Rewriting Student Rights

In 1993, student rights were eliminated from du Lac. Now, students are working to bring them back.

A written statement of the rules and regulations of the University shall be published. Statements of the rights of students shall be published.

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Pick-up Lines • NDE • Nocturne DJs • Gipp
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Raging for Rights

by Kristin M. Alworth

Over the years, student rights — such as the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty in disciplinary hearings — have gradually disappeared from du Lac. This year, however, students hope to reverse this trend during the 1997 du Lac revision process.

FEATURE STORY

Ahead of the Pack

by Brian Hiro

Freshman Joanna Deeter has set the cross country course on fire this year, but remains cool and collected off the course. She hopes to cap her season at the NCAA championship.

Shopping Daze

by Chris Myers

With the Christmas season already making its early appearance, Scholastic looks at the best in music and movies to help you make your shopping list.
**The Principal's Office**

I've met Bill Kirk, and I'm no stranger to Student Affairs. At the BC game last year, I was escorted out of the stadium with one of my friends, who was severely intoxicated. During the ensuing ordeal with Kirk and Notre Dame Security, I stayed by my friend to support him and to keep him from getting into more trouble by refusing to cooperate. At one point, an officer pushed a breathalyzer tube in front of him. I asked him what my friend's rights were regarding the test. I remember Kirk's reply clearly: "As a United States citizen, I guess he can refuse, but not as a Notre Dame student."

The officers decided I was interfering enough that they charged me, too. I received my letter from Student Affairs within a week. From then until my hearing, I went through my daily routine feeling I had been called into the principal's office. This feeling continued once the disciplinary process started.

During the hearing, I remember Lori Mauer, one of the assistant directors of Residence Life, telling me that I was out of line to inquire about my friend's rights. From comments such as these, I learned that the primary concern of Student Affairs is not students. I learned that Student Affairs is not concerned with murky concepts of justice or right and wrong. The business of Student Affairs is punishment. The entire process, from the first letter to the last one (which was also sent to my parents) centered around punishing my friend and me.

Think this over: I have fewer rights as a Notre Dame student than I do as an ordinary citizen. I was out of line to inquire about my friend's rights. I don't know which is more incredible — that these statements reflect university policy, or that Mr. Kirk and Ms. Mauer said them with straight faces.

In light of this, it isn't a surprise that explicit student rights were eliminated from *du Lac* in 1993. If Student Affairs was concerned with justice, they would have to detail students' rights. But rights interfere with punishment — imagine how much more quickly our criminal justice system would operate without having to bother with the Bill of Rights.

It's no accident that student rights have been eliminated, is it, Mr. Kirk? I know because you told me. But since 1997 is a *du Lac* revision year, maybe there is hope.

Kristin Alworth examines the issue of student rights on page 16.

**Tooting Our Own Horns**

This weekend, *Scholastic* will receive a Pacemaker Award at the Associated Collegiate Press/College Media Advisors national convention in Orlando. *Scholastic* is one of six magazines in the nation to receive this award, honoring superior reporting, writing and layout.

**Turkey Break**

Staff members of *Scholastic* have decided that, rather than publish an issue next Thursday, they'd like to take the week off and go home for Thanksgiving. Though I questioned their dedication, I agreed. Besides, it's easier on the *Scholastic* pocketbook. The last issue of the semester will be published December 12.

Steve Myers
*Editor in Chief*
Women in film article misrepresents females

Dear Editor,

We are writing in response to the cover story on women in film in the October 31, 1996, issue of Scholastic. As three of the four women in the Advanced Production class and seniors who plan to work in film after graduation, we feel that Scholastic and Chris Myers exhibited reprehensibly irresponsible journalistic practices. When Mr. Myers interviewed Professor Jill Godmilow for the article, she suggested he speak to all of the women in the Advanced class; she even did all the legwork for him, giving him our names and phone numbers. He ignored her help and never contacted us. He did interview Christie Criscuolo, whom he had contacted before he spoke to Godmilow. She too suggested he speak with us. Of the women featured in the article, none are production majors; one is a critical studies major with no critical experience.

Mr. Myers pretends to give due attention to the most underrated major in the College of Arts and Letters, but he undermines this intent by writing an article that focuses on the negative aspects of women in film. By presenting Hollywood-produced films as the only legitimate form of the medium, he presents the world of independent cinema as something for which women must settle, because they can’t make it in LA. And by not speaking to the women who intend to pursue careers in film, he ignored a great deal of information that he might have used to educate himself and his readers about COTH production. There was no mention of the fact that three out of seven faculty who teach film are women, nor of the fact that 75 percent of the production classes are taught by a woman.

But perhaps most disturbing was the disregard of the work produced in the department — all of which is shown at the Student Film Festival in January.

The article was negative and condescending. If Scholastic was trying to draw positive attention to the women filmmakers of Notre Dame, you didn’t. You did succeed in sweeping us further under the carpet.

The sidebar article was also wholly negative in tone. Though the intention was to point out women who have made successful careers in film, every snippet ended on a negative: Penny Marshall, it was implied, had to ride her father’s coat-tails; Allison Anders had to ride Tarantino’s; Kathryn Bigelow’s action flicks haven’t made enough money; Jody Foster had a box-office flop; Barbra Streisand is “difficult” to work with; Sherry Lansing may be in Premiere’s Top 100, but she’s still only number 15. Again, the tone was condescending and furthered the existing stereotypes you claimed to want to dispel.

One would assume that the cover story of any publication would be the best-researched and most closely-scrutinized article. Mr. Myers had plenty of time to research and interview, but he didn’t. We hope that such irresponsibility and laziness are not the norm at Scholastic, but this article would seem to suggest precisely that.

M-K Kennedy
Jennifer Crescenzo
Lydia Antonini

Scholastic Wants to Hear From You

- What do you think about the state of student rights?
- Should student homepages be censored?
- Should the non-discrimination clause include sexual orientation?
- Should voting privileges be reserved for the “elite?”

Write to us at: Scholastic Magazine
303 LaFortune Student Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556

or e-mail us at: Scholastic.scholast.1@nd.edu

Letters for Thursday’s issue must be submitted by Monday at 5 p.m.

All letters must be signed and include your name, address and phone number. Scholastic reserves the right to edit letters for space.
Coming Out of the Closet

Administrators in the Office of Student Affairs need to take a closer look at including sexual orientation in du Lac’s non-discrimination clause

BY MATTHEW DULL

A couple weeks ago, two fellow students and I sat down to have a talk with Professor O’Hara about students’ rights and administration policy. She’s not an overtly unpleasant woman, and was dutifully willing to humor us while we voiced our concerns.

The meeting was pretty dull. Our concerns were predictably wandering, her responses were predictably scripted. Her personal style, which we’ll call “debate by attrition” far outmatched ours, which we will call — at least in my case — “rambling student.” It was my first encounter with O’Hara, and I came away with a couple of observations. First, everything about O’Hara — her handshake, the way she sits, her pause before she responds — says administrator. It’s in her nature. It’s her virtue. She picked the right career. This brings me to my next point. When she closed the door behind us, the isolation was tangible. In her office, Professor O’Hara is hopelessly removed from the lives of students.

I can accept that the business of administration requires some distance — nobody expects the legal council or the accounting office to reflect much on students — but this is the Office of Student Affairs. This isolation means that O’Hara and other administrators are too often insulated by the thick language of administrator-ese from personal accountability for their decisions.

A case in point is whether to modify the non-discrimination clause in du Lac to include sexual orientation. O’Hara’s stonewall on this question reeks so badly of that vague intransigence the administration has shown on any number of student and faculty issues that it deserves attention. It also deserves attention because, as of this writing, the administration’s position is nearly indefensible.

Last spring, in her open letter responding to the report of the ad hoc committee on gay and lesbian student needs she formed a year earlier, O’Hara agreed to “raise to the officers of the University the issue of modifying the non-discrimination clause which appears in university publications to include sexual orientation.” She stated, “I am sure that the officers will give this issue and all of its attendant complexities full analysis and discussion.”

Now, seven months later, with no answer forthcoming, that word “complexities” has taken on an almost gothic significance. When we asked her when students could expect a response from the officers on this issue her response was short and sweet: the issue is “complicated” and has “implications.” I spoke with several people before and after our meeting, all of whom had received the same response when they raised the same
issue with her.

Actually, the issue is not all that complicated. Yes, it might require the attention of a lawyer, but there is no shortage of lawyers in the administration, such as O’Hara herself. Moreover, the issue is probably less complicated than the agreements with the Keough family necessary to construct that new dorm or, better yet, the multi-zillion dollar contract that rents out the university’s student athletes to NBC six Saturdays a year. Obviously, in those cases there was more of a sense of urgency. In this case, the administration must either reserve the right to discriminate against homosexuals, or prohibit that discrimination.

But I am told repeatedly it’s not that easy. This is a private, Catholic institution. I do not deny that being a Catholic university makes Notre Dame a special place. I do vigorously deny, however, that Notre Dame’s Catholic nature must make it an unfriendly place for gays and lesbians. Too often, opponents of homosexual students’ rights bear this point defiantly, as if it were some kind of ornate medieval shield. They seem to say, civil rights and civil liberties don’t matter here; what matters is the Pope. The administration has used several more subtle versions of this argument to marginalize homosexual students. But, it is wrong — and I believe Professor O’Hara knows this.

The teaching of the Catholic Church is unmistakably clear on the question of discrimination against homosexuals. The 1994 Catechism of the Catholic Church, which Father David Garrick quoted in his letter to The Observer last spring, states that homosexuals (defined as those having a homosexual orientation) “...must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided...” In the eyes of the Church, discrimination against homosexuals is unjust. While the Church asserts that homosexual acts are “disordered,” it clearly intends that Catholic institutions should protect those who are homosexual in orientation from “unjust” discrimination.

