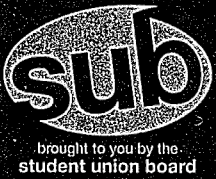


SCHOLASTIC

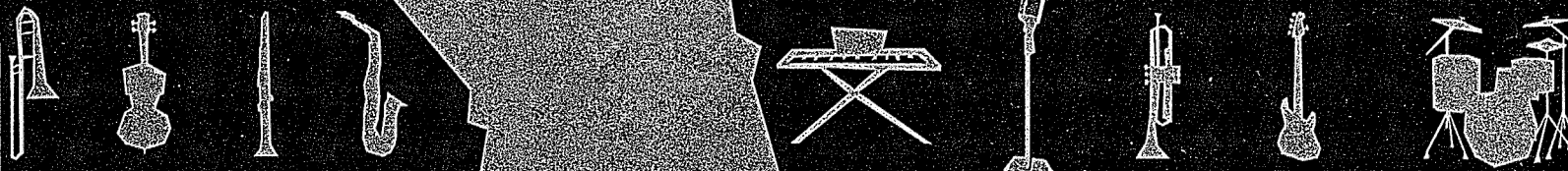
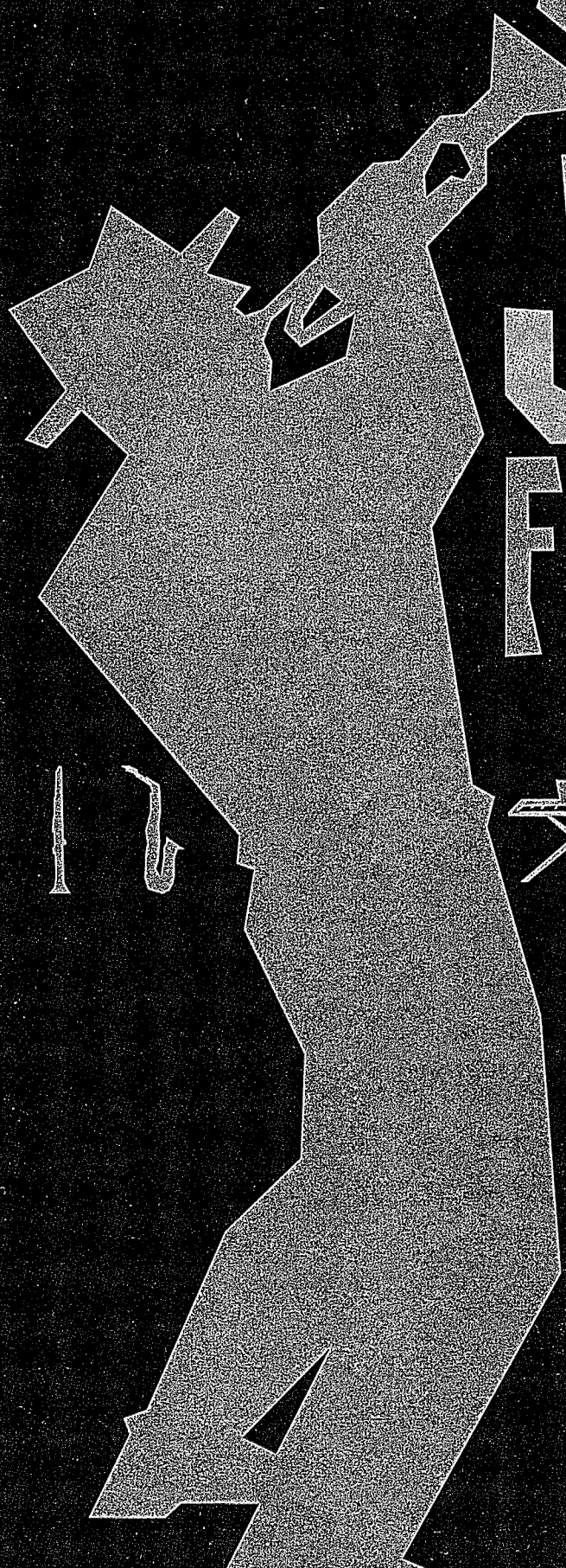
University of Notre Dame's Student Magazine since 1867



Sexual Assault & Rape at ND



51ST ANNUAL COLLEGIATE JAZZ FESTIVAL



February 26-27-28, 2009

CJF Thursday Night
Thursday, February 26, 8:00-11:00pm
LaFortune Ballroom
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Saturday, February 28, 10-11am
Ricci Band Building

CJF Friday Night
Friday, February 27, 7:00-11:00pm
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Friday Concert Session

CJF Saturday Night
Saturday, February 28, 7:00-11:00pm
Washington Hall
Saturday Concert Session

Tickets available at the LaFortune Box Office (no tickets are needed for the preview nights or the clinic). Free to all ND/SMC/HCC students.
Non-student prices are: \$5/ one session, \$8/ two sessions
Tickets can also be purchased at the door, but performances may sell out beforehand.

Also keep open March 28th for a:
Legends Concert

26 FEBRUARY 2009



05

news

06 ***Bengal Bouts***
Alexa Shoen

Scholastic finds out how many of the initial Bengal Bouts hopefuls made it to the ring this year.

09

culture

10 ***Artists Talk Back***
Kate Mullaney

Your mother may have told you not to talk back, but this year the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center is encouraging its visiting artists to engage with the student body, faculty and the community at large.

14 ***Cover: Define "consent"***
Maddy Zollo

As a group of students work to get the sexual assault policy in *duLac* clarified, we take a closer look at the current policy, hearing procedures and the experiences of sexual assault survivors on campus.

23

sports

24 ***Irish Eyes On: Natalie Leopold***
Matt Formica

Senior Irish cheerleader Natalie Leopold brings it on, talking to *Scholastic* about nerves, stereotypes and the time she almost *really* gave the crowd something to cheer about.

26 ***En Garde!***
Alex Hellmuth

Scholastic explores the often misunderstood world of fencing at ND.

28

humor

31 ***25 Things I Hate About You***
Natalie Kratz

Before you give in to the new Facebook craze, read what our humor editor has to say about the things she does and doesn't care to know about you.

EDNOTES

WHAT IS "CONSENT"?

"Crime Alert: Sexual Assault Reported on Campus."

Amid the invitations to academic lectures, Facebook notices and e-mails from family members that flood my inbox, every once in a while a certain subject line catches my eye.

It always comes as a shock, especially when the details of the message place the assault in a residence hall, committed by an acquaintance. After all, this is Notre Dame — supposedly, consensual sex doesn't happen here, let alone date rape.

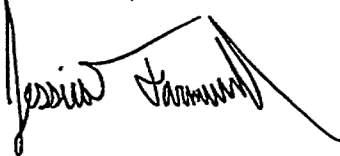
The goal of Notre Dame's Sexual Assault Awareness Week (Feb. 22 through March 1) is to raise awareness that sexual assault, especially in the form of date rape, is a problem on this campus. Events encourage dialogue on the subject, which is usually kept quiet, especially in the broader Catholic context of this university.

On pages 14–19, Associate Editor Maddy Zollo examines sexual assault at ND, from the ambiguity of date rape involving alcohol to the mixed reactions of students who have gone through the ResLife hearing process. She also talks to a group of students that are working to change the sexual assault policy in *duLac*, which currently leaves "consent" undefined and does not mention what happens when alcohol is a factor.

PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW

With this issue, we seniors must say goodbye and pass the torch to the remaining devoted and accomplished staffers. While we'll be glad to have our lives back, we're going to miss the hours upon hours spent each week in the bowels of South Dining Hall, debating the correct use of the semicolon and the respective merits of Britney Spears and Lady GaGa. Thanks for reading, and we can't wait to see where next year's staff takes this publication that we've grown to love so much.

Best wishes,



Jessica Farmwald
Editor-in-Chief

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COVER PHOTO
Adrian Lopez Medina

*Disc Quasi Semper Victurus
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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Is God calling you?

**February 27
Education**

Fr. Tom Eckert, C.S.C.
Fr. Tom Blantz, C.S.C.

**March 27
Mission**

Fr. Bob Dowd, C.S.C.
Matt Kuczora, C.S.C.

**April 3
Parish**

Fr. John DeRiso, C.S.C.
Fr. Neil Wack, C.S.C.

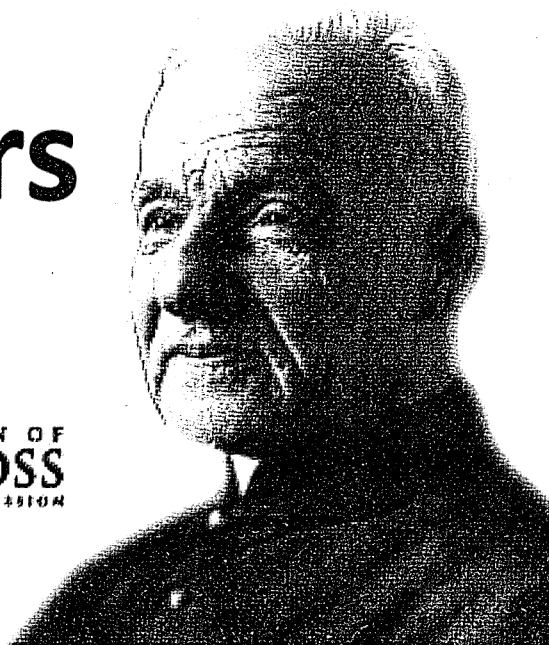
5:30-7:30 p.m.

*beginning at Log Chapel
with dinner to follow at the
Coleman-Morse Center*

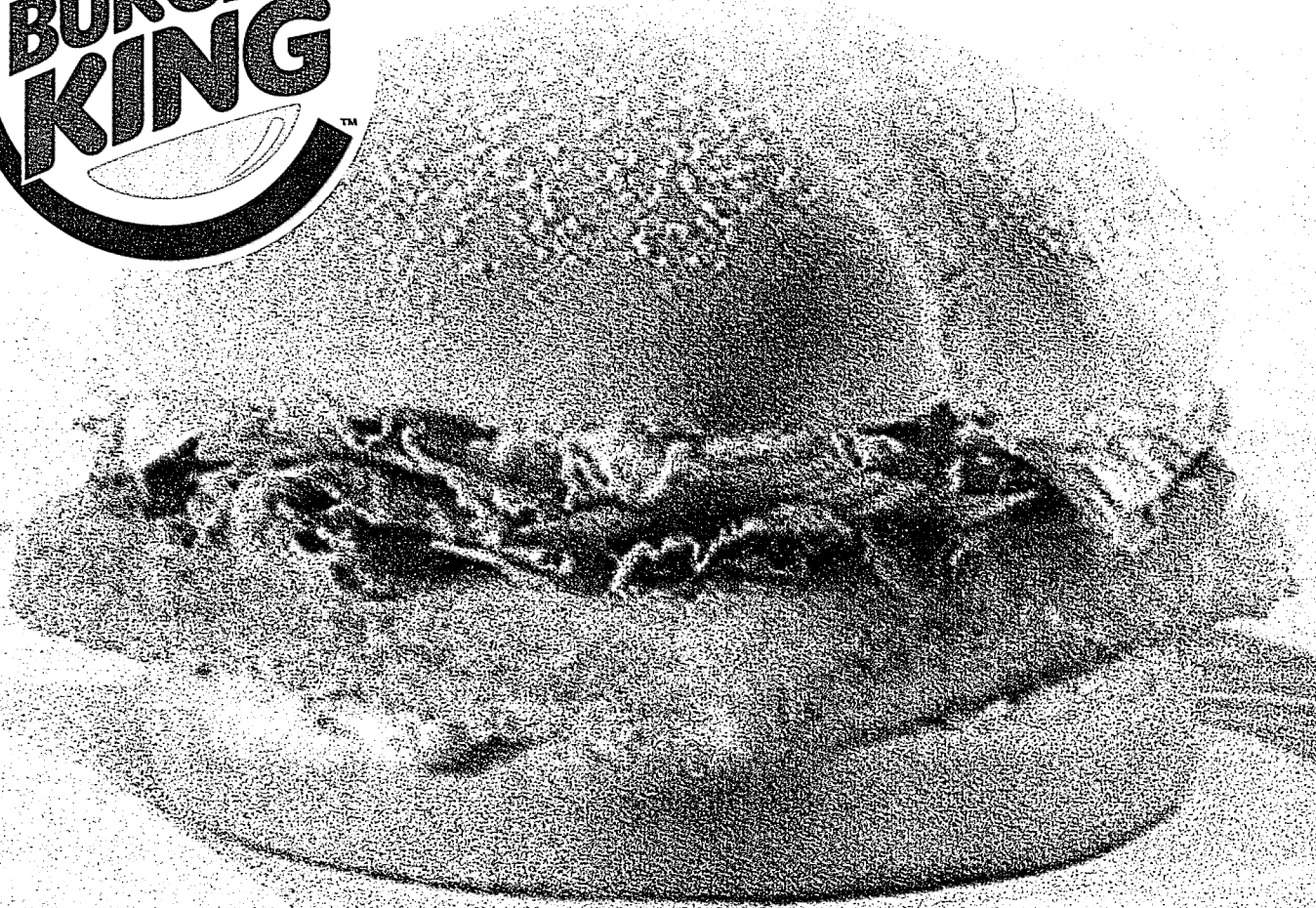
Blessed Brother Andre Bessette, C.S.C. Dinners



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Online Executive Education

Mendoza offers classes for aspiring professionals

Daric Snyder


If you see an advertisement promoting Notre Dame classes online, you should probably still head to your 10:40.

