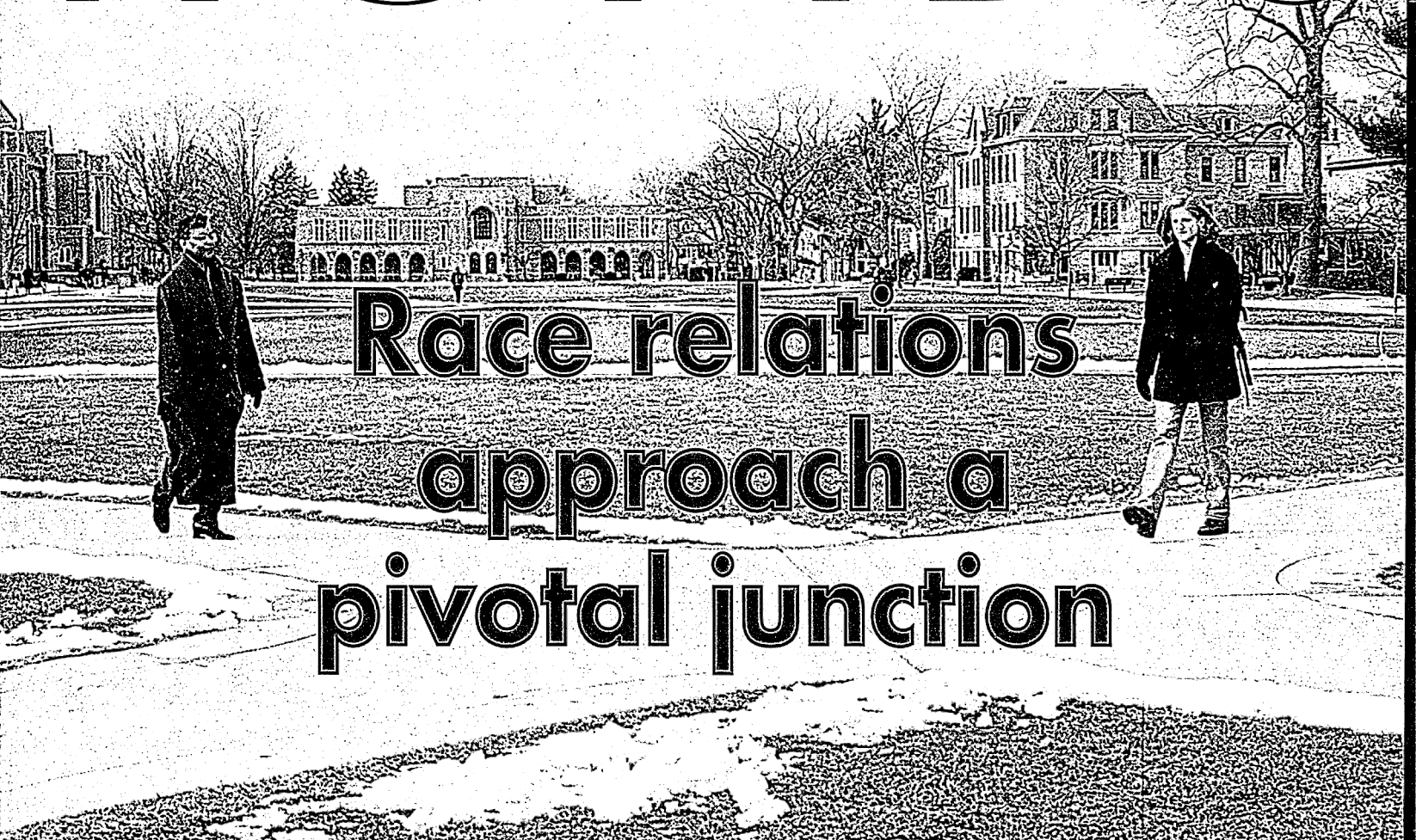


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SCHOLASTIC

MAGAZINE

20

Color By Number

16

With the university's efforts to increase minority enrollment going nowhere fast, minority student organizations are working with student government and the administration to increase communication between ethnic groups. *Scholastic* examines attempts to give these groups a voice without promoting segregation.

by Jim Pastore

Business Options

8

Do you want to spend four years learning about art, literature and music, but still want a shot at gainful employment when it's all over? COBA is considering a minor that may help you do just that.

by Allison Fashek

Out For Redemption

20

With a crushing lineup and a strong pitching staff, the baseball team is looking to improve on its 41-win campaign of a year ago. *Scholastic* previews the Big East favorite's upcoming season.

by Chris Hamilton

Working Hard for the Money by Lisa Virani 10

Praying Out Loud

by Melissa Kalas and Heather Hogan 12

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The Beat Goes On by Katie Cleary 26

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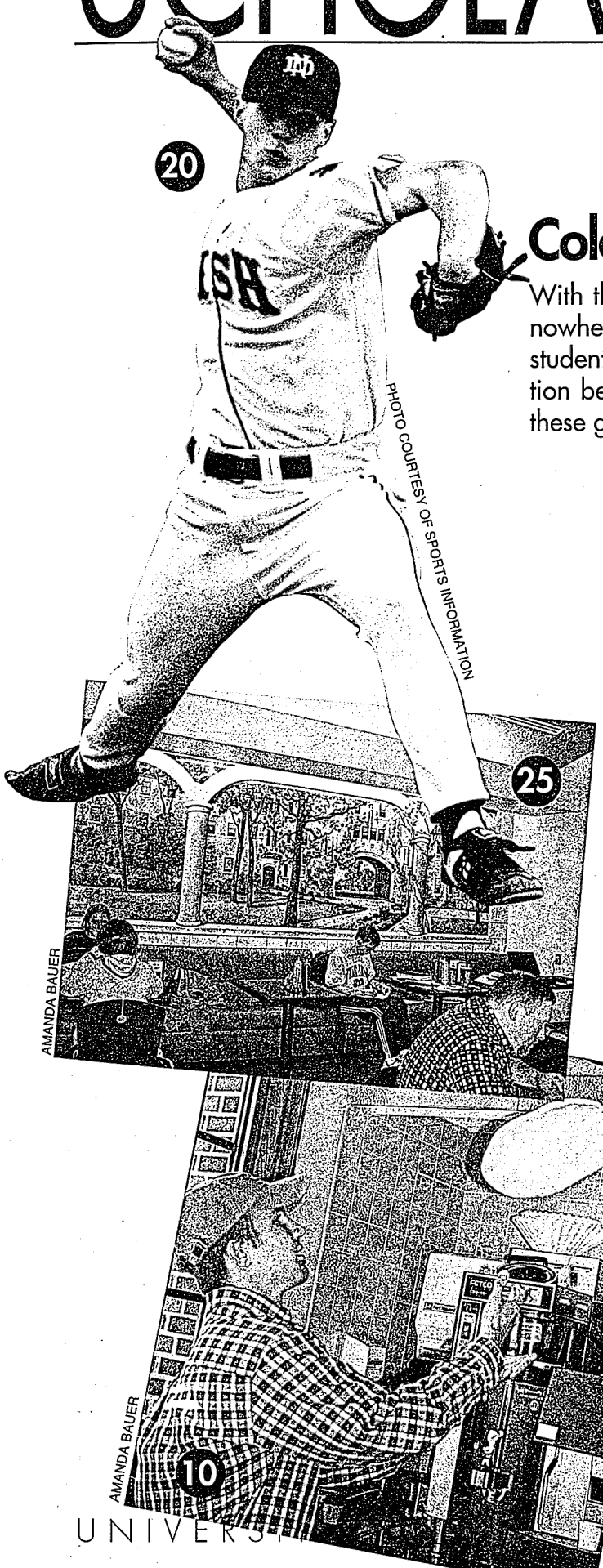


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

AMANDA BAUER

AMANDA BAUER

10

All the Difference

Most people don't realize that they are different until someone else makes the effort to point it out. This became pretty clear to me on a Saturday morning, shortly after my family moved to Auckland, New Zealand. I was window shopping downtown with my dad when a man came up to us and suddenly started shouting, "You're Americans, aren't you? Why don't you go home?"

Besides a few instances like this, I rarely felt discriminated against during my time in New Zealand. In fact, my differences, like eating peanut butter and jelly for lunch instead of meat pies, often won me attention. People would constantly introduce themselves to me just because they wanted to know what life in America was really like. (Is American high school and college just like it is on 90210? Um, sort of.)

But even after two years, while I had grown to love the country, I never got used to feeling like I was different. Even while ordering food at McDonald's I would have to tell the person behind the counter that I wasn't just on vacation for a couple of weeks, I actually lived right down the road. And during a history class, my teacher and

classmates decided that I should explain why Americans became involved in the Vietnam War. (I spent the entire class apologizing.)

Talk to most people of minority race or ethnicity on this campus and you will likely hear a similar sentiment, that being singled out for your differences isn't easy to get used to. Jim Pastore examines what the admissions office, club leaders and student government are doing to address this issue on page 16.

The Turnover

Scholastic's annual spring break staff turnover is coming up once again. If you're interested in applying for a position on the first editorial board of the next millennium, please pick up an application outside the *Scholastic* office in the basement of South Dining Hall (room 004). If you have any questions, call *Scholastic* at 1-7569 or e-mail us at Scholastic.scholast.1@nd.edu. The deadline for applications is Sunday, February 21. Further details can be found in the ad on page four.

Correction

In the last issue of *Scholastic*, a story entitled "WWF Meets ND" contained two errors. Stone Cold Steve Austin was reported as the leader of Degeneration X, one of the WWF's factions. Austin is not the leader of Degeneration X. Also, a character

named Deborah was listed as one of the WWF's female wrestlers. Deborah is not a wrestler. *Scholastic* regrets the errors.

Allison Fashek

Managing Editor

46 Years Ago: Study Time

In the February 13, 1953, issue of *Scholastic*, the following was published:

Officials of the University Library recently announced that Library facilities will be available to students on Sundays during the Spring semester from 1 to 9 p.m.

However, if only a very small number of students avail themselves of the opportunity, the Sunday Library schedule will revert to its former hours, officials said.

Judging from its current hours, students must have been way too eager about spending more time in the 'brare. Perhaps if we all boycott the building, they'll cut back their hours — at least it'll be a good excuse not to study.

—MWS

SCHOLASTIC

M A G A Z I N E

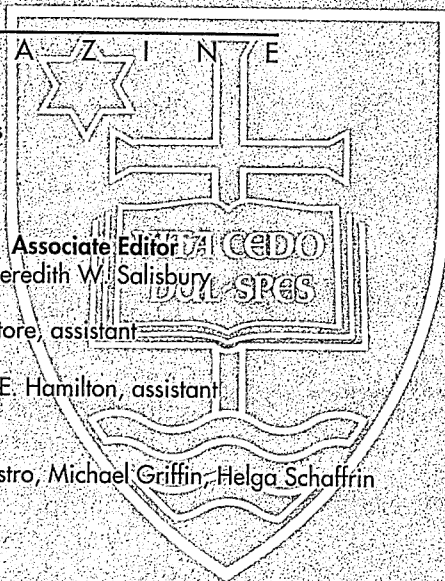
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*Disce Quasi Semper Victurus
Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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Cover photo of Iris Outlaw and Julia Dayton by Gordie Bell

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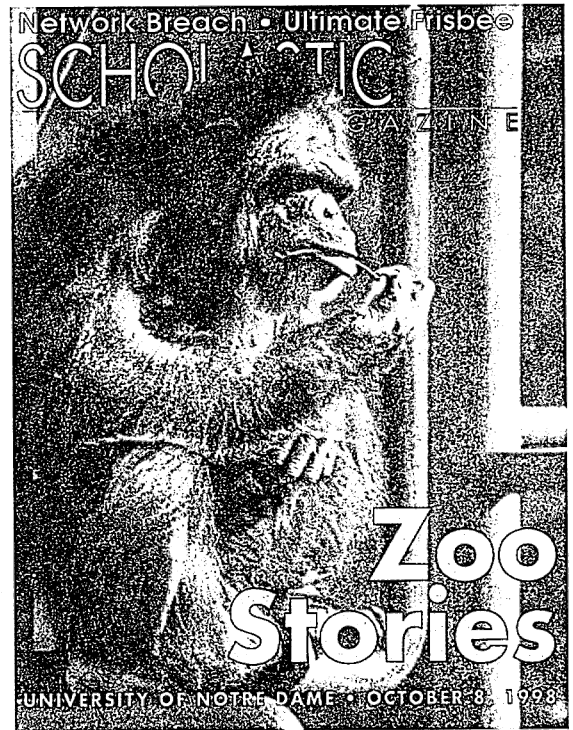
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AND IN THIS CORNER

Fighting the Good Fight

The 69th Bengal Bouts aim to raise a record amount for the missions in Bangladesh

Monday marks the beginning of one of Notre Dame's oldest and proudest traditions. The Bengal Bouts is celebrating its 69th year of raising money for the Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh while providing students the opportunity to participate in an intramural program unique to Notre Dame. The most rewarding aspect of this organization and its tournament is the \$50,000 it hopes to raise for the missions in Bangladesh. This goal is the largest ever, exceeding last year's by \$9,000. According to David Murphy, one of the captains, there is a special need this year. "This past sum-

The charitable goal may be the reason behind the fights, but it's not the only interesting story of this year's bouts. Senior captain Brian Gaffney, a 180-pound bruiser, is aiming for his fourth straight title. Gaffney is anxious to begin the bouts, but he wishes that he were a challenger rather than a three-time defending champion. "Chasing a title is easier to deal with than defending one," he says.

Of course, Gaffney is not the only attraction at next week's fights. Over 100 competitors who have spent the last six weeks fitting in 10,000 push-ups, 20,000 sit-ups and 30,000 jumping jacks will be facing off in the Joyce Center on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Three-day passes are available from the boxers for \$10 each.

You don't have to know a boxer or even understand the basic rules of the sport to enjoy this year's tournament. If you've missed the

tournament in past years or have never seen a boxing match, you can't ask for a more immediate, active and spectator-friendly sport. Just come out ready to see a lot of action and a lot of heart.

— Josh Kirley and Patrick Downes

"This past summer there was severe flooding over there. The missions were particularly affected by it."

— David Murphy

mer there was severe flooding over there," he says. "The missions were particularly affected by it." Though the goal is ambitious, Murphy is optimistic. "It's surprising how much we're getting," he says.

Q&A

10 Questions with



GORDIE BELL

Felicia Johnson

If you've got a little brother, here's your new best friend

If you're a student at Notre Dame, you might owe it to Felicia Johnson. Johnson is currently burrowing her way out from beneath the applications from nearly 10,000 Class of 2003 hopefuls to decide who gets the fat envelopes and who gets the thin ones. Scholastic caught up with one of Notre Dame's "gatekeepers."

How many applications do you get each year?

Each year we receive anywhere from 8,500 to 10,000 applications.

What is it like deciding who gets in when they all want to so badly?

There are certainly some students who bleed blue and gold and just barely miss admission. Those cases break my heart. We get so many qualified applicants, but we only have beds for 1,900.

What is your favorite part of your job?

I most enjoy speaking with prospective students about the many opportunities that exist at Notre Dame. I feel like I might have a small influence on the creation of this student body. Another benefit of this job is that I have the chance to travel to Latin America and recruit students. You can't beat that.

What is your least favorite part of your job?

I have a love/hate relationship with file reading. In one sense they intrigue me; however at other times the applications seem to fill my every wide-eyed moment.

continued on next page →

JUDGMENT CALLS

Sophomore
Literary Fest



Danielle Steele — snubbed again

Junior Parents'
Weekend



After all those years of cross-country road trips, we finally get to drag our parents around campus.

Bob Dylan
concert



Dylan's voice was so raspy that even my electrophysics TA was easier to understand.

Darwin
crashing



A new operating system on the university's largest main-frame computer has been unreliable for weeks. Perhaps God is trying to tell us something about evolution.

Lent



Looks like The Observer gave up good journalism again this year for Lent.

Q&A

continued from previous page

What is the best book you have ever read?

The best book award would be a close tie between *Don Quixote* (in Spanish) and *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*.

Who do you think is a true leader in our time?

The first two people who come to mind are Nelson Mandela and Jimmy Carter. They are both leaders who actively commit themselves to the cause of social justice in our world.

If you could have any other job at Notre Dame, which would it be?

I would love to be Bill Kirk during the football games ... just kidding!

What do you look for in a potential Notre Dame student?

Energy, compassion, intelligence, open-mindedness and diverse experiences.

What's the most adventurous thing that you have ever done?

I lived in rural Honduras for two years. Have you ever been chased by someone with a machete and been forced to defend yourself with a coffee cup?

What question would you ask as question number 10 if you were doing this interview?

Do we get to play God as admissions counselors? No, no and no!

— Kimberly Blackwell

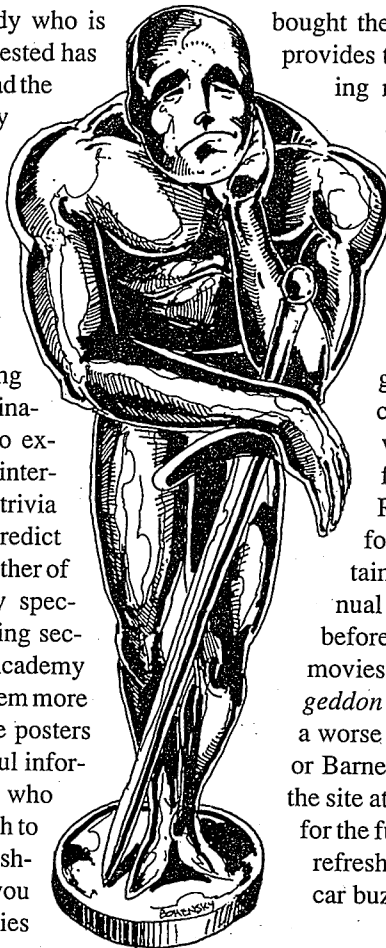
WEBSITE REVIEW

Flopscar.com

Oscar's official website leaves much to be desired

By this time, anybody who is even remotely interested has probably already read the list of this year's Academy Award nominees. With that in mind, what else is left for the official Oscar website (located at <http://www.oscar.com>) to offer? Sadly, the answer is not much.

