Griffin fights for his presidency

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

Keeping the Faith

Non-Catholics struggle to maintain their religion

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Being a Protestant at America’s most Catholic University isn’t easy. Being a non-Christian is even more difficult. Yet of the 16 percent who don’t look to the Pope as the head of the church, many find a way to keep the faith.

by Allison Fashek

Defending His Turf

Student Body President Matt Griffin faces the greatest challenge of his presidency — the fight to keep his job. Scholastic examines the controversy surrounding him.

by Patrick Downes

The Best and Worst of Entertainment 1997

Who would have bet that a group of pre-pubescent teenagers (Hanson) and five spicy British vocalists (The Spice Girls) would have been the two biggest selling new groups of 1997? Students picked the best and worst of the entertainment industry.

compiled by Andrew Nutting

Our Voice by Kristin M. Alworth
Out of Office by Jake Mooney
Christmas Already? by Sallie Scherer
A Hard Road Ahead by Danny Easley
Back on Track by Jim Pastore
http://www.FightingIrish.com by Bryan Waldron
Greetings from TV Land by Joe Gallagher

Departments

From the Editor 2
Editorial 3
Letters 4
ND Notebook 5
Campus Watch 15
Splinters from the Press Box 25
Out of Bounds 30
Life in Hell 31
Week in Distortion 32
On Other Campuses 34
Calendar 35
Final Word 36
Fish Out of Water

While my pre-kindergarten memory is often a bit fuzzy, I do recall being in the minority at K'Ton-ton. Between naptimes and other typical preschool activities, we would play with dreidels, sing traditional Hebrew melodies and learn about the many Jewish holidays. Then the following Sunday, my parents would take me to Mass.

I was one of only a few Irish Catholic boys at the Jewish preschool. Of course, my parents sent me to the school less out of a desire that I become accustomed to a different culture than because the lady who ran the place was good with kids. But the early experience was still socially broadening.

Although the social dynamics at the preschool were simpler than those at Notre Dame, my experiences at K'Ton-ton did keep me on my four-year-old toes. Being one of very few Gentiles at the school was difficult. At that age, I didn’t have a clear understanding of my own religious traditions, and throwing another set of traditions into the mix made it even harder.

I can only imagine being a Jewish person attending this Catholic university. Or a Protestant, or any non-Catholic for that matter. They must feel out of place at dorm Masses. They take theology classes that assume extensive knowledge on their part and deal with fellow students who assume they are Catholic. Allison Fashek examines the struggles of students with competing spiritual cultures on page 16.

Also Inside

The administration says it listens to student concerns and tries to make itself available to students. Yet ironically, when Scholastic staff members called Vice President for Student Affairs Patricia O’Hara for an interview in recent weeks, they were ultimately denied an interview because she was too busy. Kristin Alworth takes a look at the power of the student voice on page 7.

In sports, you’ll find a selection of the best Notre Dame athletics websites on page 24.

And finally, the biggest scandal to rock student government in years has come to a head. Check out Scholastic’s coverage on page 11.

Sayonara

Good luck to Jenny Stachowiak, Scholastic’s business manager, and Campus Life Editor Allison Fashek as they pack their bags for a semester abroad. We would like to thank them both for the many hours of hard work they have put in for the magazine. Jenny and Allison will be greatly missed by the rest of us poor suckers left behind in the States.

Happy Holidays

This will be Scholastic’s last issue for the semester. Have a pleasant break.

Patrick Downes
Managing Editor

93 Years Ago: Yuletide Cheer

In the December 17, 1904 issue of Scholastic, the editors reflected on the previous semester:

The Christmas vacation marks the close of a very successful semester at Notre Dame. Most of the students, we believe, have spent their time so profitably that they may justly anticipate a pleasant holiday season—for it is only that relaxation which follows upon a period of exertion that is truly enjoyable. A few, no doubt, could not in truth say that the session has been fruitful for them, but to those few we would suggest that there will soon be a day appropriate for good resolutions, and another term in which to live up to them.

To those students who have worked diligently all semester, pat yourselves on the back. You’ve earned a break. To the other 99 percent of us, use the next few weeks to think of creative excuses for why your grades aren’t exactly what your parents are looking for. Just act contrite to increase profit gain during this gift-giving season. And to all those in the Student Union, perhaps this break will give you a chance to recover from recent scandals—and to resolve to get some work done next semester.

—KMA
Recall Griffin From Office

In February, Scholastic "cautiously" endorsed Matt Griffin for student body president. Almost one year later, it seems our cautions have been realized.

The student body president is the representative of the entire student body. When elected to that office, Matt Griffin assumed the responsibility to act as our collective voice to the administration. Many arguments have been raised by those looking to dismiss Griffin — some warranted, others overstated — but the larger issue, what’s really at stake by recalling Griffin, has been virtually ignored. Since he is the voice of the student body, he must command respect from the university’s administration. Though Griffin’s other deficiencies are noteworthy and cause for concern on their own, we feel that his inability to act as a respected vox populi in the eyes of the administration is most detrimental to the entire student body and provides sufficient cause to recall him from the office of student body president.

The process by which the petition for a recall election came about is not as pure as its grass-roots founder attests. Jeremy Lingenfelser’s petition requesting the recall cited numerous examples of Griffin’s alleged improprieties. Under close scrutiny, however, many of these allegations seem exaggerated to meet the constitutional standards of "misconduct and impeachable offenses." We are also skeptical about the intentions behind an emergency Student Senate meeting scheduled late last Sunday to discuss the issue of recall. The meeting, canceled because the Senate did not gather a quorum, was planned as a closed-door affair in which campus media, as well as Griffin himself, likely would have been excluded. Despite not having the official meeting, a group of senators privately debated Griffin’s future, again behind his back and away from media scrutiny, at an informal gathering later that night. We feel that such secretive behavior is not only unfair by denying Griffin a chance to defend himself, but undermines the Senate’s accountability by hindering media coverage of a major campus issue. Also of note, many student senators Scholastic talked to were ready to indict Griffin in conversation, but would not go on the record with their complaints, a tactic we feel lacks conviction considering the circumstances.

