Concern spurs changes in ND sex assault policy

♦ But some claim officials should take additional steps

By JASON McFARLEY  Assistant News Editor

Prompted in part by student concerns last spring about rape on campus, Notre Dame administrators announced a set of changes aimed at bolstering the University's responsiveness to victims of sexual assault.

"What we're looking at is how to address the issues that came up. We're trying to be very responsive," said Bill Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life.

Kirk said that meetings last summer with representatives from the offices of Student Affairs and Residence Life yielded four changes to the way the University handles cases of alleged sexual assault.

• A change in the 2000-2001 edition of the student handbook, du Lac, states that "student victims will not be subject to disciplinary action" in connection with alcohol or part of violations related to a sexual assault.

• Two brochures detailing resources and courses of action for sexual assault victims will be printed this academic year.

• A committee will be established to advise University officials on issues and procedures pertaining to sexual assault on campus. Representatives from the student body, faculty, various University offices, Saint Mary's and Sex Offense Services, among others will sit on the committee.

• A staff or faculty member will be appointed by Residence Life as an official resource person for campus rape victims.

"They might seem merely cosmetic, but these are certainly significant changes," said Dennis Moore, director of public relations.

Sexual assault victims, however, question if these changes will be enough.

A long way to go

Kori's concerns about sexual assault at Notre Dame are the type that perhaps only come from a firsthand knowledge of the issue. She's had her share of it, first as a rape victim in 1997 and then as an outspoken champion for victims' rights.

"We have a new reality at Notre Dame today," she said. "The University has grown in size, complexity and competitiveness.

New buildings require more money for maintenance. Expanded academic programs need funding for research and classes. And, most significantly, increasing the size of the faculty necessitates a lot of spending.

One of the goals of the "Generations" campaign is to hire 150 new professors over the next few years. The University is approaching that mark, and will continue to increase the faculty until it is reached.

"Administrators are also trying to keep Notre Dame in the game in an ever-escalating bidding war for top academics," Kori said.

"If we're going to be a great university in the very best sense, then we need to competitive for the very best faculty," Malloy said, but he acknowledged that that would not be easy. "If we're going to be competitive, it's going to cost us a lot more money than in years past."

Breezing through the Windy City

Green Party leader makes campaign stop in Chicago

By NICK SWEEDO  News Writer

When Ralph Nader stepped to the podium to greet the packed Illinois University at Chicago pavilion in Chicago, he received a thundering standing ovation louder than the average Joyce Center pep rally.

Nader, the Green Party presidential candidate and founder of the modern consumer movement, has been traveling across the country trying to gain support for not only his candidacy but also for a new progressive movement. The event included appearances by Pearl Jam lead singer Eddie Vedder and talk show host Phil Donahue. All had high praise for Nader's character and integrity.

"I would like to thank Ralph and the Green Party for giving people who care something to believe in," said Vedder.

Nader's address to the crowd covered two main points. He beseeched the power that corporate America has over the working man and illustrated how little difference there is between a vote for Bush and a vote for Gore.

"About 20 years ago, something started to happen," said Nader, who refuses to accept soft money contributions. "The two parties became vigorous competitors for the same cash in their campaigns. They began to increasingly morph into one corporate party with two heads wearing different make-up. We saw that on the debate in Boston. That meant, of course, it was really one corporate party. Political competition diminished after that."

However, corporate influence does not end with campaign finance issues.

"I would like to thank Ralph and the Green Party for giving people who care something to believe in."

Eddie Vedder
musician

Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader (right) spoke to a crowd during a campaign stop in Chicago. Phil Donahue and singer Eddie Vedder made appearances at the event in a show of support for Nader, according to Nader.

"On more and more of the issues of structural power, the Democrats and Republicans are on the same page. And look at where they're on the same page. They're on the same page now on that notorious WTO/NAFTA (World Trade Organization / North American Free Trade Agreement) that subverted our democratic processes and our health and safety standards in the workplace environment and marketplace."

George Bush and Al Gore want more WTO, more NAFTA. They're on the same page in taking your tax dollars in the hundreds of billions and funneling them into corporate welfare programs, subsidies, handouts, giveaways,

"This civil society whose forebears brought us the social justice that we have in this country is being closed up by a company of political parties, whose principal interest is raising money in the same powerful corporate interests in order to re-elect them, so they can go to Congress and the White House and follow the marching orders of their corporate paymasters," Nader said.

"Now that is undermining our democratic society in a very profound way. Corporations were designed years ago to be our servants; they have become our masters. That has to be changed, and it can be changed by a powerful, new Green Party movement," he said.
INSIDE COLUMN

Smudging our identities

As you may know, Wednesday was National Coming Out Day. For the past several years, students at Notre Dame/Saint Mary’s have used this day as a celebration of diversity and an opportunity to show solidarity with those struggling with issues of sexual identity. Various ways students choose to show their support include rainbow ribbon distribution, the provision of information concerning community issues regarding homosexuality and the appearance of signs posted by student groups. Most recognizable, though, are the chalk-written sayings adorning the sidewalks on Saint Mary’s campus.

Early Wednesday morning, a group of dedicated students defiled their faith; but these acts belie all that we strive to be: the “Happy National Coming Out Day” to “support your brothers and sisters struggling with sexual identity.”

These sayings were in no way intended to advocate or promote homosexuality. Rather, they were a symbolic expression of free speech and support for those who feel as though the issues were being “shoved in their face.”

It is well known that not all students in the Notre Dame/Saint Mary’s community are Catholic. However, the presence of religious icons and crosses rarely offend those of other denominations. We are all knowingly attending institutions holding strong religious affiliations. But, are we not also attending institutions that pride themselves on diversity and the acceptance and forgiveness implicit in their Catholic faith? Saint Mary’s students should have had the opportunity to choose how best to express their unity — African Americans, Hispanics, Women’s Rights activists — surely, the discrimination would have been obvious and the disapproval resounding.

Had these incidents occurred in relation to the celebration of diversity and to show their solidarity with those in our community, or any other sign of diversity. If you are not in the University, please re-read the Ten Commandments.

The McGill Daily does not have a valid lease, ruled Judge Irving Halpern at the conclusion of court proceedings last week at the Palais de Justice. The ruling concludes a four-month lawsuit between the Daily and the Students’ Society of McGill University over a lease dispute after SSU deemed it necessary to lock the paper out of its offices.

The Daily’s primary contention was that although there was no signed physical lease, past behavior between SSU and the Daily constituted a legally binding agreement.

Michael Bergman, attorney for the Daily, argued that lease arrangements made between SSU and clubs housed in the University Centre building in the mid-1990s did not apply to the Daily. The focus on the Daily’s right to be in Shatier, Bergman argued, is that the basis between McGill University and SSU for the building, is co-terminant with the lease between SSU and the Daily, that is, the Daily’s lease expires when SSU’s does.

“We’re arguing a valid lease, and secondly that [the Daily] has a right to occupy the premises as a result of the agreements between the Daily and the University.”