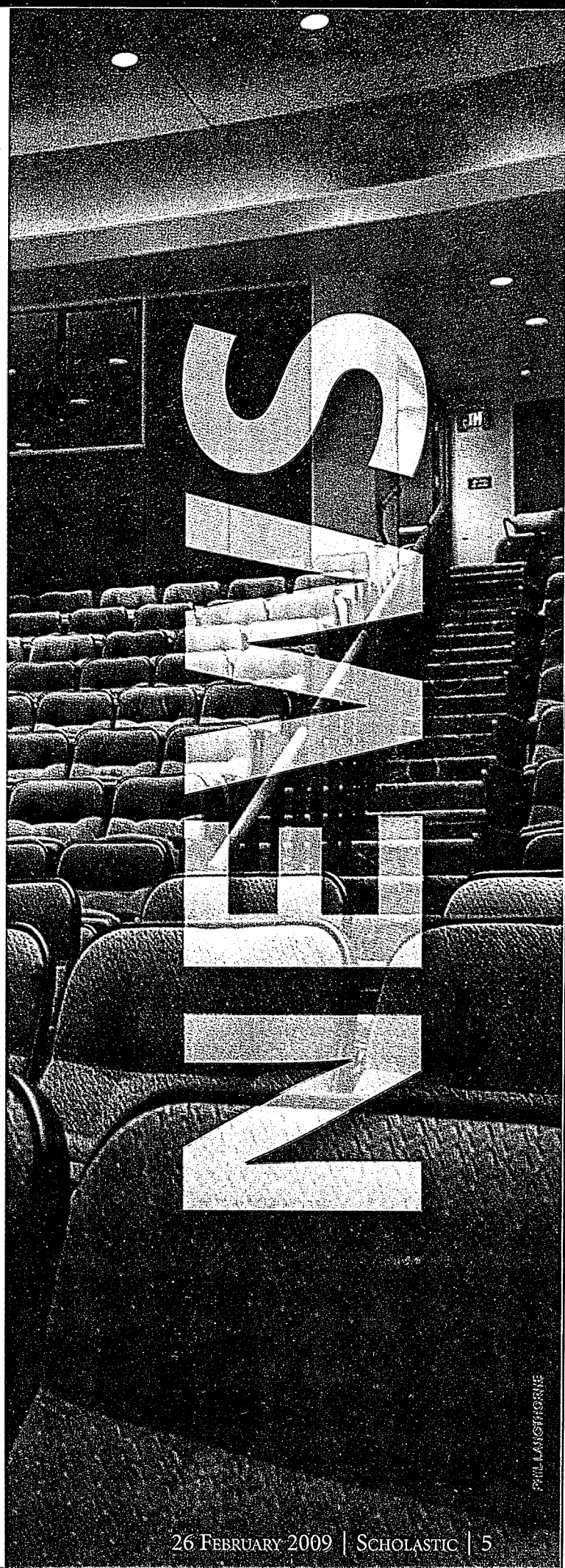
As part of its Executive Education program, the Mendoza College of Business is offering online programs in leadership, negotiation and business administration. Executive Education launched the online program in 2005. These courses do not count toward a Notre Dame degree, but they provide students from around the world an opportunity to expand their knowledge.

According to Christine Cushman, the program manager, the move to add online programs grew from the popularity of Mendoza's other executive education courses. "Our online program gives us a way to serve a greater population," Cushman says. For years, Notre Dame had been offering seminars and programs for professionals, but attendees were limited to those who could reach the Notre Dame campus or off-campus sites in Chicago; Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Davenport, Iowa. The online program was created in coordination with University Alliance, a company that works with several other universities, like Villanova and Dominican, to expand the availability of online education. University Alliance handles most of the operation of the program, managing enrollment, providing the software and Web site and running an online advertising campaign. "It's outsourcing, in a way," Cushman says. "It's a way to grow with a limited program."

Each of the online certificate programs consists of three eight-week courses taken consecutively. The online classes are designed and lead by Notre Dame faculty. The classes include video lectures, readings, exercises, exams and the opportunity to interact with the instructor and other students. Unlike classes posted online via Notre Dame's participation in the OpenCourseWare project, Mendoza's online certificate programs are not free. Each of the nine classes available costs around \$2000, though they are discounted when bought as part of the full three-class program.

"You have to put some money on the line," Cushman says. "It encourages our students to be disciplined." Cushman also notes that the cost of the courses assures the quality of the instruction, covering the expense of providing multimedia lectures and access to the professor and other students. While the price tag may be high for some, many companies will reimburse employees for taking the courses, particularly due to the strength of the Notre Dame brand. The U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs has also approved to pay for the programs for veterans through the G.I. Bill.

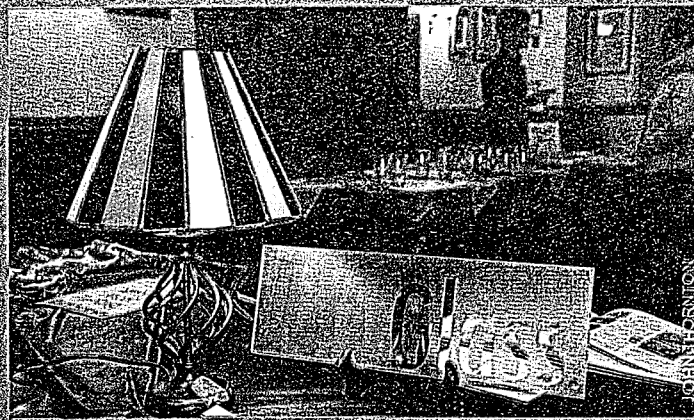
Though the classes are not for a degree, they can be failed. When students complete the three classes that make up one of the online programs, they receive a certificate from the college, which can be used to bolster their resumes. At any given point, hundreds of people are enrolled in one of the programs. With the troubled economy, Cushman says that while the programs haven't seen a surge in new students, she's received more requests for proof of completion from former students seeking new jobs. 



PHIL LANGHORNE



TEDDY LOVE Students stuff bears and make teddy T-shirts on Feb. 12 compliments of SUB, in the Dooley Room of LaFortune.



GLASS FOR SALE Students have the opportunity to purchase glass crafts in LaFortune on Thursday, Feb. 12.

JUDGMENT CALLS

Strong Bodies Fight ...

Bengal Bouts stay strong as a great ND tradition

Alexa Shoen

Try not to get caught in the stampede at Student Activities Night next fall. If this year was any indication, there will be over 300 novice athletes pushing their way through the Joyce, ready to take their turn in the Bengal Bouts' ring. To the surprise of many, the sign-up sheet is not simply a list of naive and confused freshmen. "We get a lot of seniors coming out for their last shot," senior Bengal Bouts captain Mark Weber says.

Bengal Bouts is the annual boxing competition that has supported the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh since '1930.

No matter the age or skill level, Bengal Bouts training is no joke. Run by the captains, novice season begins "very conditioning-based," Weber says. "If we have 300 guys that can make it through that rigorous training, that's awesome. We don't try to get rid of guys." Calisthenics and repetition help build the boxers' athleticism in preparation for the February tournament. Higher-level fighters start out on a similar schedule to get everyone back on the same page. Practices focused on sparring in the ring work the boxers toward the tournament brackets.

The team's philosophy is centered on building respectful relations among the fighters. The 188 men who fought on the first night of the 79th Annual Bengal Bouts each prepared and supported each other for what was about to take place. "It's very much a brotherhood," Weber says.

The finals will be held Saturday, Feb. 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the JACC. ©



"Poker Face"

Best song written in the history of music. EVER.



Bristol Palin's views on abstinence (or whatever)

Notre Dame should adopt her philosophy.



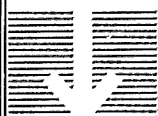
Joaquin Phoenix's interview with David Letterman

We wish you could have been there too, Joaquin.



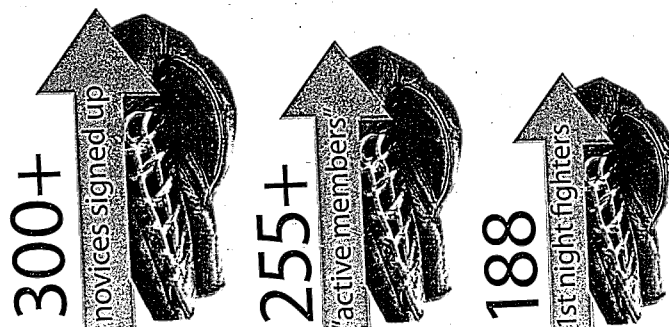
Women's Appreciation Week at St. Mary's College

Women are great and all, but does an all-women's college really need this?



18+ night at Club Fever

Right. The place wasn't sketchy enough already.





JUST DANCE Two students play Dance Dance Revolution on Feb. 18 during the Student Health and Wellness Fair at Rolfs.



CARNAVAL COMES TO SDH Professional dancers share the stage with kids from the South Bend community.

Dancing the Night Away

A night of fun and culture at SDH

Kristina Cloetingh

On Friday, Feb. 13, the east side of South Dining Hall was transformed into a Brazilian palace, with green, blue, yellow and white — the colors of the Brazilian flag — draped everywhere. Samba music piped through the speakers, courtesy of the band Chicago Samba, as dancers in colorful, exquisite costumes danced on stage, and a crowd of people danced below. The Carnival had arrived.

The Kellogg Institute for International Studies has been sponsoring Carnival, its signature event, for 11 years. With its extensive history, this event is far from boring. “It’s still fresh,” Therese Hanlon, event coordinator for the Kellogg Institute, says. The costumes, she says, are always authentic and new every year, and though the band stays the same, the musicians bring palpable excitement. They even added some new events this year, including the “Bloco” parade and a costume contest.

The best part about the event, according to the organizers, was not the costumes or the contests. Rather, it was the people who attended. “We want to reach out to the community,” Hanlon says. And reach out they did, for the people in attendance were a mix of students, local families and teenagers, all dancing up a storm and enjoying the atmosphere of the event. Freshman attendee Tatiana Spragins says, “It was a family kind of thing too, so it was different, but I think that just gave it another kind of feel and was a nice variation from the kind of stuff we normally have on campus.”

Many in attendance thought the night was successful and enjoyed their time. “We had people dancing right up until we turned the lights on,” Hanlon says. S

TOP FIVE

Things Not To Do on Spring Break

- 1 Stay in South Bend and hang out with your rector.
- 2 Flash a video camera and then sign a waiver.
- 3 Get a tattoo with your new BFF who you met in the bathroom line at the resort bar.
- 4 Run off with locals to check out the “undiscovered” beach.
- 5 Apply your own suntan lotion.

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Design for Change

The Graphic Imperative: International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment, 1965–2005

Sara Felsenstein

The Statue of Liberty, digitally altered to include a veil over her face, peers down from one wall. On another, a child in a diaper is perched on an unplugged television, reading a book. Across the way, a gagged figure looks toward the floor, with text that reads, “Don’t Vote (and no one will hear you).”


From every angle, the images that make up “The Graphic Imperative: International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment” challenge and confront the viewer. The posters date from 1965–2005 and cover international issues like the Vietnam War, the harmful effects of smoking, the Holocaust and the war in Iraq. Some of the issues are contemporary, others are strictly of the past, but all show the passion of people working together for change.

The 80 posters portray the social and political issues of many cultures in a single exhibition, hitting on major themes like human rights, environmental concerns, AIDS, war, literacy and sexism. The posters transcend cultural boundaries, culminating in a representation of society’s past struggles. All lined up, one after another, the posters serve as a startling reminder of the world’s achievements, tragedies and revolutions that have led us to where we are today.

The exhibition was organized by Elizabeth Resnick, Chaz Maviyane-Davies and Frank Baseman in collaboration with the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Because of the lack of gallery space, only 80 of the 111 posters acquired could be shown. Anne Knoll, associate director of the Snite Museum of Art, says “[We] tried to ensure we selected some from each of the three thematic sections defined by the curators of the show: peace, social justice and the environment.”

The posters are ironic and funny, shocking and powerful. They are simultaneously a form of personal and mass expression, as the graphic artist takes his or her own personal spin on a major issue. An anti-smoking poster shows blown up cigarettes positioned in the shape of a cross, the red lipstick on one reminding the viewer of blood. A poster protesting the war in Iraq uses the look of a traditional iPod advertisement with the word “iPod” replaced with “iRaQ” with the words, “10,000 Iraqis killed. 773 U.S. soldiers dead,” at the bottom. Another poster responding to homelessness shows a sketch of Jesus and reads, “How Can You Worship a Homeless Man on Sunday and Ignore One on Monday?”

“As a unit of Notre Dame, we try very hard to balance the needs of all these audiences within the framework of the policies, goals and values of a Catholic university,” Knoll says. For this reason a disclaimer is posted outside the exhibition warning of mature content. In addition, the gallery tours are open only to high-school-aged students and above.

The “Graphic Imperative” show opened on January 25 and will be on display until March 1. 