But beyond the mudslinging, secrecy and political machinations, a serious issue is at hand — is Matt Griffin a suitable representative for the student body? After going through Lingenfelser’s petition point by point, we feel that while there is insufficient evidence to accuse Griffin of intentional wrongdoing, there is a definite thread of inconsistency and incompetence that cannot be ignored. A failure to attend the Opening of the School Year Mass can be forgiven on its own, but when grouped with numerous other examples of Griffin’s presidential faux pas, including missing the Student Union leadership retreat and financial mismanagement, constitute an embarrassing track record of unbecoming conduct.

While the examples Lingenfelser gives of "willful injury to the good name of the Student Union" and "intentional mismanagement of undergraduate student funds" seem vague and overstated, we feel that the ignorance and incompetence that has plagued Griffin’s presidency is the strongest argument against him. Though he may have committed inappropriate acts without malice, the end result is the same.

We would be willing to excuse Griffin with a firm wrap on the knuckles if the issue ended with gross incompetence, but there remains a sticking point that is much harder to overlook: the point of "actions deemed unbecoming for a person in his position of responsibility." While Griffin’s incompetence may not be intentional, incidents such as violating du Lac by bringing alcohol into the Student Union office and repeatedly being publicly intoxicated cannot be construed as accidental. By accepting the position of student body president, Griffin assumed the role of a public figure who represents the student body of Notre Dame, a role that extends beyond the walls of the Student Union office. He has stated that he is of legal age and it is his right to drink. Yes, indeed it is. But there is a definite line between drinking responsibly and getting obnoxiously drunk. We feel it is impossible for the leader of the student body to command respect from students and university administrators after making a drunken spectacle of himself — repeatedly — in public. We also feel that Griffin’s flagrant violation of du Lac crosses the boundary of forgivable offenses, especially when he must deal with those who enforce the rules.

Combining these instances with Griffin’s general incompetence results in a leader who, we feel, cannot command the necessary respect from our administration. To maintain any relationship between ourselves and the powers that be, a message must be sent to the administration saying we will not tolerate an inefficient and ineffectual representative. By recalling Griffin, we will send this message and provide impetus for future student leaders to be more educated in their responsibilities and accountable for their actions.

While we admit Scholastic’s relationship with Griffin has at times been rocky, this is not a witch hunt or a personal attack. Our decision was reached after days of debate and many reversals of opinion. But in the end, we feel that a drastic change is needed to rescue student government from its current state. Years of student leaders who have been ineffectual at best, apathetic at worst, have gone by. Perhaps Matt Griffin is a sacrificial lamb for his predecessors, but Griffin must be accountable for his own actions — actions that alone warrant a recall from office. In a year of massive change for student government, a strong leader was needed. But Griffin has proven time and again he lacks the qualities needed to be a strong representative for the students.

We need a student body president who commands the same respect and attention as the university administrators he or she will deal with. Matt Griffin does not and therefore, we, as students, have lost our voice. We can only speculate as to how the administration has viewed this tepid first year of the new Student Union, but the time has come for the student body to demand change. Though the future beyond Griffin is unknown, we feel that a vote to recall him is a proactive stance against the maligned, apathetic status quo. As students, we must show we deserve the administration’s respect by demanding it of our leader.

— Scholastic

December 4, 1997
Right to Life: A Friend of Feminism

Dear Editor,

As officers of Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Right to Life, we feel a need to respond to Kate Jacques' article, "Let's Talk About Sex." Jacques does a good job of exploring Notre Dame's obligation to provide counseling on sexual issues which are consistent with Catholic Church teaching.

However, the article fails to present reasons for pro-life values. The author describes how the Women's Resource Center, a club under the auspices of Student Union, presents abortion as a solution to unwanted pregnancy.

Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Right to Life is concerned by the prevalent view that the pro-life position finds its main validation in religious beliefs and not concern for the welfare of women. Jacques' article only perpetuates this misperception by explaining the religious reasons why counseling services at Notre Dame embrace pro-life values while highlighting the Women's Resource Center as one of the most credible sources of referral services on campus. The implicit message: pro-lifers offer religious arguments, pro-choicers inform women.

One of the main purposes of our response to Jacques' article is to raise awareness about the article's exclusion of one very valuable resource to the Notre Dame community: the Women's Care Center. Though not a university organization, the center's five different locations in the South Bend area have served Notre Dame and Saint Mary's women since its founding in 1984. It offers a wide range of free services to women, including truthful information about abortion and birth control, confidential counseling, pregnancy tests, prenatal care, maternity clothes, baby supplies, assistance from community agencies and housing for pregnant women.

Several of our members who have volunteered at the Women's Care Center can attest to the center's genuine concern for the welfare of its clients. This concern manifests itself in the center's counseling policy, which requires counselors to present abortion as it really is: an invasive procedure which harms women. Studies have shown that not only does abortion often result in physical injuries ranging from minor infections and chronic abdominal pain to cervical injury, hemorrhage and endotoxic shock; it also has intense emotional and psychological repercussions. The existence of post-abortion syndrome verified by such studies presents an unpleasant and certainly unhealthy danger to women who act upon the belief that abortion is merely a care-free "out" to a difficult situation. By providing so many services to women facing crisis pregnancies, the Women's Care Center offers far more "choices" to the difficult situation of an unwanted pregnancy than abortion-oriented counseling ever could.

As an organization representative of other Catholic pro-life groups, our adherence to the pro-life position stems from both respect for the Catholic Church's teachings and respect for women. One of the indications of this is our mission statement. As an expression of our commitment to fostering respect for the sanctity of all human life through prayer, service and education, it is decidedly Catholic. As a profession of our commitment to serving women with crisis pregnancies, it is decidedly pro-woman. In fact, we count our organization as a friend, not an enemy, of true feminism.

Alice Paul, the author of the original Equal Rights Amendment, once expressed that "abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women." The U.S. Catholic Bishops echoed the sentiments of this great feminist when they wrote, "Abortion can't enhance women's true freedom because the basic premise of 'the abortion solution' is that women's fertility is a burden, a liability that abortion can 'cure.' That premise only deems women." These two statements illustrate that concern for women and Catholic teaching are not incompatible. It is our opinion that neither Jacques nor the Women's Resource Center should treat them as such.

Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Right to Life Club officers:
Samantha Snyder, president
Laura Antkowiak, vice president
Kathleen Schlef, secretary
Kevin Trovini, treasurer
Brian Mikulla, publicity director
John Infranca, newsletter editor
Gina Guerreso, Saint Mary's liaison

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Letters may be edited for space
Dear Editor,

As officers of Notre Dame/Saint Mary's, we want to point out a flaw in the article which appeared in the last issue of SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE. The author describes how the Women's Resource Center, a club to which we all pay dues, offers services ranging from minor infections and chronic abdominal pain to unwanted pregnancy. Though not a university organization, the center's five different groups, our adherence to the pro-life position stems from both religious reasons why counseling services at Notre Dame embrace pro-life and an implicit message: pro-lifers offer religious arguments, pro-choicers as such.

The impression given is that Notre Dame is not a hospitable place to women who are in crisis. In fact, the Women's Care Center can attest to the center's genuine concern for the women's fertility is a burden, a liability that abortion can 'cure.'

One religious reason why counseling services at Notre Dame embrace pro-life is the author's expression of our commitment to fostering respect for the sanctity of all human life. The latest statement of this is our mission statement. As an organization representative of other Catholic pro-life groups, our adherence to the pro-life position stems from both religious reasons why counseling services at Notre Dame embrace pro-life and an implicit message: pro-lifers offer religious arguments, pro-choicers as such.

DECEMBER 4, 1997

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Lynne's face it: just like the LSU Tigers, the Christmas Spirit takes a beating from Notre Dame. Everyone's worried about finals, making travel plans or finding a date for those dorm dances. The holidays can easily pass unnoticed unless student take a break from the madness and enjoy quality holiday entertainment, Notre Dame style.

Shenanigans, the Glee Club, Chorale, the Chamber One Orchestra and the Notre Dame Jazz Band provide a host of options for those more inclined toward Santa than the Grinch.

Shenanigans performs in Washington Hall on December 9 at 8 p.m. Though some of their show will feature typical Shenanigans staples, half of their show will be dedicated to Christmas music. "Things are a bit peppier at our Christmas show," says Mia Montagna of the club. According to Montagna, the highlight of the show is a lively rendition of "Santa Baby."

Following tradition, the Chorale and Chamber One Orchestra work together for their annual performance of "The Messiah. " "Hearing them together is always amazing," Chorale President Matt Forcier says.

The show runs December 11 and 12, at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall.

On December 13, the Glee Club adds to the campus Christmas scene. "The songs range from English folk style to contemporary songs and even a few African spirituals," Glee Club President Peter Moriarity says. Despite the variety, all songs will be geared to the holiday theme. Moriarity assures that the show's light-hearted theme will deliver a good time. The concert will be at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Stepan Center.

The Jazz Bands also add to the holiday festivities, performing at 3 p.m. in the band building on December 7 with a concert called "Dimensions in Jazz." Bass player Laura Petelle says, "Both [jazz] bands have done a lot of work for this.... It's going to be a great concert."

The numerous shows allow students to cater to their own particular musical tastes. "We all have a different type of concert," Moriarity says of the groups.

Montagna adds, "[The selection] makes for a more culturally aware campus." So forget finals for a few hours and get in the holiday mood with these musical groups.

---

Morgan Burns

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Q&A

10 Questions with

Peggy Hnatukos

Planning Pajama Run

Peggy Hnatukos, assistant director of Programs in Student Activities, has been busy as usual. Running Hall Presidents' Council, Junior Parents' Weekend, Senior Week and The Shirt project is not an easy task, but Peggy made time to give SCHOLASTIC the inside track.

What is your favorite student activity?
The La Fortune Student Center Open House at the beginning of the year. There was activity all over the place, including a clown and karaoke.

Which group is the most challenging to work with?
None of them have major problems, they just have unique needs. In February, though, JPW would definitely be the hardest to coordinate.

Why did you decide to work for Notre Dame?
I have always been amazed and impressed by the student leadership at Notre Dame.

Do you have any crazy AnTostal ideas for this year?
AnTostal is being formed right now. I do have an idea for a Midnight Pajama Run. We could make a relay race out of it and give prizes for the best pajamas.

There's an HPC event where if someone asks you to their dance they get points toward an ongoing contest. Which dance would you most like to go to?

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

It doesn’t really matter which hall, but I would really like to go to a dance at the Alumni/Senior Club. I just think it has great ambiance.

Do you have any problems with any of the rules you have to enforce?

There is a part in our Source book that talks about an Indiana State Law for gaming license that you have to get or 8 weeks before an event. Since most dorms aren’t even thinking about things this much in advance, it’s hard to make deadlines.

Which dorm do you think has the best spirit?

Well, Lewis Hall just won the Rockne Award based on what they’ve done this semester so far. So by their peers’ judgment, they’re doing the best in spirit.

Since you’re new at Notre Dame, do you still get lost around campus?

Sometimes. I have the hardest time finding my way around the inside of COBA.

Who do you think is the craziest dorm?

Since we now have the host dorms for the pep rallies, I’ve gotten to see a lot of creativity. I think Knott Hall was the craziest with their bright orange hats.

What challenges have you faced with this new position?

Learning about the residence halls and deciphering the personality of each. Some are very theme-oriented, as in the SYRs. I also haven’t seen the insides of some South Quad dorms and I’d like to because they have such character. — Kate Jacques

ON THE FIELD

Grounded

Maintaining the stadium grounds is a turf job, but somebody’s got to do it

Saturday, November 22, was a special day for Notre Dame’s seniors as the Irish prevailed in the last home football game they would see as part of the student body. After the win, students left the stadium with smiles on their faces and warm feelings in their hearts. Unfortunately for Dale Getz and the rest of the people responsible for maintaining the field, many students also left with large chunks of stadium turf in their pockets.

Getz, the Athletic Facilities manager who is responsible for the stadium’s upkeep, says, “In general it wasn’t too bad because most people took divots that had already been kicked up.” Others, though, set their sights on turf that was a little healthier at the end of the game. “Some people went down and dug up entire sections of grass,” Getz says. “When they start digging it out, we have to repair the field because they’ve pulled the roots out.” In addition to replacing large sections of grass on the field, stadium workers will also have to repair sections of wooden bleachers that revelers broke apart and removed.

Despite the repair work needed on the field, Getz seems optimistic. “On the good side, it was the last game, so we have a year to get the field back in shape,” he said. Getz also knows that his predicament could have turned out much worse. “This was nowhere near as bad in ’92, when Reggie Brooks scored to beat Penn State,” he says. “People were using credit cards to cut out sections of grass. They pretty much took out the entire outline of where his body fell.”

