involvement, the show will be performed in the PAC — FTT's home base — FTT Acting Chair James Čollins explains. "We think it's an important work," Collins says. "Controversial, but it inspires debate."

Indeed, since its first performance on campus in 2002, the production of "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame has been fiercely debated. Opponents cite its sometimes-graphic depictions of sexuality as a major concern. The conservative campus publication *The Irish Rover* recently described "The Vagina Monologues" as "vile," and last year Bishop John D'Arcy of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese issued a public denouncement of the show.

Senior Christina Dehan and sophomore Anamaria Scaperlanda-Ruiz were similarly dissatisfied with the way in which V-Day and "The Vagina Monologues" chooses to raise awareness about violence against women. Dehan and Scaperlanda-Ruiz created the Maria Goretti Project in order to educate the campus on the topic "in a way by which all women could feel uplifted and empowered," Dehan says. She emphasizes that this project is not a direct response to "The Vagina Monologues": "We just wanted to provide students with another option that is true to the Catholic identity of the university and to a holistic understanding of womanhood," she says. This year, the Maria Goretti Project took place the week of Jan. 24, and included talks from female law professors on the Catholic understanding of womanhood, presentations on global violence against women, and a prayer service.

Although the cast members of "The Vagina Monologues" are aware that the show is controversial for a Catholic university, they counter that it should be viewed as a theatrical and artistic piece, and that it should not be judged from a strictly Catholic perspective. As Casey Stanton, a sophomore involved with the show, says: "People get wrapped up in the graphic parts of the show, but they forget that it's in the form of a play. Art is supposed to be controversial."

At a 2003 workshop for V-Day College Campaign organizers, Redfield spoke on the challenges of presenting "The Vagina Monologues" at a Catholic university. In response, Ensler volunteered to visit Notre Dame during V-Day 2005 with the hope of promoting further discussion on the issues raised by "The Vagina Monologues." During Ensler's brief visit to South Bend, she will take part in a panel discussion that will debate the play and its resultant V-Day campaign. She also will be available for a book signing after appearing at a fundraising luncheon, whose proceeds will go toward this year's two V-Day beneficiaries: Sex Offense Services (SOS) — the rape-crisis center for Saint Joseph County — and the Saint Joseph



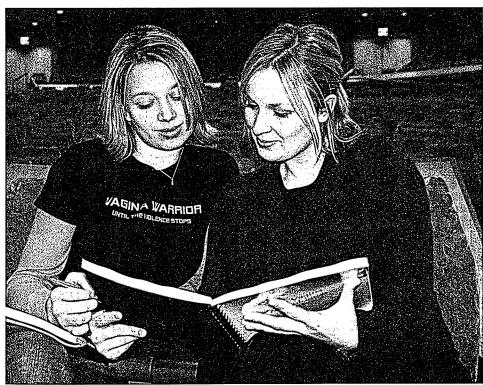
NO SKIRTING THE ISSUE Above: The girls of "My Short Skirt" strike a pose during rehearsal.

BYTHE BOOK Bottom Left: Producer junior Kaitlyn Redfield (left) and Director senior Carole Kennelly look over the script of "The Vagina Monologues."

County YWCA. SOS provides confidential counseling to rape victims, as well as support in handling the legal difficulties of sexual assault; YWCA focuses on a mission of equality for and empowerment of women.

Since 1999, V-Day has raised \$6.5 million through its College Campaign and \$4.9 million in 359 communities worldwide. At Notre Dame alone, Redfield says that V-Day has raised \$15,000 in the last two years. This year, 10 percent of V-Day's proceeds will be donated to V-Day's 2005 national spotlight effort, called "Women of Iraq, Under Siege." The money raised will go toward resources for Iraqi women who have been displaced by the current war or have been sexually abused.

Redfield says that she is not daunted by the constant controversy that surrounds V-Day and "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. She focuses instead on the good that V-Day has done in raising money for worthy charities and raising awareness on what she feels to be the pressing issue of violence against women. "['The Vagina Monologues' and V-Day are] about giving women the ability to regain ownership and control of their bodies," Redfield says. "I think we're doing a good thing," she adds, "so we'll keep doing it."



ENTERTAINMENT

FROM THE BUBBLE AND THE BEND





Down, but not Out * * * *

Accolades for Ani DiFranco's acoustic aptitude

CD REVIEW

MOERTEL

t seems likely that, with 17 or so albums to her name, Ani DiFranco should be slotted into the category of old musical pro. However, in her latest release, "Knuckle Down" (Righteous Babe Records), DiFranco delivers a 12-track musical first; although she has been writing songs and producing records since the age of 18, "Knuckle Down" marks the first time 34-year-old DiFranco has collaborated with another musician — Joe Henry — to produce an album. But age-old DiFranco fans need not fear: the result of the new combination infuses DiFranco's characteristically acousticdriven charisma with fresh studio clarity that, until "Knuckle Down," has not been heard in DiFranco's albums.

The "little folk singer," as she has coined herself, brings her soulful lyrical ability to the table yet again in "Knuckle Down," and she alternates

between such brightly spirited songs as the folk-punk "Modulation" and such chilling, eerily captivating tracks as "Parameters," a spoken-word poem that recounts the fear one woman experiences when she walks into her bedroom and discovers an unfamiliar man sitting on her bed. DiFranco's

title track paints an all too-familiar scenario for hopeless romantics, with the lyrics "I think I'm done gunnin to get closer / To some imagined bliss / I gotta knuckle down / And just be OK with this" serving as the backbone to the methodic guitar sequences and cello undertones of the song.

Love lost is the underlying thread that weaves the seemingly disparate songs of "Knuckle Down" into a complete, exquisitely composed tapestry. In "Manhole," DiFranco offsets resigned lyrics with an upbeat orchestration of

piano, banjo twangs and the whistling of fellow musician Andrew Bird. The song also provides the explanation for the almost-yearning tone of her album; "Knuckle Down" is the first CD DiFranco has released since separating from her husband, and the lyrics of "Manhole" make the separation abundantly clear.

Although "Knuckle Down" is coproduced with Joe Henry and grandstands cameos from such artists as Noe Venable and aforementioned Andrew Bird, the sound of the album is distinctly DiFranco. All of DiFranco's albums possess the innate ability to relay to the listener something about her at the time during which the record was produced. In 2005 with "Knuckle Down," DiFranco tells her fans that — even if she lives to be 100 years old — nothing will stop her from grabbing her guitar and ferociously telling the story of her life through song, on no one's terms but her own.