“YOUR LIFEMETER” POSTER BY KYOSTI VARIS, FINLAND 1971, 80 X 120 CM.

Artists Talk Back

Visiting performers engage with the university community and beyond



Kate Mullaney

Throughout the year, students, faculty and members of the greater South Bend community have been getting up close and personal with world-class performers as part of the Marie P. DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's (the Center) expanded offering of residency activities.

Out of 23 acts appearing this season as part of the Visiting Artist Series, 12 have been contracted for residency periods, during which the artists give post-performance talks, work with a wide variety of classes and even incorporate community members into their performances.

In the past, these activities were targeted primarily at the students studying the related art form. Director of Outreach and Guest Services Margot Borger says that for its fifth season, the Center is emphasizing greater campus-wide engagement in the arts, extending the artists' influence beyond those students whom she calls "the usual suspects."

"The artists ... are interested in engaging with students [for some of whom] ... a performing arts discipline isn't part of their regular regimen and trying to help them decipher their performances a little bit

better," Borger says.

Pat Hazell, a critically-acclaimed playwright and an original writer for "Seinfeld," exemplified this vision when his show, "The Wonderbread Years," came to Notre Dame in September. During his residency, he spoke with creative writing graduate students, instructed seminarians on the art of using humor and visited Professor Tracey Thomas' college seminar, "The Self and the Family," to discuss the '60s-era family.

"The conversation with Pat Hazell had prepared [the students] to experience the play as more than just entertainment, [so] that the classroom visit had functioned as a 'first reading,' which opened up for them a significant and deeper engagement with the 'text' of the performance," Thomas says.

Post-performance talks, or "talk backs," have been a staple of the Center's dance performances this season as well. The information given by the director and company members functions as an extension of the performance itself, Borger says.

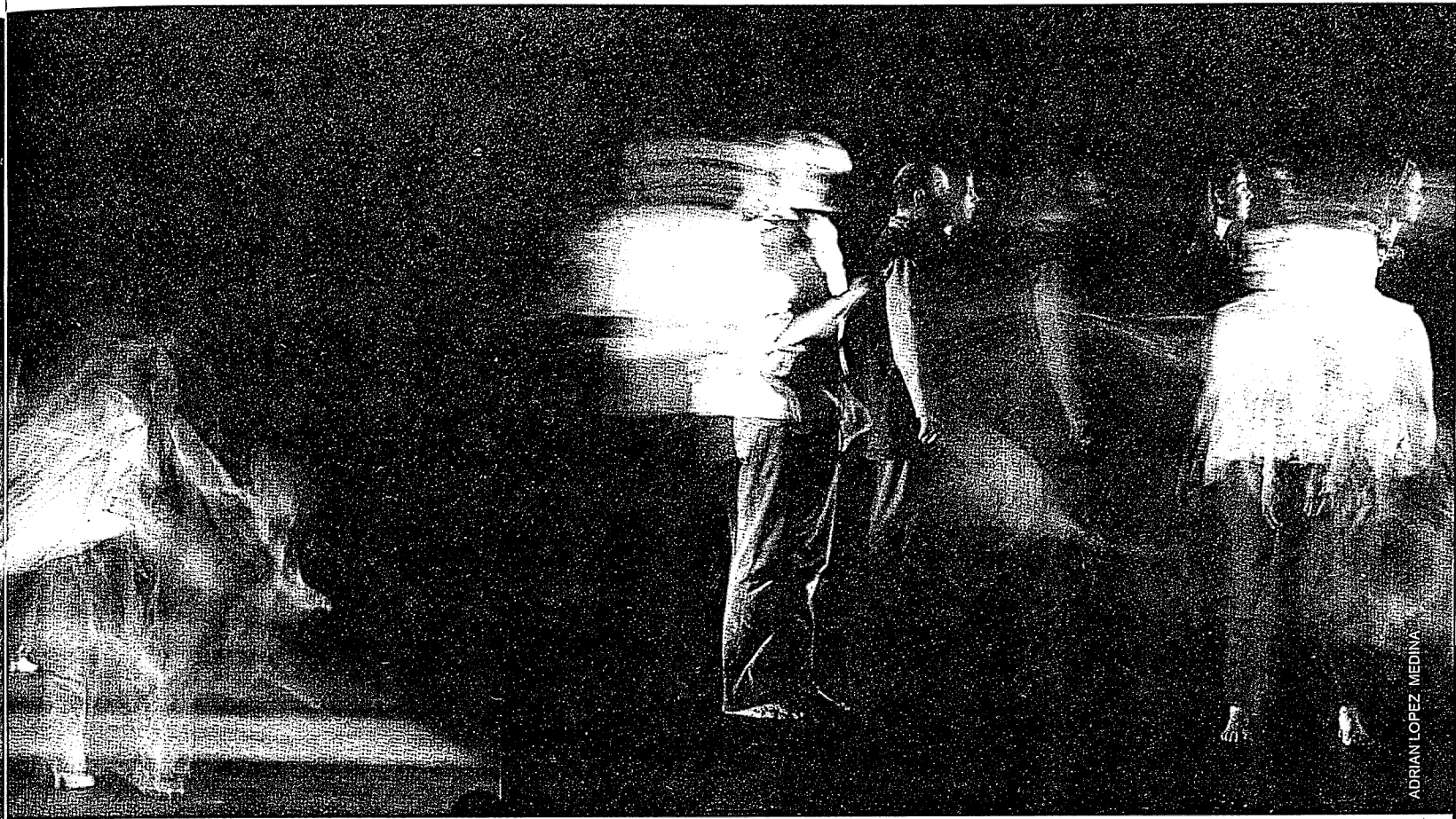
"A lot of times, truly, there's a person in the audience who raises their hand and just wants to know every single company member's

story. It's really just a way of getting the audience engaged with the artist beyond just what they're performing," Borger says.

The Center has also tried to integrate the artistic and academic missions of the university. Many theater productions have featured pre-performance talks led by a faculty member. These discussions explore academic issues relevant to the performance. In February, after L.A. Theatre Works presented "The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial," a play based on transcripts from the famed *Tennessee v. Scopes* trial, anthropology professor Agustin Fuentes gave a lecture titled, "What is Evolution and Why Do We Care?"

"For audiences, seeing the transcripts from the Scopes trial come to life is truly important ... most current discussions about evolution are really about combating ignorance and supporting the ability to truly ask questions about who we are and why we do what we do," Fuentes says.

Like Hazell, Tim Robbins' Actors' Gang extended its stay to the classroom, working with the members of Mark Beudert's Opera Production class on their acting technique in January. Junior vocal performance major



ADRIAN LOPEZ MEDINA

DANCING WITH THE STARS Local students join David Dorfman's professional dancers on stage at the Center.

Madison Prieto, a member of the class, said the group's method of exaggerated physicality combined with emotional intensity helped the students focus on particular emotional states while performing.

"As a singer, you don't really get too much training as an actor ... [The Actors' Gang] really allowed us to take hold of the pure performance aspect of opera without having to sing, and [to practice] just focusing all of our energy," Prieto says.

Professors have also used musical performances to enhance their course work. Professor Larry Dwyer's Introduction to Jazz course had a residency activity with the Grammy award-winning Turtle Island Quartet in February. "[The students] had no idea what to expect," Dwyer says. Dwyer describes their music as a fusion of classical technique and modern jazz with elements of several other styles included. He also emphasizes the personal impact that residency activities can have on students.

"The immediacy of seeing these four instruments (two violins, viola and cello) from just a few feet away was incredibly effective for our students. The setup avoided the stage/audience divide which is typical of

formal concert settings," Dwyer says.

In some cases, the level of engagement with the artists has been extremely high. When David Dorfman brought his acclaimed dance company to campus in January, only eight other dancers accompanied him. The 23 remaining spots in the performance were filled after auditions by members of the Notre Dame, St. Mary's and South Bend communities. The newly-assembled company rehearsed all week and gave four successful performances.

Senior Program of Liberal Studies major Lisa Floran was one of students who participated in the Dorfman show.

"I was personally a little intimidated, because I don't dance much outside of the Backer, my dorm room and the racquetball courts," Floran says.

Her experience allowed her a greater insight into the overall meaning of the performance. "Throughout the week, David was very vocal in telling us why he chose to choreograph certain parts in certain ways and how he made artistic decisions. So not only did we get to dance with his company and wear a lot of flannel, we also got to pick his brain a little bit," Floran says.

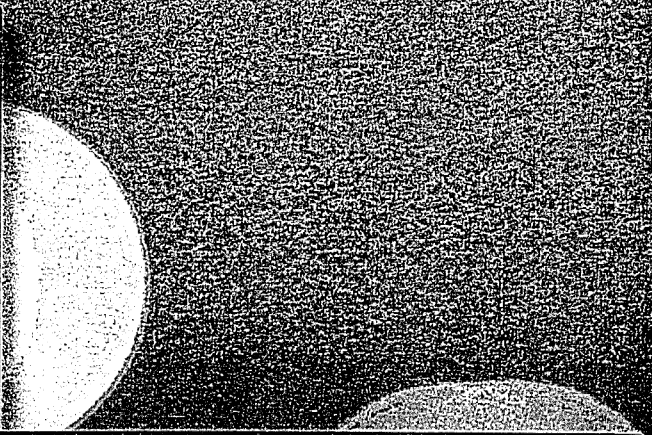
The residency activities also engage the artists themselves, reminding them of the positive impact their work has on its audience.

"Providing direct access through residency activities, panels and talk backs, [community engagement] demands of the performers an awareness of the issues behind the creative process," Anna Thompson, executive director of the Center, says.

Borger also believes the performers relish the opportunity to reach out to the community. She recalls a particularly busy day of activities with Dorfman during which he emphasized the importance of impacting others through his art.

"[The artists] wouldn't want to come here if we weren't giving them the option to be able to do that," Borger says.

Future artists contracted for residency activities are the Spectrum Dance Theater on Feb. 26–28, the Kronos Quartet on March 27–28, and the Luna Negra Dance Theater on April 24–25. **S**



PHOTOS BY ADRIAN LOPEZ MEDINA

HIP HOP NIGHT AT LEGENDS



Define "consent"



Maddy Zollo

Rape at ND



Sexual Assault

A female Notre Dame student wakes up. She is not in her room. Her head is pounding. She remembers being out, talking to a friend of a friend — a cute friend of a friend. She remembers him suggesting they go back to his place — some place quieter, some place they could talk. She remembers them kissing — then she remembers ...

She remembers one thing leading to another — a shirt on the ground, a brief conversation.

Was this her fault? She remembers saying “no.”

The same girl walks into the Office of Residence Life and Housing a few weeks after the morning she woke up next to that “friend of a friend.” Some time has passed, a period that has been filled with agonizing over what to do and attempting to come to terms with the events that occurred.

But the girl finally realized that what had happened to her was wrong. She had been raped. And something had to be done.

The only problem is that it is her word against his.

By the Numbers

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, an estimated one out of four college women will be victims of an attempted or completed sexual assault in one school year alone, whereas only one out of six men will be sexually assaulted in his entire lifetime.

According to *duLac*, sexual misconduct is defined as “including but not limited to: a) sexual intercourse without consent; b) unwelcome touching; c) other offensive sexual behavior.” On average, the University of Notre Dame’s Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) hears about two to three cases of sexual misconduct per year. But since the Department of Justice suggests that 42 percent of college women who have been raped will tell no one about the assault, it is likely that the number of sexual assault and rape cases on Notre Dame’s campus is much higher.

Many cases of sexual assault stem from both members engaging in some form of sexual activity after a night of drinking. Even though in some instances an activity may begin as consensual, there are numerous cases where one of the parties involved crosses the line.

“The cases I see usually fall into the category of acquaintance assaults, between people who know each other either slightly or may know each other well, or between people who are introduced to each other by friends,” Ava Preacher, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Letters and the university’s victim’s resource person, says.

“They cut across all class years. The incident most often occurs off campus. Often, two people are introduced at a bar or club, then leave together though they have just become acquainted. Sometimes, the incidents occur in the residence halls, in the room of one of the two people involved,” Preacher says. “I can’t think of one that did not involve alcohol.”

Alcohol seems to result in many women and men finding themselves in over their heads, and by the time one of them tries to stop what is happening, the situation has gotten out of control.

Intoxication is a factor in nearly all sexual assault cases at Notre Dame, and according to the national average, 90 percent of women know the person who assaulted them. These two factors lead to many people feeling uncertain and confused about what they should do if they believe they have been assaulted. And since alcohol is almost always a factor, it leaves many wondering if what happened should truly be considered sexual assault.

The Morning After

For Hannah*, there was no question about what had happened to her, despite the fact that she consumed alcohol on the night in question — she was raped by Jake*, a boy she had been seeing for only a few weeks. After she told her roommate the following morning, Hannah decided to seek medical attention immediately.

Sister Carrine Etheridge, rector of Farley for the past 16 years, has seen many girls go through ordeals similar to Hannah's.

"I try to urge them to go to the ER," Etheridge says, regarding her course of action when a sexual assault is brought to her attention. "It's their decision, but the evidence is only here for a short time. They may not know what they want to do down the road, but they should do what they can now."

If Hall Staff is notified of a situation in which the victim wants to receive medical care, they call the S-O-S of Madison Center. The S-O-S of Madison Center is St. Joseph's County's rape crisis center, and once the number is called, an S-O-S advocate will meet the student at the hospital.