After you finish reading the list of this year's nominations, there is little else to explore. The site boasts two interesting contests (an Oscar trivia contest and a chance to predict this year's winners) but neither of these links is particularly spectacular. There is a promising section on the history of the Academy Awards, but these pages seem more interested in selling movie posters than in providing any useful information. For those people who are disgustingly rich enough to care, the site also contains fashion information that tells you where last year's celebrities



bought their gowns. A bizarre link provides the official Academy voting rulebook, full of helpful guidelines such as which films are eligible for costume design awards. Overall, Oscar.com is a fairly dry and uninteresting site.

While hard-core movie buffs may appreciate the glitz surrounding the Oscars, the casual web surfer will probably find the official site for the Golden Raspberries (or Razzies, for short) much more entertaining. Razzies are the annual awards given out the day before the Oscars to the *worst* movies of the year. Will *Armageddon* beat *Spice World*? Who is a worse actor, Sylvester Stallone or Barney the dinosaur? Drop by the site at <http://www.razzies.com> for the full list of nominees, and a refreshing change from the Oscar buzz.

— Jeremy Slater

VIDEO SCHMIDEO

Branching Out

ND Video adds used CDs to its inventory

Before you invest in that next CD or give that old one to your little sister, make a visit to ND Video. (For the unaware, that's the video rental store in the basement of LaFortune.) In response to a student survey conducted three years ago, ND Video entered the market last November for buying and selling used CDs on campus. While their selection isn't huge, it is growing. "We have about 25 CDs right now, and that's the most we've had so far," says new student manager Kerry Doolin. "Originally,

we bought a bunch of 'oldies but goodies' from people, and we found that some of them didn't sell very well. So right now we're trying to get some newer stuff."

ND Video, which is a member of the Student Business Board, is responsible for all of its own finances, so the future of the CD-trading business lies mainly in its ability to stay profitable. "We'll definitely keep it for now," Doolin says. "At the end of the year, we'll evaluate whether it's been a source of revenue or an expense for us." She adds, "Right now, we're finding more sell-

ers than buyers." Doolin attributes much of that problem to publicity. "A lot of people don't even know we're down here."

The store, which is open 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 6 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday, rents movies to student members for \$2. Any student who can provide a credit card number (for insurance purposes) can become a member. As an additional service, ND Video now allows movies that are rented on Saturdays and Tuesdays to be kept for two days at no extra charge.

— Jared Marx

What would you be doing if you hadn't come to college?



PATRICK DOWNES

JUNIOR
IAN MACKENZIE

"I'd probably be working in a *boulangerie* [bakery] in Paris."



PATRICK DOWNES

SENIOR
KAREN HOUSER

"I'd probably backpack through Europe. God knows how I'd get there."



PATRICK DOWNES

SENIOR
BRENDA PULLIN

"I'd either join the military or I would be picking coffee beans in Colombia."

Higher Education

President Clinton wants more people to be able to attend college. But is that worthwhile?

BY JOHN INFRANCA

Four years ago, as I neared the end of my high school career and found myself deciding where to go to college, I told my mom I thought it might be a good idea to take a year off from school. The suggestion received little consideration. My high school sent all but a few of its graduates to college, and so the very idea of not going seemed absurd. This was the well-worn path society had paved for the bright and privileged.

Recently President Clinton declared in his State of the Union address that "Your children can go on to college," and his budget proposal includes substantial funding for the High Hopes for College program. Although it may seem unpopular and elitist, I find no reason to encourage our entire population to attend college.

It seems more likely that too many people are already pursuing higher education. Instead of improving the intellectual climate of our nation, this phenomena appears to have accomplished the opposite.

The major problem with the notion that all Americans should attend college is twofold. First, its major ideological underpinning is the often untrue belief that a college diploma will lead to a higher salary and a better quality of life. Such thoughts encourage the idea of education as a commodity, and produce students in search of jobs rather than knowledge. This perception is at odds with the very intent of a university and can turn colleges into trade schools.

The second and more important problem, however, is the societal perception that those with college diplomas are more intelligent and qualified for a given position. Our nation's conception of education, like its conception of most things, stresses quantity over quality. We push for higher degrees without considering the quality of the education for which that degree is bestowed.

Rather than pressing for further education, President Clinton should consider instituting standards that demand achievement. Unfortunately, advocating universal

education at the college level is in direct conflict with the establishment and maintenance of academic standards. As poet and social critic T.S. Eliot wrote in his *Notes Towards the Definition of Culture*, "The ideal of a uniform system such that no one capable of receiving higher education could fail to get it, leads imperceptibly to the education of too many people, and consequently to the lowering of standards to whatever the swollen number of candidates is able to reach."

I am by no means advocating a state in which certain individuals are placed in specific roles so as to afford a more efficient society. Nor do I propose testing individuals at an early age and directing their education from then on. My distaste for the follies of democracy does not run deep enough to promote some form of societal predestination. Rather, I propose we rethink our very ideas on education, and the value it has within society, particularly a democracy. Popular media suggest our society is becoming considerably less intelligent. Our attention spans and knowledge of current affairs are decreasing, all at a time when 65 percent of recent high school graduates are now in college. It seems that even as more people are receiving higher education, the respect for that education, and the attention paid to it, is declining. Increased demand has devalued the currency of education.

Our society must continually remind itself that the search for truth is worthy in and of itself, the highest calling of the human spirit. As John Henry Cardinal Newman writes in *The Idea of a University*: "It [a university] educates the intellect to reason well in all matters, to reach out towards truth, and to grasp it." At the same time, our society must also rest confident that universities are not the only place wherein this search can be made. □

The opinions expressed in this commentary are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff of Scholastic Magazine.

Business Options

The College of Business is considering giving students from other colleges the chance to add a highly anticipated minor to their résumés

NEWS

BY ALLISON FASHEK

It was late sophomore year when Chris Fesen forced himself to choose a major. He narrowed the choice down to government or business.

"In the end, I kind of chose my government major by default," he says. "I thought about business but by the time I decided it was too late."

ALPA, the Arts and Letters Program for Administrators, existed according to course descriptions from the 1981-82 through the 1989-90 school year. The description calls ALPA "an interdisciplinary program of liberal arts and business courses organized to prepare liberal arts students for a wide range of administrative and management opportunities after graduation."

The program provided arts and letters students with a chance to take these courses as a second major or minor. Stu-

ters Dian Murray gives two possible reasons that the program ended. "Logistically, arts and letters students were having difficulty getting into business classes [even with ALPA]" she says. "But also, academically, the faculty and the dean were concerned ... that the program was at odds with the aims of the liberal arts [education]."

Few others have heard about the old program or know why it ended. Kathleen Maas Weigert, assistant dean of arts and letters during the late '80s, says she felt ALPA was important for liberal arts students because at the time it was impossible for them to get into business classes, but adds that she didn't know why it disappeared.

Reverend Robert Austgen was an assistant dean at the time of ALPA's initial development. "ALPA was developed with the intent to give arts and letters students a chance to gain a business background," he says. "It was a popular program at the time. ... It was the dean's decision to terminate it."

Likewise, Carolyn Woo, dean of COBA for the past year and a half, does not share Murray's concerns about the dangers of the program. "We don't know why it went away, but COBA didn't stop it," Woo says.

The New Program

The program that is now in the developmental stages seems to have the same intentions as ALPA. The main differences are that this time around the College of Business Administration is in charge, and that the program plans to offer a minor instead of a second major.

Woo cites demand from other areas of the university for COBA's decision to try to bring back the minor. "Various colleges have expressed interests in terms of wanting a business minor," Woo says. "No matter the background, a large part of any student's future employment will involve industry."

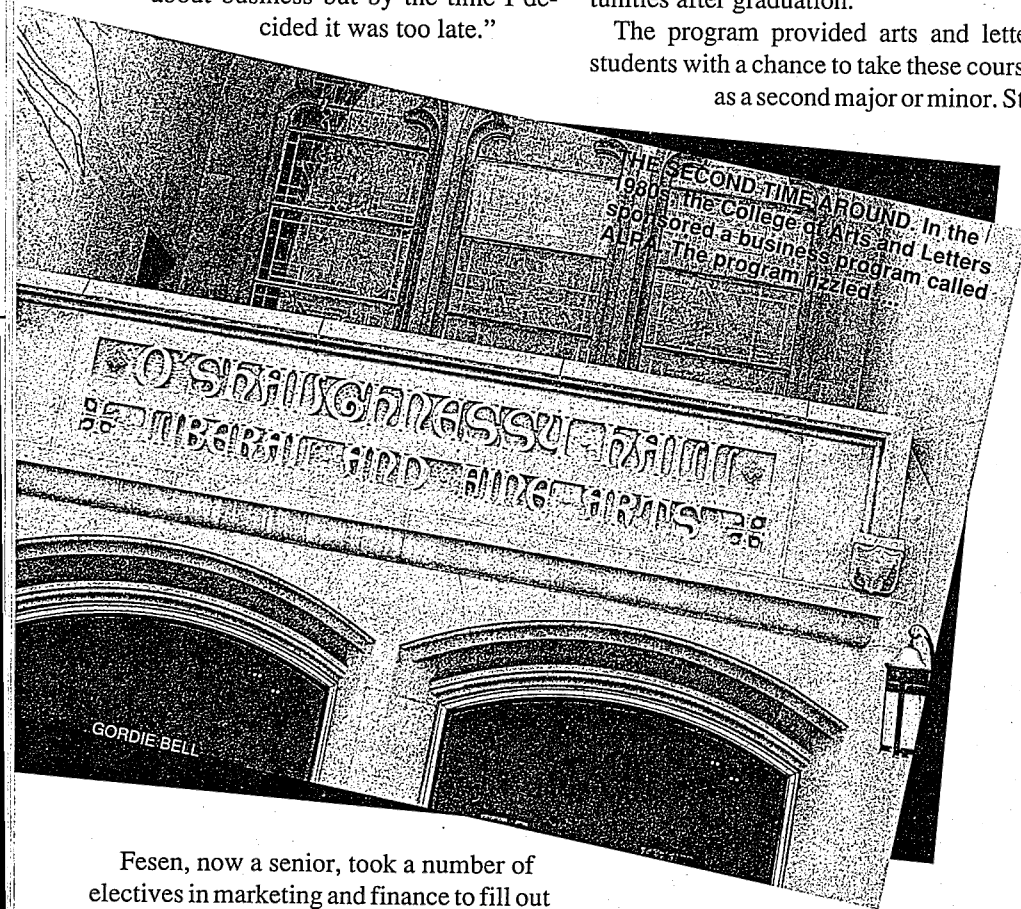
This is the first year that COBA has taken steps towards making this idea a reality. Woo has assembled a committee of faculty from COBA and other colleges, as well as a

dents in the ALPA sequence were expected to major in an arts and letters department and then dedicate eight of their free electives to business, including three hours of economics, three hours of computer applications or statistics, 12 hours of introductory courses in accounting, finance, managing and marketing, and six hours of electives in appropriate arts and letters or business courses.

Current Associate Dean of Arts and Let-

Fesen, now a senior, took a number of electives in marketing and finance to fill out his résumé, but he's still worried about job prospects. "I thought corporate America would be more interested in arts and letters students, but they aren't getting jobs like business and finance majors are. I definitely would have done a business minor if it was offered."

What most students don't know is that such a minor once existed at Notre Dame and that the College of Business Administration is trying to bring it back.



small number of student representatives, to decide what the program will look like. "This is all in the design stages, but there is a good chance it will happen in the near future," she says.

COBA Assistant Dean Samuel Gaglio adds that students will be slowly phased into the minor. "We don't even know about what year this will be ready yet, but the students will start slowly."

Ideally, Woo would like the program to meet the needs of all students who are interested, but because administrators have no idea of the potential demand for the program, students will have to apply to become part of it in its early stages. "It might be a tough program of studies to combine and we want people not just to come in, but to come in and perform successfully," she says.

Woo feels that demand will play a strong part in how the program develops. COBA is the fastest-growing of Notre Dame's colleges, and Woo says that the college's ability to staff the program will play a part in shaping the curriculum.

From 1992 to 1997, COBA's undergraduate school enrollment increased by 15.4 percent, while Arts and Letters increased by only 5.3 percent.

"We're already strapped with the number of hours per faculty member," Woo says. "We can hardly keep up with our own majors."

Arts and Letters and COBA: At Odds?

Dean Mark Roche of the College of Arts and Letters sees these enrollment statistics as cause for concern. "Right now the College of Arts and Letters is dramatically understaffed," he says, citing as a reason a shift in the college's focus from teaching to a combination of teaching and research.

Most professors now teach two courses instead of three, one of which is often a university seminar, the course that replaced Freshman Seminar. Despite these changes, Roche says, "We welcome all these students from all colleges. If sizes of classes drop we still offer classes. We can't just cancel classes."

Roche does worry, however, about the effects of arts and letters students taking a greater number of business courses. "The logistics are that our own students would put greater demand on COBA. ... I don't want to see the College of Arts and Letters fail to obtain the correct number of faculty." He says that he would like his students to

have a broad background in terms of courses and the ability to deal with a wide range of problems. "[But] it is difficult for me to think it's better for our students to go over and take most of their courses at the business school," Roche says.

In his address to the JPW crowd last spring, Roche emphasized the fact that arts and letters students continually prove to be successful in business positions after graduation without taking business courses.

"While it is true that business graduates tend to earn a bit more than arts and letters graduates in the first three to five years of their career, on average arts and letters graduates eventually overtake their business counterparts and tend to have greater success even in the business world," he says.

Roche feels that this is due to the focus in arts and letters on developing analytical and communication skills, as well as imagination.

His speech continued, "In a liberal arts environment one learns how to think on one's feet and how to think outside of the box. In exploring what is of intrinsic value, our students also learn the intellectual virtues that are requisite for success."

Roche would like to see the proposed business sequence contain one to five courses, and sees room for cooperation between the colleges over the project, but also adds, "to have [the program as] a second major is not my ideal."

According to Woo, COBA is not trying to compete with arts and

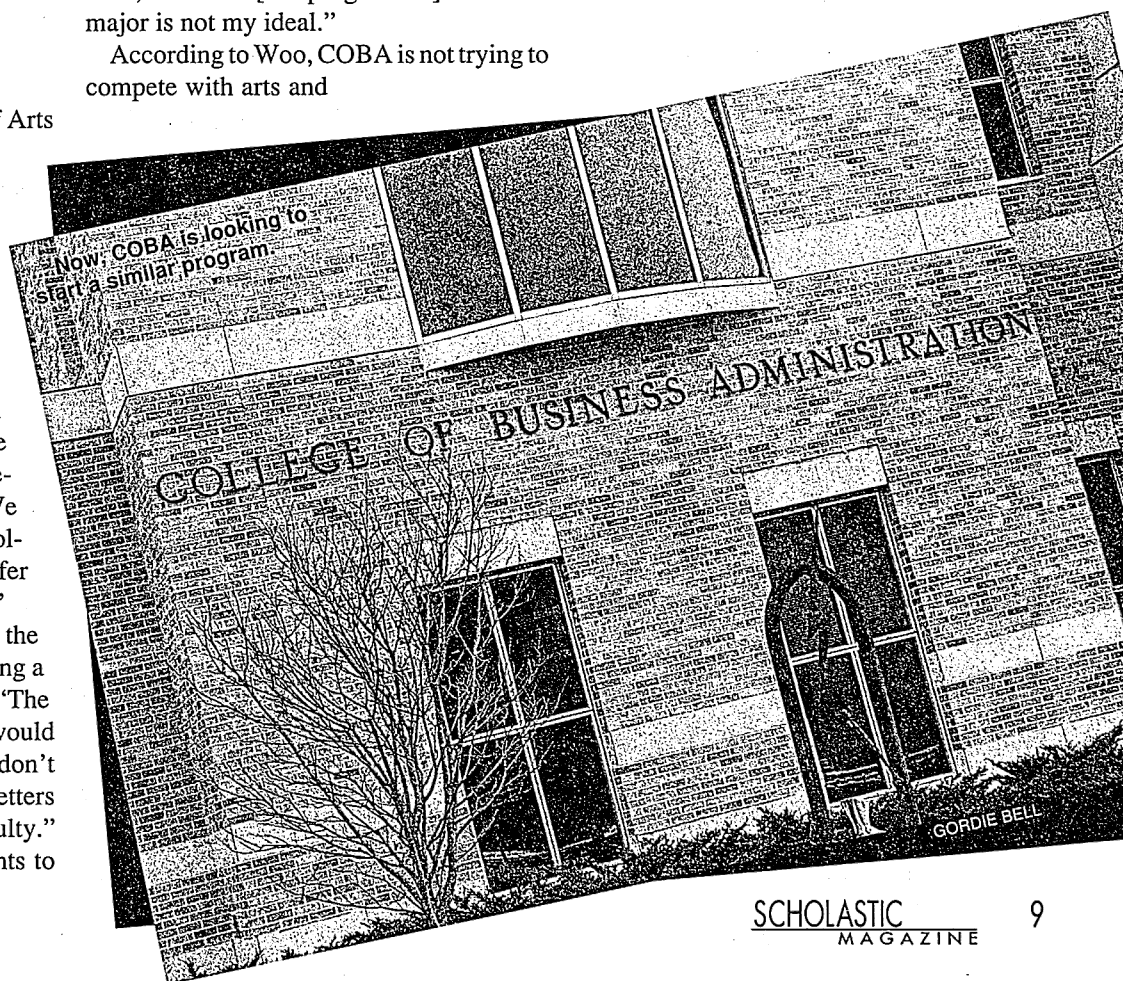
letters for numbers of students or faculty. "All we're doing is responding to a need," Woo says. "We're not trying to encourage more minors. We're already growing so fast." Woo says, adding that she encourages business students to take arts and letters courses. "We're not in competition with each other."