There’s the rub. The administration is doubtlessly inclined against including sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause because the question raises some difficult legal issues. But unlike its argument against GLND/SMC, which is based on a flawed but coherent reading of Church teaching, administrators’ prejudices won’t be protected by the Church in this case.

The administration’s solution: debate by attrition. O’Hara and other administrators have a proven mastery of two key factors in dealing with student issues — apathy and the four-year degree. O’Hara and the university can and will outlast any student complaints. In this case, seven months after she promised to raise the issue, still no word. In the case of WVFI going FM, as someone pointed out to me the other day, it has been over a decade.

All it takes is one concrete decision. And, though she relies on the “smoky room” image of the officers discussing an issue and making a judgment that she must enforce, O’Hara can have an impact on that decision. Once in a while we’re given a chance to make a decision we know is right, whether our reasons are based on Church teaching or our own conscience. Maybe this time an administrator like Professor O’Hara will look beyond legal complexities and protection of the institution, and ask herself what it means that today — in defiance of Church teaching — Notre Dame does not protect the dignity of gay and lesbian students, faculty members and staff.
Retreat and Reflection

Life at Notre Dame can be stressful. But Notre Dame Encounters give students a chance to step back and reflect on their faith

BY ALLISON FASHEK

A Bible, a guitar and a journal. These are the few items that senior Laura Hayden was told she might consider bringing along on her first Notre Dame Encounter to help enhance the experience.

NDEs may seem like mysterious, cult-like events to students who have never experienced one. Yet they continue to draw a large number of applicants, and they continue to impact the lives of those who participate.

Like most students, Hayden heard about the retreat through friends who previously took part in the program. She knew she wanted to experience it for herself — it was only a matter of timing. NDE accepts just 50 students per retreat for five retreats each year, which makes the selection process difficult.

Sr. Susan Bruno, OSF, assistant director of NDE and rector of Pasquerilla West, recommends that everyone try it, but she recognizes that it’s often necessary for students to be persistent in applying to the program. She emphasizes that it’s important to keep the numbers of men and women in different classes balanced on each retreat. “We wish we could offer it to everybody who wants to go,” she says. The reality, however, is that only 10 percent of the student body will receive such a chance.

Junior Megan Hempelman, who is currently a student team leader of NDE retreats, went on the 33rd Encounter at the beginning of last year. It was her second time applying, but she feels it came at the right time. “You’ll go when you’re supposed to go, when it’s right in your life,” she says. After a rough freshman year, the experience helped her to adjust to Notre Dame life. “It helped me find a community I was looking for, to get back to my own spirituality,” she explains.

While it’s generally known that the Encounter is a religious retreat involving personal reflection and ending with a renowned dinner and concert at South Dining Hall, the rest of the details remain mysterious. Once accepted, Hayden and several of her friends did not know what to expect. They had no idea exactly how the guitar, Bible and journal fit into the scheme. “Everyone is so excited when they come back, but no one says anything in particular,” says senior Rebecca Reyda, who participated last spring.

In fact, the secrecy surrounding NDE has led people to liken it to a cult, a claim that Encounter participants disagree with. “[The secrecy] is not enforced ... and it’s not some strange, cult experience,” explains senior Kathy Conlon. She thinks it’s better not to know what’s going to happen, “to not have preconceived notions, to go into it with an open mind ... You appreciate it more.”

Bruno also believes that NDE is often misunderstood. “The validity of the program is based on the fact that there’s not a real knowledge ahead of time about what the experience is about,” she says. Bruno emphasizes that the program does not aim to be secretive or exclusive. Rather, the mystery surrounding the retreat is an attempt to keep the experience new. The surprises make it unique.

Dana Dillon, assistant rector of Lewis Hall, was involved in the program for three years as an undergraduate, her first retreat being the eleventh. She sees it as an encounter with Christ that is so personal and unique that it’s virtually impossible to relate to outsiders. “Even if you told a person everything that went on in a weekend, you wouldn’t convey the reality. [They] wouldn’t understand,” she says. “It’s like falling in love, and love can’t be explained.” According to Dillon, only those who have experienced it can understand it.

One important aspect of the retreat involves splitting participants up into small discussion groups of five or six. Due to the intensity of their conversation topics and the warm atmosphere, these groups have been known to keep in touch long after the weekend.

For many who have not participated in a retreat, it is difficult to understand what makes people want to open up and talk...
about their personal lives with complete strangers. Hempelman, who a year after her retreat is still close with her small group, feels that people tend to hold back at first. But gradually, as others share their experiences, the comfort level grows. Confidentiality is a ground rule emphasized in the groups to foster an immediate sense of trust among people who may have just met one another.

The groups provide opportunities for reflection, but it’s up to each individual to determine the direction of that experience. “I considered myself to have pretty strong faith going into it,” Hayden says. She had spent the semester before her NDE in London, and was experiencing some difficulties readjusting to life at Notre Dame when she applied for the retreat. “I had trouble balancing the different pulls on my time,” she explains. For her, it was a chance to take time out of her life and examine her priorities.

Conlon feels that her NDE experience has helped her this year in her role as an RA. She went on the retreat last year during the RA interview process, but at the time, did not know whether or not she had been accepted. “It helped me ... to experience activities that were positive and affirming,” she says. “You learn to bring that to your own and others’ lives ... I’m very comfortable with praising others, a valuable skill for RAs.”

For others, the weekend serves as a reminder of what’s important in life. Reyda did not initially have great expectations for the retreat, but now she admits, “I was on the NDE high; you feel on top of the world. Things that seem so major now need to be put into perspective, like grades and exams.” Hempelman agrees that there is a real need for students to put the books down long enough to focus on themselves, and “to leave what’s on this side of the lake behind for a weekend.”

One of the challenges participants face is maintaining the so-called high after returning from an NDE. This is the purpose of Kairos, a program formerly known as Fourth Day, which refers to the time following the three-day retreat. “If you have truly encountered God, your life has to change in some way, shape or form,” says Dillon. The new name, Kairos, emphasizes this idea, but the program is also open to other retreat participants and anyone looking to reflect on a Wednesday night in the Keenan/Stanford chapel. The meetings focus on prayer and open discussion, and they help strengthen the bonds between all those who have participated in an encounter. Kairos meetings create a unique and supportive community aimed at helping students integrate what they have learned into their daily lives.

Ultimately, it’s the students “sharing their own struggles with faith that causes the depth and reflection by others,” says Dillon. NDE is meant to help people gain a fresh perspective on life and religion, as well as to connect with other NDE people.

Viewing the program as a remote retreat with a group of overly cheerful people will make NDE look strange and exclusive. “But if you think about the experience of encountering God and reflecting about your life, not getting caught up in it seems strange,” Dillon says.

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Bettering the Business World

Students for Responsible Business is working to increase social responsibility in the business world, and their enthusiasm has proven contagious

BY MICK SWINEY

Most Notre Dame students who need financial aid know where to look for it. But others are not so fortunate, as senior Brett Barlag will tell you. Last year, he and a team of MBA students visited a computer class at LaSalle High School to introduce the students to some fundamental concepts of finance and budgeting. One MBA student presented a model budget to the students that included funds from federal work-study. This model drew questions from the students — many of them had never heard of work-study programs before.

Such high school visits are one of the activities sponsored by Students for Responsible Business (SRB), a new and rapidly growing student organization on campus. Its mission is “to foster a community of Notre Dame students and faculty committed to conducting business with integrity, accountability, responsibility and honesty by integrating our ethical values into business decisions.”

The presence of such an organization is not out of the ordinary at a university that houses one of the top business schools in the nation. There is no real reason why an organization like SRB should stand out among other student groups on campus, yet before it was even a year old, SRB had over 65 active members, an advisory board of 18 faculty members, and four extensive community interaction programs at work in the Michiana regional area.

According to senior Mark Moskowitz, director and co-founder of the program, the reason for their outstanding growth is the “contagious energy” that SRB members bring from their varying academic backgrounds to the organization’s many community-oriented projects. “SRB taps into the hallmark pursuit of Notre Dame — enhancing yourself while enhancing society,” Moskowitz says. SRB has worked to transmit the enthusiasm of its members into the businesses and high schools of South Bend, and so far that excitement has proven contagious.

Moskowitz attributes this ripple effect to the “multi-perspective approach” offered by the Notre Dame chapter. Although Students for Responsible Business can be found at over 35 schools around the globe, Notre Dame was the first branch of the international organization to extend membership not just to MBAs and faculty but to undergraduates as well. “Everybody brings some-
Bettering the Business World

Students for Responsible Business is working to increase social issues. Through CDI, Notre Dame faculty, MBA students and undergraduates teach beginning business courses two or three times a semester both at LaSalle and at St. Joseph’s high schools. They cover topics such as family budgeting, taxes, insurance concepts and loans. This program has met with so much success that SRB now plans to shift its focus to South Bend middle schools, beginning with Edwardsburg Middle School this coming semester. At Notre Dame, Barlag says, “We already have a good base in terms of motivation. Why not help people with the talents that we do have?”

But SRB doesn’t stop there. It plans to help both small and large corporations in Michiana evaluate the effects of their business decisions, as these decisions impact both their own interests and the community. “Socially responsible business practices can provide you with a competitive advantage,” Moskowitz says. Within the next year, he hopes to enact Jumpstart, a program designed to “offer social enhancement consulting to small businesses in Michiana,” many of which lack the necessary business experiences to establish a healthy financial relationship with the community.

Moskowitz first discovered SRB two years ago while visiting a friend at the University of California at Berkeley. Upon his return, he set to work finding a way to establish a chapter at Notre Dame, and was referred by Father Hesburgh, CSC, to Prof. John Houck and Fr. Oliver Williams, CSC, co-directors of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business. Under the eye of Houck and Williams, Moskowitz worked with fellow students Barlag and Jim Casto ’96 to bring SRB together.