"Our women will go with the S-O-S person, so her privacy is maintained," Etheridge says. "We have college students who are trained S-O-S advocates, and it's so nice to have someone to tell [them] what's going to happen and are with them throughout their hospital visit."

Seeking medical attention doesn't require the victim to file a police report or press charges, and many of those who have been sexually assaulted choose to do nothing at all.

Heather Rakoczy Russell, director of the Gender Relations Center (GRC), believes that one of the major reasons that some Notre Dame students are scared to come forward is due to their Catholic faith.

"The one thing that I think does make rape and sexual assault distinctive at Notre Dame is that we do hear survivors reporting that they feel this tremendous sense of guilt or shame that is sometimes, for some people, complicated by their religious values," Rakoczy Russell says. "And because of that they feel perhaps an extra weight ... that they might feel

hindered to share with friends or family or to share even with an anonymous other."

The university encourages those who have been survivors of sexual assault to reach out to Preacher. She can help inform survivors about the different options they have available to them.

"I inform them of the processes they can engage in and what will happen if they do. For example, if they wish to file charges with local authorities (city or county police), I let them know how that process is initiated and how it will proceed. I do the same with the university disciplinary process," Preacher says. "My job is to provide information, not advice or counseling."

The University Counseling Center, Campus Ministry, on- and off-campus support groups and Hall Staff members can also give survivors counseling or pastoral support.

Seeking Justice

For survivors who are considering filing a sexual assault case with the ORLH, the university recommends that he or she speak with Preacher beforehand to see what is involved in seeking disciplinary action against the assailant. Any survivor could also go anonymously to the ORLH and request information regarding the process without having to officially make a decision. The ORLH will give out all the information with no questions asked, and under no circumstances will the ORLH get a victim in trouble for any sexual assault situation that involved breaking parietals or underage drinking.

After Hannah consulted with Preacher, she decided that going through the disciplinary process would be the best decision for her. She was hoping for a mediated conversation with Jake because there was a disconnect between their accounts of what had happened that night, particularly because they had been dating at the time.

Hannah was told that she needed to write a statement for Jake to read, and she also received an advisor to keep her posted on how things were going throughout the process. Because both Jake and the board members chosen

for the ORLH hearing had to read her statement, the hearing was not held for another three weeks.

During the hearing, Hannah and Jake were each allowed to have their rectors and one peer present for support. The only other people in the room were the three board members who were part of the hearing panel. Once the hearing began, Hannah was asked a number of questions while Jake sat listening. Much to her surprise, however, she was not allowed to hear anything that Jake had to say about the incident.

When she received the verdict of the case, she was startled to see that he was "not found responsible for any sexual misconduct," and she says she was troubled that there was nothing else for her to do — the case was closed. Hannah says she was left clueless and frustrated about why this decision was made, partly because she had no idea what he had told the hearing panel.

"None of this would have been this difficult had I just gotten to hear what he said in the room," Hannah says. "Instead the system is set up for me to defend myself, and he was a victim of circumstances."

Hannah had no idea whether Jake's story had matched up with hers, and no one, because of confidentiality agreements, could explain to her what factors led to Jake being declared innocent.

Although Hannah says that Jake privately apologized after the hearing, admitting that his sexual actions toward her were wrong, he still was not charged with any wrongdoing.

"He is still living as he always has with no consequences because they did not [hold him accountable] for his actions," Hannah says.

It is difficult to tell whether Hannah's experience is representative of the way most hearings are conducted. Confidentiality issues prevent those involved from disclosing details on the process.

"I've seen it both ways," Etheridge says, about whether female students are satisfied after a hearing. "I've had women who went to a hearing for a healing process. They needed to make sure no one else would get hurt by this person, or they needed to take control again."

"Then there are others who may cry foul play, but when it gets to the hearing and once they begin to get questioned and cross examined, it seems more consensual than they lead you to believe," she says. "These people leave dissatisfied because it wasn't as easy as they thought it would be — it's pretty tough to prove it."

Preacher agrees, saying that the majority of those who did seek disciplinary action said they were dissatisfied because they didn't get the result they had expected.

The hearing process can create twin anxieties. To be sexually assaulted and not to feel that justice has been served is a devastating situation. To be wrongly convicted of sexual assault is equally devastating.

Many cases are not reported immediately and lack any clear physical evidence, in addition to the fact that the two parties may have conflicting stories about exactly what was said and if clear boundaries were drawn. The best way to deal with cases of sexual assault and rape at Notre Dame is still being determined.

Changing Policy

This semester, in response to a Student Senate resolution, Notre Dame's sexual assault and rape policy is in the process of being revised.

The resolution came about when a number of undergraduate students brought their dissatisfaction regarding the sexual assault and rape policy at

the university to the Gender Issues Committee. The Gender Issues Committee is an all-student board that is part of student government and is co-chaired by senior accounting and gender studies major Lauren Cummings and junior philosophy major Patrick Tighe.

Many of the people who have come to the committee have experienced either their own or a friend's dissatisfaction with the way a sexual assault case has been handled. Much of their dissatisfaction comes from the unclear policy Notre Dame has regarding sexual assault and rape cases.

Unlike many other universities, Notre Dame does not give any sort of definition of consent — *duLac* only states that sexual misconduct includes but is not limited to "sexual intercourse

"The one thing that I think does make rape and sexual assault distinctive at Notre Dame is that we do hear survivors reporting that they feel this tremendous sense of guilt or shame that is sometimes, for some people, complicated by their religious values."

— Heather Rakoczy Russell



without consent.” Without a clear definition, the exact meaning of consent is up for debate.

If someone gives consent to kiss, does he or she have to give consent again to go further? Does a person still have to give consent if alcohol is involved, even though he or she may be unable to state what they want? Because *duLac* leaves out specifics regarding the terms of consent, these questions are left unanswered, and the notion of implicit consent is not ruled out.

“Implicit consent is the misconception that consent to one sexual act implies consent to other sexual acts. In addition, past occurrences of consensual sex do not grant implied consent for future sexual acts,” Cummings says. “Consent is active, not passive. The absence of explicit protest does not constitute consent.”

According to Hannah, because she and Jake were dating at the time and there is no clear definition of what consent is in *duLac*, the decision to take no disciplinary action against Jake was based on the question of his intent and not his physical actions.

Hannah says she feels that even if he hadn’t intended to sexually assault her, it doesn’t change the fact that he did so and faced no repercussions.

Also, since the definition for consent is so vague, some people worry that perpetrators will believe what they have done is acceptable.

“I don’t think Notre Dame [students] understand many issues surrounding rape and sexual assault,” Tighe says. “By having a clearly articulated policy that can better educate and instruct students about rape and sexual assault, I believe we, the university and students, can prevent a male ND student from saying that he didn’t know that it was rape, that he was ignorant or didn’t understand, or that he lacked the understanding about the circumstances in which consent can be given and that previous consent to some sexual acts doesn’t imply consent to other sexual acts.”

Failing to fix this blurry definition of consent perpetuates the difficulties of dealing with sexual assault and rape cases. Also, because *duLac* states that having sex without consent will result in immediate suspension or expulsion, Cummings says that most males who

are unsure about whether they did or did not have a female’s consent will say that they did in order to protect themselves.

“No one will confess,” Cummings says. “It’s always one person’s word versus another.”

Not only is a “he said, she said” situation tricky to resolve in a hearing, but the lack of definitions about what is and isn’t rape can also make either one of the parties involved into a victim.

“With the absence of definitions, it creates a system that is black and white, and therefore, does not work very well,” Hannah says. “For instance, if a young woman accuses a young man of rape, then there are at least two conclusions. First, it actually happened. Or second, the young woman is delusional and lying by making quite an accusation. In either case, the accusation is extremely serious, and severe damage has been inflicted on someone. In either circumstance, there is a victim.”

The hope for a change in sexual assault and rape policy and a clearer definition of consent wasn’t initially part of the Gender Issues Committee’s agenda, but it grew in reaction to the student body’s needs and pleas. Before Cummings and Tighe knew it, the resolution for change had been passed.

“I think the biggest thing with passing the resolution was the conversation between students and the administration,” Cummings says. “They were unaware that this policy wasn’t effective and that there were students who thought resources and policies were inadequate.”

Once the Student Senate passed the resolution, the Committee of Sexual Assault Prevention (CSAP) got involved. CSAP is a committee made up of students, faculty and staff.

“CSAP offers advice and guidance to the Office of Student Affairs on how to assist and support victims and survivors of sexual assault,” CSAP Co-Chair and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Ann Firth says. “It also facilitates collaboration and communication among the different university departments and student groups working to address sexual violence and spearheads a variety of rape education and prevention initiatives.”

CSAP is now working alongside student government to help conduct

an official review of university sexual assault resources in three separate areas: policy and procedures, resources for victims and survivors, and education and prevention efforts.

One of the goals of the policy and procedures committee is to give a complete definition of consent and to develop a gradation policy. A gradation policy sets in stone certain punishments for different degrees of offenses, so the system will no longer be so inflexible.

“By having the gradation policy, there would be a more clear definition of what constitutes sexual misconduct as well as the punishments that accompany a violation of the specific types of misconduct,” Tighe says. “Furthermore, the university can better educate the students about what constitutes sexual assault if sexual assault is more clearly defined and articulated. And the university can be held to more consistency and accountability when reprimanding students. That is, they would have to reprimand students equally for all misconduct grouped in the same level of severity.”

The policy and procedures committee is currently compiling data from other major colleges and universities, such as Villanova and Boston College, to compare sexual assault and rape policies in order to create a comprehensive and effective policy at Notre Dame — one that aims to improve and elaborate on the current sexual misconduct policy.

Education and Prevention

Along with all its work towards changing the university’s policy, CSAP is also making strides to increase sexual assault prevention and awareness. The GRC is a programming office at Notre Dame that is aimed at creating dialogue and promoting awareness about healthy relationships, gender and sexuality within the student body, and the GRC is working alongside CSAP and student government to further these initiatives.

Every year, the GRC puts on a Sexual Assault Awareness Week which includes events ranging from Take Back the Night — an event planned to include a prayer service, a march to Holy Cross Hill and a speak-out at a bonfire — to a dinner that includes a variety of speakers

on the topic of sexual assault and rape. The GRC is also planning to launch a Violence Prevention Initiative next fall, which would be a plan to incorporate events and forums on sexual assault throughout the entire school year, in hopes of bringing these issues out into the open and to increase the student body's awareness.

"We believe in doing things from the bottom up," Rakoczy Russell says in regard to the actions the GRC is taking to increase prevention and awareness around campus.

By raising awareness, Rakoczy Russell hopes that the survivors of sexual assault and rape will come forward. She says she believes that the more these issues are brought up and talked about, the more likely it is that change will occur. Students can then become more aware that sexual assault and rape are issues that need to be addressed at ND and will learn what they need to do to prevent rape and sexual assault.

Along with the GRC, the student club Men Against Violence is also making efforts to raise awareness on campus. Throughout the school year, the club hosts a variety of events, ranging from its poster campaign to a media literacy event.

"Men Against Violence was created because rape and sexual assault are widely regarded as women's issues — this is simply not the case," junior history and psychology major Tim Latham, president of the club, says. "These are largely men's issues because over 99 percent of such crimes are committed by men."

"The group's goal is to increase awareness of these issues and speak to men, the perpetrators of rape and sexual assault, about what is OK and what isn't," he says. "We as men are in a better position to speak to men about these things."

Men Against Violence members hope to educate their peers about what consent is and how to make good choices.

"Keep your eyes and ears open and challenge the social norm — don't be afraid to speak up if you see something you know to be wrong," Latham says. "When you're at a party, keep an eye on your buddies and have them do the same for you. As men, we are responsible for our actions, and we have to look out for

each other and keep ourselves out of trouble."

Moving Forward

By the end of this school year, the resolution to change the sexual assault and rape policy at Notre Dame should be passed to Fr. Mark Poorman, vice president for Student Affairs for final approval. Through the continuous involvement and dedication of student government, CSAP, the GRC and other student groups, the improved policy has the potential to lead to a greater awareness of what sexual assault is and the consequences associated with it.

"Sexual assault and rape are very real problems on virtually every college campus, and Notre Dame is no exception," Firth says. "All of us within the Notre Dame community share responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment that promotes the safety and dignity of each individual. Sexual violence has no place at Notre Dame."

Whether or not the passing of this resolution will actually decrease the number of cases of sexual misconduct on campus is yet to be seen, but everyone involved with the resolution seems optimistic.