In fact, when Woo first began evaluating the minor, she thought it might provide relief for faculty by reducing the number of COBA majors. But a survey of sophomore business students conducted during the fall of 1998 showed otherwise. Students were asked whether they would still major in business if a minor was offered, and over 85 percent stated they would remain business majors.

"People want to major in business," Woo says. "Students are entering jobs with a lot more responsibility than 10 years ago, getting internships at the end of their sophomore and junior years, working in fast-paced industry."

Even with the growing number of majors in their college, Woo and Gaglio both feel that COBA will be able to benefit students of other majors. As Woo puts it, "We have the resources if other people want to make use of them. We [can] help other majors." □

Jim Pastore contributed to this report.





WORKING HARD FOR THE MONEY



Notre Dame students go to classes, they study, they party – and some of them go to work

MAMA MIA. Jeremy Bauer tosses pizza crusts at Reckers for extra dough.



AMANDA BAUER

BY LISA VIRANI

What do you get when you mix 40 computers with Victoria's Secret models? A job at your local LaFortune computer cluster. At least that's what sophomore Matt Walsh, a LaFortune computer consultant, says. "The fact that during my last shift I was able to watch the Victoria's Secret web cast is the coolest thing about the job," says Walsh, who works part time in the cluster. "Anything where I can sit around watching Victoria's Secret models is great. Aside from the Gorch Games Room, I can't think of a better place to work." Who knew jobs like this existed on campus?

At Notre Dame, students collect paychecks for performing all types of on- and off-campus work. Many work for those few extra dollars to spend at their favorite South Bend haunts while others work to decrease tuition debts and help their parents with college expenses. The Office of Financial Aid offers a work/study program for students in need of on-campus work, although not all on-campus jobs demand that students be a part of the work/study program. Students can also find employment in the South Bend and Michiana communities. A student looking for work can use the

university's employment opportunities web page at www.nd.edu/~finaid. Both on- and off-campus employers use the site to list descriptions of available jobs, job hours, pay rates and contact information.

Senior Jamiko Rose is the assistant to the executive director of the Center for Social Concerns and for her, working at the CSC is more than just a job. "I really enjoy the work that I do in the CSC," she says. "I don't go in because I am scheduled for certain hours. I go in when I feel that something needs to be done." Rose worked in an off-campus restaurant during her sophomore year, but felt that it was important to have a more meaningful job.

Sophomore Colleen Garvey is responsible for scheduling and clerical work in the Food Services Catering Office and works mainly to help out her parents with school expenses. "This job allows me to learn a lot of practical skills and has flexible and convenient hours," she says. Garvey also appreciates the proximity of the catering office to her residence hall. "This job needs no travel time and I can work in the same quad that I live on."

Not to be forgotten: students who labor in the campus dining halls. Most first-year students in the work/study program are assigned to work in either North or South Dining Hall and continue to work in food service afterward.

According to junior Michael Burke, working at North Dining Hall has its perks. "I love my job at NDH," he says. "The people that stay for four years make it enjoyable." Sophomore Cathy Danner, another NDH employee, agrees. "The full timers and the students are really friendly, and we have fun while we are working," she says.

Sophomore Amy Szestak works at the Food Services Support Facility located behind the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union. She is currently in training for the student manager position. "At first I had trouble finding a job because I didn't think that I qualified for work/study, but when I called Food Services, I got the job easily. First I was putting together Grab-N-Go sandwiches at the facility and then I interviewed for the student manager position to take over for a senior," she says. "Because there are so many shifts, the facility can usually work around your class schedule. The only drawback of the job is the facility's location."

If location presents a problem, jobs are also available within the residence halls. Sophomore Susan Fritts works as the Cavanaugh Hall clerk and is responsible for

"Anything where I can sit around watching Victoria's Secret models is great. Aside from the Gorch Games Room, I can't think of a better place to work."

— Matt Walsh, computer consultant

distributing keys and detex cards to dorm residents, collecting fines that have been levied by hall staff and taking care of miscellaneous projects for Sr. Pat Dearbaugh, the hall rectress. "Being hall clerk is very convenient because I don't have to leave the dorm to go to work," Fritts says. "This job is so much more flexible than other campus jobs. I do what needs to be done as soon as I can."

Sophomore Shannon Lacy is an employee at the Gap in the University Park Mall. Lacy favors off-campus employment because she can work here in South Bend and continue to work for the Gap while she is at home. "About 25 percent of the students who work at the Gap go to Notre Dame. Working off campus helps me to better structure my time," she says. "It also helps me get out into the real world, which is a nice change from the campus setting."

Employed students agree that their jobs provide them with certain benefits. Garvey enjoys the free Snapple and soda available in the catering office, and Lacy adds that the employee discount at the Gap is her favorite part of the job. Fritts says that her biggest job benefit as hall clerk is being able to pick office hours according to her semester schedule. Rose is most pleased with her coworkers' dedication to service and community improvement.

As with most jobs, Notre Dame student employees also have to take the bad with the good. Walsh sometimes has difficulty while working in the LaFortune computer cluster when technical problems arise. "You never know what people are going to ask. We have 40 computers, both Macs and PCs, that have completely different problems. The job is good because it trains you to deal with a variety of problems, but you can't know everything," Walsh says.

Fritts says, "The worst part of my job is collecting fines from people in the hall because they always get mad at the messenger."

Burke reports that NDH has problems with people stacking their cups higher and higher without recognizing the impending danger of those leaning towers of plastic. More seriously, Burke adds, "The rudeness of the student body to the NDH workers is a continuing problem. People are disrespectful to our employees even though they could easily end up in the same classes."

Problems also arise for sophomore Nikki Andrzejewski, who works in the Rolf's Fitness Center. "Trying to enforce the Fitness Room rules is hard because people try to break just about every rule we have," she says. "The worst thing about working there is having to re-rack all of the weights because half of them weigh more than I do."

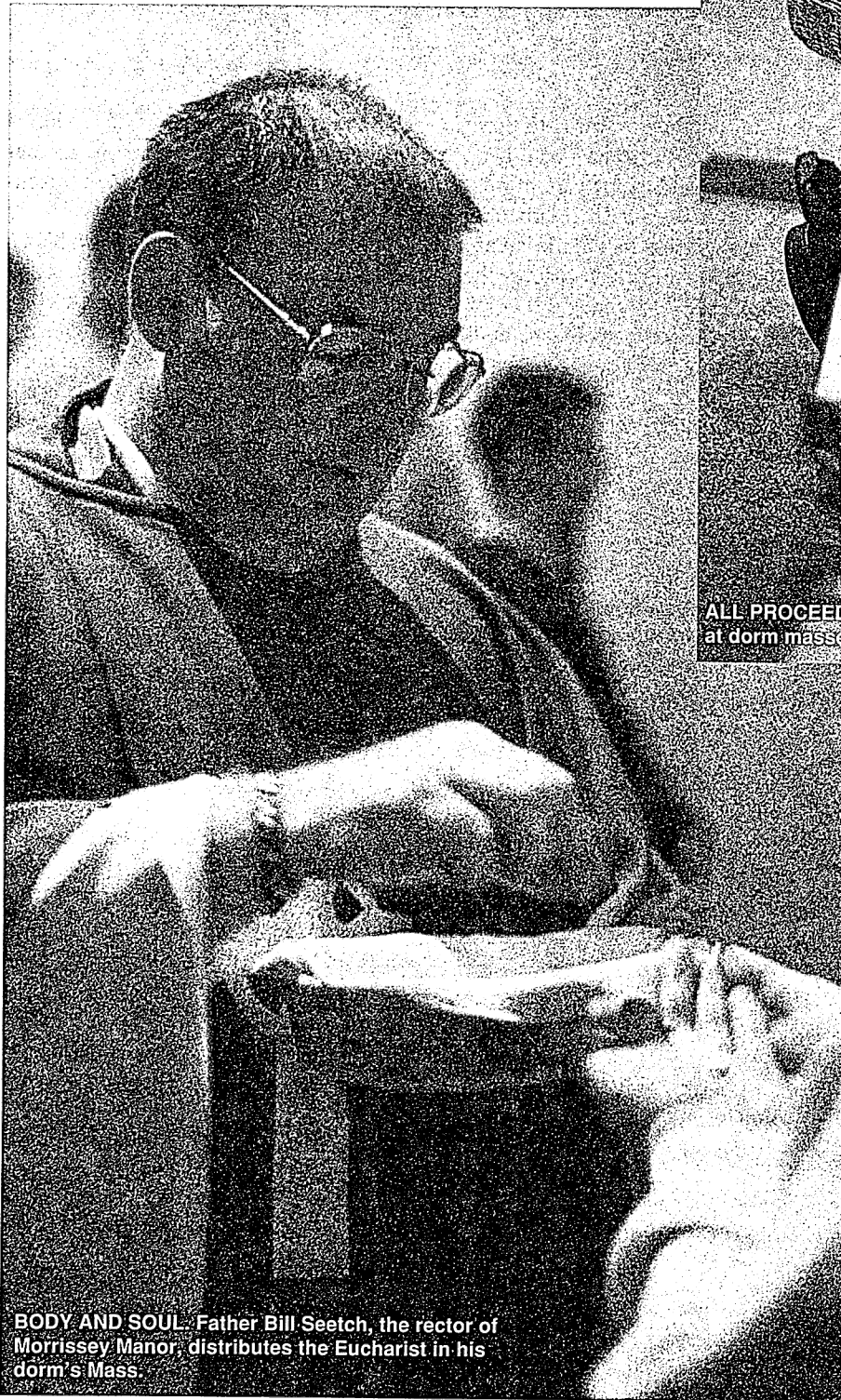
Some students find it difficult to balance their jobs and their class work. Senior Dennis Basila, a student assistant in the office of student employment, says, "The hardest thing is trying to schedule time for class, studying and work." This is especially true for senior Allison Krilla, who currently holds three jobs. Krilla works as a lab assistant in the Language Resource Center, as an associate sports editor for *The Observer*, and as the Notre Dame football and basketball stringer for *USA Today*. "It is hard because even though I make close to \$150 a week, I still have to spend the hours doing the work and sometimes things start to slip," she says.

There are diverse job opportunities available for Notre Dame students both on and off campus. So keep your eyes open for those applications, sharpen up your résumés, and remember that you too can be part of the Notre Dame working community. □

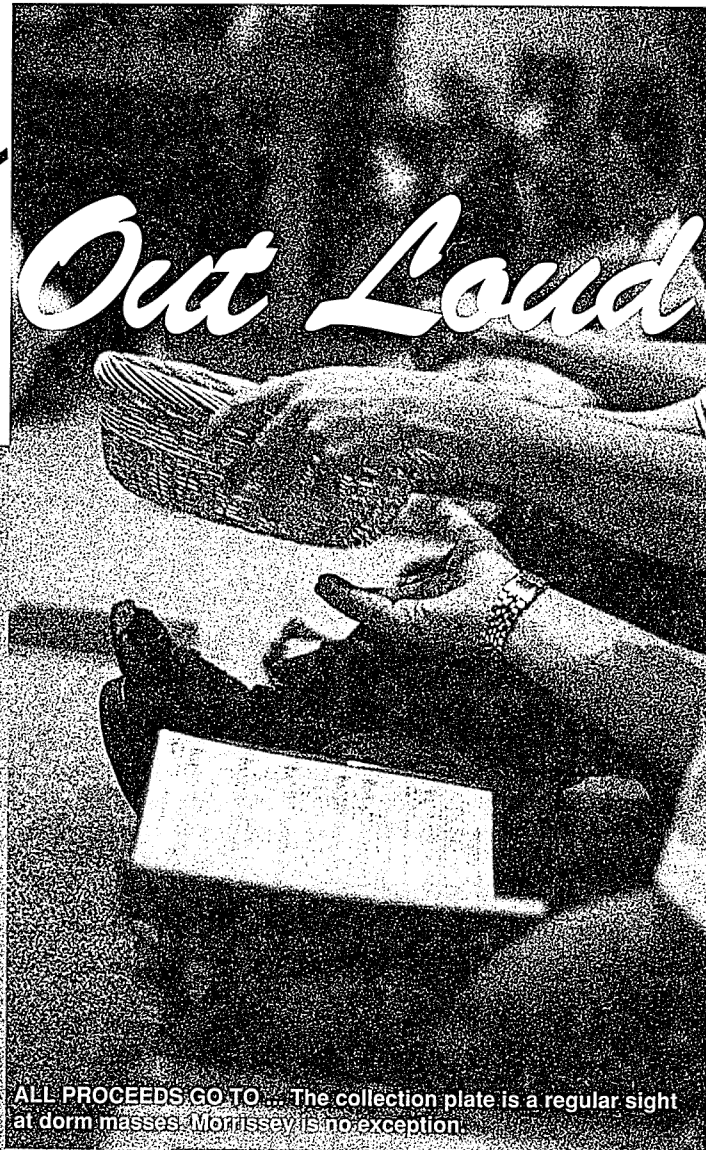
Praying

Out Loud

by Heather Hogan and Melissa Kalas



BODY AND SOUL Father Bill Seetch, the rector of Morrissey Manor, distributes the Eucharist in his dorm's Mass.



ALL PROCEEDS GO TO... The collection plate is a regular sight at dorm masses. Morrissey is no exception.

GORDIE BELL

That distant rumbling on Sunday nights is probably an opening hymn rather than a rerun of The X-Files

GORDIE BELL

Sunday night for a college student usually means donning a T-shirt and sweats for a night of recovering from the weekend and catching up on homework. But the late hours of Sunday evenings for Notre Dame students are in many cases reserved for going to one of 27 dorms for Mass.

Father Don McNeill, the in-residence priest at McGlenn Hall, characterizes dorm Masses as "symbolic of the life of the members of each hall." While the Basilica remains popular with the early morning risers of the Notre Dame community, there are certain factors surrounding the atmosphere of the dorm Mass that appeals to students. "A lot of students like them because of the time frame — late on Sunday night when they're either finished studying or when they need a break from doing so," McNeill says. "It's an opportunity to invite friends over to socialize with before and after Mass as well as a chance to be with the people they live with."

Students agree that there is a social appeal to the dorm Masses. "I stay in my dorm for Mass. I know the people who will be attending and I enjoy the opportunity to see them," says Pat Mitchell, a sophomore in Zahn Hall.

Many students take advantage of this opportunity to spend quality time with friends from other dorms as well. Annie Sutera, a freshman in Pangborn Hall who regularly attends Mass in Alumni Hall, says, "It's a good place to hang out with my friends. If I've had a busy week and wasn't able to see them, then I know I'll see them on Sunday night. I also like to go and see all of the guys singing — something I'm not used to hearing on a daily basis."

While the opposite sex can be an alluring attraction of Mass, it is not the only reason for students to trek outdoors. It is not uncommon to find a number of females dispersed in the men's chapels on campus, but it is an oddity to find many men in the women's chapels. This is in part due to the fact that many of the dorms on campus have priests living in residence either as rectors or assistant rectors, but a few dorms, especially a number of women's dorms, do not.

It's a good place to hang out with my friends. If I've had a busy week and wasn't able to see them, then I know I'll see them on Sunday night.

— Annie Sutera

Mass is said each week by a different celebrant. While some individuals may find this to be a benefit, adding diversity and character to each sermon, others may find it a drawback, preventing them from becoming comfortable with the speaker.

Mary Ann McAloon, a junior in Howard Hall, often attends Zahn Hall with her boyfriend because she finds Zahn's Mass to be "a more spiritual and comfortable atmosphere." She occasionally attends Howard's Mass to spend time with her friends and show support for her friends in the choir, but feels that she gets more out of Zahn's Mass than her own dorm's. "Father Bill [Wack] gives great sermons, and I find more of a spiritual atmosphere there," McAloon says.

Junior Camille Fitzpatrick, Howard Hall's dorm's liturgical commissioner, says most of her friends explore other options for Mass. "It's good to try different Masses and attend where you feel the most comfortable. Zahn and Morrissey have always been popular places for Mass, and it does provide the opportunity to see more people."

Katie Cousino, a junior at Saint Mary's, agrees. "Community is really important to me during Mass, so I look for an atmosphere that is both spiritually and socially pleasing," she says.

Although the different environment from that of the Basilica is in large part due to the students, the priests presiding over the service create the same kind of impact. "Every once in a while Father Al [D'Alonzo] will point someone out and joke with them in the middle of Mass," says Steve Bomeli, a freshman in Carroll Hall. "He knows pretty much everyone that attends Mass and his sermons often relate directly to us."

It is unlikely that students will find another parish in their lifetime where they will be able to wear pajamas to Mass and be called by name by a pastor while surrounded by friends.

Whether they're held in marble chapels or among folding chairs, it is this combination of convenience and intimacy that has formed the unique entity that is the dorm Mass. □

LET US PRAY. Though they may be just as spirited, men generally do not attend Masses in women's dorms, such as this one in Lyons, as frequently as women attend men's Masses.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DOME

ALL WRAPPED UP

*Singing Lollipops ... Flying Foam Darts ...
SYRs keep junk shops in business*

BY ERIC YUVA

They have a date. She's wearing a black dress. He's in khakis and a navy blue blazer. There's romance in the air as he presents her with ... a pineapple.

