"Late!" My goodness! I am late for work," said Father Cat. He picked up his briefcase and ran.

Oh Dear! He picked up the tablecloth, too! It is too bad he did not wake up to the morning sounds of WVFI.

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Rewriting Freshman Sem

For the past 20 years, Notre Dame has introduced freshmen students to university academics through its Freshman Writing Program. Next fall, however, Freshman Seminars will be replaced with University Seminars — allowing freshmen the option of starting their majors earlier and providing them with full professors as opposed to graduate students as instructors. But is this change the best method for a writing-intensive course?

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Skin Clicks

When surfing the Net, it’s possible to land on a porno site. For a school that enforces parietals, is access to pornography on the Internet a problem?

............................... page 4

The Next in Line

In July, 1996, Nathan Hatch will assume the position of university provost, overseeing all of the university’s academics. But he has even more to offer.

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From the beginning of time, I think, I have known that I wanted to be an English major. I love to read, I love to write, and I looked forward to pursuing these interests on a university level — with people who loved these subjects as much as I did and would help me with my writing and interpretive skills. Help me — enhance what I already knew about writing. I had no idea exactly how much raw instruction I needed. I assumed I knew how to write because I liked to write. It came as quite a surprise, then, when I realized at mid-term, second semester of my freshman year, that I had a solid 'F' in my Composition and Literature class. I was not just doing poorly in a university requirement; I was failing the equivalent of an Intro-to-English. In my opinion, I had already failed as an English major.

My problems with the class culminated during an in-class essay. I knew I had an 'F' in the class, and I felt my performance on the test somehow equated to my overall success as an English-majoring human being in college. I have never dealt well with pressure, and I got no farther than writing the first four sentences of my essay. Then I quit and resigned myself to failure. Until I spoke with my teacher the next day, my head a little clearer, and I realized my mistakes were correctable. There was still a lot I could learn about writing that would help me during the next four years. The class did teach me how to organize my thoughts and articulate myself, and a university requirement I had originally considered useless gave me a foundation I will always have and always use.

Changes in the Freshman Writing Program, while they leave Composition and Literature intact for now, raise questions about the best way to introduce freshman students to writing on a university level. The goals of the Freshmen Seminars have been reevaluated and re-instituted in a University Seminar program. Steve Myers examines the problems with and solution for the Freshmen Seminars in our cover story, which begins on page 8.

Correction
On page 11 of the October 5 issue of Scholastic, the statement “As a Catholic, I can reconcile being an officer, but I went through a whole period of evaluation. It was a responsibility to myself” was made by Tom Donlan.

Collette McKenna
Executive Editor

Cover graphic by Patrick Skidmore

40 Years Ago...

Forty years ago, in the November 11, 1955, issue of Scholastic, a student named William M. Malloy edited a page open for students to write messages to each other. On this page he wrote a letter to his own roommate with a few suggestions:

Dear Bob McGeary,

If my information is correct you have a lot of cleaning up to do in your life. Please don’t leave your dirty socks on my radiator. Do you think it’s fair to shave every morning at 8 o’clock when you know I have an 8:30 class? Also it’s only common courtesy to wash the ring off the tub when you are finished taking your bath ... and don’t give me the argument that the tub is square. And leave my Kleenex and tooth paste alone. You have a good roommate, don’t ruin him. The whole campus is wondering when you will grow up. Hoping you will spend less time listening to police calls, I remain,

—WM. M.M.
Letters

Needed: Office Space

Dear Editor,

Laura Merritt's article "Outgrowing LaFortune" last week raised a topic that does not usually receive much attention, namely that office space for student organizations is severely lacking. I am writing from the perspective of someone who can see the tangible benefits of office space but has yet to acquire this resource.

As a member of the new and active College Democrats, the difficulties of organization and communication are readily apparent to me. I am familiar with the headaches and inconveniences that could ultimately be avoided with an allotment of office space. We have no place to keep important resources and literature regarding everything from Congress to the local city council; we have no means of contacting our members as a whole because we do not have an office phone; we have no general meeting area, and we must therefore shuffle back and forth across campus every week; and we have no "official" address where we can be reached.

I have listed a few of our particular problems, but the inconvenience caused by the current lack of office space is evident regardless of the specific organization. There is not a club on campus that would not appreciate a space to keep a fax machine, a computer, a file cabinet, a phone, maybe even a plant and a candy dish.

The solution, however, is not as complicated as it may seem; the administration, in its rampant expansion of campus, will free up vast amounts of office space by converting Planner and Grace. Yet there are no plans for allotting any of this space to student organizations, perhaps because of the apathy of the student body or the indifference of the administration. This may seem to be a minor issue, but if we, as students, are to have a stronger influence upon university policy in the future, we must speak out on issues like this and demand that we be included in the decision-making process of the university. If not, we risk becoming tuition-paying subjects, not students.

Michael A. Gaglia
President, College Democrats

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SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE • NOVEMBER 2, 1995
Skin Clicks:
Internet Pornography

As the national debate rages, university officials and students must consider the implications both of computer porn and possible censorship issues.

BY JOE LIBERATORE

1995: The soft glow from the computer monitor eerily casts shadows throughout the darkened dorm room. The freshman rapidly navigates the Internet maze until he arrives at his chosen site. With his heart pounding, he clicks on the file that reads “alt.sex.pictures,” waiting in sheer excitement for what may come up on the screen. Slowly forms begin to take shape. If only his parents knew what he was doing...

“Pornography is running rampant on the Internet.” “There’s no easy way to stamp it out.” The quotes can come from most any publication, including college newspapers. The topic is the current cause celebre in the media: on-line pornography. Simply put, according to some, the Internet has become a conduit for the perverted, a source of great evil and a path to eternal damnation. Even Notre Dame is not safe, or as a column in the Observer stated, “ND — the school that enforces parietals and tries to promote ‘chastity’ — deals in porn.” The solution seems obvious: eliminate the source of the problem and require the removal of all obscene and pornographic material from the Internet. This proposal, however, presents many controversial ethical issues and several technical complexities.

First, it is important to note that the majority of on-line pornography is found not on the conventional Internet (i.e. the world wide web), but rather on the usenet. Joel Cooper, the assistant director of the Enterprise Computer Service in the Office of University Computing, clarifies the distinction. “The usenet is a worldwide discussion system, and it has been around since the earliest days of computer networking. While people confuse it with the Internet, it is much larger and has a much broader distribution.” In recent years it has become awkward, overburdened by an ever increasing amount of new users. “It was more useful when it was smaller. It doesn’t scale very well,” Cooper explains. “There are too many people interacting electronically.”

Today the usenet is used more for entertainment than research. The evolution of the Internet from a scientific tool to a form of mass entertainment has both positive and negative aspects, according to Cooper. In a positive sense, it allows for a rapid exchange of ideas and information, helping to create a knowledge-based society. On the negative side, it is full of dangerous potholes, one of which is cyberporn. But does this justify attempts to censor it?

“I don’t want to see people looking at pornographic material. It makes me angry, it disturbs my work and it disgusts me.”

Mike Dongvillo, a jun-
Skin Clicks • Internet Pornography

As the national debate rages, university officials and students must consider the implications both of computer porn and the Internet seems to be growing in strength, and the driving force behind this movement is the supposed proliferation of pornographic material on the Internet.

But is pornography blazing across computer screens in alarming numbers?

According to a recent Time magazine article, approximately three percent of the Internet is pornographic. Some of it is considered extremely offensive, and a very small portion can even be referred to as dangerous. But is it dangerous enough to warrant action by the university itself?

One roadblock obstructing any kind of censorship at the university level is the debate about whether the Internet is set out in the consultant’s handbook. "While the OUC does not police cluster users, they do respond to complaints filed by offended parties. Furthermore, Elkun reports that most of these complaints involve people who have been using the X-rated portions of the Internet, especially on the usenet. To him, self-regulation by responsible users seems to be the most effective way to regulate the Internet.

A common myth is that it is easy to stumble accidentally onto one of the obscene pages. Dongvillo doesn’t believe this an accurate assessment. "Many home pages have warnings on them. People know what they are getting into. It’s hard to discover a pornographic page by accident," he says. While a user can gain access using any type of network browser, it is hard to believe that a person can unknowingly download a file titled "alt.sex.bondage" in the belief that it will be about six different uses of tape. Yet the movement towards regulatory control over the Internet seems to be growing in strength, and the driving force behind this movement is the supposed proliferation of pornographic material on the Internet.

While a user can gain access using any type of network browser, it is hard to believe that a person can unknowingly download a file titled "alt.sex.bondage" in the belief that it will be about six different uses of tape. Yet the movement.

MEMBERS ONLY. The homepage of Hustler is an online version of the magazine. To access stored images consumers must subscribe to the service and pay a fee.

"I think at this age and level of maturity, most people know what they can do. Most people are aware of what is right and wrong."

Echoing Dongvillo’s viewpoint is senior Hani Elkun, manager of the lab, who believes that "most people at the university are of age to make their own decisions since they are over eighteen."

In contrast, senior Amy Amador, a computer science major and cluster consultant, believes the university does have a responsibility to eliminate some of the risk. She finds the skin on the screen offensive. "They should censor what people put on their logout screens and what they are allowed to pull up in a computer cluster," she asserts. "I don’t want to see people looking at pornographic material. It makes me angry, it disturbs my work and it disgusts me." According to Tom Mattzie, a junior on the Ethics and Security Working Group of a computing task force, there is a group of senior administrators currently examining the possibility of the university censoring Internet access.

The current rules that govern computer use at Notre Dame are readily available to all on-line users. "There is a computer usage policy which is out on the net," Cooper says. "In fact, when the residence halls begin to come on-line, that’s one of the first things that each student will receive. In general it governs the use of computers, and it bears reading."

In part, this guideline states that "Computing resources should be used in accordance with the ethical standards of the university community. Cluster users should bear in mind that the clusters are a shared environment and that they should be sensitive to the concerns of the other users." It also expounds upon what types of behaviors are deemed unacceptable, such as "displaying or sending messages with offensive content" and "displaying, or contributing to the display of, offensive material on workstation monitors."

