

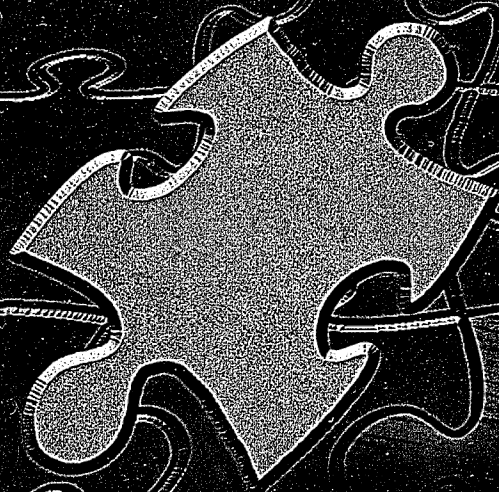
# SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

VOL 146

12

21 Apr 2005



## AN UNUNSOLVED PUZZLE

### FITTING IN, STANDING OUT

PUBLISHED SINCE 1867

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SCHMIEDEBUSCH

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# SCHOLASTIC

AN UNSOLVED PUZZLE

THE TWENTY-FIRST OF APRIL 2005



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# notes

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

### How inclusive is the Notre Dame family?

We've all been through the painstaking process on applications and official governmental documents:

"Please check the following as is applicable:

- ☐ White (non-Hispanic)
- ☐ Black (African-American)
- ☐ Cuban American
- ☐ Latin American
- ☐ Mexican American
- ☐ Chinese American
- ☐ Japanese American [...]"

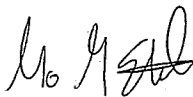
And so the categorizing lists go on and on and on. Too often, attempts to categorize individuals into larger, all-encompassing designatory groups create damaging and stigmatizing stereotypes. At the same time, for many minorities, their cultural heritage is an inextricable part of who they are as individuals. What these fill-in-the-blank documents neglect to recognize is that maintaining a distinct and strong cultural identity — in tandem with an individualized identity — is an essential facet of the lives of countless people. Unfortunately, the fill-in-the-blank mentality frequently translates over into everyday life, and minorities become awash in the misconceptions that society creates for them.

Although many alums, as well as members of the administration and the student body sing the praises of the "Notre Dame family," whose inclusivity fosters a welcoming spirit for all, regardless of an individual's degrees of difference, not all members of the campus community feel included. Racial tension remains a subtle though prevalent presence on campus, as particularly evidenced by the uproar created by the firing of Former Head Football Coach Tyrone Willingham. Despite concerted efforts by the administration, minority student groups and progressive students to combat racial issues that have surfaced, we still are asking the question, "Do minorities fit in at Notre Dame?"

Ameliorations must be made to Notre Dame's status quo, and it is up to each and every member of the student body to evince the necessary changes. Where do we go from here? The choice is up to you.

### See You Around

This will be *Scholastic's* last issue of the year, and we here in the basement of South Dining Hall hope you've enjoyed it. To all the graduating seniors: Good luck with your futures. Be the best that you can be, but more importantly, be the best you that you can be. And always remember, if you miss *Scholastic* a little too direly, you can always send in for a subscription. As for everyone else, enjoy your summer break away from the stress of school. *Scholastic* will see you in the fall.



Mo Ertel  
Editor in Chief

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# SCHOLASTIC

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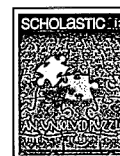
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# Congregation of Holy Cross



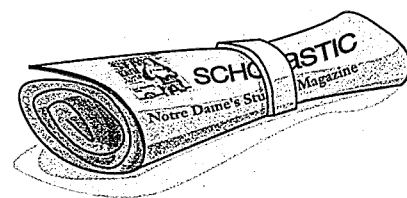
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ANSWER  
THE CALL





### Judgment Calls

Opinions and observations



#### DOUCHE ...

I mean Deutsche. We love golf ... and hygiene.



#### THAT MYSTERIOUS SMELL AROUND CAMPUS

It's probably mulch, but it doesn't matter. It's nasty.



#### ROOM PICKS

Watching dormmates turn into catty 7th-graders about a room is oddly fascinating. It's like a reality show, yet even more petty.



#### "SIN CITY"

Brittany Murphy is supposed to look strung-out and dirty. Oh, wait, she already does.



#### HALF-NAKED SUNBATHING

The palest campus in the nation attempts to fry some melanin back to the surface.

## STAFF EDITORIAL Calling It Quits at Halftime

Some student athletes neglect half of their obligations

SCHOLASTIC EXECUTIVE STAFF

**ath·lete** (ath'let') *n.* a person trained in exercises, games or contests requiring physical strength, skill, stamina, speed, etc.

The definition of athlete, unfortunately, does not include any details about sociology, economics or biology. It makes no reference to attending classes, studying for exams or writing research papers. These, however, are the expectations of every student at this university, regardless of their extracurriculars. So why does the sign over the gate of the Joyce Center read "athletes only"? Are athletes a special breed of students who are released from their academic obligations? Shouldn't the sign read "student athletes only"? Some certainly treat their quasi-celebrity status as a "get-out-of-school-free" card.

For instance, senior Chris Thomas trivialized the importance of classes last Wednesday, April 13, at the men's basketball banquet. According to a campus publication, Thomas bragged about taking only five credit hours and using his subsequent free time for late-night endeavors.

While we hope Thomas was joking, the academic apathy of some student athletes is not a laughing matter. For some of Notre Dame's fittest, bar hopping is a nightly ritual, as routine as homework or classes to other students. Student athletes flex their social muscle at these bars and clubs, often getting their drinks on the house. How hyped are these student-athletes?

Meanwhile, the university reinforces these notions of Notre Dame fame. Why are student athletes given the best registration times? The university claims that this ensures that their classes will not coincide with their practice schedules. But other students have time constraints due to their activities. They, however, are not given the same leeway with the registration process. Should not the student body president, arguably one of the busiest students on campus, be extended this same privilege? Additionally, student athletes are not only informed of the best classes, but also are automatically placed into them.

One thing that was overlooked in the media onslaught following Tyrone Willingham's dismissal was his reinforcement of the team's academic integrity. Despite his lackluster results on the field, Willingham emphasized the importance of education and a well-rounded student athlete. After the Willingham firing, Bob Davie, ESPN analyst and former Notre Dame football head coach, said, "We have got to give these kids a chance to graduate."

Despite Davie's doubts, many Notre Dame student athletes do excel in both fields. Consider Mary Boland, a senior on the women's soccer team who led the Irish to a national championship while earning a 3.90 GPA in psychology. Former Notre Dame defenseman T.J. Mathieson earned a 3.835 GPA in aerospace engineering while playing hockey for the Irish as well guitar in a country band. Some student athletes even manage two majors, such as junior guard Megan Duffy, who balances psychology and computer applications with basketball.

While academic apathy tends to afflict a few of Notre Dame's student athletes, there are many who are striving toward excellence every day in the classroom and on the playing field. This is certainly not a call for major renovations to the athletic department. Ignoring that a problem exists, however, is just as misguided; so perhaps changing the sign in the JACC would be a step in the right direction. □

# With Honors

Enriching Notre Dame's best and brightest

CURTIS LEIGHTON

In the past five years, many majors within the College of Arts and Letters have created honors programs. These departmental honors tracks establish a concentration within a certain field, and, unlike the Arts and Letters and Science Honors Program, students can apply to the departmental programs at any time during the course of their four years of study. According to Mark Roche, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, the programs emphasize student-centered learning: "The more active students are in the learning process, the more likely they are to learn well," Roche says.

Induction into the honors track depends upon a departmental selection process. After a receiving an invitation to the program or soliciting an application, the department assesses the student's academic history and previous academic experiences. Accepted students are required to complete a "capstone project" — a 40 to 80 page thesis paper — under the direction of a faculty advisor. Junior Eileen Varga, an English honors student, believes the thesis allows students to do the kind of in-depth investigation that is usually not offered to undergraduates. "Even if you aren't considering applying to grad school, I think the completion of a thesis can show

any prospective employers that you're capable of sustained, high-level work," Varga says. The requirements for these honors programs vary slightly according to the field, but they often include taking one graduate-level course or attending supplemental lectures and readings. The advanced classes are a valuable chance to get a glimpse at post-graduate studies.

The honors programs are especially valuable for students considering graduate studies. Many graduate schools require a long writing sample of their applicants, and honors students often submit their thesis as an advanced, specific sample of their academic prowess. Roche, however, emphasizes that, "the programs serve the purpose not only of sending more students on to graduate study, but also ensuring that our students have the best possible learning experience."

Not all departments in the College of Arts and Letters offer honors programs. The philosophy department was the first to establish an honors track about 15 years ago. Currently, american studies, English, history, philosophy, political science, psychology and the Romance and Russian & German language and literature departments have honors tracks. Classics and theology have recently approved programs. Most departmental honors programs began in the last five years. The College of Arts and Letters eventually hopes to offer an honors track in every department for students willing to pursue the heavier course load and senior thesis.

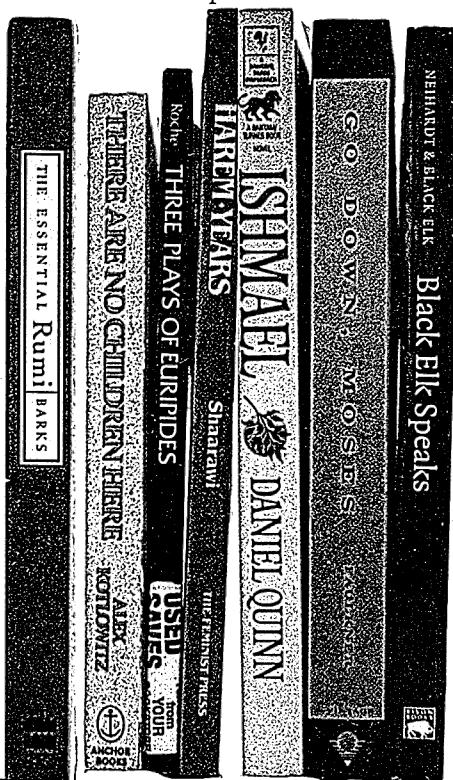
The number of students in departmental honors programs is growing with history and political science among the majors that graduate the largest numbers of honors students. In 2004, 20 seniors graduated from the history honors program, compared to eight the previous year.

The College of Arts and Letters recommends that students interested in the honors track apply during the second semester of junior year. By this time, most students have taken enough classes in their major to pursue a specific thesis topic. □



Things to do before the end of the year

- 5. Finish that paper you got an extension on.**  
Don't let "eventually" turn into "never."
- 4. Power shower ... a lot.**  
Do it now, because you parents aren't going to stand for beer cans in the bathroom.
- 3. Steal dishes and silverware from the dining halls.**  
Better stock up for summer, especially if you are in search of an apartment.
- 2. Use all \$100 of your printing quota.**  
If you still have all of it, print 1,000 blank documents and take off with the paper.
- 1. Climb the scaffolding.**  
When else are you going to get a chance to chill with Mary atop the Dome? But watch out for those pesky security guards. (For best results, attempt after completing No. 4)



# Strength and Support

## Wabruda bands together as brothers

AMY MEYERS

In 2000, David Moss, Ph.D., the assistant vice president for student affairs, was very disappointed with one specific aspect of the Notre Dame community. Moss noticed that, while some black men served as leaders for athletic teams, very few held leadership positions in more mainstream student activities. He doubted that this shortage of black male leadership came from a lack of competency; instead, he came to the conclusion that these students were not applying for leadership positions because they did not "automatically feel welcome" to participate.

To combat the problem, Moss started a new organization for black men on campus, calling it "Wabruda," which is Swahili for brothers. Wabruda began as a support group, where four members met in Moss' office once a week to share stories and build relationships. Now, the organization boasts about 25 active members and works to provide service and leadership opportunities for these young men. The group's activities range from a professional workshop with the Career Center to the Karamu dinner date to the Busara Roadtrip with their female counterpart group, Shades of Ebony. One of the activities that Moss and the members are most proud of is their recent "Black History Brain Ball" with South Bend elementary students. Also, on the first of every month, each member dresses up in shirt and tie to publicize the club and to show his fellow students that he, too, belongs in a professional world.

While the organization hopes

to continue its concentration on professional development and its new signature events, Wabruda President Ceshino Brooks-Devita emphasizes that the club is "a support network" for its members, who are in the minority on Notre Dame's predominantly white campus. The group still meets every Sunday in Moss' office in the Main Building, and after reciting the group's motto and praying, the members discuss a variety of such topics as race and gender relations, current events, potential internships and jobs and personal experiences. Whenever a club member sees another club member around campus, he bends his arms across his chest to form an "X," a symbol of brotherhood and unity.

"Every student needs to find his or her place in the Notre Dame fabric, and meeting once a week to just chill can be as important as professional development," Moss says.

One issue that is of particular importance on the Notre Dame campus is the assumption that all black male students are athletes, specifically football players.

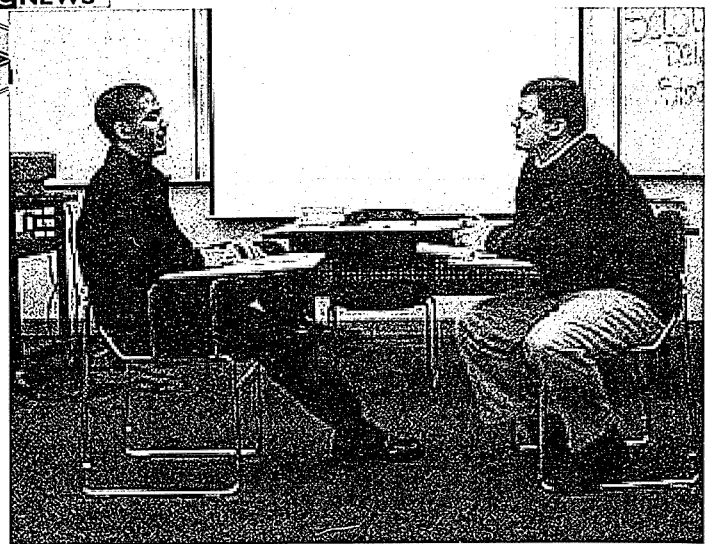
"We have a member of our group with a 3.8 GPA, and he still is assumed to be an athlete," Moss says.

Freshman club member William-David Williams emphasized that "the stereotype wouldn't really be a bad thing without the assumption that athletes aren't smart." As a recent walk-on to the football team, Williams can attest to the intelligence of Notre Dame's football players. While he does love being a part of Notre Dame's oldest tradition, he is a "scholar first." Williams is not the only athlete in Wabruda, but because of their busy schedules, only a few other athletes participate in the group's activities. Still, the Wabruda membership has

grown to include Darrell Scott, the current senior class president.

On the Notre Dame campus, the assumption that "black" is synonymous with "athlete" seems to immediately apply to male students, while female students more frequently escape such labeling. Because of the unfortunate stigma of substandard intelligence that is typically directed only toward male Notre Dame athletes, as well as other issues that apply only to Notre Dame men, Moss says that the organization will continue to accept only males as members. However, the group is far from exclusionary. Wabruda often collaborates with the all-female Shades of Ebony organization. Also, each Wabruda member brings a female date to the Karamu dinner date, and at the dinner the members and their guests discuss gender roles and issues, especially regarding dating. Moss, Brooks-Devita and Williams all remarked that non-club members are not only allowed, but encouraged to attend many of their events. Williams, in particular, noted that "there is not enough interaction [between different races] on the Notre Dame campus."

The organization hopes to expand its membership through word-of-mouth and tables at Club Activities Night and continues to promote leadership roles and act as a support group for black men at Notre Dame. Wabruda members hope this increased visibility will allow them to strengthen the image of black men at Notre Dame. □



A WABRUDA MEMBER practices his interviewing skills with a member of the Notre Dame Career Center at the club's professional development workshop.

PHOTO FROM HTTP://WWW.IND.EDU/~WABRUDA/PROF.%20DEV/INDEX.HTM

I am my brother's keeper.....

And together we will rise.

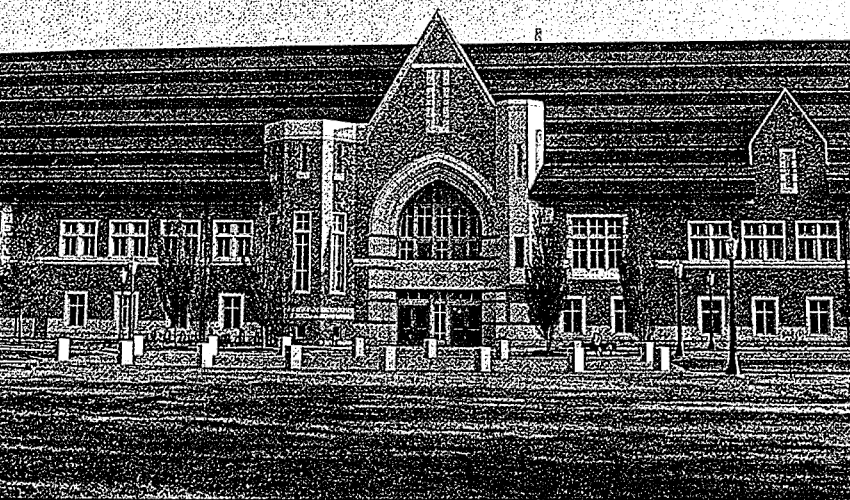
The Wabruda club t-shirt displays the club's motto and a symbol of unity.



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# Fighting For Words

The ongoing battle at Vincennes

DARICSNYDER

For many American students, the full implications of the First Amendment escape them. In a recent study funded by the John S. and James L. Knight foundation, three out of every four high school students stated they took the amendment, which protects the freedoms of speech, religion and press, for granted. In addition, only half of the students surveyed felt newspapers should be allowed to print without government approval. One of three felt the rights covered by the first amendment go "too far." Yet, what happens when these rights are infringed upon? Students at Vincennes University found just this out.

*The Trailblazer* is the student newspaper at Vincennes University, a small public school in southwestern Indiana. According to Fred Walker, Jr., professor emeritus of journalism at Vincennes and founding director of *The Trailblazer*, the paper is produced in a classroom environment through the university's journalism program. The publication is funded primarily through student activities funds, though it receives small amounts directly from the university and through advertisements. Walker founded *The Trailblazer* in 1964 and directed the newspaper through 1992. During Walker's time with the publication and in the years that followed, *The Trailblazer* printed regularly without much trouble. "We were hardly interfered with," Walker says. "People were sometimes unhappy with what we'd do, but nothing ever happened." In recent months, however, *The Trailblazer* has faced the most pressure that it has seen in Walker's many years with the publication.