In general Notre Dame fans have been well-behaved compared to students on other campuses. “Our fans are usually pretty good. They respect the field, and this probably wouldn’t have happened had it not been the last game,” Getz says. “I’ve heard a lot of horror stories about what has happened at other schools after wins.” He recounts a story of Penn State fans who, after the team won the 1995 Rose Bowl, broke into the school’s stadium, tore out the goal posts and threw them in a nearby river.

In light of such stories, Getz is philosophical about last Saturday’s events. “If the whole crowd wants to charge the field, there is no way to stop them,” he says. “We have to just let them go and hope they don’t cause too much trouble.”

Getz adds that he can understand the feelings of students who took home their own small pieces of the stadium. “Fans like souvenirs,” he says. — Jake Mooney

MISTLETOE

Secret Santas

Gift ideas that would help make peace on earth

The Politically Correct Handbook
To: Dan Sullivan, From: Campus Life Council
“Metabolically and kinesthetically challenged,” that’s PC for a dead klutz in case you didn’t know. Any humorist would get a kick out of this book, and the CLC could say they took action for once

Subscription to Common Sense
To: Stanford Band, From: ND College Democrats
The liberal publication is sure to find readers in the Stanford’s band, and the title is a perfectly blunt reminder for the next time they play at Notre Dame stadium.

The Shawshank Redemption
To: Flip Side Members, From: Everyone at Bridget’s
Increase its following on this campus? A movie about hope for what has to be the most discouraged student organization at Notre Dame. Even those Bridget’s boozers can feel good knowing their fellow sober students have something to do this weekend.

The Bible and Primary Colors
To: Mr. Smarty Pants, From: The Gipper
These two have a lot going for them. Just look at history. Primary Colors shows that anonymous authorship can make millions of dollars. Nobody can be sure who wrote Genesis, but that hasn’t stopped millions from believing it is the word of the Lord.

So there you have it, the potential for spiritual revelation and earthly wealth through anonymity. — Zac Kulstad

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MAGAZINE

This issue contains the 1997 Christmas Music Video. For more information, call 1-800-753-1200.
It's 4:30 on a Monday afternoon. A group of students, faculty and administrators have gathered in LaFortune's Notre Dame room. Papers are shuffled and some glance at their watches, waiting for stragglers to arrive. Around 4:35, another meeting of the Campus Life Council (CLC) is called to order. Topics on their agenda might include issues ranging from binge drinking to GLND/SMC.

CLC meetings are fairly routine, addressing perennial issues in a forum that is usually reported on the front page of The Observer. But what many may not realize is that beneath the bureaucracy of the CLC, important student issues are at stake. And the CLC is the only formal venue in which student voices can be heard.

The common perception among students is that administrators don't listen — and don't care — about what they have to say. Student Union Academic Delegate Brendan Kelly thinks this perception causes problems. "In certain areas, such as residence life issues, there's a natural tension (between students and administrators)," he says. "Student Affairs can seem very closed off sometimes."

Student Senator and CLC member Matt Szabo does not think the relationship between students and administrators is an open one. "Because the lines of communication are tight or even closed, I think that if a student feels a certain way about something, it's easy to blame [the administration]," he says. Students can also feel intimidated by the administration. "It's not that easy to be a student and walk into Professor O'Hara's office and say, 'Can we talk?'" says Judicial Council President Jennifer Dovidio.

The administration says they listen to student concerns, but many barriers restrict student voices
The issue of student voice, however, is more complex than perceptions suggest. Assistant Vice President for Residence Life William Kirk denies the assertion that the administration is unwilling to listen to student concerns. "This is a university that is extraordinarily sensitive to student concerns in certain areas," he says. "Students here are very well cared for."

Moreover, Kirk says that administrators here are open to hearing student ideas. "I invite students at any time to come talk to me," he says. Contrary to perceptions, Kirk meets more frequently with student leaders and opinion makers than he does with students who have disciplinary problems. "I think when students don't get the answers they want, they think we didn't listen," he says.

Kirk adds that administrators have solicited student input on issues pertinent to students, such as the current social space survey. "As much as students may not like to hear it, their needs are being met," he says.

Megan Murray, last year's student body vice president, had a positive experience with the administration during her term. Before she and former Student Body President Seth Miller even started campaigning, they set up appointments with several members of the administration to discuss various issues. "They were all willing to talk to us," she says. "They were enthusiastic that we went to talk to them."

Once Murray and Miller were in office, administrators continued to listen to their concerns. "They were always willing to take our calls and meet with us at any time," she says.

Murray notes that she and Miller were helped by the fact that they saw eye to eye with Student Affairs on certain issues. "If Student Affairs is on your side, then things are going to happen," she says, adding that they received support for their recommendations to improve campus social space.

Student Body President Matt Griffin has also found that administrative support is important for implementing ideas. "If you come to them with an idea they've thought about ... then their reception is positive," he says. "But when you go to them with a new issue they haven't thought about, then it's a different story."

Students have certainly found that administrators aren't shy about saying no to student suggestions. Dovidio, for instance, worked last year to have student rights included in *du Lac*. While the revised *du Lac* does include the word "rights" in the preamble to the section on disciplinary hearings, Dovidio emphasizes that they didn't just ask for that one word to be changed. "Certainly, I was pleased to see the word 'rights,' but that wasn't all we wanted," she says. "We wanted a list of enumerated rights in disciplinary hearings."

Dovidio thinks a lack of specificity may have caused problems. "It's difficult to work in ambiguous terms, so I think the more specific we are, the better," she says. This year, a new ad hoc committee on student rights, co-chaired by Dovidio and Kelly, looks to specify exactly what rights students want listed in *du Lac*.

Kelly agrees that the way in which students present ideas does not ease communication with administrators. "Students aren't that thoughtful or strategic about how they do things," he says. He cites the problems that plagued Student Senate last year before the constitution was revised, explaining that the ideas the senate presented to administrators often were not well researched.

The different perspectives of students and administrators hinder how student concerns are addressed. "It's difficult for students to be involved with the administration, because a lot of the issues are long-term, and the nature of being a student is short-term," he says.

