Borkowski to handle harassment complaints

By JASON WILLIAMS

John Borkowski has been appointed the first ombudsperson for discriminatory harassment complaints at Notre Dame. Borkowski, the Andrew McKenna Family Professor of Psychology, will serve as both a liaison and counselor for faculty, staff and students for reporting allegations of discriminatory harassment.

"The position is designed to facilitate reporting or counseling any discriminatory acts on behalf of a person," Borkowski said. "If a person wants it resolved, I can help them formulate a report to the appropriate superior or I can help them resolve it directly with the parties involved."

Currently, complaints can be filed with the Office of Residence Life, the director of human resources, or with appropriate faculty and staff supervisors.

Notre Dame defines harassment as "any physical conduct, intentionally inflicting injury on the person or property of another or any intentional threat of such conduct, or any hostile, intimidation, or reproach, regarding badgering, addressed directly at another, or small group of others that is intended to intimidate a victim(s) from any University activity, or any verbal attack, intended to provoke the victim(s) to immediate physical retaliation."

Such conduct would also be discriminatory in nature if it is accompanied by intentionally demeaning expressions concerning the race, gender, religious, sexual orientation or national origin of the victim(s).

Borkowski said he hopes his position will also set a tone for prevention of discriminatory harassment at the University. "I hope the position will not only have an effect on harassment, but also as a preventive function," he said.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1967, Borkowski conducts research in the quantitative and operational research in learning and memory across the human lifespan.

Under terms of the harassment policy as passed by the Academic Council, the ombudsperson is appointed by University President Father Edward Malloy in consultation with other officers of the University.

Borkowski's appointment is effective immediately.

Smith chosen to chair NAPAHE

Special to The Observer

Roland Smith, executive assistant to University President Father Edward Malloy, has been elected chairman of the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education (NAPAHE). Established in 1988, NAPAHE provides and supports professional development activities and other programs for assistants to presidents at American colleges and universities.

"Many of the arguments that people put forth predicated of assumptions of how voters will act under certain circumstances," said Smith. "It is impossible to understand how they will act without first observing similar situations in a similar situation."

Rosenstone discussed the most important argument that an institution of international politics would study and then quantified which students unanswered surrounding each candidate.

"The first argument is that of Smith was appointed to his position as adviser to Father Edward Malloy in 1988. In addition to his advisory duties, he is also director of the Notre Dame Urban Institute for Community and Educational Initiatives; chair of the University Committee on Cultural Diversity; and an associate professor of sociology.

Smith also is a member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission and chair of its committee on college and university involvement in the annual observance.

A graduate of Bowling Green State University, Smith holds a master's degree in public policy from Indiana University-South Bend and a doctorate in education from Harvard University.

After working for three years with the city of South Bend, he came to Notre Dame in 1973 as associate director of the University's Upward Bound program. He became director of the center for Educational Opportunities, which includes Upward Bound and other pre college projects designed to enhance post secondary opportunities for economically disadvantaged students.

"Political parties are supposed to increase voter turnout by giving the voter something to work for do they really do that?" asked Smith.

Turpin: Women must overcome many obstacles

By TONY POTTINGER

Women who refuse to do this, she says, are often shunned by their female colleagues who fear association with such women will impede their chances for promotion or tenure.

Turpin also said that such women often change the tone of their voices in order to come across as more respectful and viewed as equals.

"Women are also seen as not writing the right way. This is often a problem when attempts are made to include texts written by women in schools," Turpin said.
An ugly portrait of ambiguity

For a university, a place of learning, education has always been a haven for inquiry and free speech. Notre Dame has a long and proud record of enshrining these values and thought. But it is clear that Notre Dame is rife with contradiction, riddled with inconsistencies.

At once, it is both a Catholic university de voted to open dialogue and a cloistered place, jealously guarding its tradition and image. The result can be ugly, especially when communication fails.

Dialogue was missing in 1991, when a group of concerned blacks and Hispanics resorted to a sit-in to get the administration to listen. It was mismanaged a year later, when faculty members threatened a vote of no-confidence over a disagreement about academic governance.

The message is clear — and potentially damaging to a University. The administration will face criticism that Notre Dame is unsure about a number of issues.

A frantic 911 call leads to attacker's arrest

Police arrested a knife-wielding man who had pulled a gun from a car to arrive at a movie premiere Thursday night.

Police officers responded to a call around 9:30 p.m. at the Premiere Room at the Century City Mall. The 18-year-old man met two women at a fast-food restaurant and followed them to Century City. When police arrived, they discovered the man had been shot in the back by a gun that was fired by the second woman, who was also shot. The man was seized. He was acting suspiciously and police say the gun was used to threaten the victims and witnesses.

A frantic 911 call led to an arrest in a case that has been under investigation for nearly a year.

The 911 call came around 8:30 p.m. when someone reported seeing a man with a knife in the area of the Century City Mall. When police arrived, they found the man had been shot in the back and was bleeding profusely. The man was later transferred to Cedars Sinai Medical Center, where he was treated for his injuries and released.

The man, who is in his 20s, was taken into custody and charged with attempted murder. He is due in court Friday morning.

A man was arrested for the 1983 slayings of 16-year-old Watkins Jr., who had been visiting the state for the past few months to study computer science.

Watkins Jr., 33, was pronounced dead at 11:11 p.m., Wednesday at midnight, voted 39-35 to amend the state's Constitution to allow the state to execute death row inmates. Watkins, who had been visited earlier Thursday by a paralegal and a friend, had no final statement, Brown said. I'm made peace and I'm about as ready as I'm going to get, I expect," he told a reporter Tuesday.

Watkins, who is black, had asked Gov George Allen to grant him clemency, arguing that racism played a part in his sentencing. Allen rejected the request Thursday morning. The governor has concluded that the facts of the case do not warrant exercise of the extraordinary remedy of executive clemency," a statement from Allen's office said.

On Wednesday, Allen said he had received a letter from Watkins' lawyer, Gerald T. Zerkin, that Watkins' 1984 trial was tainted by racism and that blacks were systematically excluded from the juries that sentenced him. Commonwealth's Attorney William H. Fuller said state and federal courts found no discrimination.

Man arrested at Prince Charles appearance

Police arrested a knife-wielding man who had pulled a gun from a car to arrive at a movie premiere Thursday night. The man was among thousands gathered in Leicester Square for a glimpse of Charles; the stars of "Shakespeare in Love," Sir Anthony Hopkins, Juliette Binoche and Debra Winger, and director Sir Richard Attenborough. The movie stars had arrived in a van full of young Hasidic Jews.

The man was seized. He was acting suspiciously and police say the gun was used to threaten the victims and witnesses.

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Another storm hits the East Coast

This is the second storm to hit the East in three days. The first storm caused $2 billion in damage and left hundreds of thousands of people without power.

The second storm, which started as a cold front over the Midwest, moved eastward and brought heavy rain and strong winds to the Northeast.

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Pentagon says ending draft no harm to security

By SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON
The government ended peacetime registration for the military draft with little risk to U.S. security, the Pentagon said Thursday. President Clinton said registration should continue temporarily.

Current all-volunteer forces and a reduced global threat make draft reinstatement "highly unlikely," the Defense Department concluded in a report to Congress. "Consequently, peacetime draft registration could be suspended without irreparable damage to national security."

The Pentagon stopped short of recommending an end to the Selective Service System, saying, "We should continue draft registration while we study possible alternative uses, such as applications to national service.

"There are no more excuses," said Hatfield, ranking Republican on the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Our military end strength requirements do not depend upon potential drafters.," he said.

DeFazio said, "For the first time in 14 years, we've gotten a straight answer from the Pentagon that says peacetime draft registration has nothing to do with real defense needs."

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, who chairs the Senate Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee, said he favors keeping registration because "it's an inexpensive way to keep records on the cadre of people who would be available if they were ever required to be used."

But Glenn added he will not fight registration. "It's not a big burning issue."

The report, "A Review of the Continued Requirement for Draft Registration," was completed in December and forwarded to the Senate in February.

"Peacetime draft registration could be suspended with no effect on military mobilization and no measurable effect on draftr registration," the Pentagon said.

Although there would be a major effect on the organization and staffing of the SSS, suspending peacetime registration could be accomplished with a limited risk to national security considering the low probability of the need for conscription," the report said.

The Pentagon said a military draft would have to be reinstated to support an extended, large-scale conventional war. But it would take months to expand training bases and build equipment to use draftees effectively.

The Pentagon estimates a $6-million-a-year saving.

President Clinton said in a letter, also made public Thursday, that the Selective Service System should remain in place until the National Security Council concludes a similar review this spring.

But it would take months to extinguish the draft system capabilities and resources, Clinton wrote to Vice President Al Gore, the Senate president.

Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., and Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., made the report and letter public. Both are long-time advocates of an end to Selective Service registration for the draft, saying elimination would save taxpayers as much as $29 million a year without weakening U.S. defense.

The Pentagon estimates a $6-million-a-year saving.

University receives multiple grants

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame received $1,612,203 in grants during January for the support of research and various programs. Research funds totaled $1,569,153, including:

• $374,071 from the National Institutes of Health for research by George Craig Jr., Clark professor of biological sciences, on vector competence for La Crosse encephalitis in Aedes mosquitoes.

• $255,319 from the National Institutes of Health for research by Howard Szaz, professor of biological sciences, on the intermediary metabolism of helminths (parasitic worms).

• $196,084 from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Langley Research Center for multidisciplinary design technology development by John Renaud, Clark assistant professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering; Stephen Batill, professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering and director of the Hesterrt Center for Aerospace Research; and others.