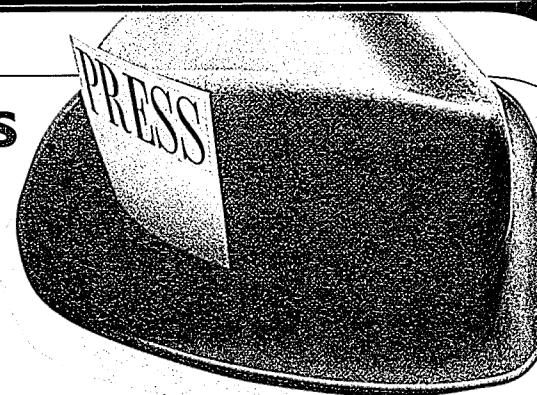
Several years after Walker stepped down as director of *The Trailblazer*, Michael Mullen, a tenured professor of English at Vincennes, became the publication's advisor, as well as the chair of the journalism department. Mullen granted his journalism students as much freedom as possible in producing *The Trailblazer*. The publication printed several controversial reports, investigating the low enrollment of the school and questioning the qualifications of the university's interim president. Walker, the former advisor, praised such stories, arguing the paper had no responsibility in "cheerleading for the university." The

publication also started producing an April Fools' issue that lampooned the university and various aspects of student life. The 2003 April Fools' edition, which jokingly mentioned a Christian group on campus throwing a keg party and also poked fun at other campus institutions, upset leaders of the student body. Around 1,700 copies of the paper were stolen from distribution locations around the campus, and the Student Senate of the university began threatening to cut funding for the paper.

The publication faced heat from the school's administration as well. The editors of the paper, along with Mullen, were called into a meeting with Mary Trimbo — the Dean of Humanities at Vincennes — and warned about their recent incendiary stories. The following day, a memo from Trimbo commanded that *The Trailblazer* not produce another April Fools' edition the next year. Throughout the following year, the newspaper continued to receive threats of decreased funding.

In April of 2004, Mullen permitted students to produce another April Fools' edition of the paper, which proved to be the breaking point for those opposed to the paper. In May of 2004, Trimbo informed Mullen that he would be transferred back to the English department by the university and would no longer serve as advisor to the newspaper. The administration claimed the move was necessary to fill an empty position in the department during a time when budget cuts prevented hiring a new professor, but Mullen soon discovered he would not receive the pay increase that comes with this change in position. In addition, he found that there was no formal grievance process available to him; his only option was to go through Trimbo.

In September, Mullen filed a civil claim against the university in response to his transfer. The university failed to respond to Mullen's claim for reinstatement to his old position and reimbursement for his financial losses by the transfer. As such, Mullen filed a lawsuit in federal court on February 2, 2005. Mullen's lawyers argue that the transfer violated his First Amendment rights of free speech and his 14th Amendment right to due process. Mullen's cause is supported by former and current staff of *The Trailblazer*, as well



as the new advisor to the publication. Beyond Vincennes, others are standing in support of Mullen and *The Trailblazer*.

"The transfer is more than suspicious," Dr. David Sumner says. "It looks like he was removed based on the issues with the paper." Sumner serves as Executive Director for the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA), an organization of over 40 college publications at 25 schools in Indiana (including *Scholastic*). Mullen also serves on the board for the organization.

"One of the major goals of the ICPA is to foster a free press and free speech in our schools," Sumner says. "The Vincennes situation is troubling, and we're doing what we can to support *The Trailblazer*." In January of 2005, ICPA sent a letter, published in the *Indianapolis Star*, calling for Mullen's reinstatement and a thorough investigation of the newspaper thefts. The organization also wrote directly to Trimbo in May 2004 in the wake of the transfer, asking her to reevaluate the situation. ICPA never received a response.

Even with Mullen's current transfer away from the journalism department, *The Trailblazer* has faced further trials. After the 2004 April Fools' edition, the Student Senate followed through with its long-standing threats of budget cuts. A \$6,000 reduction in the publication's budget hobbled the paper. Students with *The Trailblazer* claim the pressures to avoid controversial stories remain, and with newspaper thefts still unsolved, the potential for further vandalism is high.

Supporters and staff of *The Trailblazer* hope that success in the Mullen lawsuit and public awareness of the situation will aid their cause. "The administration needs to absolve itself from its sins," Walker says. "The press just shouldn't be interfered with." □

ARIANNE J. WATKINS

# A Day in the Life

Solely listing the activities that I engage in every week from Monday through Thursday does not provide an adequate description of what college can



really be like for me. I am a black woman on Notre Dame's campus, and because of this, my life is drastically different from that of most Notre Dame students. As a multicultural student, my opinions and experiences relating primarily to issues of racial or ethnic diversity at Notre Dame are as unique as I am: This is my "minority experience" under the Dome.

It seems that the reaction of most students to the status of multiculturalism on campus can be categorized in three ways. There are some Notre Dame students that are upset because they feel that the level of racial and ethnic diversity is lower than what they had hoped for when they signed their commitment to the university. There are other students who see Notre Dame as being *more* racially and ethnically diverse than what they had experienced in their home communities. The third group believes racial diversity here is "satisfactory," and they also might believe that there is no "racial problem" here. I occupy a category all my own, since I knew Notre Dame was predominantly white, and this is one of the main reasons I am here.

When I was looking for a college four years ago, I specifically chose not to go to a predominantly black university, as I knew that the world I would be entering into after college would not be mostly black. I realized that I should step further out of my comfort zone and continue to learn both about other cultures and about myself. Each individual person views racial issues through a different lens of experience, but on some level, most people realize that race and ethnicity still shape our culture. We do not live in a colorblind society; we still are asked to check boxes designating our ethnic heritage on applications. There still are shows, movies and commercials targeted to the "fill-in-the-blank" community. To think that Notre Dame would have escaped this phenomenon is naive at best. I would say that in America — and specifically at Notre Dame — the discussion of race and ethnicity is a discussion about

racial tension. I say this not just because the minority population of Notre Dame fails to reflect that of the country. Rather, I mention it because inclusion does not necessarily mean acceptance, and I think that establishing a larger minority student population would be only the first step in addressing the goal of true racial and ethnic diversity at Notre Dame.

Notre Dame has "race issues," and I am not just speaking of the fact that it is mostly white. I am speaking about the fact that there is minimal inclusion of minorities in positions of prestige or power. I am speaking about the fact that there are few female and minority professors, and even fewer are tenured. I recently took a class centered on examining the contributions, challenges and experiences of women of color in the United States. It would have made sense to have a woman of color leading the class; this, however, was not the case. I am speaking about the fact that when I look at the staff photographs hanging in many dorms, it is usually the case that white rectors, resident assistants and assistant rectors stare back at me. At the same time, the cleaning staff consists of mostly black and Latino faces. I am speaking about the fact that I have attended exactly one Mass presided by a black priest. Yes, I have learned much from many of the white priests, rectors and professors on campus; but I feel that if Notre Dame truly wants to strive toward real racial diversity — and not just token racial diversity — then it must include minorities in the many arenas where they are currently denied access. It might be a bit easier to be the only black student in a class (as I usually am) if it did not seem like Notre Dame only supported my presence here because I improve its diversity rating in *The Princeton Review*.

However, the campus' strained race relations are not entirely the fault of Notre Dame as an institution. Racial tension at Notre Dame has much to do with the interaction of our student body. I applaud the efforts of Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS), an office that sponsors and coordinates such cultural events as Blak Images, Asian Allure, Blak Koffeehouse, Fiestang and Latin Expressions. It is an all-too-often occurrence that these events draw a sea of minority faces. In many respects this is great, because it allows minority students to take pride in the various aspects of our cultures while

within the homogenous atmosphere of Notre Dame. Yet, it also would be great to see more white students wanting to experience our cultures with us. I often have found it difficult to get non-minority friends to attend cultural events on campus, and their usual excuse is that they might feel out of place being one of few whites in attendance. This feeling of being out of place is what minority students face every day when going to class. We all have unique cultures, and we should be able to share our particular heritage with everyone. Stepping out of your comfort zone is the only way to learn and have new experiences. Growth is an active process.

Misunderstanding, apprehension and apathy contribute to the race problem on campus, allowing racism to be expressed very covertly. Yes, there are many blatant forms of racism being expressed at Notre Dame; however, I think most of the racist incidents that occur are so subtle that they go largely unnoticed by the masses. When you are the target of racism, the story changes, and the racial tension on this campus becomes abundantly clear. I was standing with a group of white females when a white male approached us and introduced himself to every girl but me. On the other end of the spectrum is the "Mexican Party" a girl on my floor attended, for which she and her friends dressed up as their "favorite Mexican" (read: favorite stereotypical Mexican). This is racism, and it does occur here.

In many ways — and perhaps in more ways than not — minority students are just like white students, and as we sign off on loans or write those hefty tuition checks to Notre Dame, we want to feel just as much a part of the Notre Dame family as everyone else. The only means through which significant changes in race relations at Notre Dame can occur is through the collective and continual work of the university community. Personally, I am optimistic about the emergence of such groups as Sustained Dialogue. Additionally, I applaud *Scholastic* and Student Government — both of which support diversity initiatives — and I admire the tireless efforts of many other groups that are working toward the betterment of this university. We still have a long way to go, but if we work together, we will get there sooner. □



# Fitting In, Standing Out

Notre Dame is more ethnically diverse now than ever before; but do minority students feel at home under the Dome?

DAVE POELL

Three weeks ago, the University of Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions sent out its final acceptance and rejection letters to all applicants for the Class of 2009. As always, a select few of the applicants received congratulatory fat envelopes — 3,478 to be exact — while the majority of Domer-hopefuls were forced to cope with the ego-damaging blow of rejection or the cruel uncertainty of wallowing in waiting list limbo. The ratio of admitted students to those denied admission has remained fairly constant throughout the years. What has been changing for the university in more recent years, however, has been the rising number of acceptance letters mailed to those applicants who have been categorized as “historically disadvantaged,” a term used by universities nationwide to refer to racially diverse applicants. Now, more than ever, the Notre Dame student body is composed of mounting numbers of black, Asian-American, Latino and Native-American students.

## DRIVING TO DIVERSIFY

According to Dan Saracino, director of admissions for the university, “When we talk about affirmative action at Notre Dame, we act affirmatively; we act aggressively.” And Notre Dame's admission numbers echo this sentiment. For the past two years, Notre Dame's acceptance rate of minority students has remained at a constant 47 percent, with 956 admits from the Class of 2009 and 885 admits from the Class of 2008. Despite the growing number of minority students admitted to the university, however, a greater question remains. Do minority undergraduates feel as though they are an integral part of the mystical “Notre Dame Experience”? Or does the unique landscape of the campus — in which approximately 85 percent of undergraduate students are Catholic and 25 percent are the sons and daughters of Notre Dame alumni — result in sentiments of disenchantment, exclusion and frustration? The responses to these questions, while not uniform, do shed light on the unique nature of Notre Dame

minority undergraduates and reflect the university's efforts to provide all of its students with the opportunity to live and learn within an accepting community.

Throughout the course of the past 25 years, Notre Dame has attempted to transform itself from a bastion of privilege for white Catholics to an elite academic institution that recruits the best and the brightest students, regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status. This, however, has not always been the case. According to the Office of Institutional Research, the entering Class of 1980 was 92 percent Catholic, and minority students constituted a meager 4.9 percent of the

“What you see at Notre Dame, now more than ever, is true diversity.”

—Dan Saracino, director of undergraduate admissions

class. Throughout the '70s, '80s and '90s, the minority population of the incoming freshman class fluctuated yearly, peaking at 16.6 percent in 1994, only to fall back to 14.5 percent the following year.

Starting in 2000, however, the percentage of incoming minority undergraduates once again passed the 16-percent mark, and it remaining above this level ever since. Between 2002 and 2003, the university increased the number of admitted minority undergraduates from 320 to 419, which stands as Notre Dame's greatest one-year increase in the enrollment of minority students to date. However, according to Saracino, such strides would not have been possible without the concerted efforts of the Office of Admissions to actively recruit promising minority students.

Gil Martinez, the assistant director and diversity recruitment coordinator for the Office of Admissions, presides over these recruitment efforts. “We have a search list that we do in the early Spring and try to get our name out there to those [minority]

high school students who have achieved above a certain score on the PSAT [Preliminary SAT or National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test] and a certain self-recorded grade point average,” Martinez says. A staff of four minority student coordinators works with Martinez, and each student establishes personal contact with the students on the search list, answering any questions the student may have concerning application forms and deadlines. “I think the personal contact with students is a very key factor. We [...] shepherd them through the [application] process,” Martinez says.

The application process can be extremely lengthy, especially for those minority students whose socioeconomic status requires them to apply for financial aid. At times, ethnic diversity overlaps with socioeconomic diversity, as is cited in the 2003-2004 U.S. Census Bureau, which surveys household incomes nationwide. The average non-Hispanic white household income is \$47,800 per year, an amount exceeding that of the mean black household by \$18,200 and that of the mean Hispanic household by \$14,800. However, Saracino notes the increasing availability of need-based financial aid for Notre Dame students. According to *U.S. News and World Report* for the 2003-2004 academic year, 48 percent of Notre Dame students received need-based financial aid packages, the average amount of which totals \$23,412. “What you see at Notre Dame now more than ever before is true diversity. By that I mean socioeconomic diversity as well as ethnic diversity,” he says. Saracino feels that Notre Dame's commitment to need-based financial aid largely adds to its success in recruiting minority students. “We are telling the story of Notre Dame in other places of the U.S. and in the world than before. We're reaching communities that hadn't heard that Notre Dame was a possibility before,” Saracino says.

However, Iris Outlaw, the director of Multicultural Student Programs and Activities (MSPS), fears the stagnating percentage of minority students enroll-



ing at Notre Dame. The goal for the university's affirmative action program is to eventually have 25 percent of each class made up of historically underrepresented students. "We did a strategic plan for the division five years ago. That very first year they had 22 percent. This year is going on the third year of being around 22 percent," Outlaw says.

In perhaps the most substantial push to create a campus environment where qualified minority students comprise 25 percent of the student population, Notre Dame holds its annual Spring Visitation Weekend. Each year the university invites and accommodates a group of about 150 admitted minority students to campus, most of whose families typically would have been unable to make the trip due to financial concerns. "Our goal is not to sell you on Notre Dame if you shouldn't be here. Our goal is to help you learn about what Notre Dame is so you can make the right choice," Saracino says. Overall, Spring Visitation has been successful in its attempts to bring in the best minority applicants. "About 60 percent of this year's attendees will confirm with us," Martinez says.

Unfortunately, a student's happiness with Spring Visitation does not always translate to his or her overall satisfaction with Notre Dame's campus life. For Justin Gray, a black freshman from Atlanta, Ga., who attended last year's Spring Visitation, the transition from his predominantly black home community to a campus where less than five percent of the undergraduates are black has been trying. "I think partially that the Notre Dame experience is one that is built on the pre-Notre Dame experience," Gray says. He feels that the majority of students attending Notre Dame must make substantial transitions to acclimate to college life. However, for minority students who have grown up in communities that mirror their ethnic backgrounds, the experience is even more difficult, as they also must adjust to a mostly white campus community. Additionally, Gray feels that certain elements central to the average student's enjoyment of Notre Dame — dorm parties, football games and Catholic Mass — fail to satisfy those students who do not come from a traditionally white, Catholic, upper-middle class environment. "I don't think I'm getting a college experience," Gray

says. "I'm looking more for [an] outlet [that] I don't find [here]. At a school that is 85 percent Catholic Caucasian, I think a lot of the organizations on campus cater to those people in the majority. It's more socially depressing than anything else."

In the case of Nakya Reeves, a black freshman from Mableton, Ga., the image of diversity that the university tries to project during Spring Visitation does not accurately reflect the reality of the campus environment. Reeves is a member of a group known as "Spring Viz Tricked My Ass" on the popular college website [www.thefacebook.com](http://www.thefacebook.com). Reeves believes that the large number of minority-based activities during the weekend, in addition to the close contact that the prospects have with current minority students and minority alumni, contribute to a Spring Visitation attendee's misconception that the university is more diverse than it really is. "You see it as, 'There are way more minorities than I thought.' But when you come [to Notre Dame] you realize that some of those were alums, and that putting them all in the same room makes them seem more numerous," Reeves says. Administration officials, however, have listened to those students who

## Multicultural Events at ND:

**Voices of Faith:** This predominantly black gospel choir holds concerts at the end of fall and spring semesters that are sure to impress. The choir also performs at various dorm Masses throughout the year.

**Black Cultural Arts Council Fashion Show:** An annual fashion show which takes place during Spring Visitation. Diverse student models parody student life at Notre Dame with the aid of PowerPoint on a back screen. Projected AIM conversations work well to capture the essence of the unique social scene at ND.

**Blak Koffeehouse:** Sponsored by the Black Cultural Arts Council, Blak Koffeehouse is the signature event of Black History Month, taking place on Junior Parents Weekend. This year's theme, "A Taste of the Soul," strived to pay homage to the black artists of the Harlem Renaissance through poetry and song. Voices of Faith has performed at the event, as well as the singing quartet Mahogany Soul.

**Latin Expressions:** La Alianza organizes this exciting celebration of Latin-American culture complete with musical and dance performances, powerful poetry readings and entertaining stand-up comedy.

**Asian Allure:** The Asian-American Association presents this celebration of Asian-American culture and dance in conjunction with various multicultural clubs such as the Hawaii and Guam Club, Filipino-American Student Organization, the Japan Club, the Vietnamese Student Association, the Chinese Culture Society and the Asian International Society. The event includes performances of traditional dances like the Japanese samurai, Chinese ribbon dance and the hula. Troupe ND and the First-Class Steppers have also performed at Asian Allure.

**Blak Images:** The Black Cultural Arts Council hosts this annual talent show that includes poetry, singing, rapping and dance. Troupe ND and the First-Class Steppers also perform at this event.

**Fiestang:** The Filipino-American Student Organization sponsors this annual cultural celebration which originated in 1995. The event includes a catered meal of traditional Filipino cuisine and a presentation of cultural dances by members of FASO.

—Julie Hynes

share opinions similar to that of Reeves. This year, Spring Visitation commissioners tried to emphasize that the substantial exposure to individuals in Notre Dame's minority culture was not representative of what a student experiences on a regular basis.

### CREATING A NICHE

Although events like Spring Visitation have brought increasing numbers of minority students in recent years, statistically speaking, Notre Dame has had the most success in its recruitment of Latinos, who currently average between 10 and 12 percent of each incoming class. "[Latinos] typically tend to have that connection with their faith, and they see the community as their connection with the Catholic faith in a very visible, straightforward way," Martinez says.

JudeAnne Jasso-Murad is a freshman of Mexican heritage from Olathe, Kan., and has established a deep connection with activities that bring out both her Latino heritage and her strong Catholic faith. "My parents and relatives are thrilled and very proud to see that I am embracing my cultural heritage at college," Jasso-Murad says. She currently participates in the Latino dance group, Ballet Folklorico, and is a member of the student group La Alianza, which provides students with an outlet to celebrate their Latino culture.

For sophomore Johanna Sioson, a native of Orange County, Calif. and the president of the Filipino-American Student Organization (FASO), the transition to Notre Dame proved to be one of relative ease. "My freshman year I was with a lot of girls who were all very supportive of everything I did. For other people on campus, the adjustment was really hard, and [some non-minority students] really didn't know where [the minority students] were coming from," Sioson says. Being a resident of a highly diverse area, Sioson notes that she did not think of herself as a minority until arriving at campus. "Once I got here, I realized that I'm a minority and that this place takes a lot of changing and a lot of getting used to," she says.