Although they have come a long way since then, SRB’s growth has only just begun. The group now plans to assist Habitat for Humanity in devising a financial system to track daily expenses and maximize the use of available resources. Not only that, but SRB is working to form a communications department, which will work with other branches across the nation to maximize the effectiveness of the network, as well as provide internships for its MBA members.

Working with the community involves a great deal more than forming “as attractive a portfolio as possible,” Moskowitz says. “SRB presents a great opportunity for Notre Dame faculty and students to put their values and talents to work for the common good.”

“SRB taps into the hallmark pursuit of Notre Dame – enhancing yourself while enhancing society.”
—Mark Moskowitz

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Got A Light?

Roses may be red, but these pick-up lines are overused

By Sara Brandon

"Hi!" is the pick-up line most commonly used at Notre Dame. Just be careful when using this line, though. It is a big step. At first it's "Hi," then the next thing you know, you are married with three kids.

Believe it or not, Notre Dame men actually do have some pretty interesting pick-up lines. Don't freak out — this is not a male-bashing fest, guys. Girls do have some lines of their own. Here are a few lines to watch out for — or to make use of, depending on your perspective.

The first line is the slick and smooth approach that some women use. This approach was used by Anne, who wishes to remain anonymous so she can continue using it. When she sees an attractive guy, she takes a look at his apparel. If he is wearing something like a Texas T-shirt, she comments, "Hey, are you from Texas? Because I'm from Texas too!" This sneaky line actually works and can start a conversation. Now all the guys here know that when the girl in your English class says, "I like that shirt," she really means, "I like what's in that shirt."

Junior Tamara Labrecque fondly describes the first time she was hit with a pick-up line from someone she was dating at the time. Yes, you heard right — the line worked. The line goes, "Have you got a quarter, because my mama told me to call home when I found love." Your mama? Does that mean he is from Texas? What does his shirt say?

The next line comes compliments of the guy mentioned above. Another of his lines goes, "If I told you that you had a nice body, would you hold it against me?" Just wait until he tries this one again and everyone finishes the line before he does — he's busted.

Next is the line my very own RA gave me. Senior Ester Keyes, resident Romance Advisor, recalls one line that she's heard: "If I could re-arrange the alphabet, I would put U and I together." Pick-up line? There's not a doubt.

This little line is from Ima Jerk. Ima says, "Is your daddy a baker, because you have a nice set of buns."

"Hey, were you in my freshman sem class?" Enough said.

Junior Tara Dix was not amused by the line that was directed at her. The would-be stud said, "Why don't you go clean yourself up and come on down for a beer?" Nice try, but no thanks.

Okay, here is an example of the cheesy pick-up approach. This attempt didn't happen at the bars. It happened to Megan Dittman in the romantic atmosphere of the Hesburgh Library. This guy had probably read one too many books that night. (Is there a copy of Fatal Attraction on the shelves?) Dittman says that the guy came up and dropped a note off at her table. The note said, "I have been watching you from afar and I think you are beautiful. If I have a chance with you, call me!"

Dix recalls this line fondly: "You're kind of sexy, I'm kind of sexy, Let's be sexy together." Hey, now. If you're sexy, then I must be sexy, everyone is sexy, what's up with sexy, who is sexy?

Senior Sarah McGowan recalls a literal pick-up attempt that happened to a friend of hers. McGowan and some of her friends were walking back to campus from Turtle Creek when a group of guys walked by. The guys said, "Hi." (It was the infamous "Hi" line again.) The next thing McGowan knew, this guy ran out of the group towards one of her friends, yelling, "She is the girl of my dreams, I have been looking for you all of my life." Before she knew it, the guy was grabbing her and trying to sling her over his shoulder. Most students have heard of Prince Charming sweeping a girl off of her feet, but this guy took that advice a bit too seriously. He clearly was a man of few words — maybe he was just the strong, silent type.

With this guide to pick-up lines, we, as a campus, are prepared to think of some new moves so we don't have to literally pick-up anyone anymore. Keep in mind — sometimes it's better to just say it with flowers.
A Good-bye, Coach Lou

BY JEREMY DIXON

An era ended at Notre Dame Monday afternoon at 3:32. Despite all the rumors swirling around campus in the past week, it was not official until then — Lou would not be coming back next year.

Even if you did not grow up in a Notre Dame household, the name Lou Holtz has been synonymous with Notre Dame football. In fact, most current students can hardly remember the dark years before Holtz. My earliest Notre Dame memory is of some family friends talking about the promise of the “new coach of the Irish.”

This promise has been fulfilled. In college football’s most difficult job, Holtz has performed to the best of his abilities, and probably the best that anyone could do under the pressure.

A look at his record shows the legacy he will leave. He has won more games than any Irish coach since Rockne and coached the most games in Notre Dame history. He won a national championship and came in second twice. Holtz is a proven winner.


There are many other Lou memories. The Game of the Century in 1993 that lived up to its monumental pre-game hype. Complete dominance of USC. Nine straight bowl appearances. Special teams, special teams, special teams.

As with any coach of such longevity, they were not all happy times. The loss to Colorado in the 1990 Orange Bowl. Boston College in 1993. Boston College in 1994 — well, all of 1994. Northwestern last year. Air Force this year. Through all of the adversity, however, Holtz has held his head high and carried on.

Of course, the Notre Dame family is never satisfied. The alumni, administration and students all expect to win, and when the team’s best isn’t good enough to win, the first person they attack is the coach. I can’t count the times I’ve listened to “fans” in the parking lot go on tirades about Holtz.

Anything short of number one and some want his head on a platter. Is this any way to show respect for a man who knows more about football than all of the people who sit in the stadium week in and week out?

Holtz said at his press conference that “this is a sad day, but I feel it is the right thing to do.” Why exactly it is the right thing to do, very few people know. All the speculation is just that — speculation. Maybe Holtz wants to coach in the NFL. Maybe the administration forced him out. Whatever the reason, Holtz loves Notre Dame too much to let his resignation turn into a petty argument with the powers-that-be. Unless Holtz confirms anything, it will remain speculation. Until he does, all sides will say it was the coach’s decision.

But let’s not allow the details of his resignation blur the bigger picture. As Holtz said on Tuesday, this football team is still the most important thing. There are still two games left in the regular season, then a probable bowl bid. The Lou Holtz Farewell Tour has begun. Let’s hope it begins in style this Saturday against Rutgers. It will be a day of goodbyes. It will be the last game in the original stadium. Along with my classmates, it will be my last game at the school. Above all, it will be the last time the students form Ls with their hands at the end of the third quarter to salute Lou. We’ll miss you, Coach.
The Notre Dame women’s soccer team has rolled through the regular season. Now the NCAA tournament has begun and they’re Kickin’ Grass and Takin’ Names

BY HEATHER SCHOMANN

The Notre Dame record books will need many revisions after this season is over. The women’s soccer team claimed its first-ever Big East regular season title with a perfect 9-0 conference record. The team’s 13-0 start was also the best ever in the history of the program. They were ranked first for the longest period in Irish history. In 1996, the defending national champions defeated almost everyone in their path and proved to be one of the most exciting teams in the NCAA.

Led by seniors Cindy Daws and Jen Renola, the team has blended the experience of the upperclassmen with the enthusiasm of a strong group of underclassmen to produce another strong year. Daws credits this bond with making the season stand out. “This team has a tremendous amount of talent from both upperclassmen and underclassmen,” she says. “That combination of talent and heart has made the team successful. This season has been extra special to me because I’m a senior. We are all very close.”

Co-captain Renola agrees with Daws. “We’re much more confident than last year,” she says. “Instead of thinking that we could win, we believe we should win.”

Several individual records have also been shattered. Junior midfielder Holly Mathei led the nation for the third year in a row with 37 assists in 19 games, a new NCAA record, demonstrating once again why she is the nation’s deadliest passer. Daws became Notre Dame’s all-time leading scorer during the West Virginia game on October 25. “I am really proud to be part of the Notre Dame tradition,” Daws says of the milestone. “At the same time, I hope a freshman or sophomore on this team will knock me off the top someday so the tradition can continue.”

While it is the experience of the upperclassmen that has anchored this team, the flashy play of underclassmen has drawn...
The Notre Dame women's soccer team has rolled through the regular season. Now the NCAA tournament has begun and they're romping over Indiana. The forward was also named to the East All-Rookie Team.

Santa Renola, the team has blended the experience and produced another strong year. Daws credits exciting teams in the NCAA. "This combination of talent and heart has made the team successful," she says.

"Instead of thinking that we could win, we believe we should win."

— Jen Renola

Rookie of the Year. Sophomore Monica Gerardo finished second in goals, putting 21 into the net this season, and freshman Kara Brown was a steady performer in her first year, setting the school record for assists in a game before it was broken later in the year by Holly Manthei.

This season's competition provided several highlights and unforgettable victories, the sweetest coming against then top-ranked North Carolina in Durham. The Irish also beat four other tournament teams, as well as Big East rival Connecticut twice this season. There was quite a controversy when the preseason polls ranked the Tar Heels above the defending champions, but the Irish responded by winning 2-1 in overtime.

"It doesn't matter where you're ranked at the beginning of the season," says Head Coach Chris Petrucelli. "It definitely provided motivation in the Carolina game but it was never a focus for the team. They put on a great show every time they played this season."

Renola says that the team is determined to show the pollsters that they were wrong, especially after giving the top seed to North Carolina. "We've outwardly been shown a lack of respect," she says. "We have more motivation to prove we're the best."

The perfect record was ruined by only one game — Santa Clara. The Irish lost 3-1 to the eighth-ranked team in California one week after the Carolina victory. Daws sees the loss as a learning experience. "We experienced a really good win at Carolina and we realized on the other side that we can be beaten," she says. "We have to learn from that and readjust our game to be successful in the post-season."