• $168,639 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for research by Alan Johnson, professor of biological sciences, on the relationship of TGF alse/EGF gonadotropin receptors.

• $110,930 from the National Science Foundation for research by Jacky Furdyna, Marquez professor of physics, and Maogzora DobrwoIska-Furdyna, associate professor of physics.

• $102,090 from the National Science Foundation for research by Thomas Feininger, Grace-Rupley professor of chemistry and biochemistry, on major group transition element clusters.

• $105,583 from Argonne National Laboratory for research by Charles Kulp, professor of biological sciences, on biodegradation of INT and petroleum constituents.

• $80,000 from the U.S. Navy for x-ray studies of semiconductor interfaces and alloys by Bruce Bunker, associate professor of physics.

• $75,000 from the Amoco Chemical Research Center for collaborative materials research by Bruce Runker, associate professor of physics.

• $26,367 from the Indiana Department of Health for research by Howard Blackstead, associate professor of biological sciences.

• $22,500 from the National Science Foundation for research by Arvind Varma, Schmitt professor of chemical engineering, on opti-


cast activity distribution in pellets.

• $21,500 from the National Science Foundation for research by Billie Spencer, associate professor of electrical engineering, and Albert Miller, professor of electrical engineering.

• $12,000 from Purdue University for equipment to measure microwave dissolution in high temperature superconduc-

tors, research by Howard Blackstead, associate professor of chemical engineering.

• $7,050 from Purdue University for devices used in high-temperature superconductors by Steven Huggers, associate professor of physics.

The Observer/Scott Mandelental
Electoral

continued from page 1

Rosenstein as he introduced the third topic for study in an electoral institution:

"Parties differ in ideas and strength but how much do their differences matter?" Rosenstein asked.

"For example, two parties, it's argued, simplify the alternatives, so there is no need for a complicated argument. But there is a logical contradiction in the idea that complexity creates accountability?" Rosenstein cited as one of the most common arguments about political parties.

Arguments about whether or not a two-party or multi-party system is better to help voters find their ideal policy, which actually offers voters more choices, which is easier to assign blame, and which simplifies the alternatives.

"One needs more than just micro-data and survey data; one needs macro data in order to determine how voters view their democratic systems," said Rosenstein. "Data needs to be organized in a fashion so that the individual and macro data are merged cross-nationally."

Fireside

continued from page 1

empowerment, and stabilization.

He also stressed the importance of experiencing other cultures in today's multicultural environment.

"We live in a world community that is rapidly shrinking."

Natcher's voting streak ends

By JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Like baseball's Lou Gehrig, 84-year-old William H. Natcher has been the iron man of Congress, never missing a vote in a political career that stretches back to the first Eisenhower administration.

That streak ended Thursday when the Kentucky Democrat, too sick to leave his hospital bed, said that for the first time in 40 years he would not be on the House floor when a vote was being taken.

His record of 18,401 consecutive votes has never been approached, and House Speaker Tom Foley said it was a record "I believe will stand forever."

"Obviously this is a sad moment for all of us because of the unparalleled public service of Mr. Natcher," Foley, D-Wash., said in a tribute following Natcher's last missed vote, since he was elected to Congress on Aug. 1, 1953.

House members had a standing ovation for their absent colleague.

President Clinton visited Natcher's hospital room Thursday afternoon and presented him the Presidential Citizen's Medal, the nation's second-highest civilian award.

"The citation accompanying the medal said, "Few legislators in our history have honored their responsibilities with greater faith or shunned the temptations of power with greater certainty than William Hutton Natcher."

"I'm so proud, I'm so proud of my 18,400 votes," the congressman told the president, who spent almost 20 minutes in his room.

According to the House Library, Natcher cast his first vote, Jan. 21, 1954 — in favor of establishing an Air Force academy.

Natcher, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, is a throwback to an older generation of lawmakers, rarely spending more than $10,000 on a campaign and driving himself around Kentucky's Second Congressional District, where Abraham Lincoln was born.

The end came on a simple procedural vote that opened the House session Thursday.

According to the House Library, Natcher placed his first vote on Jan. 21, 1954 — in favor of establishing an Air Force academy.

His last four votes on Wednesday were his most difficult, with the frail octogenarian, suffering from intestinal and other ailments, being wheeled onto the House floor on a hospital gurney, complete with oxygen and intravenous tubes.

The day before, House leaders had agreed to suspend all legislative action at Natcher's request so the streak could be maintained.

Natcher himself has advised new members against trying to emulate him. "When you've been here as long as I have and never missed a day or vote, it's easy to rasp around your neck," he once said.

Often it wasn't easy. His wife, Virginia, died in 1991 after 52 years of marriage. When she was very sick, he routinely flew home to be with her and then back to Washington the next day, day after day, in order to hold onto his record. Voting even kept him from making an appearance when President Carter visited his district in 1979.

Cameron threatened in dispute over land, pride

By MARK FRITZ

Associated Press

ABIDJAN

It's about colonial borders callously drawn, wounded national pride, and dangerous domestic problems that just might need a foreign distraction. It's also about anger.

An eyeball-to-eyeball border dispute between Nigeria, a main supplier of U.S. petroleum, and smaller, weaker Cameroon has reached the point where top diplomats are talking undiplomatically about flying to war.

France upped the ante on Sunday by dispatching a token contingent of two Fuma attack helicopters and 15 soldiers to Cameroon, its former colony. Nigeria dubbed the move a blatant provocation toward combat.

"One is beginning to think that something actually could happen," said Ken Petro, a former British ambassador to Nigeria from 1987-90 and now an analyst for the Institute of Strategic Studies in London.

At the heart of the dispute is the Bakassi peninsula. Nigeria and Cameroon both lay claim to the slip of land that juts from the border of both countries into the oil-rich waters Gulf of Guinea.

Nigeria claimed Cameroonians trespassed Nigerian fishing villages in December, killing six fishermen.

Nigeria responded by sending in 1,500 troops, and both sides clashed briefly in February. Cameroon claimed Nigeria seized two towns and Nigeria alleged that Cameroon fired the first shots.

The neighbors have argued over their oil-rich border and the waters around it for years, but in every instance of threat-
Firm received cleanup contracts

By RICHARD KEIL

WASHINGTON

The Rose Law Firm, where Hillary Rodham Clinton used to work, has received 22 government contracts in savings and loan cases since 1989, reaping over $1 million, according to billing records examined by The Associated Press. The law firm's work so far has yielded at least $1.27 million, the records show. And if it were paid the full amount budgeted for its remaining cases, the firm stands to make at least an additional $600,000.

The work awarded to the Little Rock firm, one of Arkansas' oldest and most prestigious, has generally involved helping regulators purse thrift officers and others they believe responsible for S&L failures in Arkansas.

All but one of the contracts has come from the Resolution Trust Corp., the agency created to take over RTC. The S&L cleanup contracts include one involving a failed thrift now at the center of a controversy. The latest twist came this week when Hubbell acknowledged he was paid the full amount budgeted for its remaining cases, the firm, including Mrs. Clinton, is paid the full amount budgeted for its remaining cases, the firm, including Mrs. Clinton, has come from the Resolution Trust Corp., the agency created to take over RTC.

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Firm received cleanup contracts

New welfare plan requires work

By JENNIFER DIXON

WASHINGTON

Young mothers still on welfare after two years would lose their monthly benefits, under a plan drafted by President Clinton's welfare reform task force. Those who failed to find work would lose the money by June 1996, the plan says.

A plan to translate the president's campaign promises to "end welfare as we know it" is gradually taking shape, with the work program the latest effort. By June 1996, the plan says.

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Eager to avert a total breakdown of Middle East peace talks, the United States and the European Community, represented by a special envoy of President Clinton, have heaped praise on the group of Palestinian radical settlers and Yasser Arafat, the leader, sternly demanded his release.

By BARRY SCHWEID

WASHINGTON

The Palestinians were a day away from breaking peace talks, as new signs of the disarmament process were announced. The demonstrators were living on the West Bank and in Gaza, and the deployment of a U.N. force to enhance Palestinian security was not in sight.

Riding on the outcome of the talks Nahid Shaftal and his delegation and the Israeli government, the two days was the 28-month Middle East peace process. Not only has PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat delayed responding to previous Clinton's or Israeli requests to send negotiators here to conclude an agreement but Syria, Jordan and Lebanon have indefinitely interrupted their talks with Israel.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher has tried to coax Arafat, but without success. On Thursday, by telephoning him three times since a Jewish extremist killed seven Palestinians at prayer last Friday in Hebron, begged praise for the PLO leader of 35 years. Arafat was in hospital last week, is being treated for a blood disorder.

The burial site of Baruch Goldstein, the Jewish settler who gunned down 90 Palestinians in a mosque in Hebron last week, is being guarded by a mob of 2000. Arafat's iron entrance in Jerusalem.

"It has become a shrine," Zeit Kavakoff, mayor of the illicit Jewish settlement outside the city, said Thursday. "Everyone who wishes to visit wants to see the grave of Baruch Goldstein who is revered by many as a martyr for the occupation."

By ANDREW SELSKY

BOGOTA, Colombia

Leftist rebels released an American hostage and an Italian diplomat and a Red Cross delegate after holding him in captivity for a year. They were deserted by their comrades.

Louis Manning was handed over to the rebels by four rebels in a jungle region of Choco state in western Colombia, said the Rev. Guillermo Vega, the priest who participated in the negotiations.

A message purportedly from the National Liberation Army, the group that abducted Manning, was handed over to the media this week, threatening to continue their tanks, howitzers and planes to bomb the embattled capital.