Junior Lakota Mowrer, whose family

is of the Cheyenne River Sioux tribe and lives on a reservation in South Dakota, is one of the few Native-American students at Notre Dame. Despite the fact that Native-Americans make up less than one percent of the student population, Mowrer feels that Notre Dame has much to offer her. The biggest attractions for Mowrer turned out to be Notre Dame's Catholic affiliation and the university's strong sense of community. "I knew that Notre Dame was a Catholic school. Also, I come from a small town and enjoy community life, and that's what Notre Dame is known for," Mowrer says. Upon arriving at Notre Dame, however, Mowrer discovered the difficulties inher-

strong friendship base of predominantly white males. "For me, playing sports on the quad with the guys was the best way to overcome any anxiety I had about being an international student. You can communicate with others through sports," Keita adds.

### THE DIFFICULTY OF DIFFERENCE

Testimony from both students and administrators demonstrates that black students frequently experience perhaps the greatest difficulty adapting to Notre Dame, especially in the wake of recent debates over affirmative action. "Unfortunately, if you're black, everybody knows

you're black, and they can just pigeon-hole you and basically say, 'You got in because of your color,'" Saracino says. Sophomore Krystal

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"Once I got here, I realized that I'm a minority and that this place takes a lot of changing and a lot of getting used to."

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-Sophomore Johanna Sioson

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ent in attempting to identify with other Native-Americans. "Native-Americans are different from other minorities because we are separate tribes, and each tribe is almost like a separate ethnicity. I didn't really find any solace with the Native-American community here on campus, and that's mainly why I've been as outspoken as I have been as a Native-American on campus." Just this past year, Martinez's office designated Mowrer as the first coordinator for recruiting Native-American students.

### ACCLIMATING ON ONE'S OWN

Not all students who are ethnic minorities feel compelled to join an ethnic organization to feel comfortable at Notre Dame. Sophomore Keita Miyamura, an international student from Osaka, Japan, attended high school in Portland, Ore. prior to his enrollment at Notre Dame in the summer of 2003. "The fact that I lived with an American host family for a year helped me adapt to the Notre Dame culture in terms of living in the dorms, because I had four host brothers and sisters who are around my age. Also, I know how the school life goes," Keita says. A resident of Alumni Hall, Keita has embraced the residence life culture that is so central to Notre Dame, and he has a

Hardy is a black sophomore from Selma, Ala., and says that she constantly feels the pressure of being a black student within such a homogenously white campus environment. "I know that I have to work extra hard. Every time I say something in class, I feel like it has to be well supported," Hardy says. She adds, "When I present myself in public, I have to dress well and carry myself in a way that won't enforce stereotypes that others might have about me."

For many black students, the all-hallowed Notre Dame experience eludes them. Gray finds it difficult to conform to certain Notre Dame traditions, specifically that of dressing up as the typical, green-clad, Fightin' Irish-obsessed football fan. "Coming from the South, I was brought up in the football tradition of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, which is much different from what you get here," Gray says. Hardy agrees: "I think that I have the Notre Dame experience most of all academically," she says. "In terms of football games, football tradition, Irish Catholic and things like that, I don't relate to it because I'm from a whole different background," she adds. In addition to being racially and ethnically diverse, black students at Notre Dame often are religiously diverse, as many blacks

in the student body are Protestant. Hardy feels that many black students' religious diversity increases their feelings of disconnectedness at Notre Dame. "I think that [being from a diverse background] does give you a different Notre Dame experience, because [my experience is not] defined by dorm experience and by Masses, and [I] just don't feel the same thing."

As a result, black students such as Hardy and Gray embrace their relationships with members of their own race and view cultural organizations and support groups as essential outlets for expression. "I would definitely say that branching out and participating in multicultural clubs and organizations on campus make me feel most at home. If I didn't do that, I'd definitely feel very isolated and misunderstood," Hardy says. Both Hardy and Gray sing in the predominantly black gospel choir "Voices of Faith." In addition to various creative outlets for expression, black men and women each have their own support clubs, known as Wabruda and Shades of Ebony, respectively (*for more on Wabruda see Amy Meyers's story on page 6*).

David Moss, Ph.D. is the assistant director for student affairs and the faculty coordinator of Wabruda. As an administrator who primarily handles black students' issues on campus, Moss echoes several of the sentiments offered by Hardy and Gray. "I've talked to a number of individuals who look at Notre Dame as an entity to be survived rather than enjoyed. They understand the work of the alumni connections and all the things that will happen as a result of having a Notre Dame diploma, but the actual experience itself doesn't reach the same level of euphoria that, say, a white middle-class white student might have on campus," Moss says. He believes that minority students first need to feel a sense of community within their own ethnic group before they are able to feel comfortable within the larger Notre Dame

community. "From my experience, when a student buys into an ethnic group, that becomes a platform from which they can then venture off into other areas of involvement on campus," Moss says. Chandra Johnson, assistant director of Cross-Cultural Ministry, firmly agrees with this approach. "Involvement with a cultural group builds a sense of ethnic pride and cultural pride. It strengthens the entire sense of community," Johnson adds. Current senior class president Darrell Scott, who is black and also a member of Wabruda, can attest to the accuracy



**CULTURAL DANCES FROM THE EAST** Asian Allure 2004.

of both statements. As a freshman, Scott walked on to the track team and believes that this experience prepared him for life at Notre Dame. "I think it's essential that you feel that you're a part of Notre

"I've talked to a number of individuals who look at Notre Dame as an entity to be survived rather than enjoyed."

-David Moss, Ph.D., assistant director of student affairs

Dame in order to like Notre Dame," Scott adds.

#### BRIDGING THE GAP

As the director of MSPS, Iris Outlaw attributes the controversial nature of the campus debate on diversity to the makeup of the student body. "A great deal of our students are homogeneous in their experiences, and I think that consequently that leads to them thinking that everything is fine, so why change anything if it's not

broken?" Outlaw says. Outlaw comments that, in several instances, she has seen this attitude transformed by a student's experience while studying abroad. "Even the students who are most limited, once they go abroad and come back, it's like the world has been opened up to them," she says.

Since her arrival at Notre Dame in 1991, Outlaw has witnessed what she calls a "paradigm shift" in the attitude of majority students, and she credits the student body as a whole for being more involved in multicultural initiatives. "Be-

fore this decade, you might have had a student body president who was indifferent about the subject. But they weren't the ones that were really pushing the diversity issue and wanting to make a change," Outlaw says.

The push for diversity awareness on campus comes from a collaborative effort between student government, MSPS, Campus Ministry's

Cross-Cultural Ministry and a diversity-training program headed by Moss. Starting next year, student government will implement a Minority Affairs Committee to supplement the Diversity Committee, which primarily focuses on promoting tolerance on matters of race, class, religious affiliation and sexual orientation. Newly elected Student Body President David Baron thinks that the committee will be highly beneficial for the campus community. "We hope for the committee to be used as an active voice of the minority communities on matters such as minority recruitment, tenure of minority faculty and the creation of a diversity designation," Baron says.

Moss' diversity-training program involves a two-day presentation that is included in each student's mandatory contemporary topics course, which is part of the freshman physical education requirement. Each year, approximately 100 students apply for the position of diversity educator, whose job it is to speak to the contemporary topics classes on issues of diversity both nation- and campus-wide. From this pool, Moss selects a group of 35

diversity educators. Moss praises the work of the diversity educators, commenting, "It takes the issue of diversity out of the living room and places it into the classroom." Currently, Moss and students on the Campus Life Council are exploring new ways to give students more exposure to issues of diversity. "Right now it's leaning toward creating a series of courses in various departments that would meet a certain requirement, and then the student would have the option of taking that particular course," he says.

### BUMPS IN THE ROAD

Notre Dame has experienced a substantial amount of difficulty in its attempts to compare its multicultural progress to that of comparable universities, especially because of the university's non-urban location of South Bend. According to Outlaw, "Most of the schools that are Catholic via Jesuit or Roman Catholic are in urban settings. So even when we look at benchmarking ourselves, we look at schools like Vanderbilt, Duke, Georgetown and Dartmouth." While Notre Dame differs in many ways from these academic institutions, comparisons between Notre Dame and Dartmouth are beneficial in the sense that both institutions rank among the top 20 most selective universities in the *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Colleges." Additionally, both are located in non-urban areas; have endowments well within \$1 billion of one another (Dartmouth: \$2.45 billion for 2003; Notre Dame: just short of \$3 billion for 2003); and have been forced to coordinate sustained efforts to increase minority enrollment. Joe Cassidy, the assistant dean of student life at Dartmouth, previously served as the director of student activities for Notre



**EXPRESSYOURSELF** Students celebrate Filipino culture at Fiestang.

Dame from 1987-2000. "Within the past five years, both schools have made substantial strides in the area of minority recruitment," Cassidy says. Both Notre Dame and Dartmouth provide a venue in the spring to attract promising students from either historically or socially disadvantaged backgrounds. However, Dartmouth's numbers exceed those of Notre Dame; for the 2003-2004 academic year, 27 percent of Dartmouth's students were minorities. Additionally, Dartmouth's Office of Pluralism and Leadership has separate advisors to address the needs of minority students.

The drive to diversify that has consumed upper echelon schools like Dartmouth and Notre Dame in recent years has created bidding wars between universities for promising minority students. "If you look at institutions with the largest endowments, we're all putting more and more into financial aid, but this is making it harder to attract candidates. One school might make the student a better offer, and he or she will ask us, 'Can you sharpen your pencil a little for me?' And sometimes we just can't," Cassidy says.

Despite increasing levels of minority enrollment, Notre Dame currently finds itself facing a difficult problem. As is traditional, the university tries to balance its duty of maintaining a rich Roman Catholic identity while striving to reserve a quarter of each incoming

class for legacy students. Add this to the essential responsibility of maintaining a critical mass of minority students who are mostly first-generation Domers. In past years, statistics have proven the difficulties inherent in maintaining this delicate balance. To its chagrin, Notre Dame is one of only three universities ranked in the top 20 of the *U.S. News and World Report* that does not also rank among the top 100 most diverse schools (the other two schools being Washington University in St. Louis and Vanderbilt). However, it is the hope of the university that its Catholic tradition will enhance rather than hinder its ability to admit students from all backgrounds. Gil Martinez credits the Rev. Edward "Monk" Malloy, C.S.C., outgoing university president, with the basis for this concept. "In his particular administration, there was a focus where he felt that if we're really to be truly Catholic, one of the things we need is to do what we can to give all segments of society an opportunity to become educated and then to educate once they leave," Martinez says.

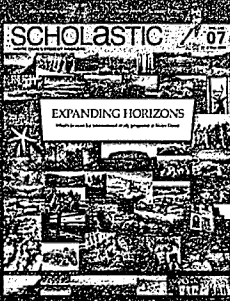
As a whole, the campus community is progressing with its goal of making the Notre Dame experience accessible to all those who wish to attend the university. Whether or not students choose to embrace that experience is ultimately up to them and will come from their desire to make Notre Dame their own. Otherwise, for several minority students the motto will be, as Moss puts it, "It's better to be *from* Notre Dame than to be *at* Notre Dame." □

### SINGING PRAISES ON HIGH

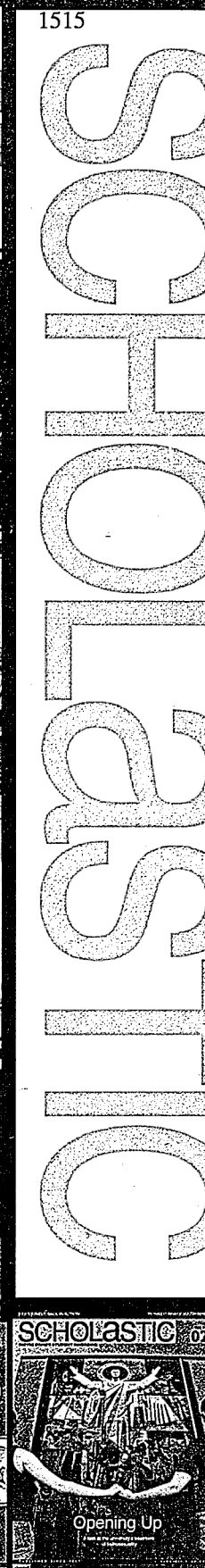
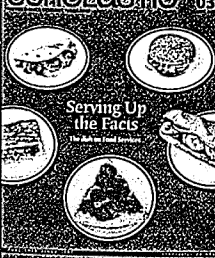
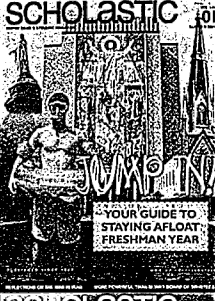
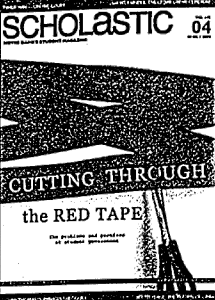
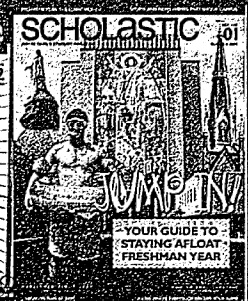
Voices of Faith Concert.







DEPRESSION



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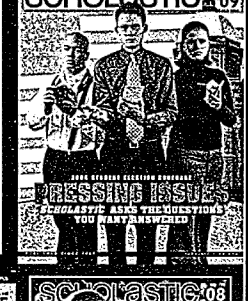
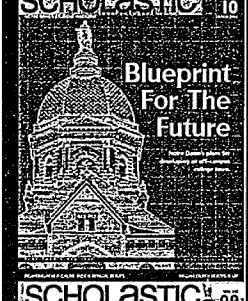
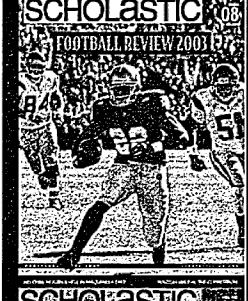
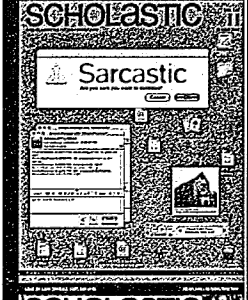
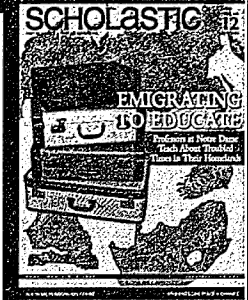
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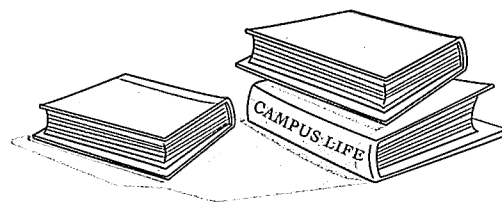


**Fair-weather Friends**

	Count	Percentage
1	10	10%
2	15	15%
3	20	20%
4	25	25%
5	30	30%
6	35	35%
7	40	40%
8	45	45%
9	50	50%
10	55	55%

# CAMPUS LIFE

WHAT'S GOING DOWN ON THE GROUNDS



## DomeLights

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### De-stress with the Best

With impending exams and the stress of finding a summer job, many Notre Dame students desperately crave a late-semester break. Luckily, Student Union Board's (SUB) AnTostal Festival, running from April 16-28, provides a much-needed respite from work. Supplying everything from Ken Jennings to carnivals to Cubs tickets, AnTostal is a procrastinator's dream. But remember, while you're chowing down at the Late Nite Grill, SUB is responsible for:

**760** bagels delivered to classes

**8** Big Wheels available for racing

**120** quarter dogs for the Quarter Dog Eating Contest

**4** plasma TVs used throughout the weekend

**1500** seats available for The Walkmen concert at Legends, a substantial upgrade from the previous capacity of 600



## Q & A

With Notre Dame's own late-night host



**Mike Peterson**

*His face has been posted on walls around campus. His voice has been broadcast across campus cable. His*

*name is Mike Peterson, host of NDtv's "The Mike Peterson Show," Notre Dame's only late-night variety show. Peterson, a sophomore staple of NDtv, started the show earlier in the year and has gone wild with idea, hosting the season-finale of the series in front of a live audience at Washington Hall. Scholastic got the chance to sit down with Peterson and talk show biz.*

### How long have you been working with NDtv?

I've been working since the beginning of freshman year, when I just signed up at activities night. I'm now a sophomore, so it's going on two years.

### Have you been treated any differently since you began hosting the show?

I've been recognized a couple of times,

[but] mostly just friends have come up to me, [shouting], "It's Mike Peterson from 'The Mike Peterson Show'!" But they already know me, so they're just kidding.

### What has been your favorite moment from the season?

My favorite moment was interviewing Sergeant Tim McCarthy. When we came up with the show last semester, we were sitting at a football game, and he came on. I love those ridiculous puns, and it's just so absurd, but it's so funny. I turned to my friend, and I said, "We have to get him; he's the guest we have to get." So then we finally got him for the season finale, which was just last Friday, [April 15], so that was pretty amazing.

### Who is your favorite late night host? Why?

Jon Stewart of "The Daily Show" is by far my favorite. Out of the four or five major guys on the networks, it's Conan [O'Brien]. I'm kind of into politics as well. I really like how [Stewart] points out the absurdities in all of politics, and he's just got this deadpan stare that he uses in response to things that, on a news show, will be treated as really serious and really important. They'll show the clip

of something and then it will cut back to him, and he'll have this deadpan stare. He completely brings out the absurdity and rips apart all these people on all sides of the political spectrum.

### Any big plans for next year?

Just more of the same. Hopefully bigger shows, more live shows; but other than that, just more of the same hilarity.

### What are you studying and how do you balance all the schoolwork and activities?

I'm an FTT and political science double major. It's definitely not easy. I guess I just don't sleep. It was pretty tight there for awhile.

### What else do you enjoy?

That's kind of an open-ended question. I'm doing what I love, I guess. I feel like I would be boring if I didn't come up with something else. I love Steelers football. I just love being here. I love being from Pittsburgh. But I'm doing what I love, so there's not much else that I need.

— Regina Gesicki

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# CAMPUS WATCH with the GIPPER

Welcome, Gippings, to this school year's final installment of "Campus Watch." But please, hold your applause — and your tears of painful separation — until the end ...

The mud from the annual *Scholastic* vs. *The Observer* April Fools' mud-slinging fest has long been slung, so the Gipp won't say much about it ... except for this one subtle observation ...



The discerning eye will catch some very slight similarities. Take, for example, the giant Adidas logo superimposed on our very own Golden Dome (pre-scaffolding, of course). The coincidence is truly baffling. For now, the Gipp will just go with the old adage: Imitation is the highest form of flattery ...

The Tipster of the Week Award is a no-brainer for this issue. Our loyal tipster of merit submitted a tale almost as boggling as the coincidence above ...

A couple Saturdays ago, "Albert" stumbled back to his dorm room a bit run-down and weary from some late-night festivities. Albert insisted to his friends that he was fine, but apparently his stomach disagreed in the form of what our tipster calls "digestive fireworks" (quite a Gipp-worthy image, I have to say). A passing RA overheard Albert's esophageal

eruptions and came in to have a little chat, but Albert kept insisting that everything was under control — all while calling the RA by *the wrong name*. Chalk it up to creativity, because Albert's imagination was in full effect. When one friend mentioned that someone in the room happened to be a reporter with *The Observer*, Albert was convinced a story was being written about him (it's not that bad, is it?) and demanded that he confiscate the nonexistent notepad. Albert's reality continued to flutter away as he grew alarmed, thinking he might have been intimate with another man that night. Still no word on if he actually had been, or if he is from Zahm, which would explain everything. Then, Albert's piece de resistance: Somehow, our hero became convinced, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that he had killed one of his friends with a machete. Albert could not be persuaded otherwise, and spent the night wondering how he acquired the weapon. To quote the man himself, "%&#\$! Where did I get a machete?!"