After winning the Big East championship, the team is looking forward to another run at the NCAA title. They began the tournament last Sunday with an 8-1 rout of Indiana and face off against Wisconsin Sunday at Alumni Field. The second-seeded Irish will face tough competition on the road to the championship game, but they are confident that they can handle it. "They're a talented group of kids who have worked very hard to achieve their goals," Petrucelli says.

Daws fears, however, that the accomplishments of the season may be forgotten if the team does not bring home the championship. "I feel that anything else might be considered unsuccessful, but we've had a great season overall and we don't want to lose sight of that," she says.

"However, there's no question that the championship is our goal."

As the Irish continue on their quest to repeat, they will face many obstacles and tough moments. But with strong team chemistry and veteran leadership, hopefully Daws's fears can be allayed and the trophy will remain on campus.
Cream of the Crop
15 teams want to knock off Notre Dame — these are the most likely candidates

#1 North Carolina
Record: 21-1
Was there much doubt that the perennial powerhouse would be at the top of everyone's list of favorites to beat the Irish? This team has revenge on its mind, as its only losses in the past two years have come at the hands of the Irish. This year they have beaten 13 other tournament teams, including fifth-seeded Santa Clara. The ACC champs are led by senior forward Debbie Keller, who had 15 goals and 42 points on the season. An alternate for the U.S. Olympic team, Keller earned co-National Player of the Year in 1995, sharing that honor with teammate Staci Wilson, who anchors the Tar Heel defense. Head Coach Anson Dorrance has been at North Carolina seemingly since the dawn of time, leading his team to the tournament since its inception in 1982.

#3 Portland
Record: 17-0-2
The team that Notre Dame beat last year for the crown is back and ready to challenge the Irish again. Coming off its third straight West Coast Conference title, the Pilots are led by junior Justi Baumgardt's 37 points and the goaltending of freshman Cheryl Loveless, who leads the nation with an outstanding .29 goals against average. In action this season, they beat Santa Clara 2-0 at home and tied Duke in Durham. Their coach Clive Charles heads up both the men’s and women’s teams and was recently named the head coach of the U.S. Men's Olympic Team.

#4 Connecticut
Record: 21-2
The Huskies are the other powerhouse in the Big East, but have been forced to take a back seat to Notre Dame since their arrival in the league last season. This solid club boasts both the Big East Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year in Kerry Connors and Sara Whalen, respectively.

Connors has had a career-high 51 points, which, coupled with senior Ginny Woodward's 19 goals, give UConn a dominating offense. On the other end of the field, goalie Sally Sakelaris has the second-best GAA in the nation, allowing a mere .42 goals per game. The Huskies will be out for blood, as their only losses have come at the hands of the Irish.

#5 Santa Clara
Record: 14-3-2
The second highly-ranked team to come out of the WCC, the Broncos are the only team that has shown the Irish that they can be beaten, as they defeated Notre Dame 3-1 on October 13. Santa Clara has three women who have over 30 points in an even disbursement of scoring: senior Mikka Hansen (34 points), freshman Mandy Clemens (33) and freshman Jacquie Little (31). They lost to both North Carolina and Portland earlier this year, but they do have one major advantage if they make it to the Final Four — the finals are being held in Santa Clara.

— by Jeremy Dixon

Second Round Nov. 22-24 Third Round Nov. 29-Dec. 1
1. North Carolina
James Madison
Wake Forest
8. Florida
5. Santa Clara
Penn St.
UMass
4. UConn

Third Round Nov. 29-Dec. 1 Second Round Nov. 22-24
3. Portland
Vanderbilt
Duke
6. Nebraska
San Diego
Maryland
Wisconsin
NOTRE DAME
**SPORTS**

**Splinters from the**

**Press Box**

A roundup of the week in sports

November 12 to November 19

edited by Brian Hiro

**MEN'S SOCCER**

Nov. 16 #14 Connecticut W 2-1
Nov. 17 Rutgers W 1-0

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Nov. 15 Kent W 66-41
Nov. 17 #6 Iowa W 61-50
Nov. 19 #4 Tennessee L 72-59

**Key Player:** Greg Vehlo earned Most Outstanding Player honors in the Big East Tournament with his 13 saves in two games.

**Key Stat:** The Irish overcame six yellow cards and two ejections in the semifinals against the Huskies.

**Up Next:** A first-round NCAA matchup Sunday with third-seeded UNC-Greensboro.

**VOLLEYBALL**

Nov. 16 at Connecticut W 3-0
Nov. 17 at St. John's W 3-0

**Key Player:** Outside hitter Jen Briggs led the Irish in kills for the fifth time in the last five weeks.

**Key Stat:** Jenny Birkner has now played in the last five weeks. The Irish overcame six yellow cards and two ejections in the semifinals against the Huskies.

**Up Next:** The top-seeded Irish face the second-best team to achieve that milestone.

**HOCKEY**

Nov. 15 Ferris State L 5-1
Nov. 17 Mankato State L 4-3

**Key Player:** Freshman right wing Joe Dusabek scored his team-leading fourth goal of the season in the overtime loss to the Mavericks.

**Key Stat:** Notre Dame is just 1-21 on the power play over the past three games.

**Up Next:** CCHA matchups with Miami (Ohio) on the road and Lake Superior at the Joyce Center.

**What They Said:** “Today I announce my resignation as head football coach of the University of Notre Dame, effective at the end of the 1996 season.” — Lou Holtz

**What We Read:** “If the Irish beat USC, the suitors will call. To borrow an NBC gimmick, Holtz coaching his last game in a bowl is Must-See TV.” — David Haugh, *South Bend Tribune*

**Dix's Pick:** In the final game in the House that Rockne Built, the Irish give Lou Holtz his 100th victory at Notre Dame. Against a hapless Rutgers team that couldn’t even beat BC, the running game again rushes for over 350 yards and Powell throws two touchdowns. Lou goes out in style as the Irish win 55-7.

**Hiro's Hunch:** Pity poor Rutgers. As if this Big East doormat didn’t have enough to worry about, now it has to contend with the send-Holtz-out-in-style game plan. It doesn’t help that the Irish offense has found its groove. Denson goes over 1,000 yards on the year and Farmer has his third straight big game as Notre Dame cruises 45-0. Thanks, Lou.

**Athletes of the Week**

**Jason Rexing**

The junior from Pickerington, Ohio, finished second out of 240 runners to help the number 16 men's cross country team overcome three higher-ranked schools and win the NCAA District IV meet at Illinois.

**Katryna Gaither**

The All-American center lived up to her preseason billing by averaging 26 points and 9.5 rebounds to lead the 14th-ranked women's basketball team to the semifinals of the National Invitation Tournament. Her streak of consecutive games in double figures now stands at 59.

**Scholastic Magazine • November 21, 1996**

15
In 1993, student rights were eliminated from du Lac altogether. Now many students are pushing to have rights reintroduced—but they face an uphill battle

The university can control every aspect of [students'] lives however they want.

—JEN DOVIDIO

BY KRISTIN M. ALWORTH

The College Democrats had planned a rally for gay, lesbian and bisexual students and their supporters during National Coming Out Week in early October. But their plans changed when Bill Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life, refused their attempt to register the demonstration with his office. Not only did he forbid it, he also threatened to send police to break up the rally if the College Democrats defied his directive.

As a registered student group, the College Democrats claim that they were in compliance with du Lac’s policy on demonstrations. The policy does not require permission to hold a rally—it only requires that the rally be registered in writing with Kirk’s office by a recognized student group, that it be peaceful and orderly, and that it not impede the freedom of the university community. “We see [Kirk’s order] as an attempt to stifle the free speech of bisexual, gay and lesbian students and their supporters,” says Catherine Mullally, president of College Democrats. “The only excuse we can come up with to explain this [order] is that the decision was content-based.”

According to Ryan McInerney, Judicial Council president, that is exactly the problem. Notre Dame students do not have the right of free speech, nor do they have any other rights. “Notre Dame’s in the Stone Ages as far as student rights are concerned,” says McInerney, “We don’t have any rights—that’s the biggest problem.”

Jen Dovidio, vice president of the Judicial Council, also thinks that the lack of student rights is a problem. “The university can control every aspect of [students’] lives however they want,” she says. “We don’t even have the right of being assumed innocent until proven guilty in disciplinary hearings, including the right to be assumed innocent until proven guilty. In 1988, however, those rights were cut down to just five, and in 1993 the few remaining rights were eliminated altogether.

Some students question why these rights were cut from du Lac. McInerney believes that the university’s fear of external litigation is one reason for the elimination of student rights. “Every major change [in du Lac] over the last 20 years has come after a major lawsuit,” he says. According to McInerney, the 1993 revisions, for instance, came on the heels of a lawsuit in which the university was sued over a decision in a disciplinary hearing. The university lost the case, and judges warned that the university could be vulnerable to similar lawsuits in the future. They said that students might not realize that their student rights do not extend beyond the university, so the judges advised the university to include a disclaimer in du Lac to avoid such confusion.

According to McInerney, however, the university did not incorporate a disclaimer in du Lac—they simply removed student rights altogether. “I find this confusing,” says McInerney. “If their argument is that students will be confused [about the extent
In 1993, student rights were eliminated from du Lac altogether. Now many students are pushing to have rights reintroduced—writing that the decision was content-based.

Council president, College Democrats, sees [Kirk's order] as an attempt to stifle the free speech of bisexual, gay and lesbian students and their supporters in the university community.
The right to appeal, as outlined in du Lac.

During National Coming Out Week in 1997, Apple was told that he could possibly be either suspended or expelled, although it was not a disciplinary hearing and he had not officially been accused of anything. "I think this was just a scare tactic," he says. Ultimately, he was not suspended or expelled, but he did have his computer privileges revoked until May 20, 1997.