President Yeltsin of Russia and his aides worked hard, in search of a political solution. The 50s

President Yeltsin is in power,

but disappear into oblivion."

The criminals have been around the president. "They say it's a large contingent of warplanes and Serbs and Muslims in Sarajevo."

The United States does have a large contingent of warplanes in the NATO force that protects Bosnia's skies. Two U.S. F-16 fighters joined American and British warplanes in the Serb warplanes that PLO officials in the U.N. disarmament factory Monday about 45 miles northwest of Sarajevo.

A NATO threat to use warplanes to bomb Serb artillery around Sarajevo ended theせりばめの独裁的な圧力経済政策が米国の計画を押し広げると、米国側が無理す

Yeltsin warned his hard-line opponents

MOSCOW

President Boris Yeltsin's opponents had vowed to occupy state buildings and the advertising office, for more applications for the following paid position:

Advertising Account Executive

Applications should be a great opportunity to gain valuable office and sales experience. Applicants should have strong self-motivation, creativity, and an interest in marketing and advertising. Anyone interested should submit a 1-2 page résumé to Eric Lorge by 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 15th in the advertising office, 3rd floor LaForte. For more information, contact Eric at 634-1179 or 631-8840.

Hey Trish

Is this what you'll look like the day after your 21st? Happy Birthday! Love, Wendy, Ellen, Jen & Theresa
WASHINGTON

President Clinton today signed an executive order reviving the most feared weapon in the U.S. trade arsenal to keep Japan from tearing up the two countries' trade pact.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor announced the move after President Clinton's decision to put Super 301 back in force in a news conference, saying it should send a clear message about America's resolve to open markets.

"Our goal is to eliminate the major trade barriers that the world block access to our products and services," Kantor said in a statement.

The president should doubt our commitment to keeping trade barriers from rising, said Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole.

The executive order revives the provisions for two years and will operate as it did when it was in force for the first time in 1988.

It will allow the administration to draw up a "hit list" of countries judged to have erected the most egregious trade barriers against U.S. products. A list will still be compiled, Kantor said, because an annual report due March 31 that surveys trade practices around the world.

After this report is published, the administration will have until Sept. 30 to select countries deemed to have the most harmful trade barriers.

The administration would notify those countries of this preliminary designation and if the offending practices were not modified, Kantor said, the United States could impose punitive tariffs in an amount equal to the amount of lost sales to American companies.

Kantor said he spoke today by telephone to Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. He termed the call "a friendly, forthright" discussion.

The executive order will allow the administration to make its decision on new trade barriers by the end of March.

The United States, Kantor said in a statement, had today. We'll have an announcement concerning that later.

The Bush administration, which did not like having its hands tied by the strict deadline, for the same reason that Japan had today.

It did when it was in force from 1988 until it expired two years later.

The expired provisions for two years and will operate as it did when it was in force for the first time in 1988.

It will allow the administration to draw up a "hit list" of

Consumers call on Congress to regulate rent-to-own industry

BY KIM J. MILLS

The "rent-to-own" industry, which leases, or lease-and-own, ranging from diamond pinnk rings to refrigerators, charges interest rates that average 111 percent a year but refuses to disclose the annual rate to consumers.

It's a case of mixing up apples and oranges — like comparing a case of mixing up apples and oranges — like comparing a rent-to-own interest rate to the annual percentage rate and cash price.

This case, however, is minor compared to the two other major cases brought against the industry, said Bill Keese, executive director of Progressive Rental Organizations, based in Austin, Texas. "There are no delivery charges, no service charges.

"If a person terminates the contract, it does not affect his or her credit rating, he said.

Keese and other industry representatives stood in the hallway outside PIRG's news conference handing out their own press kit and offering to rebut the watchdog group's charges.

"To compare our rental fees with cash retail prices is an invalid comparison," Keese said. "It's a case of mixing up apples with oranges — like comparing a rent-to-own interest rate to the annual percentage rate and cash price.

"If you pay more for something over time than you do outright, that's interest, whether you call it that or not," he added.

The PIRG survey looked only at the cost of renting two items commonly carried by rent-to-own stores: a 19-inch color TV set and a 14-cubic-foot refrigerator, or the closest equivalent at each store.

PIRG found, for instance, that one store in Austin, Texas, charged $74.99 a month to rent an 18-cubic-foot refrigerator. At the end of 18 months, a consumer would have paid $1,425 cash. But the store also sells the same refrigerator for $275 cash.

Buying the refrigerator on time, a consumer would pay an effective 232 percent annual interest rate, according to the report.

Thirty-six states have laws regulating rent-to-own transactions, but only seven limit the amount stores can charge.


The legislation would subject rent-to-own interest rates to the same caps that states have in force for other retail installment or credit sales — typically about 20 percent, PIRG said.

It also would require dealers to label merchandise, stating not only the weekly and total price, as some states now require, but the annual percentage rate and cash price.

MARKET ROUNDUP

MARKET ROUNDUP

WASHINGTON

A new but limited round of airline ticket price reductions started Wednesday for tickets purchased in specific routes bought before March 10.

These routes include, but are not only, tickets from Chicago to Chicago, New York to Dallas, and New York to San Francisco. Several other routes, such as San Francisco and Denver are also affected.

Tickets purchased at the discounted prices, but all must be used by May 31, and the return trip must be scheduled after the departure.

Some airlines, such as Northwest, charge a $20 fee for tickets purchased on the Saturday before Easter.

This comes at a particularly opportune time when many are considering buying tickets for the Easter holiday and spring break travel.

The price break was big when price cuts by American West Airlines, which coincidentally just completed its merger with Midwest Airlines, Regional Airport four days ago, were met by the major air carriers.

But hackers drive again as competition heats up

BY EDWARD IMBUS

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The price break was big when price cuts by American West Airlines, which coincidentally just completed its merger with Midwest Airlines, Regional Airport four days ago, were met by the major air carriers.

But hackers drive again as competition heats up

BUSINESS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON

A big increase in aircraft sales spurred a sixth consecutive monthly sales increase, the Commerce Department said Thursday.

The Commerce Department said Thursday that orders rose 3.1 percent in the new year began, following a revised 1.4 percent gain in December.
I read with amusement and interest the recent results of the student body presidency election. If anyone is an expert on so-called "fake candidates" winning student government elections, I am. You see, I ran for student body president my junior year and lost to a guy who won. Burger King穿越了一个非常活跃的政治沙文主义分子从厕所隔间在每个宿舍。他的成功是被定在了进入韦斯特海德在住校。”我相信Hungeling会找到帮助他的人。下一次选举前五年我做了。"

Campaign about cutting through some red tape, bringing more concerts to campus, and creating a few new programs that would help students. My campaign made sense when the electorate wanted chaos.

After one of the other candidates challenged the King for not having a student as a running mate, the King made a fake Notre Dame ID for the cat. Students loved it. The King followed up by a bureaucrat's attempt at political nonsense! The election was actually over with that event.

The Observer ridiculed the King for his proposal to abolish student government. However, Garry Caruso

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I Karl, instead of writing a lot about capital, had made a lot of it, it would have been much better."

-Karl Marx's Mother
Material Issue creates high-energy rock unique to bands worldwide

By ROB ADAMS

The opening track on Material Issue's latest release, "Freak City Soundtrack," is called "Going Through Your Purse," and it is a song about just what the title suggests - one fleeting moment of boredom leading to the temptation and the eventual act of going through someone's purse - the epitome of a Material Issue song.

Material Issue's finest songwriting ability has to do with taking a single subtle element out of romance and exploding it to a point where it could ruin a whole relationship. Besides its ingenious idea, "Going Through Your Purse" shines in its brisk drum beat, blistering guitar solos, excellent placement of background lyrics, and Jim Ellison's curiosity, flowing through his unique vocal style.

It seems as if he is always in some kind of rock musical; the spotlight has dawned and there's Ellison, center stage, singing to the audience, hoping that they'll understand.

Ellison formed Material Issue in 1987 with schoolmate Ted Asani on bass and local drummer Mike Zelenko on skins. After a late '87 EP and a 1989 seven-inch, both of which received substantial critical acclaim, 1991's International Obsession was released, and spawned two top five modern rock items, "Valerie Loves Me" and "Diane."

In 1992, after the release of their second full-length album, Destination Universe, Material Issue enjoyed their biggest success yet, with "What Girls Want," a spunky tale about Mick Jagger's legs, Rod Stewart's hair, and Keith Richards'sSwagger which topped the alternative chart and even gained some top 40 airplay.

After a year on the road, including a tour of Europe, Material Issue began recording Freak City Soundtrack in 1993, recruiting the guitar firepower of Cheap Trick's Rick Nielson, Guns N'Roses Gilby Clarke as well as Char of Big Hat on violin.

"Eco Beach," the strongest track on Freak City, features some of Gilby Clarke's work; riffs are brought to the forefront as Ellison sings almost giddily of his cynicism toward vacations.

Obsession throbs throughout "Kim the Waitress" as Ellison's voice drops to a painful baritone, on the verge of being unable to control himself around an unwilling waitress. This is the only song on Freak City that has a female's name in the title, which is surprisingly low for Material Issue.

Oddly enough, a more common form of obsession is dealt with in "The Fan," inspired by the Rebecca Schaffer story; but here Ellison sings from an expectant and demanding point of view, in front of an almost upbeat musical setting, making the result even more creepy.