The tradition of gift-giving at SYRs has stood the test of time (and several unfortunate '90s innovations). Yet the beauty of handing a bottle of bubbles to a complete stranger remains.

Most students shop for toys — the more childish, the better. Dart games, Etch-A-Sketch, toy guns and various action figures, including the new *Star Wars* figurines, are all popular. "My last date got me this cool gun that shoots foam darts up to speeds of 50 miles per hour," freshman Josh Heinlein says. "It's a big hit in the dorm."

Food items are also popular. Candy is always a sure bet with women, and sometimes exotic fruits are exchanged. "I got a pineapple from Meijer for my last date and she liked it a lot," junior Jason Leung says. "Now other guys are following my lead."

New innovations in technology are creating better SYR gifts than ever before. Sophomore Nicole Rodgers combined candy and machinery for her last SYR gift. "I got my date this musical-lollipop device that plays music when you put the lollipop in your mouth," she says. "The vibrations go off the teeth and into your head, so only the person tasting the lollipop can hear it."

Weird gifts are also great for SYR dances. Zahm sophomore Scott Killen says, "The coolest gift I got was a cactus from my date in Lewis. I named him Spartacus."

But beware the *too* weird — many students recycle their SYR gifts and give them to future dates. One pair of "Spectacular Sea Monkeys," the hatching brine shrimp eggs, got passed from Farley to Zahm to BP and on to Dillon, where they were tossed into a dumpster.

SYR gifts are meant to be taken as jokes, so hoping for something practical is a waste of time. But

living or leafy, foamy or flirty, gifts for dates can often make or break the night. So please, choose wisely. □



GRAB BAG

Here's a list of gifts to consider — and a few that should be avoided:

GO FOR IT

Strange gifts: Anything from Spencer's at University Park Mall qualifies, including wind-up toys featuring the characters of *South Park*; outspoken posters and plastic signs, ideal for rooms; and gifts like sex wax or glow-in-the-dark condoms.

Food and Drink: Anything alcohol related, including but not limited to shot glasses, beer mugs or beer covers. Food, such as candy and exotic fruits, is always a big hit.

Toys, Toys, Toys: Anything an eight-year old could want: toy guns, action figures or stuffed animals such as Puffins or Beanie Babies.

Old Standbys: Dorm shirts, a perfect memory of the event ... unless they want to remain respectable and not admit that they went to a Keenan dance.

NOT SO FAST

A rose is a rose: Watch the flowers! They're for formals — no roses, no carnations. A simple bouquet is all one needs for an SYR.

Statement gifts: Gifts poking fun at one's date are to be avoided. For example, no cigarettes for Farley girls, no Pert Plus for McGlenn women and no copies of *Studpuppy* magazine for Zahm guys. Otherwise, any hopes of scoring will fly out of the window.

Alcohol: Guys, no six-packs for the ladies — it implies way too much.

— Eric Yuva

Campus by the Gipper Watch

Weeks like this, the Gipp wonders why people think he's so negative. He's actually quite cheerful once you get to know him, especially when people send in as many tips as they have lately. With the snow melting and people getting back into trouble, Notre Dame is a great place to be. The Gipp thinks a couple of *Observer* columnists put it best when one of them wrote, "Blah blah balh (sic) blah blah." Or something like that. The Gipp fell asleep a couple of lines in. Anyway, thanks for your continued readership, guys.

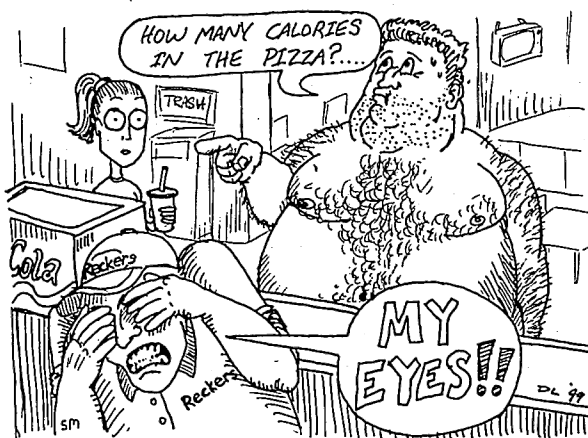
The Gipp doesn't want to sound like some kind of elitist here, but he wonders if anyone else has noticed some of the stupid things drunk people do on this campus. Just a thought. The Gipp hopes he hasn't poisoned the campus atmosphere any further with his negativity by mentioning that.

Anyway, here's an example from one poor Reckers employee who may be on the verge of doing something drastic, thanks to the antics of a couple of oversized customers.

Baring it All

The first was a lacrosse player, about as

wide as he was tall, who removed all of his clothes and, leaving them in a pile on the floor, walked up to the counter and began yelling at the cashiers. When Reckers security confronted him, he ran out the door and into O'Neill Hall, leaving his clothes be-



hind. Last thing the Gipp heard, no one had gotten up the nerve to touch them.

Best Service at Reckers All Year

If the administration really wants to improve gender relations, it should think twice before making the decision to close Reckers late at night on weekends. At least one couple found the atmosphere of the place very stimulating, according to the same poor tipper who contributed the bit about the overweight stalker. She reports seeing

a football player getting a rubdown in a very personal area one afternoon.

The Gipp doesn't know who the guy was, but he's pretty sure it wasn't one of the placekickers. Everyone knows they can't perform in front of a crowd.

Would You Like Some Intimidation With That?

Just in case anyone is looking to enjoy a meal in an environment free of fat, naked men and live sex shows, remember that there's always good old North Dining Hall. But be warned: try to escape from NDH with anything more than stomach pain, and the dining hall police will grab you like opposing defenses grab an Eric Chappell pass.

That's what happened to a tipper who tried to leave with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for a sick friend. She thought she was in the clear until a Magnum P.I. look-a-like and a surprisingly nimble old lady chased her down outside PW. Magnum confiscated the offending sandwich and informed this dangerous criminal that taking food from the dining hall is a felony. He left her with a warning: "Take the word back to your dorm that NDH does *not* tolerate stealing from the dining hall."

The Gipp thinks it's reassuring that the dining hall is working to strike fear in the hearts of psychotics like these. After all, if everyone stole food, what would the rats and roaches eat?

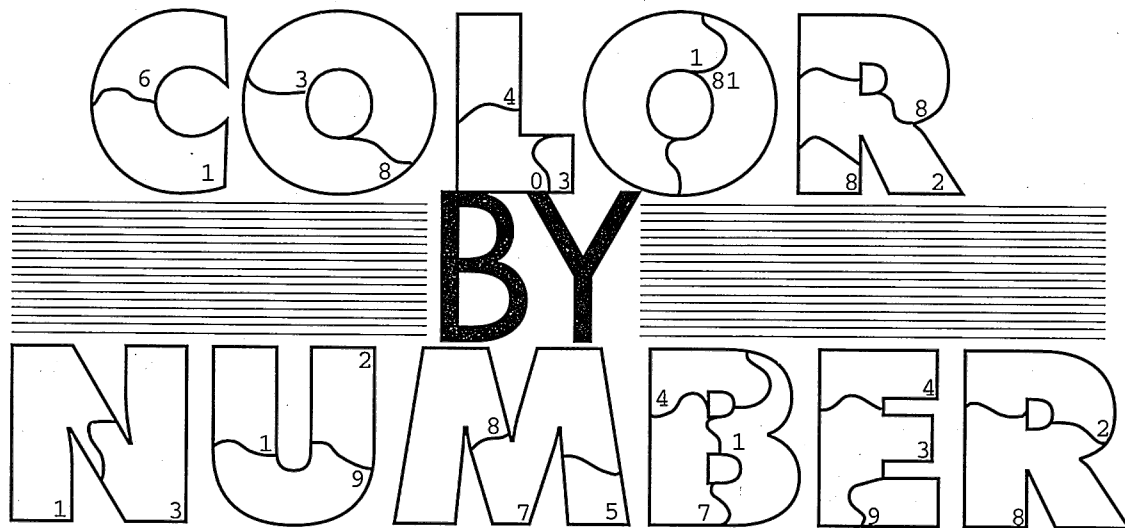
Back to Ruining Notre Dame's Reputation

At the same time all of the security forces on campus apparently had their attention focused on tracking down wayward bananas, one tipper reports a run-in he had on a campus road with an overly-aggressive, older male driver.

In language that the Gipp has cleaned up slightly, our friend reports, "This [gentleman] tailgated me something fierce all along the street along the lakes, nearly hitting me at the stop sign at the Grotto." The mystery driver then ran a red light leaving campus and tried to squeeze past our hero next to D2000. When they pulled even with each other, the tipper looked to his left and saw the crazed face of ... Monk Malloy!?

Again, the Gipp doesn't want to seem negative, so he won't suggest that certain administrators think they're above the law. They'd probably just claim they answer to a higher authority anyway. □

With recent recruiting attempts to diversify the student body, the administration is playing a game of ...



by Jim Pastore

Notre Dame prides itself on its academic and athletic reputation. Administrators boast about the school's ability to attract talented students from all 50 states. But when it comes to cultural diversity, Notre Dame is about as varied as the Indiana landscape. At a school where minorities comprise only about 15 percent of the entire student body and an even smaller percentage of the faculty, some students wonder what the numbers mean for race relations on campus.

Justin Liu, a junior and president of Notre Dame's Asian American Association, feels that increasing the number of minority students and faculty members holds the key to improving race relations here. "It's more of a problem with integration than anything else. ... It's a matter of numbers," Liu says. He notes that part of the difficulty in attracting

minorities to Notre Dame lies in the already low number of such students on campus.

"It's a tough one because South Bend really isn't for everyone," Liu explains. "With the fact that there's such a low minority representation already, I think it makes it hard for people to come here. It's kind of like a snowball effect."

Senior April Davis, who chairs both the Campus Life Council Diversity Committee and the Ethnic Clubs Division of the Club Coordination Council, agrees that the university needs to increase the enrollment of minority students and hire more minority faculty members. "I would like the university to have some faculty members that are not just white faculty," Davis says.

In an attempt to address concerns about diversity, the Undergraduate Admissions Office has taken a proactive approach by

recruiting minorities to apply to and enroll at Notre Dame. Within the Admissions Office, a diversity committee spearheads the effort to increase the numbers of minority students on campus.

James Riley, a '94 Notre Dame graduate, sits on the diversity committee and participates in the major recruiting efforts of the Admissions Office. Although he acts as the coordinator of Asian-American recruiting, Riley's involvement with the recruitment of minority students extends far beyond Asian Americans. In the fall of each year, the Admissions Office establishes a phone center where university representatives call promising minority high school students.

"We call students of color and ask them if they're going to apply, and if they need an application, we mail it to them," Riley explains. This effort increases the

The Student Palette

6,617

White

275

Asian

535

Hispanic

38

Native
American

258

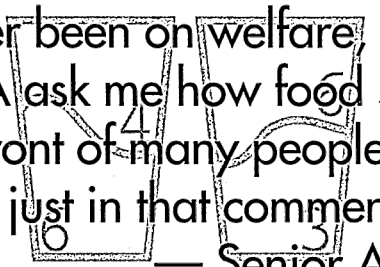
Blacks

admission pool and ultimately results in higher acceptance and confirmation rates.

Riley also visits college fairs throughout the Southwest in the spring. "We set up booths and let students know Notre Dame is an option and is out there so hopefully they will apply," Riley says.

In addition to Riley's efforts, the

"I've never been on welfare, but I did have a TA ask me how food stamps work in front of many people. ... I was alienated just in that comment alone."



— Senior April Davis
Campus Life Council
Diversity Committee Chair

Admissions Office employs three minority students as Multicultural Student Recruitment Coordinators. Junior Michael Fierro, who serves as a coordinator, visits high schools and talks with students interested in attending or applying to Notre Dame. "We talk to everybody, but we try to target students that are ethnic minorities," Fierro explains.

Aside from visiting high schools, student coordinators write letters to minority students who have expressed interest in Notre Dame, attend college fairs and help administer a fall open house weekend for promising minority students. Although the student coordinators do not read applications or admit students, they play a major role in the diversity recruiting effort at Notre Dame.

Despite the attempts made by the university to increase undergraduate minority enrollment, the results have not consistently produced a higher proportion of minority students over the past five years. The proportion of minority students rose between 1993 and 1994, but it dropped in 1995 and remained constant in 1996 and 1997.

In 1993, 13.9 percent of the student body were non-white. Five years later, that number has increased by less than 2 percent. These inconsistent results have led some students to question the effectiveness of the university's efforts. "I definitely see them not recruiting enough. Evidently, [the attempts] are

not working well enough," Davis says.

The Climate of Notre Dame

The low number of minority students ultimately choosing to attend Notre Dame in the fall may be due, in part, to the school's atmosphere. While

most students agree that the campus is relatively free of overt racism, some students of color feel professors and white students make assumptions based on race.

Marisa Marquez, President of

La Alianza, notes, "People have never been out and out just racist." Rather than racist comments, Marquez sees incorrect assumptions as an obstacle to a more comfortable environment for minority students at Notre Dame. Marquez notes that one white girl assumed that, because of her Mexican background, her family picked strawberries for a living. "Maybe she's a really good person, but she turned me totally off. That type of ignorance stunts relationships with other people," Marquez explains.

Cultural insensitivity does not exist merely in a dorm or social setting. As Davis notes, faculty members can also make incorrect assumptions on the basis of a student's race. "I've never been on welfare, but I did have a TA ask me how food stamps work in front of many people. How am I supposed to feel when you pick me out and ask me how food stamps work?" Davis says, "I was alienated just in that comment alone."

Iris Outlaw, Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, also believes that false assumptions can lead to an uncomfortable environment for minority students. "I've talked to students that said they are possibly the only Latin American or African American student in the class. Everyone will look at them as the expert," Outlaw says. "[These] students are called to speak for their whole race, whereas majority students are not."

Despite some instances of ethnic insensitivity, Riley considers the campus a welcoming place. "When I go to predominantly African-American high schools, they'll ask me have I ever run into any racial problems and I tell them, 'No, it's a good place to be and the environment is welcoming,'" he says.

Fierro also speaks to high school students in his role as a student coordinator. "When I talk to a student, and they ask how it is, I'm completely honest," Fierro says. Having come from a high school that was 96 percent Latino, Fierro sees Notre Dame as a challenge both academically and socially.

"Notre Dame has made me grow as a person because it has made me able to deal with challenges because of the color of my skin that I will probably face in the profession that I want to go into," Fierro says. Although he says he has faced obstacles because of his skin color, Fierro does not regret his choice to come to Notre Dame. "I love Notre Dame and I'd do it again in a heartbeat," he says.

Not all minority students, however, share Fierro's love of Notre Dame. "A lot of majority students, they think [Notre Dame is] the best place on earth, like Disneyland. But if you talk to a lot of minority students, it's like a jail sentence almost," Davis explains. "It's totally different for a minority student than for a majority student."

The Faculty Palette

627

White

46

Asian

25

Hispanic

0

Native American

11

Blacks

Differences in culture and background sometimes make interaction among the races difficult. "A lot of reason you see the separation between groups on campus is because of the fact that they feel more

Marisa Marquez recalls that one white girl assumed that, because of her Mexican background, her family picked strawberries for a living.

comfortable with each other from their backgrounds," Liu says.

On a social level, ethnic groups frequently have different tastes in food, music and events than the majority of students on campus. Yet, large organizations like the Student Union Board are charged with the responsibility of programming events for the entire campus. Almost by necessity, SUB's activities must grab the attention of the majority of students on campus. In the case of Notre Dame, this can mean programming events for white students. Unlike a large, state school at which minority students might constitute the largest proportion of the student body, the voice of minority students can be lost at Notre Dame. "The school is catered towards white students, period," Davis says.

The Ethnic Clubs: Forces of Division or Integration?

SUB is not the only programming body on campus. Especially in recent years, clubs have gradually assumed a larger role in programming major events on campus.

Ryan Harding, the club coordinator, says that clubs provide outlets for their members' specific interests — interests that larger programming bodies might overlook. As Harding sees it, ethnic clubs perform much the same function as other campus organizations. "Just like any of the other groups, they offer opportunities for the members to explore specific areas of interest and in this case it happens to be cultural areas of interest," Harding says.

Ethnic groups typically program a wide array of events including shows, discussions and dances. Because they program a full calendar and often sponsor expensive events, ethnic clubs typically request more money from the Club Coordination Council than other types of club. This

year, those clubs also received the largest amount of money per club. Ethnic organizations received over \$40,000 to divide among 26 clubs.

Harding cites preparation and vigor as key elements in the decision to award the ethnic division a large amount of funding. "The ethnic groups come in and their proposals are well-researched. I see them doing a lot of

large-scale events that are focused at the entire campus [and also] doing a lot of education-type events," he says.

This dual pedagogical and social function presents a challenge to ethnic clubs. They often struggle to provide fun events for their members while also trying to reach students from outside their ethnic group. "Unfortunately, it's our job to educate the whole school about diversity," Davis says. "For the most part, it seems the minority students have to educate the majority students." Davis believes that when too much emphasis is placed on the educational function of clubs, students of color lose the clubs as places of recreation.

For many club members, ethnic groups provide social opportunities otherwise lacking at Notre Dame. "I have yet to go to an SYR that plays something different than 'Come On, Eileen,'" Marquez says. As an alternative to dorm SYRs and formals, many ethnic clubs sponsor their own dances. "I don't think that it's being divisive. Everything that we put up from any group is open to the whole Notre Dame community," Davis says. "It brings us together and gives us a sense of community. We come together, have fun, chill."

Despite being open to students of all ethnic groups, the dances face an obstacle common to many of the other events sponsored by cultural clubs: a lack of white students in attendance.

Marquez would like to see the problem addressed. "You don't have to be just a minority. ... We're not just here for minorities or for Latinos," Marquez says.