Madison Oyster Bar * * *

A self-proclaimed "beautiful bar for beautiful people"

JESSICAWHITE

tables, the Madison Oyster Bar is the quintessential date spot. This multi-level restaurant and bar serves a wide array of appetizers, sandwiches and seafood dinners, all at very affordable prices.

Upon entering, you'll find a welcoming staff waiting to usher you into a casual dining area that is situated directly across from the establishment's well-stocked bar. Lined with dark wood paneling, the low-lit restaurant area cre-

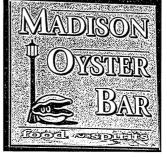
ates an intimate ambiance that is ideal scenario and instead are looking for a

for deep conversations with friends, or longing looks exchanged between lovers. Try the appetizer plate of a dozen oysters, which — we might add — are known aphrodisiacs. But for those who decide to forego a romantic

place to relax, the big-screen television at the far end of the room is perfect for watching the game with a beer and a side of hot jalapeno poppers.

side of hot jalapeno poppers. Added bonus: Show up early on weekdays and receive free chips and salsa.

For dinner, *Scholastic* recommends the seafood platter. Though not straight out of Cape Cod waters, the



Must See ND

Groove to the soulful piano-playing of Rob Gonzalez

If you're finding your nerves frayed by the first month of classes, some music therapy may be just what the doctor ordered. Check out at the LaFortune Ballroom on Thu, Feb. 10 at 10 p.m., and unwind to the sweet, soulful sound of Rob Gonzalez. This singer-songwriter and pianist has delighted students at over 100 colleges nationwide and has impressed critics at many national showcases. He has been compared to Norah Jones in musical style and appeal, reaching out to diverse audiences through his versatility and charm. Come let your mind be set at ease by the captivating chords of Gonzalez's piano-playing.

Chicago celebrates another New Year

It's February in South Bend, and that means one of two things: snow or more snow. Luckily, Chicago is offering an escape from the winter doldrums. On Sun, Feb. 13 at 1 p.m., celebrations for the Chinese New Year will kick off in the heart of Chinatown. The Year of the Rooster will be rung in with firecrackers, marching bands, dragons and floats in a parade route running down Wentworth from Cermak to 24th Street.

Romantic Valentine's Day dinner

For those whose dates simply won't settle for Sbarro, Tippecanoe Place offers fine dining in an elegant atmosphere. Set in the picturesque historic district of South Bend, it occupies two floors of the Studebaker mansion, which was constructed over a century ago and lends a Victorian charm to the restaurant. Visit www.tippe.com for more history, menus, directions and information on making reservations, which are strongly suggested.

Music a la Michigan

Shake things up with a trip to The Whitehouse II, a hotspot in Niles, Mich., for local bands. Nivium, hailing from Saint Joseph, Mich., will be taking the stage on Fri, Feb. 4 at 10 p.m., along with northern Indiana bands Ston and Signal. Each band's sounds fall mostly into the genres of metal and hard rock, but Signal displays an impressive variety of styles that defy classification. In addition to great music, you can enjoy a round of billiards in the back lounge-area or, for those over 21, a round of drinks at the side bar. Visit www.thewhitehouserocks.com for updated show times and upcoming entertainment.

Send some chocolate-covered love

Even if you don't have heaps of money to burn, you can still show that special someone you care with the sweetest gift known to (wo)man: candy. The South Bend Chocolate Company is offering a multitude of delectable gift baskets, scrumptious chocolate assortments and the ever-popular heart-shaped boxes brimming with sweets. So treat friends, family or even yourself to the delectable chocolate delicacies. You can order straight from the Web site, www.sbchocolate.com, or visit the company's Chocolate Cafe downtown, next to the College Football Hall of Fame.

Art from the Inside

"Art From the Inside: Drawings by Chicano Prisoners" is an exhibit that will run through Feb. 27 in the Snite Museum. Included is a collection of 120 petite pieces of art drawn on handkerchiefs by prison inmates in the southwestern United States. The unconventional yet powerful art blends Latin American imagery from both pre-colonial and 20th-century Mexican and American cultures. Narrative by nature, they give a raw and riveting view of prison from behind bars.

—Compiled by Nicole Hurias

still-tasty fried oysters, shrimp, scallops and cod are served atop a warm pile of homemade french fries, complimented by ketchup, cocktail and tartar sauces. Another recommended dish is the breaded scallops. Even if you're not a fan of food from the sea, the Madison Oyster Bar offers many ham, chicken and beef alternatives, such as the 11-ounce New York strip steak, the Madison club and the french onion soup.

Though the intimate atmosphere and friendly service are the highlights of dining at the Oyster Bar, it offers carry-out items for those on-the-run. But with its kitchen al-

ways open, the bar is a great place for pre- or post-drink snacking. Also, for a restaurant and bar, the facilities are cleaner than most. So, when considering taking the new love-of-your-life out for some good food and drink, venture downtown to the cozy and classy Madison Oyster Bar, and give your date a real culinary treat.

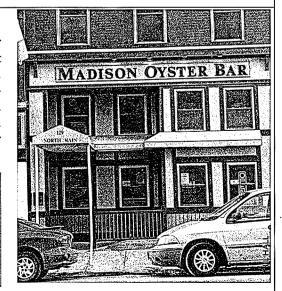
129 North Main St.

(next to Fiddler's Hearth)

Hours: Mon - Sat, 3 p.m. -3 a.m.

Appetizers: \$1.75 to \$6.95 Entrees: \$6.75 to \$9.95

Oysters on the half shell: \$6.75/half dozen



Artistic and Foreign, but on Familiar Ground

The 30th Anniversary Presentation KATJA RIEMANN MARIA SCHRADER A splendid film celebrating the s Thursday

BETHMURPHY

t's hard to argue that the Marie P. Debartolo Center for the Performing Arts has been anything but a fantastic addition to the Notre Dame campus, offering a wide variety of musical and theatrical performances. Yet one of the center's several venues seems to deserve more attention — the Michael Browning Family Cinema. This lavish entertainment venue seats 200 moviegoers and showcases a wide variety of foreign, independent and wide-release films. It is also the only cinema in all of Indiana with a THX-certified sound system.