Michael Bergman

Outsiders to the Dome

McGill Daily’s lease is invalid

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Michael Bergman

Attorney

Texas A&M University

Petition fights bonfire restriction

CONCERNS of a hallowed tradition will turn into a hollow gesture, a group of students circulating a petition urging Texas A&M University administrators to reconsider the limitations placed on future Aggie bonfires. Class of 2000 Alumnus Stephen R. Archibald, who co-authored the proposal, said: "Our proposed plan suggests that all bonfires are cut," limited student involvement and leadership in on-campus and off-campus activities. Archibald's proposal calls for all bonfires to be cut. The administration will likely have to make such a decision if it wants to continue holding bonfires on campus.

"We're arguing a valid lease, and secondly that [the Daily] has a right to occupy the premises as a result of the agreements between the Daily and the University."
Members cite alleged gay bias

By AMY GREENE
News Writer

"Coming Out Day" and defacement of student displays headlined the Board of Governance meeting on Wednesday.

"Every year people across the nation and in colleges experience Coming Out Day," said board member and Feminist Collective representative Julie Frischkorn.

Frischkorn discussed the unfairness that some students experience when students deface the signs or gay-themed paraphernalia they display.

"I don't have a problem with people sharing their different viewpoints," said Frischkorn. "But at the same time it's unfair for students to discriminate by taking down and defacing signs. We do not need that on this campus."

Frischkorn also said that the Feminist Collective has been discriminated against in the past. "When the Right to Life groups placed a cemetery in front of McCandless no one spray painted or defaced those crosses," she said.

In other BOG news:
- A sister-dorm program between Saint Mary's and Notre Dame could be a new BOG project in the future. Junior Aura Ashraf and Gina Caponi recently met with some Notre Dame women who wrote a letter to The Observer regarding the junior class T-shirt.
- "I felt threatened by the letter," said Ashraf about the T-shirt letter that caused friction between the Saint Mary's and Notre Dame student bodies.
- "We wound up meeting Sunday, ordered pizza, and talked for hours. We gave them a tour of campus and it was a really great experience for all of us," said Ashraf.
- "I think a social event with the women of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's would really help to get rid of the stereotypes," she added. "We will be around each other for a very long time and the women of both schools should really get to know one another."

Ashraf and Caponi proposed a sister-dorm program as a possible solution to reduce the stereotypes.

"Overall we've had a positive experience with Notre Dame women, and there are definite possibilities with the women there and here to start a program. In a sense, we are sisters," said Caponi.

- BOG will be "walking around campus to address security issues on campus after fall break," said Crisce Benefer, student body president.
- Students' concerns about security on campus have recently increased, and BOG will work with security to address concerns.
- BOG announced that trick-or-treating in the residence halls will take place Oct. 30. The senior SFR is scheduled for Nov. 3. Fall Day On Campus is Nov. 5. The "Showcase of Careers" will be held in LeMans lobby Nov. 9. Senior Dad's Weekend is scheduled for Nov. 17 to 19.

"It's a great way to get in touch with all of campus at once," said Rak.

In addition to dorm presidents, the council consists of two co-chairs and an eight-person executive cabinet, positions filled by past hall presidents.

This year, HPC added a new cabinet member who is in charge of service.

Rak said this addition is positive because the new chair serves the dorms by holding their service committees responsible for doing their jobs. The service chair also helps dorms develop project ideas.

"It's a good way to facilitate campus wide service," said Rak.

HPC serves several roles on ND campus

By KRISTIN ALLEN
News Writer

Every Tuesday night, the presidents of Notre Dame's residence halls file into LaFortune for their weekly Hall Presidents Council (HPC) meeting.

"HPC is just another branch of student government. It acts as a representative of residence life," said Rak.

"HPC works for the presidents," said Kate Stephan, president of Welsh Family Hall. "Basically, [HPC] makes sure the leaders of each dorm are running things smoothly as far as [student concerns]." Speakers come from all different groups on campus to promote their events, and dorm presidents often bring messages from the rectors to disperse among the halls.

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The council has a budget committee, consisting of the HPC treasure and several dorm presidents, which allots those funds, Stephan explained.

However, dorms do not receive funds after a formal application process, according to Rak.

As a result, not every dorm gets exactly what it requests. The budget committee will sometimes grant all or part of the money requested, but in certain cases the committee will reject application altogether.

A dorm has the option of going a formal review process if it is not pleased with the committee's decision.

In the interests of equity, HPC tries to balance the budget committee with members from each campus quad and from both male and female dorms.

The council also tries to avoid picking committee members whose dorms served on the committee in the previous year, said Rak.
Changes continued from page 1

and an Observer feature article detailing a 1997 rape in a Notre Dame residence hall and the victim's experiences throughout the disciplinary hearing that ensued. "I'm excited that we've identified positive changes. We're trying to do more now," Kirk said.

But Kori isn't so sure. While she said that any changes Notre Dame policy undergoes to make sexual assault procedures more victim-friendly are "a step in the right direction," Kori admitted that the changes are a little less than she might have hoped for. "To be honest, I'm surprised that I've seen any changes in my time here. But the changes aren't ideal," she said.

Calling for an advocate

What concerns Kori most is that the proposed changes do not include the hiring of a full-time victim's advocate. The staff or faculty member who will eventually be hired as a resource person will not fill the role of an advocate, according to Kirk. Kirk said there are currently no plans to hire an advocate. Several universities around the country employ advocates.

Kirk said hiring an advocate would add an adversarial tone to disciplinary proceedings and the University might also feel obligated to provide an advocate for accused students. Last summer, representatives from the University Counseling Center made a formal proposal to the Office of Student Affairs, supporting the hiring of a professional advocate. "The hear­­­ings are an educational process. All of us advocate for all the students involved in the process. We're about education," Kirk said, noting the difference in function between University procedures and the criminal justice system.

Kirk said because of possible lawsuits the University is also concerned with maintaining fair and consistent disciplinary procedures. In past years, some of the University's rulings in disciplinary hearings have been overturned by courts, but Kirk didn't confirm if the rulings involved cases of alleged sexual assault.

Heavy alcohol consumption by both parties and familiarity with each other also complicates on-campus rapes, Kirk said.

Kori said, in most cases, students in disciplinary hearings judged guilty of sexual assault have been expelled from the University. Kori said her attacker was dismissed in 1998.

The new rules state students may not include the hiring of a full-time victim's advocate. The staff or faculty member who will eventually be hired as a resource person will not fill the role of an advocate, according to Kirk. Kirk said there are currently no plans to hire an advocate. Several universities around the country employ advocates.

"The University has received a lot of suggestions from campus rape victim advocates and Residence Life. The University has received a lot of suggestions from both student and staff members concerned with the matter." Dennis Moore, director of public relations

Implementing the changes

Kori pointed to the change in du Lac as a positive step toward getting victims to come forward. In the past, many students may have feared punishment for underage drinking or parietal violations, she said.

The new rules state students will not be disciplined for these offenses.

While the rules are now made explicit, it's been the University's longstanding policy to disregard such violations in cases of alleged sexual assault.