"It's members of our community raping and sexually assaulting members of our community," Rakoczy Russell says. "It's in our power; we can stop it." **S**

EFFECTS OF Sexual Assault on Victims:

- fear
- depression
- loss of control
- sleep & concentration problems
- disordered eating
- alcohol and drug abuse

VITAL STATS: On Rape & Sexual Assault (From the U.S. Dept. of Justice)

- 1 in 4 college women will be the victims of an attempted or completed sexual assault this year
- Female college first-year students are most vulnerable from the first day of school until Thanksgiving Break, as this is when the most sexual assaults occur during college
- 84% of men thought what they did was not rape (UCLA study)
- 30% of men would commit rape if they thought that they could get away with it (UCLA study)
- 71% of rapes are planned in advance
- College students who get drunk at least once a week are 75% more likely to be sexually victimized and significantly more likely to be hurt or injured than other student drinkers
- 13.3% of college women indicated that they have been forced to have sex in a dating situation (Johnson & Sigler, 2000)

RISK REDUCTION:

- Trust your gut. If you don't feel comfortable in a situation, leave.
- Be in charge of your own life. Don't put yourself in a situation where you have to rely on other people to take care of you. Also, when on a date, don't feel you "owe" that person anything.
- Be cautious inviting someone into your home or going to someone else's home. Three out of five sexual assaults occur in the victim's home or the home of an acquaintance.

Campus Chatter

DEPARTMENT OF FUNNY BUSINESS

Last Saturday night I took a cross-country skiing trip over to Legends to interview that blond guy from “Best Week Ever.”

Remember that guy? What’s his name again? He was that white guy on the “Mad Real World” sketch on “Chappelle’s Show.” Does “You stabbed my father!” ring a bell? What about, “I had sex with Katie, too!”

You probably don’t remember Christian Finnegan by name, but only by his face. He’s an exclusive member of that nebulous type of celebrity known as “that guy,” well-known more for who he plays on TV rather than who he is.

Finnegan is the latest in the long line of “that guys.” Previous “that guys” performing at Legends in the past couple of years have included the 7-Up guy, that guy from the game show “Cash Cab” and that Indian guy from the MTV sketch series “Human Giant,” among others. Bonus points if you can tell me their names without looking them up.

“I can understand a little bit more than I used to about the awkward moments that having some face recognition can bring,” Finnegan tells me before his performance. “There are certain times where people see me on the subway, and I imagine it’s the same way a woman feels when a guy is trying to decide whether he wants to have sex with me or not. Is it worth it? Do I care? Do I really care?”

As a quasi-celebrity, Finnegan comes off as a relatively normal, unpretentious guy, although arriving late to our scheduled interview certainly doesn’t help my impression of him. Having arrived in South Bend approximately an hour before show time, he says he didn’t feel the need to over-prepare or go through any pre-show rituals. “I wish I did have a weird thing like, ‘I need to have a chilled Capri Sun before every show, and then I need to touch my nose 14 times,’ or something like that. I guess I don’t.”

For many celebrities known exclusively in popular culture for playing one or two relatively insignificant roles, the task is to

prove to everyone that you have much more to offer. Although Finnegan shares these feelings, he says he realizes that his role as the overly naive and well-meaning Chad on a “Chappelle’s Show” sketch garnered him a panelist spot on “Best Week Ever,” which subsequently made him recognizable enough that Legends would recruit him to perform. In some sense, he seems to relish his “that guy” role.

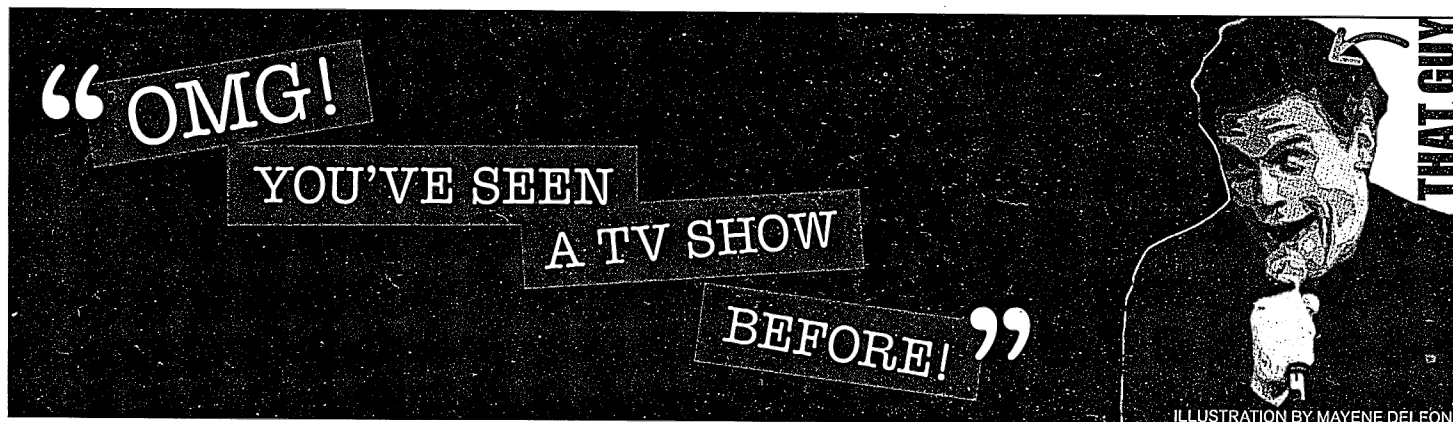
“I relish any month that I don’t have to temp to pay rent. Do you want more? Of course. Everybody always does. There’s always this feeling of ‘Well that’s great, but what else can I make happen?’ I constantly have to remind myself that there’s been a lot of good fortune involved,” Finnegan says.

Finnegan says he often gets his most well-known lines yelled at him in public and in his performances, and he enjoys exploiting the absurdity of such practices. “Some guy actually yelled out in the middle of one of my performances, ‘I had sex with Katie, too!’ I actually called him out on it. I said, ‘OK, now you’ve said that, what in your mind did you think was gonna happen next? In your mind, what came next after you saying that? Would people just stand up and applaud? Oh, my God! You’ve seen a TV show before!’”

Though Legends was packed with students and parents eager to watch that blond guy from “Best Week Ever” perform stand-up, Finnegan downplayed his pop culture status. “When you’re a college student, “CSI,” “House,” “Rock of Love,” “Best Week Ever,” it’s all TV in their minds. They don’t understand that the people in “House” live in mansions with jacuzzis and things like that, and in “Best Week Ever,” you’re sitting in front of a piece of construction paper. It’s a very different vibe.”

—Marques Camp

The views of this author are not necessarily the views of Scholastic Magazine.



REVIEWS & PREVIEW



Responding to Rhythm: ND Symphony Orchestra Winter Concert

Maria Sellers

On Friday, Feb. 27, the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra will hold its annual winter concert.

From the slowly changing harmonies of Aaron Copland to the melodic symphonies of Antonín Leopold Dvořák, attendees are sure to be rhythmically moved.

The symphony orchestra, composed of both undergraduate and graduate students, will perform classics by modern and Romantic-era composers. Junior trombone player Anthony Parrish will also perform a solo. Parrish, who won the concerto competition last fall, will mix his talent with that of the orchestra to create an unconventional and modern sound.

Even if you don't listen to much classical music, the expressive songs performed by the orchestra promise to be truly touching. The performance will be enjoyable for the music lover, the orchestra aficionado and even the curious friend.

Director Dan Stowe says, "This concert is a great way to hear wonderful music by talented musicians. Students are sure to be pleasantly surprised by the quality of music-making by their peers."

Birdsong

Mike Benz

In Andrew Bird, a composer's mind and minstrel's spirit meet, crafting flights of fancy alternately spare and lush. In his early band, Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire, Bird mingled violin virtuosity with jazz and folk before starting a solo career now four albums deep. *Weather Systems* (2003) and *The Mysterious Production of Eggs* (2005) featured Bird's quietly wistful voice accompanied by folksy guitar, violin and an irresistibly haunting whistle. In *Armchair Apocrypha* (2007), layers of guitar and string loops swelling behind violin, glockenspiel and more songbird whistling give Bird's music a symphonic sweep, brimming with bittersweet melodies. On his new album, *Noble Beast*, Bird blends composer and minstrel better than ever with intricately woven folk music. Each song is a new texture of his lonely resilience. In "Fitz and the Dizzyspells," longing transforms into whimsical energy, while "Natural Disaster" lingers in subdued reveries. Bird shines in daring moments of rare fervor — in "Anonanimal," his repetitive wordplay intensifies to a beautiful irresolution. The album's characteristic tone, however, is a wonder that seems to meander through strangely peaceful curiosities, voiced in sinewy lyrics. Charming in its strangeness, Bird's emotional world seems to expand in honesty and inventiveness with each listen.

"Guernica" Comes to Campus

Alexa Shoen

The Department of Film, Television and Theatre will present "Guernica" under the direction of FTT Professor Anton Juan this month at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Both Juan and Playwright Yiannis Lyntsioulis are scheduled to present during "Darwin and Theatre: Migration and Evolution: An International Playwrights Conference." The conference takes place in McKenna Hall from Feb. 24 through Feb. 26.

The tragedy, a true story in which an Albanian shipwreck leaves refugees afloat off the coast of Italy, complements the university's theme of "Darwin and Notre Dame." Searing in its immediacy — the play is set in 1997 — "Guernica" will explore the impact of imperialism, irresolute politics and abandoned ideals of generations past. Because of its ties to the Darwin and Theatre Conference, the director and playwright should have interesting comments to add during the conference. The theme of evolution is sure to come up in some remarkable ways — the question is whether or not the Notre Dame audience will be willing to listen.

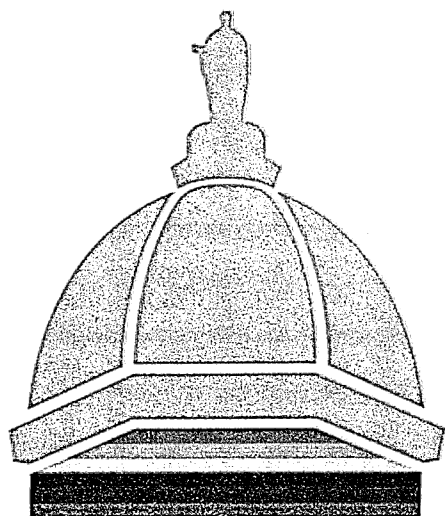
Tickets are available for purchase (\$15 general admission, \$12 faculty/staff, \$12 seniors, \$10 students) at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Ticket Office or online at performingarts.nd.edu. Showings are Tuesday, Feb. 24, through Saturday, Feb. 28, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 1, at 2:30 p.m.

Just Not That Into This

Frances Thunder

Pros: An A-list cast of very attractive people that both sexes can enjoy viewing. Cons: Everything else. If men were afraid of women before, thinking that we were over-analytical, temperamental, emotional stalkers/commit-to-me-now freaks, we just handed them evidence on a silver platter in the form of a Hollywood film. While the movie is based on a best-selling book, I was just not into "He's Just Not That Into You." Despite the stellar cast, the characters were obnoxious and over-the-top. Jennifer Aniston's character's situation is the only one that is even remotely relatable. Unfortunately for the audience, however, Ginnifer Goodwin's cringe-worthy character and ridiculous actions clouded any pity I felt for the somewhat normal women. I can't watch people embarrass themselves, and usually I just change the channel or walk away. Because I was in a movie theater and paid \$6.50, I wasn't going anywhere. Yes, I enjoy my chick flicks, but when I have to spend almost a quarter of the time looking away from the screen, it's gone beyond the caliber of flicky-ness acceptable. On the plus side, if your boyfriend sees this movie, and you're anywhere near more normal than the female characters, maybe he'll thank his lucky stars and get you something nice. Or maybe he'll decide to bail and dump you before the "inevitable" happens. One star for hot actors.

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



CORE COUNCIL FOR GAY & LESBIAN STUDENTS

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students (Information, education, and resources)

Contact: Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, dunn.54@nd.edu, 1-5550, or Eddie Velazquez at evelazqu@nd.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources in 304 Co-Mo; discussion and support)

Contact: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

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

Visit our web site at

corecouncil.nd.edu

The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the

Denny Moore Award For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at:
<http://osa.nd.edu/get-involved/student-activities-and-awards/denny-moore-award/>

Nominations are due by Thursday, March 5, 2009.

Seniors:

Check the listing
of your name and major(s)
in the *Dome* yearbook.

Go to www.nd.edu/~Dome

And click on

“Senior Class Information.”

The 2009 Dome arrives April 21

Ice Ice Baby

Notre Dame women take to the ice

Mary Kaminski


The No. 1 Notre Dame men's hockey team isn't the only Fighting Irish team skating across the ice in the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center. The Notre Dame women's hockey club, now in its seventh season, is comprised of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's women with a wide range of hockey experience. Regardless of each player's ability, the women are finding ways to win. At 13-3 so far this season, they are off to their best start in club history.

Led by senior co-captains Margaret Knoedler and Amy Wilhelmy, the club offers the unique opportunity for former high school, club and novice hockey players to continue competing on the ice. The club doesn't have tryouts, and this season 18 women came out for the team. The absence of a women's varsity team at Notre Dame makes it possible for players with a large spectrum of skill levels to participate. "We have a lot of girls who wouldn't be able to skate at [the varsity] level, and I think even a lot of the girls that can skate wouldn't want to put in that time commitment," Wilhelmy says.

The Fighting Irish are members of the Women's Central Hockey League's South White Division, consisting of mostly Chicago-land teams. They are the only team in their division that is university-affiliated. The Evanston Tigers White, Romeoville Rampage White and Hoffman Estates Flash, who make up the rest of the division, are teams of women in their 20s and 30s, some of whom are Notre Dame alumni and former women's hockey club members. The Irish also play Northwestern University and Loyola University Chicago. Notre Dame beat Northwestern in both meetings this season but has yet to face Loyola. The season runs from October through March, ending with a league championship tournament within the division.