The Gipp noticed that the tipster never actually specified what left poor Albert, "less than sober," 'cause the Gipp has never seen a drunk kid do that. The Gipp is a little suspicious and asks that Albert and the tipster acquire more of this substance and bring it to him immediately for confiscation and inspection ...

Speaking of illicit activity, the Gipp hears that a woman involved in "commercial trading" at the library had to be subdued by four NDSP after being "rude and quite impolite" with the library staff. The Gipp kind of hopes that "commercial trading" is something exciting and dangerous, but he doubts it. According to the tipster, the woman fought with NDSP for a good 20 minutes, was tasered while being escorted off campus and was slapped with a "no trespassing" order. So, next time those mean "cool kids" ask you why you're in the library instead of partying it up, be sure to tell them that the ole 'brary has some pretty darn wild times as well. You animal ...

To wrap things up, the Gipp got several tips about the equally wild times at this semester's Sorin Society dinner, held for donors who give \$1,000 or more ...

Apparently buses were used to take the members between on-campus locations, including from the Basilica after a Mass to North Dining Hall. Yes, this is actually one of those rare times that it really takes longer to drive than to walk ...

The Gipp hears that the lovely ladies of Harmonia also performed a host of family friendly tunes, like "It's Raining Men," and high-culture hits, like "Livin' On A Prayer," for the esteemed donors. One of the tipsters who says he bought a copy of Bon Jovi's "Slippery When Wet" when it first came out on cassette (Don't worry, sir. I won't judge you.), described himself as being "delighted and appalled and confused all at the same time" upon hearing an old favorite. Here's a quandary: What did ND students do pre-Bon Jovi???

Another tipster informed the Gipp that fog created by dry ice for a production of "The Laramie Project" set off smoke detectors, sending the play's mostly student audience and the donors, who were being entertained simultaneously in the DPAC's concert hall, into the same frigid evening. Upon returning, the students were sure to help themselves to the modest treats set out for the donors, including a simple fair of bacon-wrapped scallops and lobster tempura. The Gipp hears the lobster received a four-star rating ...

Well, the Gipp's never been one for teary goodbyes, so, in honor of our new pope, he'll just say auf wiedersehen. For the underclassmen, we'll see you next year for another fun-and-exciting go-round. For the seniors, go out in the world and make the Gipp proud. Uncle Gipp can't wait to hear about the stupid stuff you do as *alumni*.

TIP THE GIPP. GIPPER@ND.EDU



# Concert With a Cause

Glee Club holds benefit concert to help one of their own battling cancer

CLAIRE SOBZCAK

University of Notre Dame

Glee Club

The men's swim team shaved their heads over two months ago for the Big East championships. Their hair must have grown back by now. But walking around campus, an unusually high number of bald-headed students is still noticeable. Contrary to popular opinion, the men's swim team is not the only group on campus that can be identified by their shaved heads. The Glee Club also has adopted this ritual of male bonding and solidarity. But unlike the swimmers who go bald for their sport, the Glee Club members all recently shaved their heads in honor of one of their own, Cole Barker.

Barker, a senior and dedicated Glee Club member, left school last November after he was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. Since then, Barker has spent six weeks at the Mayo Clinic undergoing experimental radiation therapy, and he is currently receiving chemotherapy treatment in Sioux City, S.D., near his home in western Iowa. Recognizing their inability to alleviate the strain of Barker's draining treatments and mounting hospital bills, the Glee Club officers wanted to find some way to help out their ailing friend. "Cole has been such a great friend to everyone in Glee Club. He is the kind of person who will go out of his way to make anyone welcome and comfortable. We knew we couldn't just sit around and

do nothing while he is battling cancer," former Glee Club president Paul Sifuentes says.

So the Glee Club took action, and on April 10, the men had their chance to honor Barker and his family through a special performance entitled "Brothers in Song: A Benefit Concert for Coleman J. Barker." When asked how the officers came up with the idea, Sifuentes says, "We have a gift in our music and our song, and we wanted to use these gifts to show Cole how much we appreciate him and that we will always support him. A benefit concert in his name seemed like the perfect idea."

Barker and his parents, Nancy and Randy, attended the event, which featured a medley of Barker's favorite songs as well as cameo speeches by cancer survivors Deb Patterson and Paul McDowell. Also among the speakers was Dan Patterson, Barker's supervisor at South Dining Hall and personal friend. Deb Patterson and McDowell reflected

on their experiences overcoming cancer, while Dan Patterson and Glee Club friends recounted stories of their favorite memories of him. Rudy Reyes, a graduate student and member of the Glee Club who helped organize the program, praised the performance, saying, "This event embodied the spirit that is Notre Dame. I am still touched by how much the community has embraced the Barker family and treated Cole as their own son."

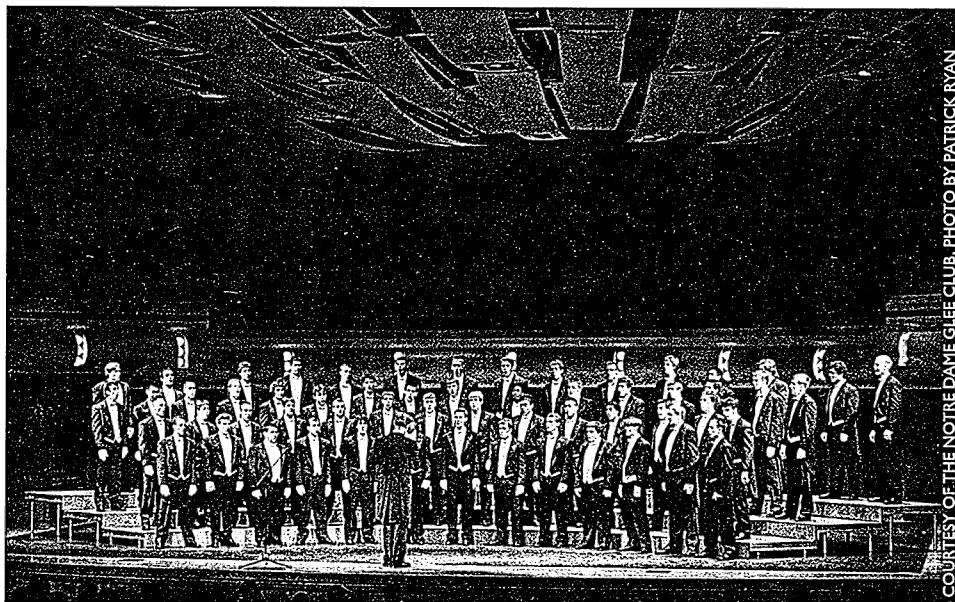
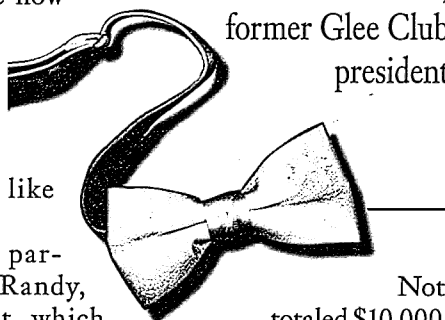
Over 560 people attended the concert at the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, and monetary contributions from dorms, families and other organizations around

Notre Dame and South Bend totaled \$10,000. A portion of the proceeds will be used to assist Barker's treatment, and the rest will be used to fund cancer awareness through the American Cancer Society. Barker spoke at the end of the concert, thanking his friends and family, cracking a few jokes, and conducting the Glee Club in "Notre Dame, Our Mother." The Glee Club members ended the production by giving Cole the bag of hair that they had shaved off. "At least now we can all be bald together," Sifuentes says.

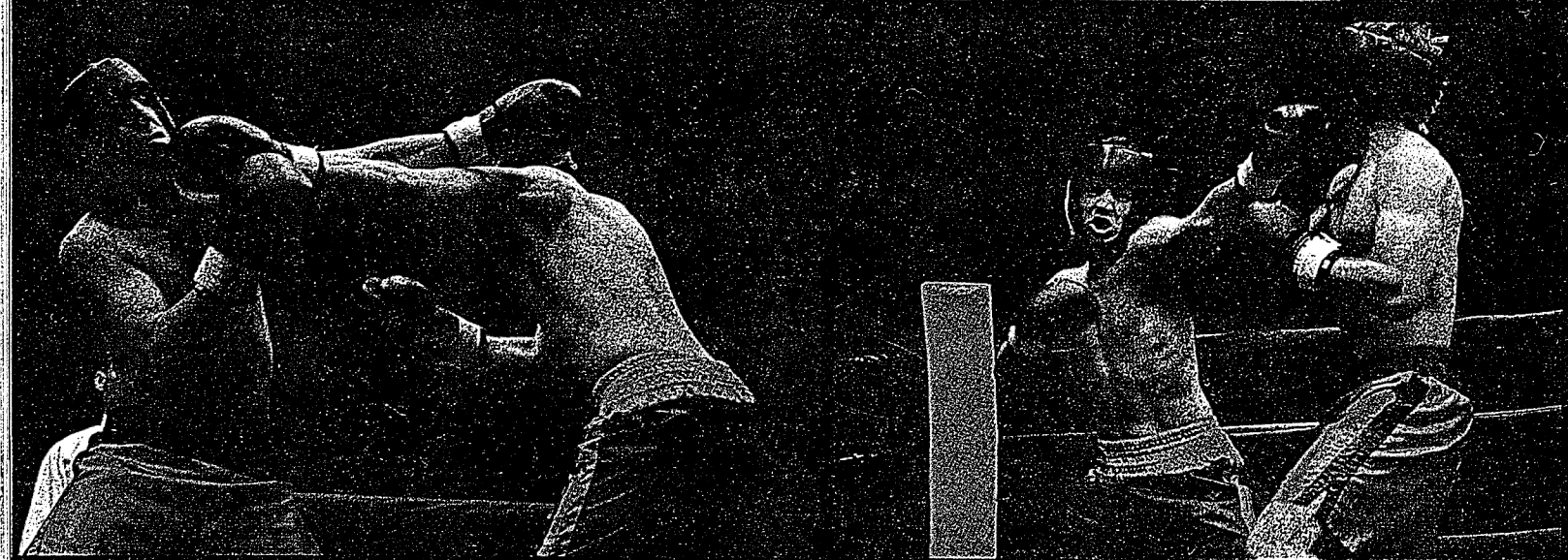
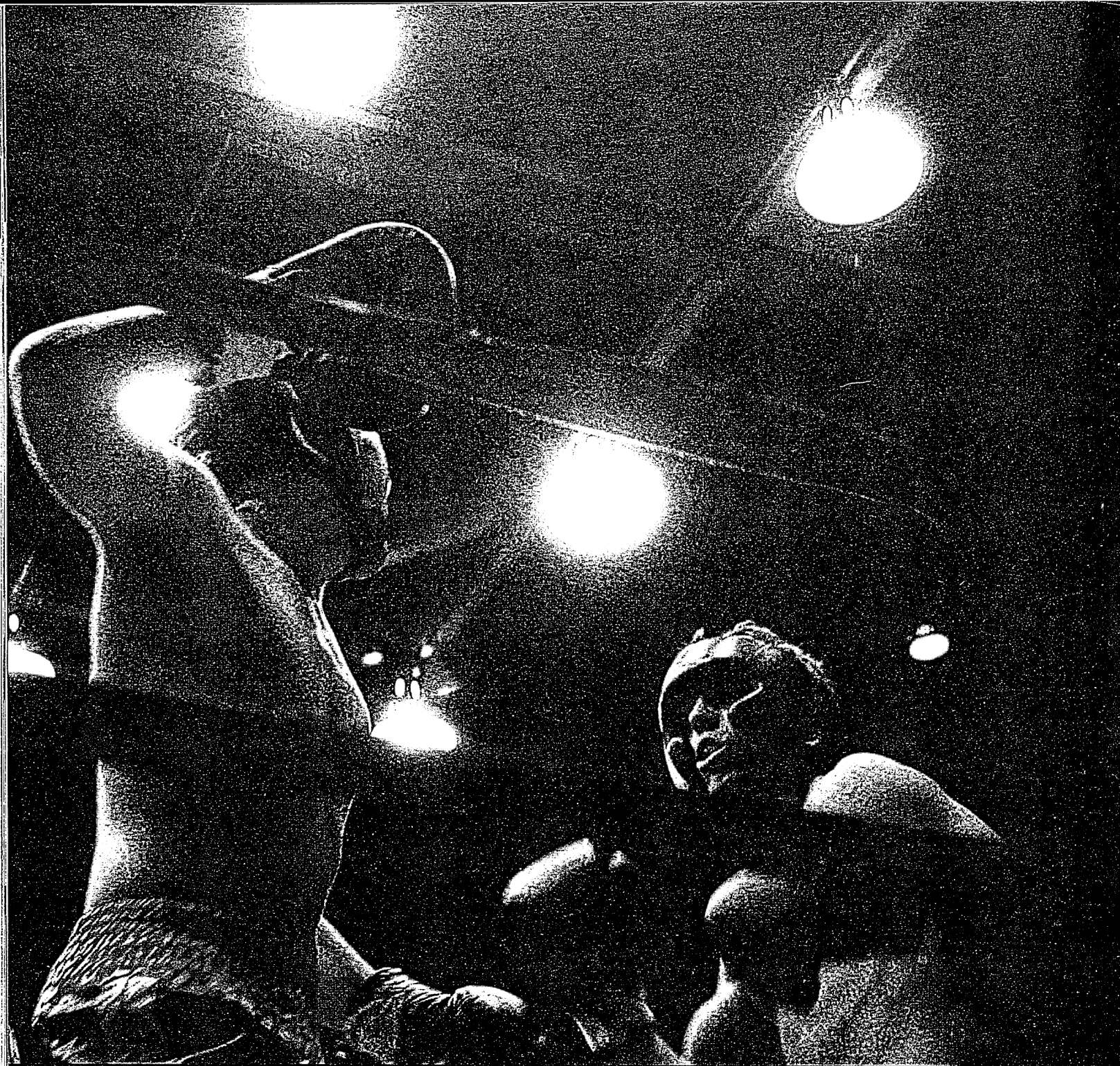
Barker is currently at home and will soon complete his first chemo treatment. He plans to return to Notre Dame next fall to complete his senior year. Until then, the Barker family will continue their support of their son, with all the help that friends will offer. "The entire Barker family has been amazing through this whole process," Reyes says. "It has been a joy to be affiliated with such optimistic and hopeful people as the Barkers. The benefit was incredible, and I am honored to have been a part of the experience." □

"We knew we couldn't just sit around and do nothing while he is battling cancer."

—Paul Sifuentes,  
former Glee Club  
president

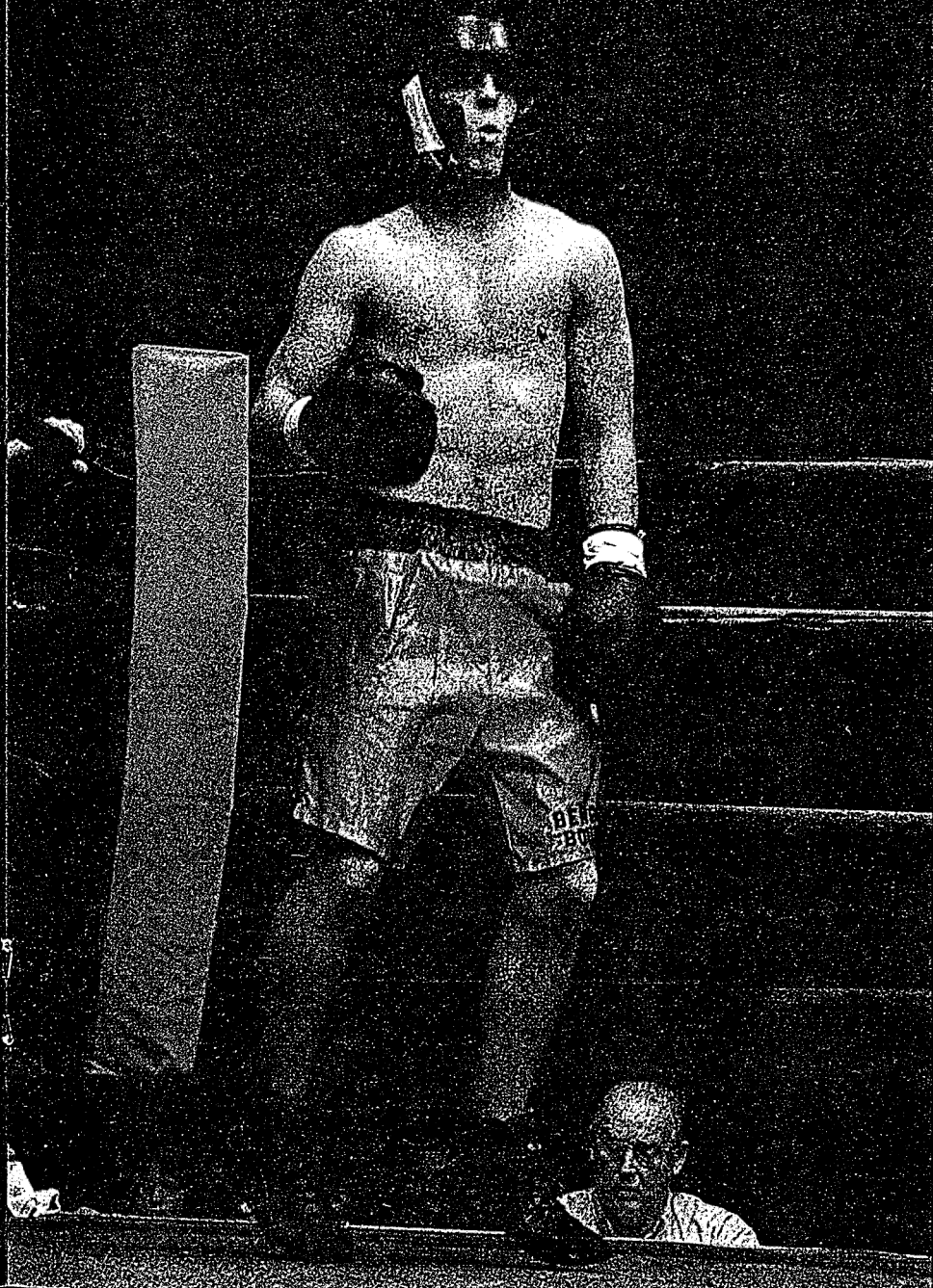


**HEALING THROUGH SONG** The Glee Club bands together to support Cole Barker.





# BENGAL BOUTS





# CRIBS

## Decorating with Diversity

Around the world in 361 ... Cavanaugh Hall

CLAIRE SOBCZAK  
SARAH BARRETT

Despite the apparent homogeneity of the student body as a whole, many Notre Dame students are working to overcome racial barriers. Although such organizations as the Black Cultural Arts Council and events like Latin Expressions give students the opportunity to express themselves and their heritages, three sophomores in Cavanaugh Hall chose a unique way of demonstrating pride in their cultural backgrounds. Roommates Monique Caron, Christina Munoz and Kelly So use their dorm room as a vibrant means of racial expression.