According to Elkun, "The OUC has policies about rude and abusive stuff on the Internet, which were established in response to complaints about such behavior. This matter has been discussed in past staff meetings and the policy is set out in the consultant’s handbook." While the OUC staff does not police cluster users, they do respond to complaints filed by offended parties. Furthermore, Elkun reports that most of these complaints involve people who have been using the X-rated portions of the Internet, especially on the usenet. To him, self-regulation by responsible users seems to be the most efficient and effective way to regulate the Internet.

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1965: The soft glow from the flashlight eerily casts shadows throughout the darkened room. The freshman’s hands rapidly turn the pages of the magazine until he arrives at his chosen page. He opens it to the centerfold. If only his future son knew what he was doing...
THEN. Nathan Hatch has been at Notre Dame since 1975 and currently serves as vice president for graduate studies and research.

NOW. He will take over as provost, the second-ranking officer of the university in charge of academics, on July 1, 1996.

When Nathan Hatch takes over as provost, the university is getting more than just another administrator

BY J. MICHELLE COX

Y
ou might find him on the basketball court playing hoops during lunch. Perhaps you’ll spot him enjoying a bite at one of his favorite eating establishments on campus, Greenfield’s Cafe, Decio Commons or the Oak Room. Or maybe you saw him with his family, cheering on Michael Jordan during the recent exhibition game in the JACC.

Nathan Hatch, as Notre Dame’s provost-elect, will soon be present in the life of every student and faculty member. He will oversee the university’s academics: all educational departments, the library, admissions, the Snite Museum, the university press, the graduate school, space planning and academic support services. When Timothy O’Meara retires from the position June 30, 1996, Hatch will become the university’s second-ranking officer.

As Hatch understands his new charge, he must look at the big picture and ask the big questions. “As provost, I’ll take an honest look at where we are and what we need to do to be better,” he promises. And he sets forth a challenge: “There is danger in complacency, and we must always ask, ‘Is this education excellent?’”

In an attempt to answer that question, Hatch will assess each departmental major and the ways in which it can be improved. But he recognizes that Notre Dame has a strong academic program. So strong in fact, that if he was an incoming freshman and trying to decide upon a major he says he would have a tough time narrowing it down. “I still love history, so I might direct that into government or the Hesburgh program or international studies,” he says. “Maybe I’d get into the sciences, something like ecology, chemistry or computer science. But then, our theology and philosophy departments are so good, too.”

This display of such broad interests is typical of Hatch. He describes himself as a person who has always been curious about many different sectors of life. One of the ways he satisfies this curiosity is by reading avidly. The last book he read for pleasure was *Northwest Passage* by William Dietrich. “It’s a great account of the Columbia River and the way it has changed over time. And it has special meaning because the river is near the lake cottage in northern Idaho that our family visits every year,” he explains.

Spending time with his family — his wife Julie, his sons Gregg, a Notre Dame junior, and David, a high school senior, and his daughter Beth, a fifth-grader — is one of Hatch’s favorite activities. But Hatch is also involved in the community. He is the vice-chair of the board of the St. Joseph Medical Center and also serves on the board of the Michiana Public Broadcasting Corporation.

Dedication to others is often evident in Hatch’s daily decisions. On the busy day that he was elected provost, during all the hoopla, Hatch slipped away to visit a faculty member suffering from cancer. “It’s the little things he does, paying attention to people, that make him such a caring, sensitive, quality individual,” says Fr. Tim Scully, assistant vice-president and associate provost.

It is this kind of close attention that characterizes Hatch’s leadership style in the professional realm as well. “I lead by listening and making it a point to understand where people are coming from,” he says. Hatch describes himself as an innovator by instinct. “I’m a consensus builder, a team player. I like to develop a plausible vision and try to decide what will best for the overall
This kind of insight, as well as his vision and ability to work with a variety of people, are the qualities Hatch admires in Abraham Lincoln, the person, living or dead, he would most like to meet. "I have a deep affinity for Lincoln's tragic view of the world and his lack of self-righteousness. He saw life at its worst, addressed that and did what he could to serve other people," Hatch explains. In fact, the next book he plans to read is a new biography of Lincoln.

Hatch himself is a famous historian and is regularly cited as one of the most influential scholars in the study of the history of religion in America. He became interested in this specialty after growing up with a Presbyterian minister as a father and fostering an ever-present interest in politics and history. "I find the relationship between religion and society fascinating," he says. Hatch has already authored and edited several very successful books on the subject, and he is currently finishing his portion of the writings for *The Oxford History of Religion in America*. With his new position, though, Hatch expects that this will be his last writing project for a while.

No doubt, he will be quite busy. Even before he takes the post, Hatch will begin addressing his new responsibilities. During this transition period, Hatch plans to spend time listening and brainstorming with administrators and faculty. He will also travel to campuses around the country to glean the best ideas from the best universities. He explains, "A provost needs to be aware of other institutions — what are they doing that's working? Part of my duty is to explore good ideas wherever they may be."

Hatch has already implemented many good ideas in several aspects of this university. He came to Notre Dame to teach history in 1975, and since 1989 Hatch has served the university as vice president for graduate studies and research. His positions here have included acting dean of the College of Arts and Letters, associate dean for the college, founder and director of the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, director of graduate studies in the history department and chairperson for several university-wide bodies and committees.

Before he came here 20 years ago, one of his friends, who grew up in a family of Irish fans, gave Hatch, who at that time knew very little about the school, a worn old Notre Dame pennant which had hung on his wall since boyhood. "That pennant was a great introduction to the amazing spirit about this place," remembers Hatch. "Now this place feels like home, and I'm deeply attached to the spirit."

And by naming him provost, the university is now deeply attached to Nathan Hatch.
Rewriting Freshman Sem

In order to increase freshman-faculty interaction, the university eliminates Freshman Seminar and replaces it with University Seminars

BY STEVE MYERS

Every Tuesday and Thursday during the second semester of her freshman year, Cristina Nicolosi went to Freshman Seminar and discussed Anglo-Saxon history. She hated it.

"It was a bad seminar; everyone disliked the topic," says Nicolosi about her seminar, which was taught by a graduate student. "I was disappointed, especially coming to a school like Notre Dame. I thought a professor could have done a better job teaching."

If the resolutions of the University Curriculum Committee have their desired effect, tales like Nicolosi's will be history after this year. In order to increase freshman interaction with regular faculty and reduce the total number of university requirements, the University Curriculum Committee resolved last November to eliminate Freshman Seminar.

In its place will be University Seminars - discussion-oriented, writing-intensive seminars taught by full faculty on subjects in their departments. The Freshman Writing Program, currently in charge of Freshman Seminar, Composition and Literature and the Humanities Seminar, will not administer the seminars; instead, each Arts and Letters department will design courses that conform to a set of general guidelines and will provide professors to teach the seminars.

The Freshman Writing Program will still direct Composition and Literature, although its fate is still undetermined.

The decision, which was generally supported by the members of the committee, has not been met with equal enthusiasm elsewhere. Some faculty and students have expressed reservations about the new university seminars. Concerns include the increased burden on Arts and Letters departments to design and staff the seminars, the elimination of the Humanities Seminar and the speed with which students would move into majors.

The Graduate Student Welcoming Committee

Though the Freshman Writing Program was founded with the intention of staffing Freshman Seminar with regular faculty members, this goal was never realized.

Professor Edward Kline, director of the Freshman Writing Program, says that the reason for this is "senior faculty don't want to do seminars," noting that seminars are time-consuming because they require special preparation and careful grading of papers. As a result, only a third of Freshman Seminars are currently staffed by full faculty. Adjunct professors and graduate students equally split the remainder.

Though not explicitly expressed in their report, committee members say another reason for modifying Freshman Seminar was that some professors think it fails to improve students' writing, one of the goals of the course. "Freshman year isn't developing any sophistication in writing and reading," says Philosophy Professor David O'Connor, a member of the University Curriculum Committee.

Senior Kathleen Lynch, who served on
the same committee, agrees, saying that in addition to the desire for increased student-faculty interaction, "There seemed to be the feeling that the program wasn't achieving the goals it set out to achieve. Student writing was not necessarily improving, and this showed up a year or two later in their sophomore and junior years."

Kline, however, disagrees: "There is nothing wrong with Freshman Seminar." Instead, he says the committee targeted the Writing Program because it was the only place in the university curriculum to make a change.

Lynch attributes the discrepancy in opinions to the individual characteristics of each seminar. "There is a wide spectrum of experiences," she says. "Some people have positive experiences, creative, with good discussions. Some were too technical or specialized. They may not have been as writing-intensive as was wanted."

**University Seminars**

Starting next fall, all freshmen will be required to take one of these seminars, which will fulfill a university requirement (philosophy, theology, social science, history or fine arts/literature). For instance, a university seminar in philosophy will fulfill the introductory philosophy requirement. The Freshman Seminar requirement will be eliminated, reducing the total number of university requirements by three hours, which will "free up the undergraduate core curriculum a bit," according to Harold Attridge, dean of the College of Arts and Letters. "There was a need to provide more elective room," he says.

Eventually, university seminars could be applied to an Arts and Letters major. "Some departments count freshman classes as the first course in their major," explains Attridge. "These departments could count the university seminar. It will be up to the department to decide if the course fulfills the requirements of the introductory course." He emphasizes, however, that the seminars are designed primarily for fulfilling university requirements, not major requirements.

The main improvement from Freshman Seminar is that all university seminars will eventually be staffed by regular teaching-and-research faculty rather than adjuncts or graduate students. O'Connor explains that in addition to increasing student-faculty interaction, this will improve the quality of the seminars. "Regular faculty are more likely to force freshmen to climb the ladder of sophistication," he says.

The incentive for regular faculty to teach these seminars is that the seminars will be based in their departments, rather than in the Freshman Writing Program. "The curriculum will be seen by [professors] as well as by students as contributing to the department," says Attridge. Professors will design their own syllabi, as they are able to do with Freshman Seminar. "There will be no set curriculum, but the courses will be required to live up to general guidelines," explains O'Connor.

According to Attridge, university seminars will be categorized according to majors, and freshmen will rank their preferred topics. Currently, freshmen choose between humanities, social science and fine and performing arts seminars.