Coached by sophomore Conor Brennan, senior Mike Amenta and law student John Meiser, the club practices twice a week with games on 10 weekends throughout the season. "It's nice that it's club because people's commitments vary. You really only put in as much time as you want to. But we have a group who loves to play, so it works out," Wilhelmy says.

The team has performed well in its league, a testament to the hard work it puts in despite its sub-varsity status. "This is the first year we have had a winning record. We have a lot of girls that played in high school and five seniors, so we have good experience," Wilhelmy says.

The club will graduate five seniors this year, so it will look to its young talent in the upcoming seasons. "It's exciting because we had to get a brand-new goalie this year, Elissa Cmunt, who has never skated before, and it's going really well. She's a freshman, so hopefully she'll stick with it," Wilhelmy says. 

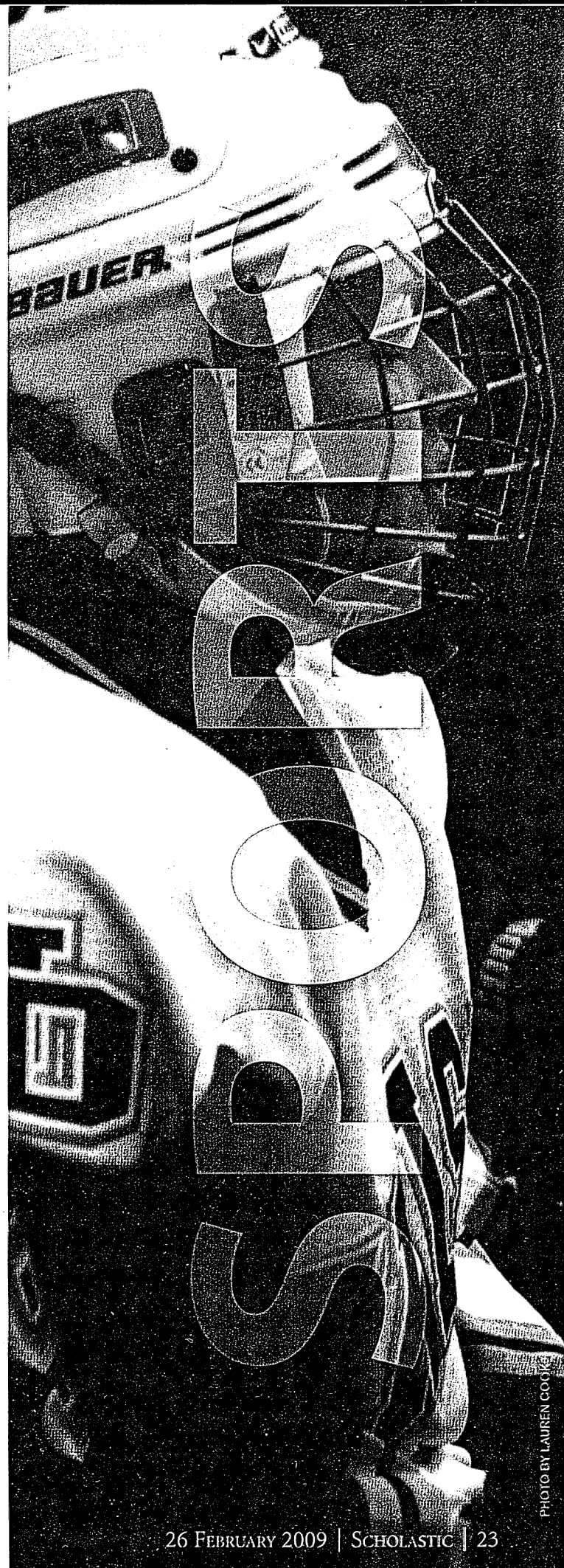


PHOTO BY LAUREN COOK

IRISH EYES ON: Natalie Leopold

Matt Formica

For the past several years, senior cheerleader Natalie Leopold has spent countless hours pumping up Notre Dame fans, and she has loved every second of it. Leopold, a finance major, has frequented the sidelines at a variety of sporting events, ranging from football games to pep rallies, and she always finds a way to energize the crowd. Whether flying through the air or flipping across the field, Leopold is constantly entertaining students and alumni on game days. After her cheerleading career ends, Leopold will work for Barclays Capital in New York City, where she says she will carry many of the lessons she has learned from cheering on the Irish.

How did you initially get involved with cheerleading?

Growing up, I was always really involved with competitive gymnastics, and I did cheerleading more for recreation. But in high school I broke both of my wrists, so the idea of pursuing gymnastics in college went out the window, and I started to focus more on cheerleading. When I got to Notre Dame I decided I'd give it a shot, and I tried out during my sophomore year.

Is it nerve-racking to perform in front of 80,000 screaming fans at football games?

I actually find the pep rallies and smaller events to be more nerve-racking than the football games. I guess it's kind of like how people say it's harder to sing to one person than to a huge group. The excitement of the game helps to deter any nerves, and I can really feed off of the energy of large crowds.

What is the atmosphere like performing at an away game?

For the most part, it has been a great experience. But I think it also depends on where we are playing. Penn State was an especially hostile environment. Sometimes the fans yell funny stuff at us, like "Jesus hates you!" at Penn State, or "Oompa Loompa!" at Boston College. It's usually all in good fun though.

As a cheerleader, do you feel as though you are ever stereotyped unfairly?

I think cheerleaders get stereotyped as being dumb, which is definitely not true. Some of the smartest people I know at Notre Dame are cheerleaders. Also, people assume that we are happy and peppy all the time, but there are definitely occasions when we're not.

What is the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you while performing?

It happened really recently, actually. For the basketball game against Louisville everyone received a camouflage T-shirt, but they were way too big for the cheerleaders. I did my best to tuck it in, but as I ran out onto the court and started performing, the shirt flew up over my head. The funny thing is, I was wearing a nude-colored bra, so I think some of the fans got the wrong impression.

What is one thing that many people do not know about cheerleading?

Our season never really ends. We start with football, then go right into basketball, and at the end of the year there are tryouts. Our only off-season is during the summer. There is one point during the year when football and basketball season overlap, so during that time we sometimes put in 30 to 40 hours each week. I also think a lot of people assume it is really easy to lift a girl up over your head, but there is a lot of technique involved. **S**



PHOTO BY ADRIAN LOPEZ/MEDINA

SPORTS NOTES

JOHN THORNTON

Tommy Krcmaric



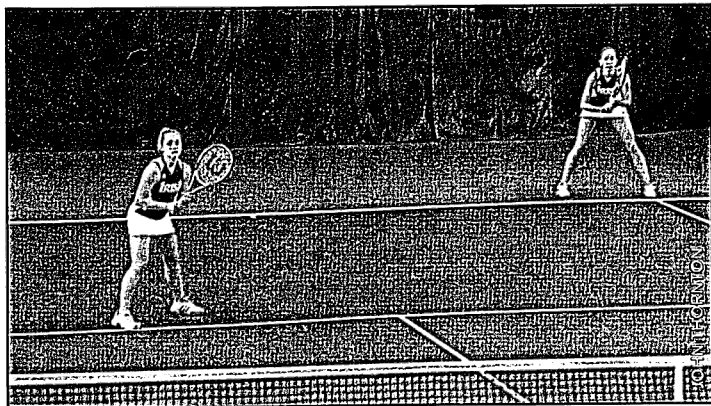
Lacrosse season is underway, and the Irish men's team opened the season with a 10-9 victory over Loyola University Chicago on Feb. 14. Junior midfielder Grant Krebs led Notre Dame with three goals and an assist, while senior goalkeeper Scott Rodgers made 11 saves in his first collegiate start. The Irish are ranked in the top 10 in the nation in all major polls and are looking to build on last season's 14-3 record that culminated in an NCAA quarterfinals appearance. Notre Dame has been selected by a poll of the Great Western League's coaches as the favorite to win the conference. The Irish return to their home field for a match against Dartmouth on Feb. 28.



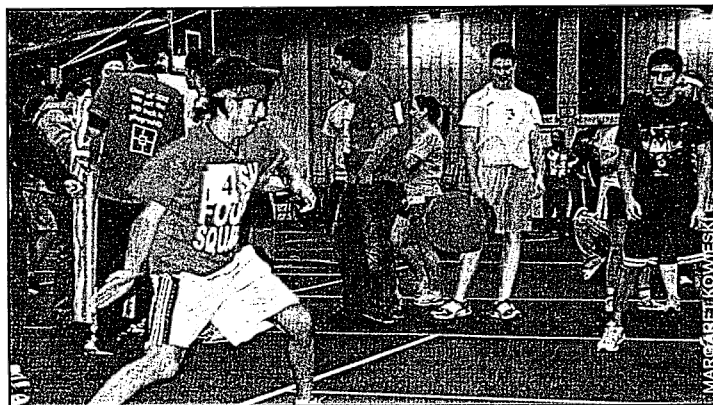
The Irish track and field teams put up a good showing at the Big East Championships the weekend of Feb. 21-22. The men finished in second place, only 4.5 points behind the victorious Connecticut Huskies. The women finished fifth. Several members of the team had outstanding performances. On the men's side, sophomore sprinter Miklos Szebeny finished second in the 200 meters with a time of 21.65 seconds, good enough for all-conference honors. Sophomore shot-putter John Belcher also earned all-conference honors and a third-place finish with a toss of 17.71 meters, while senior Daniel Clark ran well enough in the mile to get second place. The women also had two runners receive All-Big East status. Sophomore Natalie Johnson placed second in the 500 meters with a time of 1:12.22. In the pentathlon, freshman Maddie Buttinger finished third with 3,922 points. The Irish next compete at home in the Alex Wilson Invitational March 6-7.



The Irish men's swimming and diving team captured its second consecutive Big East title on Feb. 18-21 in Indianapolis. With a four-point lead after the first of four days of competition, the Irish were poised to capture their fourth conference title in five years, an amazing feat considering that the Irish had never won a Big East title before 2005. The stars of the first day were Notre Dame's 800-yard freestyle relay team of senior Danny Lutkus, sophomore Steven Brus, and juniors Mack LeBlanc and John Lytle. Their time of 6:27.19 set not only a school record, but a Big East record as well. The Irish 1-meter diving team also contributed points by placing 4 of the top 5 finishers in the field. The meet culminated in a showdown on the second day against top-ranked Louisville in the 400-free relay. The Irish team of Lytle, Lutkus, sophomore Joshua Nosal and junior Andrew Hoffman finished first to secure the title. The women's team also won the Big East Championship.



YOU GOT SERVED The women's tennis team prepares for a match against Purdue on Feb. 18.



"HOW THE HEALTH ARE YOU?" Students enjoy themselves at the Student Health and Wellness Fair on Feb. 18.

En Garde!



Alex Hellmuth

Fencing seems to suffer from some serious stereotyping. The sport is typecast in movies as elitist and leisurely. One practice with the Notre Dame fencing team, however, suggests otherwise.

The fencing gym is a blur of fast movements, and the space resonates with loud rap music and smells like sweat. It is filled with serious athletes meeting the demands of their sport, a sport that can hardly be classified as leisurely. Senior sabre team Co-captain Ashley Serrette attributes the lack of enthusiasm for the sport in the student body to popular misconceptions surrounding fencing. "I think students have certain negative notions about fencing that prevent them from possibly enjoying the sport," Serrette says.

Many of these false impressions stem from limited knowledge about the sport. When you read that the men's foil team posted an impressive 99-24 mark on the weekend, what does it even mean? And what about the weapons?

Understanding the three different

weapons used in fencing is key to demystifying the sport and opening the door to appreciation. Each weapon is characterized by its length, weight and respective fighting style. The style employed by each weapon is determined by the target area — the area on the fencer's body that is identified by a metallic covering.

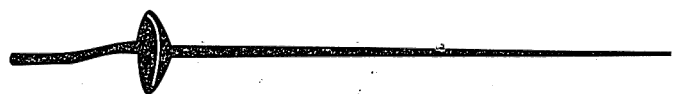
The foil is a light, short blade, and foil fighters wear a metallic vest that illustrates their target area. The sabre is characterized by a thicker blade, and, unlike the other two weapons that score points by touching the opponent, the sabre slashes the opponent, whose target area is confined to the entire upper-body. The epee is the heaviest weapon, and fencers are able to score anywhere on the body; epee fencers are distinguished by their white body suits. Points are won when the fencer touches or slashes the target area. The electric impulse created by the contact of the sword with the metallic vest sends a signal to the scoreboard, and a red or white light is illuminated (red and white representing the different competitors).

While one weapon cannot be classified

as more challenging than another, certain body types or athletic qualifications may contribute to a fencer's decision when it's time to take up arms. "While I specifically chose the sabre because I was attracted to how fast-paced the fighting was, I think I was probably predetermined for the sabre because I am a sprinter and very quick on my feet," Serrette says.

Sophomore Zach Schirtz chose the foil for his own reasons. "When I first started fencing, foil was the one that gave me the greatest long-term benefit, and from then on I stuck with it. I enjoy it because of the difficulty involved; it is the weapon with the smallest target area," he says.

