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MAGAZINE

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 serviços 101
As the popular Urban Plunge seminar turns 30 this year, students recount their experiences in America's inner cities. by Courtenay Collins

20 Movies That Really Defined Our Decade
Scholastic's film critics choose the movies that will forever identify Hollywood's golden era of 1987-97. by Chris Myers and Andrew Nutting

Raising Their Voices by Meredith Salisbury
Bleeding Blue and Gold by James Pastore
Taking Care of Business by Sally Scherer
Finnish-ing Touches by Brian Lucas
Movin' On Up by Christopher Hamilton
Picking Up the Pace by Kathleen O'Brien
That's a Wrap by Joe Gallagher

Departments
From the Editor
Letters
ND Notebook
Campus Watch
Splinters from the Press Box
Out of Bounds
Life in Hell
On Other Campuses
Week in Distortion
Calendar
Final Word
Personal Space

Monday Night Football in a dorm lounge. You were there early enough to get a spot on the couch, but the room soon filled past capacity. You were comfortable until those three guys parked in front of you. Now you have to retract your feet, squeeze your hips against the side of the couch and pray the whole thing doesn’t get shot to hell when the Packers score a touchdown and the idiot cheeshead crammed next to you erupts in a spittle-slobbering Green Bay cheer. God forbid you have to use the bathroom.

Well, it appears the administration sympathizes with students who find themselves in this uncomfortable position. After years of listening to concerns about the lack of viable social space on campus, the university is taking steps to determine just what sort of space is needed. So while reports of plans to burn down LaFortune and replace it with a Ferris wheel are probably premature, check out Jake Mooney’s story on page 16 to see what might be in the works.

Featured Inside

What do you feel are the most culturally influential movies of the last decade? Chris Myers and Andrew Nutting offer up Scholastic’s list starting on page 28.

There might be few issues more divisive than which movies are most important, but Meredith Salisbury investigates one that might qualify on page 7. The Strake Foundation’s ongoing series of lectures on homosexuality has caused some controversy, and Salisbury examines feelings on both sides of the podium.

Correction

The two musicians pictured in “Tuning Up,” last issue’s feature on Acoustic Cafe, were incorrectly identified as the duo Megan and Marge. Rather, they are half of the four-member group Hotel Prati. Scholastic regrets the error.

Patrick Downes
Managing Editor

Fifteen Years Ago: Our Wonderful Administration

Back in 1982, when the current Alumni-Senior Club was built, students had expressed concerns about whether the administration would consider their suggestions during the construction process. But then-Senior Bar Manager Kevin Woods allayed those fears in the September 1982 issue of Scholastic:

"Everywhere there is the mark of student input. “Surprisingly, we had a lot of influence,” says Kevin. “The administration really listened; they literally moved walls for me. The whole building is a lot of student ideas — they welcomed our input.”

With an administration so willing to listen to student concerns it’s amazing there weren’t coed dorms, keggers in LaFortune and uncontrolled orgies on the quads. Luckily for us, our administration keeps us in line. Who knows what would happen if we didn’t have administrators to make decisions for us? We might actually drink in the dorms, break parietals or have sex on campus.

-KMA
Security Measures Reinforce Gender Gap

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to Kate Jacques’ sidebar, "A Matter of Gender," which appeared in your most recent issue of Scholastic. Notre Dame Security, in its "resolution" of the parking problem on South Quad and in its differential treatment of male and female dorms, is clearly promoting traditional sexism. Whether they hide behind the guise of claiming women are the "weaker sex" and therefore more in need of protection or appeal to male protectiveness (a.k.a. chauvinism) they are clearly discriminating against men. This discrimination endangers the health and welfare of Notre Dame men and ultimately undermines gender equality.

Allotting parking spaces on the basis of gender is blatant discrimination. The fact that it makes life a little easier and a little safer for the women who get the closer parking spaces does not excuse the sexism of such a decision. This decision is particularly atrocious considering that the safety of men is being traded off for the safety of women. Rather than have men and women equally share the danger of a cross-campus walk, women are being protected at the expense of men. If Security’s primary goal is to reduce the potential for victimization of Notre Dame students (all Notre Dame students, not just the female ones), then this is a shameful decision, particularly given two factors.

First, men are more likely to travel alone. Men are more likely to make beer runs alone, more likely to go places on their own, and less likely to receive offers of potential traveling companions. This greatly increases their chances for victimization. Second, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, men are the primary victims of 94 percent of all violent crimes and the more violent the crime (with the exception of rape, which constitutes six percent of all violent crimes), the more likely the victim is a man. To expose any student to this is ridiculous and downright criminal, but to force men to endure it for the benefit of women is nothing less than sexist oppression.

Detecting only female dorms is another example of blatant discrimination against men. Men’s dorms and women’s dorms are located in all the same areas, look virtually identical from the outside, and to the potential criminal, they are indistinguishable. So why the differential treatment? Are the residents of women’s dorms somehow in need of more protection? Are they somehow inferior to men and need more security than we would give to men? Or is it just that Security doesn’t give two shakes about the men at Notre Dame and cares less about what happens to them than what happens to women? If the point of locks/detex is to provide a safe living environment for Notre Dame students, then don’t all Notre Dame students have an equal right to protection? I guess Security doesn’t think so.

For whatever reason Security has chosen to protect women on this campus at the expense of men, it is still sexist, it is still discrimination, and it is still wrong. This kind of attitude towards men and women is harmful to everyone involved. It directly hurts men by exposing them to more crime and it indirectly hurts women by preventing them from being viewed as responsible adults. As long as women are treated as children (as reflected by the added protection we provide to women, but not to men), society can never expect women to grow into adulthood and adult responsibilities, including the responsibilities of protecting oneself and acting as a responsible adult. Is it any wonder that women aren’t given the same respect as men when they aren’t given the same responsibilities either?

No, if we are to recognize and respect men and women as equals, then we must treat them equally, which means no differential treatment on the basis of gender. We must not give women protection that we do not provide to men. If there are genuine security issues and concerns, they should be addressed, but one gender should not receive more protection than the other. Differential treatment sends a clear message that the parties involved are not equal and the only way to prevent sending that message is to treat men and women equally. Security must behave as if they consider the safety of men and women to be equally important if we are to respect men and women as equals.

Bill Maurer
Senior
Siegfried Hall
Just Do It

Got Milk?

LIKE A ROCK

Mmm, Mmm, Good

the maxi with wings

GREAT WRITERS AREN'T BORN GREAT, THEY BECOME GREAT.

WRITE FOR SCHOLASTIC. BECOME GREAT.
From Gold to Platinum
Former ND All-American John Scully
sings the praises of Notre Dame

What's that sound resounding through the bookstore? Why, Here Come The Irish, of course. No, not the popular Saturday afternoon cheer. It's the new CD co-produced by former Notre Dame football player John Scully. The album contains genres of music ranging from pop to rap to blues to yes, even country, proving that Scully's abilities transcend gridiron greatness.

Scully was a consensus All-American in 1980, his senior year, one of 29 in school history. The former tri-captain was selected by the Atlanta Falcons in the fourth round of the 1981 draft and played 10 years for the Falcons before retiring in 1990. Scully isn't the only Notre Dame connection on the album. Former Chicago Bear and 1983 Notre Dame graduate Tom Thayer is the promotion coordinator for the album.

The music on the CD is about Notre Dame, not just the football team. Songs include "Listen, Listen," a homage to "South Bend, where the Irish play," the title track, a tribute to Knute Rockne called "Cyclone of South Bend" and "Winners Can Be Women or Men," a notable song pondering the success of both male and female Notre Dame teams. Besides co-producing the album, Scully wrote many of the songs and even assumed lead vocals on "Long Walk," a song that boasts "You gotta look in the mirror and stand up like a man."

On the back of the CD cover, Scully writes, "Since graduating after the 1980 season, I have been known before anything else as someone who came from Notre Dame. I am proud to say that label speaks for itself in all my endeavors."

It's clear that Scully's musical endeavor is well-intentioned, yet for the average listener, it can be pretty rough. Many of the songs are average at best, unlistenable at worst. Unlike the Notre Dame Band CDs that the bookstore also sells, Bob Davie won't be playing this in the locker room for inspiration any time soon. But after all, Scully has already proven himself a legend at Notre Dame because of his on-field success. He just should never have quit his day job.

— Brian Lucas

Q&A

10 Questions with Frank Franko
LaFortune's Clipper Jockey

Growing up in his dad's barber shop, it's fitting that Frank Franko makes his living cutting, clipping and snipping hair six days a week. After working as a material manager in South Bend for 25 years, Franko has been working in his small, well-decorated LaFortune shop for five years now, a job he likes better than desk work. Scheduling 32 customers a day, the self-described "clipper jockey" allowed Scholastic to sit in his barber shop during a routine Friday morning as the busy buzz-cutter answered these 10 questions:

Who's the most famous head you've cut?
Father Ted [Hesburgh] comes in here all the time.

Do you compete with the University Hair stylists for customers?
Yes, I compete with the salon [but] I don't steal any of their customers, they steal mine.

What's the deal with all of the pictures on the walls here?
All the photographs are mine, I take them. I get attached to them so I hang them up.

Do you have any favorites?
I like the one of the river. ... My favorite now is the one of me with Rocky Blier. He's one of my heroes.

Hairdressers are notorious for knowing the latest gossip. Hear any good rumors lately?
Not really. Just small rumors, like the one about [the administration] talking about remodeling LaFortune.

— Brian Lucas

JUDGMENT CALLS

Fiesta Grande
Move at NDH
Campus Hook-Up
D2 Motorcycle Tool
CBS Sports

From its cozy, ethnic nook in the corner, NDH's best-kept secret gets relocated to the crowded, Denny's-like atmosphere of the main dining room. ¡Ay caramba!

Dorm delivery makes picking it up so much more convenient. And if you happen to run out of TP in the bathroom...

Anonymous problematic parking doesn't get slashed tires or death threats, but a daily poem in the Observer's classifieds isn't this why Eliot wrote "The Waste Land?"

Perhaps Lou will step out of the studio and back onto the sidelines for Pittsburgh on Saturday. But at this point we'll settle for Jim Nantz.

continued on next page→
Q&A continued from previous page

If they remodeled, would you like to have a bigger barber shop?
No. I like the little room I have now. I like working by myself.

What's the story behind the barber pole?
The story comes from the old days when barbers did bloodletting. The blue and white stripes stand for medicine and the red stands for blood.

Do you do any bloodletting?
Not on purpose.

What's the best shampoo to use?
I don't know. I use any shampoo that's on sale.

What's wrong with our football team?
Nothing's wrong, they're just struggling to find themselves. We can still salvage a pretty good season yet.

---

BACKSTAGE

Death Becomes Them

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are tragically funny

Destiny and free will are two weighty issues tackled with farcical glee in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, the Notre Dame Communication and Theatre Department's latest Mainstage presentation. Drawing heavily from Shakespeare's Hamlet, Tom Stoppard's play addresses many of the same issues from a unique perspective. R&G is Hamlet as seen from the perspective of two minor characters in the play who humorously misinterpret Shakespeare's work. Students doubting the hilarity of the play can take the word of director Siiri Scott. "I can promise them they will laugh," she says, noting the famous "game of questions" scene between the two main characters. In the game, every inquiry is answered with another question. "[Rosencrantz and Guildenstern] aren't really looking for answers," Scott says.

The cast of 17 mixes experienced performers with first timers, including three freshmen. Scott is optimistic about their performances. "I can see great growth in all of my actors," she says. "There is an amazing exchange of energy of live audience and performer."

With its snappy dialogue and astounding wit, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern is a sure-fire crowd pleaser for anyone who appreciates Shakespeare and a good laugh. In Scott's own words, "Come and be energized."

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead plays through October 13 at Washington Hall.

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BOOKENDS

Fahrenheit 451

Natural decay threatens many of the library's books

Sometimes in the not-so-distant future, the Hesburgh Library will throw away approximately 60 percent of its current holdings. These volumes will not be outdated, nor will the information they contain be of any less relevance. The books — most of which were printed in the last two centuries — will be victims of their own shoddy construction, and of the chemical composition of their paper.

Laura Fuderer, Library Curator for Special Collections, explains, "When companies started making paper from wood pulp, which became universal by 1860, they sealed the doom of all books printed at that time." Paper from wood is acidic, and will eventually become brittle and fall apart. Manufacturers often treat their paper with alum and rosin, which also contains damaging acids.

Ironically, many of the library's older books, some printed as long ago as the year 1200, are in relatively good shape compared to machine-made books from the mid-19th century. These books have survived so long because they were printed on paper made from cloth or on vellum, a product of animal hide. These materials do not contain the acid that makes wood-based paper degrade, and they maintain a fresh, white appearance that belies their advanced years.

Thanks to some concerned members of the late 19th century's arts and crafts movement, many recent books can look forward to lives as long and healthy as their counterparts from centuries ago. Fuderer says that members of the movement noticed the poor quality of mass-produced, machine-made books and returned to using hand-presses and making paper from cloth. Today, Fuderer explains, many academic publishers, concerned about the longevity of their products, use higher-quality, non-acidic paper.