"Funny Feeling" has a beginning which echoes Social Distortion's "Ball and Chain," but then erupts into a feedback frenzy coupled with touches of bluesy spurts of guitar splashng around in the background. The high-energy smartass rock-n-roll which spawned Material Issue's brisk debut album is featured on "Very Good Thing;" Ellison is happy to paint pictures of nostalgic romantic scenes and then even happier to kiss it all goodbye.

By contrast, the light psyche­dolic and supercooled lyrics which surround "I Could Use You" remind of the ballad tone material имеет no focus and thus it had to include these themes to be politically correct. The material makes the, second half of the film degenerating when taken alone, but when the film intends simultaneously to depict a pseudo-documentary filmed haphazardly, it is a mesh of skins. Each skin is enlightening and revealing when taken alone, but when the film discusses important topics like AIDS or homosexuality it does not sufficiently concentrate upon them.

It almost seems that they felt it bad to include these themes to be politically correct. The film has no focus and thus seems very incoherent and choppy. Granted, this could have been the intent of the film maker and could symbolize the fickleness of generation X. Departing from this skin format, the second half of the film decides to develop the triangular romance between Winona Ryder, Ben Stiller, and Ethan Hawke. This plot within a plot just confuses the viewer.

I certainly hope that my generation does not look at or act like the characters in this film. All the four principles spend their days and nights drinking, smoking, and having sex. The characters are realistic, yes, but tragically so.

None have initiative, ambition, or sound moral values. All of the acting leaves much to be desired, but it is difficult to be critical of actors who are not trying to act. They all aspire to present the "normal" twenty-year-old. I must single out one character and one performance which is fairly impressive. Hawke's Troy is a psychologist's dream. The character is a lazy philosopher with incredible intelligence, but no initiative. He suffers from existential angst. He is burnt out and rejecting society. Hawke's character portrayal is witty, passionate, and honestly moving.

Besides its gritty realism and noble intentions, there is one more aspect to salvage from the flawed "Reality Bites." I will deem it "erotic fraternization."

There is something poignant about a bunch of friends staying up all night drinking, talking, and bonding. Many of us can relate to the emotional

WON IT BEFORE YOU
CAN BUY IT: PolyGram has sent me ten extra copies of Material Issue's latest release, Freak City Soundtrack, and I want to give them away! Call me at 631-5303 starting at 11:00 a.m. The first ten people who call me and ask for the new Material Issue album get it for free.

Bland characters and inconsistent plot paint portrait of the 20's in 'Reality Bites'

By JIM DOWD

Film Critic

What will happen to our genera­tion after graduation? The new coming-of-age docu-drama "Reality Bites" paints a disheartening picture of the quali­ty of life for the aptly named "Generation X."

FILM REVIEW

It is a realistic portrayal of the twenty­something culture which details the struggle of four close friends as they face the frustrating job market. The film intends simultaneously to engage, preach, and expose. Unfortunately, it does none of these successfully. The film at­tempts to characterize a gen­eration, but it has no direction.

"Reality Bites" is a pseudo­documentary filmed haphazardly. It is a mesh of skins. Each skin is enlightening and revealing when taken alone, but when the film discusses important topics like AIDS or homosexuality it does not sufficiently concentrate upon them.

It almost seems that they felt it bad to include these themes to be politically correct. The film has no focus and thus seems very incoherent and choppy. Granted, this could have been the intent of the film maker and could symbolize the fickleness of generation X. Departing from this skin format, the second half of the film decides to develop the triangular romance between Winona Ryder, Ben Stiller, and Ethan Hawke. This plot within a plot just confuses the viewer.

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RATING SYSTEM

4 domes- One great flick.
3 domes- Better than meat­less baked ziti.
2 domes- At least the pop­corn was good.
1 dome- Don't bother.

Jim Dowd rates "Reality Bites" 2 domes.
May spring breakers brighten the corner

I wish Notre Dame students would undergo a religious conversion to the Catholic Church; that they could come to realize that they would come to see them as they go on semester break. Why the insistence on keeping Catholic conversion? Wouldn’t it be better for the Church if they were to become born-again, singing, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”? All the better if the whole Church weren’t against singing, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee.” Catholics are in, and any religion that encourages the people to be thinking about the inconsistencies of the church and for the sake of the children and for the sake of the service we live in, the church has to be brought down. The whole life and activity.” (from Kasper, 1989)

Aunt Eileen is going to see a black thing among the trees. I wish Notre Dame students would come to realize that they could come to see them as they go on semester break. Why the insistence on keeping Catholic conversion? Wouldn’t it be better for the Church if they were to become born-again, singing, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”? All the better if the whole Church weren’t against singing, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee.” Catholics are in, and any religion that encourages the people to be thinking about the inconsistencies of the church and for the sake of the children and for the sake of the service we live in, the church has to be brought down. The whole life and activity.” (from Kasper, 1989)

If you lost a gold loop earring, lost about 1 1/2 weeks ago. Please contact Brian at x1799 anytime at work.

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Jordan looked like nervous rookie

By Associated Press

A couple of "Ks" and an "E" for Michael Jordan.

Baseball's most celebrated rookie took the field under game conditions for the first time since high school Thursday. He went 0-for-3 with two strikeouts and an error in an intrasquad game for the Chicago White Sox. His team lost 12-7 after his two-out error allowed the go-ahead run to score.

"Some critics may see it as a setback, but I saw it as an opportunity to go out and see what a baseball game is like," Jordan said after playing all six innings.

"It was my first game and I felt nervous and out of my element. Hopefully, I'll get another chance and be a little more comfortable."

White Sox manager Gene Leman said Jordan would not start Friday in the exhibition chance and be a little more extended his lead to 6-3.

"That was one of those things I don't want to happen because everybody is watching the line, but the ball glanced off his glove, a model specially made by Wilson with his name in it," he said.

Jordan struck out on off-speed pitches from rookies Rod Bolton and Scott Christian. In the first, he was robbed of a hit by outfielder Warren Newson on a diving catch in left field.

In other games, Pittsburgh beat Minnesota 7-5, Atlanta beat Minnesota 7-5, and Kansas City defeated Central Florida 4-2. There were 14 games scheduled for Friday.

Pirates 7, Twins 5

At Bradenton, Fla., Orlando Merced had a three-run homer and a two-run double and Alejandro Pena got a save in his return from a year-long absence.

Merced, the subject of off-season trade rumors, hit a three-run homer in the third inning off closer Jose Garcez to give the Pirates the lead for good at 4-2. He added a two-run double off Rick Aguilera in the fifth as the Pirates extended their lead to 6-3.

Pena, who missed last sea­ son after undergoing elbow surgery, retired Minnesota in order in the ninth, striking out two.

Braves 10, Georgia 5

At West Palm Beach, Fla., rookie Ryan Klesko had three hits and one of Atlanta's four home runs. The others were hit by rookies Mike Kelly, Troy Hughes and Javier Lopez.

Delon Sanders, Jeff Blauser and Fred McGriff helped the Braves to a pair of first inning runs. Sanders walked, stole second and scored on a double by Blauser, who later scored on McGriff's groundout.

Illa loses her first game

By JOHN NADEL

LOS ANGELES

Illa Borders, the Southern California College freshman who became the first woman to pitch in an NCAA or NAIA baseball game, took her first loss Thursday.

And some abuse as well.

"Their players were very abusive," SCC spokesman Pat Gililien said. "They were calling Illa names and using profanities throughout the game."

Borders, an 18-year-old left­ fielder, pitched seven innings, allowing six hits and four runs, all earned. She walked two and struck out two in a 4-3 loss to UC San Diego, the eighth­ ranked NCAA Division III team.

Borders (2-1) threw 109 pitches before being relieved by Rick Homutoff to start the eighth inning in the game at SCC in nearby Costa Mesa.

Borders said she felt good about her performance. When asked about the language used by the UC San Diego players, she said she was used to it.

"It's been worse than it was today," she said. "I don't think it should be a gender issue. I'm just an athlete trying to get people out."

Hoops

continued from page 16

At the start of the second half, the Ramblers came out strong, going on a 6-0 run to pull to within six at 44-38. The Irish would answer with a 12-0 run of their own, and had their largest lead of the game when Carey Poor hit a basket to put the team up 61-40 with 11:40 to play.

The Ramblers would continue to challenge the Irish, but in the end were unable to contain the fired-up home team.

Center Ginny Hamill helped the Ramblers' cause with 15 of her team-high 21 points in the second half, and forward Nina Bable chipped in 12 of her 18 points in the second stanza.

Bable also finished with a game-high 13 rebounds, and the Ramblers, much to the dismay of Notre Dame head coach Muffet McGraw, out rebounded the Irish by a 49-38 margin.

The Irish played well as a team, with three players finishing in double figures in scoring. In addition to Jones' 20 point performance, Beth Morgan had 11 points, and Carey Poor contributed 10 in just 11 minutes of play.

Morgan's 11 came on just 4-13 shooting, and Poor's 10

ill all earned.

Of course, the game's not over until the final buzzer, but the Irish coasted to a win after poor shooting and a lack of consistent defense.

"The Irish were great to have them out there," said Poor, who finished 6-6 in the Irish's previous win against Xavier, has now hit her last 10 straight shots from the floor, putting three baskets behind Irish assistant coach Karen Robinson, who holds the team record with 13 consecutive field goals.

After the game, McGraw调度 fondly of her seniors' performance in the game, comments that the seniors have given us where we are right now with their leadership, attitude and work ethic. It's really emotional to see the team go out and play so well in their last home game.

"The Irish have a tough first game this Sunday at Butler's Hinkle Fieldhouse."

McGraw also was thankful for the pep band, which has played at every home game this season.