Many think the formal venues in which students can relay concerns to the administration effectively diminish the student voice. "We have the student body president and the CLC, and that's it — those are the two formal lines of communication with the administration," Szabo says. The CLC in particular is a sore spot. The Kelly agrees that the CLC is an ineffective body because it is vetoed so frequently. He adds that the committee is even more ineffective because O'Hara does not attend CLC meetings; instead, she sends a representative. "If she's not there, she's not part of the discussion," he says. "Very often, the [CLC] will have a resolution, and it will be sent to [O'Hara] through her representative. It's another layer of bureaucracy."

Griffin thinks Kirk's role on the CLC is important, since he sometimes guides the committee in how to phrase a resolution to increase the probability that it will be accepted. Yet Kirk's comments can thwart dialogue on an issue. "When he speaks, that's Student Affairs speaking, and that limits discussion," Griffin says.

Murray thinks the relationship between the CLC and Student Affairs was strained last year. "It was a constant battlefield between the CLC and Student Affairs, which I don't think is an effective means to get things done," she says. According to Murray, Student Affairs thinks the CLC should be the only direct channel to access Student Affairs, adding, "A lot of the time, that wasn't the most effective way to get things done."

Perhaps a bigger problem is that students who are not in leadership positions do not have a fair say. Murray thinks the official channels for communication are not as inclusive as they could be. "The administration really saw Seth and I as the principle student representatives, but I don't necessarily agree with that," she says. "There are other people who could probably provide a
different perspective." Murray also adds that the Student Union itself is limited to a few, and that the administration tends to consult the same students repeatedly.

Kelly comments that the Student Senate was restructured so constituents would have a direct line to Student Union officials. He adds, "Hall councils are also good, but [their coverage] is spotty. It depends on what hall you live in."

Despite these problems with formal communication channels, Kirk thinks that administrators are in touch with student concerns. "This is a university with a long tradition of living with students," he says, noting that President Edward Malloy and Executive Vice President E. William Beauchamp live in residence halls.

Not all students think these reassurances are enough. The Student Senate Committee on Residence Life, chaired by Szabo, is researching the issue of having a student on the Board of Trustees. Szabo thinks this issue is the most important goal student leaders can work on this year. "A student would be present at all the meetings," he says. "They could speak almost on a pure level." He feels it is problematic that with the exception of a 15-minute biannual report made to the board by student government, students are not included in the board's decisions. "The report is very limited. It's reading material for trustees," he says.

Dovidio agrees that having a student on the board is the best way to go. Last year, she helped conduct a study of whether other schools have student representatives on their Boards of Trustees. They surveyed schools that either were ranked in the U.S. News and World Report's Top 25, or else are a Catholic university. According to Dovidio, 40 schools responded, and of these, 60 percent had a student on their respective boards.

"They were very surprised to hear we did not have a student on the Board of Trustees," she says.

Kirk questions whether a student should be on the Board of Trustees. "If the ultimate goal is to have a student on the Board of Trustees, I don't know what that will do," he says.

Murray also wonders if having a student on the board will make much of a difference. She says that the trustees have access to the student body president throughout the year, and that trustees hear directly from students in other informal venues, such as dinners. "It could be helpful to have a student to answer questions, but Professor O'Hara does that too," she says.

Griffin says that his office is considering the issue for its spring report to the board. He adds, "If it's proposed, we want it to be 100 percent." But there will be obstacles to achieving that goal. In a lunch with Malloy earlier this year, Malloy told Griffin that he was against having a student on the Board of Trustees.

Despite the obstacles to voicing concerns, students warn against adopting a defeatist attitude. "That type of attitude is totally destructive to any sort of initiative," Szabo says. "We need student leaders to stand up and maybe be a bit tenacious."

"If you come to them with an idea they've thought about ... then their reception is positive. But when you go to them with a new issue they haven't thought about, then it's a different story."

— Matt Griffin

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE
As the university reallocates space in LaFortune, some student groups find themselves out of office.

by Jake Mooney

There’s nowhere to go. Nothing to do on campus. For as long as South Bend has had lake-effect snow, students have had these complaints about life at Notre Dame. For over 50 years, LaFortune Student Center, as the only building on campus dedicated primarily to student recreational space, has attempted to fill the void that lies at the heart of the Notre Dame social scene.

But now, LaFortune is a building in limbo. Neither the university nor the independent consulting firm it has hired seems to know what the building’s future will hold. So as the university awaits the results of the campus social space evaluation, LaFortune will be affected by the campus makeover that seeks to make drastic changes in the way Notre Dame students spend their free time.

Mary Edgington, assistant director of Facilities in the Office of Student Activities, explains that the changes will affect LaFortune in several ways. The first difference is that beginning next semester, Anthony Travel will be located in the space that now houses the arcade section of the Gorch Games Room. In addition, the university plans to move two of Gorch’s seven pool tables to another building to make room for the rest of Anthony Travel’s office. The project will be completed by shifting Gorch’s video games to Anthony Travel’s current office. The goal is to make more room in LaFortune for the travel agency without diminishing the already-limited space that exists for students.

Pat Walsh, director of Business Services at Anthony Travel, says that the company’s move to its new office is a much-needed improvement. Walsh explains that the company arranges travel plans for Notre Dame’s administration, faculty, sports teams and overseas programs. “We have been rearranging year after year to fit more people into our office,” he says. “We hire students to do filing, letters and some accounting, and they don’t have a place to sit.” The new space will double the size of Anthony Travel’s office and make room for all the company’s employees, as well as another computer and printer. Walsh sees the move as the best way for the company to avoid moving to a less convenient off-campus facility. “I’m extremely excited. I think it will help everybody,” he says. “There will be less lines and a quicker call-back time.”

While the move should bode well for Anthony Travel, its impact on LaFortune basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen. Rose Horak, the owner of the Country Harvester, says that her future plans for the office of Student Activities on the basement’s other residents remains to be seen.

Sophomore Brian Patterson agrees. “It’s like [administrators] don’t think they are doing their job if they don’t make changes. Change is not always good,” he says.

But Joe Cassidy, director of Student Activities, defends the changes as necessary to provide the proper space for the company. Cassidy, whose office was responsible, along with the office of Business Operations, for the changes to LaFortune’s basement, says, “Anthony Travel has a significant need to
As the university reallocated space in LaFortune, the university is unsure of what will take their place. Edgington says, “It hasn’t been decided yet who is coming in. We hope to give student clubs and organizations more space. They have been lacking in space for many years.”