Even for books that have already begun to decay, there is some hope. Many of the library's more rare or valuable volumes have been de-acidified by a process in which restorers treat each page individually. The process, however, is expensive and time-consuming, and Fuderer prefers a method in which large quantities of books are placed in a chamber and treated with gas. "Many of our books that are at risk can be saved if they can be mass-deacidified," she says. These processes, which can save a book in danger of decaying, can do nothing to bring back to life an already-damaged work: The library transfers the information in many of these volumes onto microfilm and discards the hard copies.

The university, however, is often reluctant to allocate money for such preservational procedures, much to the dismay of Fuderer. "There just isn't enough money for everything we'd like to do," Fuderer says. "People often think about the present and getting resources and not enough about preserving what we have."

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The Mantam speaker...
Raising Their Voices

"There is not one bit of information that says homosexuals were born that way."

—Anthony Falzarano

By Meredith Salisbury

Until the beginning of this school year, campus debate on issues linked to homosexuality was marked primarily by sporadic, low-profile discussions and a general ignorance about the ongoing studies of and theories about homosexuality. On Thursday, September 11, this pattern ended with the first lecture in a controversial series sponsored by the Strake Foundation and run by the Jacques Maritain Center.

Debate has arisen regarding the purpose of the lecture series. Many think that the series is suppressing the voice of homosexuals just after the group made progress on their battle for recognition with the recent Spirit of Inclusion. Others claim that the lectures are doing what a true university is designed for: fostering higher thought and promoting education about the subject.

George Strake '57, felt that the campus dialogue on homosexuality would benefit from increased resources and more academic input. "I asked [the Maritain Center] to come up with a good program to lend balance to the debate," Strake says. With $50,000 from the Strake Foundation, the Center has attempted to do just that.

Graduate student and unofficial coordinator of the series Randall Smith explains, "My interest and desire is ... wholly to foster discussion." The series, which will last the entire academic year, is expected to consist of an average of four speakers per semester.

Professor Ralph McInerny, director of the Maritain Center, says that the series revolves around the Catholic Church's teachings and moral philosophy on homosexuality. Speakers are chosen by graduate students and are required to have "impeccable credentials," according to McInerny. To date, speakers have included Joseph Nicolosi, Ph.D., Anthony Falzarano and Jaime González. Rev. Benedict Ashley, a Dominican theologian, will speak today about homosexuality and church teachings. The next scheduled speakers are John Finnis, who is a law professor at both Notre Dame and Oxford University, and a Jesuit scripture speaker from Rome.

Nicolosi, executive director of the National Association of Research and Therapy of Homosexuality, lectured about his research on the cause and possible cure of male homosexuality. Nicolosi claims to have cured over 400 homosexual men who have come to him unhappy with their gay lifestyle.

Falzarano and González focused on the idea that homosexuality, which they see...
The content of his [Dr. Nicolosi's] presentation is potentially misleading and harmful to gay and non-gay students who came to learn.

— Fran Feeley

as a personal, though possibly subconscious, choice, can be cured by God through religious healing processes. Directors of the Washington, D.C.-based Transformation Ex-Gay Christian Ministries, which is part of Exodus International, Falzarano and González both claim to be ex-gay, having maintained gay lifestyles for nine years each. Falzarano says Exodus currently ministers to 12,000 former gays. “There are many people on this campus who want to be gay,” he adds. “And that’s their choice. It’s unfortunate, but that’s their choice.” Exodus has branch offices around the country, with the closest one located in Mishawaka. The group is currently looking into setting up a branch on campus.

Reactions to the speakers have been mixed but highly charged. According to Nicolosi, students were “warm and appreciative.” In fact, he says, “The students were more receptive than the administration,” citing Director of Campus Ministry Rev. Richard Warner’s “Considerations” column in the Observer on the day of his lecture as an example of the administration’s failure to welcome him. Nicolosi says, however, that Notre Dame is the first Catholic school to invite him to speak about his studies.

Falzarano and González concur that their presentation was well received, saying that several students later expressed their appreciation of the lecture.

While the speakers believe their presentations have had a primarily positive impact, many people have been less than jubilant about them. “[The lectures] have the potential to do a lot more harm than good,” says Karl Eichelberger, co-chair of Gays and Lesbians of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s (GLND/SMC). “Repression therapy ... damages the individual and creates more internal conflict.”

Fran Feeley ’90, vice chair of the Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Notre Dame and

Nature or Nurture?

S
ince homosexuality became a public issue, people have been trying to answer one question: What makes people gay? According to Fran Feeley, vice chair of Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College, “There really is no conclusive data on the causation of homosexuality.”

A fairly popular belief is that homosexuality is a mental disorder. Among the proponents of this view is Dr. Joseph Nicolosi, who claims to have cured over 400 gay men of their homosexual tendencies. The American Psychological Association, however, recently passed a resolution stating that this theory is false.

Some ex-gays such as Anthony Falzarano and Jaime González believe that homosexuality is a choice. While they think homosexuals may not have consciously made this choice, advocates of this view say it was indeed voluntary and can be “unchosen” through conversion therapy and healing in God. Falzarano claims that typical causes are sexual abuse, molestation, rape and failure to bond with same-sex parents.

Scientific views on the issue have tended to focus on biological causation. In 1991, Simon LeVay concluded from a postmortem study that homosexual and heterosexual men had differences in their hypothalami. Size of the hypothalami and structure of certain groups of cells within the organ were two of the proposed causations of homosexuality.

Science then looked to genetics to provide an answer. Also in 1991, a study by J.M. Bailey and R.C. Pillard on twins and siblings showed a strong correlation between genes and homosexuality. Over half of the identical twin pairs studied both reported being gay or bisexual; the study revealed.

According to Feeley, a second Bailey study is expected to be released in 1998 from an experiment done on twins in Australia, and results are anticipated to reinforce the ones from the previous survey.

—Meredith Salisbury
Saint Mary's College, handed out several pages of information at the Nicolosi lecture. Two pages concerned the American Psychological Association 1997 resolution that "homosexuality is not a mental disorder," while the remaining four pages consisted of questions challenging Nicolosi's research and the ethics of a "biased" therapist treating patients.

The conclusion of each conversion therapy experiment, Feeley says, is that it does not work. "Claims of success are highly fabricated," he comments, asserting that no evidence supports the long-term success of conversion therapy. This lack of evidence would imply that homosexuality is neither a choice, as the ex-gays believe, nor a mental disorder, as Nicolosi feels it is.

Falzarano counters this view. "There is not one bit of information that says homosexuals were born that way," he says.

Feeley's concerns extend to the series as a whole, as he also found Nicolosi's presentation problematic. "The content of [Nicolosi's] presentation is potentially misleading and harmful to gay and non-gay students who came to learn," he says. "I would hope the Psychology Department, Gender Studies Program and counseling center are bringing to the attention of students that the views being presented by this series have been denounced by professional organizations and research."

Feeley cites the story of the two ex-gay men, Mike Bussee and Gary Cooper, who founded Exodus in 1973, as an example of the flaws of such therapy. After marrying women as a testimony to the success of their conversion therapy and founding Exodus to help others in similar situations, Bussee and Cooper eventually denounced the organization and came out as gay lovers.

Ava Preacher, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Letters, agrees with some of the concerns about the lectures. She attended Nicolosi's lecture and concluded that it was illogical and unconvincing. Preacher's main concern with the series, which focuses solely on homosexuality in the Catholic context, is that it is one-sided. "I'm afraid students are getting one ... very highly charged perspective," she says. "It's hard for it to foster discussion when there's no balance."

McInerny does not seem to have a problem with this criticism. "It's one-sided in a sense, sure," he comments. But rather than offer the entire spectrum of views on homosexuality, McInerny says, "the point of the series is to give the multifaceted Catholic viewpoint."

Strake's intention in donating the money was to have Catholic angles presented. "The [homosexual] side is certainly vocal," he says of the ongoing campus debate. "This is a chance to see alternative views."

But Warner predicted in his Observer column that these alternative views would not have a beneficial impact on campus discussion. "I do not think the presentations will be helpful in any meaningful way," Warner wrote. He says, "It reinforces stereotyping and misinformation and a lack of informed approach to the issues."

Meanwhile, members of gay and lesbian organizations dispute Strake's idea that homosexuals have a loud voice on campus. With GLND/SMC still unrecognized by the university, there is no student-run group for homosexuals on campus. Within Campus Ministry's jurisdiction is a support group called the Pastoral Initiative for Gays and Lesbians, but according to Warner, the pastoral group is not responsible for activities such as inviting speakers to campus.

The Notre Dame Lesbian and Gay Students group, run through Student Affairs, was begun last year in response to suggestions by an ad hoc committee. Eichlerberger says that since the group is under Student Affairs and advised by a priest and a nun, it is unequal to other organizations because it is not self-governing. By failing to give the group independence, Eichlerberger says, the university is "still saying gay and lesbian students are ... second-class people." He adds that this stigma of inferiority will continue to stifle the homosexual voice on campus.

Feeley agrees that recognition of a student-run group would help strengthen the homosexual voice. Now openly gay, Feeley was still uncertain of his orientation when he attended the university seven years ago. "I felt isolated to
I’m afraid students are getting one ... very highly charged perspective. It’s hard to foster discussion when there’s no balance.

— Assistant Dean Ava Preacher

an extreme,” he recalls. “The absence of a recognized student group left me with the impression that being gay or associating with other gays was something that belonged underground.” In retrospect, Feeley believes the worst part of being in an environment where the homosexual voice seemed stifled was the feeling that, as a gay person, he would never be accepted.

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs has not issued a formal response to the lecture series. Alyssa Hellrung, a member of the Standing Committee, says that while the committee has not spoken against the series, “we’re not supporting this at all.”

According to Eichelberger, various members of GLND/SMC are looking into ways to counter the lecture series. However, this may be easier said than done for an organization that has trouble just finding a room for its meetings. While the unofficial group cannot invite its own speakers, Eichelberger says other organizations bring in people whom GLND/SMC would endorse, so their views are occasionally expressed. In the past, these groups have included the Gender Studies program, the Women’s Resource Center, the Graduate Student Union and the Center for Social Concerns.

Preacher believes that even if other groups wanted to host a series to counter the Strake Foundation’s, none of the groups has enough money to have presentations like the Maritain Center’s ongoing series. These groups would also have to look to outside financial sources to present something along the lines of the Strake series.

Feeley thinks a gay student would feel threatened by this series. Feeley comments.

Feeley is now comfortable being publicly gay. However, he clearly remembers his time at college and warns of the possible effects of a campus where there are no student-organized homosexual groups to give gays a voice. “My classmates graduated without the ability to deal with gay people,” he says. Another serious worry, Feeley adds, is that the rate of suicide is high among gay people and that situations that make them feel more confused or unwanted may increase this rate.

Apparently unconcerned by the controversy, both Strake and McInerny are satisfied with the progress of the lecture series. “It’s been doing what one hoped,” McInerny says.

Feeley’s take on it is different. “Many intelligent people of good will are looking for reliable information on this issue,” he says. “What the Strake Foundation seems to be serving up are misleading and unsubstantiated views.”

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SISQUEL & EBERT

"ONE OF THE YEAR’S BEST FILMS."

-Gene Siskel

"MESMERIZING..."

-Kenneth Tunks

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"ASTONISHING..."

-Janet Maslin

ROLLING STONE

"A TRIUMPH..."

-Peter Travers

PETER FONDA

ULEE’S GOLD

---

Cinema at the Snite

Friday and Saturday
7:15 and 9:45 p.m.

Sponsored by Notre Dame Communication and Theatre

Brassed Off will be shown Nov. 14 and 15
Bleeding Blue and Gold

Buying a football ticket is far from a simple exchange of cash

BY JAMES PASTORE

Believe it or not, there are fun things to do at Notre Dame — say, going to a football game. Okay, so maybe not this season. But nobody can deny the fact that demand for football tickets remains high. Notre Dame fans will do almost anything, even bleed blue and gold, to watch their team play. Even with the addition of more than 20,000 new seats, many still think a Notre Dame football ticket is as precious as the gold glistening on the dome. And they will go pretty far to get one.

One student actually posted a sign that read, “I will give you my first-born child for a Michigan ticket, if interested, see Tito.” Some might wonder if sophomore Steve D’Avria, a.k.a. Tito, has perhaps played tackle football one too many times without his helmet, but his sign worked. “It was great,” D’Avria says. “Twenty minutes after I hung the sign, I got four calls offering tickets.” Fortunately, D’Avria was able to bargain with his ticket seller by paying him $75 and offering one small favor. “I have to name my first kid Pat whether it’s a girl or a boy,” he says.

D’Avria’s seemingly drastic actions are not all that uncommon. After all, hundreds of students lay claim to their own patch of ground in front of the Joyce Center the night before tickets go on sale each year. It’s not quite the same as giving away offspring, but the camp-out has been known to lend itself to other displays of school spirit, such as streaking naked past other waiting students.

Junior Patrick Mousaw recalls seeing the streakers. “All of a sudden we saw this group of guys streaking past us,” Mousaw says. “All the girls were cheering and clapping.” However, the streak was not completely successful. One member of the group fell behind at just the wrong time. “The cops came out of nowhere, jumped up and cuffed him right there,” Mousaw says. “He was completely naked except for his sneakers.”

For those who manage to keep their pants on and avoid a summons for indecent exposure, the early morning of waiting in line brings new challenges, such as trying not to stampede with the intent to kill as 15 people cut in at the head of the line. But not all students are content to sit calmly and allow this injustice to occur. Instead, they attempt to weasel their own way into the line.