Graduate student Matt Apple would certainly concur that there is a need for student rights. He recently had a disciplinary conference for violating the university's policy on computer usage, and he feels that the disciplinary process was secretive and very confusing. "I had a feeling that I was just being pigeonholed," he says. At his disciplinary conference, Apple was warned that the university might sue over a decision in a disciplinary hearing and he could possibly be either suspended or expelled, although it was not a disciplinary hearing and he had not officially been accused of anything. "I think this was just a scare tactic," he says. Ultimately, he was not suspended or expelled, but he did have his computer privileges revoked until May 20, 1997.

Apple did not understand how the disciplinary process works, and the administrators who heard his case were not forthcoming with information about the process. He did not realize, for one, that there was a difference between a disciplinary hearing and a disciplinary conference. He also was unaware that students from the Judicial Council could provide advice for his conference. "I didn't know that [the council] existed," he says.

GAY IRISH. Gay members of the Notre Dame community and their supporters met on the Fieldhouse Mall earlier this semester for National Coming Out Week.

**Formerly**

**By The Book**

- A presumption of innocence until proven guilty.
- The opportunity to confront witnesses openly at the hearing except in extraordinary circumstances where the well-being of certain individuals is judged to be in serious jeopardy.
- The opportunity to admit or deny all charges, to call witnesses and present evidence.
- Written notification and explanation for disciplinary sanctions imposed by the hearing panel.
- The right to appeal, as outlined in du Lac.

These five rights were guaranteed to students until 1993, when they were removed from du Lac.
Also want to have a bill of rights incorporated into *du Lac*, which would provide rights outside of a disciplinary setting.

Many students believe that increased student rights will be beneficial to the university. "Relations between students and administrators would be more positive," says Dovidio. "We would know where we stand ... and we wouldn't have to play mind games with administrators."

McInerney says that another benefit of increased student rights would be improvements in the disciplinary hearing process. "Disciplinary hearings would function more effectively and efficiently," he says. "Students would be able to give their case more effectively. Rights would make the process more equitable for everyone."

McInerney also thinks that the rights that could be included in a bill of rights, such as freedom of speech, would benefit the community and promote an improved intellectual discourse at Notre Dame. "Students don't have the right to speak freely, so they haven't," he says. With a right to free speech, however, he feels that more students would be willing to express their ideas.

Students are not included in the *du Lac* revision process, however. *Du Lac* revisions are currently made by a committee in the Office of Residence Life, a committee comprised solely of administrators. The Student Senate recently suggested changes to this structure in a letter dated October 30 that was sent to Prof. Patricia O'Hara, vice president for Student Affairs. They recommended that a committee be formed to discuss three issues: the construction, revision and composition of *du Lac*, university disciplinary procedures and student rights. The Student Senate suggested that the committee should consist of three members of the Office of Student Affairs, including O'Hara, three members of the Student Senate and three members of the Faculty Senate.

O'Hara rebuffed the Student Senate's suggestion in a response dated November 13. Her response was not addressed to the Student Senate, however — it was addressed to Student Body President Seth Miller and Vice President Megan Murray. In her letter, she says that she is open to discussions about *du Lac* revisions, but that the Campus Life Council is the appropriate forum for these types of discussions, not the Student Senate. She also stated that the Office of Student Affairs disagrees that the 1993 *du Lac* revisions eliminated all student rights. O'Hara wrote, "The Office of Student Affairs reads our disciplinary procedures as affording students a number of important protections."

McInerney says that many members of the Student Senate were frustrated by O'Hara's response. "The majority of the concern was that Professor O'Hara doesn't seem to have a lot of respect for Student Senate," he says. "She's belittled the influence the Student Senate has with the administration." He thinks her response was paradoxical in that she said she was open to discussion, yet she refused to discuss it with the Student Senate. "We are not simply a body of students, but we are a body of elected and appointed students," McInerney says.

McInerney expresses concern about the overall level of student input into the *du Lac* revision process. "Students have no say," he says. "They let us write letters, but when it comes to closing the door and making the decision, there is no student in the room." McInerney claims that the Campus Life Council's input into decisions like *du Lac* revisions is trivial, and that students need to sit down with officials when they make decisions in order to have a say in policy changes.

Support from Miller for student rights issues is weak at best, however. He says he supports discussions on student rights. "Megan [Murray] and I are in favor of rights and open responsibilities," he says. "I think we live in a community, and like any community, we need to call everyone to live within common expectations." He says he supports discussions on student rights, and while he did vote for the Student Senate's resolution to support the College Democrats' resolution, Miller will not say whether he supports a bill of rights.

The Judicial Council is looking for student support this year as it proposes suggestions for changes in *du Lac*. Dovidio says that in past *du Lac* revision years, "A lot of
McInerney thinks that student support will also be essential as the council tries to get the administration to listen to its concerns. He has worked on suggestions for changes in \textit{du Lac} back in 1994, which were presented to the \textit{du Lac} revisions committee. They lacked student support, however, and their suggestions were subsequently rejected. “If we don’t bring [suggestions] with student support, there’s not a chance,” he says.

Some students think that one of the problems with student rights is the structure of \textit{du Lac} itself. “It’s not a student-friendly guide,” McInerney says. “And because of that, about 90 percent of those [students] who have read \textit{du Lac} only read it when they got in trouble.” McInerney explains that \textit{du Lac} used to be more of a student handbook, with information on the various organizations and resources on campus along with the rules. \textit{Du Lac}, however, has evolved into being just a guide to university policies and procedures. “It started as a handbook, but it has evolved into more of a contract between students and administrators,” McInerney says.

McInerney hopes to see \textit{du Lac} return to its former function as a comprehensive handbook, rather than merely being a policy and procedure manual. The Student Senate has taken up this issue as well. In their October 30 letter to O’Hara, they asked that a committee be formed in part to address the structure of \textit{du Lac}. McInerney, for one, thinks that if \textit{du Lac} included information on student organizations as it used to, then “students would constantly be contacting it.”

Kirk, however, feels that a return to \textit{du Lac}’s former structure would be impossible because of the massive amount of information that would have to be included. “Students would be overwhelmed — it would be thicker than the phone book,” he says. He notes that many student organizations have started to print their own brochures and manuals, so a handbook is not necessary to provide information about different campus groups.

In the meantime, many students are concerned about the lack of student rights at Notre Dame. “I never thought of it as an issue — I never knew if there was a bill of rights,” says Mullaly. “But if this can happen to College Democrats, it could happen to anyone.”
Joanna Deeter’s first-year success on the women’s cross country team has been unparalleled

By Brian Hiro

Most 19-year-old freshmen come out of their first year of women’s cross country in the Big East—a conference that has produced the last seven national champions and spouts out Olympic-caliber runners as fast as Kenya—rubbing their sore legs and sobbing to their moms about transfer options.

Here’s what Notre Dame rookie Joanna Deeter has to say about the experience: “I love it. It’s so much fun.”

But then, the more you talk to Deeter, the standout in a group of standout first-year runners, the more you realize just how atypical she is.

First there’s her speed. How fast is she? Fast enough to go under 17:00 in the 5K (about a 5:40 mile pace) three times when no one else on the cross country team has done it once.

How fast? Fast enough to finish at least 14 seconds ahead of the closest Notre Dame runner in every meet she’s competed in this year.

How fast? Fast enough to win four races, break the course record at the Notre Dame Invitational, finish second at the awe-inspiring Big East Championships and qualify for nationals, which she did by winning last weekend’s NCAA District IV Meet in Champaign, Ill.

“She’s got a great chance at nationals,” says Women’s Cross Country Coach Tim Connelly of his star pupil. “I think with her times she’s already established herself as one of the top runners in the country.”

So she’s fast. But Deeter has so much more than a good set of wheels. She is the type of person who can utter a tired phrase like, “It doesn’t matter how I do as long as we do well as a team,” and genuinely mean it. She is refreshingly unfazed and unaffected.

You want an individual? At the Notre Dame Invitational, Deeter cared more about her family being in attendance than setting the meet record.

You want unaffected? She didn’t even know that the runner she chased down in the Big East Championships only to fall five seconds short was two-time champion Marie McMahon of Providence.

Here’s what she does know: “The Big East was a very fun meet because the team was very excited to be there.”

Deeter was supposed to be the future; instead, she is the present. And what a present it has turned out to be.

Is Deeter for real? Where does such a team-first mentality come from? Look no further than Coach Connelly.

“The most important thing in cross-country is the team,” he says. “I try to downplay Joanna’s individual accomplishments even though I really appreciate them.”

He should. Thanks to Deeter and fellow freshman Nicole LaSelle, who has finished second to her classmate among Irish runners in every competition this year and earned all-Big East honors at the conference championships, the women’s cross country program has attracted national attention, quietly moving to 21st in the rankings. Deeter was supposed to be the future; instead, she is the present.

And what a present it has turned out to be.

“Having someone as talented as Joanna is certainly something to build on,” says Connelly. “She’s driven to be great. She wants to be great.”

It hasn’t always been that way. When Deeter first...
I started running in the ninth grade, she would get so nervous before races that she would literally have to be forced onto the track.

"When I was a freshman, I was a little crybaby," she says. "I hated running my first two years. I completely despised it and then I just started to like it all of a sudden. I think it's a love-hate relationship."

It would be hard not to like Deeter's prep accomplishments. At Eden Prairie High School in Eden Prairie, Minn. (a small town near Minneapolis), she was a four-time all-state selection in track, a two-time state champion in the 3200 meters and the state record-holder in the 3200 with a time of 10:29.74. But running is not all she did. She also earned three varsity letters in basketball and one each in volleyball and soccer.

"I love sports," Deeter says. "I wanted to be involved in everything in high school. It was busy but I loved every minute of it."