Outlaw believes that this lack of involvement often stems from some students' aversion to new experiences. "We have some students who are even hesitant to get involved because they think they'll be the only white students in there. It's hard to take risks, and that's why some of the students don't move outside their comfort zones," she says.

Outlaw maintains that both white and minority students need to work through their fears in order to achieve a greater level of appreciation for one another's cultures. "You learn so much, you learn about yourself, you learn what other students are going through, and you become more empathetic," Outlaw explains.

Although ethnic clubs invite the entire student body to their dances, the events are often, in effect, segregated. "There was one white person at last year's Latino formal and that's just because he was dating someone," Marquez says.

These segregated situations alarm some students. "I can understand why people enjoy the dances, but it does segregate the campus in some ways," senior Jorge DeJesus says.

But not all dances are so segregated. According to Liu, a fair number of white students attended this year's inaugural Asian Formal. The dance, however, was still attended primarily by minority students.

Finding Common Ground

Further integration of the student body presents a difficult challenge. Aside from a strict focus on increasing the number of minority

"We have some students who are even hesitant to get involved because they think they'll be the only white students in there. It's hard to take risks, and that's why some of the students don't move outside their comfort zones."

— Iris Outlaw

students on campus, various campus organizations have provided forums for discussion and education in an attempt to bring students together across cultures.

Outlaw sees the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs as an essential part of increasing dialogue on race at Notre Dame. "I think one of the major issues still is to provide venues for students to talk," she says.

Outlaw also notes the need to educate faculty members as well as students about race. "Like my mom used to say, 'There are a lot of educated fools running around.'" Outlaw believes that you need to feel comfortable with race before you can facilitate discussion among students. "If you're taking them to the book, you better have read it," she says.

In addition to OMSA's efforts, Student Government has worked with administrators in order to implement Diversity Education Programs next fall. Student

Body Vice President Andréa Selak explains that the programs would target first-year students and address concerns about race at Notre Dame. "Presentations would be in the dorm," she says. "Ideally, we'd have one in the fall targeted towards first-year students and another one in the spring that would be a more general one," Selak says.

Although plans are still in the early stages, Student Government has already established the groundwork for the presentations. Student Body President Peter Cesaro remains confident about implementing the programs. "This is our major goal for our final time in office. It will be accomplished by April 1," Cesaro says. He emphasizes the importance of creating a more comfortable environment for all Notre Dame students, and says, "We're trying to create an environment where people can interact."

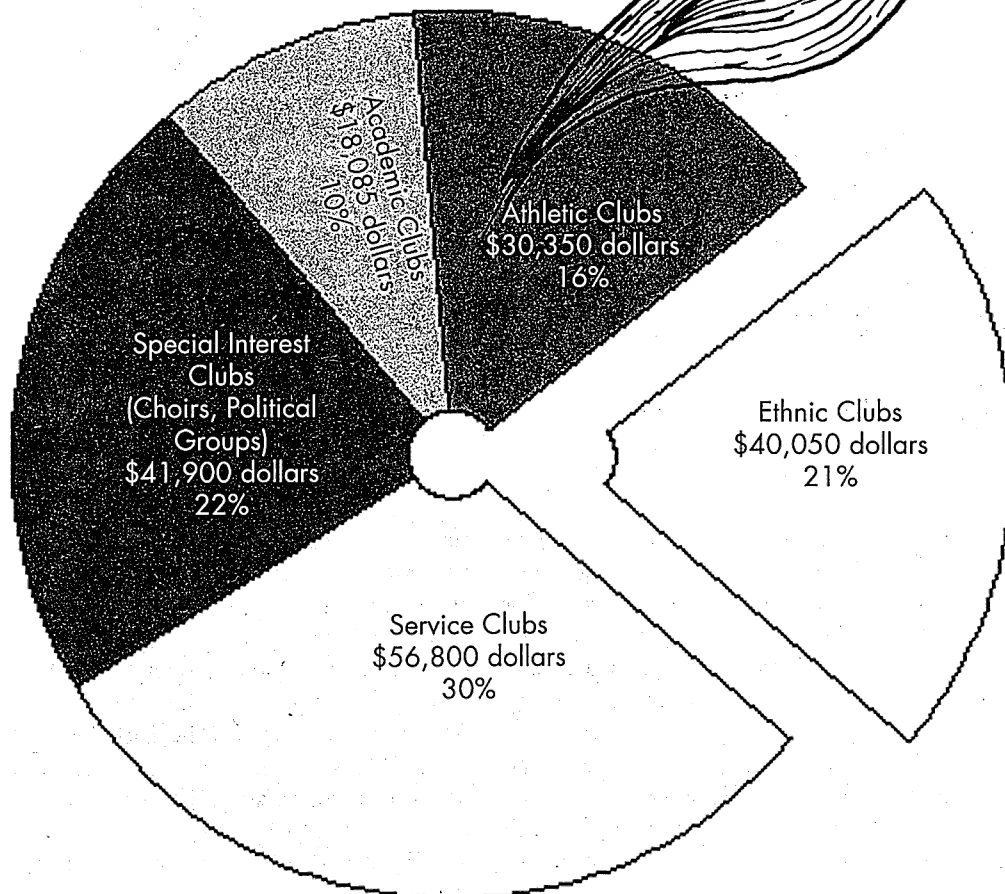
Cesaro and Selak's proposals specifi-

cally target the dorms in an effort to foster more awareness and communication about race among residents. "We want as much interaction among the dorm residents and among the different cultures as possible," Cesaro explains.

Riley shares the view that race relations in the dorms ultimately influence the atmosphere of the campus as a whole. "The students come here to Notre Dame and they spend most of their time [in the dorms]," he says. "If [students of different race] could just spend a little more time with each other, I think the race relations will improve drastically," he says. A positive experience within the dorm may carry over into the larger university community. Marquez, for example, got along with her freshman year roommate, who was of a different race. "My roommate was cool. It turned out good for me, but I can't say that for everyone," she says.

Their Part of the Picture

Ethnic clubs get their share of Student Activities Funds



Despite the varying opinions on what course the university needs to take in the future, most students and administrators agree that things are moving in the right direction. "I think that we're on the right track in terms of working together. I think that's key, OMSA, student government, the ethnic clubs all working together," Selak says.

Outlaw also has seen positive changes since her arrival in 1991. "There are grassroots organizations providing opportunities for dialogue," she says.

As Notre Dame moves into the next century, the efforts to improve race relations are expected to expand. "I think it's the administration's job to step up. I may not be a white Irish, but I am Notre Dame," Davis says.

With the groundwork established for more effective communications among campus organizations, Cesaro expects race relations to continue to improve. "The multicultural climate is a key element at Notre Dame. Significant advancements have been made this year and I hope they continue to be made. This is not an overnight process, but we are moving forward." □

Out for Redemption

WIND UP. Pitcher Alex Shilliday, the staff ace, recorded 93 strikeouts last season.

The Irish may be the only 41-17 team with something to prove

by Christopher Hamilton

Although neither Head Coach Paul Mainieri nor any of his players has acknowledged it, the unofficial slogan for the 1999 Notre Dame baseball team can be best summed up in one word: redemption. It may be hard to imagine why a squad that compiled a 41-17 record and ended up one victory shy of the Big East championship a year ago, would feel any need to be redeemed. But, amid the positives of the 1998 campaign, there were some blemishes. Getting crushed by Miami

in three straight contests by a total score of 62-8 and failing to win the conference tournament after being the odds-on favorite for the third straight season put a damper on the year. It also led the Irish to be focused and motivated with the season opening tomorrow in Florida.

"We look back and see the 40 wins ... and don't get us wrong, we're proud of that," reflects team captain and pitching staff ace Alex Shilliday. "We're happy we got so many wins, but you feel empty and you feel

something's missing from your season when you don't get that Big East championship and go on to the playoffs."

As the Irish embark on their quest for their first-ever Big East crown, they will be doing so without some key contributors from last year's team. The Irish lose the talented bats of J.J. Brock, Allen Greene and Dan Leatherman, all three of whom batted over .315 and provided defensive stability at their respective positions of short-stop, centerfield and first base. Notre Dame

will also be without the services of one pitcher from last year, Brad Lidge, though 11 of the team's top 12 hurlers return.

"We're certainly going to miss the leadership and ability of J.J. Brock, Brad Lidge, Allen Greene," Mainieri says. "But each year you have to turn the page and look forward to the new group coming in."

Mainieri cannot help but be excited with the incoming crop of freshmen. In fact the head coach expects as many as four or five newcomers to see daily action this year. "We traded a lot of experience for youth," said Mainieri. "But I think the young players that came in bring certain qualities to the team we were lacking before."

According to Mainieri, centerfielder Steve Stanley, left fielder Matt Strickroth and

**"This year's
lineup is
definitely
going to have
a lot more
pop than in
previous
years."
— Brant Ust**

forting factor of having four or five freshman in the lineup is knowing that you've got veteran players like Brant Ust, Jeff Wagner, Alec Porzel, Jeff Felker and Jeff Perconte coming back [to complement these players]," Mainieri notes.

Last season's Big East Player of the Year, Brant Ust, and Notre Dame's career home run leader, Jeff Wagner, form the heart of the Irish lineup. "In Ust and Wagner you're talking about two guys that have had stellar careers already," Mainieri says. "If they never played another game they would go down in history as being two of the very best players that we've ever had at Notre Dame. We're going to look upon them in a very big way to provide leadership, to perform in the clutch and really show the way for the



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

BATTER UP. Senior catcher Jeff Wagner, Notre Dame's career home run leader, will share the time behind the plate with Paul O'Toole.

third baseman Andy Bushey are already penciled into the starting lineup for the season opening games against James Madison and Florida International, which will be played tomorrow. The other freshmen competing for playing time are catcher Paul O'Toole and utility player J.P. Drevline. O'Toole looks to share time behind the plate with senior Jeff Wagner, and Drevline is making a serious bid to be a regular at the designated hitter slot.

While having so many freshmen contributing immediately might be a cause of concern for some, Mainieri chooses to view the situation in a positive light. "The real com-

young players."

Ust and Wagner do not feel they will be shouldering most of the offensive load, as they believe this year's offense should be every bit as potent as last year's offense, which produced an average of more than nine runs per game. "We seem to have, from one to nine [in the batting order], all three, four, five hole hitters," Ust notes. "This year's lineup is definitely going to have a lot more pop than in previous years."

"We also have some guys that can really run at the top of the lineup," Wagner says about the much-needed boost in team speed due to the influx of freshmen.

And the lineup can only benefit from Ust's experience of playing for the USA Baseball World Championship team this past summer. As the first Notre Dame representative to make the USA national team since Shaun Fitzmaurice participated on the 1964 Olympic team, Ust performed exceptionally well. He ended up as the USA's third-leading hitter, batting .378 and recording 20 RBIs.

"It helped me tremendously ... just being able to compete day in and day out with teammates that are considered the top players in the country," says Ust about his unique experience. "It improved my confidence, and the traveling, the experience of representing your country, was unbelievable."

While Notre Dame promises to boast an impressive offensive attack, Mainieri feels that the pitching staff will be the team's biggest asset. "The strength of our team is going to be our pitching," notes Mainieri. "I think when you throw Alex Shilliday, Tim Kalita and Aaron Heilman out there, those three guys are going to be as good as any three pitchers in the country."

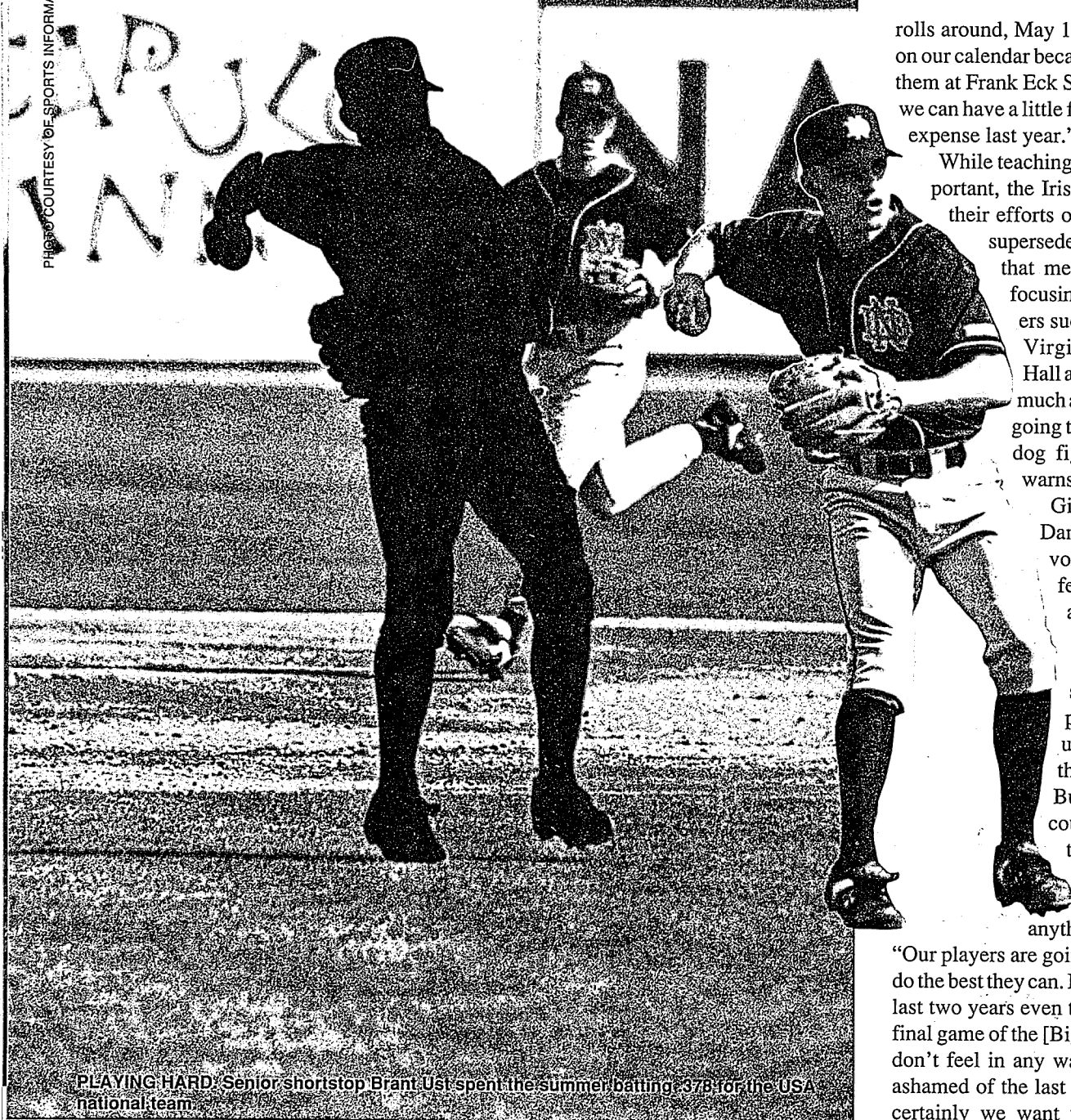
Shilliday, a senior right hander, returns as the staff ace after recording a 9-5 record, a 3.54 ERA and team-high 93 strikeouts last season. Shilliday was also the staff workhorse a year ago, throwing for a team-leading 96.2 innings.

"Alex Shilliday has been the glue to our pitching staff for three years and he will be again this year," Mainieri says. "He will be Mr. Dependable for us again and when we have a big game there is nobody

I want on the mound any more than Alex Shilliday."

Kalita, a junior southpaw, is a formidable pitcher in his own right, as he went 4-0 last year with a 2.78 ERA. Sophomore Heilman, who turned heads with a nation-leading 1.61 ERA in a relief/closing role last year to earn All-American honors, might also see action as a starter to complete an imposing trio. Senior Chris McKeown and junior Scott Cavey, along with freshmen Drew Duff, Matt Buchmeier and Jason Rodda, are also strong candidates who will be competing for starting roles.

The only real question mark regarding the



PLAYING HARD: Senior shortstop Brant Ust spent the summer batting .378 for the USA national team.

rolls around, May 11 ... it's a day circled on our calendar because it'll be fun to have them at Frank Eck Stadium and hopefully we can have a little fun like they had at our expense last year."

While teaching Miami a lesson is important, the Irish know that focusing their efforts on the Big East crown supersedes everything else. And that means the Irish will be focusing on Big East contenders such as St. John's, West Virginia, Rutgers, Seton Hall and Connecticut just as much as the Hurricanes. "It's going to be a typical Big East dog fight again this year," warns Mainieri.

Given the fact that Notre Dame is yet again the favorite to capture the conference championship, as it has been every year since joining the Big East, it would seem only natural that pressure and a sense of urgency would pervade the team atmosphere. But that train of thought could not be further from the truth.

"We don't really feel pressure to do anything," says Mainieri.

"Our players are going to go out there and do the best they can. I feel very proud of the last two years even though we've lost the final game of the [Big East] Tournament. I don't feel in any way that we should be ashamed of the last two years at all. But, certainly we want to win the Big East Championship."

The bottom line is that the Irish are due to capture their first Big East crown. But this year will likely also hold more in store for Notre Dame than in previous years, even if the Irish do not win that elusive title. They will benefit greatly from the expansion of the NCAA playoff field from 48 to 68 teams this year. This means that a performance similar to last season will all but guarantee Notre Dame a place in the postseason.

If that happens, the Irish can start talking seriously about returning somewhere they have not been in over 40 years: the College World Series. □

'99 Irish is the defense. Excluding the pitcher position, Notre Dame might potentially have only one player, namely catcher Jeff Wagner, playing at the same position as last year. However, Mainieri is confident that the defense will be up to the task.