Sophomore Augusto Camara used a creative plan to get tickets last year. “I posed as a Philippino prince,” Camara says. “My friend explained that I had never seen a game before, but that I was a big football fan and needed to be at the head of the line to get a ticket. I just kept nodding my head the whole time.” His ploy failed, however. Even naïve freshmen identified Camara as an impostor and sent him to the back of the line.

When the entire family decides to visit on a football weekend expecting to see a game, students become even more desperate for tickets. This is a situation where sending Grandma into the stadium with that student ticket starts to sound like a good idea. Going to the ticket exchange and paying the extra $16 to change the ticket into a GA is always a possibility, but it’s no fun to follow the rules. After all, getting past the men and women in yellow is simply a matter of obtaining a student ID bearing a resemblance to the visitor. Sophomore Marie Gemma recalls trying to sneak an acquaintance into a game. “Unknowingly I gave away my student ID to a guy,” she says. “And this was a guy with blond hair and blue eyes versus my brown hair and brown eyes.” It worked, of course. Maybe next time someone can sneak in a keg and pass it off as their roommate.

In the end, the tickets are well worth the trouble, but the trouble only seems to increase each year. Freshman Ned Popit and his father arrived for the Ohio State game last year without tickets. Since they were staying at the same hotel as Notre Dame’s team and knew that people sometimes turn in extra tickets to the front desk, Ned’s father asked the clerk to notify him if any became available. “A few hours later, we got a phone call from a man offering to sell us tickets so we went right over,” Popit says.

When they arrived looking for tickets, a man answered the door in a bathrobe and invited them in. “There was this younger woman lying in the guy’s bed. She was probably in her 20s and this guy had to be between 40 and 50.” Hey, even people whose significant others are young enough to be their children love Notre Dame football.

And most fans will take their tickets any way they can get them.

October 9, 1997

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE
The Urban Plunge program celebrates 30 years of educating students about the inner city

BY COURTENAY COLLINS

For many students, Christmas break means relaxing, celebrating with friends and family and eating holiday goodies. But for the past two years, junior Missy Byerly has chosen to spend her holidays working at an inner-city after-school program, serving food to the homeless and playing with impoverished children at a day care center. Byerly, like some 300 other Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students, chose to embark on an Urban Plunge.

The Urban Plunge programs, the largest programs offered by the Center for Social Concerns (CSC), are typically 48-hour experiential learning opportunities where students visit soup kitchens, shelters and food pantries in cities across the country. Through these experiences, students can become involved with agencies and parishes that work to meet the needs of the socially and economically disadvantaged. “The mission [of Urban Plunge] is to serve as an introductory program for students into social issues, especially in urban settings,” says Rodney Cohen, director of urban programming and outreach development at the CSC.

1997 marks the 30th anniversary of the Urban Plunge program. For the first Notre Dame plunge in 1967, Reverend Don McNeill, now executive director of the CSC, took two groups of 24 Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students to spend a weekend with Monsignor John Egan and the Presentation Parish in inner-city Chicago. This first group had to worry about how the program would initially run and whether or not they would have accommodations, but their strong interest in service convinced McNeill to go through with it.

“[Presentation Parish] had a variety of action programs,” McNeill recalls. “I wanted my students to become aware of the needs of the poor and I especially wanted them to see their struggles and challenges.” In 1970, Egan came to Notre Dame to coordinate the Catholic Committee on Urban Ministry (CCUM), a network of priests and sisters working in inner cities.

Over 1974 Christmas break, two female Notre Dame students decided to make a two-day plunge in Cleveland. By the following year, the number reached 20. In 1977, members of the student group the Community for the International Lay Apostolate adopted Urban Plunge along with CCUM, pushing participation to 124.

So what makes students who have already endured a semester of classes, labs and exams give up vacation time to volunteer? For many, the choice stems from a desire to help others. “I wanted to do something to leave my comfort zone,” senior Meghan DeNiro says. “I felt ineffective—that I was only a student sitting in class, taking notes and listening to lectures. I felt that there had to be more than this.” So she took the plunge.

DeNiro worked at the Catholic Worker House in Los Angeles alongside volunteers who had dedicated their lives to serving the poor. For two days DeNiro served at the Catholic Worker House which sheltered AIDS patients in their last months of life and soup kitchens for the homeless.

The experience proved a learning experience for DeNiro. “I was only at the Catholic Worker House two days, and then I got to leave,” she says. “But some people face the problems I saw every day.”

The experience has made DeNiro realize she wants to do more service in the future. “It’s frustrating because it is such a short experience,” she says. “In two days, you can’t change the world. But it gave me a desire to become more than a visitor.”

From a small town outside of Denver, Colo., sophomore Suzy Penny also had little previous experience with homelessness. “When I thought of the homeless, I guess I pictured drunks and derelicts—people who didn’t want to do anything with their lives,” Penny says. “I guess I even saw homelessness as somewhat their own fault.”

But she learned otherwise by talking to people, such as one woman who shared her story with Penny. She had been a full-time accountant, her life in perfect order. However, events beyond her control had forced her into a homeless shelter.

“The children also really craved attention,” Penny recalls. “While I was leaving I realized how temporary things are in their lives. I saw it wasn’t their fault.”

Although she was nervous prior to her plunge, Penny learned a lot about
homelessness. “I am more aware of what’s going on,” Penny says. “Homelessness has become more personal and more meaningful. I can put faces with the statistics now.”

Junior Janiko Rose from Birmingham, Ala., took her plunge at a women’s shelter in her hometown. She was surprised to discover the many ways that the city failed to deal with social issues. “It was shocking to see [these problems] so close to home,” Rose says.

Rose’s experiences at the shelter — cooking, cleaning and talking with the residents — gave her a new perspective. “Every day this one woman would go to work and hearable to do what we do without students.”

The two-day Urban Plunge program requires extensive preparation by the task force, beginning with Student Activities Night in September and lasting long after the plunges have concluded. Much of this time is devoted to publicity, informational meetings, organizing participant orientation and site coordination.

For senior Matt Connor, the best part came after the plunge was over. Meeting with plunge participants at the home of a faculty member during a follow-up session was one of the highlights of his experience. Connor found both his faculty leader and though the specifics are different, like locations and activities, I found there are things that seem to come with any plunge, like teaching. You get to teach people that other people care.” Ponzillo also felt that the people he volunteered with taught and inspired him by shattering his stereotypes.

“I never met anyone who fit the stereotypes,” Ponzillo says. “People always talk about how [the homeless] are on the periphery of society, but it’s not something they choose.” But after meeting people with college degrees, Ponzillo realized this belief isn’t true. “It doesn’t matter who you are, you are always susceptible to circumstances beyond your control.”

As McNeill looks back on 30 years of Urban Plunges, he is grateful to everyone who has given time to share this experience with students. “I’ve seen what’s happened in students’ lives, how they’ve been touched by the stories and struggles of people who have wanted more justice and equal rights,” McNeill says.

In starting the Urban Plunge Program, McNeill intended to create an educational program that promoted awareness. Students who have experienced Urban Plunge feel he succeeded. “Everyone can benefit from this experience. [Students] don’t know what’s in [their] own backyard,” Byerly says. Her plunges have not only increased her awareness, they have also helped shape her future plans, which include getting a masters in social work.

“After you’ve seen that kind of thing one time, that can’t be the end of it,” Byerly says. “It opened up my eyes to what I want to do with my life, even if I can only help one person.”

"HOMELESSNESS HAS BECOME MORE PERSONAL AND MORE MEANINGFUL. I CAN PUT FACES WITH THE STATISTICS NOW." - SUZY PENNY

Other people complain about the smallest things, not knowing that she was homeless,” Rose says. “Yet she didn’t complain. She made it seem important to appreciate what I had.”

Rose’s enthusiasm for Urban Plunge continues on campus. She serves on the Task Force, a group of 11 students who meet weekly to help Cohen organize all aspects of the program. “Student input and organization is beneficial. It gives students a chance to use their talents and brings a perspective that maybe I wouldn’t bring,” Cohen says of his dedicated volunteers. “We wouldn’t be the resulting discussion to be thoughtful, and he discovered that his experience was not unlike those had by students at other sites. “It was interesting to learn that regardless of where you were and what you experienced, a lot of the same thing [is] going on everywhere,” he says. According to Connor, people learned that there was a different world outside of their homes and Notre Dame. They started to see the value of service and the organizations that can help.

Senior Steven Ponzillo, a task force member, agrees. “It is tremendous to meet with people from other plunges,” he says. “Al-
Move that Bootie Outta Here, Little Man

A recent appearance by Richard Simmons on the Live with Regis and Kathie Lee had the Gipp a little worried. Simmons said that he had been accepted to Notre Dame and would attend next year with the ultimate goal of becoming a doctor.

According to the Gipp’s sources, Simmons was just kidding, but the Gipp is still terrified by the idea. Imagine Simmons running around campus in little yellow shorts and appearing at pep rallies. And what about theme dinners at the dining halls? Heaven forbid circus lunch be replaced with Deal-a-Meal Day.

HAREM hats the first week of school.

By the way, Drunks, was one of you responsible for ending Flannervision last year? Living without that tap into cable TV must have been hard. Too bad about the poop in the elevator incident — you know what the Gipp’s talking about.

It Ain’t Mama’s Washboard

It’s a little known fact on campus, that the employees of Saint Michael’s Laundry service are staunch fascists. Last week a gentleman from O’Neill

Keep those tips coming, little Gippsters.

Papa Gipp is so pleased with the recent flood of e-mails that he is even considering trick-or-treating this Halloween. Dressed as Zeus and accompanied by Aphrodite, the Gipp will actually ask for candy in exchange for the rest of his football tickets. The Gipp knows this year’s team is on a road to nowhere, which leads straight to the Poulan Weed Eater Bowl.
Taking Care of Business

by Sallie Scherer

Although Woo’s new role as dean may not have placed her in an unfamiliar position, she does realize that her appointment represents an important stride in the advancement of women as national academic leaders. “There are fewer woman deans of business colleges than there are woman college presidents,” Woo says. She sees her appointment as a definite step forward. “It’s a wonderful thing because it holds the door open for other women,” she says.

Woo believes that the lack of women business deans can be explained by the small number of women who enter the field. “One of the paths to this is to achieve full professorship at a college,” Woo says. “We are just beginning to build the number of woman professors — it’s a pipeline effect.”

Woo also recognizes that people tend to question a woman’s ability to lead groups of men. “People wonder whether a woman will function, whether she will be accepted by the groups of men she will have to deal with,” she says.

However, Woo hesitates to specifically diagnose the reason for the low number of women deans who have served at Notre Dame, saying only, “There were not that many positions to open up.”

Provost Nathan Hatch emphasizes that gender was not a factor in hiring Woo. “In our case, we were looking for a leader,” Hatch says. “She understands the world of management education so well, having run the MBA program at Purdue, and is a gifted leader.”

But Hatch does add that Woo’s gender might better equip her for certain aspects of her job. “She has a tremendous insight into people and understands motivations well,” Hatch says. “I know some men that have these gifts — it’s not necessarily gender-based, but as Carol Gilligan, a professor at the education school at Harvard, says, ‘It is an insight that many women bring to organizational life.’”

However, Woo does not want to be known for her minority status as an Asian woman. She believes that the new perspective she brings to Notre Dame has to do with her individual qualities that are not gender specific. Foremost among these qualities, she feels, is her ability to respect coworkers. “You must respect the people you work with, the people who entrusted you with the job and the job itself,” she says.

Woo plans to establish Notre Dame as a leader in business ethics. She feels Notre Dame can have a significant impact on management education by bringing business ethics and moral education into the classroom. “Up until now, business ethics classes have been electives,” Woo says. “We need to integrate that because the benefit is not just for Notre Dame students, but for business as a whole.” The goal to make ethics an integral part of the business college curriculum was the motivation behind her move to Notre Dame, a university she feels is ideal for implementing this program.

Woo views her appointment as dean as more of a personal challenge than a professional career move. “In some ways it’s the most mission-driven challenge I’ve ever had,” she says. “I had to accept leaving everything that was familiar, everything I called home because I felt I could really do some good here.”

The lone skirt amidst a sea of suits and ties, Woo is not intimidated. She’s too busy introducing new programs and classes to worry about being one of the only women around COBA.
to students, alumni and tourists alike, Notre Dame is the ideal place to pursue an education while living on a campus renowned for its grandeur. Come Friday afternoon, though, waves of intellectually drained students flock not toward the center of their legendary campus, but to a host of seedy bars and crowded apartments, where they spend the greater part of the next two days searching for excitement in the social abyss that is South Bend.

The university looks into providing improved social space options on campus

This picture of social life at Notre Dame has been the dominant one over the years for students frustrated by what they see as a lack of worthwhile activities on and around campus. Recently, the university has agreed. The need for centralized social space, a vague entity that would provide students with an on-campus alternative to the South Bend bar scene, was an important part of the Colloquy for the Year 2000, which identified the university's most important areas of concern. Last year, the university began to address that concern when it hired the consulting firm Center Concepts and Designs (CCD) to evaluate the current social situation and to make recommendations on how to improve it.

The decision to hire the firm was not a hasty one. Deacon Tom Doyle '89, Keough Hall Rector and a former student body president, says that Student Government has raised the issue of recreational space for discussion ever since 1989. "We addressed it as an issue in 1988-89 when I was president, and over the last five or six years students have written reports to the trustees about the social space issue," Doyle says.