Because of faculty limitations, the university seminars will be phased in over three years. For the 1996-97 school year, 60 percent of the university seminars will be taught by regular teaching-and-research faculty (about 33 out of 55 seminars per semester). The remainder will be staffed by adjuncts and graduate students. By 1998-1999, regular faculty will teach all University Seminars. Because staffing these seminars with regular faculty will require many more faculty members, the university plans to increase hiring of Arts and Letters faculty.

Explaining that the change is one of delivery, not of content, O'Connor says, "From the student's point of view, [the seminars] will not be that different." The advantage is that regular faculty "are more likely to demand greater depth of reading and greater precision in writing," he says. By moving the seminars to the departmental level, professors will be able to create their own syllabi in their own field of study, which will lead to increased interaction between students and regular faculty.

**University Seminars:**

At least, that is the plan. Though no one denies the value of small, interactive freshman classes taught by regular faculty, not everyone thinks University Seminars are the means to achieving that goal. Kline, for example, believes the new arrangement will result in students writing less and starting their majors earlier.
"What they came up with doesn't square with what the rest of the world thinks of as writing intensive. ...The students will get writing practice, but not writing instruction," says Kline.

He cites the decrease in the required number of written pages in the university seminars, down to 24 pages from the current 30 required by Freshman Seminar. Attridge, however, says that the page requirement is merely a benchmark, and that the number of pages was decreased to allow for increased rewriting of papers.

Kline doubts that there will any "unanimity of purpose in writing or reading material" without a central administrator like the Freshman Writing Program. He is also concerned that these new seminars will turn out to be small lecture courses in the professor's current area of study.

Another concern is that by structuring the seminars according to departments, the university is in essence encouraging students to choose a major their freshman year. "Early in their years, students should be encouraged to take a non-professional approach to studies," says English Professor James Dougherty. "The new seminars could move the specialized learning to the lower levels," he says. O'Connor admits that one effect could be that students will enter majors earlier.

Lynch has another perspective. "Students will have more control over the topics they will be writing about and discussing," she says. "It makes a lot of sense to choose the area in which you will write."

One of the casualties of the university seminars will be the Humanities Seminar, which is an accelerated two-semester interdisciplinary seminar that replaces Composition and Literature and Freshman Seminar. Currently, about 180 freshmen are accepted into Humanities each year. Because of its interdisciplinary nature, Humanities does not fit into the university seminar format and will be eliminated.

Professor Dennis Moran finds this hard to understand. "The Humanities program was not part of the problem," he says. Attridge, however, notes, "The Humanities Seminar had one problematic feature — it was difficult to get regular faculty to teach it." He says that a department could include an interdisciplinary seminar as one of its university seminars.

Another subject of debate is whether students' requests for seminar topics realistically can be met. "We tried to have students choose seminars about 15 years ago," says Kline. "We had 15 slots for a course called Human Sexuality. Six-hundred signed up and we had 585 disappointed students." Dean Attridge, however, believes that the departments will be able to satisfy most students' requests for classes.

Others are concerned about the increased workload for the Arts and Letters departments and the fate of graduate students who teach seminars.

O'Connor admits that it will be tough for departments in the first couple of years before new faculty are hired. "Departments will have to scramble" to create and staff the new seminars, he says. "The university is committed to have more faculty involvement with freshmen. This is a serious commitment."

And what of the graduate students? Deana Julka, a graduate student in psychology, is paid by the psychology department to teach a Freshman Seminar. She had not heard of the changes in the Freshman Writing Program, and says that they will affect many graduate students. She was planning to apply for one of the seminar teaching positions paid by the Freshman Writing Program, and may have to reevaluate her plans.

The graduate students will probably be offered employment in other areas, according to Attridge, but specific programs have not been set. Because full faculty will be phased in gradually, a large group of graduate students will not suddenly be unemployed, notes senior Stacey Kiela, another member of the Curriculum Committee.

Logistics aside, one of the most difficult — and most important — questions is whether professors will respond favorably to the University Seminars. Will the departmental structure of the university seminars create faculty interest in freshmen classes? Dougherty is not convinced. He notes that professors can create their own syllabi in Freshman Seminar already, and he doesn't think teaching freshmen is a high priority for professors. Moran thinks the academic environment does not encourage teaching freshmen. "Reputations are made in upper-level teaching," he says.

Although he acknowledges the academic pressures that discourage professors from teaching classes that require special preparation, O'Connor says his colleagues "love to teach freshmen." He admits, however, that because some professors indicated otherwise in the committee, those feelings might be divided along departmental lines.

Even though he understands the reasons for the changes, Kline says, "Taking away Freshman Seminar and Humanities Seminar is a grave mistake. Two-thirds of my program is gone." Besides the elimination of Freshman Seminar and Humanities, the Composition and Literature course is currently under review. It could be eliminated altogether or relegated to a remedial course for those students with especially poor writing skills. Klein says he is anxiously awaiting the fate of the Composition and Literature requirement.

Will these University Seminars succeed where the Freshman Seminar has come up short? Sifting through the opposing views is difficult; solutions seem to raise more questions. As the problems within the Freshman Seminar go deeper than page requirements, so will the reasons for the University Seminars' success or failure.

Will it work? That seems to be a question left to be answered by the next year's freshmen, the Class of 2000. Perhaps it will be the final topic of next fall's seminars.
Campus Watch
BY THE GIPPER

Obtain 24 different timepieces. Set them all at different times. Take a nap and then try to figure out what time it is. —Procrastinating Ploys for the Pokey Pupil

ND SECURITY CUTS A PROFIT

Have you ever wondered what happens to all of the beer that the security officers confiscate every week? Did anyone find the “50 cents for a can of Natural Light” special at Senior Bar a little random? According to inside sources, these two thoughts are not necessarily unrelated. Security officers recently sold 40 previously confiscated cases of Natural Light at three dollars each to Senior Bar.

As cruel as the concept of taking beer from unsuspecting underage students and reselling it to drinkers over 21 for a profit may seem, the Gipp thinks it is a better concept than some of the alternatives. For those of you out there that have fallen prey to ID-checking, beer-swiping security officers, at least you will no longer walk away from the whole humiliating ordeal bitter with the thought that they will take your beverages and throw themselves a little party. Of course even that would be better than envisioning a bunch of the boys in blue sitting in a circle in ritualistic fashion, cracking each beer and systematically pouring them down the sink.

This is why the Gipp says, “Charge on, men, and fetch hither some more beer.” Next time, though, try to bust someone with cases of Budweiser, or at least some Busch Light. Natural Light in a can, even at 50 cents each, is a little tough to swallow — literally.

ONE QUESTION: WHY?

With the 20-10 victory over Satan’s Emissaries, er, Boston College, this past weekend, the world witnessed the birth of a tradition: the passing of the Ireland Trophy to the winner of the Notre Dame - Boston College face-off. Well, the Gipp wants to know why Notre Dame made this $1,300 investment (without one cent donated by BC, mind you) when there has been a trophy already in existence for just such an event for quite some time. This other trophy commemorates former coach Frank Leahy and has been quietly passed on to the winning team in the ND - BC rivalry for years. In sum: Notre Dame invested $1,300 in a small piece of glass to show that there are no hard feelings between Notre Dame and a college that most Irish fans would rather see vaporized off the face of the planet. Not only that, we go public and act like this is something new and original, when in actuality, Notre Dame and BC have been exchanging a trophy in silence for years. “Gee, it sounded like a good idea at the time…”

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

Notre Dame hockey has been getting a lot of attention lately. For example, much to the chagrin of many hockey fans, the University recently replaced the old, decrepit bleachers around the ice rink with newer, more uncomfortable bleachers, which apparently seat a good deal fewer students than the old ones. This means that most students cannot get in free, as was the case in the past. Now, only the first 300 students get in free and the rest of the students must have a ticket.

Another complaint has been the placement of the student section, which is directly opposite the ND bench. This means that the students get to heckle the opposing team’s goalie (which is a must for any hockey game) for only one of the three periods. These are all legitimate gripes but, personally, the Gipp is more surprised at the amount of interest in ND hockey as of late: he thought most students lived went into hibernation outside football.

OH REALLY?

Inside sources have revealed that many administrators in the Office of Residence Life take it upon themselves to leave early at least once a week. To go where, you may ask? The popular answer/excuse is that they go to play golf, as if that is a perfectly acceptable response. However, the Gipp thinks they are up to other, more covert, operations, which perhaps could explain many of the unsolved problems around campus. Perhaps they:

• Actually moonlight as modern artists. The abominations around campus are really products of their diabolical minds.

• Spend this free time deep freezing the milk and fruit drinks given out at the Grab-and-Go lines.

• Pose as maintenance and plant those unexplained surveillance doo-hickies which have popped up in the ‘Brare — soon to be found everywhere. Keep your eyes peeled.

• Clog sewer drains so the entire campus will continue to look like a giant wasting pool.

Goodbye, Gipp fans, enjoy the weekend. For all you, this will be your last home game in the old Stadium and for many of you, this will be your last home game as a student. So go out there and party with reckless abandon — or at least as much you can with your parents in town. The Gipp wishes the football team good luck. Win one for the Gipp — please! The Gipp can’t take another heart attack like the one he suffered at the Army game.

Campus Commentary

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Alumni in the Real World

Making a Living

How does Notre Dame prepare its graduates for the transition into the working world?

BY BRIDGET BRADBURN AND KRISTIN ALWORTH

They descend upon the campus like locusts every Friday afternoon during the football season. They mill around the Huddle in their blue and gold garb, and they swarm to the bookstore to buy more. They visit their old classrooms, dorm rooms and study spots. They take pictures and they reminisce. Every year, thousands of alumni return to campus, singing the praises of their alma mater and basking in the Notre Dame spirit. But despite the great affection that most feel, many debate the effectiveness with which Notre Dame prepares its graduates to enter the professional and social world.

Students often find that Notre Dame falls short in helping them to secure employment after graduation. "I wish Notre Dame had been able to offer more interviewing opportunities, especially for Arts and Letters majors," says Shannon Brewster, '91, who majored in government and Spanish and found a job in the sales department of a manufacturing firm.

"I got lucky with my first job," Michael Chokel, '91, explains. "They needed someone, and I was there." In his hometown of Wheeling, West Virginia, Notre Dame was not popular when he graduated, since the Fighting Irish had beaten West Virginia in football. Many potential employers were not exactly in awe of his Notre Dame diploma. "They know the reputation of Notre Dame," Chokel comments. "But it didn't sway them."