The girls of room 361 seized the chance to transform their happily situated triple, overlooking both North Quad and LaFortune, from a mundane dorm room

into a multicultural haven. Munoz, an Indiana native, takes pride in her Mexican heritage, saying, "My culture has affected who I am today and how I live my life." Caron, whose roots lie in Alberta, Canada, and So, a first-generation American from Hong Kong, also agree that their cultures greatly influence their lifestyles. Incorporating their respective backgrounds into their living space was the perfect opportunity for all three girls to demonstrate their cultural pride.

The room perfectly expresses the girls' personalities. Upon entering, visitors are overwhelmed by colorful hues and vibrant decorations. Silk Chinese pillows, paper lanterns, Mardi Gras masks, Hawaiian dolls and Mexican blankets accent the common room, where the Chinese, Mexican and Canadian flags hang from the ceiling.

When asked about their favorite items in the room, So says, "The table, the flags and the letters all definitely add a unique flavor to our room's atmosphere." The girls discovered their favorite table at a garage sale, then painted it blue and gold and adorned it with beer bottle caps in the form of a giant "ND." Di-

rectly underneath the Chinese, Mexican and Canadian flags, the girls' initials — C, K and M — are carved into wood letters that line the walls. The girls love these items because they simultaneously represent their cultures, their friendship and their memories at Notre Dame.

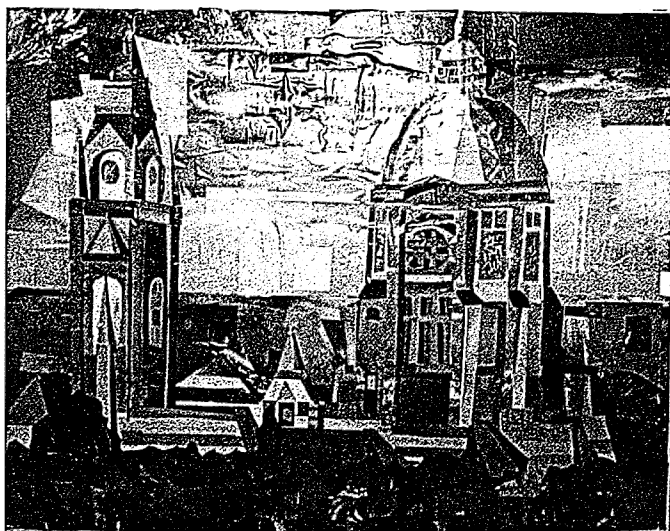
Living in a triple, the girls have the luxury of a full bathroom and a room that

"It is important for non-minorities to realize that they need to also participate in cultural awareness."

—Christina Munoz

holds all three beds, desks and dressers. Both the bedroom and the bathroom are attached to their homey common room, which houses two couches, a television and two refrigerators — all the necessary amenities for either hanging out with friends or lounging.

Caron, Munoz and So further express their personalities through the many mementos, posters, paintings and pictures scattered throughout the rooms. So's Van Gogh reproductions of "Starry Night" and "Cafe Terrace at Night" are two of the many paintings that decorate the walls of the common space. The artwork, combined with their "black and white wall" of



PHOTOS BY SARAH BARRETT





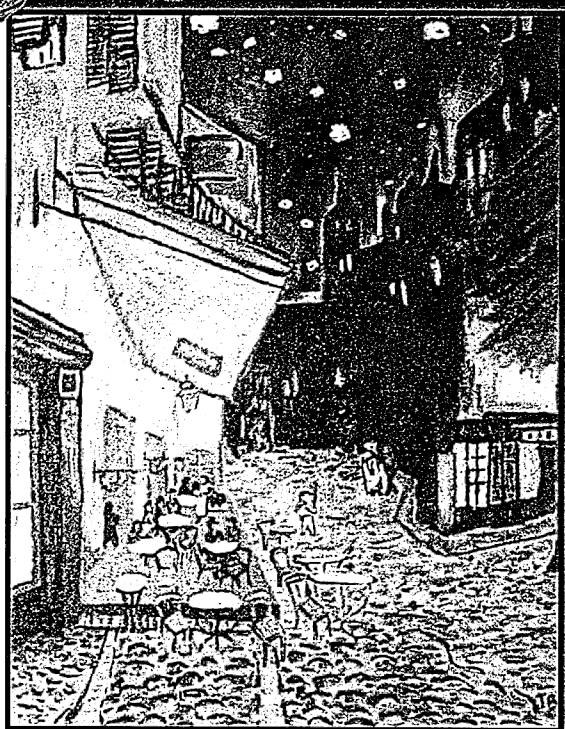
Dave Matthews Band posters, purple and black drapes, a "Tokyo Express Landing Zone" sign and vases of fresh flowers, all add to the room's warm atmosphere.

All three girls are very vocal about their ideas on multiculturalism on campus. "I know Notre Dame is striving to improve diversity on campus, but at the moment there is still much room for improvement," So says. In talking about the different cultural and ethnic groups that aim at supporting diversity, Munoz says, "It is great that people are so willing to support their cultures together, but I also think that it is important for non-minorities to realize that they need to also participate in cultural awareness. Otherwise we will never have a unified student body."

As a Caucasian, Caron is not a racial minority at Notre Dame, but she too emphasizes the importance of cultural openness at the university, as well as all over America: "I enjoy being from Canada, yet living here and getting to experience the blending of many cultures that America is known for," she says. "From an outsider's perspective, it looks like minorities here can be alienated and segregated, yet I now know that

many people throughout this campus and country are dedicated to breaking down those barriers."

Caron, Munoz and So epitomize the cultural openness that this university is striving to attain, and their humble abode represents their flair for multiculturalism and unity. The girls have implemented their room as not only an expression of their cultural backgrounds, but also as a creative outlet that connects them despite — and because of — their differences. □



## ENTERTAINMENT

FROM THE BUBBLE AND THE BEND



## "Picaresque" Performers



The Decemberists come of age

SUPPLIED BY WVFI

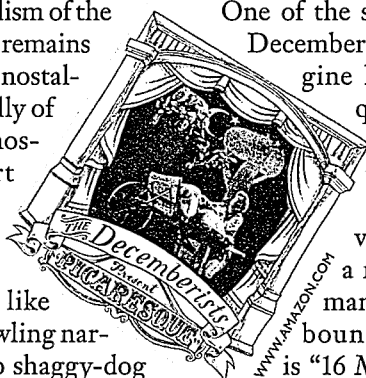
Artist: Decemberists

Album: "Picaresque"

Unlike the Decemberists' past work, "Picaresque" is the baroque triumph of a team. The singer-songwriter minimalism of the "5 Songs EP" is gone. What remains is frontman Colin Meloy's nostalgia for the arcane underbelly of the seafaring era. This nostalgia is the simple heart powering the album's complex body. And the Decemberists walk the tightrope of convolution like experts. Their smart, sprawling narratives never fly apart into shaggy-dog bedlam. Their esoteric, lavish instrumentation never bloats to cacophony. In the end, "Picaresque" is a rollicking, histrionic timewarp to a world belonging to Morrissey.

"The Infanta" opens the album literally parading down memory lane. Double

suicide gains a chamber-pop treatment in "We Both Go Down Together." On first listen, "The Sporting Life" sounds like Bowie fronting the Stooges, but it's really about a dimming star of track and field.



One of the strongest songs in the Decemberists' corpus, "The Engine Driver," tackles unrequited love with jangly, languid guitars, a weeping accordion line, feather-light vocal harmonies, and a nod to "Wichita Line-man." Despite its Britpop bounce, the weakest link is "16 Military Wives" for its limp-wristed, heavy-handed dose of dimestore liberalism. The extravagant nine-minute epic, "The Mariner's Revenge," tells the tale of a stepson's payback — in the belly of a whale, no less — in a rare style. Closing the album with "Of Angels and Angles,"

Meloy pens a short, guileless coda of mournful acoustic simplicity.

The stories in Meloy's songs, removed from reality as they may be, traffic in the antique themes of affection unreturned, the yearning for fatherly approval, ravaged innocence, the pain of lovers parting and Republican war-mongering. Bygone diction lightly peppers the songs without smothering them. The album is ironic in its tension, as it often alternates between dour substance and sugary style. Meloy's Dickensian rock is at once too self-aware, too poppy, too moping and too sincere to deserve the charge of precious, quasi-intellectual pretension.

The Decemberists holed up for months in a musty Baptist church in Portland, Ore., emerging into the sunlight as a slick troupe — a glittering rock Gestalt — newly aware of its legion talents. "Picaresque" is exquisite testimony to the Decemberists' coming of age as a band. □

## Book Review - Staff Picks

## "Interpreter of Maladies"

By Jhumpa Lahiri

Lahiri's remarkable Pulitzer Prize-winning collection of stories speaks to anyone who has ever felt like an outsider, whether in a foreign country, in a valued relationship or even at home. Combining elements of both Indian and American culture, Lahiri explores with insight the effects that the inevitable changes of life have on relationships and the strength that enables us to adapt. The stories in "Interpreter of Maladies" are brilliant individually, but when read together provide the reader with a stunning view of the spectrum of human emotion.

~Regina Gesicki

## "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas"

By Hunter S. Thompson

Since his suicide two months ago, Thompson's work has made a sudden return to the national consciousness. Four of the writer's books recently have shot into the Top 100 List at BarnesandNoble.com, with his 1971 classic "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" leading the way. A sardonic exploration of the American Dream, "Fear and Loathing" chronicles Thompson's drug-laden misadventures while on an article assignment in Las Vegas. This landmark work is a mind-bending read, gripping in its unique blend of hallucination and social commentary.

~Mike Laskey

## "Invisible Monsters"

By Chuck Palahniuk

"Invisible Monsters," the third novel by the nihilistic author of "Fight Club," once again demonstrates Palahniuk's talent for twisting words to create a wasteland of self-medication and self-hatred. Through a series of chronological jumps, bitter sarcasm and a scathing perspective on modern vanity, "Invisible Monsters" tells the story of an aspiring model dealing with a freak accident that leaves her with half a face. This gruesome yet hilarious tale will envelop a reader all the way through to Palahniuk's requisite twist ending.

~Doug Schlurman

# Must See ND

## 4/23-4/24

If the raucous screams and outlandish costumes of the first few rounds of Bookstore Basketball have not been enough to draw you courtside, the intensity of the final rounds certainly will inspire you to cheer on your favorite team. The semifinals will be held on Saturday, April 23, and the finals will take place on Sunday, April 24. Over 600 teams made up of Notre Dame, St. Mary's and Holy Cross students, staff and faculty participate in this outdoor 5-on-5 tournament, the largest in the world. Channel your it's-almost-summer energy into cheering for the participants of this unique competition.

## until 5/15

Head over to the Snite Museum of Art before May 15 and check out the work of Notre Dame's very own artists in residence at the Annual BFA and MFA Candidate Thesis Exhibition. On display are their portfolios, which include cutting-edge multimedia works, installations, paintings, drawings, sculptures and samples of graphic design. The Snite is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## 4/22

Are you still trying to recover from the emptiness that the end of the football season brought to your life? Give the sport that the rest of the world calls football a chance. To pass the time while you eagerly anticipate donning "The Shirt" and/or green paint, bring your friends to Alumni Field and support

the No. 17/12 Notre Dame men's soccer team and the No. 1 women's soccer team on Friday, April 22. The women will face the full national team at 6 p.m., and the men will take on Mexico's highly touted under-17 squad at 8 p.m.

## 4/28-5/1

Bored and itching for a rollicking good time? Drop by the Hesburgh Library, Coleman-Morse's study lounge, Bond Hall or virtually any other building on campus to see sleep-deprived, shower-deficient, generally rundown Notre Dame students. "Reading Days" proves to be a biannual festival of fun, with everyone playing a part, even those who swore this semester would be different. Facilitated by the faculty, administration and procrastination, Notre Dame students will attempt the impossible and accept the challenge to cram four months into four days, united with the common goal of success! Make sure you're a part of this tradition.

## 4/23

Have you bought or illegally downloaded all of the "Music from 'The O.C.'" mixes? Do you religiously watch "The O.C." every Thursday night, not for the melodrama but for the music? Let go of that sell-out guilt and head to Legends for Irishpalooza 2005 on Saturday, April 23 for a live installment of quality Indie rock. The Walkmen, who made an appearance this season on "The O.C.," join Brooklyn-based, guitar-heavy Ambulance Ltd and alternative pop-rocker Michael Tolcher in closing out AnTostal. The doors open at 8 p.m., and the music begins at 9 p.m.

—Compiled by Regina Gesicki

### "The Moon is Down"

By John Steinbeck

Considered by many to be Steinbeck's most influential novel, "The Moon is Down" examines the effects of Nazi occupation on a small town in an unnamed country. After a traitor leaves the town unprotected, a series of unfortunate events allows the Nazis to invade. Steinbeck describes how the town stood strong despite efforts by the German regime to bring an untimely end to the town's humble, coal-mining way of life. "The Moon is Down" depicts the Nazis as absent-minded and frail, giving hope to those nations that suffered under similar circumstances at the time.

~Chris Meskill

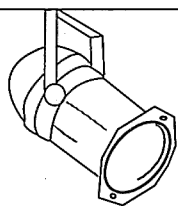
### "Lighthousekeeping"

By Jeanette Winterson

A superb addition to Winterson's portfolio, "Lighthousekeeping" tells the tale of Silver, a young orphan who is forced to move in with Mr. Pew, the keeper of the Cape Wrath lighthouse. Pew, a storyteller at heart, imparts the yarns of his long life on to Silver and, consequently, the reader. Pew's story of Babel Dark, a deceased preacher, develops in tandem with Silver's story, dichotomizing the darkness of Dark and the lightness of Silver. Winterson's novel tells of the two characters' parallel attempts to seek fulfillment through love while stressing the value of living and telling one's story.

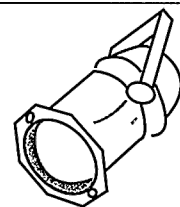
~Mo Ertel





# Musical Melee

ND's bands battle it out at Legends



MIKELASKEY

While the University of Notre Dame is renowned for many of its unique characteristics, a flourishing student music scene is not one of them. With limited performance venues and opportunities, South Bend is unable to offer a supportive environment for student bands that college hubs like Boston and Philadelphia provide. However, at AnTostal's Battle of the Bands, scheduled for Friday, April 22, at Legends, 10 of the university's own student acts will attempt to dispel the notion that there is no room for rock 'n' roll at Notre Dame.

This year marks Notre Dame's Second Annual Battle of the Bands, the reincarnation of an event that the Student Union Board (SUB) dropped from its programming three years ago. This former event, entitled NAZZ, was held for 14 years before a lack of funding and dwindling interest led to its demise. Last year, the Notre Dame Class of 2007 President Bill Andrichik, St. Mary's College and Holy Cross College came together to bring the Battle back to campus. Andrichik was a leading figure in the event's reintroduction and is heading up the program's organizational efforts this

year. "Before SUB discontinued the event, it used to take place at LaFortune and Legends, and it wasn't always the best attended," Andrichik says. Last year's Battle, which was held at the Stepan Center, was a relative success, but the new venue and a dramatically increased budget have heightened expectations for this year's show. "This year, our class decided to continue the event, and we were able to bring SUB back into the picture. We also talked to Legends, because we wanted to hold the event at its original location, which is a much better venue than Stepan," Andrichik says. "Last year, we had about 200 people there at any one time. This year, I wouldn't be surprised if there were between 300 and 400 people there at any point. It's a heavy programming week, but hopefully people will be able to stop by Legends some time between 6 p.m. and midnight."

With SUB's financial assistance and the availability of Legends' own sound equipment, the program's budget has essentially quadrupled in the past year, expanding from \$3,000 to over \$12,000. "The money we've come up with is going toward hospitality food for the bands and volunteers, tent rental and prizes for the winning bands. We're also bringing in a professional emcee from Indianapolis and have arranged for campus celebrity judges," Andrichik says. The Battle's winning band will receive \$350 in prize money and their own show at Legends next year. The runner-up will win \$150.

With ample funds and an improved venue secured, the Battle's organizers set out to find 10 bands to fill the program. Posters advertising the event first appeared in March, precipitating the submission of audio samples from more than 20 bands. A panel of the event's organizers met and listened to the samples, ultimately picking their favorite 10. "We made our selection based on lyrics, musicianship and overall feeling," Andrichik

says. "It should be really competitive for the top spots, as we had a tough time getting the list down even to 10."

The bands clamoring for the top spots will have to contend with last year's champion, as guitar-slinger Tom Schreck will take the stage in defense of his title. In last year's Battle, Schreck appeared solo, playing acoustic guitar and harmonica. Looking for a new sound, Schreck will be joined by four additional musicians this year to play what he refers to as "electric folk rock."

"I wanted to do something different this year, so I had a bunch of my friends join me, and we formed a band," Schreck says. "We're recreating and reinterpreting some of the stuff that I've already recorded. It's a fun thing to do."

While Schreck can frequently be found performing on campus, whether with the Glee Club or in solo shows at Recker's, this year's Battle of the Bands will serve as an unusual opportunity for the musician. "This is a bigger deal [than playing at Recker's]. It's a chance for everyone who plays music on campus to see each other," Schreck says. "Not like it's an intense competition, but you still want to play your best."

An English and music theory major, Schreck regards his music as more than a hobby. "[Music] is my life," he says. "I'm not even giving myself an option to do anything else [after graduation]. I'm just going to keep writing songs, and who knows where I'll end up."

One of the bands seeking to knock Schreck from the top spot is Bajawalla, a group new to the Battle composed primarily of alumni. Peter Miller, the group's drummer and trumpet player, finds himself with Bajawalla after playing in a wide assortment of other student bands during his four undergraduate years, often in the company of his current Bajawalla group mates. "Our music has evolved into a pretty eclectic mix of pop rock, surfer rock, soul, funk, R&B and hip-hop," Miller says. "We've been compared to Maroon 5, Jack Johnson and Jason Mraz, among others."

Like Schreck, Bajawalla has high hopes



**ROCKING OUT** Bajawalla will fight for the title of ND's best band.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BAJAWALLA



for their future. "We sent out music to a bunch of record companies all over the country last year, and we heard back from a couple of people over winter break," Miller says. "The responses we received were kind of too late, as most of us had started grad school or jobs. The production companies that were interested wanted us to drop what we were doing and move to Chicago. But we decided to wait until we had finished a year of what we were doing, and then go to Chicago and play there all summer long. We'll evaluate our situation at the end of the summer."

A four-year veteran of the Notre Dame music scene, Miller admits that finding opportunities to perform is often difficult, as open venues on campus are almost impossible to get and South Bend does not cater particularly well to student bands. "As South Bend really isn't a college town, it's a little harder to move things off campus. When we first started playing, a lot of bars weren't used to student groups performing there, as there weren't many groups that played off campus," Miller says. "But there are definitely places in South Bend that are very welcoming to student groups."

Miller hopes the Battle will provide a valuable chance for campus bands to gain exposure. "I think a lot of people will be surprised at how good some of these bands are," Miller says. "The Battle of the Bands gives campus bands that haven't been heard yet a chance to be heard."