The latest of these reports, filed last fall by former Student Body President Seth Miller and Vice President Megan Murray, has met with some success. According to Murray, the favorable response to the recommendation was due in large part to the timely support it received from other offices within the university. "We weren't sure about what we wanted [the university] to do, specifically, but we brought the issue before the trustees and made them think seriously about it," Murray says. "The fact that Student Affairs agreed with the recommendation made it very powerful."

William Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life, says that a number of factors led his office to support an evaluation of campus social space. "Last year's binge-drinking study, and the perception that
there are limited opportunities because South Bend may not be a 'college town' all came together to influence the decision to hire a firm to study what kind of space we need," Kirk says. "There is a whole chunk of people whose primary recreation is drinking. We want to do something to attract them away from that."

Sophomore Paul Pohlen agrees that a change is needed. "There is no non-alcoholic social scene where people can go," Pohlen says. "LaFortune is more of a study lounge. We need a place where you can go and meet people. I think the real reason people go to bars is that they are bored."

Just what the university will eventually do to alleviate that boredom is still up in the air, but work on the matter is well underway. As a part of its evaluation of the current social space, CCD interviewed students last spring and recently toured the campus and surrounding areas.

Manuel Cunard, executive director of the National Association of College Auxiliary Services (NACAS), explains, "We're collecting all kinds of information, doing visits to all the space ... and trying to assess and understand the nature of student activities on campus." The company made a point of visiting campus on a football weekend, and included several local bars, such as Coach's and the Linebacker, in its tour of the area.

"We really are trying to fully understand the nature of the Notre Dame student and how he or she spends his or her time, and the kinds of available spaces and programs and opportunities that exist," Cunard says.

One problem the project will face is that the evaluation could become a search for a cure-all for every campus problem. Kirk recognizes that the lack of a campus social scene comes from more than just a lack of space. He points to the abuse of alcohol as the most critical student issue facing the university. "Culturally, we've got to make some changes. Even if we can't immediately reduce the stigma from not drinking, we can provide other opportunities," he says.

Doyle agrees that there are other factors working against on-campus socialization besides the absence of a venue. "We have to find out what makes our space insufficient. There's a lot of space in our new dorm [Keough], but it often isn't used. It's not just about square footage, but about types of spaces and what we do in them," he says.

Freshman Byron Levkulich wonders if any on-campus social space would catch on. "People want to be able to be in a big group and drink," he says. "Being here all week makes students feel cramped. They want something different. If you put something on campus, I don't think people would go there."

Sophomore Becky Lunn agrees that bars can provide more than just alcohol. "They should create the bar atmosphere without the alcohol. There is no social room, or a place to see and be seen," she says. "LaFortune has a game room, but it's hidden. No one ever goes there."

The university hopes that it will gain a greater understanding of complexities like these from a survey sent out this month to a sample of students, faculty, staff and recent graduates. Cunard says, "The survey will help us collect a significant database of information that helps us better understand the issues that relate to social environments on campus."

Kirk agrees. "The survey will help us predict what students will want in the future. We can get a better handle on what might be of some interest," he says.

To further involve students in the process, the university has also formed what it calls the "vision group" to assist
Erek Nass, student body vice president and another member of the group, is encouraged by the consultants’ approach to the project. “It’s a good first step,” driving force, because the student activities program on campus is principally created to support the needs of students,” he says.

But while student involvement is important to the project, some aspects will remain strictly in the hands of the consultants and the administration. In particular, Cunard points to architectural constraints. “We’re going to do something that is consistent with the look of the campus,” he says, but is quick to add, “We can utilize student involvement and student creativity and stay within those parameters.”

Kirk also concedes that the administration will have the final word on any decision and could override any recommendations. However, he says that they would do so only “if the vision group suggested things that were out of line or if the vision of the group’s recommendation was limited.” Kirk says that student input will be an important factor in the decision. “The senior staff is charged with moderating life on campus, but we need information from students to make a good decision,” he says. “It would be for

CCD in its research. The group consists of a group of students, faculty and staff who are supposed to represent a diverse cross-section of Notre Dame’s population. Junior Ryan Harding, a member of the group who also works in the Student Union treasurer’s office, feels that the group has been helpful already. “It’s a fair representation of the different parts of the community,” Harding says. “We’ve looked at the survey instrument and suggested improvements and given our opinions.”

Doyle, who is also a member of the group, sees the group less as a forum to express opinions than as a means to solicit student opinion. “The purpose of [the vision group] is to come in with no preconceived notions, but to listen to students,” he says. “We need to find out the best way to get input, the best way to listen and the best questions to ask. We want to be very methodical about listening.”

Junior Ryan Harding, a member of the group, is encouraged by the consultants’ approach to the project. “It’s a good first step,” Nass says. “In the past, the administration acted on what they thought was best. Now they’re listening to what students want.”

After the survey has been completed and evaluated, the listening process will continue as consultants meet with small focus groups of students to get their reactions to the survey results. According to Cunard, the feedback gleaned from the survey, the vision group and other focus groups is crucial to the project. “Student opinion has got to be the

“Being here all week makes students feel cramped. They want something different.” — Byron Levkulich

Lauren Winterfield contributed to this article.

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student use, so we want it to be a place where [students] want to go. We want to be pretty careful about the decision we make here.”

The project is proceeding so carefully, in fact, that no one involved will admit to having any idea what the end result will be. “We had offers from architecture firms to work on a new building,” Kirk notes. The university settled on a consulting firm, though, because “we’ve got to be open to the possibility that it might be something different,” he says. “We’re trying to get away from preconceptions, but that’s hard to do.”

Joseph Cassidy, director of Student Activities, is also wary of committing to a construction project prematurely. “We are not going into this saying that it’s construction of a facility, but we have not ruled construction of a facility or multiple facilities out,” Cassidy says. “We want to look at the data to see if we’re looking at revamping something that currently exists, or if we’re looking at something larger with multiple spaces.”

While Cassidy and other university officials shy away from committing to construction of a new building, Cassidy does say, “I would say the folks involved in the process would be surprised if we came back and we were not doing construction.”

Student Body President Matt Griffin, whose office is currently on the second floor of LaFortune, feels that to continue to add on to the building would make little sense. “They’ve tried to work within LaFortune for years,” Griffin says. “It’s not a student center. It’s a building that has been turned into one.”

Cunard also leans toward a new facility. “It could turn out that what we’re looking to do will fit well within the confines of LaFortune Center, but I doubt it,” he says. “Standard principles for a campus this size tell us that it needs more space. We won’t know for sure, though, until we finish the evaluation.”

Also uncertain is just when the project, whatever form it eventually takes, will be completed. Kirk doubts that current students will experience the most significant results of the project during their time at Notre Dame, but says, “Most Notre Dame students come back to campus after they graduate. [Alumni] can appreciate the changes every time they come back.”

Cassidy, though, attests that students will experience changes in the near future. “You’re going to end up seeing some results by next summer. The short term decisions that are going to need to be made for [LaFortune], as well as other campus social space, will also be decisions in the long term that are connected to the Generations campaign,” he says.

As might be expected with a project in such an early stage of development, the exact source of funding for changes is unclear. Aside from money allocated by the Generations fundraising campaign for unspecified social space improvements, no funds have been set aside for the project. But Kirk points out, “The university has made a commitment by hiring a consulting firm to evaluate things. It would be silly to go this far if there wasn’t some real momentum behind the project.” Kirk also feels that the university will have no objections to funding whatever project is eventually decided upon by the research. However, he emphasizes that more planning is necessary before funding becomes an issue. “We have to make a case to the university,” he says. “First we need to form a picture of what we need.”

Whatever form the new campus recreational space takes, Cunard says that the challenge for the project is to create an environment that will be entertaining while at the same time allowing for spontaneity. “Students are not looking for traditional social outlets nearly as much today as they have been in the past. Spontaneous spaces are becoming harder to find on college campuses,” Cunard says. “There’s no place to just hang out or look around at other people. Those are the most important kinds of places to have.”

Lauren Winterfield contributed to this article.

OCTOBER 9, 1997
Finnish-ing Touches

Freshman standout Anne Makinen is adjusting well to a new life both on and off the field

BY BRIAN LUCAS

Notre Dame women’s soccer coach Chris Petrucelli knew that finding a replacement for graduating senior Cindy Daws would not be easy. Replacing a three-time All-American and reigning college Player of the Year never is. In fact, the task was so challenging, Petrucelli had to go overseas to find what he was looking for. But the player he found should ensure that the Irish remain among the soccer elite for at least the next four years.

Petrucelli’s travels took him to Helsinki, Finland, where he came across Anne (pronounced AH-nay) Makinen. He knew right away that she was the player the Irish wanted. “Anne is exactly what we need in a dominant central midfielder who can come in and replace Cindy Daws,” Petrucelli said after announcing Makinen’s signing in late April. “She is one of the most talented incoming players that I have seen in a long time.”

Such expectations might be a burden for an ordinary freshman, but Makinen is far from ordinary. At the age of 16 she joined the Finnish national team and the next year was named Finnish Player of the Year. In all, she has played in 40 international games for Finland, scoring 10 goals.

That international experience has definitely helped the freshman fine-tune her game. “[International play] is definitely a higher level, the style of play is a little different,” Makinen says. However, she adds, “College soccer here is a lot better than in Finland. It’s more physical and the schedule is a lot tougher.”

That transition was more difficult than she expected. Makinen got off to somewhat of a slow start, registering only one goal in her first five games, but the midfielder has been on a tear since then. She had a five-game goal scoring streak which was snapped this past weekend, a streak that began against number one North Carolina. In Notre Dame’s biggest game of the year, Makinen rose to the occasion, scoring one goal and assisting on the other as the Irish tied the Tarheels 2-2. She capped off the weekend with two more goals against Duke, earning her offensive MVP title at the adidas/Lady Footlocker Classic as well as Big East Offensive Player of the Week honors. “The awards kind of surprised me,” Makinen says. “There are so many great players in this league [Big East] and the tournament had four of the best teams in the country. It was a great honor.”

The Finnish phenomenon continued her excellent play, tallying her first career hat trick against Rutgers the next weekend. In her last six games, she has scored eight goals and dished off three assists. She is currently leading the team in points with 24. Her 10 goals tie her with Jenny Heft for the team lead. It’s the kind of performance coach Petrucelli expected from his star recruit. “We felt she was the perfect player to replace Cindy,” Petrucelli says. “Anne strikes the ball as hard as anyone in college. She is already one of the best players
Anne strikes the ball as hard as anyone in college. She is already one of the best players in college soccer.

— Coach Chris Petrucelli

in college soccer.”

Petrucelli’s praise, especially of Makinen’s blazing shot, has been validated by her play this year. In the game against Duke, Makinen’s two goals both came from more than 20 yards out. Her first, a 25-yarder from the right wing off a loose ball, ended up in the upper left corner of the net. “That may have been the best goal ever scored at Alumni Field by both a men’s and women’s team,” Petrucelli says. Makinen added a 22-yard bomb later in the game.

The following Friday at Rutgers, Makinen unloaded two more long-range goals, from 20 and 25 yards out. Combined with her 18-yarder against Villanova two days later and a 20-yarder versus Indiana in the next game, Makinen had a streak of five games in which she had scored from 18 yards or more, a streak that ended Sunday against Boston College. Overall this season, Makinen has scored from downtown in seven of the Irish’s 12 games. “Her shot is definitely the one thing that separates her from anyone else,” junior forward Monica Gerardo says. “She can score from just about anywhere on the field.”

Makinen credits practice and the help of her coaches in the development of her cannon-like shot. “When I was about 12, I had a coach show me the correct technique,” she says. “Since then it’s just a matter of practicing it on my own. I still have to work on my left foot, though.”

Becoming one of the best is a tribute not only to Makinen’s immense skill but also to her tireless work ethic. She is one of the first players at practice and once she steps on the field, she means business. “Practice starts at 4:00, so most of the team usually gets to the field around 3:30,” Gerardo says. “Most of us just kind of hang around and get loose but Anne always seems to be ready. As soon as she gets out there, she’s at top speed.”

“One of the greatest things about Anne is that she doesn’t rely solely on her ability,” Petrucelli says. “Her work ethic is outstanding.”

That work ethic has paid dividends off the field as well. Being a 21-year-old freshman from a foreign country can be intimidating, especially when your family is under the guidance of former Finnish international soccer star Kai Haaskivi. Makinen feels that this experience has helped her game as well. “I trained with boys three times a day,” Makinen says. “I learned to play the game a lot faster.”

Coach Petrucelli had confidence about Makinen’s soccer ability. However, the big concern was how well she would get along with her teammates. So far that transition has gone as smoothly as her transition on the field. “My biggest concern with her was how she was going to fit in,” Petrucelli says. “Not only is she a 21-year-old freshman, but she speaks a different language. She’s really fit in well, though, and is probably one of the most popular players on the team.”

Makinen concurs. “My teammates have been great,” she says. “They’re like a family. They give me all the support I need.”

It was this feeling of acceptance that led the native of Finland to choose Notre Dame. “The feeling I got when I visited here was that it was my place,” Makinen says. “The people were just so nice.”