"The band has added so much atmosphere to our games all season long," said McGraw.

"It was great to have them out there supporting us."

While the regular season has come to a charming end for the Irish, the NCAA tournament has yet to begin. Winning the tournament will ensure the team a trip to the NCAA's and the Irish face a tough first game when they play either Butler or Lafayette in second round action this Sunday at Butler's Hinkle Fieldhouse.

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SEXUALITY AND THE NOTRE DAME STUDENT

MARCH 20:
MONK & MAURA SPEAK: WHAT DO THEY KNOW?
A look at sexuality in a Christian context, and how we might better understand ourselves and our relationships.
Presenters: Fr. Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C.; Maura Ryan, Department of Theology

MARCH 23:
NOTRE DAME, 46556: WHAT DO WE KNOW?
What issues and concerns does our community have about sexuality? The panel will focus on life and relationships for men and women at Notre Dame.
Presenters: Mary Vaccaro and Fr. Steve Newton, C.S.C., rectors Notre Dame students.

MARCH 27:
...SO NOW WHAT?
How can we attempt to live out Christian values of sexuality and relationships in a time when these values are becoming "countercultural"?
Presenters: Notre Dame students and recent graduates

MARCH 20, 23, 27, 1994
LA FORTUNE BALLROOM, 7-9 PM

Each session will include: • Presentation by speakers or panel • Facilitated small-group discussions • Good food and drink
Students are welcome to attend all three sessions or as many of the three as they can.
Irish ready for the challenge

By TIM SHERMAN
Sports Writer

Where would the Notre Dame lacrosse team be without Lofthus Sports Center?

Exactly where Rutgers is now - without a place to play.

Tomorrow's scheduled game at the Rutgers has been can-
celled due to the blizzard that slammed the northeast.

However, Notre Dame's games at Stony Brook (NY) on Monday and at Georgetown next Saturday are both still on.

These two will surely provide enough of a challenge to make up for Rutgers.

The Irish did not face the Pa-

triot of Stony Brook last sea-

son, nor do have the advantage of a scouting report, as this is

SB's first game of the year.

This is no problem for Irish
t-captain Randy Colley.

"We'll just concentrate on our

stuff and hopefully sharpen

things up.

"They don't know us (even

though the Irish beat Penn St.

on Sunday) and we don't want

them," agreed coach Kevin

Corrigan. "Let's just worry

about what we have to do.

One of these objectives is to
cut down on penalties. Against
Penn St., the Irish were whis-
tled for 11 penalties.

Obviously, it gave the Nittany
Lions more opportunities and
cut down on Notre Dame's

chances. In addition, such an
abundance of flags interferes

with the midfielder rotation.

Another negative tendency
the Irish showed Sunday was
impatience on offense.

"We relied on our defense to
give us the ball back," said

Corrigan. "We wasted a lot of
possessions."
Baseball to open season

By JENNY MARTEN
Senior Sports Writer

The 16th-ranked Irish baseball team opens the 1994 season with a swing through Louisiana and Alabama over spring break. This weekend, Notre Dame will face Tulane (6-4) in a three-game series. In the game, the Irish will face former assistant coach Brian Cleary who now holds the same position at Tulane.

Cleary is excited about facing his old team, but does not think his side knowledge will be much help. "My knowing about them doesn't put them in any kind of anything," said Cleary. "Obviously I know what type of game Murphy plays and I'm more aware of stuff they might do, but we've still got to throw and catch and hit.

The Green Wave hold a 9-1 advantage in the series. The last time the two teams met was on March 11, 1991 in a game which Tulane won 5-3.

The Ir wash probably face junior Todd Dyess (1-1, 21 K) on the mound on Saturday against Conway (0-2) and Stewart (3-0) in the other game. At the plate, Tulane will be led by right fielder Brian Forest, designated hitter David Stewart and catcher Larry Schneider who are all hitting over .250.

For the second weekend of spring break, the Irish travel to the University of Alabama to play the Crimson Tide in another three-game series. Alabama (1-4) opened its season with a shutout win over New Orleans and has fallen to Louisiana, Louisiana State, McNeese State and Lamar since then.

Leading the way for the Crimson Tide will be sophomore shortstop Brett Taft (.263). A senior first baseman, Jason Jordan (35 putouts) and senior outfielder Brad Daggert (213, 3 RBI). Pitchers likely to see time on the mound against the Irish are senior Stu Colgrove and Mike MacDonald.

Junior Paul Faila, a projected top-25 draft pick, will lead the Irish infield. "I had an architecture student draw a rendition of a stadium and I hung it in my office so everyone who walked into my office could see it," explained the Irish head coach. "I kept setting the seed with everyone I knew and then finally Frank Eck was good enough to set forward and donate the money.

The Irish will inaugurate the new season on March 30 in the home opener against intra-state rival, Indiana. The Hurricanes, who visit the stadium the following weekend, will be the first national powerhouse to take on Notre Dame in their new surroundings.

After the home opener, the Irish will play only nine games on the road. The rest of the 1994 home slate includes the Midwestern Collegiate Conference rivals along with other teams from around the Southeast.

Prior to the Indiana game, Notre Dame will play three-games against both Tulane and Alabama over spring break, participate in the College Baseball Classic in the Seattle Kingdome including a game against 10th-ranked Tennessee, and travel to La Salle for a four game series.

The scheduling should allow the Irish time to find a chemistry in early in the year and maybe fit in a few more practices before the home opener.

In terms of players, Notre Dame's roster was crippled by graduation last year. The Irish lost four years of wins in pitchers Al Walas, David Sinnes and Chris Michelak and two nationally competitive hitters in Eddie Hartwell and Eric Danapilis. Along with hitting skills, the loss of Hartwell and Danapilis also creates holes in the outfield which need to be filled.

As for how the team is going to do this year, Murphy sounds like a broken record with his catchphrase. "It's a rebuilding year; it's a reloading year.

The team might be inexperienced in some areas, but as usual after a few lumps early in the season, the Irish will be ready for anyone.

With an established program and a new stadium, Notre Dame will be looking to take the baseball program's progress one step further at the end of the season.

In the last two years, the Irish have come within a game of the College World Series and in 1994 they are looking for more.

"We think we can go to the College World Series and we think we can be one of the best teams in the country, but a lot of things have to fall into place," said Murphy.

Although the pitching staff lost three heavy contributors with graduation, freshmen Scott Sollmann and junior utility man Bob Gillick are their replacements. Murphy is looking to sophomore Rowan Richards and Ryan Topham along with freshman Scott Sollmann or junior utility man Bob Gillick.

With the pitching staff and the outfield will be comprised of younger players, one area of the Irish defense will be all veterans. The entire Irish infield from last year's squad returns with junior Craig DeSensi at first, senior Greg Layson at second, junior Paul Faila at shortstop and senior Matt Haas at third. All four players have a combined 47 games last year.

Along with the arrival of players and a pile of untested freshmen potential, the Notre Dame baseball team hopes to find its way back into the final game of the regional, but this year, they plan on winning.

And with the first pitch of the 1994 season, the "New Tradition" begins.
He stood there — unflinching, tall and silent as always. But as Gus soon found out, this outward calm belied the "Widowmaker's" reputation.

If you see news happening, call the Observer at 631-5323

DINING HALL
Notre Dame
Vegetable Soup
Jumbo Fish Sandwich
Broiled Cheese Sticks

Saint Mary's
Herb Baked Chicken
Sicilian Chopped Steak
Bean Tostada

In celebration of Spring Break from SUB, we invite you to partake in a free pizza-eating contest.
Seniors lead Irish to victory and No. 1 ranking in MCC

By DYLAN BARMMER | Sports Writer

How sweet it is. The Notre Dame women's basketball team enjoyed the sweetness of victory for the fourth straight game last night at the JACC, finishing their season with a 66-64 win over Loyola to secure the spot.

The most remarkable accomplishment the Irish have achieved this post-season has been their consistency in winning games. And in this league, it happens.

"Obviously, we want to finish in the highest spot," said Schaefer. "We control it right now and we want to keep it that way.

Earlier in the season, the Irish won one and tied another against the Flames. The Irish knew what to expect from them, but more importantly, they have a sense of each other.

"We know each other," said Schaefer. "We know what we have to do, now we need to put it together.

This cohesiveness showed last Saturday against Ferris, as Schaefer's charges pumped in eight goals in two games, signaling a possible return to their stingy ways of earlier on in the year.

A large part of this should be attributed to the performances of Greg Louder. The senior goaltender earned CCHA defensive player of the week honors last week.

Senior goalietender Greg Louder has been a wall while earning CCHA defensive player of the week honors last week.

"The exciting thing is that we're capable of doing it," said Schaefer. "We've shown we can skate with anyone. And in this league, it is given that anybody can beat anyone. We'll see what happens."

The Irish hope to continue their winning streak with two tough matchups this week.

Irish picking up momentum on way towards CCHA Play-offs

By TIM SHERMAN | Sports Writer

The objective of the past few weeks for the Notre Dame hockey team was to get on a roll heading into the CCHA playoffs. Last weekend, the Irish got that momentum started by tying Michigan St. and trouncing Ferris St. That was the easy part.

"That's easy," said coach Ric Schaefer. "That's easy."

Now, the task is harder. They must continue to play the same type of hockey this weekend against University of Illinois-Chicago and Bowling Green in order to impact the CCHA championship race.

Coach Ric Schaefer, who recorded his 100th career victory last weekend against FSU, thinks it is quite possible for his Irish to make a run.

"This is what we've been working toward," said Schaefer. "This is what we've been working toward.