But Tim Crawford, '90, of Frakenmuth, Michigan, feels the degree is a tremendous advantage. "Notre Dame graduates have a big benefit over other students just because of Notre Dame and the recognition it gets," he comments. "Employers know the academic standards of Notre Dame. "Notre Dame students are much better off than other college or university students. They are extraordinary people," notes Director of Career and Placement Services Kitty Arnold. "But we hate to take credit for this. The students come to us like this. They have a greater understanding of what they must know and do to secure a job."

While most students who enter the job market upon graduation find employment within three months, Arnold admits that it is not necessarily always a job within their major. "What is one's major may or may not have career implications, but that doesn't say anything good or bad about the major or about the person," says Arnold.

But even those who do secure a job related to their major often find that the skills they learned in college are not always relevant to their career. "[Notre Dame] could have done a better job of teaching the things you're really going to use," says Crawford, who majored in Accounting and found a job within a week of graduating. "When I was there, I think the business school was ranked fifth in the nation, but I think it must have been based on the amount of teaching experience the professors had because they were getting old."

But despite his dissatisfaction with the business courses, Crawford feels that he benefited from the diversified education offered by Notre Dame. "Everything that you complain about while you're there, like the fact that you're required to take theology and philosophy courses, is what is really a benefit later on."

Brewster agrees with Crawford about the quality of a broad education. "I learned how to think, write and communicate," she says. "I was 21 when I graduated, and I think I fit in with the older employees because I could formulate ideas well."

Chokel expresses similar sentiments. He studied in the College of Engineering, and discovered that much of his classroom learning was of little use outside of Notre Dame. "My professors told us that we wouldn't need to know about 90 percent of what we learned, and for the most part, they were right." He does think, however, that Notre Dame prepared him well for his professional life. He learned how to interact with many different types of people while at the university, which he has found to be important in the business world.

According to Arnold, however, Notre
Dame is only a small part in the process of transition from college to career. Essentially, it is up to the student to take the initiative and find out what the working world is like by talking to others about what they can expect. "When students are armed with the facts, it is easier to make that transition. They won't be blindsided," she says.

Arnold adds that the feedback she has had from employers has been almost uniformly positive. "In the 12 years that I've been here, I've only had a handful of complaints," she says. "And it's never an issue of naiveté or a lack of sophistication or an unwillingness to perform." Rather, when graduates or employees have been unsatisfied, it is generally a matter of the employee simply not fitting into that particular work situation, according to Arnold.

For about 10 to 15 percent of graduates every year, the transition to the working world is made easier because they spend some time doing community service. "Graduates are full of life and perspective, and are better prepared to handle the real world," says Maureen Skurski, coordinator of the Postgraduate Service Opportunities Program. "They need time to figure out what they want to do."

Sturski says that service organizations praise Notre Dame volunteers because of their intelligence and faith-based motivation to serve. "They're good students. They could have gotten a job," she says. "They are there because they have a sincere interest in serving the poor."

Sturski has noticed a trend among employers from the corporate world regarding graduates who have done volunteer work. "Employers realize that students who have done service work have an experience that other students don't have," she says. Often, these students are sought out for employment after they return from their service project.

Overall, despite complaints about Notre Dame students leading a sheltered existence within the shadow of the golden dome, most graduates still find that their experiences here have prepared them to deal with what they have faced in the real world.

Chokel says that he felt well-equipped to deal with the real world. "When I went to school, I was an idealist," he explains. "Within a year's time, I found out this wasn't the case from dealing with people in the dorm and my professors." He found out that, even though Notre Dame is a Catholic school, not everyone at the university is a good, kind Christian. And this observation has helped him and others adjust to the situations they encounter in the real world.

Employers praise Notre Dame graduates who have done volunteer work. "They have a greater understanding of interviews," says Kitty Arnold. "They come to us like well." Sturski feels that students have a better chance to find employment once they have volunteered. "Notre Dame students are not just numbers; they are people," she says. "Their participation in volunteer work is an advantage they have just because they have done it."

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Extended Family

A look at how the Notre Dame “family” prepare graduates for their own marriages and families

BY BRIDGET BRADBURN AND KRISTIN ALWORTH

Notre Dame offers an effective kit for starting a successful career: demanding professors, resume workshops, on-campus interviews and job fairs. Many graduates feel well prepared to make the move from classroom to office after their years at Notre Dame. But in cultivating the relationship skills needed in marriage and family life, many think Notre Dame falls short.

“Being a couple on campus is a difficult thing ... [It] isn’t the norm,” says John Dillon, director of Campus Ministry’s Marriage Preparation and Enrichment Program. “The privacy needed to nurture a relationship on campus is almost nil. Parietals and single-sex dorms work against the couple [concept]. There’s not much preparation for the transition to marriage.”

Michael Chokel, ’91, who served as an RA in Morrissey Hall, concurs that there were problems with male-female relationships when he was at Notre Dame. “A lot of the girls were very smart, and a lot of the guys were used to hanging around girls who were average,” he explains. He notes that many of his friends felt they were poorly prepared to cope with the real world because they were too sheltered by university policies like parietals.

Dr. Miguel Franco, a licensed psychologist at the University Counseling Center, points out another disturbing problem that handicaps the development of relationships in post-graduate life: a high degree of alcohol abuse at Notre Dame. “If, at Notre Dame, you develop a substance abuse problem, it will affect how you deal with your half of a relationship,” he says. During his days at Notre Dame, Chokel noticed that “lots of guys said they used alcohol to approach girls, but I think they use it under false pretenses.”

Shannon Brewster, ’91, of Knoxville, Tenn., agrees that parietals are not conducive to relationships, but she feels that the residential situation at Notre Dame fosters the types of relationships that ease the transition to married life. “Living in the dorms for four years, you develop really close friendships, as opposed to students at other schools who move from apartment to apartment,” she says. “It has helped me to have good relationships with members of both the same sex and the opposite sex.”

Senior Carleigh Landers agrees. As head of the student-alumni Extern Program, she has visited with returning alumni. “I don’t want to say that ... everyone is successful professionally, but they all have spouses and they love to talk about their families. Notre Dame prepares graduates to be successful in life and relationships before the professions,” she says.

Dillon and his wife Sylvia, who is the co-director of the Marriage Preparation Program, believe that the university could improve its preparation for marriage by offering more courses on marriage and family, like the ones currently offered in the Theology and Sociology Departments, and by sponsoring more professional speakers on these topics. But, in the meantime, their office serves as a resource for students and alumni who are engaged, married or in serious relationships by offering retreats, workshops and host couple sponsorship.

“We try to instill in them the idea that once you’re married, you’re not finished. It’s an ongoing sacrament,” says Sylvia Dillon. “But more often than not, the students that come to us are from intact families that value commitment to family life, so they are not that needy.”

And, according to John Dillon, many Notre Dame students are not thinking about marriage while they are in college. Rather, he believes that Notre Dame prepares its graduates for life in general, rather than specifically for marriage. “Notre Dame succeeds at helping people grow and develop into well-rounded individuals with good communication skills,” he says, referring to the resources offered by his program as well as those offered by Career and Placement Services.

But philosophy professor David O’Connor believes that the emphasis is overwhelmingly placed on career development at Notre Dame. “I think that for most people, the thing that will have the greatest impact on their lives is whether they will marry,” he says. “People feel silly or embarrassed if they have finding a good spouse as a life goal.” According to O’Connor, the Notre Dame community fails to realize that the development of students into worthwhile spouses is as important as their development into marketable employees. “It doesn’t seem like it’s built into the academic culture. I think it would be a better moral environment if it was,” he says.

For Brewster, life after Notre Dame has included a job, a marriage and two children. But she quit her job after two and a half years to have her children. “I guess it’s not the typical track for women who graduate from Notre Dame,” she says. But many would argue that marriage and family should be viewed as worthy goals for both men and women as they graduate from Notre Dame.
Men's Soccer Fails to Qualify for Big East Tournament
The Notre Dame men's soccer team started off the week with a shut-out of Western Michigan 4-0, but then lost to Connecticut by the same margin. The loss to the Huskies eliminated the Irish from the eight-team Big East Tournament.

The Irish head into two games this week with an 8-9 record (3-7 in the Big East). The Irish will face Villanova on Friday in their final home game of the season. They will close out the year at ninth-ranked Wisconsin on Sunday.

Cross Country Makes Strong Showing in Championships
In their first-ever appearance in the Big East Championships, the men's cross country team placed third out of 13 teams. The Irish were led by Derek Seiling who finished fifth overall. Finishing in the top 20 for Notre Dame were Antonio Arce, Jason Rexing and Matt Althoff.

The women's cross country team placed seventh. Co-captain Maureen Kelly once again finished first for the Irish, placing 23rd in the field with a time of 18:38. Kristen Dudas and Amy Siegel finished within a second of each other, earning 33rd place and 34th place, respectively.

We Are ND: If you collect Notre Dame football memorabilia, then listen up. WNDU-TV will auction off the medical neck brace worn by Notre Dame Head Coach Lou Holtz. The proceeds from the autographed brace will be donated to the Logan Center.

Quote of the Week: "I took a sleeping pill and knew when it didn't work at all it was filled with nicotine or whatever, or caffeine, because I stayed up all night." —Holtz during his weekly press conference last Sunday.

Schaller's Schot: The Irish don't overlook the Middies after the near disaster against Army, and win their fifth straight. The offense rolls once again, churning out 250 yards rushing. Powlus again throws sparingly, but does hit Mayes for three touchdowns. Rossum returns a kickoff for a touchdown in only his second week returning them. The defense has its problems with the option but again makes enough big plays.

Notre Dame 46 Navy 17

Women's Soccer Starts Big East Tournament
Last week the women's soccer team faced a grueling schedule of three games in five days, but it did not prove a problem for the Irish. They shut out Xavier 6-0, defeated Boston College 3-1 and beat Butler by a score of 8-2. Against the Bulldogs, Holly Manthei set a school record with assists on five Notre Dame goals.

This weekend the fifth-ranked women's soccer team will face Rutgers in the first game of the Big East Tournament. Earlier in the season the Irish knocked off the Scarlet Knights 3-0.