Makinen has also had to adjust to the classroom, which may be the toughest transition of all. Time constraints and learning a different language have proven to be the biggest obstacles thus far. “Classes are very interesting but they’re still hard to follow,” Makinen says. “We have a great support staff, though, and they’ve been a great help.”

While Makinen is true blue and gold now, she still has ties to her native Finland. Later this season, from October 15-19, she will travel to France to compete in a World Cup qualifying match with her national team. Makinen will miss only one game, against Syracuse, and her teammates fully support her participation. “We’ll miss her on the field,” freshman Kelly Lindsey says. “But we wish her the best of luck.”

That type of dedication has paid off for the Irish so far. With Makinen running the show in the middle of the field, the team has hardly missed its all-time leading scorer Daws. As long as the freshman keeps producing, Coach Petrucelli’s voyage across the Atlantic may prove to be worth a lot more than the frequent flyer miles he earned. ❑
After experiencing growing pains last year, Notre Dame’s hockey team expects bigger and better things this season by Christopher Hamilton

"It's time." That's the motto head coach Dave Poulin has instilled in each of his players for the upcoming hockey season. With 80 percent of last year's team returning, Poulin is right. The time for the Irish to start winning games is now. And the coaching staff and the players are optimistic that this will be their turnaround season.

Poulin and his youthful squad were 9-25-1 a year ago, playing in the powerful Central Collegiate Hockey Association. Last year, as the second-youngest team in Division I hockey, the Irish were handicapped by their inexperience and lost a number of close games—12 by just one goal. However, this year that youth has developed into experience as Notre Dame returns 20 players from last year's squad, having lost only five seniors to graduation. Included among the returning players are the team's top five scorers as well as an experienced goaltender. They are complemented by a high-caliber freshman class.

Considering that Notre Dame experienced some growing pains last season, Poulin thinks a significant improvement is more than likely. "We're really excited, optimistic. We've made enormous strides over the past year. We've addressed the factors necessary for us to win," says Poulin, who is entering his third year as head coach of the Irish. "Last year we were always competing. This year we have to step it up a level and turn those close losses into wins."

His sentiments are echoed by the team. "This year we're confident that we deserve to be successful," senior goalie Matt Eisler says. "Last year, we knew we could compete in every game. Now we feel like we deserve to win every night and can."

The turnaround of Notre Dame's hockey program started at the top, with the naming of Poulin as head coach two years ago. The 1982 Notre Dame graduate was a two-time captain for the Irish, but his success didn't stop at Notre Dame. He went on to play 12 seasons in the NHL, mostly with the Philadelphia Flyers and the Boston Bruins. Poulin was respected for his hard work ethic and classy attitude. As a coach, his players have great confidence in Poulin's abilities. "He changed the program dramatically," junior Brian Urick says. "He is making it into one of the best in the country."

The Irish are led by the program's first ever three-year captain, Steve Noble. "Steve is a terrific model for our program. He's a very strong leader as well as an excellent student-athlete," Poulin says.

Noble excels in the classroom as well as in the rink, having achieved a 3.98 grade point average as a finance major. He was awarded the prestigious CCHA Flanagan award, one of the top five scorers from a year ago. Andrusiak and Ben Simon, the next very solid, diverse group," Poulin says.

The Irish's total offense a season ago, the Portland Winterhawks, the top five scorers from last year, were handicapped by their inexperience and lost a number of close games—12 by just one goal. However, this year that youth has developed into experience as Notre Dame returns 20 players from last year's squad, having lost only five seniors to graduation. Included among the returning players are the team's top five scorers as well as an experienced goaltender. They are complemented by a high-caliber freshman class.

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award last year, which recognizes a player who has overcome personal adversity to achieve success both on and off the ice, and is a Rhodes Scholar nominee. Noble’s experience and leadership will be a valuable asset for Notre Dame’s young and talented corps.

Notre Dame’s offense is led by Noble at center and bolstered by the return of their top five scorers from a year ago. Urick and sophomore Joe Dusbabek, both right wingers, tied for the team scoring lead last season with 25 points and will pace the team’s offensive attack. Aniket Dhadphale, Lyle Andrusiak and Ben Simon, the next three leading scorers from last year, also return.

Though the Irish returnees were responsible for over three-fourths of the team’s total offense a season ago, the Irish need to improve their firepower. Notre Dame averaged only 2.7 goals a game last season, a figure Poulin senses will increase. “The team’s goal-scoring ability will be the biggest improvement over last year,” he says.

Noble believes that the returnees can bring their games to the next level. “On offense the focus is on the veterans,” he says. “We have a lot of great goal scorers. I think it’s just a matter of having confidence in ourselves.”

On the defensive end, Eisler is the anchor. A four-year starter, he is poised to establish himself as one of the top goalies in the nation. Last year Eisler was named team MVP as he recorded an impressive 3.65 goals against average, the second best mark for a Notre Dame goalie in the past two decades. Poulin is excited about having Eisler’s talent and experience return to bolster the team. “We definitely feel that we have one of the best goalies in college hockey,” he says.

Eisler is optimistic as well. “I couldn’t wait to get back for my senior year,” he says. “I would love to leave my mark on Notre Dame hockey this season. That means this year I really want to see this team jump to the top of the league. I want Notre Dame to be one of the top teams and I know we are capable of doing it.”

The Irish defense, which posted the fourth best penalty-killing percentage in the CCHA in 1996-97, looks to be as dominant as last season with the return of six defensemen, including Nathan Borega and Tyson Fraser, who both earned honorable mention status on the CCHA all-rookie team last season.

Poulin has worked hard to build the program from the ground up with exceptional recruiting classes, and this year was no different. Notre Dame welcomes eight talented freshmen into the mix. Ryan Clark, Mark Eaton, Kyle Kolquist and Jay Kopischke lead this banner recruiting class. Clark and Eaton are both big, imposing defensemen who will contribute to Notre Dame’s already solid back line. Kopischke was recognized as the top high school goalie in Minnesota and will compete for time at one of Notre Dame’s deepest positions. Kopischke is a talented left wing forward who will bring physical toughness and impressive scoring ability to the Irish offense. “The freshmen are a very solid, diverse group,” Poulin says. “They’ve really added to our team’s skill and depth.”

Another source of optimism for the Irish is that Kopischke and Clark were selected in the 1997 NHL draft, along with sophomores Simon and Dusbabek, tying Notre Dame with Boston College as the Division I school with the most players selected. “Having four players chosen in the draft is a terrific statement by the NHL about our program,” Poulin says. “The [NHL] organizations know and expect those drafted to complete four years here and they are trusting that our program will help develop them to the fullest.”

Along with being picked in the draft, Simon and Dusbabek participated on the 1997 USA Select team over the summer. The team consisted of 23 top players across the country and competed with other “all-star” teams around the globe. “The level of competition was absolutely amazing,” Dusbabek says. “It was an unbelievable experience.”

When evaluating the CCHA, Coach Poulin sees many strong teams in the conference, with Michigan State, Miami of Ohio and Michigan standing out. Although he is hesitant to label Notre Dame a strong championship contender, he already has his players believing in themselves. “One of our team goals is to get home ice advantage in the playoffs,” Noble says. “That would mean we’d have to finish as one of the top four [out of 11] teams in the conference, which is very realistic.”

Coach Poulin is looking for his team to turn their past experience into victories this season, and more importantly, the team believes they can accomplish this goal. Notre Dame has a unique mix of veteran leadership and young talent that should make them serious contenders in the CCHA. That task begins tomorrow when they open up the season at home against Western Ontario. Notre Dame hockey is back. The realize what they have to do. It’s time.
Picking Up the Pace

After a slow start, the Notre Dame men's soccer team is once again at the top of the Big East

BY KATHLEEN O'BRIEN

Expectations were high for this year's men's soccer team. After all, they won the Big East Tournament last year and advanced to the second round of the NCAA playoffs for the first time in school history. But as the Irish got off to a slow start this year, the questions began. Can this team repeat? Was last year a fluke? The players heard the talk and they responded in a big way.

The slow start can be attributed primarily to the loss of several graduates, especially All-American Tony Capasso and All-Great Lakes Player Konstantin Koloskov. "It's obviously critical, losing five starters, three of them captains," head coach Mike Berticelli says. "You're losing the heart and soul of your team, and it takes time to replace that."

After failing to pull out a victory in several close early season games the Irish have turned their season around. Six games into their season, Notre Dame's record stood at 2-2-2, which included a loss to Buffalo at home and ties to Pittsburgh and Northwestern, teams the Irish were expected to beat. The other defeat came at the hands of number one Indiana, currently undefeated and untied for the season.

Since their tie at Northwestern, though, the Irish have shut down the opposition. Notre Dame had reeled off four consecutive shutout victories against West Virginia, Eastern Illinois, Villanova and Rutgers before a 1-0 loss to number four SMU halted the streak. The Irish bounced back with a 4-3 victory over Texas Christian on Sunday and are currently in first place in the Big East with a 4-0-1 conference record. They have also moved back into the National Coaches Association of America/Umbo rankings at 23, with a 7-3-2 overall record.

Freshman Reggie McKnight, who was named Big East Co-Rookie of the Week earlier in the season, has been a key to Notre Dame's recent success. He has scored three goals and tallied three assists in the team's first 12 games. "I just want to work hard and help the team as much as possible," McKnight says. "The transition to college soccer has been a challenge, but the players and coaches have really helped me and shown confidence in me, and my mom keeps me grounded and focused."

Perhaps the most crucial component of the team's success has been junior goalie Greg Velho. He recorded seven shutouts in the first 12 games and was recently named Big East Defensive Player of the Week. The junior was also selected to the Soccer America Team of the Week after leading the Irish to three straight 1-0 wins. "It's definitely an overall team effort," Velho says. "To get a shutout, it requires everyone on the field to play good defense."

For the season, Velho has 52 saves and is boasting a goals against average of 1.01 while not allowing a goal in Big East play. "As goalkeeper, when you make mistakes, everyone notices, so there is a little more pressure," he says.

With seven shutouts, defense is this Irish team's strongest asset. Midfielder Matt Johnson attributes the strong defense to a total team effort. "Defense starts with the forwards," the junior co-captain says. "Every game, we go in wanting and expecting a shutout from forwards to goalie."

Coach Berticelli says it's a matter of simple math. "If you don't give up goals, you're not going to lose. Our team is taking pride in not giving up goals," he comments.

Notre Dame's main objective in the remainder of the season will be to continue its defensive dominance while stepping up its attack on offense. "We have players with the ability to score goals, and as we gain confidence, it should go well," Berticelli says. "The attack is usually the last to come for a young team."

Senior Ryan Turner, one of the co-captains, is optimistic about the remainder of the season. "The rest of this season will definitely not be a walk-through, but we have as good a shot as anyone at the Big East title," he says. "If things go our way and we work hard, hopefully we will repeat." Turner is currently pacing the Irish offense with eight goals and four assists, surpassing his total from last year in only 10 games.

His sentiment is shared by the rest of the team. "We lost one and tied one that we probably shouldn't have. That's in the past, though, and we can't look back," Velho says. "Our main thing now is to concentrate on the rest of the season. Our first goal is to win the Big East. After that, we just need to play our best and take it one game at a time."

Winning the Big East would be another step in the journey to become a national soccer power. Senior Alan Woods feels the Irish have something to prove. "We need to let people know that last year was not a one-time thing and earn the respect we deserve as a good team," the midfielder says.

A Big East title would certainly accomplish that.
The junior goalkeeper registered a season-high seven saves in Notre Dame’s 4-3 overtime defeat of Texas Christian. He was recently named Big East Defensive Player of the Week when the Irish posted three consecutive shutouts. Velho has seven shutouts this season and has yet to allow a goal in Big East play.

Women’s Volleyball • 1997 Record 10-5
Streaking: Under the guidance of coach Debbie Brown the Irish have never lost a Big East or Midwestern Collegiate Conference game. This streak runs seven years and 65 matches.

Prime Time Performer: Freshman right side hitter Christi Girton stepped into a starting role last weekend and flourished as she racked up a .531 hitting percentage with 19 kills and two errors in 32 attempts.

Did You Know? Senior captains Jaimie Lee and Angie Harris are both on track to average more than four kills per game. They would be the first duo in Irish history to do so.

On The Horizon: Notre Dame travels to New England this weekend to take on Big East foes Boston College and Providence.

Women’s Soccer • 1997 Record 11-0-1
Streaking: Notre Dame, dating back to the start of the 1996 season, has been ranked either one or two for the past 17 polls.

Prime Time Performer: Freshman Meotis Erikson earned Big East Rookie of the Week honors. Erikson is Notre Dame’s leading scorer in Big East play with six goals and two assists in the six conference games.

Did You Know? Since 1994, no other women’s soccer program has produced as many All-Americans as Notre Dame, which has 12.

On The Horizon: The Irish will head to the nation’s capital to take on Georgetown in a Saturday showdown. Kickoff is set for 11 a.m.

Men’s Soccer • 1997 Record 7-3-2
Streaking: Notre Dame’s unscorced-upon streak ended when number four SMU scored with 42 seconds left in their contest with the Irish. The streak had lasted 584 minutes and spanned six games.

Prime Time Performer: Senior Ryan Turner continues to impress, leading the Irish with eight goals and four assists. The team’s second leading scorer has only three goals and three assists.

Did You Know? Notre Dame has not lost to a Big East opponent since November 3, 1996, when the Irish fell to Boston College, 1-0.