First, Notre Dame must deal with their seeding. Tonight's road contest with the Flames of UIC should go a long way in determining where the Irish finish.

Currently, the Irish hold a one point advantage over the Flames for the eighth position. A win or tie in Chicago would give Notre Dame the spot.
SHE'S A CHILD NOT A "CHOICE"

16 week-old baby developing in the womb.
**The Heart of the Matter**

The special love between a mother and baby comes straight from the heart.

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**The War of Words**

**Claim:** Abortion is legal, therefore, it must be right.

**Answer:** If child abuse were suddenly declared legal by the U.S. Supreme Court, would that make it right? Would we ignore such an injustice and do nothing to protect the children?

**Claim:** I have the right to "choose" to abort my baby, a woman's "right to choose!"

**Answer:** Abraham Lincoln once said "No one has the right to choose to do what is wrong." Furthermore, the advocates who defend this "choice" are not consistent. Why is it only in the case of abortion they argue that "choice" should be legal and absolute? Using the same rationale, shouldn't people have the right to "choose" to use drugs ("It's my body") or the right to "choose" to practice prostitution? Should our society allow a person to choose to kill another person (or have that person killed) to solve the first person's problem?

**Claim:** The government should not interfere with a woman's "right" to abortion.

**Answer:** Our Declaration of Independence declares that we have an "inalienable right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." Thomas Jefferson defined government's role, "The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." Pres. Reagan, a defender of the human and civil rights of the preborn, called it "the transcendent right to life of all human beings, the right without which no other rights have any meaning." (Without life, taxation, health-care etc. are immaterial).

**Claim:** If public money (tax money) is not available to pay for abortions "poor" women will be denied access to abortion. They will be discriminated against.

**Answer:** Are we obligated to provide cigarettes and alcohol to poor people if they cannot afford them? On the contrary, government is very explicit about which items may be purchased with food stamps. Is this considered discrimination? The same people who argue for "public" subsidies for abortions are the same ones who argue that it is a "private" decision. To quote Congressman Henry Hyde, "We have a "right" of free speech. Does this mean the government has to buy us a personal computer? A typewriter? A megaphone?"  

**Claim:** I am personally opposed to abortion, but I would not interfere with another's right to have an abortion nor impose my morality on others.

**Answer:** Analogy -- if President Lincoln and the abolitionists had bought this line of reasoning regarding the slavery issue, we could still be saddled with slavery today. Every law ever passed sets standards which reflect someone's (or a body of law-makers) morality.

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Dear Readers,

When I found out I was pregnant, all the rhetorical arguments flew out the window. I had always considered myself "pro-choice," when suddenly I didn't feel like I had any choice at all.

This "sort of thing" wasn't supposed to happen to me. I didn't feel I had anyone I could turn to. Those to whom I did turn offered "help" in the form of delivering me to an abortion mill.

The consequences did not follow immediately, but when they followed, they did so like a storm crashing ashore. Four years after my abortion, I found myself looking back over a series of broken relationships with family, friends, and God. I was forty pounds heavier and desperately looking for "the right man" by sleeping with anyone who paid attention to me.

One day I found myself unable to get out of bed. With help, I realized that I suffered from a textbook case of Post-Abortion Syndrome. I also realized that my child, who was 8 weeks along in her development when aborted, had indeed already been a fully formed human being capable of feeling the pain that I had inflicted upon her. Now I find myself in a good, healthy marriage, unable to conceive a child with the man I love.

I often look back and wonder how my life would be different. I have missed the chance to bring that special life, created and sanctified by God, into the world. If I was not yet ready to be a parent, I missed the chance to give the gift of life to an adoptive couple who desperately wanted to be parents. And I can't even begin to tell you how much more I feel I have missed.

Abortion does not live up to the "freedom of choice" billing it gets these days. The abortion does not allow freedom, as it comes with consequences that no one ever tells you about. You are never prepared to live for the rest of your life with the knowledge of what you have done.

Abortion has an effect on every part of your life following the pregnancy, much as giving birth to a child does. Either way, you are no longer pregnant, yet with abortion there is no "positive" to look back on. There is no "choice" in an abortion decision. It is the only option a pregnant woman has that eliminates any future "choice" for her or her child. A woman does not want an abortion like she wants a Porsche or an ice cream sundae. She wants an abortion like an animal caught in a trap wants to gnaw off its own leg to escape. The damage, in either case, is inevitable.

J.H., Notre Dame Class of '85

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Chronology of a New Life

Fertilization: The sperm joins with the ovum to form one cell. This one cell contains the complex genetic blueprint for every detail of human development—the child's sex, hair and eye color, height, skin tone etc.

Month One: The first cell divides within several hours and then cell division continues in an orderly fashion every few hours as the small group of cells travels down the Fallopian tube to the uterus, where the uterine lining has been prepared for implantation. There are over 100 cells present when this tiny embryo reaches the uterus 7 to 10 days after fertilization. Day 20—foundation of the brain, spinal cord and nervous system are already established; day 21—the heart begins to beat in a regular fashion; day 28—the backbone, the rest of the skeleton, and muscles are forming—arms, legs, eyes and ears have begun to show. At one month old, the embryo is 10,000 times larger than the original fertilized egg — and developing rapidly. The heart is pumping increased quantities of blood through the system. The placenta forms a unique barrier that keeps the mother's blood separate, but allows food and oxygen to pass to the baby.

Month Two: At 35 days the pre-born baby has all her fingers. Brainwaves can be detected at day 40; the brain is controlling 40 sets of muscles as well as the organs. The jaw forms including teeth buds in the gums. The eyelid seal during this time to protect the baby's developing light-sensitive eyes which will reopen in the seventh month. The stomach produces digestive juices and the kidneys have begun to function. The tiny human being responds to touch. By 8 weeks, the developing baby is now referred to as the fetus, a Latin word meaning "young one" or "offspring."

Month Three: Day 63 (9 weeks): Unique fingerprints are evident and never change. The baby now sleeps, awakens and exercises her muscles by turning her head, curling her toes, and opening and closing her mouth - often sucking her thumb. Her palm, when stroked, will make a tight fist. She breathes amniotic fluid to help develop her respiratory system. By 12 weeks, all the organs and systems of her body are functioning. The only major activity from now until birth is growth - the increase in her size.

Month Four: By the end of this month (16 weeks) the baby is 8 to 10 inches in length and weighs a half pound or more. Her ears are functioning, and there is evidence that the baby hears her mother’s voice and heartbeat as well as external noises. The umbilical cord has become an engineering marvel, transporting 300 quarts of fluids per day and completing a round-trip of fluids every 30 seconds. Because the preborn child is now larger, the mother usually begins to feel her baby's movements during this month.

Month Five: Half the pregnancy has now passed. The baby is about 12 inches long. If a sound is especially loud or startling, she may jump in reaction to it. Babies born at this stage of development (19 - 20 weeks) are surviving at an increasing rate thanks to advances in medical technology.

Month Six: (24 weeks): Oil and sweat glands are functioning. The baby's delicate skin is protected in the amniotic sac by a special ointment “vernix.”

Month Seven: The baby's brain has as many cells as it will have at birth. The preborn child uses the four senses of vision, hearing, taste and touch.

Month Eight: The skin begins to thicken, with a layer of fat stored under the protective " vernix." The baby swallows a gallon of amniotic fluid per day, more if it is sweetened. She often hiccup.

Month Nine: Toward the end of this month, the baby is ready for birth. The average duration of pregnancy is 280 days from the first day of the mother's last menstrual period, but this varies. By this time the infant's heart is pumping 300 gallons of blood per day. In response to signals from the brain the child triggers labor and birth occurs. Of the 45 generations of cell divisions before adulthood, 21 have taken place in the womb. Only four more will come - during the rest of childhood and before adolescence. In developmental terms we spend 90% of our lives in the womb.
Life Begins at Conception

Through the writings and testimony of the world-renowned geneticist, Dr. Jerome Lejeune, M.D., Ph.D., we can learn much about the intricacies of the beginning of human life. Contrary to the popular view that the tiny baby becomes more and more "developed" as the weeks of pregnancy go on, Dr. Lejeune says that the very first cell, the fertilized egg, is "the most specialized cell under the sun." No other cell at the supermarket...it's not any longer a theory that each of us is unique. It's now a demonstration as simple as a bar code in the supermarket." Dr. Lejeune states that because of studies published within the last year we now have the scientific knowledge to determine within 3 to 7 days after fertilization if the new human being is a boy or a girl.

Legalized Abortion Based on Lies and Fraud

Norma McCorvey was the "Jane Roe" of Roe v. Wade. Early in 1970 Norma McCorvey claimed that she had been gang-raped and became pregnant. Attorneys Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee, newly graduated from the University of Texas Law School, needed a "client" in order to challenge Texas' 100-year old law that banned abortions. They convinced Norma that she should be seeking an abortion instead of arranging an adoption for her child.

The case was subsequently argued all the way to the Supreme Court which resulted in legalizing abortion in all 50 states in 1973. In the meantime, the baby was born and released for adoption. In 1987, McCorvey admitted that she hadn't been gang-raped at all but the father was someone she knew and thought she loved. The story of the gang-rape was a lie.
Every Twenty Seconds
A Life Is Taken By Abortion...
That's A Lot Of Love Lost.
Birthmother
Options for Adoption...
The Loving Alternative

It was the beginning of my junior year in high school. I was excited, looking forward to another year of diving, gymnastics and track. But this excitement quickly came to an end when I realized I was pregnant.