Jon Vickers, who manages the cinema, is proud of this year's scheduled events and is currently programming the spring semester's growing film list. Once every few weeks, Vickers meets with - Executive Director of the PAC John Haynes and Ted Mandell — associate professor in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre — to select and schedule films that they believe will appeal to students, faculty and the surrounding community.

Vickers says the cinema will show 60 titles this spring, averaging four per week. He admits this is "pretty ambitious" since it is unlikely that any other tra-

ditional single-

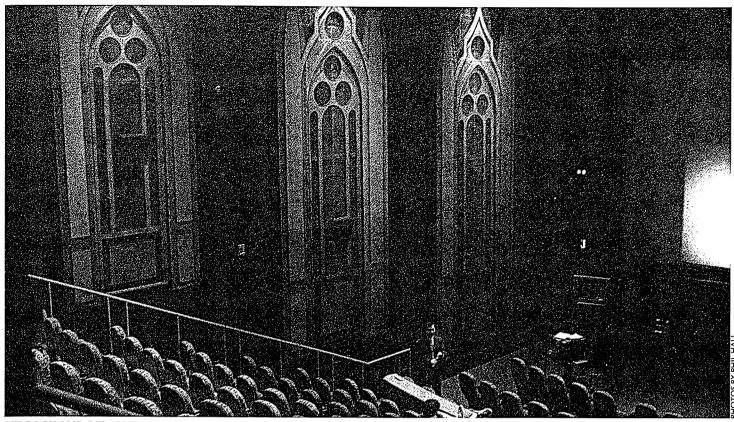
screen movie theater would attempt such a lofty goal. Vickers, however, is no stranger to the movie theater business, since he also has owned a quaint but impressive film house located in Three Oaks, Mich. for the past 10 years.

Senior FTT major John Hibey is thrilled with the new cinema on campus and gives much credit to Vickers and his associates. "After running Vickers Theatre in Michigan all these years, [Vickers] has added a new level of sophistication to ND Cinema," Hibey says. "He and Ted Mandell have brought some of the most critically acclaimed films — national and international — that otherwise could only be viewed in Chicago art houses."

Jacqueline Schmidt (ND '01, '03) — event manager at the PAC — agrees wholeheartedly. "I wish something like this had been here when I was a student. Every once in a while, there were foreign films shown, but it was in Debartolo 101," she says. Technically speaking, DeBartolo 101 is not up to par with the Browning Cinema with its THX sound system.

In addition to bringing wide-release films to the big screen — such as "I (Heart) Huckabees," "Saved!" and "Before Sunset" - ND Cinema frequently collaborates with the Nanovic Institute for European Studies to bring in various international films. The Nanovic Institute is allotted several dates per semester to show films from countries all over the world. This semester's selections include: "The Spanish Apartment" (France, 2002), "Bloody Sunday" (Ireland, 2002), "La Mala Educacion/Bad Education" (Spain, 2004), "Rosenstrasse" (Germany, 2003), "Captains of April" (Portugal, 2000) and

MOVIE MASTER Jon Vickers, Browning Cinema manager, chooses films that reflect students! interests



SIT BACK AND RELAX The Michael Browning Family Cinema is equipped with a state-of-the-art THX sound system.

"Soldiers of Salamina" (Spain, 2003).

Associate Director of the Nanovic Institute David Mattern is pleased with the opportunity to feature foreign films in the new Browning Cinema. Films at Hesburgh were shown in DVD- or VHSformat, but the Browning Cinema uses 35-mm film. "The quality of our screenings has gone way up," he says. "It's a huge leap, and that's been exciting." Mattern also stresses how important it is for such films to be available to students. "It's a great way for people to experience other countries, cultures and languages. You can't always go there, but you can learn a lot through film. It's a way of transporting yourself into other places and times and really opening your mind."

The series of foreign films is not the only non-mainstream series to be held in the Browning Cinema this year. In November, in conjunction with a Shake-speare conference held on campus, nine Shakespeare-related films were played in

the Browning Cinema hosted the Annual Student Film Festival and also will present the second annual ND Queer Film Festival as well as movies chosen to be part of the Spring Arts Fest.

Another exciting new project Vickers is presently working on is called the PAC Classic 100: a series of 100 classic films. Each year, 25 of the greatest movies ever made will be shown at Browning Cinema — movies such as "Casablanca," "Citizen Kane," "Jaws" and "Gone With the Wind," to name a few. The idea is that, over the course of four years, Notre Dame students will have the opportunity to view all 100 films. The series began this past month with showings of Federico Fellini's "8 1/2" and Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo," and will continue throughout the semester. The "master list" of the 100 classic movies is actually a compilation taken from several different lists that rank films, and it includes 70 American and 30 international films.

For more information on the film schedule for the Browning Cinema, call the ticket office at 631-2800 or visit the Web site: http://performingarts.nd.edu/film.shtml.

COMING SOON TO THE PAC

"Maria Full of Grace" Feb. 4, 7 and 10 p.m.

"Tarnation". Feb. 5, 7 and 10 p.m.

"Saved!" Feb. 10; 7:30 p.m.

"In Good Conscience" Feb. 11, 3:30 p.m.

"Gay Pioneers" Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.

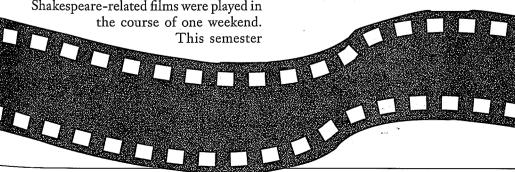
"Angels in America: Part I" Feb. 11, 9:45 p.m.

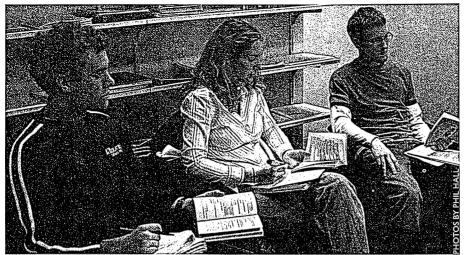
"Angels in America: Part II" Feb. 12, 2 p.m.

"Love! Valour! Compassion!" Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.

"Bloody Sunday" Feb. 17, 7 and 10 p.m.

"House of Flying Daggers" Feb. 18-19, 7 and 10p.m.