"I thought our infield defense last year was a big reason why we won 40 ball games," notes Mainieri. "J.J. Brock played tremendously at shortstop for us last year and now the key is going to be for Brant Ust to play well at shortstop for us this year. If Brant does for us what J.J. Brock did for us last year, then I think our infield defense will be even better than last year."

With Notre Dame looking to be a regular

in the top 25 this season, the Irish will undoubtedly have too much firepower for a good majority of the opponents they will play in their 55 regular season games. But Mainieri promises the Irish will not become overly complacent. "I don't take any games lightly," Mainieri says. "It's the oldest cliché going, but you take them one game at a time and you place importance in every game."

One can't help but think that Notre Dame is a little more pumped up than usual to take on the Miami Hurricanes. "I wish we could play them [Miami] right away, but unfortunately, we have to wait about 50 games before we get another shot at them," Mainieri says. "But, I can tell you that when that day

SPLINTERS

FROM THE PRESSBOX

Edited by Christopher Hamilton

Men's Tennis • 1999 Record 3-3

Streaking: After winning their first three matches of the season, the Irish have dropped three straight.

Prime Time Performer: Third-ranked singles player Ryan Sachire is 7-1 in dual match play this year.

Did You Know? Head Coach Bob Bayliss is one win away from his 500th career victory.

On the Horizon: Notre Dame takes on Northwestern this Saturday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 1 p.m.

Women's Tennis • 1998-9 Record 5-2

Streaking: Kelly Zalinski and Becky Varnum are both perfect in singles matches this season, as both notched wins against Duke.

Prime Time Performer: Overall this year, freshman Becky Varnum owns a 20-5 record.

Did You Know? The number two Duke Blue Devils were the highest-ranked team the Irish have ever played at home.

On the Horizon: Today at 2 p.m., Notre Dame challenges top-ranked Florida in the opening round of the National Women's Team Indoor Championships.

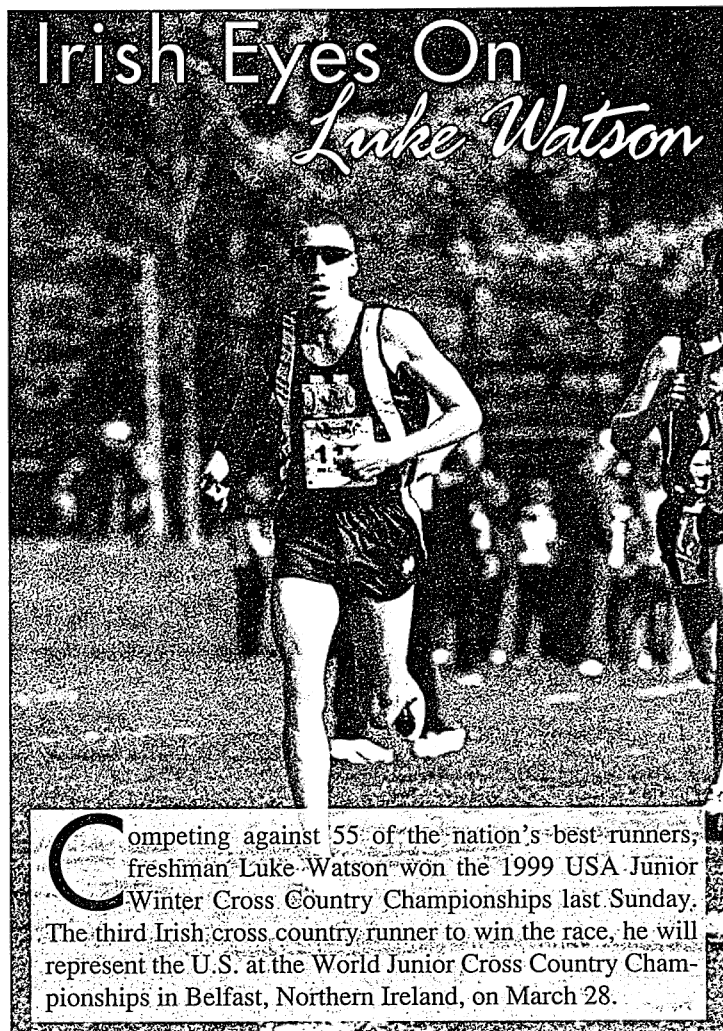
Men's Basketball • 1998-9 Record 12-13

Streaking: Not counting the Syracuse game, the Irish have lost two in a row, watching their hopes for the NIT bid slip away.

Prime Time Performer: Last Sunday against West Virginia, freshman Troy Murphy scored a career-high 32 points to go along with 16 rebounds.

Did You Know? In three of Notre Dame's six Big East wins, the Irish have been down at the intermission.

On the Horizon: Notre Dame will get a chance to avenge last week's 85-80 loss to West Virginia, when they host the Mountaineers this Sunday at 2 p.m.



Competing against 55 of the nation's best runners, freshman Luke Watson won the 1999 USA Junior Winter Cross Country Championships last Sunday. The third Irish cross country runner to win the race, he will represent the U.S. at the World Junior Cross Country Championships in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on March 28.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Women's Basketball • 1998-9 Record 20-3

Streaking: Before losing at Rutgers last Saturday, the Irish reeled off 11 straight wins.

Prime Time Performer: Last week against Villanova, sophomore Ruth Riley tallied her ninth double-double of the season, scoring 23 points and grabbing 11 rebounds.

Did You Know? Notre Dame has been ranked in the Top 10 for a school-record 13 consecutive weeks.

On the Horizon: The ninth-ranked Irish travel to West Virginia this Saturday for a 2 p.m. match-up with the Mountaineers.

Offensive Remarks

"I experienced four great losses in Notre Dame Stadium with the Naval Academy. I remember we would come out on the field for warmups and see guys wearing dresses [the Irish Guard in kilts] who were bigger than our linemen. That made a real impression on me."

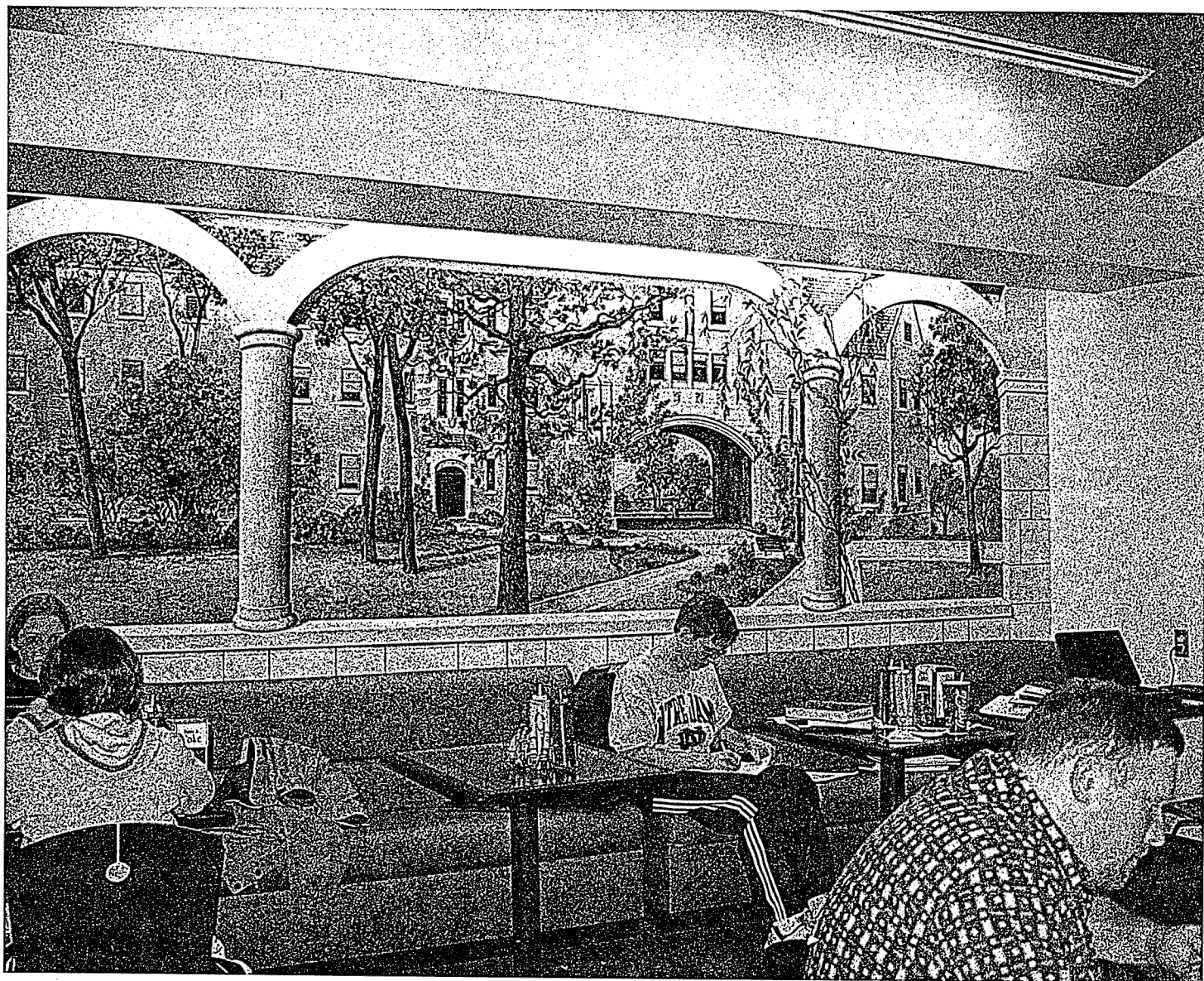
—Kevin Rogers, Notre Dame's new offensive coordinator, who spent eight years with Navy before coaching at Syracuse.

Corey's Call

The unpredictable men's hoop squad finishes its regular season in familiar fashion. Led by Troy Murphy's (who else?) 30-point performance the Irish exact revenge on the Mountaineers at the Joyce Center before being dismantled in the garden by St. John's. In their next outing against Boston College, however, Notre Dame will salvage the finale of this once promising senior class. The Irish will need to win two games in the Big East tourney to secure an NIT berth, a task too great for this young bunch.

Hamilton's Hunch

Rebounding from two losses last weekend, the hockey team scores big wins over Michigan State and Bowling Green and solidifies its presence in the fourth and final home-ice playoff spot.



AMANDA BAUER

STARING AT THE WALLS. This colorful mural of Lyons Hall, painted by Notre Dame alumnus Charles J. O'Neil, makes students feel like they're studying on the quads even in the dead of winter.

Dinner & A Painting

Notre Dame art of the past and present shakes up Reckers

by Andrew Nutting

“Art lovers like coming into coffee shops. It’s a good place to discuss what’s on your mind.”

—Jo Mikals-Adachi

Now that the controversy regarding the value of the sculptures decorating our campus has died down, Notre Dame’s art champions and critics could easily select Reckers, the 24-hour coffee shop behind South

Dining Hall, as the official new battleground of the left-brained versus right-brained. After all, the walls feature surrealistic photographs, cubist charcoals and Escher-like drawings — not exactly traditional art. Strangely, though, they seem to appeal to most patrons at Reckers.

Its cozy atmosphere seems to mix well with the offbeat nature of some works on display. “Art lovers like coming into coffee shops,” says sophomore Jo Mikals-Adachi, an art major with a concentration in painting. “It’s a good place to discuss what’s on your mind.” Of course, having an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere also helps, and Reckers offers more than enough works of art to interest patrons.

The two most noticeable works in Reckers are representational, unlike the abstract art that graces the otherwise traditional quads of Notre Dame. The bright and colorful murals of the Grotto and Lyons Hall were painted by local artist and Notre Dame alumnus Charles J. O’Neil, whose previous pieces include several South Bend landscapes and artwork formerly displayed in the Huddle.

Mike Davy, operations manager of Reckers, says that O’Neil’s murals were part of the original construction project. When plans were made to enliven the shop’s anteroom with three wall-sized works representing the campus, three spots on campus had to be chosen. “What’s obvious?” Davy says. “The Grotto, the Dome, the Basilica. Lyons was chosen because it’s pretty neat architecturally.” A mural of the Dome and the Basilica was to adorn the north wall behind the stage, but it was decided that a vivid painting of Notre Dame’s most renowned structure might interfere with Reckers’ stage performances.

In addition to the O’Neil paintings, Reckers features 15 photographs and drawings by current students. On February 17, the pieces currently on display were replaced by the work of the student artists who won a contest held by the student club

Arts Collective. Bill Tourtilotte, curator of education at the South Bend Regional Museum of Art and a former Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s art professor, selected the finalists. The exhibit will be introduced today with an opening reception, which “is basically a chance for the artist to stand up in front of the work,” according to Tourtilotte.

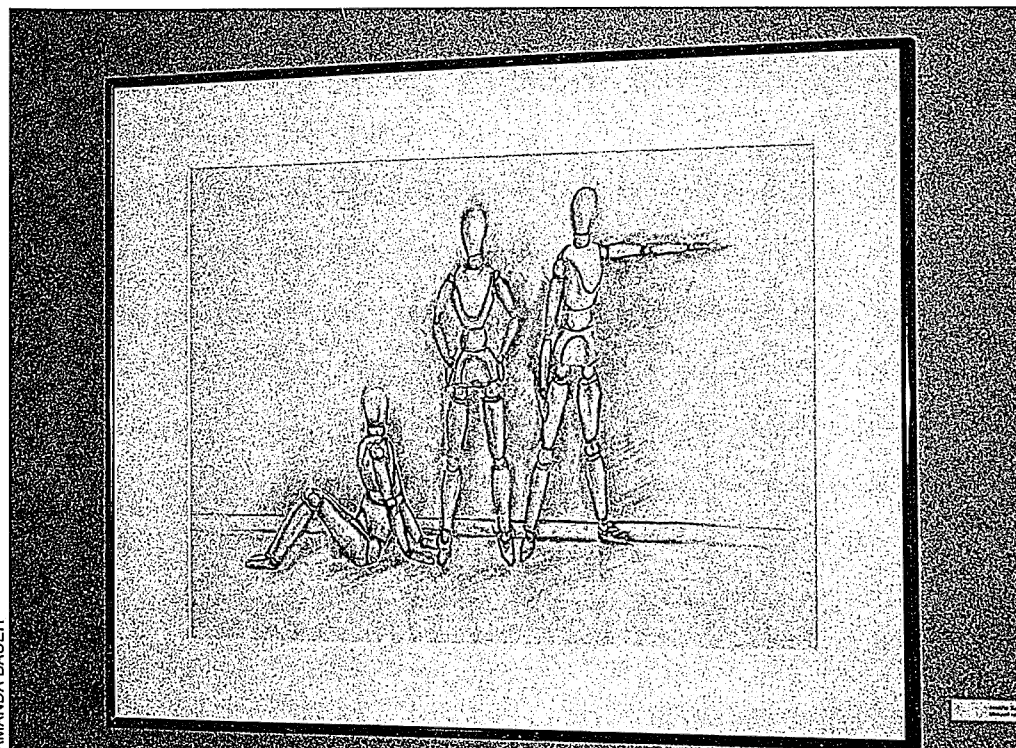
The stylistic makeup of the spring semester exhibition rests on Tourtilotte’s decision and the artistic leanings of submitting students. Tourtilotte says he selected “the works that speak of their time, that are visually challenging in line and shape and design, and that have some content.”

Mikals-Adachi, who teaches a figure drawing class every Wednesday in Riley Hall, also acts as secretary of Arts Collective. He notes that the Reckers management has been excited to assist with the project. “Reckers has been really cooperative,” he says. “Both our club and Reckers are very interested in having the show. I think people in general will enjoy coming in here and looking at the artwork.”

Reckers also donated the money for framing and matting, Davy says. “It’s a win-win for everybody. We liked the idea of another venue where students can have their stuff displayed. It’s a way for us to decorate and it’s another form of involvement in the campus.” Community appreciation for the artwork in Reckers has ranged from passive acceptance (“Nobody’s bothered a thing,” says Davy) to overt enthusiasm.

Tourtilotte would like to see Reckers’ art exhibit thrive. “As people use that space, the work will hopefully evolve in what it has to say,” he says. Davy’s favorite piece from last semester, a colorful photograph by Oscar Riley, was sold to a customer last week. If the Reckers art exhibit becomes a tradition, students will be displaying and perhaps selling their drawings, photos and paintings for many semesters to come. □

WALLFLOWERS. Student art like this sketch will continue to adorn the walls at Reckers after a series of exhibitions begins officially today.



AMANDA BAUER

The Beat Goes On

More than a halftime show, the Jazz Band pulls out all the stops in its upcoming performance at Washington Hall.

BY KATIE CLEARY

In beat writer Bob Kaufman's poem "O-Jazz-O", jazz is described as "my father's sound, my mother's sound, Is love, Is life."

This may explain why the Notre Dame Jazz Band has a concert scheduled amid the frantic chaos of Junior Parent Weekend. In Washington Hall this weekend, they will attempt to bridge the generation gap through the timeless tunes and funky beats of big-band jazz.

"If there [are] people out there who haven't seen [the Jazz Band] I'd recommend they see it," graduate student Lane Weaver says. Weaver, who has a trombone solo in the concert, says "there's a lot of energy to jazz. ... Jazz is a great form of music to see live and I believe there's a lot of interaction between the musicians and the audience."

This energy may derive from the unique way in which jazz is played. In improvisational jazz, changes tell the musician which chord to use, but the musician is free to choose each note.

The jazz band is divided into two groups: the big band, which plays more orchestrated music, and the jazz combo, which plays more improvisational pieces. "In all other music, except for some really progressive music of the 20th century, there's a lot of orchestration," Weaver says. "Jazz is uniquely improvisational in its structure."