When the change to du Lac has already taken effect, other changes will be gradually implemented throughout the semester, according to Kirk.

One of two proposed brochures underwent a limited printing and is already in circulation, available in various offices around campus. It takes text directly from du Lac and is available to victims of sexual assault

"I'm glad to have seen changes like this while I'm still a student here. I hope the University continues to be responsive to the needs of sexual assault victims." Kori rape victim

Further brochures will be restated disciplinary hearing procedures "more simply," Kirk said. He said it should be available in January.

Also in January, Kirk expects a resource officer to be in place. Kirk said if need arises, he will look into the prospect of making the role a full-time position, but that person would have duties separate from an advocate.

Work on the proposed sexual assault committee is under way. Kirk said several members have been selected for the committee, and an organizational meeting is tentatively scheduled for sometime after mid-semester break.

"The committee won't serve as a legislative body," Kirk said. "But to the extent that they provide good suggestions, we'll implement them."

That's encouraging news to Kori. "I'm glad to have seen changes while I'm still a student here. I hope the University continues to be responsive to the needs of sexual assault victims," Kori said.
**WORLD NEWS BRIEFS**

**European kids impoverished:** At least 50 million children in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union live in poverty and are exposed to levels of tuberculosis usually associated with the Third World, a new report says. The report, titled "The Silent Crisis," was released Wednesday by the European Children's Trust, a nongovernmental organization. Titled "The Silent Crisis," the report said poverty in the region has increased more than tenfold over the last decade. **Israels accept mediator:** The United Nations often has been viewed in Israel as favoring the Arabs. However, Israel's acceptance of Secretary-General Kofi Annan as a Mideast mediator is evidence of a recent change in Israel's attitude to the world body. The traditional anti-Israeli voting pattern by the U.N. membership certainly hasn't disappeared.

**NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

**House debates education:** The addition of 13 federal education programs and $10 billion in spending over the past four years has failed to improve students' reading and math scores, a House panel said Wednesday. GOP leaders said the report by a House subcommittee's Republican majority justifies the push for their education agenda: state freedom from federal spending rules, tax-free savings accounts for private and parochial schools, vouchers and expanded charter schools, and the conversion of $3 billion worth of programs into general grants.

**Judge orders Ford recall:** A judge took the unprecedented step Wednesday of ordering the recall of as many as 1.7 million Ford cars and trucks sold in California, accusing the automaker of concealing a dangerous design flaw that can cause the vehicles to stall in traffic. The ruling compounds Ford's troubles in the wake of the Firestone tire recall crisis. Ford has insisted all along that the ignition module at issue is safe, and it said it will appeal the ruling.

**INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS**

**Hawkins sentenced for killing infant:** A man who pleaded guilty to recklessly killing a 4-month-old baby has been sentenced to seven years in prison and a year on probation. David Hawkins, 24, of Griffith was sentenced Tuesday in the death of Jacob Shebish, also of Griffith. Hawkins, the boy's godfather, told police he struck Jacob while he was baby-sitting. Before the sentencing, Hawkins apologized to the family.

**CAMPAIGN 2000**

**Candidates take softer tone in debate**

Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. By turns polite and prickly, Al Gore and George W. Bush debated stark differences on a wide range of issues Wednesday night, treading carefully to avoid offending voters or breaking precedent with their presidential mentors.

It got a little bit personal in the end to keep things lively.

Seeking an advantage in their nip-and-tuck race for president, the major party candidates painted different visions of the role of American military power overseas, with Gore defending humanitarian and nation-building missions and Bush warning that the U.S. forces are overextended.

"I would be judicious about how we use our military," said the two-term Texas governor.

The policies of President Clinton and former President Bush loomed large over the second of three presidential debates. Gore suggested the United States could have saved lives if the Clinton administration had acted earlier in Rwanda and Bush chuckled slightly when asked to assess foreign interventions spearheaded by his father.

"Some of them I've got a conflict of interest on, if you know what I mean," he said with a smile.

He agreed in many remarks on many matters, but clashed often on foreign policy, hate crime legislation, same-sex marriage, gun control, health care, taxes and the environment. Time and again the rivals took pains to stress their agreement, sensing that voters are turned off by conflict. Gore, in particular, had to mind his manners after his heavy sighs and interruptions put off some voters in the last debate.

"It seems like we're having a love fest tonight," the Texas governor said at one point.

**PERU**

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori talks to Justice Minister Alberto Bustamante and Eduardo Latorre outside the Government Palace in Lima. Fujimori announced the disbanding of the Peruvian National Intelligence Service.

**Fujimori orders spy agency to close**

Associated Press

President Alberto Fujimori's government on Wednesday ordered the disbanding of the feared spy agency that critics say has long been a tool of repression in Peru.

Opposition leaders and human rights groups have long criticized the agency, saying it has become a repressive political tool with powerful influence over the judiciary and electoral system, and much of the media.

Fujimori's decision to disband the agency was prompted by a leaked videotape showing the non-sanctioned spy chief, Vladimir Montesinos, apparently bribing an opposition congressman to join the government's ruling party. The scandal erupted last month, forcing Fujimori to announce new elections next year in which he will not run.

Experts on national security have questioned Fujimori's action, saying the government may merely be transferring the spy agency's electronic surveillance equipment and many of its employees to army intelligence, which is controlled by generals loyal to Montesinos.

A weary-sounding Fujimori called for national reconciliation Wednesday and urged Peruvians to avoid deepening polarization.

"What we are looking for is stability — that does not produce a break of social order," Fujimori said during a meeting with top ministers and a representative from the Organization of American States.

"Personally, I'm going to leave as I arrived, a Peruvian in the service of the country," Fujimori said. "As president, I don't want to leave a nation in chaos and ungovernable, but rather with every possibility of true democracy."
**FALL BREAK THIS WEEK!!!**

Nothing is going on here.

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**Movies @ Deborah Loeb Theatre**

**The Patriot & The Exorcist**

- **Thursday:** 10:30
- **Friday:** 8:00 & 10:30
- **Saturday:** 8:00 & 10:30

**Renowned Hypnotist (One Night Only)**

- **Friday:** 10:00 PM

   *Stephan Center*

   *Tickets: $5 at LAFUN Info Desk*

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**Movies @ Deborah Loeb Theatre**

**A Perfect Storm & Rules of Engagement**

- **Thursday:** 10:30
- **Friday:** 8:00 & 10:30
- **Saturday:** 8:00 & 10:30

*And we may even have a special surprise for you...but only if you are good!"
Full professors at Notre Dame currently earn an average of $108,000, placing the University 28th in the country in that category, according to figures from the American Association of University Professors. And there are other expenses besides salary. Malloy said health benefit costs will rise 15 percent next year, and he noted that, for every professor it hires, Notre Dame must provide research funding, library resources and other costs. "The single most expenses reality is the growth of faculty and staff," he said. Nevertheless, Notre Dame has its highest operating budget ever — $535 million — and enjoyed a record-breaking year in endowment growth last year. Malloy said. The endowment is now $3.5 billion, placing it among the nation's elite, and that has enabled the University to substantially increase financial aid for both undergraduates and graduate students. The number of endowed professorships have also reached an all-time high.