HONING THE CRAFT Junior Cameron Rains (left), senior Caito Rohn and graduate student John Schwenkler rehearse for "Arcadia."

A Play on Words, Love and Science

DANAERGAS & KATIEGALEONE

ay Skelton — a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre — faces a unique challenge. As the director of the play "Arcadia," Skelton must try to convey poignant human emotion using the intellectually-driven language of playwright Tom Stoppard.

Stoppard often is criticized for creating plays of an overly-cerebral nature, employing complex concepts of quantum physics that surpass the knowledge of the average theatergoer, while not delving deeply enough into emotions. For this reason, many of Stoppard's plays never have enjoyed a major U.S. production. "Arcadia," however, is one play that has been well-received. Stoppard did not "dumb-down" "Arcadia," but he did make it more emotionally-charged, with the play culminating in a heartrending waltz danced by two couples.

"I'm a big fan of 'smart' plays," says senior T.J. McNally, who plays the character Valentine Coverly. He describes his first read-through of the script: "It was such a smart play, so witty, but still alive and pumping with emotions and guts that I knew I wanted to do it."

Although the play is flooded with mathematical theorems and scientific equations, its true aim is love: "the attraction that Newton left out," as voiced by McNally's character. "Arcadia" is about many things: the tendency of the world

to move toward chaos, the transition from one historical period to another, the piecing together of the past and the tragedy of death. Above all, it is about the power of human emotions. "No matter how many facts you have, you can never count the role that human behavior plays in an event," Skelton says. "You can never formulate human behavior."

The play presents this idea by revealing events that take place a century apart — all within the same English country house. The first storyline occurs in 1809 and follows the relationship of a 13-year-old mathematical prodigy, Thomasina, and her tutor, Septimus, who is nearly a decade older. As they speak about complex equations and concepts, their dialogue soon takes on a double meaning and reveals a deeper, sensual connection forming between them.

After witnessing the occurrences of the past, the audience then watches present-day researchers try to reconstruct those same events utilizing the evidence that has been left behind. The same implicit unrequited love story, which we first see

BYTHE BOOK Jay Skelton,

reviews "Arcadia" with students

a visiting assistant professor,

between Thomasina and Septimus, is repeated between Hannah — who is doing research at the house — and a much younger character, Gus — who lives there with his older siblings.

This story is much clearer when performed, and Skelton is confident that Notre Dame students will easily comprehend the play's more intellectual concepts and ideas. Even though Skelton has no doubt about his audience's academic capacity, his worries lie with their ability to accurately understand the complex emotional side of this story. "The challenge with Stoppard," he says, "is what is really behind these people using these particular ideas and this particular language to convey their thoughts, their needs, their hopes, their dreams, their loves (and) their hates." The challenge to clarify the emotions of the play falls in the hands of the director and the actors. "The characters are full and complex," McNally says. "It's a challenge, and that's what I look for when I audition for a show."

To obtain tickets call the PAC ticket office at 631-2800, or visit the ticket booth right inside the main entrance anytime from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Mon. through Sat.



CAMPUS with the GIPER

Greetings once again, my shivering, wool-sock-clad friends. As of late, the usually robust Gipper has been suffering from a case of the winter blues due to delinquent activity being limited by the freezing temperature.

A tank for the tanked

The new Notre Dame Domeland Security Building has more than a few spacious, inconveniently located classrooms and a post office; we now have our very own drunk tank. For the record, Gipp — by no means — feels this is necessary. Our tipster shares that the "waiting room," as it is more commonly called, will house those arrested while they await a trip to the county jail. In case one of the occupants feels "ill" at the prospect of incarceration, the tank is equipped with a floor drain and hose for easy cleanup.

Welcome back!

Since Gipp considers himself an active and contributing member of the student media behemoth here at Notre Dame (though some will surely disagree), I would like to welcome back to campus a student media alumnus by the name of Charlie Weis. Yes, it seems our head coach spent his senior year (1977-1978) as a sportscaster for WSND-AM (now WVFI). If any tapes exist, you can bet they will be on eBay before you can say "... and now a message from our sponsor."

William A. Weiler
A.B. English
Paul Weinacht
B.S. Aerospace Engineering
Arthur Weingartner
A.B. Economics
Charles J. Weis
A.B. Speech and Drama









> Off the market

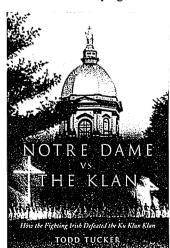
A tipster with real-estate connections has informed us that Mr. Willingham's house in Granger, Ind., has been sold (but not to Weis). The asking price for the five-bedroom, five-bath house with in-ground pool was a steep \$749,000. It took two moving vans to load up the furnishings when the former head coach packed up and shipped out last Thursday.

> Lip service

It's no secret that football linemen rarely get any respect. With that in mind, an offensive tackle offered to accompany a non-player friend to a volunteer gig at a local school to give the kids a thrill, only to be asked by his friend if he could bring along some "name" players. Swallowing his pride, he rounded up three better-known others, including a cornerback, a safety and a certain starting quarterback, who signed numerous autographs and may or may not have helped some kids with their homework.

> How the Fighting Irish really got their name

A long, long time ago, when the original Gipper was just recently deceased, our vibrant Fightin' Irish defended their hallowed territory against the infamous Ku Klux Klan. It was



May 17, 1924, and thousands of Klan members came to South Bend to terrorize the young male Catholics. Three days of vicious race riots ensued, during which the Irish lived up to their name, defended duLac, and sent their hooded adversaries packing. Todd Tucker (ND '90) wrote a book on the clash titled, Notre Dame Vs. the Klan: How the Fighting Irish Defeated the Ku Klux Klan. Gipp recommends it as a good bedside read.

SPORTS

SPLINTERS FROM THE PRESSBOX



Athletes in Politics

CHRISTOPHERMESKILL

was inspired by the upcoming student-body presidential elections to take a look at the athletes who have entered the world of politics. It seems that a number of prominent athletes — from former-President Gerald Ford to Minnesota Senator Jesse "The Body" Ventura — have taken their acts to Washington.

Why do athletes gravitate toward the political scene? The answer lies in their past careers; in sports, these men have made names for themselves making them easily recognizable to the voting public. For instance, I don't know who the other Kentucky senatorial candidate was, but I knew baseball-pro Jim Bunning. I remember when I see the name that Bunning pitched a perfect game for the Phillies and, because of that non-political factor, my vote is swayed.