What about the state record?

"It's still really exciting to know that my name is in the record book. I'll always hold that dear to my heart. But you move on to bigger and better things, I guess."

For Deeter, bigger and better things has been a collegiate debut in which she has routinely beaten runners who have three years and many competitions on her. But this year, of course, not much was expected of her. If she had stumbled along the way, she could have gotten away with the "just a freshman" excuse. As a sophomore, she will wear the label of All-American. She will be the target of every runner in every meet. Has she created a monster with her performance this year?

"Yeah, I'm kind of worried about that [the expectations]," she admits. "Because now it's like I'm set. Before, I didn't have to be a good runner and I could just sit around and do nothing. Now it's expected. But I can take that in stride and say, 'You know, if I'm not good, it doesn't matter. It's not going to affect my life if I'm not good next year.' I can just take this year and say, 'Wow, that was really great.' If next year I'm not as good, then, hey, I had my season."

Deeter's big year, though, is not even close to done. Besides Monday's NCAA Championships in Tucson, Ariz., she's got indoor and outdoor track left to dominate. Remember that track, not cross country, was her high school specialty. But that doesn't mean it's as much fun.

"I definitely like cross country the best," she says. "You get to be out in nature and you don't have to run around in a circle 50,000 times. Track's just boring."

If she continues to improve at her current rate, that's just what the competition will become for Deeter: boring. But for now, she seems content with her choice.

"I think that I've gotten the most out of my potential here," she says.

Any arguments?
INTO THE NIGHT. Nocturne DJs like Gina Vecchione dramatically change the character of WSND's music when they take over at midnight.

WSND Nocturne DJ John Gavula knows how to play after dark

BY JOHN GAVULA

During the day, anyone listening to 89.9 FM will hear the sounds of classical music interspersed with student newscasts and weather reports. But when the clock strikes midnight, like Cinderella, things become a little different. Tchaikovsky is traded for Tool, Mozart makes way for Mötley Crüe and the request line gets busy.

At the end of each day, from midnight to 2 a.m., WSND begins its Nocturne show, which showcases alternative, new and classic rock along with whatever other particular genres each night's DJ cares to play. To find out just what happens in the O'Shag tower after hours, we asked Tuesday night Nocturne DJ John Gavula to give us a journal of a day, er, night on the job.
Arrive at the station and prep for the night. Look over the playlists from the past two weeks to see what songs have been getting the most playtime on our station as well as commercial radio. If certain songs are being overplayed, I might try to de-emphasize them by taking them out of the rotation for the night, or vice versa if a song I like isn’t getting a lot of airtime.

Before the show, I look through the rotation of the most popular recent discs and choose which ones to play. The station manager likes each show to play about 50 percent of the rotation, leaving the rest up to the DJs.

Pre-show preparation also includes scanning new discs for interesting songs, listening to suggestions suggested by the Nocturne managers and listening for inappropriate language in songs. This isn’t always fail-safe, however. I once played the King Missile song “Detachable Penis,” which didn’t have any offensive language and, in my eyes, was not particularly offensive. But I guess the administration thought that a song about a man losing his detachable organ was unsuitable for airplay.

My co-host Kevin Rini arrives and we talk about the evening’s contests. The first involves working on the night’s “Tri-Bond,” a game that asks the listener to link three given words (for example: “Haze,” “Rain,” and “People Eater” are all linked by the word “Purple”). The giveaways are always fun and usually we get a good response to them, but sometimes we and our audience aren’t on the same wavelength. Like the time we did “Book,” “Parking,” and “Pot,” no one called in (the bond was “sticker”). The other contest we run is a movie quote, which is pretty self-explanatory. The prizes are usually extra copies of CDs and tapes that the station gets from record companies. The DJs choose ones we think are the best to give away because the station gets a lot of garbage and we don’t like to give garbage away as a prize.

Showtime. This includes lining up the rotation songs so that the show has a smooth flow to it. Our show focuses on classic rock, but we also take a lot of requests. We want the show’s playlist to flow between groups of heavy and light music. You don’t want to sandwich someone like Donovan in between AC/DC and Tool.

We start out by playing the Nocturne theme music and then a good transition song, something fairly accessible so as not to shock our older listeners.

We’ll come on afterwards, introduce ourselves and then hook the listeners by teasing them with the knowledge that they can win prizes. We only like to plan two songs ahead since we like to leave the show open to audience requests.

KISSin’ Time. Since our show attempts to focus on classic rock outside of the rotation, we play a Kiss song every show at this time.

Likewise, at 1:00 we always get the Led (Zeppelin) out so the listeners can get their fill. But really, who can ever get their fill of Led?

The rest of the show is spent fielding calls from listeners, discussing topics for the next on-air segment, cueing the up-coming song and just jamming out in the studio.

Time to close shop. We read the station sign-off (“This concludes our broadcasting day...”) and give all of the station’s information about our wattage and other technical stuff and then close with a mellow song before going off the air. After that, it’s just a matter of braving the cold walk back to Keough to finally get some sleep.
SHOPPING DAZE

Scholastic's gift guide to movies and music that the whole family will enjoy on Christmas morning

For Mom

Mom's a sucker for a good romance, as evidenced by her collection of Fabio-modeled paperbacks and her obsession with American Movie Classics's daytime line-up. Ideally, she'll swoon when you give her Sense and Sensibility on video (now available, $18 range). The most successful Jane Austen film adaptation won Emma Thompson a Best Screenplay Academy Award and had women across America pulling out hankies by the end.

Of course, if Mom's a sucker for Andrew Lloyd Weber (and whose Mom isn't?), the Evita soundtrack is now available (two-disc set, $25 range). Though Madonna's movie won't be released until Christmas, there's something about hearing Antonio Banderas belting out Weber lyrics and the Material Girl singing "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" that could bring a tear to anyone's eye.

RUMBLE IN THE BRONX

IS A VIDEO STOCKING STUFFER THAT ANY BROTHER WOULD LOVE.
For Dad

Won't Dad be surprised when he unwraps his new Snoop Dogg CD, appropriately titled Tha Doggfather (now available, $18 range)? The rapper's newest CD has already placed in Billboard's top 10 and fans admit it's an offer they can't refuse.

But maybe Dad is a little too retro for the rap scene, so a little nostalgia can't hurt. Try giving him the Mission: Impossible collector's videos ($12 range) — vintage episodes of the TV series Dad was always sure to watch. And to show Dad that he can appreciate these crazy kids nowadays, throw in Tom Cruise's film version of Mission: Impossible ($18 range), now available on video.

For Your Younger Brother

No doubt that your TV-immersed sibling has seen his share of violence, so he'll practically do cartwheels when he opens his copy of Rumble in the Bronx (Dec. 3, $18 range) on video. Sparse, badly-dubbed dialogue doesn't interfere with the nearly 90 minutes of pure chop-sockey action that any kid who has seen Cops will appreciate.

Of course, to really impress your bro, get him the Nintendo 64 game system ($200 range) that "sell out as soon as they come in," according to one Best Buy salesclerk. With the Mortal Kombat Trilogy and an upcoming Star Wars game (priced between $55-$80), he'll be hard-pressed to solve either of them within a week.

For Your Older Sister

If Sis already has all three Beatles anthologies and the documentary on video as well, try expanding her musical tastes. Prince's newly-released Emancipation, a 3-CD set of all new recordings ($50 range) and Bush's latest Razorback Suitcase ($18 range) are bound to be big. Or try getting her the new 311 music video ($12 range), a "huge seller" at Camelot music.

Movewise, your sister can choose which Hollywood hunk to fawn over in Heat ($25 range), between the young Val Kilmer or the more-established Al Pacino and Robert DeNiro. And if cops and robbers isn't her cup of tea, Mira Sorvino is wonderful in Woody Allen's romantic Mighty Aphrodite ($18 range), another video release in time for Christmas.

GIVING MR. HOLLAND COULD BE A GREAT GIFT TO GET BROWNIE POINTS FROM A PROF.

And for the rest of the folks...

Uncle Dave, Dad's pseudo-hip brother, will appreciate Van Halen's Greatest Hits, newly-released on CD ($18), while Aunt Patti can pop in Reba McIntyre's new release ($18). Little Junior won't be disappointed getting Toy Story on video ($20), the big Christmas gift movie.

Uncle Bob, who always has a little too much egg nog, will be able to identify with Leaving Las Vegas ($18). Grandpa will appreciate Grumpier Old Men ($18), a companion to the original film that you got him last year, though Grandma wants Independence Day (available Nov. 22, $18), especially after she saw it three times in the theaters. And remember that a little brown-nosing never hurts, so be sure to pick up a few copies of The Nutty Professor ($18) or Mr. Holland's Opus ($18) for your profs.
Entertainment

Hail to the Chief

More Than a Mouthful

Holtz's retirement bash is more than just desserts

The JACC is packed. Dim mood lighting falls over the cloth-covered banquet tables that spot the floor. Blue and gold balloons decorate the arena while tuxedo-clad maître'ds refill water glasses. ESPN cameras are panning through the tables of black-tied athletes, alumni and Notre Dame fans. At the raised head table, Beauchamp and Malloy sit on either side of the man at the center, Lou Holtz.

Yes, kids, it's the perfect setting for the Lou Holtz retirement party/fund-raiser (subtitled Don't Let the Door Hit You on the Way Out). Though the season is far from over, you can never plan too early for galas like this. So OOB formally suggests the following menu be served soon after our bowl victory (emphasis on victory) by the incomparable Notre Dame Food Services Catering/Banquet Division. (Shrimp poppers available on request.)

To start

Gerry Faust Cocktail
A flat Tab cola, no ice.

And then

NFL Chowder
Your choice of soup, available in New York Jets split-pea or Minnesota Viking stew.