This year's Battle of the Bands also features bands that aren't looking to turn

music into a career, but are groups of friends who simply enjoy playing together. Josam Scott, a five-piece cover band, is one of these groups. "We're really excited to play in the Battle of the Bands. It's one of the last times we'll get to play together, as most of the members of our band are graduating," sophomore drummer Karl Kosam says. "After this year, we're pretty much broken up, so we just want to go out with a bang."

Performing everything from Led Zeppelin and Lynyrd Skynyrd classics to The Darkness' "I Believe in a Thing Called Love," Josam Scott has encountered a good deal of popularity, often being featured at off-campus parties. "We've had a lot of success because we play songs that people know and can get into," Kosam says. "We don't play hard stuff or anything angry, and we have a lot fun. I think people get a kick out of that, especially at parties."

No matter who emerges as the winner on Friday night, the Battle of the Bands should provide a refreshing look at the wide variety of the musical talent that exists at Notre Dame. As Schreck simply puts it, "Anyone who complains that there's no music scene at Notre

Dame: You better be there, because this is it." □

**BRINGING THE NOISE** The Battle hopes to jump start Notre Dame's lagging music



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BAJAWALLA



*Josam Scott*

*And the bands are...*

**M.O.B.B.**

**Bajawalla**

**Solid Underground**

**Josam Scott**

**The Updogs**

**Tom Schreck's Deceptive 5**

**Da Natural & Dave Moisan**

**The Harper Valley Drifters**

**Zambonie**

# Logs from Abroad

Three students share abroad experiences

LONDON

SARAH SOBCZAK

Imagine living in the heart of one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, completing your daily routine while immersed in British culture, and then whimsically jetting off to Spain or the Greek Islands for a weekend. Sound like a dream? It doesn't have to be. As a current student in the London Programme, I get to live this dream every day. Although I was nervous at first, living in London for the past four months has been the most exciting experience of my life.

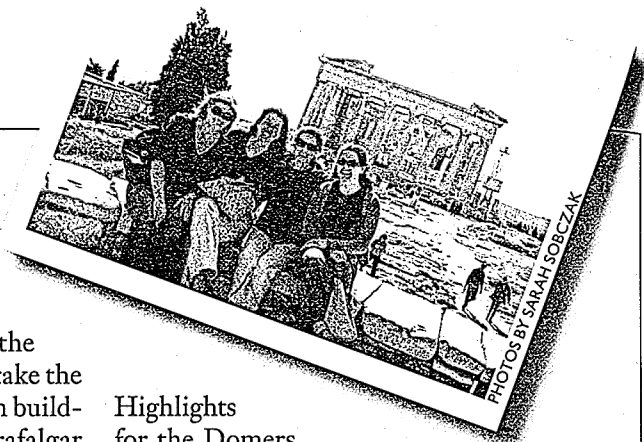
Living abroad, I've had to adjust to some lifestyle changes. My housing situation in London is definitely different than in the dorms. All Notre Dame students live in one building, located just four blocks away from Madonna's house, I might add, and men's and women's flats occupy the

same floors. Every flat is equipped with a kitchen, and making dinner every night has been a major adventure in itself. Students live within a block of five pubs, and the flats are a 10-minute walk from Oxford Street, one of the busiest

and biggest streets in London. Every morning we walk 40 minutes through London (or, depending on the events of the previous night, wake up later and take the bus or tube) to reach the classroom building, which is located right off of Trafalgar Square, one of the city's major landmarks. Around the corner from the classroom building is the National Gallery, an enormous art museum with treasures from Van Gogh, Monet and many others. Within a few blocks are Buckingham Palace, West End Theatres, Parliament and Piccadilly Circus. Needless to say, our location is prime, and there is always something to do.

London is a city that never sleeps, and countless pubs and clubs tempt you to go out every night of the week. Unfortunately, a pint of beer is generally around £3, which is nearly \$6! Amidst all of the excitement of London, we somehow manage to fit in a full schedule of classes. Each student has to choose three one-credit fine arts classes that serve as a window into the cultural mecca of London.

Undoubtedly, one of the best aspects of being abroad are the many travel opportunities. In the past three months, I've been to eight cities in seven different countries.



Highlights for the Domers studying in London this semester include skiing the Swiss Alps, traveling through the Greek Islands and witnessing the Pope's funeral in Rome. I will never forget going on the "Sound of Music" tour in Salzburg, being trapped in a mafia-run taxi in Budapest, eating tapas while overlooking the Mediterranean in Barcelona or relaxing on the roof of our hotel in Athens with the Acropolis behind us.

This past semester in London has been a constant adventure. Although I will be broke and exhausted come May 18, when I return to the United States, living in London has been an amazing experience. I'll miss my daily walk down Bond Street, going to a play every week, weekend trips and, most importantly, the fabulous girls of Flat 10. Samuel Johnson, a famed 18th-century poet, was right when he said, "If you are bored of London, you are bored of life." □



PUEBLA

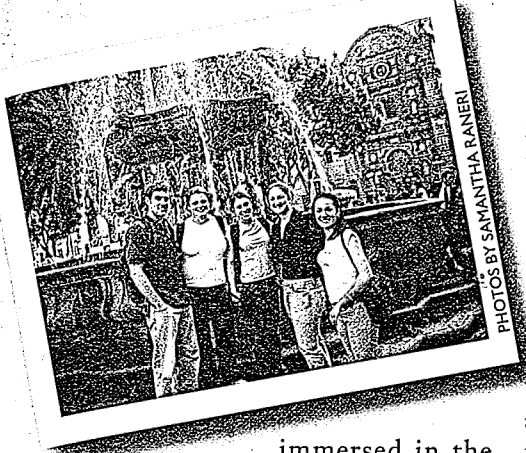
SAMANTHA RANERI

As the semester draws to a close, despite my full course load at the Universidad de Las Americas Puebla, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Mexico. Between camping in the mountains among the "cascadas" (waterfalls), traveling to the picturesque colonial city of Guanajuato, seeing ancient ruins and visiting an indigenous town, I've been able to experience countless aspects of Mexican life. When most people talk about their trips to Mexico, Cancun often is brought up as the ultimate spring break locale for its beauty and party scene. But compared to real Mexico, featuring locales like the Yucatan peninsula and Playa del Carmen — the beach area a few miles away from Cancun

known for its sparkling clear water, white sandy beaches and hippie-trendy bars and lounges — Cancun's appeal is minimal. Who needs oozing crowds of spring breakers, skyscraper hotels and inflated prices when you can buy a one-liter pina colada for \$6 in an even more beautiful area of Mexico?

I love the versatility of Mexican life. One weekend I can relax on a fabulous, pristine beach, and the next weekend I can step out of my comfort zone and travel to the indigenous town of Cuetzalan, where the people still speak Nahuatl, the Aztec language. Mexican culture is simply alive, and there is a ceaseless amount of new experiences in which to take part. From taking a temazcal — a traditional Aztec

sweat bath — to braving the wonderfully chaotic experience of the mercado on the weekend, the possibilities are endless. The streets of Mexico are full of people selling everything from meat, fruit and vegetables to shoes, bracelets and an array of leather goods — all at amazing prices — and the travel opportunities are unimaginable. Many of my travels have brought me to the sites of such ancient ruins as Teotihuacan, Monte Alban and the Mayan ruins of Chichen Itza, where I was on the spring equinox. When you are just one of over 60,000 people from all over the world who come to receive the energy from a shadow phenomenon on the main temple, visible only on the spring equinox, it's difficult not to feel



immersed in the Mexican culture.

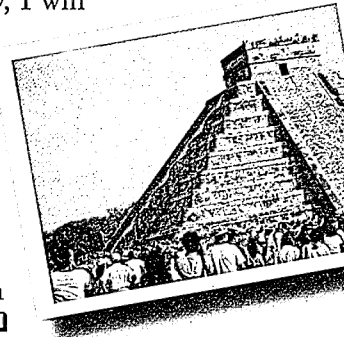
Although the semester has flown by and I have little time left in Mexico, I plan to make the most of the next few weeks. This weekend I will be traveling to Taxco, the "silver city," as well as to Puerto Escondido, one of Mexico's few remaining areas of virgin beaches. And while I'll miss my intranational travels when I return to the United States, it is the town of Puebla that I will miss the most. Work takes up a portion of

my week, but nothing compares to the times I've been able to go out with my friends. Some of my favorite memories have been dancing and hanging out with friends from Notre Dame and Mexico until the bar closes down. With places ranging from the most fancy or "fresa" clubs to more casual bars that feature live music, there is no excuse to stay in at night. The Mexican nightlife is thriving, and partaking in it is essential to the Mexican cultural experience.

In the end, though, it is the Mexican people that have shaped my time abroad. I teach English at a public elementary school three days a week, where I have the opportunity to work with the children of Puebla. I teach classes ranging from second- to fifth-graders, and at a school that lacks the many educational resources Americans take for granted, my students appreciate that a "gringa" has come to teach them English. Now that my time

with them is almost up, I realize how attached I have become to my students, and they to me. I will miss singing our lesson songs with them in English, and I'll never forget how they would greet me with a thousand kisses on the cheek (the common greeting in Mexico) and asking me, "Maestra, maestra, how do you say this in English?"

When it is time to return home, I am sure that I will do so with sadness. But more importantly, I will return with a wealth of memories, new friends, fluency in a foreign language and an appreciation for the deep and diverse Mexican culture. □



## MICHAEL ROSSMAN

When I told my friends that I would be studying in Uganda during the 2004-2005 academic year, they reacted with surprise. I was bombarded with questions of "Why Uganda?" but I had my reasons. I am an economics major, and wanted to study Ugandan economic development for a semester, taking a leave of absence to do so. The program is not offered through Notre Dame, and no one I know has had the opportunity to experience Ugandan life. I try my best to give a picture of life in Uganda in e-mails to friends, but life here is so different that I often feel my efforts are inadequate.

Experiencing Ugandan life can be overwhelming at times, with so many new aspects of a relatively unknown culture assailing me daily. I live with a host family, to which I have become very close, and my stay with them has proven to be one of the greatest and most constant ways I have been able to experience Ugandan life. Although they try to make me gain weight with the ridiculous amount of food they feed me, living with my family has been rewarding and constantly entertaining.

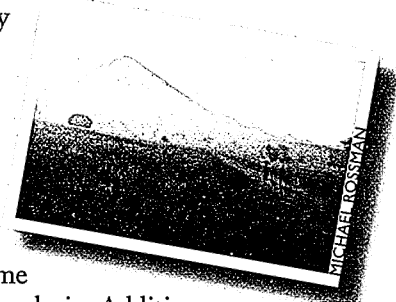
My "siblings" know a lot about the United States, but their misconceptions about life in America can be rather humorous at times. As evidenced by my 14-year-old

brother, who delights in bursting out into Britney Spears every now and then, there is no doubt that the American culture largely influences Ugandan life. My brother exemplifies how well people in Kampala, the city in which I'm based, know American music and movies. But there still are a number of cultural differences that have taken some time to adjust to. I have met quite a few Ugandan friends but still feel a little awkward when they hold my hand for long periods of time, which is completely normal here. Taking a class in one of the Ugandan languages has helped to break down barriers, and it's always amusing to see people's reactions to a *mzungu* (Caucasian person) speaking their language. Even when I speak English, I find myself picking up many of the linguistic idiosyncrasies here and sounding more and more like a Ugandan.

As great as living here has been, this semester has left me with far more questions than answers. Although the absence of many material comforts that are commonplace in America — toilet paper, refrigerators and more — has not been a problem, it has been difficult to see so many children in the rural areas who are malnourished. Visiting a woman who is near death because of AIDS also was a trying experience. Exploring Rwanda, par-

ticularly the Genocide Memorial Museum, also was an intense experience, as the worst actions of humanity were evidenced there. Additionally, it has been difficult to take classes concerning economic development, where we learn about the negative effects of handouts to impoverished people. I still have trouble resisting the countless students asking me for school fees, or the handicapped beggars on the street, knowing there isn't the same economic safety net in Uganda that exists in America.

Despite the difficulties of living in Uganda, it is a beautiful place, and I have been able to have a uniquely African experience; I mean, I have been nearly killed by a hippo and have come down with malaria. Additionally, there is so much cultural diversity in this one country, let alone the entire region or continent. Being here truly has been an educational experience in every way possible, and it will certainly be an adjustment coming back to my beloved Bend. □



# SPORTS

SPLINTERS FROM THE PRESSBOX



## Home Sweet Home

NICOLE DORNER

**W**elcome to the first installment of "ND Zone". I hope you enjoy what next year's issues have in store. But for now, let's get right down to business.

What better topic to start with than home sweet home — or, to be more specific, home court advantage? This edge that coaches and players alike crave has been known to break perfect records and give teams that are going through a slump that desperately-needed confidence to make it to the end of the season. Think about the Notre Dame/Boston College men's basketball game that took place only two months ago. The smug Eagles went home crying after a 68-65 loss — their first of the season. Do I need to remind you of the Notre Dame/Michigan football game? The storming of students onto the field speaks for itself.

I experienced the effects of home court advantage more recently at the women's Big East Basketball Tournament. As part of the pep band, I waited outside of the Hartford Civic Center until the Rutgers/Villanova game ended. When the final horn sounded, ending the game, a girl in the Rutgers pep band came up to me and said, "You're Notre Dame, right?"

Please beat Connecticut. We can't beat them on their home court!" Curious, we walked into the Civic Center to find out exactly what she meant. Even with the Rutgers fans cheering for Notre Dame, our fans were outnumbered 10 to one. Our cheers were drowned out almost before the game began. The rest is history — we lost to Connecticut, who ended up winning the Big East Championship over Rutgers.

Now there is talk of transforming the student section in the Joyce Center so that, instead of being bunched up in a small group at one end of the court, the students will be evenly spread out at the floor of the arena, right in the middle of the action. After all, other schools have their students as close to the action as possible so they can cheer on their school. I personally support the potential change.

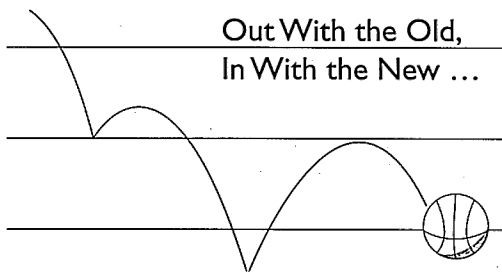
However, there are many people who feel that home court advantage is nothing but a widely spread superstition that increases the enthusiasm of fans cheering for their team during a home game. For every example of the benefits of home court advantage, I can give you two other examples of how home court advantage had little to no effect on the outcome of

the game. In the first round of the National Invitation Tournament, our men's basketball team suffered a season-ending loss against Holy Cross, at the J.A.C.C. no less. In football, the losses to both Boston College and Pittsburgh in Notre Dame Stadium remain sources of agony for students and fans alike. Plus, traveling hardly relinquishes the team's ability to win the game. Look at the 17-14 victory against Tennessee in Knoxville; I can't say I've ever seen that much orange in my life, and yet the Irish somehow managed to come out victorious.

So what's the big deal with home court advantage? Why is it still sought after and seen as the extra advantage over the other team? I guess that it's the thought that counts. When the athletes are at home, they know the fans will be with them until the end. Having an enthusiastic group of cheering fans to pick you up when you are down can be one of the best confidence-boosters out there. When the home team is winning, the fans make sure the opponent feels foolish for ever being optimistic about the outcome of the contest. After realizing how dedicated their fans are, the home team will use their home court advantage to the fullest. □

## The Rant Box

Out With the Old,  
In With the New ...



With a new *Scholastic* sports staff, changes will appear in the sports section, namely, the discontinuation of "Stat Zone." However, we have added a new column to fill the gap. We bring you "The Rant Box." Here, you will get the chance to write in with your thoughts on a recent game. It doesn't matter if you're complimenting, complaining or critiquing, as long as you have something to say.

**Here are a few examples for you to ponder over:**

*Dear Scholastic Sports,*  
*The April 17 baseball game against UConn was awesome! Our boys are doing a great job with the clutch hits they keep on getting. I just wish we'd do a better job keeping our opponents from scoring.*  
—John Smith



# IRIS HEYESON

NIKKI  
WESTFALL

Nikki Westfall is a sophomore international business and business law major and a goalkeeper on the 2004 National Championship women's soccer team. This past season Westfall gained a starting position when fellow goalkeeper Erika Bohn was sidelined due to injury. She clocked 127 minutes of playing time and helped the Irish to a 6-0 record when she was in goal.



*What have you learned from your experiences this year?*

This year in particular has taught me all the different aspects that go into preparing for a game. Not only did we go through intense training to prepare us physically for the championship game, but we also met with our sports psychologist before every home game in the tournament to help prepare us mentally for the game as well.

*If you could play any other sport, which one would you play, and why?*

I would probably say basketball. I've always thought it was a fun sport. Some of us even go to the gym to shoot around on our days off.

*How did it feel to win the NCAA Women's Soccer Championship?*

It was the most incredible feeling; I still don't think it has really sunk in yet. I am so happy for my team and so proud of them. Everybody worked so hard to get us to that point, and nobody deserved to win it more than us.

*If you could be on a reality television show, which one would you choose and why?*

Probably "Road Rules" because I would love to do some of the challenges they get to do. It seems like it would be a lot of fun.

*Do you have any pregame superstitions?*

Well, as a team we have specific, confidential songs we listen to and dance to before every game. Even when we're on the road, we pack speakers so we can have our pregame music.

—Nicole Dorner

Hey!

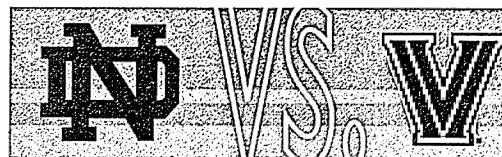
I was really disappointed in the women's lacrosse game against Georgetown on April 16. We need to make those goals count, instead of just shooting and hoping it goes in. Also, we need to work on our defense! They wouldn't have scored all those goals on us if our defense was playing as well as they can.

—Jane Doe

Dear Sports Editor,

The Ultimate Frisbee game with Villanova was intense! I'm glad we were able to take them down with only a few seconds left in the game. But I was thinking that if they were to be a little more aggressive with their throws and not just laterally pass the Frisbee between each other, they would be so much better. We'll be the league's best in no time!

—A huge Ultimate fan



## Our Calls Men's Baseball

OPPONENT: VILLANOVA

WHERE: FRANK ECK STADIUM

WHEN: FRI, APRIL 22, 6:05 P.M. EST,

SAT, APRIL 23, 3:05 P.M. EST

SUN, APRIL 24, 12:05 P.M. EST

With a 7-6 record in Big East play and coming off a losing series against Pittsburgh, Villanova is having a hard time keeping up with the conference. The Irish, on the other hand, are sitting on an 8-4 conference record and an 11-3 record at home. The Irish will capitalize on Villanova's current troubles and take two out of three in the series.

NICOLE DORNER  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Irish have won six of their last seven games and they need to rely on timely hitting to continue their hot streak. The pitching staff could use all the support they can get, considering sophomore pitcher Jeff Manship may be out for the rest of the season with a finger injury. With a definite need to prove their post-season worth, I see the Irish sweeping the series against Villanova.