The idea of athletes in politics can be seen both negatively and positively. On the negative side, we have all heard the jokes that stereotype athletes as "not exactly being rocket scientists." Sometimes, however, athletes in a political position are seen as a breath of fresh air. In an era when so many politicians are plagued with scandals, an athlete's clean slate is well received by the public and the media.

Whatever your opinion may be about the presence of athletes in the political arean, the bottom line is that athletes can succeed in politics. After all, former Michigan center Gerald R. Ford climbed to the highest possible office in our political system. Even our current president has a connection to sports as he is the former owner of the Texas Rangers. No matter what your opinion of these two men may be, you cannot argue that they have been successful on the campaign trail.



Not all athletes have used their reputation in the athletic world to become president, but instead many have gone on to fill other important political positions. One example is former Notre Dame football player and Irish All-American, Alan Page ('67) who served on the Minnesota Supreme Court. While I am not implying that his character or intellect did not merit his election, his Hall of Fame status with the Minnesota Vikings certainly didn't hurt.

Page is not an aberration. One year before he was elected to the football Hall of Fame for his legendary career with the Seattle Seahawks, Steve Largent of Oklahoma was elected to the House of Representatives in 1994.

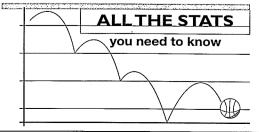
The list goes on: 1964 Olympians Ben Nighthorse Campbell and Judy Martz served as U.S. Senator and Congresswoman, respectively. The late Paul Wellstone, who tragically died in a plane crash while campaigning for re-election, was the ACC Wrestling Champion for North Carolina. Even football coaches have been seen on the campaign trail; Tom Osborne, former Oklahoma coach, was elected to the House of Representatives for Nebraska.

Perhaps, the most notable athlete to compete on the campaign trail in recent years is former New York Knick Bill Bradley. Bradley, a Princeton University graduate and a three-term senator from New Jersey, ran for the 2000 Democratic presidential nomination against then-Vice President Al Gore.

Keep this in mind if you consider running for class president next year. If Brady Quinn or Mariel Zagunis run against you, don't write them off too quickly — there is a good chance they'd win.

STAT ZONE

Mike Laskey brings you ...



Women's swimming

The No. 25 Fighting Irish will look to rebound from a 161-138 loss to the No. 17 University of Michigan when the team squares off against Oakland in its final meet of the regular season on Sat., Feb. 5, in Rochester, Mich. In Friday's loss to the Wolverines, sophomore Katie Carroll earned an NCAA B-cut designation in the 200-yard individual medley, posting a

race-winning time of 2:03.75. The B-cut time means that Carroll will be considered to participate in the 200 IM during March's NCAA Championships. Carroll, who was named Most Outstanding Swimmer at the 2004 Big East Championships, was swimming in just her second 200 IM after a season beleaguered by injuries. Following the squad's meet with Oakland, the Irish will head to East Meadow, N.Y.,

IRSHEYESON COLIN FALLS

Since hitting a game-winning three-pointer against West Virginia in round one of the Big East tournament last year, sophomore guard Colin Falls has been an integral part of Notre Dame's success. The 6-foot-5-inch-guard from the suburbs of Chicago has seen time in every game for the Irish this year. Falls, known for his incredible perimeter shooting, is leading the team in three-point field goals and three-point percentage. *Scholastic* had a chance to sit down with Falls and talk about what he has been up to both on and off the court this season.



How did you develop your amazing shooting ability? I don't know, really. It was just one of those things in high school that developed with repetition; once you get your stroke down, it just kind of comes to you.

What skills have you been working on since the beginning of the season? I think I've just been improving defensively and trying put the ball on the floor more; and not being just a straight-up shooter.

What do you think of being compared to former Irish guard Matt Carroll? That is a lofty comparison. I think he accomplished a lot here, and I hope that I can get to the point that he was at. Right now, I don't think it's fair to compare.

Do you have any superstitions? Yeah: I wear my grade school basketball jersey under my Notre Dame jersey for every game.

If you didn't play basketball here, what sport would you want to play? Football: Growing up, that was always my second-favorite sport.

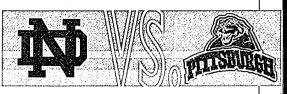
What are some of your interests outside of basketball? Just hanging out with my friends. That's really all that I do, is play basketball, hang out with my friends, and do schoolwork. It's pretty simple.

Who is the best professor you have had at Notre Dame?
Best professor? Professor Drevs for Intro to Marketing. He's a fun teacher and makes class interesting.

What is your favorite professional sports team? Favorite player? Chicago Cubs. I really don't have a favorite player on the Cubs.

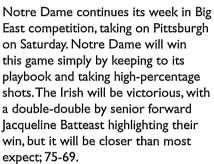
If the Irish were to go all the way, who would you want to play in the championship? It really doesn't matter to me. We'll play whoever is there, so it really doesn't matter at all.

— Christopher Meskill



Our Calls Basketball

OPPONENT: PITTSBURGH
WHERE: PITTSBUGH, PENN.
WHEN: SAT, FEB. 5, 2:00 P.M. EST



CHRISTOPHER**MESKILL** SPORTS EDITOR

The Irish need to keep up the intensity level after victories against No. 14 Boston College and No. 9 UConn. Notre Dame needs to control center Mercedes Walker inside the key on defense and continue to feed Batteast on offense. Strong scoring in the paint and a solid defense will lead to another win for the Irish; 73-62.

BRYAN**LOWERY**ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

KEYTO THE GAME: Getting Out Early

Pittsburgh comes in a heavy underdog, and rightfully so. No. 6 Notre Dame just needs to get off to a strong start. Once they get the lead, the Irish can run a textbook offense and feed Batteast and junior forward Courtney LaVere at the post.

where they will look to win their ninth consecutive title at the Big East Championships from Feb. 16-19.

Men's tennis

The Fighting Irish squad became only the sixth Division I team to reach 1,000 all-time victories on Sat, Jan. 29, when Notre Dame upset No. 18 North Carolina at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The winning continued for the Irish when they beat No.