On The Horizon: Notre Dame will face the visiting Orangemen of Syracuse Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Alumni Field.

Let Me Clear My Throat
“Get out and hit the recruiting trail real fast.” — Atlanta Braves pitching coach Leo Mazzone’s advice for Notre Dame, his favorite college football team. Mazzone and pitcher Tom Glavine will wear Notre Dame T-shirts under their jerseys throughout the postseason.

Fats’ Forecast
Pitt has gone 3-2 against teams that are a combined 9-17 while the Irish’s 1-4 record has been compiled against teams with an .857 winning percentage (18-3). Notre Dame doesn’t lose to teams that lose to Temple. It isn’t easy, but the Irish prevail 24-17.

Barca’s Bet
Gary Sheffield’s hot bat leads the Marlins’ march through Atlanta while the Tribe denies the Ironman a chance at another ring. In a tough, seven-game series, Cleveland defeats Florida for their first championship since 1948.
Real world experience prepares theater majors for the cutthroat world of professional performance

That's a Wrap

BY JOE GALLAGHER

Almost every student has had some experience with theater. Grade school plays, high school drama and field trips to professional theater performances give students the opportunity to be entertained by drama that doesn't unfold quite the same as it would on a television screen.

But for some students, simply sitting back and watching from the audience isn’t enough. They might become interested in the costumes of the characters or perhaps the way actors are directed to their places. Maybe the use of sets and lighting, which create the mood of the scene, catches a student’s fancy. “Theater is a passion, and you’ve got to feed it,” says Lisa McDonald, a senior theater major. Though most students are content with performances in high school plays and community theater, a few take the next step and enter the world of professional theater.

This move can be difficult, but even if a student doesn’t have a background in theater, it’s never too late to get involved. “People don’t come here to major in theater,” says Reginald Bain, associate professor in the Communication and Theatre Department. “Our program has been designed for people who come to Notre Dame and are looking to see if [theater] is something they want to do.” Bain adds that many of the students who continue their involvement in theater aren’t theater majors.

Dan Chambliss is one Notre Dame student whose passion for theater has led him to several different locations. Chambliss was a student here in the mid-1970s but left Notre Dame to become an actor in Chicago. Since then, he has acted in lyric opera (Sat Ya Graha), appeared in films (About Last Night... with Demi Moore), observed plays from Broadway to Soho and worked as a freelance casting director for shows like Jerry Springer and Oprah. He recently returned to Notre Dame to complete his college career. Although Chambliss has found it necessary to support himself through work as a paralegal and real estate salesperson,
theater has always been worth the effort involved. “I once quit a $40,000 job to work for $5 a performance at lyric opera because I wasn’t happy in my job,” Chambliss says. “You have to make choices in your life, and if your major choice is to be happy, you have to go for that.”

But professional theater is not for everybody. Many in the field agree that students should consider their options before choosing theater as their future career. Associate Chair of Communications and Theatre Bruce Auerbach says, “When students intern, it helps them to know if they’re truly interested in professional theater.” McDonald, for one, gained professional experience in design and stage management by interning at theater companies such as the Hangar Theater in Ithaca, N.Y., and through programs like Summer Stock. “A lot of theaters operate solely in the summer because students and teachers aren’t working as much,” she says. “Some are run formally as camps, and others are run as a different source of revenue.”

Summer programs give students a chance to improve their theatrical skills without the pressure of schoolwork, enabling them to gain practical experience in areas ranging from acting to directing. McDonald gained lots of experience from her internships. “I designed the sets, costumes and lighting for a production of Harold Pinter’s The Dumb Waiter,” she says. “You could have three different people handling each one, but it can be one person depending on the budget and the size of the production.” As with any career, such experience becomes beneficial to the students when they seek work after graduation.

Internships also give students an idea of the intricacies involved in theatrical productions. Professional plays, for example, cannot rely on the budget provided by the university. A professional show will only be successful if it sells well. “Here, you’re supported by the university,” says senior Andrew Reuland, who has directed several Cavanaugh Hall plays. “There you’re restricted by how well the show sells and what kind of audience you’re going to bring in.”

After a professional play is given the green light, the cast and crew must be assembled, which can be a challenging process. “You have a wider variety of people coming in from all over the country,” McDonald says. “Most of the planning is discussed over the phone, and sometimes you end up finally meeting someone a week before production.”

Working outside of an educational setting benefits a student in more ways than one. “It’s necessary to find out what it’s like outside of Notre Dame,” Chambliss says. “There’s a certain view that’s preached here that’s not always true, and I needed to get out there and see what the truth is for myself.”

Reuland sees a similar need for students to cut the proverbial apron strings. “Most students can only rehearse from seven to 11 at night,” he says. “Professional actors can work any time since they’re not restricted by classes.”

Auerbach agrees with this assessment but adds that along with the extra time comes the burden of higher expectations. “While educational theater provides a sort of safety net, professional theater relies on more of a sink-or-swim philosophy,” he says. “One problem most students run into is that they all think they’re going to be stars. You get over that when you get to college. There’s a sort of awakening.”

That’s not to say that entering college causes most people to abandon their dreams of a career in theater. It just forces them to acknowledge the difficulties involved. As with all careers, experience from internships is no guarantee of steady employment. “There’s an old joke in theater: If all the actors left New York, there’d be no more waiters,” Auerbach says. “Theater involves a large amount of personal rejection, and the person who ultimately succeeds is the person with noteworthy perseverance.”

Chambliss agrees. “If you’re not tough-skinned, you might as well hang it up,” he says. He warns that a life in the theater presents unique problems. “I’ve been fired for no reason — for petty jealousy or because people thought I was too young and knew too much,” he says. “It takes a lot of morals to survive and it’s so easy to let them slip away. Whoever it is that you tear down today will be the same person that you meet on the way back up the ladder.”

Despite the possible difficulties involved in professional theater, the desire to get involved seems to be increasing. “When I arrived six years ago there were 12 theater majors,” Auerbach says. “Now there are 40. Last year 120 students auditioned for six parts.”

This increase in interest naturally leads to more theatrical productions, creating a wider variety of opportunities for students. “Between Washington Hall, [dorm] theater and student plays, there’s a lot of theater going on here on campus,” Bain says. “It’s a big help to us because it lets us see students on-stage and in production, and it gives the students experience.”

The benefits of an education in theater extend beyond a career. “We don’t necessarily train people for careers in acting,” Bain says. “Some students have gotten involved in theater management. They wanted to be actors, but found that they had business skills as well.” Bain adds that a number of students have become lawyers, doctors and teachers but have benefited from their background in theater.

Though students have many opportunities to get involved in theater, Bain explains that the first step is always the most difficult and the most important. “There’s a point at which you have to take the step in,” he says. Bain thinks that if the desire to participate in a performance is strong enough, it’s worth the hardship.

Chambliss agrees. “I have this need to be in control of my own destiny,” he says. “This is something more visible, more transient, I’m never bored with it because there are different challenges every time.”
Celebrating their 10th year as “The Movie Magazine,” Premiere recently released a special 10th anniversary issue, in which the publication named the “10 Movies That Defined Our Decade” (1987-1997). Choosing movies that “effect a change while at the same time nailing a moment,” Premiere’s list focused on the “great” movies of the last 10 years (see sidebar).

While we agree with some of their choices, we couldn’t help but notice that most of what has defined the last 10 years has not been, well, all that great. Nonetheless, Scholastic’s film critics each chose 10 films that they feel really defined our decade. Movies that — whether good or bad, great or terrible — affected the way we watch movies and the way people make them.

by Chris Myers and Andrew Nutting

Hollywood Shuffle (1987) made two words synonymous with independent film: credit cards. Robert Townsend, a frustrated black actor, maxed out his Visa and MasterCard to budget his directorial debut, a perceptive and funny look at African-American stereotypes on the silver screen. Since Townsend has had a reasonably successful career since, every Ed (Burns), Dick (Likelater) and Kevin (Smith) under the sun has tried to kick off a life in the Biz by using their plastic pals.

“Greed is good,” says Gordon Gekko, Michael Douglas’ ruthless Wall Street power broker in Oliver Stone’s Wall Street (1987). A homage to the Greed Decade, Wall Street’s more money, more power philosophy rings just as true today and provides an allegorical picture of Hollywood thinking. Film budgets have swelled to $60 million, star salaries have topped $20 million and studios are operated by international conglomerates. With its cynical view of success, Wall Street provided insights into the minds of those hungry for big bucks — and Gordon Gekko’s cold heart still beats deep in the soul of Hollywood.

Die Hard (1988) is an agreeably stupid movie. Nonetheless, its effect on the past decade’s action film formula has been immeasurable. Its absurd concept — terrorists holding hostages in a skyscraper while a rebel policeman struggles to stop them — added suspense and humor to the old action formula: the shoot-em-up, Rambo-style action films of the early ’80s. Now, thanks to director John McTiernan, every other action film out there is a Die Hard variant — Die Hard on a bus (Speed), on a boat (Under Siege), on a plane (Passenger 57), on a train (Under Siege 2) and on and on (Die Hard 2: Die Harder and Die Hard With a Vengeance). With a legacy like that, the film’s title is a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Martin Scorsese’s The Last Temptation of Christ (1988) was a biblical epic that redefined the genre. Combining Nikos Kazantzakis’ book with his own personal Catholic demons, Scorsese exposed more of his soul in this film than in any of his other works, past or present. His Jesus states, “God loves me and I can’t stand the pain,” and Scorsese exposed the pain, passion, love and labor of believing. Temptation drew protests not because of sex or violence, but because it touched a nerve dealing with society’s core feelings of faith and religion. And for a short time it had people talking about religion in a way few films ever had.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit (1988) was a rare commodity. It combined humor for kids, humor for adults, a great story, brazen nostalgia and never-before-seen technology into one of the only blockbusters incorporating both originality and giddiness. Some of the biggest and best in film worked on this one: Robert Zemeckis directed, Steven Spielberg and Frank Marshall produced and George Lucas’ ILM Corporation provided the effects.
Combining the best elements of American screwball comedy with just the right amount of British slapstick and absurdity, A Fish Called Wanda (1988) set the high water mark for comedy in the last 10 years. Straying from high-concept formula comedies, John Cleese's script is at times witty and subtle, skewering British manners and American egotism. At other times, it's hilariously broad — Kevin Kline's interrogation scene of Michael Palin is a classic. Most notably, however, the film is fearless: killing dogs, eating goldfish and using stuttering as a comic device. The cast seems to be having a wonderful time and their enthusiasm is contagious. Never stooping to take itself seriously, Wanda is ultimately a pointless comedy that is quite content with making its audience laugh by any means possible.

Batman (1989) was the last big movie. Sure, Jurassic Park and Independence Day may have grossed more, but do you recall seeing T. Rex or Will Smith T-shirts all over middle schools? Although fairly standard entertainment aided by the shamelessly fun Jack Nicholson, Tim Burton's blockbuster kicked off one of the most bizarre, schizophrenic series in all commercial film. Sequel number one, Batman Returns, may have been the most downbeat film aimed at children since Old Yeller, while the two Joel Schumacher installments have rendered even the John Waters Camp-O-Meter obsolete.

Not since Olivier has anyone translated the Bard to the screen as well as Kenneth Branagh. With 1989's Henry V, the 20-something Branagh defied convention and used his youthful energy and exuberance to transform what mainstream moviegoers considered to be a boring, dry story into a classy, exciting action pic. Following up with the similarly appealing Much Ado About Nothing and his recent masterpiece Hamlet, Branagh's influence is evident in the recent works of Baz Luhrman (William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet), Richard Loncraine (Richard III) and Oliver Parker (Othello), all of whom took Branagh's cue to break from tradition and bring the timeless words of Shakespeare to a new generation. With Henry V, Branagh would do what many thought impossible: make Shakespeare a mass-market draw.

Steven Soderbergh's sex, lies, and videotape (1989) probably sparked the independent cinema revolution that peaked on Oscar Night 1997. Although there's more sex in the title than in the film itself, audiences rushed to theaters. sex, lies, and videotape grossed over 20 times its $1.2 million budget and made the independent distributor Miramax a real player in La La Land.

The NC-17 rating argument finally became serious when Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer (1989) and The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover (1990) were released within months of each other. Critics wailed when the MPAA smacked an X on both films, pointing out that no available rating distinguished intelligent adult-oriented films from porno cheapies with self-imposed X ratings. At last, the ratings board created the "No Children Under 17" category, and Henry and June (1990) became the first non-X rated MPAA-approved film to forbid minors entrance in the United States.

The end of the Cold War brought a chilling effect to Hollywood. The James Bond series was gasping its (seemingly) last breath, the international spy-thriller was becoming an exotic genre, and Yakov Smirnoff was looking for a job. But then The Hunt for Red October came along in 1990 and proved there is still plenty of money to be made from suspect Russkies, re-energizing American paranoia of Mother Russia (at least at the cinema). Seven years later, thanks in part to Red October's success, 007 is up and running strong again, there have been more than two more Jack Ryan movies, A Red October redux (Crimson Tide) and the recently released The Peacemaker. To paraphrase Smirnoff, "Post Cold War Communism, what a concept!"