When the pregnancy was confirmed, my mind went racing. It wasn't enough to just say that I was scared - I was terrified! The idea of having an abortion was never a consideration for me. I could not live with the realization that I was responsible for taking the life of my child - a death because of my actions.

My first instincts told me that I needed to raise my child on my own. I knew I could love and care for a child, but when I stopped thinking about myself, and thought about what was best for my child, I knew adoption was the right decision. I was sixteen at the time. I wanted to go back to school for my senior year and wanted to participate fully, in sports etc. I wanted to go on to college.

I know I could not do all of this and raise a child at the same time. I did not want to have to live with my parents indefinitely and depend on them for everything. I did not want them to thrust into the role of prime care-givers for my child. It just would not be fair for any of us, for them, myself or the baby. I knew that placing my child for adoption would be the right thing to do, the loving alternative!

The adoption procedure I opted for is not your ordinary plan. I chose to do an independent open adoption. Through this process I was able to select from among the prospective adoptive parents. I had the opportunity to establish a personal relationship with them as well as to develop a lasting friendship. The more I got to know them the more excited I was about placing my baby with this couple. They had so much love and security to offer my child. They were there with me in the hospital when my son was born. Their video camcorder ran non-stop. I will always treasure the three days I spent in the hospital with my son. Handing him over to his new parents was by no means easy, but I knew in my heart that this was the right decision for both of us.

Many tears were shed throughout the nine months and during the hospital stay. But, they were not all tears of sadness. I miss my son very much. I think about him every day and a smile comes to my face. I thank the Lord that He led me to two such special people to be adoptive parents for my child. It has been several years since my son was born. He now has an adoptive sister. I keep in contact with the family through letters and pictures. I can't begin to explain the feelings of pride and contentment that I experience when I see the smile on his face.

I am now a junior in college majoring in paralegal studies. Relinquishing my son was the hardest decision I will ever have to make but I'm more confident than ever that it was the right one. While in the hospital I received a card which read, "Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same." This is so true!

Testimony by Lisa O. of Minnesota.
(Printed with permission.)

Every year over two million requests for adoption go unsatisfied.

If he is not alive, why is he growing?
If he is not a human being, what kind of being is he?
If he is not a child, why is he sucking his thumb?
If he is a living, human child, why is it legal to kill him?

Lisa O.

The Abortion Experience for Victims of Rape and Incest
by David C. Reardon

Rape and incest are very emotional topics. They often elicit in the general populace feelings of revulsion; people draw back from the issue of rape and incest, even from the victims of rape and incest. People don't know how to handle a person who is in that much pain. There is no quick fix....

Some people who are otherwise very pro-life will condone abortion in rape and incest cases because they don't know what else to offer. And they will accept it as a rare case. This pro-life difficulty in defending the unborn even in rape and incest cases is largely due to ignorance because the facts, as I have found them, show that the victim's needs are not being served by abortion. In fact, rape and incest victims actually suffer considerably from the abortion.

The facts suggest that only a minority of rape and incest victims actually choose abortion—so right then, one should pause and reflect. Abortion is not usually chosen as the immediate solution by rape and incest victims but that is the prevailing belief of the general population. A woman has been raped and made pregnant: "Oh, she's got to have an abortion." No one has studied the rape and incest victims' needs; abortion is seen as a way to fill their desire for love and care for a child, but when I stopped thinking about myself, and thought about what was best for my child, I knew adoption was the right decision for both of us.

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18 week-old baby developing in the womb.

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Abortion Techniques Described

Suction-Aspiration: The method of abortion most commonly used for early pregnancies. The abortionist inserts a hollow plastic tube into the dilated uterus. The tube is connected to a powerful suction apparatus. The suction tears the baby's body into pieces.

Dilatation and curettage (D and C): Similar to the suction procedure except the abortionist inserts a tiny hoe-like instrument into the uterus. With this, the abortionist cuts the baby into pieces and scrapes them out into a basin. Bleeding is usually profuse.

Dilatation and evacuation (D and E): Used after 12 weeks. A piers-like instrument is needed because the baby's bones are calcified, as is the skull. The abortionist inserts the instrument into the uterus, seizes a leg or other part of the body and, with a twisting motion, tears it from the baby's body. The spine must be snapped and the skull crushed in order to remove them from the womb.

Salt poisoning (saline injection): This is used after 16 weeks. A long needle is inserted through the mother's abdomen into the baby's sac. Some fluid is removed and a strong salt solution is injected. The solution is swallowed and "breathed" and slowly poisons the baby. He/she kicks and jerks violently as he/she is literally being burned alive.

Hysterotomy or Caesarean Section: Used mainly in the last three months of pregnancy, the womb is entered by surgery through the wall of the abdomen. The tiny baby is removed and allowed to die by neglect or direct act.

Prostaglandin chemical abortion: This form of abortion uses chemicals, developed by the Upjohn Pharmaceutical Co., which cause the uterus to contract intensely, pushing out the developing baby. In one article, one of the complications listed with this method was "live birth." In fact, the two most "dreaded" complications for an abortionist are a dead mother or a live baby.

Dilatation and Extraction (D and X) Late Term Abortions

(The authenticity of the following information has been confirmed in an article in the American Medical Association's Newsletter, American Medical News, in the July 5, 1993 edition.)

At a September 13-14, 1992 meeting of the National Abortion Federation, a trade association of abortion providers, an Ohio abortionist, Dr. Martin Haskell, described this new technique he has perfected. Unlike the D & E procedure whereby the preborn child is dismembered inside the mother's womb, with the D & X method the preborn baby is alive until the end of the procedure when the child is killed by suctioning the brain tissue through a hole at the base of the skull while the baby's head is still inside the uterus. Then the intact unscathed child, minus brain content, is removed from the womb.

According to the paper presented by Dr. Haskell the procedure takes three days and begins with "dilation (and) MORE DILATION." The cervix is initially dilated to 9-11 mm. with mechanical dilators, in order to accommodate the placement of five to seven synthetic laminaria, Dilapan hydroscopic dilators, which remain in place overnight.

The following morning the Dilapan are removed and replaced with a second insertion of 15 to 25 dilators, again left overnight. The Dilapan process may cause severe cramping.

On the third day, after removing the dilators, the abortionist ruptures the membranes, if this has not already happened, and drains the amniotic fluid. The abortionist places an ultrasound transducer on the mother's abdomen and locates the child's legs and feet.

The abortionist then uses a large forceps to grasp one of the baby's legs. He pulls firmly, forcing the child into a feet-down position. He continues pulling until the baby's leg is drawn into the birth canal.

Next, using his hands instead of forceps, the abortionist delivers the baby's body in a manner similar to a breech birth. First, the child's other leg is delivered, followed by the torso, shoulders, and arms. The baby's head "usually" remains inside the uterus.

The abortionist then performs the last step which Dr. Haskell calls "fetal skull decompression." Using blunt-tipped surgical scissors in a closed position, he pierces the child's head at the base of the skull. He then forces the scissors open to enlarge the skull opening.

Removing the scissors, the abortionist inserts a suction catheter into the wound and vacuums out the child's brain tissue (in Dr. Haskell's words, "evacuates the skull contents") causing the baby's death. With the skull emptied of brains, it collapses and he then "applies traction to the (dead) fetus removing it completely from the patient."

Dr. Haskell has performed over 700 of these abortions on preborn babies as old as 26 weeks. Dr. Haskell refers to another abortionist, Dr. James McMahon of McMahon Med. Center and Eve Surgical Centers in Los Angeles and Tarzana, CA, who not only also uses this technique but sometimes uses it to abort preborn children up to 32 weeks "or more."

Barbara Radford, Executive Director of the National Abortion Federation said of this late-term abortion technique, in a 6/18/93 letter to NAF members, "Don't apologize: this is a legal abortion procedure."

Answers to Abortion I.Q. Quiz

1) D; 2) C; 3) C; 4) B; 5) C; 6) D; 7) B; 8) D; 9) B; 10) C; 11) B; 12) A; 13) C (one in five); 14) D

Human Life Alliance of Minnesota, Inc. (612) 484-1040

Human Life Alliance of Minnesota, Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational volunteer organization committed to the intrinsic value of human life. HLA is dedicated to advancing true justice by protection of ALL Human Life, whatever the age, race, sex, physical condition or economic status. The purpose of HLA is to provide incentives to action through education, political awareness and promotion of alternatives to violence in order to create a society in which all Human Life is held sacred.

HLA NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGES YOUR PARTICIPATION!
Rape and Incest cont. from p.8

My life. It allows them to show their own courage and generosity. When the need of pregnant rape victims is carefully examined, it can be shown the abortion is not necessary and indeed is very likely to hinder recovery by increasing feelings of guilt, shame and low self-esteem.

Like Incest, Abortion Promotes Silence

Incest victims face similar problems. Incest is a very complex issue and is hard to say much in a very short period of time, but the vast majority of incest victims want to carry their pregnancy to term. These are young girls for whom pregnancy is a way to break out of an incestuous relationship with their family, their parents who may love them despite their confusion and resentment about the way they have been used as sexual objects. Since they still love the father, having the child can not only help expose the incestuous relationship but also give hope of beginning a truly loving relationship.

In studies of incest victims, the vast majority choose to carry the pregnancy to term. Those in the minority who have an abortion do so only under pressure from their parents to conceal the incestuous relationship. Because incest is a family pathology that involves father, mother and daughter, all are involved in a conspiracy of silence.