41 Florida State on Sunday. This weekend's victories improved the Irish record to 6-0 for the season and to 1001-428-4 overall in 83 years of men's varsity tennis. The Irish last started a season so well in 1996-97, when the team finished the year ranked 16th in the nation.

Women's tennis

The No. 21 Irish won their second con-

secutive match against a top-30 opponent on Sunday, knocking off No. 30 Wake Forest at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Sunday's victory came on the heels of an impressive win over the No. 20 Michigan Wolverines, in which the Irish won every set en route to a 7-0 victory. On Fri, Feb 11, the Irish will attempt to improve their record for the season to 4-1, as they travel to Cambridge to take on No. 35 Harvard.

Recruiting a Golden Class

BRYANLOWERY

he recruiting season is a vital time for every college sports program; coaches get an idea of what their programs are going to look like in the following year, and students familiarize themselves with the names they will undoubtedly hear in the following season. While football recruiting is getting the most attention at Notre Dame, many other athletic programs also are looking for the perfect fits for their teams. Scholastic highlights the recruiting achievements of football, as well as some of the other sports looking to increase the depth of their teams.

Football

Since Notre Dame traditionally emphasizes football, it is fitting to begin with the team's recruiting to date. Overall, Weis and his staff have a recruiting class ranked 23rd nationally and 15th in recruit rating — a ranking for classes determined by the average rankings of individual recruits — by Scout.com. These rankings are an improvement from last season's recruiting class, despite the coaching changes that have occurred.

One impressive member of this new recruiting class is Joey Hibben from Waconia Senior High School (Waconia, Minn.), who will join Notre Dame's already solid group of tight ends. Hiben, who is ranked 14th in the country among tight ends, is equally talented as a blocker and receiving threat. Of his decision to commit to Notre Dame, Hibben said: "I've talked to some Notre Dame players and some

former players, and you can really sense the pride they have for Notre Dame ... I just wanted to be a part of that."

The Irish also have recruited a new reserve quarterback to play behind sophomore Brady Quinn next season. Evan Sharpley from Marshall High School (Marshall, Mich.) is rated 18th in the country among high school quarterbacks by Scout.com. Sharpley has started for his high school for the last two seasons and has thrown for nearly 3,700 yards and 45 touchdowns.

Wide receiver D.J. Hord from Rockhurst High School (Kansas City, Mo.) is one of the most recent commitments to Notre Dame. He has the speed and finesse to be a threat with both the short and deep ball and is ranked as the 12th receiver in the country. Horde announced his decision to attend Notre Dame during halftime of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.

Notre Dame also has received commitments from several recruits for its offensive line. New additions, which include Paul Duncan from East Paulding High School (Dallas, Ga.) and Michael Turkovich from Valley Forge Military Academy (Wayne, Penn.), will help improve Irish pocket protection.

Men's Basketball

In addition to successful football recruiting, the men's basketball team capped its recruiting season by filling some key spots in its roster. In November, Head Coach Mike Brey signed four players for the class of 2009: Ryan Ayers,

Zach Hillesland, Kyle McAlarney and Luke Zeller.

Luke Zeller from Washington High School (Washington, Ind.) is one of the most heralded recruits for the Irish. The 6-foot 11-inch, 230-pound player is ranked by Scout.com as one of the top six power forwards in the country. Street & Smith's magazine named Zeller an All-American. In addition to his oncourt success, Zeller also is an academic standout and will be valedictorian of his graduating class with a 4.0 grade-point average.

Ryan Ayers from Germantown Academy (Haverford, Penn.) is a 6-foot 5-inch, 195-pound shooting guard with a good perimeter shot; he averages 48 percent in his three-point shooting. He is the son of former Ohio State and Philadelphia 76ers Head Coach Randy Ayers. "He has a great understanding of the game and possesses a high basketball IQ," Brey said.

Kyle McAlaraney from Moore Catholic High School (Staten Island, N.Y.) — a 6-foot 1-inch, 180-pound recruit — is the 13th-ranked point guard in the nation. He is a very effective ball handler, passer and prolific scorer who averages 35 points per game. "Kyle is an old-school point guard and a real gym-rat who works extremely hard to be the best player on the floor," Brey said. "His game is going to be a great fit for our systems here because of his outside shooting ability and how well he runs the floor. Kyle has a certain toughness about him when he is on the court and plays with a great deal of passion."

BASEBALL-

Jeremy Barnes (RHP, Garland, Texas), Brett Graffy (RHP, Joliet, Ill.), David Phelps (RHP, Hazelwood, Mo.), Kyle Weiland (RHP, Albuquerque, N.M.), Sam Elam (LHP, Mesquite, Texas), Eddy Mendiola (3B, Miami, Fla.), David Hum (C, Little Rock, Ark.) and Ryan Connolly (Utility, Binghamton, N.Y.)

SOFTBALL:

Brittney Bargar (P, Corona, Calif.), Christine Farrell (P, La Habra, Calif.), Erin Glasco (C, Johnston City, Ill.), Linda Kohan (IF, Westminster, Calif.), Alexandra Kotcheff (OF, Beverly Hills, Calif.), Stephanie Mola (OF, Naples, Fla.) and Beth Northway (IF/OF, Kentwood, Mich.)

M. LACROSSE

Peter Christman (A, Simsbury, Conn.), Dan Gibson (A/M, Germantown, Tenn.), Ryan Hoff (A, Baldwin, Md.), Regis McDermott (D, Amityville, N.Y.), Davey Melera (M, Lutherville, Md.), Scott Rodgers (G, Wantagh, N.Y.), and Duncan Swezey (Ambler, Pa./Hatboro).

W. LACROSSE

Alicia Billings (Potomac, Md.), Shannon Burke (Baltimore, Md.), Jillian Byers (Northport, N.Y.), Lauren deMello (Manlius, N.Y.), Kelly Gaudreau (Annapolis, Md.), Erin Goodman (Cortlandt Park, N.Y.), Annemarie McGrath (Wayne, Pa.), Jane Stoeckert (Mendham, N.J.) and Mary Veith (Silver Springs, Md.).



Baseball and Softball

Notre Dame's best recruiting class this year might be on the diamond. Team One Baseball has ranked the Notre Dame baseball program's recent group of recruits as the nation's seventh-best recruiting class in 2005. Head Coach Paul Mainieri has assembled an excellent group of players, many of whom are considered the best in their position in their respective states.