Earlier this week, Notre Dame celebrated the creation of its 150th endowed chair, and, according to Malloy, this growth has been a great improvement for the University. "If you think about our first endowed chair our 10th, 50th, 100th, and if you see who has either been attracted to the University, or promoted, I think you see the concrete and tangible results in the people we can attract or promote," he said.

Malloy gave a short talk to the faculty and then answered a series of questions submitted in advance before opening the floor for a brief question and answer session.

Nader continued from page 1

Nader also mentioned the need for universal health care in America. "Here's what some Western governments achieved and the financial picture of this country, the richest country in the world," Nader said. "Universal health insurance coverage for all those people. They got it, we don't. With 46 million people and children without health insurance, 10 million more than when Gore and Clinton were elected in 1992, so much for the universal health care step by step. Does that mean backwards or forwards, Al Gore? "Western Europe and Canada got coverage for their people, we didn't. Why? Because powerful economic forces now represented by the giant HMOs, hospital chains, drug companies said no. They said no to our government, and our government wasn't strong enough to tell them to back off. And so these giant corporations are holding America down on one of the most critical rights of any civilized society."

By examining the minimum wage, Nader called into question the "so-called" prosperity that the U.S. is experiencing. "The minimum wage in 1968 when our country was half the size that it is now in GDP [gross domestic product] per capita was in purchasing power equivalent to $7.30 an hour," he said. "Today, it's $5.15 an hour. The economy has doubled. In any stable and strong democracy, the minimum wage in purchasing power would be double what it was in 1968, not $2.15 less. These are not living wages paid by giant corporations whose stock is skyrocketing and whose profits are spiraling upwards."

Nader noted the similarities between Gore and Bush on issues ranging from corporate welfare, foreign policy, the death penalty, the WTO and helping the small farmer. "What is the difference between Al Gore and George W. Bush in the area of enforcement against corporate crime, fraud, abuse?" Nader asked. "[Do] Bush and Gore have anything to say about tougher corporate law enforcement? Do you ever hear them say I'm going to be tough on corporate crime? I'm going to be tough on the crime in the suites? No way. Those are the companies that are funding their elections."

Nader criticized the two leading candidates for their stances on international relations. "I see no difference essentially between Gore and Bush on foreign policy," he added. "Our country will still support dictators and algorithms cutting deals with big multi-national corporations and even 10 years after the end of the Soviet Union. When will our country support the workers and the peasants and the downtrodden of the third world for a change?"

Ralph Nader was born in 1934 in Winsted, Conn. He is a magna cum laude graduate from Princeton University and a graduate of Harvard Law School. He gained national prominence in 1963 with his best-selling book, " Unsafe at Any Speed: The Designed-In Dangers of the American Automobile," which exposed the wrongdoing within General Motors and caused the entire automobile industry to make safer cars.

Enjoy dining out in a big way with juicy Chicago style steaks in hassle-free downtown South Bend. Pull up a chair to a tender filet, an extra thick t-bone, or our specialty, 12 oz. of USDA prime New York strip steak. Lighter options, too.
Stressing awareness for women

The Observer

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Cappy Gagnon

Cappy's Corner

During my two decades in law enforcement and security work, I have encountered many classes on self-defense for women. Despite my sculpted body (hidden underneath a more modest exterior) and my lightning reflexes (somewhat lessened by the ravages of age), most of those classes have featured the mental aspect of self-defense. I leave the rough stuff to people like Officer Sue Tullus and her excellent team of Rape Aggression Defense Instructors. (You can reach Sue at 1-5555.)

Here are my self-defense tips for women in the Notre Dame community:

1. Don't drink when you are underage. There is no good reason to break this law. There is a reason the drinking age is 21.

2. If you are old enough to drink, do so in moderation. Here are a couple of tests. Can you go to a bar or party and have only a soft drink, or nurse one drink? If you can't, you're not strong enough to resist peer pressure. For help, contact either the Alcohol and Drug Education program (1-7790) or the University Counseling Center (1-7336).

3. If you are exploring the single's scene, go with a friend and leave with her. If you meet a really cool guy, he shouldn't mind swapping phone numbers and making a date for another day. If he does mind, tell him to take a hike. This is a good test of his staying power. Here's another good test for potential boyfriends. See what he says when you say you prefer not to drink. If he pressures you ("Everybody drinks," "You'll have more fun.") ("It'll loosen you up," etc.), tell him you're sorry, but you've got to go home for don't know what this is, but some of my student workers talk about it. If I tell you that the guy you just met poured a "date rape drink" into your Dr. Pepper, you would not drink it, but the same effect may occur when you pick up yet another beer after a few cans — warning, drinking beer makes you stupid.)

4. Never get into a car with a driver who has been drinking (unless you were born on Krypton). If you don't believe me, give Rex Flakow a call (1-8338). He's the director of NISP, but he's also conducted a number of vol­untary death investigations which have resulted from alcohol. Also, whenever you get in a car, make sure everyone is wearing a seatbelt (unless you have a death wish or own stock in a company which makes wheelchairs).

5. Remember the country song which asked, "Why do the girls all get to lookin' at closing time?" The reverse is also true. When you are not drinking, you have high standards in choosing your companions. Don't forfeit your repu­tation when you imbibe.

6. Don't scoff at pariahs — they are one of Notre Dame's many quirky students who have been excluded. None of these classes have featured the mental aspect of self-defense. I leave the rough stuff to people like Officer Sue Tullus and her excellent team of Rape Aggression Defense Instructors. (You can reach Sue at 1-5555.)

Or they become Johnny Carson (named after the late night talk show). They become Marciano or the Mike Tyson-type who also thinks he's won the heavyweight championship, but can be divided into two sub­groups. The Chuck Wepner-type, named after the Bayonne Bleeder and identified by the facial stitching. Or they become the Mike Tyson-type who also drinks, named after the former heavyweight champion of the world who has been drinking beer in a can to achieve his weight goal. Or they become the Mike Tyson-type who also drinks, named after the former heavyweight champion of the world who has been drinking beer in a can to achieve his weight goal. Or they become the Mike Tyson-type who also drinks, named after the former heavyweight champion of the world who has been drinking beer in a can to achieve his weight goal. Or they become the Mike Tyson-type who also drinks, named after the former heavyweight champion of the world who has been drinking beer in a can to achieve his weight goal. 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"I don't know, I don't care and it doesn't make any difference."  - Jack Kerouac

Mary Kaye Price, contributor
Putting the health of America first

Prioritizing the needy

Bush proposes a plan that works

The lies and signs of the Gore campaign have carried over to the perception of health care reform. Mr. Gore has decided to lie about the details of Governor Bush’s plans instead of debating the substantive differences between the plans. This article will not throw out magical, very convenient numbers, targeted at tricking the uneducated, but instead it will relay the facts of Governor Bush’s plan and let you decide whether or not to support it. Governor Bush realizes that bipartisan proposals have made great strides towards solving our national health care crisis. The basic of this proposal is essentially giving every American citizen the same health coverage that government workers get, which includes choice, free forces solve our nation’s problems. He doesn’t seem to believe that the government should provide help to those who have chosen to help themselves. The prosperity over the last eight years has given the U.S. economy an opportunity to improve the lives of the most needy Americans. We must not let this opportunity slip away.