I interviewed Edith Young, now 38 years old, who was a rape and incest victim at 12 years of age. To cover up the incident, her parents procured an abortion for her without telling her what was to happen. The emotional and physical scars of incest and abortion still last to this day. She said, "I was being sexually attacked, threatened by him and betrayed by Mom's silence...the abortion, which was to be 'in my best interest' has not been...it only 'saved their reputations,' solved their problems and allowed their lives to go merrily on."

Pro-life persons don't have any reason to be ashamed to defend a pro-life view in the case of rape or incest. The ones who need to be ashamed are the pro-abortionists who have been exploiting the problems of rape and incest victims, confusing the public and promoting abortion for their own social engineering goals. To my knowledge, pro-abortionists have never yet brought together a group of rape and incest victims who carried their pregnancies to term who said, "Oh, that was the worst thing I ever did. Why didn't somebody give me an abortion when I needed it?"

We, on the other hand, can produce women who took the advice of the pro-abortionists, had the abortion and now say, "This abortion ruined my life. What were you telling me?"

We need to join rape and incest victims in demanding that pro-abortionists stop exploiting the pain of innocent women's problems for their own political ends.

"What I Saw in the Abortion Industry"

Q. What is the governing force behind the abortion industry? A. Money. It is a very lucrative business. It is the largest unregulated industry in our nation. Most of the clinics are run in chains because it is so profitable.

Q. How much money were you making in the abortion industry before you quit? A. I was getting a commission of $75.00 on every abortion I "sold." In 1983, the year I got out, I would have pocketed approximately $250,000. But in 1984 we expected to be operating five clinics, terminating about 40,000 pregnancies, and with that projection I planned to net $1 million. Money, Money, Money — that's where my heart was.

Q. Why do you refer to "selling" abortions? A. The product, abortion, is skillfully marketed and sold to the woman at the crisis time in her life. She buys the product, finds it defective and wants to return it for a refund. But, it's too late. Her baby is dead.

Q. In what way is the woman deceived? A. In two ways — the clinic personnel and the marketers must deny the personhood of the child and the pain caused by the procedure. Every woman has two questions, "Is it a baby?" and "Does it hurt?" The abortionist must answer "NO." He/she must lie to secure the consent of the woman and the collection of the clinic's fee. The women were told that we were dealing with a "product of conception" or a "glob of tissue." They were told that there would be only slight cramping, whereas, in reality, an abortion is excruciatingly painful.

Q. What type of counseling was offered at the clinics? A. In the clinics in which I was involved we didn't do any real counseling. We answered only the questions the woman asked and tried not to "rock the boat." We did not discuss alternatives to abortion unless the woman forced us to. We sold abortions.

Q. What method of abortion did your clinics use? A. For the most part, the abortion industry stopped using saline and prostaglandin procedures because of the number of live births. A live birth means you have to let the baby die, or dispose of it in some distasteful way. Most second and third trimester abortionists use the D & E (dilation and evacuation) method. The abortionist uses forceps to grasp the baby inside the mother's uterus and remove it in pieces. The side effects of live births and the mother going through labor are but it is a horrible procedure in which the baby must be re-constructed outside the uterus to be certain all the parts have been removed.

Planned Parenthood

In 1963, a Planned Parenthood publication, Plan Your Children for Health and Happiness, stated: "An abortion kills the life of a baby after it has begun. It is dangerous to your life and health." Yet, Planned Parenthood now operates the largest number of abortion mills in the country. In 1991 Planned Parenthood added eleven new abortion chambers across the United States.

consider this revealing quote taken from New Dimensions magazine (September/October 1991, p.22): "Planned Parenthood recently acknowledged what the anti-abortionists have been saying for years: nine out of ten women who have "safe and legal" abortions suffer from abortion-induced trauma."

"Human Life Alliance Advertising Supplement"
Ten years ago yesterday, I carried you beneath my heart. Ten years ago today, I stopped the beating of your heart. I, your mother, the one who gave you life, also gave you death. It's been a decade and still my blood runs cold and I catch my breath whenever I hear the word "abortion." There's an emptiness inside of me that can never be filled, a chill that has never quite been warmed, a grief that will never end. To me you will forever remain an unfinished song, a flower that never bloomed, a sunrise clouded by rain. I'll never forget... somehow I couldn't bear life, I wondered, the indelicate question of the doctor who stood beneath my heart. Ten years ago, it was just another day. To me, it was the darkest day I had ever known. The Abortion" — the most heart-wrenching, terrible experience I had suffered through in my 18 years; certainly the most painful experience suffered by you in your three short months. It has taken me all these years to get over it.

Now — as my eyes fill with tears, I realize that this is something I will never "get over." That fateful April day has replayed itself over and over in my mind like a horror movie one forces oneself to watch, then can never forget. . .

Even in my distraught state of mind, I knew that there were other choices. I was simply too scared to consider the alternatives. Still a child myself, I "wasn't ready" to be a mother. What I didn't realize then was that I already was a mother. You became my child at the moment of conception; my love for you began when your life began, and although your life ended, that love has never died. Your silent screams have awakened me from sleep many times over the years, and I have lain in the dark and mourned the loss of the baby I killed. There have even been times when I've contemplated ending my own life as I ended yours. It's been 10 years and still I haven't forgiven myself. Have you forgiven me? Has God forgiven me for destroying a being created by Him? I've had many nightmares through the years. Scenes of a tiny fetus in a trash bag haunt my subconscious. I've awakened in a cold sweat, again feeling the excruciating pain of that long-ago day. I recall the intense physical pain of the abortion — but those 10 minutes of hurt were nothing compared to the 10 years of pain I've lived with since.

For years my heart has ached to write you this letter, but whenever I attempted to put my feelings into words, I found the blank pages covered with tears rather than with ink. For some reason, though, tonight was different. . .

Perhaps this letter was meant to be written in order to help others to avoid the agony I experienced, to help other young girls "in trouble," as I was 10 years ago, to realize that there are alternatives to abortion . . .

If this letter prevents even one abortion, it will have served a purpose. But Baby, my purpose in sending this letter to you is to let you know that I love you — whoever you are. And I'm sorry.

Love, Mommy

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How Developed Is Your Baby?

Baby at Approximately Six Weeks

This remarkable photograph of a tiny pre-born baby in his unruptured amniotic sac was taken after surgery (for a tubal pregnancy) at the University of Minnesota by medical photographer, Robert Wolfe, in 1972. The 22-year-old mother had experienced her last normal menses just 6 weeks prior to surgery (period approximately two weeks late).

Consider This Testimony

"Eleven years ago while giving an anesthetic for a ruptured ectopic pregnancy (at 8 weeks gestation). I was handed what I believe was the smallest living human ever seen. The embryonic sac was intact and transparent. Within the sac was a tiny human male swimming extremely vigorously in the amniotic fluid, while attached to the wall by the umbilical cord. This tiny human was perfectly developed, with long, tapering fingers, feet and toes. It was almost transparent, as regards the skin, and the delicate arteries and veins were prominent to the ends of the fingers.

"The baby was extremely alive and swam about the sac approximately one time per second, with a natural swimmer’s stroke. This tiny human did not look at all like the photos and drawings and models of ‘embryos’ which I had seen, nor did it look like a few embryos I have been able to observe since then, obviously because this one was alive!

"When the sac was opened, the tiny human immediately lost his life and took on the appearance of what is accepted as the appearance of an embryo at this stage of life (with blunt extremities etc.)."

Statement by Paul E. Rockwell, M.D., anesthesiologist, as quoted by Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Willke in Handbook on Abortion.

Feet of Baby at Ten Weeks

Dr. Russell Sacco of Oregon took this picture of the perfectly formed feet of a 10-week-old aborted baby waiting for disposal in a pathologist’s laboratory. The feet in the picture are held between the doctor’s thumb and forefinger.

Don't Make My Mistakes

Some people say that abortion is “an informed decision between a woman and her physician.” You hear that a lot. But the fact is that most women never meet the abortionist until they are on the table, as happened in my case.

I was 18 years old when I got pregnant. I wasn’t serious about my boyfriend. It was a casual relationship. Since I had already enlisted in the Air Force, I thought I had to have an abortion in order to make something out of my life.

My best friend drove me to the abortion clinic. I was there for about four hours. It was like an assembly line. When the ultrasound was being done I asked to see it. But this wasn’t allowed (so much for “an informed decision”). Then I asked how far along I was. I was told I was nine-and-a-half weeks pregnant. That hit me hard. I knew then that my baby was further developed than I had thought. I started doubting, and wanted to talk to my friend. But I wasn’t allowed to do that either.

When it was my turn the nurse told me that I was going to feel some discomfort, like strong menstrual cramps. The truth is that the abortion was more pain than I’ve ever felt in my life. It felt like my insides were literally being sucked out of my body. Afterwards I went into shock!

After the abortion, I tried to make up for the abortion by trying to get pregnant again. I wanted my baby back. I never got pregnant again. I don’t know if I can ever have another baby. I named my baby. I found out later that this is part of the grieving process.

I ended up in the hospital with bulimia two-and-one-half years later. I felt that no one had punished me for what I had done so I was punishing myself. I became obsessed with women who were pregnant, with women who would talk about their pregnancy. My life was in shambles! I was suffering from post-abortion trauma.

When I was 21 years old God brought me help through a woman who was involved in pro-life activism. She helped me a lot. I went through a post-abortion counseling program called “Conquerors.” God not only forgave me, He challenged me to help others. I answered the challenge!

I started picketing and sidewalk counseling. There is a healing process that comes from getting involved in the pro-life movement. I talk to youth groups and students about abstinence and I share my testimony. To them, and to you, I plead, “Please don’t make the same mistakes I did.”

See pages 5 & 8 for alternatives to abortion!