Recruit Eduardo Mendiola Palmer of Trinity High School (Miami, Fla.) is rated one of the top three third baseman prospects in the country. Mendiola is a solid hitter and runner who had a .406 batting average, 27 RBIs, eight doubles and 12 stolen bases in 20 games during his junior year. When asked, Coach Mainieri said in a press interview, "Eddy is the next great player in the long list of Irish players that we have landed from the state of Florida. We are very excited to have Eddy as a member of this year's recruiting class."

David Hum from Catholic High School (Little Rock, Ark.) is considered the fourth-best catcher prospect in the country and also is one of the best hitting catchers in the country. As a junior, Hum was awarded all-state honors and had a .476 batting average, 23 RBIs and six home runs — the most runs by any player in his class in Arkansas. "David is a very physical and offensive catcher who has the ability to control the bat well," Mainieri said. "Both as a hitter and behind the plate defensively, David is a very polished baseball player."

Softball also has signed a highly-skilled recruiting class. Head Coach Deanna Gumpf has signed seven players to replace this year's graduating seniors in what is arguably the best softball recruiting class in the country. Gumpf's recruits include two pitchers, two infielders, two outfield-

ers and a catcher.

One of softball's top recruits is infielder Linda Kohan from Westminster High School (Westminster, Calif.), who is the two-time defending Orange County batting champion. Kohan maintained a .654 batting average last season and was selected to the *Los Angeles Times* all-region softball team. She was also honored as the Westminster High School Athlete of the Year in 2004.

Another softball standout is right-handed pitcher Brittney Bargar from Corona High School (Corona, Calif.). She posted an outstanding high school-career ERA of 0.03 and was named a scholar-athlete for each of her academic years.

Lacrosse

The recruiting for men's and women's lacrosse also has been very successful. In the early signing period, the Irish have pulled in seven recruits on the men's side and nine on the women's side.

The men's lacrosse recruiting class features All-American goalkeeper Scott Rodgers from MacArthur High School (Wantagh, N.Y.), All-American attacker Ryan Hoff from Dulaney High School (Baldwin, Md.) and defender Regis McDermott from Chaminade High School (Amityville, N.Y.).

"This is an outstanding class, because we got players at each position that we think have the ability to step in and help us right away," men's Head Coach Kevin Corrigan said in an interview on UND.com.

The women's side also brought in a topnotch goalkeeper in Erin Goodman from Lakeland Panas High School (Cortlandt Park, N.Y.) who is an all-league and an Academic All-American selection. The Irish also signed All-American attacker/ midfielder Jillian Byers from Northport High School (Northport, N.Y.), who has won the gold (2003) and silver (2004) medals at the Empire State Games and has played in the U.S. Lacrosse National Championship Final.

Other Sports

A number of other less-publicized sports at Notre Dame also have talented in-coming recruits. On Jan. 19, Time Welsh, Irish men's swimming coach, announced that freestyle swimmer Jace Hopper from The Meadows High School (Las Vegas, N.V.) signed with Notre Dame. Hopper is a high school All-American and two-time state champion in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle.

Notre Dame men's and women's golf teams also are having a successful recruiting season. Despite a recent coaching change, the men's team recruited Josh Sandman from Southeast Guilford High School (Greensboro, N.C.) who is ranked the 32nd-best senior golfer in the country by Titleist/Golfweek. The women's team picked up Courtney Sullivan from Sam Barlow High School (Gresham, Ore.) and Lisa Maunu from Parkside Collegiate Institute (Ontario, Canada). Sullivan is currently the top golfer in Oregon and the valedictorian of her high school class.

The women's tennis team has recruited a deadly duo. Coach Jay Louderback announced that Katie Potts from Divine Savior Holy Angels High School (Brookfield, Wis.) and Kelcy Tefft from Chisholm High School (Enid, Okla.) have decided to enroll at Notre Dame. Potts recently won the Wisconsin state singles title, while Tefft won the state title on the doubles side. Both Tefft and Potts are ranked in the top-30 of high school tennis players by the United States Tennis Association.



reshman fall All it was made out to be

SARAHBARRETT

reshman year. College. South Bend. ■Indiana. This is what I had been waiting for since we dropped my sister off at Farley Hall in 1996 when I was only 10 years old.

College didn't start off as the magical wonderland my young mind had construed it to be. In fact, where was I when I started the greatest four years of my life last August? That's right, I was sitting in First Year Composition, kicking myself for only skimming the first two pages of the summer reading assignment.

This was just one of my many firsts. I can think back to Aug. 20, 2004, the infamous college move-in day — which is a first that I will always remember. After dragging all four car-loads of my luggage and school supplies to my room and saying goodbye to my parents, I realized that, for the first time ever, I was alone on campus. It was an important moment for me. I was not nervous or sad; this campus had always been like my second home. It just seemed natural. With awe and reverence, I walked past the dome, Touchdown Jesus (Which, I might add, I had yet to figure out was the library.) and the stadium. It seemed surreal to think that I would see these buildings everyday without getting in my stomach the ever-familiar butterflies from my childhood experiences of Notre Dame. For the first time, I was able to walk around campus and call it all home.

That same night brought many more firsts. It was the first time I had conversations with kids my own age and felt an immediate connection to them. We talked about everything, and I even questioned if my new neighbors read the dictionary every night before bed. It was also the first time I witnessed my peers starting a political debate outside of class. Needless to say, it was the first time my horizons had expanded so rapidly.

Frosh-O brought the inevitable introductions and ice breakers. But who were these people to whom I was being introduced? Were the nerdy scrabble whiz and the next George W. Bush I had just met going to be my new friends? Um, definitely not. I wasn't worried, though. Having moved around a lot in my life, I knew that I would find people to be friends with that were more like me. I just had to be patient. Luckily, I found those people quickly. So, now it was time to move past the awkwardness, leave the inconsequential small-talk behind, and

even learn from the pain I felt the first time I hit my head on the ceiling in the morning. Not only had I found my place, but I also learned how to slide out of bed while avoiding (most of the time, at least) the hard, flat surface that hovered two feet above me. I got my feet on the ground, ready to embark on a whole new spectrum of firsts. This was a defining transitionperiod in my life.