John Singleton's 1991 film Boyz N the Hood was the first prominent studio-financed film with a black director and a virtually all-black cast to address the issue of youth violence in inner cities. Although laughably preachy and not particularly well directed, Boyz received substantial critical praise and motivated filmmakers such as Allen and Albert Hughes (Menace II Society), Nick Gomez (New Jersey Drive), Boaz Yakin (Fresh) and Spike Lee (Clockers), not all of whom are black, to more capably cover similar terrain.

History or fiction? Fact or the paranoid ramblings of half-mad megalomaniac Oliver Stone? Either way, JFK (1991) is one of the most detail-packed, intensely absorbing and, yes, strangely entertaining films of the decade. It's also a prime example of the movies'
ability to change the way we think: currently, over 50 percent of high schoolers reportedly believe JFK was “taken care of” by LBJ or the Mafia, among others.

Life is Sweet (1991) is simply the best film from the past decade’s best director. Mike Leigh earned a strong reputation throughout the 1980s with his London plays and BBC dramas, finally receiving American recognition in the late '80s. Leigh ignores traditional filmmaking methods; instead of simply writing, then filming, Leigh engages in intense one-on-one sessions with his actors to literally create characters and improvise dialogue. The results are always outstanding, and Life is Sweet in particular delights, repulses, gratifies and leaves viewers wondering. Alison Steadman and Jane Horrocks engage in perhaps the most powerful conversation ever created for the camera.

The Crying Game (1992) was, as one magazine put it, “The Movie Everyone is Talking About, But No One is Giving Away Its Secret.” Sure, it was a whopper of a secret, but The Crying Game had more surprises than that. Grossing over $50 million, it was the little movie that could. Few could have predicted that an Irish IRA drama with no marquee stars and a unique sexual subplot could reel in weekend moviegoers at mall multiplexes. Fewer would have thought that critics, patrons and the media could have kept their collective mouths shut about the late sexy drug dealer, The Crying Game was an arthouse hit that proved it could play with Hollywood’s commercial pictures. It cemented Miramax’s status as a studio to be reckoned with, blurred the line between “arthouse” and “mainstream” and was the ultimate word of mouth movie that, as Ace Ventura would prove two years later, remained in pop culture consciousness.

One of the most weirdly voyeuristic films of our generation, Husbands and Wives (1992) capitalized, however unintentionally, on society’s craving for hot gossip and delivered something unique. The film’s release coincided with the early days of the Woody Allen-Mia Farrow break-up and audiences had a front row seat unlike anything Hard Copy could provide. Husbands and Wives was a movie, but shot in a documentary style. Allen and Farrow played characters, but the situations were remarkably biographical. It was funny and intelligent, yet sad and shocking. By all accounts, it could be the most paradoxical film ever made, one which the writer/director/star swears is not purposely biographical, although the plot practically mirrored real life. Allen would pose the question of how you separate the artist from the man two years later in Bullets Over Broadway, but in the fall of 1992, audiences couldn’t make the distinction.

Forget about the murder-mystery plotline in Robert Altman’s The Player (1992), and what you’re left with is a dead-on satire of the modern Hollywood system. Altman spent 30 years of highs and lows in the business before he made The Player, and it shows he knows all the ins and outs of the industry: Writers making bad plot pitches in 25 words or less (“It’s Out of Africa meets Pretty Woman”), executives breaking promises (“I told you I’d get back to you ... that was six months ago”), clueless studio heads (“There’s going to be some sex in this picture, right?”) and Tim Robbins’ Griffin Mill, the player who knows that all movies need an ending that’s “up.” With his poison pen valentine to Hollywood, Altman did what every director would love to do — make a movie the way he wanted while telling Hollywood to kiss his ass.

Conceived for PBS and robed of Oscar recognition, Hoop Dreams (1994) combined Horatio Alger and Upton Sinclair, set the story in the Chicago basketball world, and deservedly created a sensation, even if it was ignored on Oscar night. Unlike another influential documentary, 1989’s Roger & Me, it made no judgments and forced no agendas. All sides were given the chance to speak, and if certain figures made fools of themselves, we all had the chance to decide for ourselves.

Taking the abilities of man and machine one step further, Disney’s Toy Story (1995) is amazingly advanced, yet far from cold and impersonal — it proved techno creations could be warm and cuddly too. Yet for all of its good-natured appeal, Toy Story is somewhat cool perfection. By eliminating the rough edges of its animated feature, the result is a little too slick. Lost is the charm of older delights like 101 Dalmatians, The Aristocats and Alice in Wonderland — imperfect films whose hand-drawn frames carried an artist’s touch rather than a computerized airbrush. As the animated trend leans more toward computer-aided images, Toy Story is responsible for an unnerving side effect. Despite its wondrous marvels it produced computer-generated soul.

Eyebrows were raised when James Cameron spent $100 million to create Terminator 2, but jaws hit the floor when the Waterworld (1995) budget cost Universal upwards of $175 million. The Kevin Costner/Kevin Reynolds sci-fi collaboration actually turned a profit, though, thanks to hefty grosses overseas, showing all naysayers that inflating star salaries and artistic excuses for special effects aren’t hastening the financial doom of Hollywood.

Who Needs Hobbies When You Have TV?

Out of Bounds looks at the additions to network programming you shouldn’t be watching

Dharma & Greg, George & Leo, Hiller & Diller. One might think these are cheap Siegfried & Roy imitations in a Vegas lounge act. Wrong. They’re just some of the crazy new shows you’ll be seeing in the network television fall lineup. With enough ampersands to make a person dizzy, the new shows appear to be, if anything, aptly named. Allow Out of Bounds to guide you through the more interesting features that the networks will try to tempt you with this season:

World’s Funniest ... (Fox)  
Sportscaster James Brown sets up clip after clip of homespun video fun. Sound familiar? Sure it does. It’s called America’s Funniest Home Videos, except James Brown’s resemblance to Bob Saget ends with the corny jokes. “This is not the Kennedy Center Honors. It’s not intellectual humor,” the show’s producer, Brad “P.R.-Meister” Lachman, explains to TV Guide. Like anyone would expect to see the old wiffleball-in-the-nuts gag on A&E.

Jenny (NBC)  
Former Playboy Playmate of the Year Jenny McCarthy brings her D-sized talent to NBC primetime. But settle down, fellas: Ms. McCarthy is a serious comedienne now. NBC assures us there will be no T&A. After the “success” of her MTV sketch comedy show and the subsequent network bidding war over the rights to Jenny, Out of Bounds is sure NBC doesn’t intend to suit her up in skimpy clothes. Hey, Jen, they said the same thing to Christina Applegate.

George & Leo (CBS)  
First it was The Bob Newhart Show. Then we had Newhart. After that, just Bob. Well, the king of deadpan ran out of names after CBS turned down the idea of a sitcom with his middle name, Sylvester, in the title. Instead they decided to call Newhart’s new show George & Leo. In this program, Newhart and Judd (Dear John) Hirsch play brothers-in-law who make cracks at each other about male pattern baldness and generally act like a couple of horse’s paytoies. Don’t miss this one.

Hitz (UPN)  
UPN shows that it’s still a force to be reckoned with as it introduces this sitcom about record company talent scouts. The show promises to be hip, fresh and dope all rolled into one. The cast includes Andrew “Dice” Clay as the wiseacre boss and the ravishing Rosa Blasi as the sexpot (we’re dealing with UPN here, folks, they have to use what they can). And boy, does that Diceman know how to make an ovary joke. Hee, hee.

Rewind (Fox)  
Who the heck asked Fox to perform CPR on Scott Baio’s career by adding Rewind to its fall primetime lineup? The basic premise here: Baio and co-star Mystro Clark play buddies who get into all sorts of misadventures while flashing back to their childhood as neighborhood pals. Clark has some big shoes to fill if he thinks he’s going to measure up to Baio’s Charles in Charge counterpart, Buddy Lembeck (Will Aames) or the Fonzie. But if Baio’s career is going down the toilet, Clark may be just the plumber to snake it out. It’s too bad Potsie and Ralph were busy making Porky’s VIII.

Meego (CBS)  
How can one find the proper words to describe this new comedy starring Bronson “Balki Bartokamus” Pinchot and Jonathan “Aww, isn’t he cute?” Lipnicki (Jerry Maguire)? Imagine being locked in a room with Barney the Dinosaur and Peter Billingsley’s love child. That’s pretty much how OOB felt watching the series premiere. Pinchot plays an alien taken in by an understanding family. However, Harry and the Hendersons this is not. Besides a few absurdly stupid special effects gags, the show has little offer. It’s impossible to imagine Pinchot without his Myposian accent from Perfect Strangers. After all, “don’t be reedeculose” was the catch phrase that defined the late ’80s. Plus, it’s pretty difficult to do the Dance of Joy when your co-star is three feet tall.

by Aaron J. Nolan
Bottoms Up

One of the most well-known traditions at Texas A&M is the ceremonial beer-dunking of senior rings. For those of you unfamiliar with the ritual, Aggies drop their newly acquired rings into containers of alcohol, typically pitchers of beer. The beverage is then consumed until the student has the ring between his or her teeth.

Lately, however, some groups have called this practice into question, including the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. The commission has encouraged seniors to find alternative beverages in which to drown their rings. Some of the suggestions include sundaes, coffee and even Italian soda. Few students have heeded the commission's advice, however, for students say that the experience just isn't the same unless the beverage is beer.

Notre Dame seniors have empathized with these fundamentalists of the ring-dunking ritual, citing ceremonies of their own. Any fourth-year Domer will testify that walking into the Linebacker, ordering a pitcher of booze and dropping in four years of unused condoms is the hallmark of the Notre Dame experience.

Rabbits, Lingerie, etc.

Worries about crime in the world of higher education recently intensified this week after an incident at Washington State University. Four men allegedly broke into multiple sorority houses and stole women's underwear and a bunny rabbit costume. Police found the men and arrested them on trespassing charges around 4 a.m. Sunday. Although the bunny costume was recovered, it appears the underwear might be missing for good. Experts liken the circumstances to a similar panty raid involving Notre Dame residents a few winters ago. Unlike the sororities, however, most of the panties were immediately recovered and returned to the residents of Zahm Hall.

Scoring Likely

Freshmen: if the following story is representative of your high school experience, don't expect much out of your first SYR. Matt Christensen, a senior at Mountain View High School of Provo, Utah, couldn't decide which girl to take to last Saturday's homecoming dance, so he took all nine.

"My uncle suggested if you can't take one, just take them all," Christensen said. "He and my cousins convinced me it would be fun." As the story goes, Christensen invited the unsuspecting girls to his uncle's home. Acting as an intermediate, Christensen's uncle invited them all to go to the dance with his nephew and the fair maidens agreed. Christensen picked up each girl individually and brought each one back to his uncle's house. When they were all together they feasted with other friends on home-cooked food on silver china, each with their own long-stemmed glass of grape juice. After the romantic banquet the group piled into a mobile home and went to the dance.

We here at On Other Campuses thought the story to be somewhat plausible until reading the following segment of the press release: "We all hooked up in a line when we entered the dance." Christensen said. "People mainly stared at us, but when they found out what we were doing they thought it was cool." All nine hooked up at once? We've heard of threesomes, but this is ridiculous.

Life in Hell

©1997 by Matt Groening

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D ADMIT EVERYTHING IS ALL YOUR FAULT.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D HAVE COMPASSION FOR MY ABUSIVE RAGES.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D ENJOY MY COLD, JOYLESS GLOOM.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D LET ME WIN EVERY PETTY POWER STRUGGLE.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D APPRECIATE MY CONSTANT CRITICISMS OF YOU.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D DO EVERYTHING I WANTED, NO MATTER HOW DEGRADING.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D BE ATTRACTION TO ME DESPITE MY DEEP MENTAL PROBLEMS.

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D BE ATTRACTION TO ME PRECISELY BECAUSE OF MY DEEP MENTAL PROBLEMS.

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All nine hooked up at once? We've heard of threesomes, but this is ridiculous.
I am Freshman
Hear Me Roar

Why didn’t somebody
tell me this stuff?

BY KARA ZUARO

I am a freshman. I am confused. There are some things about this
place that I just don’t understand.

Where is my football seat?

I paid $96 to sit in section 35, row 44, seat 22 at each of our home
football games. However, when I arrived at the Georgia Tech game,
my seat was nowhere to be found. A friendly usher looked at my
ticket and told me, “Well, honey, looks like you’ve got yourself one
of the seats that was cut away to make room for the stairwell. How
about that?” How about I want my 96 bucks back? I know every­
body stands up the whole time anyway, and I understand that some
kids have a tendency to sit in seats that aren’t their own, but being
assigned a nonexistent football ticket makes you wonder how much
you mean to the university. After all, I’m a good kid, and I think I
dererve my own square of bench.

Who activates the sprinkler system on weekend nights?

Is someone attempting to punish our drunken lads and lasses as
they stumble back to their dorms? Or is this weekend late-night
watering the secret behind the upkeep of our gorgeous green grass?
Does our grass have an urgent desire to drink on Friday and
Saturday nights, too? If so, I know a whole slew of folks who have
a lot more in common with grass than they ever imagined.

Do any other universities have priests that crowd surf?

Those who made it to the Dillon Pep Rally caught a rare and
wonderful sight: Father Doyle atop a frenzied crowd of Dillonites.
This is definitely something to write home about. I already did.

Why am I the only one who can’t sing along with Garth
Brooks?