The Notre Dame Jazz Band, consisting of two different groups with 20 musicians each, is made up of mostly non-music majors. Father George Wiskirchen has been the director of the jazz band since its inception in 1972.

He began playing the trumpet at eight years of age and later pursued teaching. After years of instructing jazz at a nearby high school, Wiskirchen took his directing ability to the university level.

Jeff Spoonhower, a senior trombone player, refers to Wiskirchen as "an underappreciated encyclopedia of jazz." He says, "Father Wiskirchen is a living legend in the world of jazz. ... He knows all the greats and they know him, too."

Weaver agrees. "Father's got an incredible amount of knowledge. He's one of the pioneers of jazz in the United States." In addition to teaching classes, Wiskirchen has written several jazz books and is also credited with founding one of the first schools focused purely on playing and studying the trumpet.

With a director as accomplished as Wiskirchen, the jazz band should be nothing short of spectacular. According to Spoonhower, "The trombone section is mostly seniors, so we have been playing

was introduced to jazz early on as well. "[In high school] I wanted to play drums, but I got stuck playing the sax. ... Since jazz is so popular in sax I began to play it. Once I got a taste for it, I never looked back." The jazz band practices twice a week for two hours, and these limited hours make it difficult for the group to jell.

"It takes a while to get kicking," Spoonhower says. "The first concert is usually rocky, but by the second and third, we are usually pretty tight." Having already performed two concerts this year, Spoonhower and his comrades look forward to a successful JPW concert.

The band also annually hosts the Collegiate Jazz Festival, which will mark its 41st anniversary this April in Stepan Center.

Some 15 other collegiate bands will gather

**"Father Wiskirchen is a living legend in the world of jazz. ... He knows all the greats and they know him too."
— Jeff Spoonhower**

together for quite a while. Our rhythm section is a bit younger, but they have come a long way and improved a great deal."

Weaver says, "When I had my undergraduate degree we had more music majors and people who studied music, but this is a good band."

Many of the seniors involved in the jazz band have similarly strong connections to jazz. "I was fortunate enough to grow up with jazz," Weaver says. "My dad was a deejay in the '60s, when jazz was more popular than now, and he'd play jazz for me."

Senior Keith Syska, who plays alto sax,

together to play what Wiskirchen calls a noncompetitive tribute to the jazz art form. The festival is the biggest collegiate event of its kind.

Syska says, "We're not exactly a music school, so it's a chance to see musicians who want to go on and do this for the rest of their lives. We look forward to the jazz festival because we can learn from the players."

Though this weekend's concert is billed as a JPW event, all are welcome to attend and watch college musicians swing to the tunes of the jazz greats under the watchful eye of a living legend. □

◆ Of Sega and Salvation

Video Game Virtues

Seven moral lessons anyone can learn from video games

As children, we are taught that video games are a vice. They are expensive, tempting and wasteful. Yet those who are quick to condemn video games seldom truly understand their appeal or and the benefits which a simple game can offer to its players.

In order to increase understanding between those who would rather read a book and those who would rather beat their best score, *Out of Bounds* offers the Seven Virtues of Video Gaming.

Relaxation

The road to enlightenment has many paths. While some prefer the contemplation of nature for their meditation, others prefer the flickering lights and bright colors of a video game. Observe the player, focused intently on the screen before him, withdrawn from the world around him. Anyone with a little hand-eye coordination can take a moment out of the day to simply relax and withdraw from the world for a while. If religion is the opiate of the masses, Nintendo is a large dose of Nyquil.

Patience

Though video games seem to decrease attention span while increasing exasperation levels, they offer a lesson in patience. Often one must play a level five, 10, sometimes 100, times before moving on, thus developing a near infinite sense of patience before the unyielding forces of the video game. Simply discuss patience with anyone who's had to lead Natalya out of the bunker in *Goldeneye*. If video games teach nothing else, it is that patience is rewarded.

Wisdom

Though outsiders will never understand, there is a special knowledge involved in playing video games. One must know not only how to score in *NBA Jam*, but how to do the fiery "cannonball" slam dunk. Yet a good player must know not only *how* to perform a dazzling move, but *when* to perform it. It would hardly be sporting to run up the score on a player less experienced in the ways of *NFL Blitz*, or show up a less experienced fighter with a special spine-ripping *Finishing Move*. Thus a game player learns to show restraint, and learns the wisdom necessary for good sportsmanship.

Chastity

There may be women who say, "Any man who can finish first in *Gran Turismo* is sure to be a man o' mine," or who see a match of *WCW Nitro* as an aphrodisiac. Unfortunately, these women are rare. Indeed, many women seem to show a distinct lack of understanding of the benefits of video gaming. Some may count parietals as the greatest deterrent to the *Deadly Sin of Lust*, but there are few greater catalysts for chastity than a seven-hour game of *Super Tecmo Bowl*.

Justice

At the heart of almost every video game, is there not a lesson of justice? *Mario and Bowser*, *Sonic and Dr. Robotnik*, *Alis and Dark Force*: characters whose stories prove that justice will prevail. True, justice sometimes costs time and energy that should be spent studying. Players learn the valuable lesson that justice must be fought for, and seldom comes easily.

Love

The spirit of competition found in video games can be found in any sport or board game, and only a fool would take this form of competition as a personal attack. When taken as simple entertainment, a video game can become a powerful tool for the forming of friendships. People divided by race, gender, religion, political belief or even dorm rivalry can all find common ground in a friendly (if sometimes heated) one-on-one session of *Tecmo Super Bowl* or *Ken Griffey, Jr. Baseball*. Rather than isolating its players, video games can often bring people together.

Moderation

It is true that when taken to excess, video games can be unhealthy. A child (or college student) may reach the point where he or she would rather play a game than spend time with friends, or read a book or play outside. But anything entertaining becomes unhealthy when taken to excess, and video games should not be condemned simply because they offer the possibility of becoming overwhelming. Each player must learn to moderate himself or herself, and thus learn a virtue of moderation that can be applied to almost any aspect of life.

In the end, video games are entertainment. They can be a great stress reliever and a much-needed diversion from the fast pace of life. One should not be too quick to condemn those who devote their time to such diversions; it may be that those who play video games are practicing their own form of virtue. □

OUT OF BOUNDS

by Joseph Gallagher

Face the Music

*When you gotta dance,
you might as well make the most of it*

BY KARA ZUARO

Are you dreading your next dance? Does the mere idea of a formal make you queasy? Does the term "soirée" make you squirm? Do you consider an "All-Hall" to be a sort of purgatory, in comparison to the hell of an SYR? There was once a time when I would have answered yes to all these questions, but now I've learned that "dance" need not be a dirty word.

Way back in the beginning of last year, while I was still recovering from freshman orientation, I was invited to my first SYR. Since it was a '70s-theme shindig, all my nervousness and self-consciousness was amplified by my polyester threads. And within the first hour of the dance, I managed to get a near-fatal injury. I wasn't asking for

trouble—I just needed a bathroom break to fix my frosty lipstick and adjust my bellbottoms in the privacy of a bathroom stall. But just as I unlatched the lock to exit, a drunk girl came barreling into my stall, causing the door to swing in and nail me in the noggin. I don't remember much except feeling really dizzy—and then suddenly I was in a strange room with somebody holding cold beer cans on my head. Not only did the beer cans ease the swelling, but the girl holding them ended up becoming one of my best pals. When I regained semi-consciousness, we disposed of the beers, found our dates and boogied down. So don't fret, my fellow dance-a-phobics, becoming a Dancing Queen (or King) just takes time, patience and a little help from your friends.

Here's how dance-anxiety works. You're either the inviter or the invitee. Being the

invitee is practically anxiety-free. I've personally never had a bad time at somebody else's dance. The home dances are the ones that cause the grief. Your panic attacks start the moment a dance is declared at your dorm. You have no idea whom to ask, and to make matters worse, someone is bound to advise you, "Take a friend. Unless you really want to have a good time—in which case you should ask someone you *like*."

When uttered in that certain husky tone of voice, the word *like* can be the dirtiest four-letter word of them all.

But of course you must *like* somebody. I'll admit that I usually do. Unfortunately, most of the people I *like* are people I don't actually know. What I mean is, I identify them by monikers of my own creation—like Shorts Boy, Tattoo Guy or Red-Haired Boy of My Dreams.

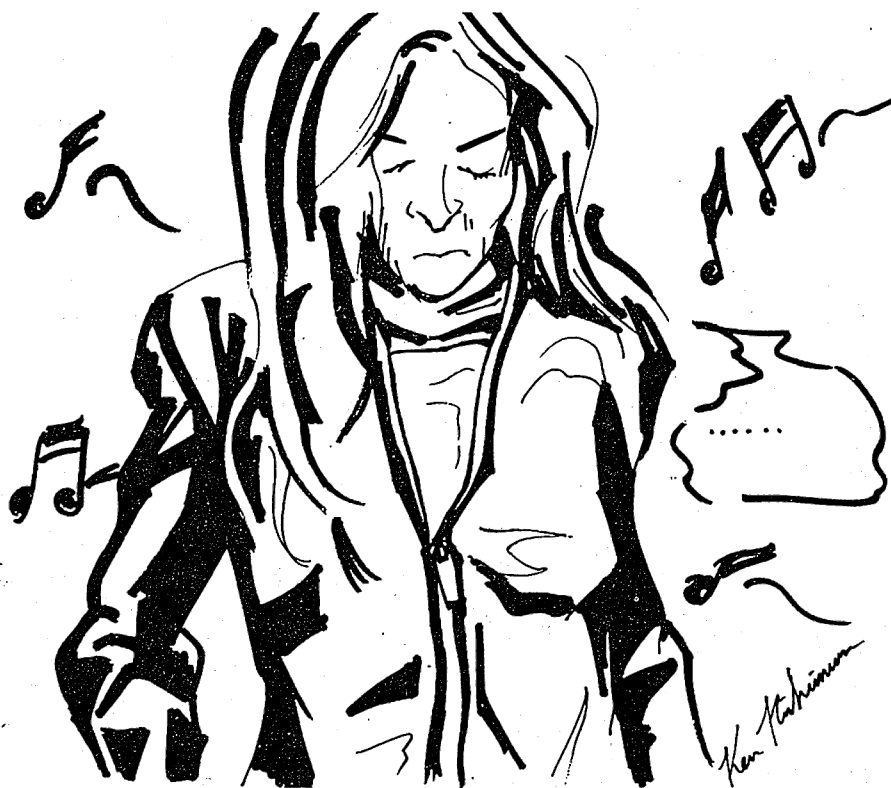
Now don't act like I'm the only one who refers to people by assumed names. Everyone does it. In fact, the names I've bestowed don't even seem that ridiculous when compared to the titles some guys I know use to label the anonymous women in their lives (e.g. Nike Girl, Ex-Porn Star or Amazon Love Goddess).

And don't be one of those people who innocently suggests, "Why don't you ask Red-Haired Boy of Your Dreams to the dance when you see him in the dining hall?"

For goodness' sake, that's a stupid question. Could *you* ask a complete stranger (whose schedule you know by heart) to your dance? And in the dining hall, no less? No. So don't even go there.

Nevertheless, if by some act of God you do acquire the guts to ask somebody to your dance, keep this in mind: You should feel happy if they reject you. Concentrate on the fact that you have provided the person who rejected you with a feeling of power, an ego boost. You sacrificed to make them happy. You're a saint, baby.

And here's another little tip for all you



invited out there — if you do ever actually convince a stranger to go with you, try to get that person to bring a date for one of your friends. Whenever I ask anyone to a dance, stranger or not, I try to set up their roommate with one of my gal pals. Group dates are much easier to deal with. Plus, it breaks up the monotony on the dance floor when we can swap partners every now and then. And if the guys turn out to be duds, at least we can ditch them and not feel bad because they can go entertain each other.

Personally, I would be delighted if a guy invited me to a dance and asked if any of my sista-friends wanted to go with his roommate. Sometimes, when I get asked to a dance by someone I don't know very well, I feel like I'm being targeted as some kind of prey — as if the inviter is trying to separate me from my friends so that once we're alone he can have his way with me. Listen closely, guys, because even if you *do* have these dark intentions, I'm going to explain to you why inviting a girl and her friend is still a guaranteed good idea.

OK, so you want to attack her. Fine. She probably knows that. Maybe it's mutual. But what if it's not mutual (yet)? If you ask her with a friend, then maybe she will be fooled into believing that you're just a sensitive guy who wants her to feel safe and have a swell time. Maybe you're not worried about hooking up. Maybe you care about her feelings. Maybe you care about her best friend. See where I'm going with this? She thinks you're the man of her dreams. In fact, she's sure of it. And you know what, skipper, your chances of getting

some action have skyrocketed. She's happy, you're happy and the dance is a success.

However, maybe you're wondering what happens if there really isn't anyone on this whole campus who falls into the category of people you *like*. I recommend asking somebody who's really funny or really weird. Funny people don't clam up on the dance floor. And if he starts acting up, you can just make up stories about him and laugh while he scares the drunk people. At my last SYR, my date decided to jump into the middle of one of those dance-circles by himself. When that song ended, he proceeded to gyrate in the center while the circle people whis-

My date made friends with a blow-up dolphin, and he was galloping around the dance floor, asking strange couples to kiss its nose.

pered, "Who is that guy?" But my date wasn't fazed. Soon his roommate and their friend arrived, and the three of them did a suspiciously well-choreographed Backstreet dance. When his roommate and friend disappeared, my date made friends with a blow-up dolphin, and he was galloping around the dance floor, asking strange couples to kiss its nose.

When people asked me where I found such a date, I replied, "I picked him up over by the railroad tracks. Charming, isn't he? Oh look, he's doing some kind of interpretive dance now — to 'Motown Philly'! How cute."

But then again, maybe you're the kind of girl who could get offended by the dolphin thing. Maybe you're feeling a little shy, a

little uncomfortable, a little terrified by the way your date is grinding with his roommate. Don't sweat it. Just excuse yourself and head on down to the ladies' room. You're sure to find a friend. Girls' bathrooms during dances (especially the ones in boys' dorms) are havens of female bonding. You may very well find yourself sharing a stall with another gal. You may notice a familiar disoriented gleam in her eye. You start to tell her that you don't know anyone, that you don't even know why you agreed to come to this stupid dance. You take turns peeing and head back to the party together. Now that you're dancing with a girl, all the guys in the room think you're the two finest things in there. Friendship is so beautiful.

One way or another, all dances should help you make friends. Maybe someday I'll retract the whole Weird Boy = Great Date theory and start looking for a nice, regular date. He'll be the enchantingly awkward kind who buys me flowers instead of alcohol and doesn't know the words to "Ice, Ice Baby" and feels too self-conscious to dance to anything but the slow songs. When I introduce him to my friends, he will greet them with a handshake, rather than a pirouette. He will not drink so much that he is found unconscious in the bed of some unsuspecting girl who lives down the hall from me. His tie will never end up Rambo-style around his forehead. At the end of the night, he'll tell me what a great time he had, he will say goodbye and thank you to my rectress (thus buying me many brownie points) and he'll even call me the next day. But then again, once you've got somebody like that, what's the point of going to a dance anyway? □

HERD

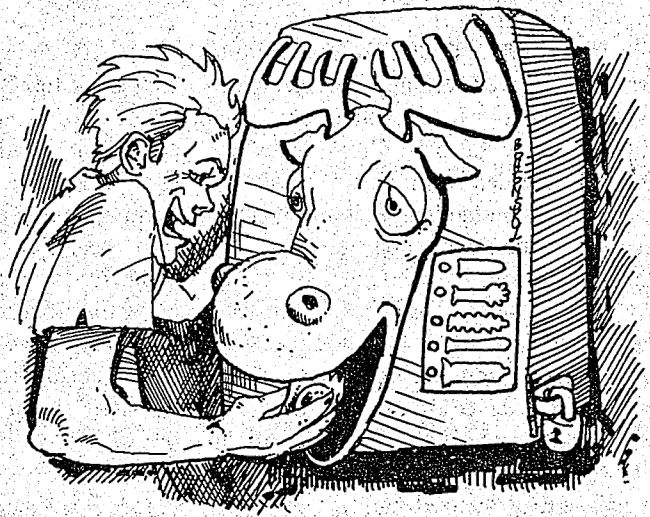
Jeff Spoonhower



A Sad Song

*"Oh, I got the blues
Yeah, the prophylactic blues
'Cause sometimes I find that I've come unprepared
Gotta run to the bathrooms, hope Blue Moose is there . . ."*

At Michigan State, a full-service university, students no longer have to worry about making embarrassing trips to the store to pick up their condoms. For their convenience, 64 big, blue moose-head condom dispensers have been placed in residence halls and frat houses on campus. Durex, the manufacturer who sent the moose-head dispensers, is in the middle of a promotional campaign — encouraging MSU students to write 60-second blues songs with the words 'Durex,' 'Blue Moose' and 'freedom' for a contest. "We wanted to give students an opportunity to perform," a Durex spokesman said.