Representatives of the evicted student media groups, though, have been less than enthusiastic about the changes. Brad Prendergast, editor in chief of the Observer, says, “We have never wanted to move, and we still don’t want to, but the administration has the power to do what it wants.” Prendergast feels that moving the offices to a building near the edge of campus will create problems for staffers at the publications. “When we get done at three or four in the morning, it’s not the safest time to be walking around,” he says.

Prendergast’s objections, though, go beyond what he sees as the impracticality of the new location. “The student paper and magazine should be in the student center,” he says. “The administration relegating the student publications to the basement is an indication that the university doesn’t consider the role of the media to be that important. That may just be a perception, but sometimes perception matters more than reality.” Prendergast worries about what advertisers from off campus will think of a newspaper whose office is in the basement of a cafeteria. “It makes it look like the publication isn’t important. They might question if it’s worth their time and money to advertise with us.”

Edgington acknowledges that student media groups have not been quick to embrace the idea of a new location. “At first [student media] did not want to leave. They value being in LaFortune, and there are a lot of resources that won’t be as easily accessible to them [in South Dining Hall],” she says. She feels, though, that under the circumstances, the move is a good one. “Ideally, it would be great to have student media in LaFortune. But I think the offices in South Dining Hall will be a nice space. The groups will have 24-hour access and will be more on their own.”

William Kirk, assistant vice president for Residence Life, says that the university is moving the media groups because they were a good fit for the space available in the dining hall. “The footprint of space available in South Dining Hall seemed to match the space currently in use by the media,” he says. Kirk, whose office collaborated with the office of Student Activities on the decision to move the groups, says that other groups which currently reside in LaFortune, such as its second floor occupants, would not fit as well in the new facility.

Whether or not the changes are beneficial now, there is no guarantee that they are permanent. With the results of the pending social space evaluation still on the way, the university could decide on other plans for LaFortune soon after the current changes are completed. Edgington says, “The decision to move student media has been made, but the results of the survey won’t come out until the spring. Whatever happens with the survey will take a few years to implement.” Meanwhile, plans for the third floor’s next occupants will be made by the end of the school year, and any necessary construction work can be completed over the summer.

“I’m mind-boggling sometimes,” Edgington says. “Everyone is anxious to see how the survey will fit in with what we’re doing now.” With large-scale changes almost sure to be on the way as a result of the social space survey’s eventual findings, the most student groups can currently hope for is some modicum of stability. Edgington says, “I have been here for six years and every year there has been a major change to campus. I don’t think anything is ever permanent. Five or six years down the road everything could change again.”

“It’s like [administrators] don’t think they are doing their job if they don’t make changes. Change is not always good.” — Brian Patterson

DECEMBER 4, 1997

“I have been here for six years and every year there has been a major change to campus. I don’t think anything is ever permanent.”

— Mary Edgington, ass't director of Facilities

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

11
Defending His Turf

Since the distribution of a recall petition, Student Body President Matt Griffin could be facing the untimely end of his term in office

By Patrick Downes

Senior Jeremy Lingenfelser thinks the elected leader of the student body should be an upstanding, competent and outspoken channel for the student voice. And he doesn't feel current Student Body President Matt Griffin fits the bill.

In fact, Lingenfelser thinks that Griffin has so failed in his job that he has begun campaigning for Griffin's removal from office. Lingenfelser believes he has collected the requisite signatures, and that the new Student Union constitution will now mandate a campus-wide election for the president's recall.

Lingenfelser, who has never met the president, thinks that he has displayed a "lack of motivation, failure to lead, and just total incompetence." He has outlined a number of charges on the petition for recall, accusing Griffin of incompetence in chairing the Executive Cabinet and Campus Life Council. Griffin finds these charges baffling. "I think I chair both of those bodies to the best of my ability, and the best that can be expected," he says. Griffin adds that the Executive Cabinet is in its first year of existence, which makes it difficult to define — let alone chair.

The petition for recall also lists three instances in which Lingenfelser feels Griffin intentionally mismanaged student funds. Student Senator Matt Mamak, who sits on the Financial Management Board, feels that these issues are the most important. "I'm bothered by the monetary issues," he says. Griffin, however, attributes these problems to miscommunication and confusion.

At the beginning of the school year, Griffin purchased a new computer for the Student Union office. Before having the purchase approved by Student Activities or by the Student Union treasurer, Griffin signed a requisition for the purchase both for Student Activities and for the treasurer, who had not returned from summer break. Director of Student Activities Joe Cassidy believes the mistake was simply the result of inexperience. "At the time that happened, I gave Matt the benefit of the doubt," he says.

The petition also charges Griffin with "deliberate misrepresentation to the Financial Management Board concerning the need for $15,000 to publish the Campus Hook-Up." After the Financial Management Board allocated the money for the publication, it became clear that some of the costs might be defrayed by advertising income. Griffin then commented to the Executive Cabinet that the money might be used elsewhere. He was immediately informed that any money not used for its intended purpose would be taken back and reallocated. Griffin attributes the comment to early-term confusion, and confusion over the role and procedures of the Executive Cabinet.

Another $5,000 was also misdirected, according to the petition. A Saint Mary's
College Student Activities fee was collected by his office and was placed in the office of the president's account instead of the general Student Union fund to which it belonged. Arrien believes that Griffin simply deposited the money temporarily, however, "knowing it would be taken care of eventually." When Arrien discovered the misplaced money on her own, Griffin admitted the mistake and the money was transferred to the correct account.

The petition also claims that Griffin has shown a lack of respect for the constitutional powers of the rest of Student Union. Earlier in the semester the Student Senate approved a resolution asking senior Lee Hambright to step down from his position as assistant controller. They voted, by a count of 18-9, that this position conflicted with Hambright's other position as treasurer for the Hall President's Council. Griffin refused to sign the resolution, keeping it from passing. "It's just disrespect for the given authority of the Student Senate to approve and not to approve," says Boyd. But Griffin feels that he was within his constitutional rights not to sign the resolution.