MICHAEL KIM  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

### Key to the Game:

**A WELL-ROUNDED EFFORT** The entire Irish lineup needs to step up for these three games, instead of relying solely on junior outfielder Cody Rizzo's hot streak at bat. The teams are pretty evenly matched, so the slightest of mishaps must be capitalized on by the Irish. If the Irish work as a team and everyone gives 100 percent, they will rise above the Wildcats.

Well, there you have it — you know what to do now. E-mail your thoughts to [scholast@nd.edu](mailto:scholast@nd.edu), and they may be published in a future issue of *Scholastic*. We want to hear what you have to say! □

# Something Old, New, Blue-Gold

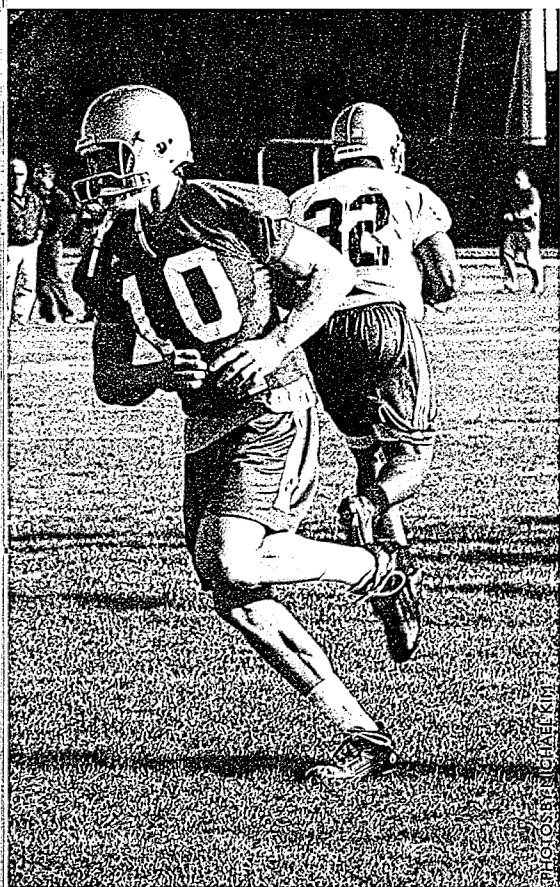
Spring football practices conclude with the annual spring game

MICHAEL KIM

The 76th annual Blue-Gold Game has been highly anticipated since the hiring of Head Coach Charlie Weis (ND '78) and his all-star staff. Ticket sales have proven this, as 150 press box seats, 1,000 seats at a morning brunch with team members and 1,200 VIP seats all sold out in just over 24 hours.

Irish football fans and students will get a firsthand look at the new offensive and defensive systems as they are implemented under simulated game-day conditions on Saturday, April 23, and speculations abound about the changes. Sophomore Brandon Reichardt from Morrissey Hall expects to see a more focused team. He also anticipates the reserve players who registered minimal playing time last season to step up and take on more responsibility. "It should be fun and interesting

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT** Sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn finishes out a play. Quinn is the expected starter for the 2005 season.



to see all of the new coaches and what direction they have the team headed in," Reichardt adds. The game will serve as a great opportunity for players to show what they have learned in spring practices in a full-speed scrimmage. Starting positions have yet to be announced, but this is not the only aspect of the Blue-Gold Game that is still a work in progress.

The game also serves as a training day for ushers in their yellow-clad jackets, giving them a glimpse of what they will face next fall. Cappy Gagnon (ND '66), coordinator of stadium personnel, says 857 ushers hailing from 15 different states will be present for this year's game. When asked about possible attendance figures, Gagnon says, "I would not be surprised if the crowd exceeded 30,000, considering the hype and forecast for good weather." The current record is 35,675, when Former Head Coach Gerry Faust made his coaching debut in 1981.

The Blue-Gold Game is a derivation of the original "Old-Timers Game," dating back to the days of Knute Rockne in 1929. The original game featured past Notre Dame football stars playing against current varsity players. Over the years, the game lost its novelty and interest when the varsity squad won 29 of the 36 games, including the final three games, with scores of 72-0, 33-0 and 39-0. The former players were unable to compete with the youth and dexterity of Irish players. Additionally, NFL teams with former Irish players on their rosters banned them from playing in the game for fear of injury. A reform was made in 1968, when Ara Parseghian transformed the game into a scrimmage amongst the varsity players. The format has been kept ever since.

This year's Blue-Gold Game will call upon the spirit of the glory days of Irish football, with Weis hoping to restore the team with the spirited persona that once helped them garner national respect. In order to reconnect with this tradition, Weis invited former players Joe Montana (ND '78), Tim Brown (ND '87), Chris

## GAME INFORMATION

### 76th Annual Blue-Gold Game

**When:** Saturday, April 23, 2005

**Where:** Notre Dame Stadium

**Kickoff:** 1:35 p.m. EST

All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund of the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley

Zorich (ND '90) and Joe Theismann (ND '71) to serve as honorary game coaches. Players will have the luxury of both interacting with proven winners and gaining valuable input to improve their play.

Alumni have been eager to make the pilgrimage back to their alma mater for the game, excited for the new direction of the football program. Many of them use this game to reunite with old friends and debate the team's chances next fall. Jeff Hunter (ND M.B.A. '93) will be driving from Troy, Ohio, to witness the new coaches in action. He also will introduce his three sons to Notre Dame. "I hope that all three learn to love Notre Dame like I do," Hunter says. Hunter's middle child, Paxon, desperately wants to play football for the Irish. He hopes to meet Tim Brown, his favorite player. While the older generations of Irish fans come to relive past glory, new generations of Irish supporters will discover the tradition of Notre Dame football.

Even though the new season is five months away for the Irish faithful, it feels as close as this Saturday. □

# The Minority Report

Student athletes demonstrate how Notre Dame sports break down racial barriers

MICHAEL KIM

**R**elations between minorities and non-minorities at Notre Dame have been delicately maintained, especially in the athletic arena. The backlash of the firing of Notre Dame football's Former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham aggravated this delicate balance, causing some minority athletes difficulty in acclimating to Notre Dame's fairly homogenous atmosphere. Despite this mounting racial tension, however, athletics can be one of the best ways for student athletes to develop genuine teamwork and camaraderie, regardless of cultural barriers.

Although it may be intimidating to be the only minority player on an all-white soccer team, senior forward Candace Chapman makes the task look easy. Chapman grew up in Toronto, Canada as the child of immigrant parents from Trinidad and Tobago. She has put a positive spin on being the only black female on the squad, saying, "It's nothing negative." Chapman adds, "We joke about me being the only minority on the team and also joke about [me] being Canadian as well."

Freshman Jenny Shin, an up-and-coming female rower, seconds Chapman's sentiments and feels that her Chinese descent does not impact her teammates' treatment of her. She feels that her fellow rowers embrace their cultural differences through humor, and she knows that they

respect her enough to never cross the line when joking. "I'm sure that if I felt it was offensive, they would stop," Shin says.

However, not all teasing at Notre Dame is good-natured. A particularly damaging stereotype is the presumption that all black students at the university are athletes. Senior hurdler on the track and field team Salim Nurudeen, as a black man, feels this stereotype carries deep implications. "This, to me, is the same as someone saying, 'African-Americans aren't smart enough to get into Notre Dame without athletics'," Nurudeen says. He emphasizes that these seemingly trivial assumptions severely damage race relations, especially at a university as homogenous as Notre Dame.

Despite the much-criticized demographics of Notre Dame, many minority athletes feel the university adequately prepares them for a real-world setting. Nurudeen believes that Notre Dame's demographics echo the diversity found throughout the United States, feeling that it is necessary to experience this sort of environment in order to prepare for post-college life. "African Americans make up 10 percent of the population. In a way, the situation prepares you for how it will be in the real world." Shin agrees and relates Notre Dame to her suburban Seattle home, finding many similarities between the two: "Many of my

friends back home are not minorities, so I'm used to this setting," she says.

Notre Dame's unique spirit of inclusion helps foster a family-like atmosphere throughout the entire campus, but for these minority athletes, entering into a team atmosphere is what has allowed them to turn this mission statement into a reality. Chapman admitted that she was intimidated when she first arrived on campus, but felt quickly embraced by the Notre Dame community through its various clubs, organizations and especially her relationship with her teammates. "I think I maybe had an advantage because I was coming into a team atmosphere with girls I already knew I had to interact with, rather than coming here by myself as a regular student," Chapman says. For Shin, it definitely made making friends easier. "It helped in the sense that I didn't have to go completely out of my way to find people to make friends," Shin says. "It was easier knowing that I at least had people I could talk to."

The competitive nature of Notre Dame athletics sometimes overshadows the personal side. One of the true marks of a successful team is the chemistry among its members, regardless of ethnic origin. Minorities may be in a precarious spotlight, but they are an important part of the life and legacy of Notre Dame. □

**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS** The members of the Notre Dame women's soccer team celebrate their 2004 National Championship. As one of the only minorities on the team, senior Candace Chapman (right of the plaque) felt that being a part of a sports team helped her adjust to Notre Dame.



MICHAEL KIM

# Calling All Bookstore Ballers

Annual basketball tournament displays the good, the bad and everything in-between

NICOLE DORNER

It is that time of year again for Notre Dame to host the 34th annual Bookstore Basketball Tournament. As the world's largest 5-on-5 tourney, people from various parts of the university come out to support this long-standing tradition. Students, faculty and staff all participate in one of the three brackets: men, women and co-ed. They form a team of five members, give themselves a clever name and, in some cases, dress to fit their aliases.

To get a closer look into Bookstore Basketball, *Scholastic* followed three teams through their first game. Each of the three have completely different styles and reasons for playing. So without further ado, here are the teams:

## Alpha Gamma Drunk *Here's to a good time*

Bookstore Basketball's main purpose is to have fun with your friends and this team does just that. *Alpha Gamma Drunk* consists of five seniors: Wyetta Palmby, Molly Savage, Rachel Kemp, Natalie Bustamante and Karla Bell, and their number one fan, Liz Tran — who zoomed around the court on rollerblades cheering on her friends.

*Alpha Gamma Drunk* is a small group of friends that started in 2002. It's modeled after a sorority-type environment,

but the group does not bring in any new pledges.

When they arrived, all five donned Los Angeles Lakers jerseys with Kobe Bryant's number on the back. When asked for a reason that they wore them, Palmby smiles and says, "We think [the jerseys] are hot!" At game time, however, they all took off the Lakers jerseys, revealing their team shirt.

Before the game, they "stretched" by break dancing at courtside. Kemp says, "We're not in this to win, but to have fun!" After a few more break-dancing moves, they were ready to play basketball.

Their opponents were *The Blue Barracudas*, led by Rich Dube. Unfortunately for the girls, the *Barracudas* were there to win. Looking at the other team, Dube said, "We are going for the shutout. We'll probably win."

Setting the pace, the *Barracudas* quickly jumped out in front. At the 11-point halftime, *Alpha Gamma Drunk* trailed by seven. During her halftime pep talk, Bustamante paused for a second and said, "How dare they take us seriously!"

Empathizing with her teammate, Bell said, "I wish they would stop attacking me when I have the ball." The girls shared a few more encouraging words before they went back on the court to play. This time, their opponents realized that they were just having fun and relented a bit. The *Barracudas* allowed each girl to score before the game ended with a score of 21-11.

*Alpha Gamma Drunk* took the loss in stride; Bustamante was still con-

fident, saying, "We're going to be awesome in the women's league!" Hopefully this confidence will shine in their next game.

## Nothing But Nets *Building Student-Teacher Bonds*

To some people, professors are those old people who you have to listen to as they drone on for three hours a week. To others, they are people that you really want to get to know better. What better way to do that than shoot some hoops with them? Meet *Nothing But Nets*, a team that consists of all clarinet players in Notre Dame's band, with seniors Kevin Leary, Erik Smith, Emily Chaten and Adam Schilmoeller and Assistant Band Director

Emmett O'Leary. This is O'Leary's first year at Notre Dame, and reflecting on being approached about playing in Bookstore Basketball, he says, "I was excited; I was feeling good. Now I just have to go out there and execute."

The team was thrilled with O'Leary when he agreed to play. Smith considered him the "leader, motivator and mascot" of the team. The team they played was called *Your Championship is Our First Round*, captained by Steve Dias. This team had brought their own group of fans, all of whom were very impressed that the assistant director was playing.

When the game began, the teams were very evenly matched, with almost no score left unanswered. Chaten attributed this performance to "switching to zone. It really helped us out." Finally, *Your Championship* took the lead at halftime with a score of 11-8. During the short break, O'Leary talked to the team, saying, "We're kind of lackluster right now; we really need to pick it up if we want to win. I'm really excited about a comeback though." After a few more encouraging words, they were ready to start the sec-

"I wish they  
would stop at-  
tacking me when  
I have the ball."

—Karla Bell,  
*Alpha Gamma Drunk*



**U GOT A BAD DRAW** (From left to right) Chris Devitt, Eric Laumann, Dan Stevenson, Brady Quinn, Scott Raridon and Chinedum Ndukwe.



ond half.

*Nothing But Nets* held their own with O'Leary making an over-the-shoulder basket in addition to great defense by everyone. In the end, however, *Your Championship* pulled away from *Nothing But Nets* and won with a final score of 21-14.

After the game, the team still had high spirits, shown by Leary jokingly commenting that their next opponents should "cut the tall guy's legs off; he's too tall." When asked how it felt to play with a director, Schilmoeller said, "It was a great way to get to know a professor more personally by playing some basketball with them instead of just knowing them inside the classroom."

O'Leary had a great time and said, "It's a great thing to get involved in. There's so many levels of enthusiasm here. I just wish it could've lasted longer."

## U GOT A BAD DRAW

*In it to win it*

There will always be teams that are playing to win. Enter the No. 1-seeded team in Bookstore Basketball — *U GOT A BAD DRAW*. The team consists of team captain Chinedum Ndukwe, along with Chris Devitt, Eric Laumann, Scott Raridon (who subbed for Ndukwe), Dan Stevenson and Brady Quinn.

*BAD DRAW* wears professional jerseys, as if they were an official team. Devitt says, "We wear the uniforms so that we not only look good, but so we also look and play like a team." On the backs of the jerseys, each player has a nickname of some sort: Devitt is the "Replacement," Laumann is the "Professor," Ndukwe is "God's Gift," Stevenson is "He Hate Me" and Quinn is "Pretty but Smooth." Stevenson says, "The nicknames have special meaning. For mine, I'd gotten into a

scuffle in last year's Bookstore tournament. People were writing to *The Observer* that I ruined the game, so I got booed a lot. I'm really just a peaceful person though."

When he asked why he isn't playing in the tournament, Ndukwe laughs and says, "They couldn't pay me enough to play this game. Who knows though — I might be back for a later game." Instead of playing, Ndukwe acts as a "coach" to his team, shouting advice and cheering on his team when they needed it.

*BAD DRAW*, the winner from last year's tournament, realizes that they have a lot to live up to. Laumann says, "There is a lot of pressure on us this year. We were all freshmen last year and didn't realize how big of a deal Bookstore Basketball is here. Even so, we're still out to have some fun while shooting a few hoops."

Their opponents, *The Diamond Dick Podell Experience*, led by their captain, John Rowlands, were not worried about the challenge. When asked about his thoughts on the game, Rowlands says, "We only have one goal; oust the No. 1 team."

The game went very smoothly for *BAD DRAW*. Dominating the competition with each member playing his A-game, they kept the opponent from making important shots while ringing up their own baskets. Finally, the dust settled, and *BAD DRAW* came out on top with a final score of 21-8.

After the game, *BAD DRAW* gathered for a group huddle and congratulated each other. They also gave some comments on how they can improve for their next game. They left with smiles and a few jovial shoulder jabs, but they know that it will not always be this easy. Quinn says, "We have a long way to go for the championship. We just need to take things one game at a time."

Agreeing with Quinn, Laumann says, "We have some work to do, but as long



**ALPHA GAMMA DRUNK** (From left to right) Wyetta Palmby, Karla Bell, Rachel Kemp, Natalie Bustamente, Molly Savage and Liz Tran.

as we have fun playing basketball, it'll be a great experience — win or lose." □

## Top 10 Team Names

It is names like these that push the human imagination to the limit (in no particular order):

1. Our lawyers made us change the name of our team so we wouldn't get sued
2. We may not wear thong leotards but you'll want to call on us...
3. Team Gender Core: Screwing with sex roles since 2003
4. Pontius Pilate and the nail Drivers
5. General Tso, three burritos and a side of Jesus
6. If the game lasts longer than four hours consult your physician
7. I met my future wife on the facebook
8. We had a creative name on St. Pat's, but forgot it the next morning
9. Our first name was censored, too lazy to think of an alternate
10. Jeberwocky and the funkalicious Yedi patrol



**NOTHING BUT NETS** (From left to right) Emily Chaten, Emmett O'Leary, Erik Smith, Adam Schilmoeller and Kevin Leary.

# humor

THE BEST OF THE JEST



## LISTENING

"Milk that's passed its deadline is the most fun I have these days."

—overheard student

"Now onto why were dinosaurs so successful, and the classic question: Does size matter? According to the spam mail I've been getting, it does."

—overheard history professor

"Florida is where old people go to die."

—English professor

"I can't wait til we get to the top. I'm gonna give her a high five!"

—Overheard construction worker admiring Mary on the Dome

"Jasmine is totally hotter. With Ariel, it's all scales downstairs."

—overheard student, debating the hotness of Disney characters

### Sunday, muddy Sunday:

No, it's not "Swamp Thing"; these students were getting down and dirty at the mud volleyball tournament. These two truly have never looked sexier.

E-mail Listening-In quotes, letters to the editor, or other comments to

SCHOLAST@ND.EDU

## 100 Years Ago

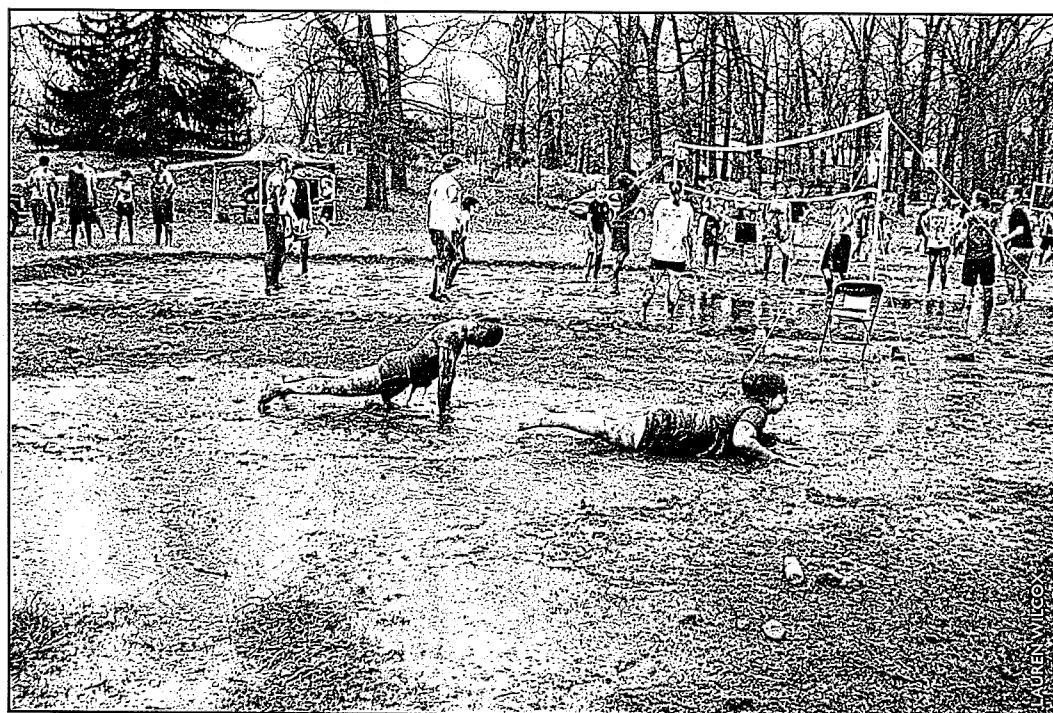
### Fun with Botany

Spring has sprung at Notre Dame and it is easy to see flowers blooming all around campus. However, it seems that in 1905, *Scholastic* writers were more concerned with a different type of flora — a species indigenous to a nearby all-female campus:

*"The consummate flower of perfect maidenhood, the 'queen rose of the rosebud garden of girls,' is undoubtedly in this twentieth century the typical convent pupil, and one will be loathe to believe that there can be anywhere a more efficient or more successful staff of gardeners than the Sisters of the Holy Cross. These young ladies [...] of St. Mary's Academy clothe their thought in [...] a lucid, chaste and individual style."*

So if the greenery lately has you thinking about the birds and the bees and the flowers and the trees, you're not alone. Just remember, when searching out the most perfect flower, the best place to look is the convent. Be careful not to cross-pollinate.