Volleyball Alone in First Place After Road Wins
The Irish defeated Rutgers and Seton Hall by 3-0 counts last week to remain undefeated in the Big East and gain sole possession of first place in the conference. With Carey May on the bench, senior co-captain Brett Hensel led the Irish to their second highest hitting percentage of the season.

The team has accumulated a 20-5 record so far this season and is currently ranked 14th in the nation. Notre Dame will play their final home games of the season when they face St. John's on Friday and Connecticut on Sunday.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

The Notre Dame Offensive Line
Ryan Leahy and the Irish O-line has literally paved the way to victory the past two weeks. The line has allowed Irish rushers to run for 438 yards and five touchdowns in the USC and BC games, while protecting Powlus well.
Smooth Sailing

BY DEREK BETCHE

A cross the country, parents of Notre Dame students let out a unified groan this summer after opening their football ticket order forms. Most found that the Parents Weekend game against Navy was their only available chance to see the Irish play. Tickets to BC, let alone Texas or USC, would have excited this tuition-burdened group, but Navy? Football fans like intense competition, and Navy was a less than competitive 3-8 last year. In fact, over the past 10 years, Navy has averaged less than three wins a season.

Football fans do appreciate tradition, however, and the Navy/Notre Dame series does not disappoint in that regard. The Irish and the Midshipmen have squared off every year since 1927. Over the years, Notre Dame has compiled a stellar 58-9-1 record against Navy, so parents can at least take solace in a probable victory. Irish dominance has been so complete in recent years that history has to stretch back to John F. Kennedy's days in office to find the last time Navy beat Notre Dame. Since that 1963 contest, when Heisman Trophy winner Roger Staubach was at the helm for Navy, Notre Dame has won the last 31 consecutive games. Moreover, Notre Dame's average margin of victory during the Holtz era has been 31 points.

This isn't to say that Navy isn't trying. After five losing seasons, Head Coach George Chaump and all of his assistants were let go. On December 30, a new era began when the Navy athletic department brought in Charles Weatherbie from Utah State to try to rebuild their football program. Progress seems apparent. Following last Saturday’s Homecoming victory over Villanova, the new staff had already matched Navy's 1994 win total with three.

"The main thing we are going to do here is change attitude," said Weatherbie. "I see it as a challenge."

As senior co-captain Andy Thompson argued, "The old system just wasn't working. The new staff has brought a new attitude with more energy and enthusiasm. All of the players believe in it."

Assistant Coach and Defensive Coordinator Dick Bumpas modestly credits the players for the turnaround. "We've got mostly the same players as last year. They're just a year older and a year stronger. Our kids are playing hard," he said.

No matter how well Bumpas' defense plays, they will need the help of sound coaching against a potent Notre Dame offense. When asked what he thought Notre Dame's biggest scoring threat was, Bumpas could not pinpoint only one. "Notre Dame's got a very dangerous offense. It's balanced in the run and the pass. There's no weak link, so we'll just try to slow them down," he said. "The game film shows [the] fullback running up and down the field against Southern Cal., so we'll watch for that too."

Navy will continue to field its 4-3 defense Saturday against Notre Dame. Their attack is paced by junior linebacker Clint Bruce and senior defensive end Andy Person. Navy will look to sophomore cornerback Shawn Andrews and safety Andy Thompson to help ground the Irish air attack. Andrews had two interceptions in Navy's Villanova game, and he now leads the nation with seven. In fact, turnovers played a major part in Navy's 20-14 victory in their last game. Two of their three scores were set up by turnovers the defense forced. The Navy coaching staff sees a favorable turnover ratio as integral to any hopes of victory against Notre Dame, and with their struggling offense, it will be doubly necessary.

Contrasting Navy's traditional defense, Coach Weatherbie has implemented a new spread offense. His team generally lines up with two
Regardless of their underdog position, Navy is looking forward to playing Notre Dame.

“We’re excited to play quality football,” Bumpas said. “This game is an annual opportunity for Navy to see college football at its finest.”

Co-captain Andy Thompson was even less reserved in his feelings for the rivalry and praise for the Irish. “There’s no question it means a lot. This is my fourth year here, and this is one of my favorite games. It’s clean hard-nosed football without any trash, just two teams lining up to play. We’re going to be challenged, especially the secondary. Derrick Mayes? There’s no doubt he’s outstanding. He’ll be playing on Sundays next year,” Thompson said.

Though Thompson and the rest of the Midshipmen respect the Irish, don’t expect them to tip-toe into Notre Dame stadium hat in hand. “Even though it’s been pretty lopsided these past couple of years, we always come in thinking that we have a chance to win,” Thompson said. Notre Dame will be a heavy favorite on November 4, but fans and parents making the trip to South Bend may want to approach the game with reservation. Already this year, two of Notre Dame’s three “laugher” games on the schedule have resulted in a loss and a one-point win. In any case, the contest is Notre Dame’s to win, in part because few people can gauge how improved the Navy team will be. Even their own staff is not sure. “Have we turned things around? Well, we’ve only been here for three months, ask later at the end of the season,” concluded Coach Bumpas. Or after their big test on Saturday.

YOU COULD DRIVE A TRUCK THROUGH IT. Ryan Leahy and the Irish line clear a path for Emmit Mosely, who is escorted by fullback Marcus Thorne.

which signal-caller starts against Notre Dame.

Navy had the advantage of an off week while Notre Dame fought off Boston College.

“We’re going to take the opportunity to go back to fundamentals the first week off, and then we’ll start and incorporate our Notre Dame game plans the second week. Our kids will definitely understand the upcoming game,” Bumpas said. “Don’t expect anything different. We’ll try the same as Notre Dame, to first establish the run and then start passing,” he added.

You could drive a truck through it.

Rebuilding Rebound

A few moments after Darnell Autry’s first down scamper that put the Irish away in early September, the comments started, from “a wasted year” and “more rebuilding,” to simply “What the hell is going on here?” But as a strange college football season nears its conclusion, the Irish are looking better—and so is their season.

Three of Notre Dame’s seven wins have come against Top 20 competition, and the two teams they have lost to are Top 10 and have been mentioned for the Rose Bowl.

Holtz always stresses the importance of a strong rushing attack, and the Irish stable has been lethal over the past few weeks. Marc Edwards has looked like John Riggins with his power-running, while Autry Denson and Randy Kinder combine to give the Irish a breakaway threat. Is that Powlus running the option?

The defense, though it still gives up too many long drives, has made plays at critical times and forced turnovers. Hard hitting and enthusiasm have helped make them better than they appear on paper.

Holtz and Bob Davie, meanwhile, have kept the Irish together and avoided disaster during Holtz’s operation and recovery. The play-calling against USC was as inventive as it has been in two years.

Finally, and most importantly, the team has been playing with emotion, something that they did not do in the first few weeks.

In an article I wrote after the Northwestern game I quoted Wendell Phillips: “What is defeat? Nothing but education, nothing but the first step to something better.” In early September, the loss to the Wildcats looked to be devastating. Now, two wins away from a major bowl, the Irish finally seem to have “gotten this God-dawg thing turned around.” Just like Holtz said they would.

by Jake Schaller
Changing

A new coach, fresh faces, a team split and the inaugural Big East season

by Alyssa Peterson

When the Notre Dame swimmers received mail from the ND Swimming office this July, they expected the usual summer update and season preview from Head Coach Tim Welsh. However, along with the midsummer report, the swimmers got a surprise. Not only was the team finally getting a diving coach, they were also getting a new women’s coach.

This summer, the ND Athletic Department decided to follow in the footsteps of many other college swimming programs by splitting the men’s and women’s teams. In the past, both teams shared the same coaches, practices and meet schedules. But when Assistant Coach Randy Julian accepted a head position at Bowling Green State University, the administration saw the opportunity to make the switch. Welsh could now focus his efforts on the men’s team, while the search began for a women’s coach.

After weeks of interviews and visits, Notre Dame hired Bailey Weathers to fill the position. Weathers formerly headed the women’s swimming programs at Southern Illinois University and the University of South Carolina, and brought them to fifth and tenth place finishes at the NCAA Championships, respectively. For the past five years he has enjoyed coaching age group swimming in Aurora, Col., but the invitation to return to college swimming was one he couldn’t refuse.

“Coaching on the collegiate level gives me the opportunity to become closer with the athletes and to better measure myself as a coach,” says Weathers. “Being a member of the Notre Dame community was also an added incentive to accept the position. The values and principles at Notre Dame, along with the national caliber athletic programs and emphasis on academic success, make it a truly unique place.”

“The split benefits the team in numerous ways,” says Welsh, now head coach of only the men’s team. “Each coach can concentrate on one team in terms of training, preparation and recruiting.” Welsh also feels that in the future the division will allow for more diverse schedules to meet the needs of each squad.

The swimmers agree that the split is advantageous. “It’s easier for the coaches to focus on a smaller group, so we get more personal attention,” says junior Matthew Rose. “And training with the same people every day facilitates camaraderie and team unity.”

In addition to the new faces and newly defined team, the Irish are anticipating their first season of Big East competition. Although the move will force the team to face more powerful opponents, both the men and women eagerly accept the challenge. “Knowing that the competition is stronger adds excitement and desire to practicing,” says Rose. Sophomore Brian Najarian agrees. “We’ll have to race faster swimmers, but that will force us to train harder and step up to the challenge.”

Another advantage of switching to a more prestigious conference is the rise in attention Notre Dame swimming will receive. “Raising the level of competition will improve our program which will lead to better interest and attract faster swimmers to Notre Dame,” says Lathrop. Jeff Page is one of the first examples of Lathrop’s claim. “A major factor in my decision to come to Notre Dame was that they were switching to the Big East,” he says.

The women’s team, which posted a 14-1 record last season, looks forward to the challenge of the Big East Conference. “We were outgrowing our old conference [the MCC] and needed to move on,” says Gallo. “The Big East brings a new challenge that will help us improve and step to a higher level.”

The efforts of the women’s team in their twice-daily practices were reflected in their first meet against Western Ontario on Oc-
Changing A new coach, fresh/aces, a team split and the inaugural Big East season await the men's and women's swimming programs. Notre Dame hired Bailey Weathers to fill the search began for a women's coach. However, along with the head position at Bowling Green practices and meet schedules. But when the past, both teams shared the same coaches, many other college swimming programs by the Notre Dame community were outgrowing our old conference [the Atlantic 10].