Senior Brendan Kelly, who chaired the committee that created the new constitution last spring, thinks there was a misreading of the constitution on both sides of the issue. "It's a situation that could have been avoided if they had read the constitution," he says.

Lingenfelser also claims that Griffin's public behavior has been a detriment to his office. The petition accuses Griffin of "Public Drunkenness," and charges him with bringing alcohol into the Student Union office, in violation of du Lac. Boyd, for one, believes that the charge of public drunkenness is limited in its validity. "If we threw out every Student Union member who was accused of public drunkenness, we'd have no one left," he says.

Griffin believes that his occasional drinking not only is not unusual, but also means that he is in touch with the rest of the student body. "If I wasn't participating in some of these activities I wouldn't be a true representative of Notre Dame," he says. "I'm right there with the average Joe Schmoe student on the street."

Some believe that attacking Griffin's drinking habits is holding him to a higher standard than the rest of the student body, but Lingenfelser disagrees. "If any student breaks du Lac they're outside of the ethical standard of Notre Dame," he says. "I don't think we're holding him to a higher stan-
dard at all."

Griffin would not affirm or deny the charge that he had alcohol in the Student Union office, but added that if he did it would be a private matter between Student Affairs and himself.

Combined, Boyd believes that Griffin's public and political problems have been detrimental to his effectiveness. "Very few people, if anybody, take him seriously," Boyd says. "He's done little to really encourage a healthy perception of the student voice."

But there are those who support Griffin's administration. Even Boyd admits that Griffin has had good intentions. "I think he meant well from the beginning," Boyd says.

And few would question Griffin's work ethic. The president spends hours each day in the Student Union office, and that time has not gone unnoticed. "I've seen a lot of effort put forth by Matt," says Cassidy, who serves as an advisor to Student Union.

Club Coordinator and Executive Cabinet member Tony Siefring thinks that Griffin's open office atmosphere has been a big boost to Student Union's accessibility. "He keeps it kind of relaxed, which makes it easier for people to approach student government," says Siefring, who adds that the new student body constitution has made it especially difficult to lead this year's Student Union.

Lingenfelser does not deny this. "That's true. That's what this thing is all about. I'm being a figurehead for lots of people who are fed up with his presidency."

Still, Griffin feels that any qualms with his presidency could be handled better, and Nolan agrees. "They are being reactive instead of proactive. ... I think there are more

**"I really hope students take the time to read the petition. And when they do, they will realize that all of this isn't the truth."**

Griffin feels he has done a good job and is particularly upset because he has never met Lingenfelser. He also doubts that Lingenfelser could find all of this information without help from a member of the Student Union. "Three-quarters of the stuff here has never been printed in the Observer or Scholastic — whether it's truthful or constructive ways to be channeling your energy," she says.

And many seem to agree that Student Union could be going in more positive directions. "It looks bad for the Senate, it looks bad for the student body president, and people need to be working together," Kelly says.
Avoid a blue Christmas with Scholastic’s 10 suggestions to get into the Christmas spirit

not wanting to celebrate a holiday centered around an old, fat, hairy man who likes to have little children sit on his lap.

A Mini-Snie

Each evening at dinner, sculpt a different “Christmas creation” from those yummy leftovers. Just think of it: Santa and his workshop made entirely from Yo-Cream and whipped potatoes or the Three Wise Men made of flank steak and seasoned fries. Hey, it finally puts those beef turnovers to good use and gives freshmen on the dish-line an unexpected treat.

Go Of Bridget’s

Put on antlers and charge people for reindeer rides.

Make New Friends

Brave the subzero temperatures wearing nothing but a Santa hat and tinsel. Use the tinsel sparingly and carry mistletoe. If you’re going to be cold, you might as well go all the way.

Fight For Your Rights

Stage a scene in front of DeBartolo in which you play Santa Claus and your friends play reindeer. String your friends together and command, “Fly or die, antler-brains!” Proceed to beat them with a sack full of toys.

The next day at the same time and place, stage a rally in which the reindeer, having contacted the Humane Society, hold a protest. Have the victims carry signs such as, “Claus is Cruel,” “St. Nick’s a Sinner” and “Lose some weight, Tubby.”

Take Out The Dogbook

Stalk secret Santas. Leave them odd, slightly threatening wrapped gifts in strange places. Put a painted rubber glove in their beds. An empty tape dispenser in their shower caddies. A roll of toilet paper in their book bags. Sign each gift, “I see you when you are sleeping ... I know when you’re awake ... and I know what you did last summer ... yours, Secret Santa.”

Be A Jetting Person

Make a bet with a friend. Have a contest where one of you dress as the NDH Santa and the other as the SDH Santa. Construct a throne in front of the salad bar and see who can get the most people to sit on his lap. One point for students, 10 points for dining hall card checkers.

Confuse People

Armed with a guitar and a yarmulke, perform a most heartfelt rendition of Adam Sandler’s “The Hanukkah Song” at the Acoustic Cafe — just to see the reaction.

Share Your Voice

Go caroling to each and every dorm, serenading the residents with your versions of traditional Christmas carols. Try “O Little Town of Shoddy South Bend” or “Students Roasting in the Alumni Room.” And how about “The Twelve Days Before Christmas?” Unfamiliar with the lyrics? “On the 12 days ‘fore Christmas, ND life has given me — 12 Mountain Dews, 11 straight hours in Hesburgh, 10 beef turnovers, nine masive heads, eight dining hall ladies, seven issues of the Observer, six nervous breakdowns, five hours of sleep total, only four showers (if that), three hours’ peace, two random issues of the Campus Hook-Up and one really bad DART time.”

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 4, 1997
December 4, 1997

This Christmas, Tipp thine Gipp. Gipper.1@nd.edu.

Campus by the Gipper Watch

Deck the halls with boughs of holly...

Oops! Sorry, the Gipp always gets wrapped up in the holiday season like a Clapper® about this time of year. Unknown to most of the civilized world, the Gipp used to be Santa Claus until he got in a contract dispute with Mother Nature and jacked the Tooth Fairy in the heat of the moment. But now the Gipp is merely the Gipp, balding and overweight. Believe the Gipp, kids, the only time a six pack is better than a 24 pack is when it comes to your stomach.

Here’s to the freshman fifteen, the Gipp’s 45 and another column of allegation and innuendo!

Naughty, Naughty Gipp!