Followed by

Nine-Layer Salad
A large, mixed vegetable delight — featuring a layer for each home loss in the '90s. Then the entree

Barnett Prime Rib
Grade-A, top-choice, high-quality beef. with a side of

Necklock Pasta
Spiral springs of pasta representative of Mr. Holtz's neck injury in 1994 and the infamous headlock he put on the official in the 1992 Stanford game.

Followed by your choice of desserts

Buckeye Nut Crunch
A plate of Ohio buckeyes — bitter nuts somehow impossible to break or

Two-Heisman Pie
A light, fluffy meringue pie containing a dual layer of fluff for each Heisman trophy Ron Powlus didn't win.

The evening will conclude with a glass of

Lou Holtz Chianti
A bold, sometimes bitter, sometimes sweet wine that doesn't always go down smoothly, but once finished, leaves you with a sense of relief and renewed hope.

Tickets will be offered first to players, administration and rich alumni (highest tax brackets first). Students will be offered tickets the day after the celebration at JACC Gate 13 from 5:00 a.m. to 5:15 a.m. (Must be present with student ID)

Out of Bounds

Random Number Crunching

Leaving His Mark

MacLeod's winning ways could be permanent

Well, hell may not be freezing over quite yet, but Notre Dame men's basketball is 2-0 (say, undefeated) so far and, though those games don't count towards the regular season, give credit where it is due. OOB's promise of giving the team a little extra incentive for making the NCAA tournament hasn't been forgotten, as last week's suggestions included having me shave an interlocking ND on my head (unfortunately, Scholastic cannot afford to purchase the licensing rights for the logo), get a tattoo of Coach MacLeod (various areas on the body were given, none of which I particularly want the coach's face to adorn) and eating a gardenburger from South Dining Hall (which begs the question, do you really want them to win that badly?). So, OOB will keep an open mind about this for now, and welcome any other offers that you, the gullible, ticket-buying public, might have to help the team onward to victory.

Final Blurb

Nothing like the old Christmas season to warm OOB's cynical soul (yes, the column is heartless, but it does have a soul — albeit sick and twisted). The Notre Dame COTH Department presentation of A Christmas Carol offers that perfect mix of Bah Humbug-ness and (gasp) happiness that gives the same sort of feeling as a hot rum toddy at a football tailgate. Playing through Sunday, perhaps it will inspire OOB to let Holtz off the hook next week (unless we lose to Rutgers) and share some end-of-the-season Christmas cheer.

Or maybe not.

By Chris Myers

26 Scholastic Magazine • November 21, 1996
Listen to Uncle Gipp's story about the latest scandal involving the football team, a tale of deceit, money laundering and bestiality. All you football players can sit down again, and the Gipp's just pulling your artificially-enhanced leg. Actually, the football team has done absolutely nothing deserving media attention lately. They've been really good boys.

This is meant to appease certain members of the team who have been irritated at the Gipp for some of his recent comments. Oh, who are we kidding — they've been irritated for over a year. Boys, take a lesson from our student body president and take the Gipp's comments in stride. Besides, this column isn't admissible in Student Affairs hearings. Nothing is.

LOU'S LEAVING
You heard it here first. Okay, you heard it everywhere else first. And everyone else has made a prediction, so the Gipp doesn't want to be left out. But the Gipp won't write a front-page story on Lou's departure, "according to all indications," with no sources to confirm it, like The Observer reported on Tuesday.

So why did Lou leave? The Gipp knows one thing, it wasn't his own idea. All the player conduct problems have finally added up for Lou, and the Athletic Department is tired of pulling strings to keep national scandals from falling on the Dome. Add to that a few lukewarm seasons and declining player motivation and Lou's looking at the coaching job at St. Joe's.

As to the future, the Gipp's inside sources say Davie isn't already signed to the contract, and Northwestern's Gary Barnett has some skeletons in his closet that may keep him from Knute's sidelines.

But the Gipp has an even bolder prediction: Lou wears women's underwear, and he's leaving because the Fighting Irish pantsies don't have enough rear coverage. You heard that here first.

DON'T LIVE IN COLLEGE PARK
It seems that Chris Fielding, the landlord of College Park, is stuck on the university's idea of in loco parentis. Too bad the Gipp doubts he knows what that means. What Fielding does know is that all parties will be shut down and repeat offenders will be evicted, as he told some residents last weekend. What he doesn't know is that parties actually don't violate the leases, and the leases aren't valid anyway, because he didn't sign them until recently.

What the Gipp knows is that Fielding will include restrictions on parties in next year's leases, including how many guests constitute a party. What the Gipp knows is that Fielding will have an empty apartment complex next year if he keeps this up. The Gipp hears Campus View has plenty of vacancies.

ANOTHER STUDENT GOVERNMENT JAB
Speaking of Seth, there seems to be some dissension in the student government office. First on the staffers' list of gripes is the "Connecting You" slogan. None of them like it. They're not alone — a group calling themselves the Student Liberation Front kidnapped one banner and defaced another. They contacted vice president Megan Murray, promising to issue demands for return of the beloved banners.

But staff members don't let this get them down. They keep their spirits high with a top 10 list of Seth's favorite metaphors, including, "The members of Team Connection are all spikes in a wheel," and "gotta put the rubber to the road." The Gipp didn't know there was so much subtext to student government rhetoric. Too bad all that money was spent on "Connecting You" stationery — maybe they should have used one of those dandy metaphors instead.

JAZZMAN'S BAR AND SHOOTING RANGE
The management of Jazzman's Discotheque established a new policy on "fights, rowdy, or problem customers, or any disturbances, or customers, that are rude or vulgar to the employees working here." How's that for conciseness? Offenders will be "BARRED FOREVER" from Jazzman's. The policy repeats this, then closes with, "Trouble makers are not welcome and you will be BARRED FOREVER!"

Strong words. God will send you to Hell, but he doesn't BAR you FOREVER from the local crooked bar. Too bad this directive didn't have any effect on the shooting at Jazzman's a few weeks ago. Who knows, maybe the gunman wasn't rude or vulgar to the employees. But is he BARRED FOREVER?

FREUDIAN SLIP
On page 10 of the most recent Right Reason, Luke A. White wrote an article on a book about a reformed abortion doctor. At the end of the article, he is referred to as "Like A. White." Typo? Coincidence? It's nice to know that the local right-wing newspaper is there to print what some will only shout to people on Bulla Road.

Well, kids, there's your semi-weekly dose of information and cynicism. The Gipp will be off next week to practice his smile for the relatives over Thanksgiving break. He learned long ago that there was a direct correlation between smiling at Thanksgiving and total dollar value of Christmas presents. Give it a try, but the Gipp gets a cut of the take. He has to give most of it to the football team as a "protection fee" anyway.

REASON NUMBER 6665 THE GIPP LOVES NOTRE DAME: The Alumni Association has requested that the fight song be changed to make it politically correct. It's now "rally, sons, of Notre Dame" — it will become "rally, now, for Notre Dame." It is "while our loyal sons are marching onward to victory" — it will become "while our loyal sons and daughters march on to victory." The Gipp applauds progress, especially in relevant areas like the fight song lyrics. Lest some fear the administration is moving forward, keep in mind there's still no room in the inn for gays and lesbians.
My Apologia

Taking responsibility for ruining everyone’s fun

BY CHRISTIAN DALLAVIS

There are no more parties at College Park. Campus View is cracking down. And I am responsible.

My roommates and I had a party in August that was the impetus for College Park management’s action. I can’t deny that I am one-third responsible for the social void that our complex has become.

This isn’t the first time I’ve been in this kind of situation. Sophomore year I was one-ninth responsible for something called Dawgfest. Nine sophomores in my section, myself included, conspired to have a big party.

We decided the best way to get money from freshmen was to deceive them. We concocted a story about the old Alumni Hall tradition called Dawgfest, an annual rager that all the ladies are crazy about. We told them the Sixth Annual Dawgfest was coming up, and we needed about $7 from each of them. We were going to split up 20 or 30 cases of beer among nine or so rooms, but several of my cohorts lived in Cavanaugh so we’re out of town. My roommates were out of town. My roommates were under the impression that the ‘Naughfest mark of 100 cases.

Eventually, we settled on 50. We collected enough money, put ads in The Observer, and got a good deal on a bulk purchase of Natural Light. Fifty cases at six bucks a case.

Things got ugly when we could not find a large enough car, so we had to use a pickup truck. We pulled up to the Main Circle with 50 cases of beer in a truck with no cover in broad daylight. We managed to “sneak” about 10 cases into Alumni before the eagle-eyed sentry at the guardhouse noticed that about 50 underage residents of Alumni were carrying huge quantities of beer into the dorm.

Six police cars, 10 cops, and one security truck full of beer later, I was on my way to Student Affairs. By some fluke, only my name was taken down, and only I got in trouble. Later, Senior Bar had a special: 50 cents for a can of Natural Light.

But in my defense, I must offer my account of what actually happened at College Park. These are the true facts of the night of August 24, 1996.

I was out of town. My roommates were out of town. The girl next door had a key to our apartment, unlocked it, brought in three kegs and invited everyone over for a Back-To-School party. About 200 people were spilling out of my breezeway when I got home around 11 p.m., and about half of them were naked. Most were having sex. A few people had set fire to several cars in the parking lot, and they had stripped down and were dancing around the conflagration, Lord of the Flies-style. Inside, the stereo was blasting and people were openly doing drugs, mostly crack, but with a little heroin for variety. Someone was filming a kiddie porn in the back bedroom.

By the time the owner called the police, several windows were broken and the building was on the verge of collapse. I was doing a keg stand when the police arrived, and at first the cops gathered around and chanted — “53, 54, 55...” — as I drank. They each took a turn, and then kicked everyone out. I had almost talked them into ignoring the whole scene, but when they saw my roommate passed out on the hardwood floor drenched in his own urine, I knew the party was over.