— Doug Schlarman





# Who wears short shorts?

I do, that's who

ERIK POWERS

*In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.*  
— Lord Tennyson *Alfred*

A glance around Notre Dame's campus makes Lord T&A appear correct. Since the temperature climbed above zero degrees centigrade, there has been increased holding of hands — barehanded handholding — which is much more sensuous than its mittened counterpart. And one can barely jog around the lakes without tripping over a balding pre-med student extending a ring toward a weeping girlfriend — which is peculiar, because in grade school I don't remember many girls romantically dreaming of growing up to be proposed to by a man kneeling in gravel and duck feces.

I witnessed a more bizarre display of public affection walking on South Quad late one Monday night. A couple had eschewed the customary canoodling locations — such as a dimly lit dorm room with the stereo on and the roommate kicked out — for the cold, cracked, concrete front steps of South Dining Hall. I only caught a snippet of their conversation, but I believe that it went something like this:

(Shady Dude): You know, Brady Quinn might've stepped here today on his way to Grab 'n' Go.

(Shady Dudette): Take me now!

But this is not the norm. It appears that most springtime intergender relations are much more limited in scope. Or, rather, are limited to males scoping out the other gender. The men I talked with would not admit to having a fiancée or sharing the same side of a two-seat table in South Dining Hall, but spoke glowingly about a staple of this season's fashion: Daisy Dukes with "Irish" written across the bum.

"They're glorious," Phil McNicholas, who will be a Stanford resident assistant starting next fall, says. "I can observe the beauty that is a girl's backside with the excuse of making sure that I, as a business major, still have the capability to read."

Student Body President Dave Baron admitted to having two thoughts when walking behind a girl wearing such clothing: "Ketchup" and "rubber shorts." It was unclear whether Baron was referring to a recipe for vulcanized barbeque or lewd impulses, but an inquiry produced no evidence of pending cases in which he is accused of sexual harassment.

Interested in the impact of the shorts on gender relations, I pursued the matter further at its source: the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. I approached an apparel manager but, intimidated by her walkie talkie, official polo and excellent posture, I managed only one question before terminating the interview.

"Could you tell me where the washroom is?" I asked.

"It's over your shoulder in that direction," she said, pointing menacingly.

Shortly thereafter, I mustered enough courage to interview another bookstore employee, coffee shop worker Emilie Kretschmar.

"How many pairs of girls Irish shorts does the bookstore sell in a given day?" I asked. After a long pause, Kretschmar said, "This is an extreme guesstimate — on an average day, I'd say five to 10."

"Do you notice any trends among the purchasers?" I asked. "I'd say the majority of purchasers are teenage girls with blonde hair," Kretschmar said. "Or sometimes brown."

"Are you familiar with the fingertip rule?" I asked, wondering in the meantime why redheads weren't buying the shorts.

"Meaning your shorts must extend as long as your fingertips?" Kretschmar replied.

"Yes," I said. "It's a staple with many Catholic high schools. Would you say many graduates of Catholic high schools attend Notre Dame?"

"Yes, probably the majority," Kretschmar said while fidgeting.

"Do you believe that these same students would assume that any item they would buy from a Catholic university's bookstore would be compliant with the religion's draconic code of law?"

"I think the bookstore should try to reinforce the principles of the university," Kretschmar said.

"Is it ethical for the university to sell shorts that do not comply with the fingertip rule?" I asked.

"Is the fingertip rule in *du Lac*?" Kretschmar said. Indeed, the fingertip rule wasn't. Premarital sex? Banned. Carnivorous fish? Banned. Registered

and unregistered firearms? Banned. But female clothing which induces the coveting of current neighbors' future wives is OK so long as the bookstore can charge \$32 a pair, plus tax. Perhaps this kind of paradoxical behavior is to be expected from a university with a French name and an Irish mascot.

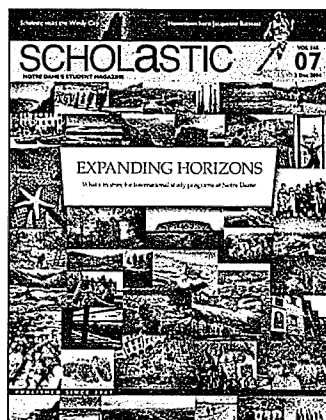
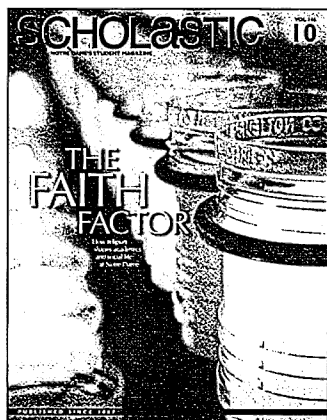
But are the shorts to blame for the dysfunctional nature of Notre Dame relationships? Did someone really become an unapproachable sex symbol upon donning a pair of "Irish Daisy Dukes"? I investigated by borrowing a pair from a female *Scholastic* employee. After putting them on, I made a number of discoveries: (1) I felt more like a flamingo than a sex symbol, and (2) my boxers stuck out the bottom. Nonetheless, I made a trip to the dining hall, winking eyes and shooting smiles at any girl that I passed. No one stopped to talk to me, although one girl held up her hand like she was talking on her cell phone (even though it remained sticking out of her pocket), and if you were walking by then and listening, you would have assumed she was gesturing strangely but talking to me.

Notre Dame gender relations can improve, but unfortunately, as I discovered, cross-dressing isn't the way to do it. □



# THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE SALUTES ITS 2005 INDIANA COLLEGIATE PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNERS:

## *Scholastic magazine – 2005 News magazine of the Year*



### *Editors: Mike Borgia and Annie Robinson*

Staff – Best editorial or essay, first place; best single issue, second place; best overall design, second place.

Phil Hall – Best sports photo, first and second place; best news photo, first place; best photo essay, first place; best illustration, second place, best editorial or essay, second place; best feature photo, third place.

Nick Kolman-Mandle – Best feature story, first and third place.

Jennifer Osterhage – Best news story, first place.

Chris Meskill and Mike Borgia – Best sports story, first place.

Ryan Greenberg – Best informational graphic, second place; best cover design, third place.

Lauren Wilcox, Annie Robinson and Jennifer Wadkins – Best in-depth story, second place.

Beth Murphy – Best entertainment review, second place.

David Redenbaugh – Best single story or story package design, third place.

Brenna Mannion – Best news photo, third place.

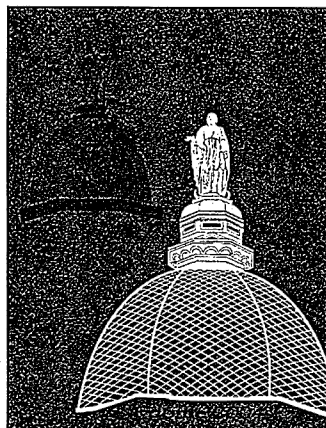
Erik Powers – Best column, third place.

Mike Borgia – Best news story, third place.

Jim Ryan – Best in-depth story, third place.

Tracy Evans – Best entertainment review, third place.

## *Dome yearbook – runner-up, 2005 Div. I Yearbook of the Year*



### *Editor: Robyn Mandolini*

Tara Dane and Soquel Harding – Best album/portrait section, first place.

Nicole Phillips – Best student life section, first place.

Kristin Clark – Best organizations section, first place.

Charles Kennedy – Best news event photo, first place.

Staff – Best execution of theme, second place, best overall design, second place.

Beth Kopko – Best academics section, second place.

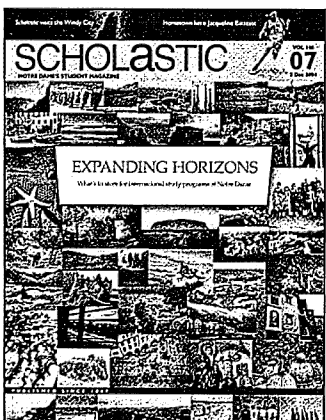
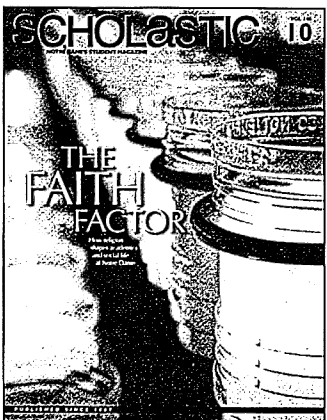
Sarah Schneider – Best news event photo, second place; best sports photo, third place.

Billy Gallagher – Best feature photo, second place.

Veronica Rivero – Best sports section, third place.

Moira Madden – Best special section, third place.

## *Juggler magazine – runner-up 2005 Literary Magazine of the Year*



### *Editors: Liz Melly, Mercy Bachner-Reimer*

Meagan Call – Best hand-drawn illustration, first place.

Maired Case – Best short poem, first place.

Mercy Bachner-Reimer – Best rhymed poem, first place.

Liz Melly – Best short story, second place.

Staff – Best single issue, second place.

Design staff – Best overall design, second place.

Ally Klutenkamper – Best photo illustration, second place.

Design staff (Matthew Searle) – Best cover design, third place.



# The Legacy of John Paul II

R. SCOTTAPPLEBY

Who could have predicted," a non-Catholic political scientist from Harvard exclaimed, "that the world's leading advocate of religious freedom in the final decades of the 20th century would be the pope?"

And a "conservative" Pole, at that!

Yet defending the inalienable right to choose one's own beliefs and religious practices is part of John Paul II's formidable legacy to the world. No government or society can abrogate this right by coercing people to join a particular church or other religious body, or by penalizing them if they choose to do so. Indeed, no church — including the "one, true Church," the Roman Catholic Church, according to John Paul and every other Catholic bishop — can justly collude with the state or any other civil authority to compel religious belief and practice.

It was all the more astonishing that this teaching was proclaimed for 26 years, to hundreds of millions of people in more than 100 nations, by the successor of men who had ordered and approved the persecution of heretics and insisted that religious freedom is a form of "madness."

Anyone who paid attention to Karol Wojtyla before he became the 263rd successor to St. Peter would have seen it coming. As archbishop of Krakow, Wojtyla participated in the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and contributed significantly to the debate that produced the historic Declaration on Religious Freedom.

The document's Latin title — "Dignitatis Humane" — became the clarion call for John Paul II's papacy. "Dignity," the quality of spirit that emanates from our share in God's perfect goodness and eternal life, is the defining characteristic of humanity.

Possessing dignity is not dependent on one's race, religion, income, family background or on any other contingency; life alone carries it. Therefore, depriving individuals of basic human rights on such grounds is always unjust and the ability to discern one's path to God — the fundamental expression of the radical freedom that accompanies human dignity — is the basic human right.

John Paul II inhabited and developed this teaching of Vatican II, which reversed centuries of Roman Catholic policy. Before John Paul II's papacy, this doctrine stated that a rightly ordered state must be Roman Catholic, with non-Catholics enjoying rights or being deprived of them at the whim of Catholic authorities.

John Paul II further explained that religious freedom is the path to true peace because it is the path to God. Peace and human flourishing are inseparable according to Catholic theology, and both require the freedom of the human person, which finds its fulfillment in striving toward ultimate meaning, toward God. The evils of the 20th century, the most pernicious of which the pope had personally encountered in Nazism and Soviet state socialism, were rooted in the attempt to replace God with a totalitarian state. The results were carnage, the violation of human dignity and the reduction of human beings to objects — literally, in the case of the Holocaust. The rivals of God today are different and subtler, John Paul warned. They include the love of material goods, wealth and personal power.

How do we fend off these "pseudo-religions" of totalitarianism, consumerism



**JOHN PAUL II** His profound influence will forever be remembered.

and materialism? By nudging the world and its governments toward policies and laws that promote, or at least do not inhibit, the quest for the true God. In such a world of religious competition for souls, Catholicism will take its chances; the Church need not be supported by the state, but it must not be restricted or persecuted by it (as in China, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and elsewhere).

Not everyone warmed to the pope's message. For example, during a papal visit to India, some Hindu leaders accused him of using "religious freedom" as a justification for attempting to convert Indians to Roman Catholicism. And despite John Paul II's path-breaking dialogues and prayers with other religions, he never wavered on Catholicism's claim that Christ, and Christ alone, is the sole redeemer of humankind.

Yet one cannot appreciate John Paul II's many remarkable achievements — not least, his inspiration of Poland's Solidarity Movement, the labor union whose non-violent protests eventually destabilized the regime and triggered the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe — unless one understands the pivotal role of his defense of religious liberty in remaking both the church he inherited from the Second Vatican Council, and the world he inherited from the enemies of human freedom. No small feat for a "conservative" pope! □

## Habemus Papam!

By: Regina Gesicki

✠ Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, who chose the name Benedict XVI, is the 265th pontiff.

✠ Pope Benedict XVI was head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, a group that protects the orthodoxy of Catholic doctrine, from 1981 until his election to the papacy.

✠ Cardinal Ratzinger chose the name Benedict, derived from the Latin word for "blessing"; the last pope with this name reigned during World War I and is remembered for his efforts to promote peace.

✠ Pope Benedict XVI is the first German pope since Pope Victor II, who reigned from 1055-1057.

✠ The pope speaks 10 languages.

# POINT/COUNTERPOINT

## SPRING VISITATION



### *Yurianna Kim*

*is a freshman in Lyons Hall. She attended Spring Vis in 2004 and had a positive experience that provided an honest view of life as a minority student at Notre Dame. She was so impressed by Spring Vis that she volunteered as a student host and panel member this year.*

When I came to Spring Visitation, I was not seriously considering coming to Notre Dame. I figured I would just get flown in to have a fun stay away from home. My expectations for Notre Dame were exceeded when I arrived on campus and consequently fell in love with the school. I don't feel like I was tricked by Spring Vis; I think it provides an open, honest forum for prospective minority students.

Spring Vis offers several outlets for questions, and the administration does not tell its Spring Vis student coordinators to lie to the prospective students. In fact, Spring Vis features a student-only forum, which allows current students to discuss all aspects of the university openly with the prospects. Student hosts, alumni and regular Notre Dame students all are available to answer questions. For this reason, the claim that Spring Vis is deceitful is without merit; it is likely that these students are angry with themselves for not capitalizing on the opportunities that are available for learning about diversity at Notre Dame.

I feel like the weekend is a positive opportunity for all minority students. I was able to establish friendships with students from across the nation, all of whom I could relate to when I arrived at campus as a student. When I visited, I felt like a part of the Notre Dame family because of the spirit of welcome shown to me. Every Notre Dame student I talked to wanted me to come to Notre Dame, and I still feel completely at home.

So sure, I'm the only Asian in my seminar class, but what does that matter? I didn't expect anything different. Why do people complain about diversity when we, as "diverse" students, have this great opportunity to show our heritages here, whereas at an extremely diverse school, these demonstrations would seem ordinary?

I was so moved by Spring Vis Weekend that I decided to volunteer this year. I was a student host for the weekend and part of the student forum. I answered all the questions truthfully, and we even told the prospects that the weekend does not represent the typical Notre Dame weekend, nor does it reflect the cultural diversity at Notre Dame. Spring Visitation is a profound experience that can be the start to a wonderful journey at Notre Dame. I can say honestly that I still feel that this is the place where I belong, and I, as a multicultural student, am an integral part of the Notre Dame family. □

I attended Spring Visitation weekend two years ago. Unfortunately, when I actually arrived at Notre Dame as an enrolled student, I experienced a rude awakening. Through my story, and this is why I think Spring Vis is not at all what it is hyped up to be.

When a prospective student arrives at Notre Dame for Spring Vis, he or she is treated to a short video depicting what it is like to be a minority student at Notre Dame. Of course, the video shows a completely positive family atmosphere. This is what I first noticed something was wrong. Although there seemed to be many different minority and white students in separate sequences, the black girl in the video was always the same person. It was as if they could find any other black students to take part in the obviously staged video.

True diversity involves members of every different demographic working and functioning together.

This is not the case at Spring Vis because on this weekend, there are only white prospects taking part in the event, not even the minorities. In fact, not even minority students are in a truly diverse environment, as they are split into different sub-groups for lunch. I felt that the weekend was exceptionally patronizing. The fact that the university simply would not tell the students about what it is like to be a minority student at this school is appalling. When asked how much of an impact race relations, the dating and party scene, academic life and other things had on minorities at Notre Dame, most of the student coordinators would tell strained stories that minimized the negative aspects of student life. Although it might seem like "good salesmanship," it is a condescending and dishonest tactic. No student, regardless of his or her race, wants to be fed lies; we all deserve an honest and real representation of our prospective school. Unfortunately, Spring Vis provides a skewed view of most elements of this university. If race relations or campus diversity are ever to improve, reforming Spring Visitation weekend would be the first step in the right direction.

### *Bill Bullock*

*is a sophomore in Alumni Hall who attended Spring Vis in 2003. He feels that the program was not designed to truthfully represent life as a minority student at Notre Dame. He remains outspoken about the lack of dialogue regarding diversity on campus and the dishonesty he feels he encountered at Spring Vis.*



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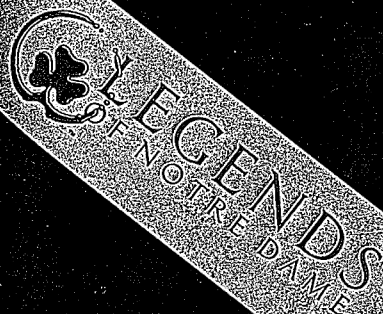
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DAVID REDEBAUGH

IL 2005



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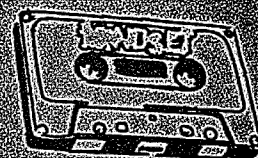


And Legends of Notre Dame



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