Dear Johnny

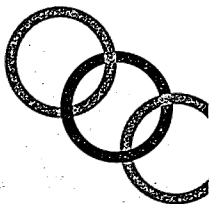
Western Kentucky U. students in Sociology 434, an organized crime class, recently made a distressing discovery — one of the crime bosses they were studying had fallen ill. They decided to get together and send him a get-well card. They soon received a letter in return wishing them "health, happiness and success." This reply came from a maximum-security federal prison in Illinois. The sender: John Gotti, a notorious Mafia boss convicted eight years ago of ordering hits on other members of his crime family, the Gambinos, and watching those assassinations himself. A Western student, in defense of writing letters to Gotti, said, "We admire him. He's made history in his lifetime, and we admire him for it." Next semester, the class plans to send cards wishing health and prosperity to Saddam Hussein, Slobadan Milosevic and Augusto Pinochet.

www.pathetic.com

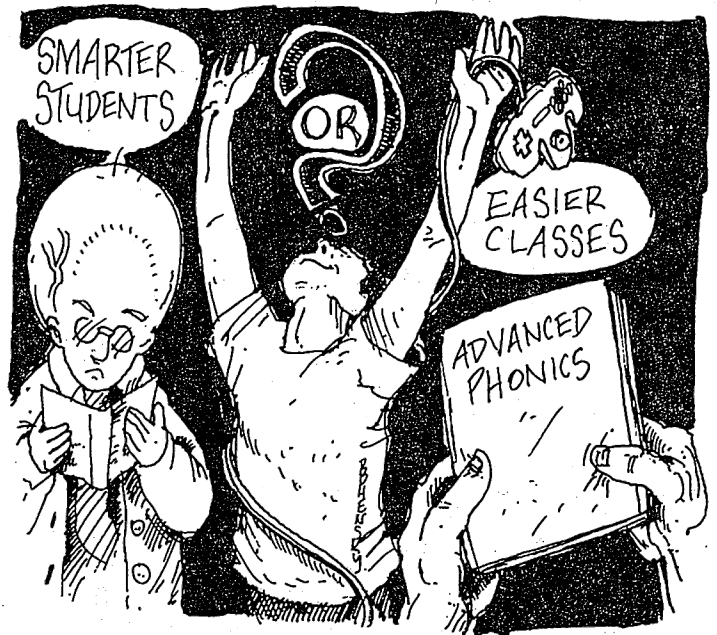
If those MSU students don't have a place to try out the Blue Moose, they may can turn to two enterprising graduates of the University of Illinois who are taking stalking to a new level. Their new web-based business, ecrush.com, is intended to match people up with their secret crushes — all for the low price of \$39.95. Visitors to the website will be asked to submit a profile of themselves, their credit card information and a list of people they're interested in dating. An exact match can only be found if the object of the person's affections knows about ecrush.com, of course. An "anonymous" e-mail will then be sent to "suggest" that said object of affections might want to visit ecrush.com to find out more — and maybe even find out who has a crush on him or her. "We aren't matching you up with strangers here," one of the website's creators said, in an attempt to promote the site to college students. But before you make a bee-line for the nearest computer to check out ecrush.com for yourself, keep in mind that actually talking to your crush can be fairly productive. OOC realizes this may be a foreign concept here at Notre Dame.

What, Me, Study?

It turns out Northwestern students aren't as studious as they'd like the rest of the country to think. According to a new survey, even though their grades have remained about the same, students aren't spending as much time hitting the books. Probable causes include students getting smarter or classes becoming easier. The survey also reports that freshman academic interest is at a new low, and students are only interested in getting better jobs. "Well, we can't just pursue a general education," freshman Renaissance-man Zach Rogers said, while finishing the second-to-last level on Zelda 64. "There's no time to simply learn for learning's sake." Rogers is an education major. He leads OOC to suspect that maybe, just maybe, the reason for grades staying the same is not the rising intelligence levels of Wildcat freshmen. He can, however, win the Super Bowl in Madden '99.



by
Kimberly
Blackwell



COMING

You still have two nights left to join in on the Sophomore Literary Festivities. Tonight at 8:00 PM, five student readers will present original manuscripts and Friday at 6:30 PM, poet Annie Finch will read.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

- Lecture: "The Medieval Church Confronts Pagan Science: St. Augustine and Roger Bacon," David Lindberg, 4:15 PM, 119 DeBartolo Hall
- Sophomore Literary Festival: Student readers, 8:00 PM, Washington Hall
- A Bug's Life, 10:30 PM, Cushing

THURSDAY

- Sophomore Literary Festival: Annie Finch, 6:30 PM, Washington Hall
- Dance performance: "Dancing on the Brink," 8:00 PM, Little Theatre, Moreau Center, SMC
- Slam, 7:30 & 9:45 PM, Snite
- A Bug's Life, 8:00 & 10:30 PM, Cushing

FRIDAY

- Tennis: ND men vs. Northwestern, 1:00 PM, Eck-Tennis Pavilion
- Concert: Notre Dame Jazz Band, 2:30 PM, Washington Hall
- Dance performance: "Dancing on the Brink," 8:00 PM, Little Theatre, Moreau Center, SMC
- Slam, 7:30 & 9:45 PM, Snite
- A Bug's Life, 8:00 & 10:30 PM, Cushing

SATURDAY

DISTRACTIONS

- Tennis: ND men vs. Minnesota, 1:00 PM, Eck Tennis Pavilion
- Spanish Mass, 1:30 PM, Keenan-Stanford Chapel
- Ma Vie en Rose (My Life in Pink), in French with English subtitles, 2:00 PM, Snite
- Basketball: ND men vs. West Virginia, 2:00 PM, Joyce Center

SUNDAY

- Lecture: "Resolving International Environmental Disputes: Pros and Cons of Litigation," Alexander Kiss, 12:30 PM, Hesburgh Center for International Studies
- Boxing: Bengal Bouts, 6:00 PM, Joyce Center Fieldhouse, tickets 1-7356
- The Searchers, 7:00 PM, Snite

MONDAY

- Lecture: "The Robust Concept Exploration Method for Configuring Complex Engineering Systems with Quality Considerations," Dr. Wei Chen, 3:30 PM, 138 DeBartolo Hall
- CPR class, Ruthann Heberle, RN, 6:00 to 9:00 PM, Rolf's Sports Recreation Center, 1-8662 to register
- Basketball: ND women vs. Miami, 7:00 PM, Joyce Center
- Concert: "Gershwin: Remembrance and Discovery," Richard Glazier, 7:30 PM, Moreau Center/Little Theatre, tickets 284-4626

TUESDAY

- Tennis: ND men vs. Iowa, 3:00 PM, Eck Tennis Pavilion
- Lecture: "The Samba Lecture," Alma Guillermoprieto, 7:00 PM, Hesburgh Center for International Studies
- Boxing: Bengal Bouts, 7:00 PM, Joyce Center Fieldhouse
- Black History Month Film Series: Faraw! Mother of the Dunes, 7:00 PM, 141 DeBartolo Hall

WEDNESDAY

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February 19-25

University Park West

☎ 277-7336 (in the mall)

All Shows in Stereo

Little Voice	1:15 3:30 7:00 9:15
	3:06 5:21 8:51 11:06
Stepmom	1:00 3:17 6:45 9:02
Hilary and Jackie	3:45 6:01 9:30 11:46
Gods and Monsters	1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00
	3:27 5:57 8:27 10:57

University Park East

☎ 277-7336

All Shows in Stereo

Blast from the Past	1:30 4:15 7:00 9:20 11:30
	3:34 6:19 9:04 11:24 1:34
My Favorite Martian	12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:40
	2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15 11:25
Jawbreaker	1:30 3:30 5:30 7:25 9:30
	3:09 5:09 7:09 9:04 11:09
Office Space	1:10 4:00 7:05 9:15 11:15
	2:52 5:42 8:47 10:57 12:57
She's All That	1:00 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:45
You've Got Mail	1:10 3:18 6:45 8:53
Civil Action	2:08 3:45 9:25 11:32

Shows after 10:00 PM shown Fri. & Sat. only

Movies 14

☎ 254-9685

All Shows in Stereo

Life is Beautiful	4:35 7:35 10:15
Message in a Bottle*	1:15 4:05 7:10 9:55
	2:10 5:05 8:15
October Sky	2:00 4:40 7:25 9:50
Patch Adams	1:35 4:10 7:20 10:00
	2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30
Payback*	1:45 4:20 7:05 9:40
	3:10 5:35 8:00 10:25
Prince of Egypt	2:20 4:50 7:00
Saving Private Ryan	1:40 5:15 9:20
Shakespeare in Love	1:50 4:30 7:55 10:35
Simply Irresistible*	2:15 4:40
Thin Red Line	1:20 4:55 7:00 8:30
Waking Ned Devine	2:50 5:00 7:15 9:30

*Stadium Seating Available

Close to Home

by Helga Schaffrin

New York Times, January 17, 1999: "Scattered on a Kosovo hillside and heaped together in a muddy gully, the bodies of 45 ethnic Albanians were found shot or mutilated Saturday in what appears to be the worst killing spree of the nearly year-old conflict."

It was a beautiful day in southern France. Not a cloud in sight, and a light breeze kept the temperature comfortable. Several weeks ago, we, a group of 15 young people from various nations, met in Alès to take part in an international volunteer project. Our task was to reconstruct a wall supporting a garden terrace in a public park — and to build cross-cultural bridges. We worked every day, lifting bricks and fastening rods under a burning sun. Yet in spite of the

hard work, we had time to talk and joke, teach each other to count in different languages and share stories from "back home," whether that was Ireland or Mexico, Turkey or the U.S., or, in Mehdi's case, Kosovo.

Mehdi told us about his oldest brother, who fell in Bosnia wearing a Yugoslav uniform; about another brother, who is now fighting for the rebels in Kosovo.

Helga Schaffrin is a senior in the honors program. She is originally from Stuttgart, Germany, but currently resides in Columbus, Ohio.

He was one of the most outgoing people of the group and always up for a joke. He was the wildest dancer at the open-air discos, and he didn't let the lack of a common language stand between him and a beautiful girl. He was a daredevil and anything but shy. He could be the perfect gentleman, offering to pump up the air mattresses for us girls every night—but he steadfastly refused to cook. He was always ready for a new adventure, always eager to make new friends. He loved to sing in a language no one else understood, music that had an exotic Middle Eastern ring to it. And maybe in these songs one could detect a slight note of sadness.

He didn't talk much about his family. Once he mentioned a brother in Germany, but Mehdi himself was now living in Lyon, France. That day, though, as we were all sitting in the shade, pleasantly exhausted and following our own thoughts, he began to tell us about the war. First, he said, the Serbs closed down all

the schools for ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. Then they tightened regulations on Albanian businesses and drastically restricted economic opportunities. When Yugoslavia began to break up, the Kosovo Albanians were drafted into the Yugoslav army and fought side by side with the Serbs against the Bosnian Muslims and the Croats. After the Bosnian war, they hoped their situation would improve. It was a vain hope. So the Kosovo Albanians decided to break off as well. But Serbia was not willing to let the small province go. In their fight for independence, which originated in a desire for self-determination, economic opportunity and fair treatment, the ethnic Albanians are now facing economic, political and military disadvantages.

Mehdi told us about his oldest brother, who fell in Bosnia wearing a Yugoslav uniform; about another brother, who is now fighting for the rebels in Kosovo; and about his parents, who sent him and his youngest brother abroad to survive the war but had to stay behind themselves. He told us that he hadn't heard anything from his parents in a month and didn't even know whether they (or his brother in the rebel forces) were still alive. Keeping in touch is pretty hard when the phone lines are regularly cut by an enemy army.

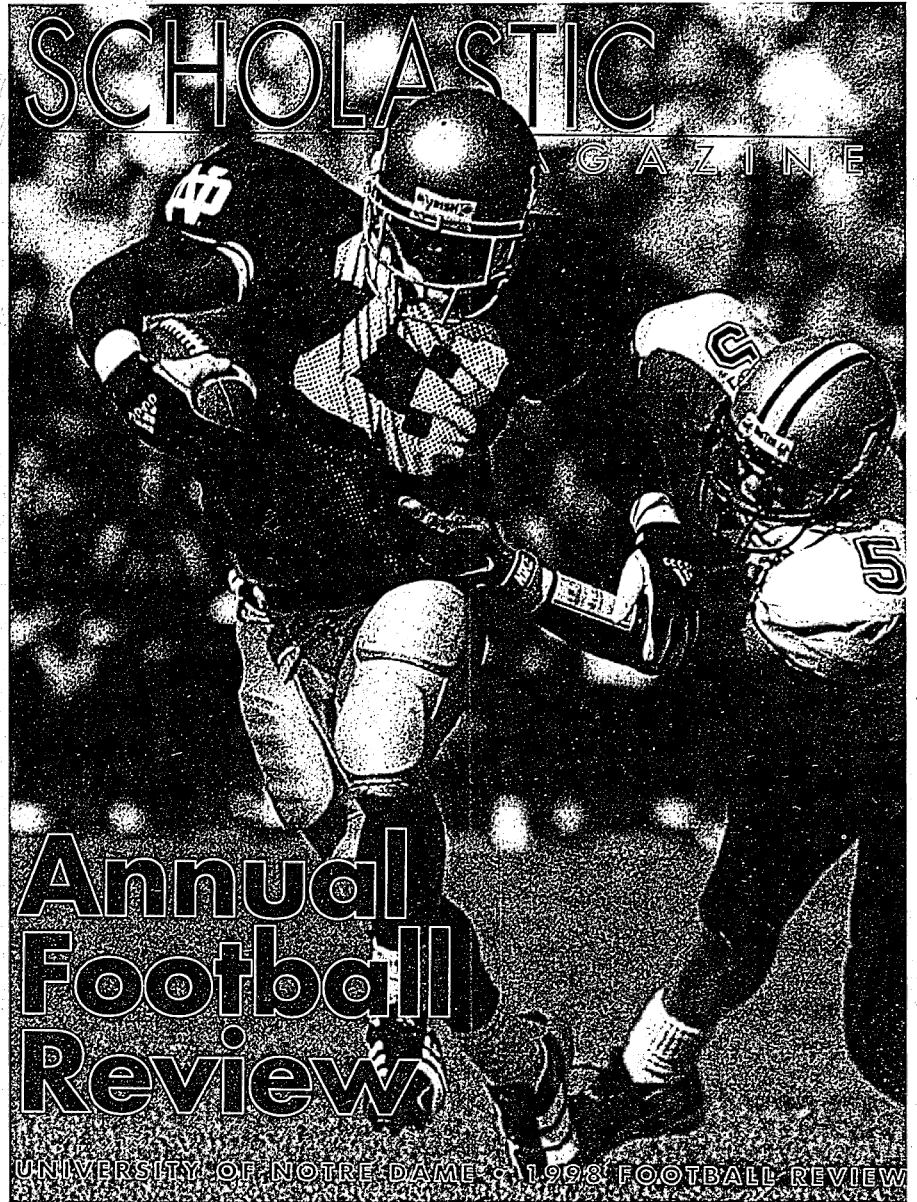
Mehdi's story has stayed with me. The West has grown weary of the Balkan conflicts. After NATO sent troops to enforce the Bosnian peace treaty, the problem was supposed to go away. Well, it hasn't. So now the U.S., France, Britain, Germany, Italy and Russia are trying to talk peace again. They succeeded once before, in Dayton. Let us hope that they can pull it off again, that they can persuade both the Serbs and the various Kosovo Albanian factions to come to the table, and that they have the courage to bring a full commitment to building a lasting peace.

As for me, whenever I hear a news story from Kosovo, I wonder: Are Mehdi's parents and siblings in that stream of refugees taking to the hills for relative safety? Are they freezing in the harsh winter? (The cease-fire that was supposed to hold until the end of the winter hasn't lasted.) Were they among those many civilians massacred? Are they still alive? □

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SLF STUDENT READERS

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 2 PM AT THE NEW BOOKSTORE

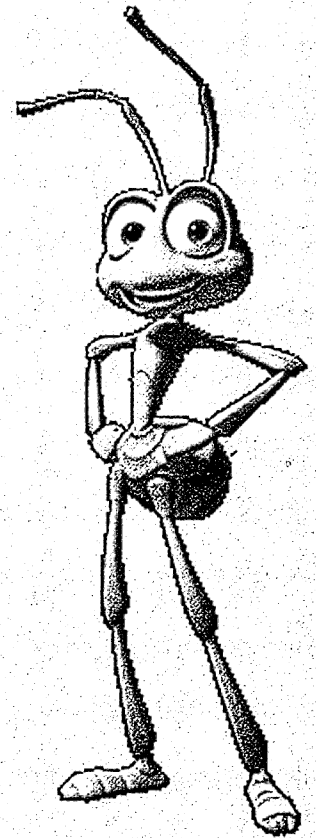
ANNIE FINCH LECTURE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 6:30 PM AT WASHINGTON HALL

THEN KICK BACK, RELAX AND ENJOY A BUG'S LIFE!

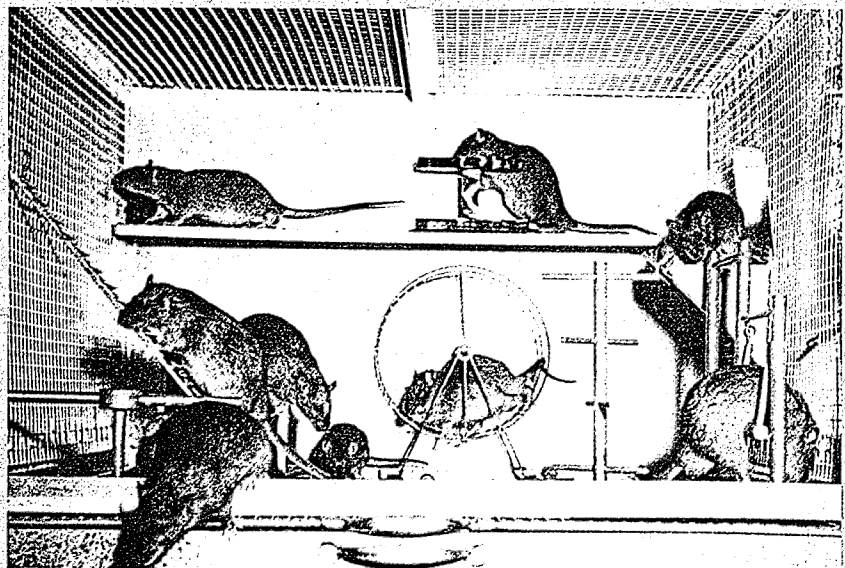
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