Jeffrey Staffins is the president of the College Democrats Club. Political Face-Off will run every Thursday until the election. The views expressed in columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Correction: The CSC column, “For a More Just and Humane World,” that appeared Tuesday, Oct. 11 was written by Rene Mulligan and Kathleen Maas Weigert, the associate director for academic affairs and research at the Center for Social Ethics. Also, the CLC article that appeared on Sept. 26 incorrectly stated that Bill Kirk was the vice president of Student Affairs. He is the assistant vice president of Student Affairs.
MOVIE REVIEW

Despite a poor script and weak characters, 'Get Carter' is a washout.

By Matt Nania
Assistant Scene Editor

If the rain-slicked new Sylvester Stallone revenge flick "Get Carter" seems a little familiar, it's with good reason. It could be that the picture is a remake of a gritty 1971 film of the same name starring Michael Caine, who appears in this version as well. He could be that the bad-guy-going-after-worse-guys plot — about a Las Vegas mob enforcer determined to find and smuff the people who killed his estranged brother — isn't all that different from the story of a hard-as-nails parolee avenging his brother in last year's "The Limeys." Then again, in execution and style, "Get Carter" is an awful lot like Mel Gibson's 1999 glamorous guns-blazing vigilante venture "Payback," which was at least a remake of 1967's "Point Blank." Or it could just be that Sylvester Stallone is Sylvester Stallone in almost every movie he makes.

Even though watching Stallone roughing tough guys up in "Get Carter" feels like a rehash of a rehash, director Stephen Kay ("The Last Time I Committed Suicide") turns the experience into a stimulating visual showcase of stylish filmmaking that keeps the viewer's attention. Taking photography and editing cues from David Fincher ("Fight Club"), Steven Soderbergh ("The Limeys," "Out of Sight") and Michael Bay ("Armageddon"), he turns the action and fights into an array of images that pack a punch. It's not the story, but the look of the picture that keeps it interesting.

Kay owes a debt of gratitude to cinematographer Mauro Fiore for his wet, Seattle's slippery-when-wet avenues.) His bad luck becomes absurd. The poorly-scripted story takes its toll on Kay's personal redemption are only moderately enjoyable. Even though watching Stallone roughing tough guy role he could do in his sleep. But in an odd stroke of prestige casting, Miranda Richardson ("Sleepy Hollow") and Alan Cumming ("Broadway's "Carousel") are wasted in stage-prop parts. Richardson is the brother's widow and Cumming is a twerpy software mili-
“Meet the Parents”

**Director:** Jay Roach
**Starring:** Ben Stiller, Robert DeNiro, Blythe Danner, Teri Polo and Owen Wilson

Meeting a loved one's parents is traumatic and scary, but it does not culminate in a nicotine-induced cat destroying a wedding dress. "Meet the Parents" overreaches and, consequently, it suffers.

Those looking for a spectacular movie about first meetings with parents (but not a comedy) should undoubtedly check out Stanley Kramer's 1967 classic, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" to substitute for their viewing of "Meet The Parents."

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**VIDEO PICK OF THE WEEK**

**Scene Movie Critic**

Woody Allen's classic film "Manhattan," starring Allen, Diane Keaton and Meryl Streep, is available to rent on video.

**Allen comments on life and love in ‘Manhattan’**

By JUDE SEYMOUR

Woody Allen is often associated with his short, witty comedies. It was a romantic comedy, "Annie Hall" that won him a Best Picture Oscar in 1977. "Manhattan" was his follow-up, and a lot was expected of it. It is a brilliant film, and the late 1970s mark the most fruitful period of Allen's writing and directing.

"Manhattan" plays out on two levels. The first is Allen's perpetual love song to Manhattan. Backed by amazing George Gershwin selections, the film is an ode to a town that Frank Sinatra once pointed out never sleeps.

Over the familiar opening chords of "Rhapsody in Blue," the movie opens. When the movie ends, "Rhapsody" reloads for one last climax that captures the city as a visual and as a sound. The viewer might have been treated to scenes capturing the rising and setting of the sun, but the city is in perpetual motion, much like the song that has been associated with the beginning and end of the film.

In between, the audience is treated to other, less familiar Gershwin selections that set appropriate moods and coordinate with an abundance of visuals of the beloved Manhattan. There are no scenes outside Manhattan. As a character explains early, living outside this town is "just not practical."

The second level the movie presents is Allen's commentary on life, focusing on the usual nature of relationships and sex within the city. Allen plays Isaac Davis, a 42-year-old TV writer. At the film's opening, he is "dating" 17-year-old Tracy (Mariel Hemingway, who was 17 in real life). His friend, Yale (Michael Murphy), is unhappily married to Emily (Anne Byrne), and looks to a pseudo-intellectual Mary (Diane Keaton), for a fling.

The movie is about how each of these people hop from relationship to relationship to satisfy an understanding of their own life's purpose. Yale looks to justify his infidelity, but Isaac will not consent. Although the two are friends, they are miles apart on what they should be getting out of their relationships.

For Yale, he enjoys the sex and danger of being caught when he is with Mary. For Isaac, it is about recovering from a previous marriage — his inadequacies are soon going to be part of a "tell-all" book written by his now lesbian ex-wife (played by Meryl Streep).

Isaac dates Tracy because it is his security blanket; Tracy adorns him with a form of "puppy love" that is common of a teenager. Isaac tries to keep the relationship casual, but Tracy is falling in love with him. Clueless for everything, he also cares to be "beautiful," but "unobtrusive." Isaac is constantly reminded that she can't be in love. She's just a kid.

Allen also comments on the way the era of the 1970s is addressing sex. For example, a group discussion at a dinner party quickly turns to the subject of orgasms. At one point, Mary quips to Yale, "It's always sex with you. There's never any time for holding." Clearly, Allen has written that piece of dialogue because he is frustrated with the way that sex is used as a tool. The intimacy and importance of a partner is no longer valid; relationships have taken on a "revolving-door" nature.

Isaac leaves Tracy for Mary because he thinks he is doing the right thing. Allen says, Isaac can't be hung up on Isaac. He points out that he can "beat up her father." Mary is often portrayed as a sex object in her relationship with Yale, she is a "puppy love" that is common to a teenager. Nevertheless, they click for a while. Gershwin hums in the back as a classic shot of Isaac and Mary, on a bench overlooking the Brooklyn Bridge, is put up on screen.

Mary leaves Isaac when she admits she still loves Yale. Disturbed by the morals he sees amongst his friends, Isaac takes off to find Tracy, whom he finally realizes has been part of his most satisfying relationship.