The swimmers agree that the split is another addition to the new faces and prerequisites. Not only was the team finally getting summer report, the swimmers got a mid­summer excitement and desire to have to sacrifice our training." the level of training with the same people level."

Another new face on deck, diving coach Caiming Xie, adds to the team's potential. Guided by his expertise and experience, the four divers, led by senior Liane Gallagher and freshman Erin McGinty, will be in relay events. The Sophomore class is quite possibly the strongest, with four swimmers returning for another season. The large freshmen class contributes to the team's depth and diversity as well.

Another new face on deck, diving coach Caiming Xie, adds to the team's potential. Guided by his expertise and experience, the four divers, led by senior Liane Gallagher and freshman Erin McGinty, will be key to the Irish success this season.

For the men's team, one major goal this year is to finish in the top half at the Big East Championship, possibly as high as fourth out of 12 teams. From there, the men hope to continue improving and moving their way to the top in following seasons. But for now, their focus is on this year.

"All goals for this year center on improvement," says Welsh. But he does not plan to focus on competition times or placements. "We need internal improvements in terms of training, discipline, strength and spirit. If we work on these areas, the scoreboard will speak for itself."

The strong freshman class has also added a new enthusiasm to the season. The upperclassmen are already benefitting from the arrival of the new blood. "The young guys bring a lot of vitality," says Rose. "And their energy has a domino effect on all of us."

The combination of youth and experience gives the team the balance they need. "The new energy of the freshmen class together with the strong leadership in the upper class makes for an energetic group who are excited about swimming," says Welsh.

Apparently this "new energy" has given them the stamina to train harder both in and out of the water. "Our team's dedication and commitment are the strongest of my four years," says senior captain George Latrop. The men feel their effort in practice will lead to great performances as the season continues. Their hard work and positive attitude have already been rewarded with a decisive 118-86 opening meet victory over Western Ontario on October 20.

The Irish proved they were ready for competition by capturing all but two races. Especially impressive was the fierce competitiveness they showed by winning the close finishes, something they struggled with last season. Welsh was pleased with the performance. "Winning the close races and the unexpected ones were definitely good signs of things to come." Najarian adds, "The meet showed our potential for a great season. We are off to a much better start than last year and hope to improve as the year progresses."

With a squad that lost 15 members to graduation and overseas studies while gaining 12 new athletes, the doors of opportunity are wide open. "Everybody will have to step up in order for us to have a great year," predicts Welsh. "We are a team searching for leaders in the water. Anyone can rise to take charge."

The newest leader of Irish swimming has already been impressed. In the short time Weathers has been part of the team, he

JUMP START. Junior Karen Daylor, starts her relay leg while sophomore Lauren Relay waits.

SWIMMERS TAKE YOUR MARK. Junior Josh Saylor practices his start. Saylor will race in relays for the Irish this season.
As an amateur movie critic, I often get asked, "Mr. Pitt, can I please have your autograph?" I am also frequently questioned as to what my favorite films are. Well kids, here's a treat for you — an official listing of those films that hold a special place in my heart.

Sorry there, wrong list. Here now, printed in these pages, are those films that hold a special place in my heart. While they don't include every film I've come to enjoy, there's enough diversity to prove how screwed-up I really am. Might I add that I wholeheartedly recommend any and all of these films at any time. Enjoy.

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After Hours
(1986 — Warner Home Video)

The words 'Scorsese' and 'comedy' don't exactly fit hand-in-hand, and so you are forewarned that this novelty is not your standard fare. But what a rush! Documenting dead-end office worker Paul Hackett's (Griffin Dunne) spur-of-the-moment midnight date, the film rockets into downtown SoHo, New York. Once there, everything that could possibly go wrong goes wrong and Hackett quickly becomes involved in a tangled web of love, guilt, murder, fear and burglary. As the film progresses, the characters get increasingly darker and stranger, constantly reappearing unexpectedly. As the night grows longer and Hackett begs to "just get home," you're practically sweating right along with him. Scorsese does such a tremendous job documenting the urban hell that the film actually becomes psychologically disturbing. His relentless direction, added to Jim Minion's brilliant script and a truly eccentric cast, make for what is the most harrowing comedic nightmare ever. Trust me, after this one, you may never date a blonde woman again.

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Clue: the Movie
(1985 — Paramount Home Video)

Silly and stupid? Sure, I can live with that, but Clue relishes in its over-the-top hamminess and its ensemble cast makes the game-to-movie gimmick work. Based on the Parker Brothers board game, the movie features the six multi-colored characters assembled to meet their blackmailer in a spooky New England mansion. (Is there any mansion in New England that isn't spooky? Don't you just love to say "spooky"?) After he is found dead, panic strikes and everyone races around looking for the murderer and trading bad puns. But the cast is game (speaking of bad puns) and led by Tim Curry, whose impeccable turn as Wadsworth the butler is precedent-setting. Some gags simply fall flat, but Jonathan Lynn's brisk direction keeps this one moving and the actors' intense energy makes this funnier than it probably should be. The spooky mystery comes to a fitting conclusion (if you pay close attention to details) and if you don't like how it ends, there are two alternate endings. Don't you wish they made more movies that way?

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Dead Again
(1990 — Paramount Home Video)

I'll admit, flat out, that I'm a shameless Emma Thompson fan, but all personal passions (both literally and figuratively) aside, Dead Again is a great film. Directed by star and (now ex-) husband of Thompson, Kenneth Branagh, the movie is a past-lives suspense thriller that tells two stories at once. Did pianist Roman Strauss brutally murder his wife Margaret in 1940? Has she come back 50 years later to seek revenge? Does the antique-collecting hypnotist hold the key to this spooky mystery? Is that Robin Williams as a psycho? A bold move by Branagh, going strictly Hollywood after Henry V, and nice change of pace from Thompson's repressed-Englishwoman roles. But a past life, romantic, suspense, flashback, murder mystery that features scissors as the preferable means of death? Yes, it's a real potboiler, but it's slick, fun and done with such style (with noble dual role performances by Ken and Em) that you'll be hooked from the first frame and hanging on to every plot twist with bitten fingernails.
The Godfather Trilogy
(1972/74/90 — Paramount Home Video)

While the Star Wars trilogy may be science fiction’s greatest three-pack, there is no argument that the greatest dramatic trilogy in American cinema is Francis Ford Coppola’s saga of the Corleone Family. Tracking their immigration into America at the turn of the century up through the 1970s, the epic ages perfectly with each viewing. Headlined by Hollywood’s most prominent A-list actors, including Brando, DeNiro, Duvall and Caan, the Trilogy garnered nearly 30 Oscar nominations and distinguished itself as the only sequel to ever win a Best Picture statuette (Part II). Al Pacino’s Michael, continually promising to go straight, remains the most gracefully detailed and finest character performance ever filmed. The third, and weakest, installment’s bad rap is merely a testament to the perfection of the first two. Daddy’s daughter Sophia is to Part II what the Ewoks were to Jedi. Nonetheless, a family affair and a labor of love for director Coppola, his cast and crew, the films, plain and simple, define the phrase “must see.”

Network
(1976 — MGM Video)

Documenting the decaying sanity of TV news anchor Howard Beale (Peter Finch) and the decaying moral standards of television itself, Network is Sidney Lumet’s wicked, apocalyptic view of the TV industry and how it is slowly destroying the American individual. Though the fashions and references are dated today, the film’s central message is as prevalent as ever, as is its mantra “I’m mad as hell, and I’m not gonna take it anymore!” The entire cast, including Robert Duvall and Ned Beatty, is Oscar-worthy. As the ratings-obsessed programmer, Faye Dunaway turns in a performance she has yet to top, and William Holden’s old-school network newsman adds aspects of emotion and humanity that leave indelible impacts on the viewer. Finch and Dunaway won Best Acting Oscars and the film was nominated for eight others, including Best Picture. Frightening in its implications and dead-on with its rendering of television’s role in society, if you only see one of the films on this list, please choose this one.

Rosemary’s Baby
(1968 — Paramount Home Video)

As the horror film started to decline into the slasher movies of the late 70s, Roman Polanski’s Rosemary’s Baby could be seen as one of a dying breed — a truly bone-chilling film that didn’t resort to senseless gore or silly special effects. As the young newlywed Woodhouses, Rosemary (Mia Farrow) and Guy (John Cassavetes) hope to make a home in a spooky mansion that’s been transformed into apartments. Once moved in, Rosemary meets her neighbors, her actor-husband lands a huge role, and she gets pregnant. Her friendly tenant also commits suicide, her husband begins to lose interest in her, she gets a really bad haircut (Gasp! The horror!) and, of course, she believes she is carrying the child of the Prince of Darkness. With a premise like that, leave it to Polanski to work wonders. Staging a morally disturbing, psychedelic dream sequence and craftily casting Oscar-winner Ruth Gordon as the over-friendly neighbor, he keeps the suspense coming right up to an ending that evokes laughter and stone cold terror all at once.

Also of Note

Other notable titles that I don’t mind recommending:

L.A. Story (1990). Steve Martin scripts and stars in this completely endearing romantic comedy that is the first film ever to feature a prophetic freeway sign.

Slap Shot (1975). Paul Newman plays a worn-out, worn-down hockey star in this crude, violent, but funny-as-hell take on the world of farm league hockey.

Taxi Driver (1976). Robert DeNiro immortalized the words “You talkin’ to me?” and launched the career of Martin Scorsese and Jodie Foster in his grittiest role ever.

Dog Day Afternoon (1975). Pacino and Godfather brother John Cazale are inept bankrobbers who are caught in their own dead-end trap. Edgy drama with just enough sentiment and humor.

Terminator 2: Director’s Cut (1991). Previously cut footage of Arnold smiling and unseen special effects (plus letterboxing) make this one seem like you’re watching it for the first time.

Rope (1966). Pitch-black Hitchcockian flick about murder (big surprise) among roommates. Chilling and darkly comical, this is one of the master’s best.

—CM
He's Back, and He's Beautiful!