Though sabre fencers are typically faster, epee fencers generally possess endurance, and foil fencers tend to be taller. Regardless if they were made to wield a particular fencing weapon, all fencers need to practice, practice, practice. "The best fencers are the ones who have experience," Serrette says. "And experience is only achieved through practicing technical skills, improving your footwork and working hard."



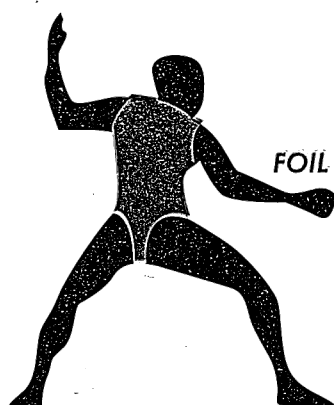
Foil: light, short blade, touch for points, traditional fencing style



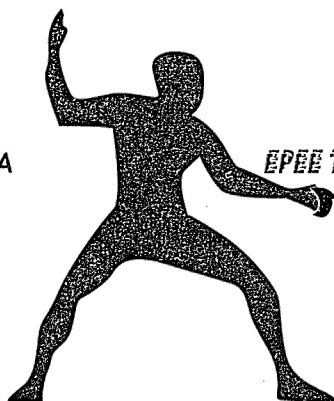
Epee: heaviest blade, touch for points, for long bouts and endurance



Sabre: thicker blade, slash for points, fast-paced



FOIL TARGET AREA



EPEE TARGET AREA



SABRE TARGET AREA

Irish fencers practice every weekday. Schirtz says, "Our practices are fun, but very intense. They include lots of conditioning and lots of fencing. Much of the conditioning focuses on muscular endurance, speed, agility and coordination drills."

Although modern fencing is far removed from the dueling days of the Renaissance, tradition still prevails. When fencers step up to the strip, they wait for the director (referee) to say, "En garde," and then they salute their opponent and the director. After the bout is over, they shake hands with the opponent. "As a sign of respect toward your opponent, you always shake with your non-glove hand," Serrette says.

Similarly, modern fencing has not foregone the importance of the mind. Serrette describes fencing as "a chess game on a strip," requiring the player to be extremely observant of his or her opponent and to plan moves beforehand. The mental difficulty of fencing is what drew Serrette to the sport. "In fencing it's all you, all the time. You have to play both offense and defense.

You are your own playmaker," she says. The absolute intensity and individualism of the sport push the fencer to take complete control. There is no coach on the sideline to make suggestions or teammates on the field to pick up the slack.


Schirtz enjoys the adrenaline rush and high pressure. He says that his favorite part is "the fact that you are out there all alone. I mean, you are on a team but when you are on the strip, it all comes down to you."

While the fencers are alone on the strip for three minutes, battling over five points, their efforts are for the team. "Although it is a very individualized sport, in the matches that matter, like the NCAAs, it is a complete team effort," Serrette says. The NCAA team consists of six men and six women, each of whom have qualified in a regional tournament.

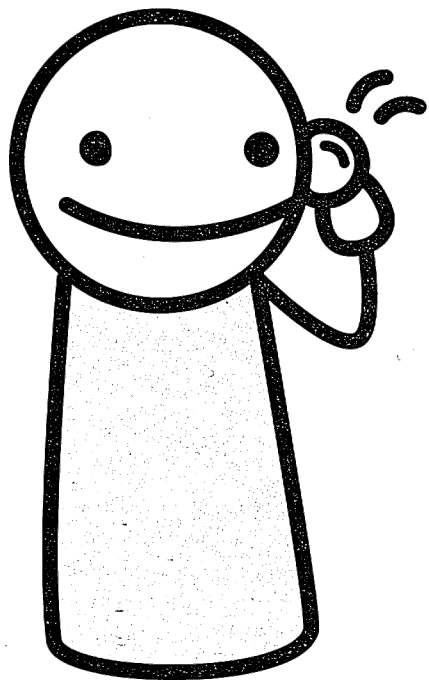
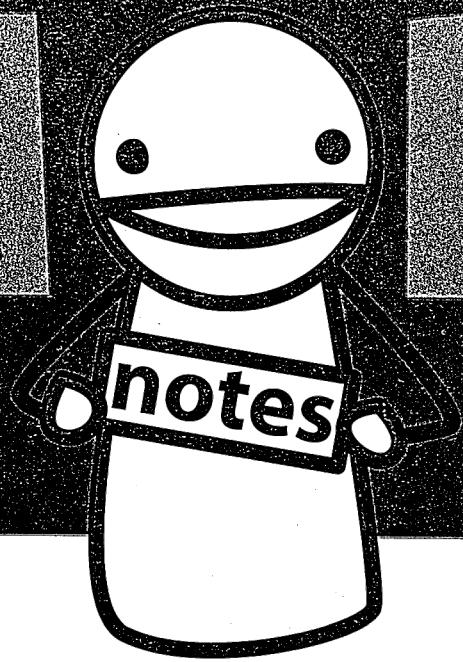
Despite the fact that fencing goes relatively unnoticed on the Notre Dame campus, the Irish fencing team boasts one Olympian, an undefeated season for the men's team and an impressive record: Notre Dame fencers have placed in the top four at the NCAA

tournament every year since 2005, the year they captured the championship.

Notre Dame fencers know how to play this "chess" better than almost any other team in the NCAA. Recent graduate Mariel Zagunis captured the gold medal for the individual foil in Beijing this past summer. Freshman Gerek Meinhardt became the youngest U.S. Olympic fencer ever to compete when he walked the strip in Beijing. The national coach's poll for the 2009 season ranked the Irish men number one and placed the women second. So far, the men and women's fencing seasons can be classified as quite successful.

The fencing team is arguably one of the best and most consistent teams on campus. "Fencing is a great sport that encompasses athleticism, mental capability and persistence, and I only wish that it received a more positive reception on campus," Serrette says. 

HUMOR



Listening In...

“Yeah, so I got her a gift certificate to Planned Parenthood.”
— female student in *Reckers*

“Oh, we were just doing a lab in the bathroom.”
— male student in *LaFortune*

Female Student: So I was drinking my Diet Coke in class today, and I couldn't figure out why it tasted so weird ... and then I realized it was because there wasn't any vodka in it.
Male Student: I think in an AA meeting, they'd call that a “moment of clarity.”

“This is what hell must look like.”
— female student commenting on *South Bend in the winter*

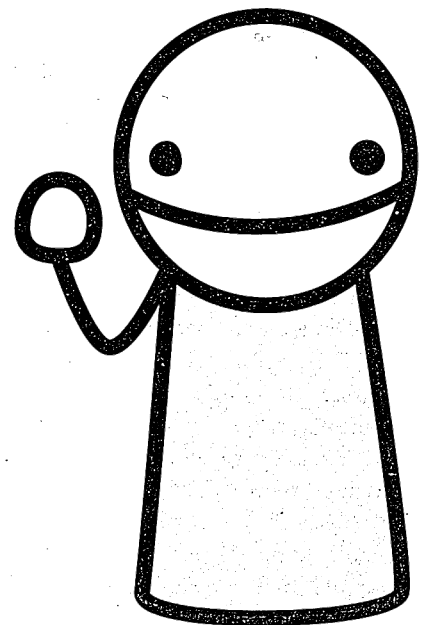
“Want a ride anywhere? I swear I'm not a creeper.”
— man in a minivan with a megaphone outside *LaFortune*

Back In the Day ...

Many of us have typical dorm rooms, cluttered with beds, desks, futons and random debris. In the '70s, however, a group of students dubbed the “Sorin 7” took dorm room hospitality to a whole new level. Instead of silly, unnecessary furniture such as beds, they ran a full-stock bar out of their suite in Sorin. The ambitious juniors dubbed their endeavor the “Do Drop Inn.” Tickets were handed out at the door, giving guests the opportunity to quench their thirst with three beers for a buck. Obviously, “Do Drop Inn” became very popular, but something as magnificent and glorious as a full-stock bar on campus couldn't last for long; Notre Dame's administration was none too pleased with either the kegs or the fireworks that were launched out of the third story window. In the students' eyes, these were minor details in the grand scheme that is on-campus partying, but the administration saw it as a bigger offense and kicked all seven students off campus.

Now, with stricter enforcements on drinking, we can only imagine how a place like the “Do Drop Inn” would enhance our college experience and on-campus party life. The '70s are over, however, and it would be safe to say that violators would endure a much more severe punishment today. A campus kid can dream, though, right?

— Meg Kowieski





There comes a time in every young Gipp's life when he/she must leave the warm arms of majestic Mother Mary and move onto other, inevitably lesser endeavors. After all, my children, how can life ever trump this magnificent task of documenting your debauchery? For the past year, Gipp has laughed with you and cried with you, but mostly laughed at you while you were crying, in the corner, alone. But alas, Gipp must step down from the 2008–2009 throne and let the next king-queen Gipp of Notre Dame shenanigans ascend.

But first, Gipp must tell you one last tale. It only seemed fitting to end with a story starring some of Gipp's favorite characters: Gentle Blond Giant, Captain Chug and a new guest star, Buffy the Vampire. As always, this crew is up to no good, and in this latest story, no clothes. Our three lads, fed up with the overused Saran wrap and Twister board fads of alphabet parties, decided they would take the ABC costume directions to a more premature level. Desiring outfits that would not only show off their admirable physiques but also provide long-lasting protection, our boys invested in some Depends. Depends: because you deserve the best in absorbent products. Depends: you've probably seen their commercials while watching "The Price is Right." Depends: the best way to make

an entrance to an ABC party. So, following an hour of power that turned into two and certainly filled their bladders to near capacity, the diaper-bound triplets bounded over to the party. There, guests couldn't help but be impressed by the utility, style and confidence exuded by the Pee-Free Three — if you thought only Hulk Hogan could pull off the look, think again! As consumption continued, Gentle Blond Giant, Captain Chug and Buffy the Vampire found themselves faced with a gametime decision: to break or not to break the seal. The bathroom line stretched on for miles and miles, and America's most trusted adult diaper clung around their waists. Did they dare challenge Depends' claim of complete protection? Would they risk the feelings of inadequacy, shame and embarrassment that accompany leaky adult diapers? Were they ready to relive incidents they had not experienced in 15 years (or in the case of Gentle Blond Giant, probably a week or two)? Yes. Yes, they were ready. And only moments later, ecstatic praises rang from their lips! "I didn't even feel it!" the triplets cried. "Not even a drop befell my leg!"

Gentle Blond Giant, always excited to flaunt his accomplishments, proceeded to change out of his diaper and proudly present its absorbent glory to all the party-goers. Buffy the Vampire, for his part, continued

to challenge his pant-suit. As if embracing a half-naked man in a diaper wasn't already exciting enough, Buffy added to the experience by secretly continuing to test the absorbent capabilities of his costume as he hugged guests. Seems no one could read his poker face. So, yes, children, often when you go to parties, that warm feeling from your fingers to your toes is due to friendship, fleeting romance or excess of beverage. But other times, it may simply be an effect of the adult diaper you are wearing.

But much like Gentle Blond Giant's diaper, it is time for a change. This Gipp sincerely thanks all of you for the disappointment, the regret, the shame, the mistakes, the disillusionment, the anger, the mysterious blocks of time, the broken windows, the broken wills, the broken bread, the injuries, the ill-fated romances and the awkwardly weird invitations that have been generously shared through e-mails and hearsay. The year is far from over — nay, your lives are far from over! — and Gipp hopes that you will continue to celebrate, revel and create general mayhem until the end of time. But before then, spring break. Word to your mothers!

Love,
The Gipper

TIP THE GIPP
at gipper@nd.edu

THE JUGGLER

The Juggler has been Notre Dame's only student literary and graphic art design magazine since 1919.

The deadline for submissions for the Spring 2009 Juggler is **March 16.**

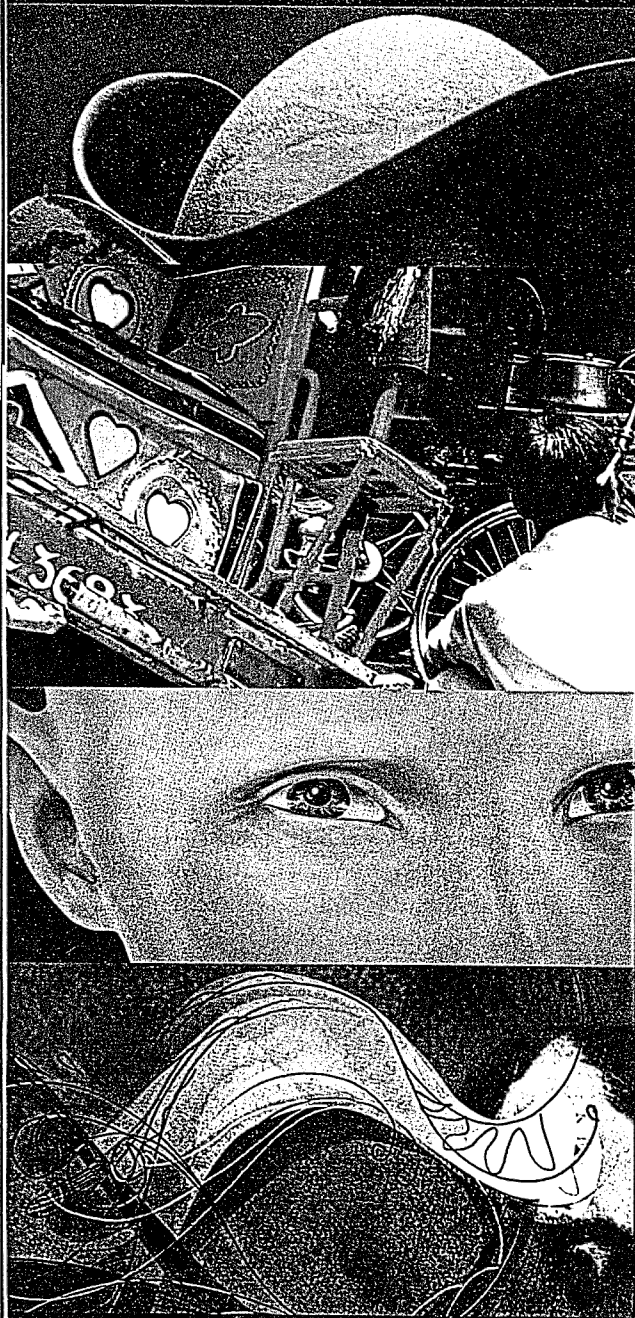
Art Submissions:

For scanning purposes, pieces larger than 11 x 17 or 3-D pieces require slides. There is no limit to the number of pieces you may submit. Artwork may be turned in to Mary Kutemeier in room 306 in Riley, or e-mailed as a high-resolution (300+ dpi) image file to juggler@nd.edu.