A last, striking Gershwin piece plays as Isaac races to find Tracy before she leaves for London. The final scene is classic Allen: well scripted and a strong ending to the film.

While it would be discourteous to reveal the outcome of the story, it is relevant to point out that, regardless of how it turns out, Isaac has learned that Tracy is much more mature than he had given her credit for. Whereas his attitude towards her at the beginning of the film might have been that he had nothing to learn from her, the truth lies in the fact that even a old man can fall in love with a charming teenager.

"Manhattan" is a delightful love story set to a fantastic Gershwin score. In a carefully constructed manner, it explores the dilemmas and which is the best. It is a morality play; Allen's classic one-liners are thrown into the mix and the story is satisfying and humorous.

"Manhattan" may have captured the awards, it is "Manhattan" that oftentimes steals the show.
NHL

Blues rally to kings. Messier leads Rangers to win

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

Scott Young led a furious third-period rally with two goals and an assist to lift the St. Louis Blues into a 4-3 tie with the Los Angeles Kings on Wednesday night.

The Blues spotted the Kings a 4-1 third-period lead before storming back with four goals in the final six minutes.

Jochen Hecht tied it at 4 when he scored with 33.6 seconds remaining in regulation after the Blues pulled their goaltender for an extra attacker.

Pierre Turgeon flipped the puck across the crease to Hecht, who poked it in past the Kings’ Jamie Storr for his goal of the season.

Young scored both of his goals in the third period after the Kings’ Michael Demitra finally put St. Louis on the board 1:15 into the third period.

Young beat Storr 3:29 into the final period to make it 4-2, then added his sixth goal shortly afterward as St. Louis cut the deficit to one goal.

Young also assisted on the tying goal. Mathieu Schneider and Bryan Smolinski each had a goal and two assists for the Blues, who have not beaten the Kings in St. Louis since last Jan. 11, 1997, and have won just one of their last 11 meetings.

Aaron Biebel had a goal and an assist to become the third Blues player to score 1,000 career points for the Kings.

Biebel, who has five goals and four assists in Los Angeles’ four games this season, joined the Kings’ Marcel Dionne, who had 1,007 career points for Los Angeles, and Dave Taylor, who had 1,069.

Ziggly Paffy added a goal and an assist for Los Angeles.

Flyers 3, Wild 2

Eric Desjardins scored midway through the second period to lift the Philadelphia Flyers to a 3-2 victory over the Minnesota Wild in the expansion Wild’s first regular-season home game.

The Wild took a 2-1 lead on Wes Walz’s short-handed goal at 9:12 of the third period, but Desjardins tied it at 10:37 in the first NHL game involving a Minnesota team since the North Stars played their last game at the Metro Center in April on 1993.

Minnesota’s Manny Fernandez made 36 saves and was kept busy, laying out to make several stops and stop shots as Philadelphia exploited Minnesota’s mistakes and inexperienced defense.

The Wild, who had scored just once in their previous two games, were inconsistent on defense themselves.

They peppered Flyers goalie Brian Boucher in the opening period, but only blacked up with just three shots in the second period.

Maribor Gabrovik, the Wild’s first-round draft pick this year, had a power-play goal to kickstart Minnesota’s offense in the third period.

Gabrovik slipped the puck into Brucher’s arm and the puck trickled out of his hand, which was resting on his abdomen. The puck trickled on the ice and nearly brought the house down.

Messier, in his first home game with the New York Rangers in over three years, scored a power-play goal early in the third period in a victory over the Montreal Canadiens.

Radek Dvorak scored twice for the Rangers, who won their home opener for the first time since 1995 and improved to 2-0 for the first time in a decade.

Messier’s goal just came 24 seconds into the final period as he carried the puck to the right of Canadian goalie Jeff Hackett. Messier tried to pass it out in front, but the puck hit his Montreal defensemen Eric Weinrich and ricocheted into the net to make it 2-0.

Messier, who had an assist in New York’s 2-1 opening-game victory over Atlanta, led the Rangers for the Vancouver Canucks after the 1997-98 season. He returned to the game as a free agent, signing a two-year, $6 million contract with the Rangers.

The Captain, who reclaimed his title from Brian Leetch — who uncomfortably held it in Messier’s absence — was honored for a fourth-minute standing ovation from his beloved fans as he was the last New York player to be introduced to the crowd.

Dionne, who had 1,307 career points for the Washington Capitals, had a goal and an assist to lift the Philadelphia Flyers to an 8-4 win over the Los Angeles Kings.

The 18-year-old Filiberti, who has five goals and four assists in Los Angeles’ four games this season, joined the Kings’ Marcel Dionne, who had 1,007 career points for Los Angeles, and Dave Taylor, who had 1,069.

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Maribor Gabrovik, the Wild’s first-round draft pick this year, had a power-play goal to kickstart Minnesota’s offense with 35 seconds left in the second period.

The 18-year-old Gabrovik shot the puck into Brucher’s arm and the puck trickled out of his hand, which was resting in the goal.

Rangers 3, Canadians 1

Mark Messier returned home and nearly brought the house down.

Messier, in his first home game with the New York Rangers in over three years, scored a power-play goal early in the third period in a victory over the Montreal Canadiens.

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Sing for me
by Steve Warner

It was the first day of Senior week, May 14, 2000. Mother’s Day. May in all her glory was enveloping Our Lady’s campus. On that brilliant day of sun and new-formed flowers, thirty-six members of the Notre Dame Folk Choir made their way to the Michigan City, Indiana, prison.

The prison is on the edge of nowhere. Past the city, hardly marked, hang a right-hand turn off US 20, keep your eye on the grotesque cooling tower of the energy plant which frowns down on the barbed wire and guards and pathetic brick structures that make up the destruction and despair of the Level Four incarceration unit. And here we are, on Mother’s Day.

It is the Choir’s third trip to the prison. Each time, more and more inmates have shown up for our concert. On this day, almost six hundred of the offenders are here. The Catholic community of the prison - some of them just newly baptized - are proud as can be. We are “their choir;” they are our hosts. For forty-five minutes before our concert, we mingle with the men of the prison. Jovial conversations, timid at first, but always with a sense of hospitality and gratitude on their part.

We sing our songs. One hour of music. A dedication to the men on death row (they are not allowed to attend the concert, as they are in permanent lock-down; however, they can view it on closed-circuit tv). Some lively gospel songs, bringing the men to their feet. Always, a shouted admonition to “take your time!” As we sing, there are tears. There are closed eyes. Offenders gently rock back and forth. And at the end of the hour, a long, joyful, standing ovation. The men know that we are not here for some isolated do-good venture. This is our third trip. We know some of these guys by name, or by their faces. Some, even their stories. Over the last few years, a bit of adoption has taken place… we pray for these men through the year. We remember them during the Lenten season. And we journey to sing for them, to let them know that they are not forgotten and that they still have dignity, and that God forgives them their errors in this world – even when many of the voices in this world cannot.