Justin returns to The Beautiful South

BY JUSTIN COLE AND JOE MARCHAL

JM: Justin, wake up, wake up! Hey, you're missing your radio show. (No response.) Free Bibles and handguns at the 'brake! (Still nothing.) They released Carry on Up the Charts in the states!

JC: Wha? ... Who? ... Where?

JM: Paul Henton, man! The guy you drank with in London. His band, The Beautiful South, you know — witty, cynical lyrics, great vocals. The band you've worshipped for years!

JC: Released here, in this god-forsaken, vacuum of good pop music we call a country? Um, by the way, what happened to me?

JM: While all of the kiddies were off having fun over fall break, we stayed here. Remember? I guess that 72-hour MTV lock-in made you relapse into a trauma-induced coma.

JC: It's all hazy, but I think I remember. All the crappy Hootie and Stone Temple Bush buzz-bins, that scary Kennedy chick and that ever-present "I'll be There For You."

JM: (clap, clap, clap, clap) Yes. That song gets an 'A' as a TV theme, but only those dorky Rembrandts would use it as a Top 40 single.

JC: Well, it's been about five years since they've had a hit. I guess they were desperate. Besides, the losers who play it and listen to it on the radio are partially to blame.

TOGETHER: Are you listening U-93?

JM: I guess you're right. All I know is I went solo on the review last time, so you owe me. Or I'll beat you into a coma again.

Music Review by Justin Cole

This week I have decided to set aside the mantle of indie-rock in order to defend perhaps the best British pop band of all time from those who seek to assail it. The Beautiful South was born in Hull, England, from the remnants of The Housemartins. Carry on Up the Charts, a compilation of their "best of" music, traces the band's musical history through four albums. This UK release, almost exactly a year old, has finally been released on these shores. For an admiring as adamant as myself, it was impossible to wait an entire year, so I was forced to travel to England and get it hot off the presses. Which means I've had an entire year to ponder and formulate my opinions on a cherished band pulling the ultimate corporate sell-out move, the "best of" album. The album is organized in chronological order, presenting a few songs from each of the four albums, plus bonus singles. From the initial tracks, "Song for Whoever" and "You Keep It All In," the elements that create The Beautiful South's perfect pop formula are readily apparent. Jangly, hook-laden guitars and catchy, driving beats are melded perfectly with the harmonizing vocals of Paul Heaton, Dave Hemingway, and Brian Corrigan. The range of The Beautiful South's musical stylings and their progression from early, veiled 60's-influenced sound to more straight-ahead Brit-pop musings is also easily traced. Heaton's lyrics, sometimes sardonic, sometimes poignant, are consistently buoyed by the haunting vocals of Corrigan and Heaton, whose voices mix perfectly. Toward the end of the album it is easy to notice this harmony is missing as Jacqueline Abbott takes over on backing vocals for Corrigan, after she left the group in 1993 because of creative differences (read: sick of Heaton's drunk male chauvinism). The selections from the fourth album, MIAOW, while still brilliant lyrically and musically, do seem somewhat lacking, as Corrigan's vocals are traded for Abbott's rather uninspiring singing. Such as "Love Wars" and "I Started a Joke," offering insight into some of the band's influences.

While I have always been wary of "best of" albums, I have to say that Carry on Up The Charts has won me over. The only exception is Abbott's massacre of "Let Love Speak Up Itself" (the standout track from Choke, a solo by Heaton). Although some of The Beautiful South's truly best songs don't appear on this album, anyone interested in introducing themselves to the world's best pop band will get a good taste of their irresistible music from this album or its American counterpart.

Beautiful Sounds. The Beautiful South (clockwise from top): Heaton, Hemingway, Abbott, Rotheray, Stead and Welch.

The second CD of the UK release is a collection of b-sides and rarities. Most of the songs sound less produced and are an interesting insight into the creative process of the band. Many of these songs serve as a release for the dark humor of Heaton's lyrical creativity. "Trevor Your Bizarre" and "Danielle Steele (the enemy within)" are perfect examples of this overly sarcastic, lo-fi side of The Beautiful South. This disc also includes soulful covers of oldies such as "I Can't Help Myself" and "Love Me For a Reason"...
The Jury's Out

588. On one occasion, a witness told Ito, "I don't personally listen to this case. It doesn't interest me at all." To that, Ito said, "Good for you. Me either."

216. One 68-year-old male prospective juror wrote "hell, yes" when asked if domestic violence was ever justified.

719. The NY Times calls The National Enquirer "required reading" in the O.J. case.

573. The New York Post called [Christopher Darden] "Mister Prosecutie."


766. William Kunstler performed stand-up readings of his four poems called "The Simpson Sonnets" in New York comedy clubs which he hoped to publish as soon as the O.J. trial ends — "if it ever does."

767. He died before the trial ended.

566. Marta Clark called Cochran "Mr. Corkhead" in court, then claimed it was a slip of the tongue.

196. Furman attorney Rob Tourtelot.

"The only people calling Mark Furman a racist are the attorneys for the defense... By the end of the trial in this case, the entire world will know that Mark Furman is not a racist."

707. A writer covered the trial for Dog World Magazine.

914. Some of the items for sale outside the L.A. Courthouse: "Free the Juice" T-shirts, "No sidebar" buttons, orange-scented "O.J." air fresheners, Judge Ito Jell-O molds, chocolate "Camp O.J." suckers, bank checks bearing images of Simpson in three poses, wristwatches with little police cars chasing a Bronco around a clock face, and a limited edition, non-negotiable O.J. Simpson defense attorney "credit card" with a limit of $25 million.

1000. O.J. once suggested they (O.J. and Paula Barbieri) have three-way sex with Al Cowling.

And, of course, the number one reason the O.J. trial is the most absurd event in American history...

1. He's guilty!

OUT OF BOUNDS

Intellectually Challenged Parents Weekend: This Tuesday thru Thursday  by Chris Myers

If you really want to impress your parents this weekend and that whole belching-the-fight-song thing just isn't cutting it anymore, try exposing them to a little culture out here. Of course, Congo is playing at Cushing, so any dysfunctional families out for the weekend should go to see it. Drag your parents to this one and you're almost certain to be disowned. (I'm still trying to recover from my mom's birthday Showgirls debacle a few weeks ago, but that's another story.) To really floor your folks this weekend, take them to see Smoke over at the Annenberg Auditorium. Harvey Keitel and William Hurt star in this quaint but poignant film that makes you wonder why they don't make more dramas like this.

If you really want to go all out, get them tickets to The National Shakespeare Company's presentation of Hamlet. One show only, 8 p.m. Friday night at Washington Hall. Swing on by after Holtz's speech at the pep rally and enjoy a spellbinding night of incomprehensible language. If that doesn't sell them on your cultural enrichment, bring 'em on down to the Smithe Museum (that's the little building that hangs off O'Shaugnessy with the pictures in it). If that doesn't work, well, there's just no hope. Give up, go see To Wong Foo at University Park and believe the night away knowing you tried your best!
BY JOHN INFRANCA

Eager to find a good job, Brian J. Michalovich decided to get a bachelor's degree from Drexel University. Unfortunately, he never went to class or took a test on the way to receiving his degree. Instead he broke into the school's alumni computer and created a degree in mechanical engineering for himself. With a strong education now under his belt, he then found a job as a federal asbestos building inspector. This $23.50-an-hour job ended up costing him a $4,000 fine and three years of probation when the government found out about his fake resume. In hindsight, I'm sure Michalovich would agree that a governmental department was not the best place to send his "resume." Perhaps a better place to apply for a job would have been as a receptionist in the Drexel University Alumni Office.

Wamborough College, an American University located just outside of Oxford, has been accused of fooling American students into believing they were attending Oxford University. Oxford has threatened to take legal action if the school does not change its literature and recruitment tactics. 15 of the 67 American students at the school left after discovering the school was not in fact part of Oxford. According to one angry student, the Wamborough representative "specifically told me I was going to Oxford University." The school's prospectus is a bit misleading. It is headed "The traditions of Oxford, Oxford University and Wamborough College." Sources have revealed Brian Michalovich will sell disgruntled students an Oxford diploma for only $50. For one of the students, this was not the first time he had been fooled by false advertising. Just last week he was rumored to have bought the Brooklyn Bridge for only $10.

Creighton University is taking measures to protect its stolen goods from possible robbery. In 1990 the FBI seized $20 million worth of rare books from the house of Stephen Blumberg, a total of 20,000 books. In 1993 the FBI donated 3,000 of the books to the library. Now the library must install a security system because they fear Blumberg will return for them. He sent a letter to the library in March of 1994 threatening to regain the books. This was not Blumberg's first arrest and imprisonment. In 1967 he was arrested for burglary and in 1974 for stealing 52 library books. Starting as a teenager, he accumulated 50,000 Victorian doorknobs from condemned buildings before the FBI caught him 30 years later.

After doing some calculations in my head I have found that the fine on the 20,000 stolen books would equal approximately two trillion dollars. Unfortunately it is highly unlikely that the FBI will hold Blumberg responsible for these fines. Perhaps instead they can raise the money by sponsoring a used doorknob sale.

When lightening struck near the graduation site for George Washington University, the school cancelled its 1995 graduation. The university did not have a back-up plan, so the 3,000 graduates were denied a commencement. To make up for this, the school is offering the class free tickets to watch Bill Cosby perform on November 4. Fortunately Cosby will be appearing at the Smith Center, an indoor auditorium. I don't know about you, but graduation in the JACC is looking better and better each day, although seeing Bill Cosby would be nice.

Remember Freshman year... Those lame parties packed to the brim with people you don't know... unable to move... bad drinks... I'm so glad I'm old enough to go to the bars...

Yeah

LATER ON... AT THE LINEBACKER
BY JOHN INFRAENCA

◆ And You Thought You Cheated

Eager to find a good job, Brian J. Michalovich decided to get a bachelor’s degree from Drexel University. Unfortunately, he never went to class or took a test on the way to receiving his degree. Instead he broke into the school’s alumni computer and created a degree in mechanical engineering for himself. With a strong education now under his belt, he then found a job as a federal asbestos building inspector. This $23.50-an-hour job ended up costing him a $4,000 fine and three years of probation when the government found out about his fake resume.