Prose and Poetry Submissions:

There is no limit to the number of pieces you may submit, but no individual work can exceed 2500 words.

Submit all works of literature to juggler@nd.edu.



Natalie Kratz's Notes[™]

Natalie's Notes | Notes About Natalie | Natalie's Profile

25 Things I Hate About You

Yesterday at 11:11 PM


"Okay, okay, I've been tagged like 12 times, so I guess I'll give in ..." If this is how you are starting your Facebook note, you better make No. 1: "I can't say no to peer pressure, no matter how lame of a thing my friends are doing." Looks like D.A.R.E. didn't really work out for you. If anyone knows who came up with this brilliant scheme, please pass this information on to me. I'd like to send him hateful Facebook messages for filling up my news feed with reports of yet another person trying to impress her (yes, I am stereotyping) friends with "interesting" and "random" factoids.

A common theme in these lists seems to be telling all of your friends what makes you completely unique from the average college student. "I HATE beer." Good story — more for me. You can also count on finding out how many pets a person has and just how much her family means to her. Approximately 74 percent of my friends have reported that they have become closer with their parents since going to college. There also seems to be some unwritten rule that you must include your favorite Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle and/or Disney Princess. As long as you are being cutesy and immature, tell me the name, description and origin of the stuffed animal you still sleep with.

After getting 10 to 15 facts using the typical methods, things start getting a little weird. "My couch sells for \$3,000 retail, but we got it for only \$300!" Now, this girl had only 25 chances to wow the world of Facebook. And all I'm going to remember is that her couch, though stylish and fancy, probably glows more brightly under a blacklight than the bed of a seedy motel on "CSI: Miami." I doubt even Horatio Caine would want to touch that thing. Remind me to opt for the floor if I ever crash at her place.

I think the best are the ones that don't really say anything about the person. "Johnny Depp, by far, is my favorite actor. He can change so much for every character." Now that I know your favorite actor, I've acquired so much insight into your complex personality. For instance, now I know that you are a girl, between the ages of 16 and 23 and think of yourself as artsy but not weird. Sort of a pseudo-indie. I bet you also love the "Juno" soundtrack. Hey, I guess it does say a lot about you ... if your other friends are as judgmental as I am.

Speaking of being judgmental, let's be honest, most people are. So if you do decide to go through with this fad, maybe keep in mind that a Facebook note is not your shrink's couch. Even if you only tag your closest friends, all of your friends can read your heartfelt musings and will probably mock you for using it as therapy. Kind of like what I'm doing right now. I now know which of my peers I can make fun of for being afraid of growing up, getting a job, heights, commitment (yeah ... that's why you're single ...) and fish. On the bright side, I know which of my friends have bad relationships with their parents/siblings/exes/pet hamsters and can avoid awkward conversations. Thanks, Facebook!

Sure, one could argue that I could simply refuse to read these notes and let everyone enjoy their trends in peace. But what if deep down in those tidbits of your life is a cry for help (aka the therapist's couch method)? I'm reading them because I care. Not about what you say or think, but about your general well-being. Also, I'm taking IT Management Applications this semester. I have about three hours a week to kill in front of a computer, and Excel is boring (or difficult when I'm hungover). Now, my already limited brain capacity and this valuable class time are spent reading and retaining this useless overshare. I'm begging you, please stop this nonsense. That way, I can get off Facebook and back to bigger and better things (i.e., fmylife.com and crossword puzzles on Yahoo Games). 

Q&A with KRIS PEREZ



Since his freshman year boxing debut, senior marketing major Kris Perez has won three consecutive Bengal Bouts tournaments. Now, he is preparing to defend his title one last time. Staff writer Claire Reising met with the boxer (outside the ring, fortunately) to discuss his four years in the sport.

Scholastic: *How did you get your nickname (El Azteca)?*

Kris Perez: I don't really know. I know I wanted something that would represent my Mexican heritage, so I think that had a lot to do with it ... I think one day people were throwing nicknames around, and I guess that's the one that stuck ... I was going to change it to Twinkle Toes or something like that, but then my friends were like, "Why? What are you doing? Don't do that."

S: *What was it like actually fighting in a match for the first time?*

KP: In practice, the closest simulation you get to a real fight is sparring, but it still doesn't compare to a real fight. The adrenaline level is really high, you're nervous, people are watching. That pressure itself just makes you even more tired. Dealing with that and just wanting to perform — it's really exhausting. You don't think trying to keep your hands up is tiring, but it really is. That's the most difficult part — trying to keep your hands up, moving around and actually [fighting] the other guy who wants to win as much as you do.

S: *How do you mentally prepare yourself for a fight?*

KP: I usually get there an hour and a half before my fight, just walk into the gym, relax, put on my music, jump rope, stretch and make sure I'm warm and ready for the fight. Music helps me a lot. I listen to everything, but rap mostly.

S: *Do you still get nervous before fights?*

KP: I don't think the nervous feelings are ever going to go away. I'm nervous before every fight, but I think I use that to improve my fighting rather than diminish it in any way. If I'm nervous, that means I'm always on my toes, and that means I'm ready for anything that might come. If I wasn't nervous, that means I'm a little too relaxed before the fight and I'm not taking it as seriously. I think it actually helps me instead of hindering me or holding me back.

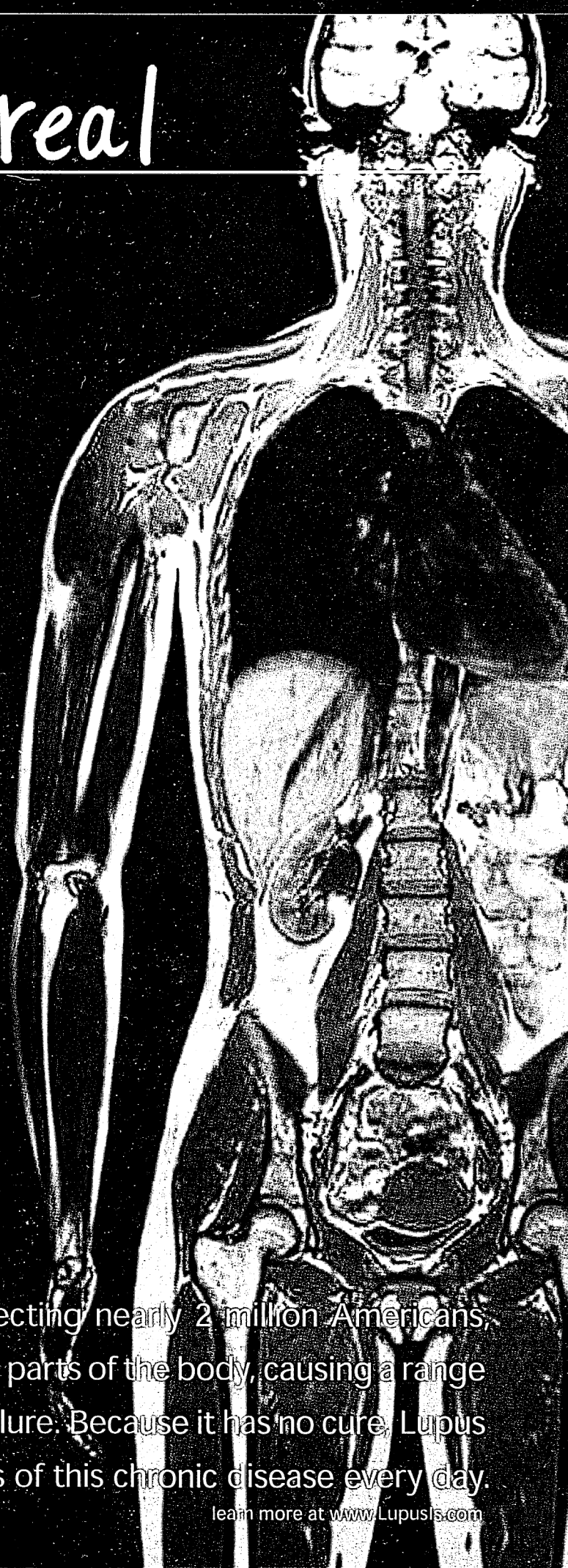
S: *What was your most memorable fight?*

KP: Last year's championship fight. I think I was at 149 [pounds] vs. Sully [Lawrence Sullivan]. He was a captain and a defending champion, and I was also a defending champion. We met at that weight class, and I just remember everyone being excited before the fight. I was really nervous, and that fight's going to stay with me for a long time ... [After the fight], I was exhausted. I just remember my lungs burning. I could barely walk. After I got out of the ring and went to have the doctors check up on me, I just remember sitting there for 10 or 15 minutes because I didn't want to move. [Perez won the fight.]

S: *After college, do you plan to continue boxing?*

KP: After graduating from Notre Dame, I'm not trying to find a job. I'm actually going to pursue boxing as my career. ... I've been thinking about it for the last two years, but I put some serious thought behind it this year. I called Ed [Hernandez], my mentor, and he said that he'll help me do it. His dad owns a gym in Lubbock, Texas, and I'm going to go down there and see if I have what it takes. I think I'd first fight about half a year, a year [in an] amateur [league]. That's Golden Gloves, so I'd fight at the state level and then at the national level if I'm good enough. If Ed and his dad think I'm ready to take the next step, then I'd try to get a few pro matches. **S**

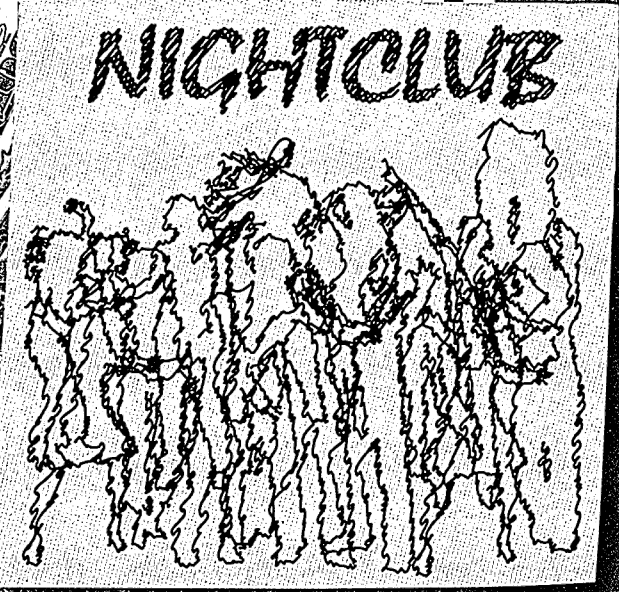
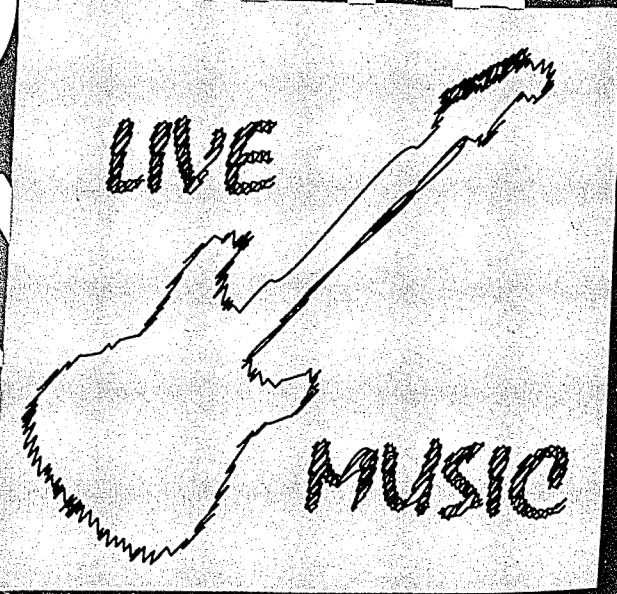
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GOOD DATE



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