There is a certain relief when we leave. The process of being searched, passing through four sets of iron bars, the dynamic of presenting music to such a needful group of human beings, and leaving again so quickly… this leaves a mark on the soul. We exit the dingy-green corridors of security, and then, suddenly, the May sunshine, now moving toward sunset, surrounds us again. So amazingly easy that we can walk around these bars, all those armed guards, and pass easily through the gates. There is silence around the choir, and a natural need to huddle. Across the street from the prison is a small picnic table. We gather there, to regroup, to pray for a moment for the men locked inside. Fr. Joe Ross, then the chaplain for the prison, points to the right side of the complex. "Death row," he says. We gaze at the brick stockade, which seems to radiate fear and loneliness. And so we begin. Hallelujah, my Father, for giving us your Son…. Our voices leap across that chasm. Past the barred wire, past the guards, past the bars. Sending him into the world to be given up for us…. We give up our voices, the song leaps from cell to cell, slips past the bars and the gates. We can see figures gathering at windows, though we cannot see faces. God bless you! the voice cries, on behalf of his brethren. And our song is raised all the louder, penetrating the Mile that few have walked. But musicians can reach out to the Mile, if their song is strong and true enough.

Knowing we would bruise him, and smite him from the earth…. And so we begin. Hallelujah, my Father, for giving us your Son…. Our voices leap across that chasm. Past the barred wire, past the guards, past the bars. Sending him into the world to be given up for us…. We give up our voices, the song leaps from cell to cell, slips past the bars and the gates. We can see figures gathering at windows, though we cannot see faces. God bless you! the voice cries, on behalf of his brethren. And our song is raised all the louder, penetrating the Mile that few have walked. But musicians can reach out to the Mile, if their song is strong and true enough.

And we blink back our tears as we look down upon our Birkenstocks and our designer jeans. Please! Sing just one more! So the voice cries again, and we obey. We are marching, we sing, we are marching in the light of God. And the sun spreads itself about us, and the song penetrates the prison one more time.

Pray for us! He cries. And we shout back “We will!” And we do. Now, we know. We know why visiting the imprisoned is a “corporal work of mercy.” “Corporal,” or having to do with the flesh - we know, because without even seeing the man, we saw the face of Christ enfleshed in his words. We know, because we experienced the Word of God that could not be locked up: bars and guards and all the devices of human imprisonment could not hold back our simple song of hope.

De profundis clamavi ad Te Domine: “Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.” Never again will Psalm 130 mean the same thing. For we have heard a voice that came from those depths. And we have tasted what it means to minister to that Voice.
Benitez finished up. "There had been some doubts cast over Mike because of a small sample of postseason play, and I think he erased those doubts," Mets manager Bobby Valentine said. And it was a good-luck victory for the wild card Mets — the last seven teams to win the NLCS opener went on to reach the World Series.

Mike Piazza put aside his past playoff slumps, hitting an RBI double in a two-run first inning. Todd Zeile and Jay Payton homered in the ninth and Edgardo Alfonzo scored a run and drove in another.

I liked the way we played, I just didn't like the final score," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "Hamilton and the Mets were a little better." Game 2 will be Thursday night at Busch Stadium with Al Leiter starting for the Mets against rookie Rick Ankiel. acquitted from Houston last winter to win at crunch time. Hamilton delivered in outpitching former Astros teammate Darryl Kile. He blanked St. Louis on six hits and silenced the crowd of 39,346. Hamilton began the evening with a career postseason record of 0-2 and a 5.87 ERA in four starts. A loss last week in the opening round at San Francisco, prompting some to suggest Leiter should start the opener. Hamilton tamed a Cardinals team that averaged eight runs in its first-round sweep of the Braves.

Not that the Cardinals didn't have their chances. They left the bases loaded in the first when Carlos Hernandez grounded out and, down 3-0, threatened to tie it in the seventh.

Associated Press

Happy 21st Allison!

H p p y 21s t Allis on!
Polls continued from page 20

head from the "others receiving votes" category.

While Texas was picking up wins against noted football powerhouses like Louisiana-Lafayette, Houston and Oklahoma State, it also lost to 2-3 Stanford and then got pasted by Oklahoma 63-14.

NC State's wins against Arkansas State, Indiana, Southern Methodist and Georgia Tech aren't exactly stunning victories, at least the Wolfpack didn't lose to Stanford. NC State's only loss came against No. 5 Clemson in a 54-27 shootout.

But Texas is supposed to be good. Didn't the Longhorns read all the preseason publications? Didn't they see their rankings? They are supposed to be undefeated and challenging for the national title not losing to the Cardinal and getting whipped by one of their biggest rivals.

So Bobby Bowden will continue to spin doctor. He will beg the pollsters not to forget about the Seminoles. He will plead that they keep him team in their top 10 so Florida State can win the title.

Because the real national championship isn't decided on the field, its decided in the polls. The best teams don't even get a chance to play for the title if their coaches don't know how to work the voters.

"I think when it becomes later in the year when you are talking about 1-2-3, there's always jockeying going on," Davie said. "That's part of it. But the bottom line is that everything takes care of itself in the end. Especially here at Notre Dame because we play such good football teams. I would hope people recognize who we are playing on a regular basis."

Did you hear that pollsters? That was Davie's case for a BCS bowl for his potentially 9-2 Irish.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Baker’s status with Giants uncertain

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO

Dusty Baker has been wondering whether the San Francisco Giants want him to return as manager.

In an interview with KPIX-TV broadcast Monday night, Baker said he was disappointed he hadn’t received even a phone call from Giants president Peter Magowan after San Francisco was eliminated from the NL playoffs on Sunday.

The Giants, who finished the regular season with the NL West title and baseball’s best record at 97-65, were knocked out in four games by the wild card New York Mets.

Baker, whose contract expires Dec. 31, has been mentioned in negotiations for job openings around the American and National Leagues.

He already turned down a contract extension earlier this year, and it’s believed Baker will seek a new contract averaging around $2 million per year, which would make him the game’s second highest-paid manager behind the Yankee’s Joe Torre.

“I knew I’d have to work for it,” Sapp said. “The guys who were in front of me, Deke Cooper and A’Jani Sanders, ended up teaching me. By me not playing last year, I actually gained more knowledge watching those guys. [Not playing] didn’t really bother me, because I knew that when my time came, I would be ready.”

Now Sapp backs up senior Ron Israel at strong safety, usually playing a limited amount on defense. Although he’d be thrilled to become a starter, Sapp understands he has to bide his time.

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Baker acrimoniously parted with the Dodgers in 1983 after eight seasons as a player-manager.

Though he’s considered an excellent players’ manager and a respected administrator, Baker has just one post-season victory in eight seasons with the Giants.

Next year, Baker said he was disappointed he hadn’t received even a phone call from Giants president Peter Magowan after San Francisco was eliminated from the NL playoffs on Sunday.

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Sapp said. “Once they put me out there for good, I feel like I can make the plays I need to make.”

If Sapp does move into the national spotlight, an NFL career might not be out of the question. But that’s not first and foremost in his mind.