They expressed shock and dismay at the lack of stripes in the parking lot, which led to haphazard and irresponsible parking by party-goers. After issuing a firm warning about double parking, the police left and the underage orgies resumed.

The next day we were warned by our landlord that we would be evicted if we had another party. The management was so angry that soon after the incident they declared that College Park would host no more parties. In order to show the residents that they meant business, the management also broke several of the dryers in the complex, and refuses to fix them to this day. “A few bad apples ruin the whole bunch,” we were told. I am a bad apple. I am ashamed. I am sorry.

So you can see, I am a fundamentally bad man. I am one-third responsible for the disappointment of the senior residents of College Park, just as I was one-ninth responsible for deliberately deceiving the freshmen of Alumni Hall two years ago. College Park is not a fun place. My senior year is an utter letdown. I can only imagine the enmity and scorn I have incurred from my neighbors. I can only say I’m sorry, it won’t happen again. Well, maybe the kiddie porn will. And the orgies.

This is a humor column. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of the editorial staff of Scholastic Magazine.
**Coming Distraction**

November 21 - 26

- **THURSDAY — November 21**
  - Play, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, Washington Hall, 7:30 p.m.
  - Film, *Phenomenon*, Cushing, 10:30 p.m.
- **FRIDAY — November 22**
  - Pep Rally, JACC Arena, 7 p.m.
  - Play, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, Washington Hall, 7:30 p.m.
  - Film, *Lamerica*, Snite, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.
  - Film, *Phenomenon*, Cushing, 8 and 10:30 p.m.
- **SATURDAY — November 23**
  - Football, ND vs. Rutgers, 12:30.
  - Film, *Lamerica*, Snite, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.
  - Play, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, Washington Hall, 7:30 p.m.
  - Film, *Phenomenon*, Cushing, 8 and 10:30 p.m.
- **SUNDAY — November 24**
  - Basketball, ND men vs. Monmouth, JACC Arena, 2 p.m.
  - Play, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, Washington Hall, 2:30 p.m.
- **MONDAY — November 25**
  - Film, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, Snite, 7 p.m.
- **TUESDAY — November 26**
  - Film, *Rules of the Game*, Snite, 7 p.m.

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**Movies 10**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td><em>Phenomenon</em></td>
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<td>2:10</td>
<td><em>Lamerica</em></td>
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<td><em>The Silver Screen</em></td>
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<td><em>Trainspotting</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td><em>Surviving Picasso</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:25</td>
<td><em>Set It Off</em></td>
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**University Park West**

- **277-7336.**
  - *Dear God*, PG, 2:15.

- **University Park East**
  - **277-7336.**
    - *Space Jam*, PG, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:45, 3:15, 4:00, 5:00, 5:30, 6:30, 7:15, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15, 11:45.
    - *Jingle All the Way*, PG, 12:45, 2:00, 3:00, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 7:30, 9:00, 9:35, 11:00, 11:40.

- **Late Shows on Friday and Saturday only!**
- **New Student Rate: $4, Monday-Thursdays with a student ID!**
Please, Won’t You Be My Neighbor?

Angry neighbors take matters into their own hands

BY ROSS RAMUNNO AND CHRISTIAN DALLAVIS

♦ Notre Dame Avenue Neighborhood Watch
A recent issue of The Creightonian reported that residents of local neighborhoods are unhappy with off-campus student neighbors. Apparently, the students party too hard in Omaha, and their neighbors are steaming mad. In fact, one neighbor reports that she’s afraid that someone “may resort to violence.” They should contact the neighbors of Notre Dame Avenue apartments, who have had tremendous success in keeping parties and gatherings to a minimum with their grassroots, armed burglary-style neighborhood watch program.

♦ CI Valet Parking
It seems that students at Monmouth College in New Jersey have been getting the royal treatment from their administration. Due to a shortage of parking spaces for off-campus and commuting students, the administration has hired the National Valet Company to park cars for students. Most students have taken advantage of this service, but many have expressed disappointment that the university does not provide adequate parking. Luckily, off-campus students here have plenty of spaces available in the CI lot, conveniently located within 40 minutes of campus. There are rumors that the university is planning to announce that next year any student caught taking a valuable spot from one of the oh-so-important guests attending the Quarterback Luncheon on home football Fridays will be shot on sight.

♦ Food for Thought
First year engineering students at West Virginia University have recently completed a project that has taught them to play with their food. These students were given the task of constructing a small car, completely composed of edible food, that could speed down a hill. To ensure that no one fudged the assignment, students were required to eat their vehicle to receive a grade. In a related matter, South Dining Hall manager Jim Yarbrough announced that Food Services will hold a contest in which students build a life-size statue of Father Sorin from “foods” found in SDH. But contestants are not allowed to remove their creation from the dining hall unless it consists of only one piece of fruit or a pastry.

♦ The Devil Made Them Do It
The University of San Francisco, a Jesuit school, just changed the prefix of its campus telephone numbers to “422” from “666.” The university claims that the reason for the change is not due to satanic associations with the number, but rather because the university was running out of extensions. This follows a recent trend, as just a few years ago at Notre Dame the prefix to all administrative phone numbers was changed to “631” from “976.”

♦ Doogie Howser, Ph.D.
Duquesne University freshman Erik Cornelius majors in theology and is involved in several school activities. He’s only 13 years old. Cornelius is a self-taught prodigy attending the Pittsburgh area university as the school’s youngest student. He chose Duquesne because most other schools refused to take responsibility for an underage student. Cornelius did visit Notre Dame and had a great time at Bridget’s, but apparently our daycare program isn’t up to snuff.

♦ “Couch”?
An anonymous female student at the University of Richmond has made a habit of calling up male students and repeating the word “couch” over and over until they hang up. Apparently this is such a problem at Richmond that campus police have been notified and have reported the pranks in the school paper’s police report. These calls are strange in and of themselves, but what about the wuss who called the police? Just deal with it, buddy.
Imagine yourself in a big, comfy bed on a warm, cloudless night, making love with someone who is passionately in love with you.

As you touch and hug each other tenderly, you feel truly happy and completely at peace.

You begin to lose yourself in love and sensuality, you are fused with your lover.

You are in paradise. You are with the perfect person, you are alive.

Your two hearts beat as one.

You are deeply in love.

You love your lover. You love yourself. You love life.

So try not to spoil the moment.

Oh, it's you. Same to you and more of it, pal.
Notre Dame Spirit Remains
It's just not very loud anymore

Spirit at Notre Dame has always been particularly strong, expressing the university's shared culture and giving voice to shared values. But like all cultures, Notre Dame is constantly evolving—as the university gets richer and smarter and builds more buildings, what is happening to the Notre Dame spirit?

For anybody who's been to a home football game lately, clearly Notre Dame is in danger of irreparably losing one particular manifestation of that spirit—loud and vocal support of its football team.

The football team in the 1990s has lost the home field advantage it enjoyed as recently as 1989. The Irish have lost 18 games since 1990 and 10 of them have been at home. Most of those losses have been against underdogs—good, dangerous teams where the crowd support that was mustered against a Florida State in 1993 should make a big difference if the home team comes out flat. But it's an open secret that against "lesser" foes, Notre Dame Stadium has become a passionless pit. The BC game the week after the Florida State contest is a perfect illustration, as is this year's Air Force game.

The whole spirit issue involves something truly central to Notre Dame's essence—the strong family bonds between the student body, its athletic teams and other members of the extended Notre Dame family. Maintaining this special link is tougher than ever, as the backgrounds and distractions for student athletes have become progressively troubled by social trends and the potential for corruption by the money available for professional athletes.

Historically, the essence of the student athlete experience at Notre Dame has been a two-way street. Today's players more than hold up their end of the equation. The demands on their time have vastly increased, and they are continually under the microscope of peers, journalists, alumni and the general public. But the fans aren't fulfilling their end of the contract. Every time the team goes to Columbus, Ohio, or Austin, Texas, they hear and feel a crowd much louder than their own friends and fans at home.

But how can this be? Notre Dame's spirit assets appear to be better than ever. The games are more than sold out; ND fans are still the most numerous nationwide and their loyalty is still legendary. The student body still stands for every play and many of the old traditions are still there.

There is still a strong sense of the "old" Notre Dame spirit, but also a growing sense of overcommercialization, of alienation. The NBC TV contract has introduced endless TV timeouts, and made sustaining crowd enthusiasm physically much more difficult. The same things are being done that have always been done—pep rallies and band concerts—but the real animating spirit is draining out of these events.

There is no point in trying to turn back the clock. No one wants to remake the student body into what it used to be when it carried the whole load. The students, however, can and should be the key to doing something better: catalyze the entire crowd. The stadium expansion provides the perfect opportunity to reeducate a home crowd that has forgotten how to make noise and sing, with the students taking the lead. Use the talent, intelligence and creative energy of today's students to unleash the energy of the Notre Dame fans as a whole.

For example, fix the pep rallies. Put the players on one side of the stands and the students on the floor. The "festival seating" will recreate the dynamic of the days when the pep rallies were for the players instead of the opposite.

During the games, put someone in charge of the crowd dynamic, to orchestrate the band, cheerleaders and the PA announcer during the TV timeouts and other breaks. Also, seat alumni together by class to permit mini-reunions in the stands and lessen inhibitions against getting loud and rowdy.

Notre Dame has a chance to repair its spirit when the expanded stadium opens next year. Or will it simply be proven that 85,000 quiet fans don't make any more noise than 60,000 quiet ones? The solution is in the hands of today's student body.
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sat 8 pm / 10:30pm

free coffee = every  
9:30 am  
in duh huddle

thanksgiving: Nov 28  
sponsored by the sub  
committee for religious freedom

It's in your head

...and when you speak of us to your parents this weekend, speak of us kindly.

He didn't listen.