I was only a little freaked out when a country song came on at a
toga party a few weekends ago. I was really freaked out when
everybody put their arms around each other in alma-mater style and
started singing along. I’ve got nothing against old Garth, but where
I come from he’s not exactly da bomb.

Aside from Garth Brooks, the most crowd-pleasing music that
I’ve encountered at Notre Dame thus far was played off a mix tape
at a non-toga dorm party. I thought the first song that came on, Barry
White’s “Can’t Get Enough Of Your Love,” was a rather odd
selection. Then it was followed by Bel Biv Devoe’s “Do Me.” Then
“Naughty Naughty” by Danger Danger. Then Marvin Gaye’s
“Let’s Get It On.” Then Madonna’s “Justify My Love.” When
Poison’s “I Want Action” came on, I thought I might be sensing a
pattern. The creator of this tape, whom I’ll call Rico (as in Suave),
explained to me that this kind of music puts ladies “in the mood.”
But thanks to parietals, I had to leave before Rico played what he
calls “the clincher,” Chris Isaak’s “Wicked Game.” I probably
shouldn’t give him any ideas, but I have a feeling that DJ Jazzy Rico
could become a millionaire, selling bootleg copies of this musical
masterpiece on the black market to horny high schoolers across the
nation.

How many people are going to ask me if I’m from “New
Yawk?”

Yes, I am from New York. Lawn Guyland (Long Island), to be
exact. No, I didn’t live in a skyscraper or take a taxi to school, and
yes, I will say the word “water” for you (again), as long as you ask
me nicely. Yes, absolutely everyone from New York is rude, and
no, I probably don’t know your grandmother from Brooklyn.

I’ve been answering as many questions about my hometown as
I can, with as much patience as possible, but I’m still having a little
trouble breaking the language barrier with my fellow Americans.
For example, a girl I know, who is not a New Yorker, complained
that a guy she had met the previous weekend waited at least
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For example, a girl I know, who is not a New Yorker, complained
that a guy she had met the previous weekend waited until Thursday
to call her. I said to the gal, “Yo, I still give him mad props for at least
cawling ya.” She just gave me a funny look. I feel very misunder­
stood, but fortunately, I’ve been able to spend time with kids I met
at all the incoming freshman functions at home. Members of my
Strong Island Posse are always equipped with understanding, moral
support and a common void in their stomachs where bagels used to
be.

Slowly, but not so surely, I am getting to know the ropes. In fact,
there are a few questions I can answer. Who has the highest-priced
invisible football benches? We do. Who has the wettest drunks? We
do. Who has the coolest priests? We do. Who has the most lustful
mix tape makers around? We do. Who sends their New Yorkers
home with nice manners, cheery dispositions and hearty cravings
for real pizza? We do. So while I may be a confused freshman, I
have learned at least a few things along the way.
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White's selection. Then it was followed by Bel Biv Devoe's "Everybody Put Their Arms Around Each Other in Alma-Mater Style" and I come from he's not exactly a toga party a few weekends ago. I was really freaked out when a country song came on at a Saturday night football game. However, when I arrived at the Georgia Tech game, I paid $96 to sit in section 35, row 44, seat 22 at each of our home games. My seat was nowhere to be found. A friendly usher looked at my ticket and told me, "Well, honey, looks like you've got yourself one invisible football bench."

Aside from Garth Brooks, the most crowd-pleasing music that I've heard at Notre Dame were Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game," or "Naughty" by Danger Danger. Those who made it to the Dillon Rally caught a rare and wonderful sight: Father Doyle atop a frenzied crowd of Dillonites. For example, a girl I know, who is not a New Yorker, complained that a guy she had met the previous weekend waited until Thursday to call her. I said to the gal, "Yo, man, I still give him mad props, but I have a feeling that DJ Jazzy Rico called her."

But thanks to parietals, I had learned at least a few things along the way. In fact, Slowly, but not so surely, I am getting to know the ropes. In fact, slow, but not so surely, I am getting to know the ropes.

"Get It On," Chris Isaak's clincher, is a rather odd masterpiece on the black market to horny high schoolers across the nation. "Can't Get Enough of Your Love," was a rather odd pattern. The creator of this tape, whom I'll call Rico (as in Suave), explained to me that this kind of music puts ladies in a craze.

Do any other universities have priests that crowd surf? Who activates the sprinkler system on weekend nights? Is someone attempting to put a nonexistent football ticket makes you wonder how much does our grass have an urgent desire to water the secret behind the upkeep of gorgeous green grass? Or does our grass have an urgent desire to go to a football game? Is someone attempting to put a nonexistent football ticket makes you wonder how much does our grass have an urgent desire to water the secret behind the upkeep of gorgeous green grass?

I am confused. There are some things about this place that I just don't understand. I've been answering as many questions about my hometown as possible, but I'm still having a little trouble breaking the language barrier with my fellow New Yorkers. Yes, I am from New York. Yes, I am from New York. No, I didn't live in a skyscraper or take a taxi. Yes, I am from New York. No, I didn't live in a skyscraper or take a taxi. Where is my football seat? I've been answering as many questions about my hometown as possible, but I'm still having a little trouble breaking the language barrier with my fellow New Yorkers. Yes, I am from New York. Yes, I am from New York. No, I didn't live in a skyscraper or take a taxi. Yes, I am from New York. No, I didn't live in a skyscraper or take a taxi. Where is my football seat?

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Finding Redemption: 
Letters to a Death Row Inmate

by Tara Dix

I'm sitting in front of a computer in the library and tears are streaming down my face. I feel like I might get sick and I am acutely aware that the person at the computer next to me is looking at me. I wish she would stop. My face is so hot. My sweater pinches up around my neck and I think I might be sweating. I've just found an article on Lexis-Nexis from the Fulton County Reporter detailing the brutality by which an elderly man in Eastman, Ga., was killed by a 17-year-old crack addict named Exzavious Gibson — my pen pal and my friend.

This is the first time I have learned the details of his crime. It was seven years ago. He was robbing a convenience store and he stabbed the man behind the counter with such force and such venom that the knife actually broke off inside the man's body.

How do I feel about this? I am scared. Horrified. Nauseated. But I guess I knew what I was getting into. This man is a confessed, convicted murderer. I knew that when I started writing to him. I know it now as I replay the scene in my head once, twice, three times.

I've been writing to Exzavious for over a year now and my relationship with him has definitely been, and will continue to be, an experience that has shaped my life. Through my correspondence with him I have not only experienced the joy of friendship where I least expected it, I have also discovered the challenge of true Christian love.

He has been on Death Row for seven years now. He has no money and because Georgia and Mississippi are the only two states in the country that do not provide post-conviction representation for indigent Death Row prisoners, he has gone through his first three appeals on his own. Needless to say, he will soon run out of appeals and then, well, I don't really want to think about that.

He did a horrible, disgusting, monstrous thing. I am very aware of that. But he is not a monster. He is a human being — capable of love, capable of friendship, capable of redemption. He was once a tiny, innocent baby — just like me and just like you. Then he was a child with dreams and goals. Just like me. Just like you. But unlike me, and hopefully unlike you, he was a child with no father to speak of and his mother was murdered. He was then sent to live with an aunt who severely abused him. He turned to drugs.

And then he did that wretched, wretched thing. He took the life of another. He robbed him of our most sacred gift. Now he must pay the consequences. He has realized the gravity of his actions and feels that he deserves to be in jail, deserves the ill treatment and the solitude.

But he does not deserve death, for his debts must be paid with the respect due every human, because regardless of what he did, he is human. A life. A sacred, always sacred, life. At no point did he lose his humanity. At no point did he forfeit his right to humanity. One cannot forfeit this right. Our humanity is inescapable and impenetrable, and nothing, not one thing, we can do can take that away.

People think that because I am against the death penalty, because I write to a Death Row inmate, and because I plan to use a future law degree to fight capital punishment, that I am under the delusion that people like Exzavious should be set free. Not at all. They have committed heinous crimes against society and deserve to be punished by life without parole. That is "life" as in "until natural death," a reminder to us that this is a human life, a life, created by God and, by definition, valuable.

Very soon, the State of Georgia will rob Exzavious Gibson of this precious gift, and we, as a society, will not be any safer, will not be better off. We will merely be forced to live with the sorrowful knowledge that on a day when a sacred life is destroyed, we ourselves become criminals. We will have done a wretched, wretched thing.

Tara Dix is an off-campus senior. She plans to visit Exzavious Gibson later this year.

October 9, 1997
Finding Redemption: by Tara Dix
Letters to a Death Row Inmate

I'm sitting in front of a computer in the library, tears streaming down my face. I wish she would stop. My face is so hot. My sweater is soaked with perspiration.

I'm a Christian, but I can't bring myself to agree with the death penalty. I was a fiction writer for Scholastic, and I'm currently the publisher of a men's entertainment magazine. I think big. I write for Scholastic.

I knew what I was getting myself into when I started this correspondence with Exzavious for Fulton County Reporter & Observer. He was the first person I knew who was on death row. I knew that when I began this letter-writing campaign, he would have no money and because Georgia and Mississippi are the only two states in the country that do not provide post-conviction representation for indigent prisoners, he has gone through his first, second, and soon to be third appeals on his own. Needless to say, he will not run out of appeals and then, well, I don't really want to think about it.

When I sat down to write this letter I had no idea how much the joy of friendship where I least expected it, I have actually broke off inside the man's body. It's seven years ago. He was robbing a convenience store and he stabbed the man behind the counter in the stomach. It was seven years ago.

I've been writing to Exzavious for a year now and my relationship with him has definitely been, and will continue to be, a very special one. It's so special to me that I can't bring myself to say I have corresponded with him. It's not the right word. I continue to think of him as a person,

Gibson - my pen pal and my friend, an elderly man in Eastman, Ga., was stabbed to death by someone he'd never met before. But he was a child with dreams and goals, just like me. Just like you. But unlike me, and hopefully unlike all of us, he was a child with no father to speak of and his aunt who severely abused him. He turned to drugs.

I don't care what he did. He did a horrible, disgusting, monstrous thing. I am aware of that. But he is not a monster. He is a humanity. I was against the death penalty when I wrote for Scholastic. Now, I'm against it even more. I am very aware of that. But I don't really want to think about it.

We, as a society, will lose his humanity. We, as a society, will lose his life, sacred always, sacred paid with the debt we did not have the capacity to forgive. But he does not deserve death, for his debts must be forgiven.

This is the first time I have learned the details of his crime. It was seven years ago. He was robbing a convenience store and he stabbed the man behind the counter in the stomach. It was seven years ago. I'm sitting in front of a computer in the library and I'm thinking of Gibson.

But he did not deserve death. He was created by God and, as in EINSTEIN - RELIGION SCIENCE AFTER - Are They COMPATIBLE?

2 Essays
13 Pages
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1728 45th Street
Brooklyn, New York

Think Big. Write for Scholastic.
**WVFI Show Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jen Coleman</td>
<td>James Eger</td>
<td>John Forgash</td>
<td>Dan McDonald</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Erin McMurrough</td>
<td>Beth Bogdewic</td>
<td>Meredith Terpuluk &amp; Stephen Taylor</td>
<td>Emily Jansen</td>
<td>DJ Spak</td>
<td>John Lubber &amp; Tony Fonseca</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kathleen Sullivan &amp; Bill Brennan</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Dallas Howard &amp; Jenn Garley</td>
<td>Melissa Osborn</td>
<td>Clare Paty</td>
<td>Mark Rosenberg</td>
<td>Jocelyn &amp; Matt</td>
<td>Brian Alemán &amp; John Huston</td>
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<td>1:30</td>
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<td>Sub DJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gabby Bond</td>
<td>Dan O'Brien</td>
<td>Rita Flynn &amp; Kellie Flanagan</td>
<td>Jeremy Walsh</td>
<td>Tina McClure &amp; Jackie Villano</td>
<td>Bughouse</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Joe Howserth &amp; Behn Controy</td>
<td>Champs O'Justice</td>
<td>Ron Garcia's</td>
<td>Jodie &amp; Elizabeth</td>
<td>Stan Evans</td>
<td>Rob Stanton &amp; Ant</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Class Chats</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ben Voight</td>
<td>Chad Vivar</td>
<td>Love Lines</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Kristi</td>
<td>Jen Paulson &amp;</td>
<td>Tracy Kiewski's Industrial Show</td>
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<td>6:30 &amp; 1</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Seth Knight</td>
<td>Mark Schaaf</td>
<td>Well Strut Nite</td>
<td>Bob Gallagher</td>
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<td>The Buzz w/Kristin</td>
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<td>Talk w/Danny &amp; Andy</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Paul Kessler</td>
<td>Ska X 2 with</td>
<td>Andy &amp; Andrew</td>
<td>Sheehan</td>
<td>Mike Ferguson</td>
<td>Karen Housser &amp; Jazz &amp; Conversation w/Curtis Norvett</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>w/ Amy Sells &amp; Chad Stracenski</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Katie Alexander</td>
<td>Andna Wilder &amp; Steve Barr</td>
<td>Steve Marr &amp; Joe Bonavita</td>
<td>Rachel Kally</td>
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<td>Adam Frick &amp; Alan Bester's Electronic Time</td>
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<td>1:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Meghan Deniro</td>
<td>Lizzy Brady</td>
<td>Steve Marr &amp; Sam Kuppert</td>
<td>Sam Doenges</td>
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wvfi — 640 on your AM dial
clip ‘n’ save this schedule as a handy reference guide!