“Expectant mother of twins with one year old child seeks child care assistance in Granger.

Good Saturday! Morning! Friday! Take care! 277-6583

John J. Bowman
General Manager
Class of 1977

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Keough squeaks by St. Ed’s for championship 3-2

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sport Writer

Playing with the support of a lively pack of fans, the underdog Keough ‘Roos knocked off top-seeded St. Edward’s in last night’s championship game. Prill held the Steds to just two runs.

Matt Prill of the Keough ‘Roos pitches against St. Edward’s in last night’s championship game. Prill held the Steds to just two runs.

always had an eye for solid transportation!
Happy 21st, Liz!

Always had an eye for solid transportation!
The Belles volleyball team battled against the Kalamazoo College Hornets Wednesday, dropping the match in three games. The game leaves Saint Mary's struggling at 2-8.

"Kalamazoo had a lot of depth, especially offensively," coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "We did not block at all."

The Hornets proved to be tough competition two weeks ago when they played at Saint Mary's. They won in a four game series of 15-7, 7-15, 15-7. While the Belles have improved over the season, so have the Hornets.

"We were flat against Kalamazoo in the first and third games," Schroeder-Biek said. "The second game was much better. We served well."

Denise Langolis and Jamie Dineen each served two aces. Communication was a problem for the Belles, said outside hitter Angie Meyers.

"We have our good games where we cannot stop talking on the court," said Meyers. "Then we have our bad games when we do not communicate at all."

Meyers had 13 kills and 11 digs. Despite losses, the team has had strong individual performances, particularly in defensive specialist Victoria Butko and middle hitter Jolie LeBeau, Meyers said.

"Victoria has had an awesome season, she always digs up the ball," Meyers said. "Jolie blocks the ball, which has helped our offense."

Friday the Belles face off against Calvin College. It is the second ranked team in the MIAA, with a record of 7-2.

"We are experimenting to add versatility to our game," Schroeder-Biek said. The Belles have been practicing hard for this match. This season has been ups and downs for them, but they have played hard all throughout.

"We played well against Calvin on their home court," Schroeder-Biek said. "We have to play intensely and maintain our focus throughout the match."
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2000

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kirk Cameron, Luciano Pavarotti, Chris Wallace, Tony Kubek, Susan Anton.

Happy Birthday! This will be a busy year. You must be well-organized and practical if you want to make the most of all opportunities around you. Acceptance, compromise and moderation will be the key to your success. Work with those who have as much talent as you, and you will reach your goals. Your numbers: 1, 3, 8, 12, 33, 42.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Your assertive nature will get the better of you if you think your mate is being too controlling with you. You will have to learn to temper your impulses if you want to keep your mate.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may make things the wrong way at work. One-sided attractiveness or inattention are likely. Try to keep things in perspective. Your reputation is at stake.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You can do good things with children that will be beneficial to your relationship, but sign up for creative courses.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You will need a lot of activity going on at home, perhaps because more people are there. Acceptance will be the key to your survival.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Don’t push your luck at home. It is best to get along with friends. You need to be involved in activities you can learn more. Don’t let the wrong thing get in your way. (Need advice? Check out Eugenia’s Web sites at astroadvice.com, astromate.com.)

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be spending your money wisely.

Birthday Baby: You’ll be fired up and ready to make a difference from a young age. You need help with those less able to build a good reputation. You are loyal, generous and quick to lend a helping hand. (Next advice? Check out Eugenia’s Web sites at astrologist.com, EugeniaLast.com.)

http://observer.nd.edu/
College football 2000 — the real political race

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Assistant Sports Editor

Sophomore safety Gerome Sapp is content stretching like Silly Putty into any position the Irish need him to play.

"I'm kind of like a rubber band man," Sapp said. "I do whatever they ask me to do.

So far, one of his biggest roles has been on special teams, where the Irish rely on Sapp to chase down opposing players on kickoff and punt returns.

"I play a major factor in special teams," Sapp said. "As of right now, I'm leading the team in special teams points."

As a freshman, Sapp made 164 special teams appearances. He's maintained his playing time on special teams this year as Notre Dame's special teams unit has become the program's strength.

"Our coaches are really preparing us for what we have to do, so we'll be ready for anything that they [opposing teams] can possibly think of to come at us," he said.

While he enjoys special teams since it allows him to help the team, defense is his preferred position.

"I like defense better," Sapp said. "In high school, I felt like I was part of the defense, and at any minute, I could play a part in the game. Special teams offers the same things, but defense I love."

Last year, Sapp saw action in the secondary against Kansas, Oklahoma and Stanford. Against Michigan State, he came through with a pass interception, and in the game with Stanford, he made what he considers his best play to date.

"In the Stanford game last year, on a punt I ran down Troy Walters, the guy that broke all the PAC-10 records, from behind and tackled him," Sapp said. "The camera was zoomed in on me, and my mom saw it and called me when I got back. That's probably one of my highlights."

Most of the time, though, he found himself watching then-seniors A'Jani Sanders and Deke Cooper.

That came as a big adjustment for Sapp. As a sophomore, he must be talking about the presidential debate last night, right?

Wrong.

I was talking about Bobby Bowden and the Florida State Seminoles. After his team's loss to Miami last Saturday, Bowden went on television and told America that he didn't see any reason why a team with one loss couldn't win the national championship.

And of course Bobby is right. A team with one loss can still win the national title if that team was ranked near the top, he can increase his chances of going to a BCS bowl while other one-loss teams are left out in the cold.

If Bobby can sweet talk the voters into keeping his one-loss team ranked near the top, he can increase his chances of going to a BCS bowl while other one-loss teams are left out in the cold. If both Northwestern and Florida State end up with two losses and neither team wins its respective conference, who do you think will be ranked higher?

Florida State will always get the benefit of the doubt in rankings over teams with identical record — no matter who each team lost to — because Florida State always has a high preseason ranking.

And that preseason ranking can almost be worth a few extra wins. Sure a team still has to go out and win all its games but if not highly ranked at the beginning, it probably just won't be highly ranked at the end.

Just ask Tulane or Marshall. All they did was win all their games in a season and neither team got even a second look from the BCS.

Irish head coach Bob Davie said he only spends about 20 minutes filling out his poll every Saturday night. He just doesn't have enough time to look at every team, evaluate their pluses and minuses and make informed decisions. His primary job is to get his team ready for next week, not figure out if Oregon State is for real or not.

"You use your experiences over the last 20 years more so than exactly what happened," he said. "You just don't have time to follow it. It's not like I am going home and reading those newspapers and following it and looking at who's injured and who isn't. You just are trying to try and evaluate it. It's an inexact deal."

A team like Texas can use that inexact deal to recover from some bad losses thanks to a high preseason ranking. The coaches poll rated Texas No. 8 while the AP poll pegged the Longhorns as the No. 7 team; two writers even gave Texas first place votes.

Now Dees gamed and two losses later, the Longhorns are still in the top 25 while 4-1 North Carolina State can only scratch its head.

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