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◆ A College By Any Other Name

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◆ Book Burglar Threatens to Seek Revenge

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◆ Lightning Strikes

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I don’t know about you, but graduation in the JACC is looking better and better each day, although seeing Bill Cosby would be nice.
Coming Distractions
November 2 - November 9

Field, Court & Alley
Football
• ND vs. Navy. 1:30 p.m.

Volleyball
• ND vs. St. John's. JACC. Friday, 8 p.m.
• ND vs. University of Connecticut. JACC. Sunday, 12 p.m.

Hockey
• ND vs. Western Michigan. JACC. Friday, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer
• ND vs. Villanova. Alumni Field. Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Cultural Connection
Lectures and Seminars
• Poetry and Fiction Readings, "Writer's Harvest." (A fundraiser for the hungry.) Hesburgh Library Auditorium. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Donation.
• Tour, historic walking tour of campus. Statue of Our Lady, Main Gate. Friday, 3 p.m.

Entertainment
• Concert, Notre Dame Orchestra. Washington Hall. Thursday, 8 p.m.
• Film, "Smoke." Snite. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. Admission.
• Play, "Hamlet," performed by the National Shakespeare Company. Washington Hall. Friday, 8 p.m. Admission.
• Film, "Congo." Cushing. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m.
• Concert, "Notre Dame Folk Choir." Benefit for East African Mission. Washington Hall. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Donation.

On the Silver Screen
November 3 to November 9
University Park West: 277-7336.
• "Too Wong Foo," PG-13, 2:00, 4:20.
• "Home For the Holidays," PG-13, 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20.

University Park East: 277-7336.
• "Get Shorty," R, 2:00, 4:20, 7:30, 9:55.
• "Copycat," R, 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45.
• "Vampire in Brooklyn," R, 1:45, 4:10, 7:20, 9:35.
• "The Big Green," PG, 2:00, 4:30.

Movies 10: 254-9885.
• "Jade," R, 3:55, 10:05.
• "Dead Presidents," R, 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10.
• "To Die For," R, 2:10, 4:45, 7:45, 10:15.
• "Three Wishes," PG, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55.
• "How to Make an American Quilt," PG-13, 1:20, 4:00, 7:20, 10:00.
• "Dangerous Minds," R, 1:00, 3:20, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20.

Editor’s Choice
Since I still have a hard time getting to my classes, I think I will show up for the walking tour of campus. That way I can get to class on time and also know the history behind all the buildings I used to get lost in.

—JJI
It was another Wednesday night. With little to do, I resigned myself to spending the night typing a paper at the library computer cluster, or at least just making an appearance at the library. Besides, what better way to spend an evening than to wait for a computer, especially when you're number 2,416 on the list?

As I passed the library security guard at the entrance, I wondered if this was the same crossword puzzle he had been working on for the past two years. He was border­line comatose but, heck, wouldn't you be? Ever since library security was stripped of their backpack-searching duties, the job has become pretty mundane.

I proceeded to the elevators where I made my way to the back. The 9, 11 and 12 buttons on the panel were illuminated, so I got the usual looks of disgust when I cheerily asked if someone would please press 2, thank you very much. What? Did they actually expect me to take the steps up one whole flight?

Arriving on the second floor, I headed to the common “study” area. I opened the doors and was overcome with a feeling of euphoria. The possibilities for procrastination were endless. Come on, no one actually goes to the second floor to study. Don’t be ridiculous. Perhaps the biggest irony at Notre Dame is that there are actu­ally books on the shelves of the second floor. The only real requirement for being on the second floor is that you are prepared to get nothing accomplished.

I paid special attention to what everyone was wearing because, as I’m sure you know, there is a strict dress code that exists on the second floor. It is absolutely mandatory that guys wear at least one article of varsity athletic attire. The navy Notre Dame Football sweatpants are popular, especially when accented with a Fiesta Bowl hat. Others opt for the navy Notre Dame varsity t-shirt and the puke-yellow varsity shorts. For girls, dress is an even more crucial issue. Some spend hours deciding what to wear. Those who decide on the casual look often choose the ever-popular “spandex leggings and half-shirt” ensemble.

There are several categories of people who “study” on the second floor. First and foremost are the Nomads, the most prevalent and social of all groups. These people can be identified by their backpacks, which they never remove. Instead, they permanently look as though they have just arrived. They do laps around the entire floor to ensure that full socializing potential is achieved.

Next there is the Tablehopping group, my personal favorite. These people station their books at a specific table, which acts as a sort of home base for the night’s expeditions. They then proceed to bounce from one table to the next. Strategic placement of homebases is crucial to the success rate of this group. A direct view of the main doors is ideal so they can check to see if the newcomers are anyone of interest. If so, Tablehoppers wait until the targeted person establishes his or her own home base and then casually “hop” to that table.

A subset of this group is the Eight-to-Tenner group. This group consists entirely of girls, who come to the library in full force every weekday between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Their designated purpose is to socialize with the freshman football players, who are there because the university has designated this time for “study tables.” The administration must be pretty proud of themselves for coming up with this clever term. Can we say “meat market for America’s most heavily recruited football players”?

Some tables consist of people working on group projects. The idea of “group projects” is another common myth at Notre Dame. Observing any of these group project tables reveals that one poor soul has been chosen to actually do the project while the other members of the group are left with the task of discussing the social events of the upcoming weekend.

For any of these groups, a highlighter is an essential item to bring to the library. You can sit at a table, Discman on but volume all the way down, and pretend to be studying like a madman. Flip the page every minute or so and highlight often. This will convey that you are truly enthralled by your Differential Calculus textbook and will also divert attention from the fact that you are eavesdropping on the conversation going on at the next table, which is undoubtedly about you.

After observing these various arts of studying, I headed downstairs to get some help with a research paper. Unfortunately, the people behind the reference desk were still a little bitter about my lack of attendance at that mandatory library tour. (You know, that one you skipped during your freshman seminar class.) Left to my own devices, I nervously approached the UNLOC computer. Enter prompt: s=Hungarian cross-dressers from the four­teenth century. (Long wait.) Voila! Only 26,392 entries, shelved according to the author’s mother’s maiden name.

I ended another evening of diligent study. Sure, I hadn’t seen a parade of naked guys running through the library, but then again, I guess I’ll have to wait until finals week for that kind of excitement.

This is a humor column. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of the editorial staff of Scholastic Magazine.
A Weekend Without Alcohol?

A hhh ... the thrills of another Friday night in South Bend. The tiny dorm room packed with one million underclassmen. The sticky tile floor reeking of cheap beer. The trash cans in the corners overflowing with empty cans of Milwaukee’s Best. Someone’s cheap stereo tickling your ears with those smokin’ dance tunes from Pearl Jam and R.E.M. It doesn’t get any better than that.

The aforementioned prototypical Freshman Party™ can be found in just about any dorm (usually the ultra-cool towers) on just about any weekend. It’s pretty tiresome the first time, never mind the 28th. Yet for some reason all the ND rookies love it.

Not that the bar scene is that much more evolved. There’s more room, more people and more variety, but worse music at a higher volume, and a lot more noise. The great thing is that it costs more, a bargain considering that all you usually get is a Flanner Freshman Fling to the third power. I think Homer Simpson put it best when he said, “It’s true ... we’re sooo lame.”

The bottom line is that the social life here completely revolves around alcohol. When Notre Dame students go out, there are two primary objectives. The first is to jack up your blood-alcohol level as high as possible without winning (throwing up). The second is to seek out an equally intoxicated member of the opposite sex and attempt to hook-up before you pass out. I’m tired of it. There are plenty of cool things to do on the weekend if you have any creativity at all, and you don’t have to be blitzed to enjoy them.

The first is to jack up your blood-alcohol level as high as possible without winning (throwing up). The second is to seek out an equally intoxicated member of the opposite sex and attempt to hook-up before you pass out. I’m tired of it. There are plenty of cool things to do on the weekend if you have any creativity at all, and you don’t have to be blitzed to enjoy them. Here’s a few ideas to get you started.

1. The “Hang Out With The Crew, Watch Videos and Do Dumb Things” option.
   Hit VideoWatch for the fresh action flicks. I highly recommend the King of New York/Dolemite doubleheader. Stop by either Osco or the Tinder Box and get some smokes. A box of Phillies, a bag of pipe tobacco or some Djarums will work. Between you and your friends you can probably cloud the room until the door is out of sight. Play dominoes if the movies finish before sunrise. If all else fails, fill a trash can with newspaper and light it up. (Note: make sure you have other housing alternatives before resorting to fire.)

2. The “Road Trip to Nowhere in Particular” option.
   Pile some friends into a car and jet. Go some place close but interesting. Chicago is the easy way out. Instead, I recommend Jackson, Michigan. Get a room at the Fairfield Inn. You can watch cable and lounge in the hot tub. Go run around Meijer’s until they kick you out. Shoot stick with the townies at Roma’s 8-Ball, then cross the street and check out Ted Nugent’s Bowhunter’s World. Bowl. Play miniature golf. Toilet paper someone’s house. A good time will be had by all.

3. The “Non-ND Party Party” option.
   Find a friend who works at the dining hall and throw a House Party 2-style bash. If that’s not realistic, then work with what you’ve got. Get music you can dance to, Snoop, Naughty, Cypress, Bone, Biggie — stuff every typical ND Guy might have. Get speakers that can give these tunes some justice. Find a large room/house, or better yet, an outdoor venue. Tell everyone in creation, blast the music and start jammin’. If you must drink, be creative. Get some St. Ides, some Hennessy, some Moët. Beast is booty. Get your mack on, but don’t beer goggle.

I hope these tips have been of some help. I’ve had much more fun doing this (and more success macking) than at any of the usual gatherings. Plus, no hangover and no vomit! So next time your friends try to drag you to Grace or the "Backer, tell them you won’t stand for it anymore. Come up with something different. Something stupid. Something completely obtuse and abnormal. You’ll never go back to wack again.

Ryan O’Leary is a senior marketing major.
He lives off campus.
His views are not necessarily the views of the editorial staff of Scholastic Magazine.
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“Late!” My goodness! I am late for work,” said Father Cat. He picked up his briefcase and ran. Oh Dear! He picked up the tablecloth, too! It is too bad he did not wake up to the morning sounds of WVFI.