September flew by, but not without consequence, as I took my first shoppingtrip to Chicago, which resulted in my first time ever blowing \$700 in four hours. I also experienced my first college football season, complete with "Kegs and Eggs," Natty Light parties, keg stands and tailgates while wearing "The Shirt." Despite an overall sub-par season, I'm proud to say that my first student section experience was at the Michigan game, when I endured four hours on my feet — followed by the race to get on the field — after a rough night and only two hours of sleep.

The college experience had begun to prove itself wrthy of its lofty reputation, and I realized that my stamina would need to be strengthened in order to balance an arduous course load with my weekends (which now included Wednesday and Thursday nights) of debauchery.

It was even more difficult to balance on the cute, pastel-blue platform flip-flops I had designated as my shower shoes. I can't even begin to explain just how hard it is to walk the 20 feet from the bathroom to my bedroom in wet flip-flops at 8:30 a.m. after showering, complete with a monstrous headache courtesy of the previous night. Let's just say that is a huge no-no. I bit it pretty hard on the hallway carpet. While it is often unintentionally slept on, its suppleness cannot hold a feather to my down duvet.

October, thank God, saw the addition of flat flip-flops to my wardrobe. While the flip-flops were the highlight — as you may have guessed — especially considering the slightly dismal football season, my first dining-hall veggie burger was a close second. All of the soccer games and the countless number of parties — whose themes all rhymed with "hoes" - that I attended kept me going strong until the week of midterms came crashing down on top of me.

I had never slept as little as I did that week. All-nighters in the library are outof-control. If you have never experienced this scene, you are definitely missing out,

especially if you've never caught the biting cold of a South Bend winter morning after spending 10 hours in a cozy corner of Hesburgh. I really think that a facemask should be included in the list of things to bring to college. Either that, or a warning sign that reads: "Enjoy walking 15 minutes to class with a minus 15-degree-wind whipping violently at your face."

November and December were just like this violent wind; they sped by and left me red from the beating. I got my first write-up. Yes, it was about time. But, honestly, who really knew that you could get in trouble by standing in the doorway of an opposite-sex dorm at 12:15 a.m. on a Thursday night? After all, it was obvious I was leaving. Besides, we were only studying. Mental note: Study in the library next time. No, I'm not bitter at all ...

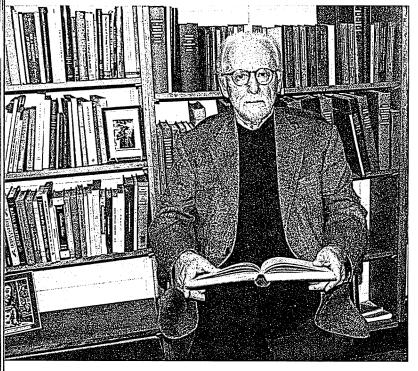
December just was not my month. Having spent a solid 55 hours awake in the library the weekend before finals, including both Friday and Saturday night, I was a little grumpy, smelly and tired. I really was not surprised when someone decided to call me in the middle of my largest lecture's final exam, blaring my slightly salacious and very embarrassing ring tone: "Magic Stick." Oh, Lil' Kim and 50 Cent ... Both of you really were at your bests in that song.

Despite the somewhat stressful closure of first semester, freshman fall was all that I had ever expected it to be, and more. I made awesome friends, had a lot of memorable nights, and had many more that I think were great, if only I could remember what I did. I wish that college was on tape, like "The Truman Show," so I could sit on my futon every Monday and rewind and play over and over again the events of the weekend and laugh at all of the ridiculous

things I did and saw.

I also learned a lot those first four months. I learned that I should never be truthful when answering my parents' questions about my grade-point average; that I should not schedule 8:30 a.m. classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I learned not to wear sandals outside during a December snowstorm, and that I should stay away from the veggie burgers at the dining hall. But most of all and regardless of Notre Dame's quirks — parietals, the overwhelming course load, the fake ribs in the dining hall and the harsh winters — I learned that Notre Dame is unique, and that there is no place else I would rather

The Scholastic Interview



Whom do you admire most?

I suppose I admire people in different categories: Intellectually, Thomas Aquinas, of course. Among writers, probably Trollope, not least because he was so diligent and productive a writer, while always conveying so much more than a good story. To say that one admires Dante seems presumptuous, but then so does saying that one admires Saint Thomas.

I would like Notre Dame to be more ...

Notre Dame; that is, confident in its own traditions and criteria for excellence.

Of what contribution to the Notre Dame community are you most proud?

It is what Notre Dame has done for me that induces something like pride — the Michael P. Grace professorship, being director of the Maritain Center for over a quarter of a century, receiving the faculty award ...

What would make your job easier?

Job? If you like what you do, it's not a job. If I didn't like what I do, I would be vegetating in Florida.

What is your greatest regret?

As for regrets, those are between me and my confessor.

RALPH McINERNY

Ralph McInerny is in his 50th year as a professor of philosophy at Notre Dame. Additionally, he is the director of the Jacques Maritain Center and has been the Michael P. Grace Professor of Medieval Studies since 1978. He is the author of two dozen scholarly books, as well as over 50 novels, including the Father Dowling mystery series. He has lectured in over nine countries on three continents, and he was recently appointed to President George W. Bush's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

What is your favorite Notre Dame memory?

The first time I came along the walk toward O'Shaughnessy in August 1955 [as] the newest member of the philosophy department. And then there was the commencement Mass said on the quad by Father Hesburgh, the altar facing toward Notre Dame Avenue, [and], when looking out on that Avenue, he gave a little impromptu account of the first time he came down it onto campus. Very moving.

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

My greatest love was my wife, Connie, with whom I enjoyed nearly 50 years of marriage.

What was the inspiration for the Father Dowling mystery series?

Father Dowling? It's a long story. My agent suggested I try a mystery series featuring a priest. I did, and the series still goes on.

What would you like your legacy to be?

My legacy? I will borrow from Belloc: "When I am gone / may it be said, his sins were as scarlet / but his books were read."



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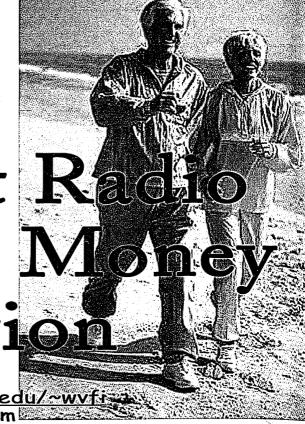






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