“Extra, extra, read all about it! Lots of really important people go bananas at CLC meeting, citing the Gipper as Beelzebub incarnate!”

Well, not really, but big, brave Fr. Bill Seetch supposedly returned to Candyland after calling the Gipp a coward for his cynical anonymity, adding his well-founded opinion that “The Gipp often has no proof” and doesn’t recognize that elected officials are “here to make this a better place.” The truth comes out! Campus Watch is based on the Gipp’s Ouija board. But to double check his sources, the Gipp goes through a three-step process he calls “horoscope, haruspicate, and scry.” Stories are then quadruple checked by interpreting animal entrails. As a final test a swami meditates on the issue with the help of a magic eight ball while watching Lou Grant reruns — now that’s journalistic integrity!

STD-licious

Check out page 32 in the yellow pages of the campus phone directories and you’ll find a crabs ad which just shouldn’t be put on the same page as the listings for gynecologists. Either the yellow pages need a new copy editor or else he/she has a pretty sick mind — and that’s saying a lot coming from the Gipp.

Public Service Announcement

The Gipp gives his enthusiastic endorsement to our Student Body President: may he survive the trials and tribulations he is facing. Knowing that without his trials and tribulations, the Gipp wouldn’t have a damn thing to write about.

Or maybe the Gipp could get together with Fr. Bill Seetch and put something together about him anyway. Hmmm ... the Gipp will look into it.

Chopstick Gate

Watergate, Whitewater Gate, and now this. The Gipp has to issue a footnote of sorts to last issue’s “Feel the Backlash” commentary. Matt “Show me the sticks!” Szabo says he asked more than one person for chopsticks that night, didn’t put up the yellow fliers and thought he saw Ben with chopsticks the night before. No hard feelings, Matt. The Gipp apologizes for any emotional scars that came of this — Lord knows the Gipp has a few to go with his tattoos! What do you say the Gipp and you forget about all of this, make fun of the administration or something and all involved can be happy.

If There’s a Problem, Yo, He’ll Solve It

Guess who might be rollin’ in his 5.0, on to campus next spring? It’s not Milli Vanilli or Heavy D and the Boyz, though he is of the same strange variety. Word has it that Vanilla Ice, VIP kickin’, will be here to rescue AnTostal, ND’s annual week-long party (or is it weak, long party?). How did SUB get the Iceman to go extreme and rock the mic like a vandal? Yo — the Gipp don’t know. But the fate of AnTostal is on the line, and it seems that the Iceman is the festival’s Messiah.

The Gipp was a number one fan of Vanilla for about a week until papa Gipp got a hold of Vanilla’s album and beat the Gipp over the head with it. Papa Gipp explained that a man named Vanilla could be no legend like Kool Mo Dee or Kid & Play. Expect a legendary performance from the Iceman in 1998, however, for this is a chance for the kid to turn his career around much like Cool as Ice almost did in 1991. It’s really, excuse the cliché, a Marky Mark ‘70s porno film turnaround opportunity. But forget porno for a moment and let’s find the moral of the story. In the words of Robert Frost, Vanilla Ice and Run DMC came upon two roads and Vanilla took A1A Beachfront avenue, and that made all the difference.

P hew. What a semester, campers. It’s been real, it’s been fun, but it hasn’t been real fun. No, wait. Think positive, Gipp! Make love not war, D.A.R.E. to keep your roommate off Yo-Cream and save the planet while you’re at it — and that includes not spray painting anything on campus but lousy artwork.

So long and see you next year, that is, if the Gipp doesn’t see you in a bun run first. Adieu and arrivederci!
hey're hard to ignore. The chiming bells of the Basilica, crosses adorning the tops of numerous buildings, crucifixes set above doorways in classrooms and the dining halls, and the mother of them all, the statue of Mary above the Dome. They are just a few of the religious symbols scattered all over the Notre Dame campus. And it's hard to walk to class without being reminded of the university's strong sense of Catholicism.

For many students, these symbols serve as a bond, creating unity on campus through a religious tie. But for a growing minority of non-Catholic Notre Dame students, these symbols do just the opposite. They represent how students with different religions are excluded from an otherwise homogeneous student body.

The latest statistics from the Notre Dame Fact Book show that in the entering class of 1995, 16 percent of all students were non-Catholics, a percentage that has doubled since 1970. Yet another trend shows that, among all races, non-Catholic students have a consistently lower four-year continuation rate at the school. Having a different faith at Notre Dame does not appear to be easy.

Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Richard Warner emphasizes the fact that the university tries to welcome students of all backgrounds. “[Campus Ministry] sends out a sheet each year to all who ask for it, listing the times, available transportation and locations of various places of worship in the area,” Warner says. “We have worked closely with several different area ministers over the years to help students with these needs.”

Students are allowed to form non-Catholic religious groups that are recognized by the university, such as the Baptist Student Union, but they are not allowed to try to convert students from one belief to another. Warner feels that anti-religious material of any kind has no place at Notre Dame. “Faith is something passed onto people by their families. It must be respected,” he says. But even while Campus Ministry promotes respect for different religions on campus, it is still a challenge for non-Catholics to practice their beliefs and deal with being a minority voice.

Theology class proved to be the first obstacle for many non-Catholic students dealing with the university's Catholicism. Senior Katie Evans is an evangelical Protestant, or a born-again Christian, who often
feels that her point of view is negatively viewed. “Especially because I used to be Catholic, people are often shocked to find out about my beliefs,” Evans says. “A lot of people think I don’t see how the world really is, that my faith isn’t intellectual.” Evans felt that in theology class her beliefs were respected, but she found it challenging to interact with a professor and a room full of students whose thoughts were so different from her tradition. “[The class] felt being Catholic was the right way to go and to think, while everyone else, other beliefs, were on the fringes.”

Senior Dan Bergan, since attending Notre Dame, has converted from Catholicism to atheism (see sidebar). Bergan doesn’t think that classes such as Core and theology provide real opportunities for people to seriously consider their beliefs. “The nature of these classes operates on the assumption that students of the class all hold certain beliefs, Catholic beliefs,” he says. Bergan feels the classes allow people to discuss what they think, but not really question themselves. “The mentality is that we can sit around a table and ask whether God exists or not, but in the end, we’re all still Catholics and we’re never really going to change our views,” he says.

Junior Ramadan Ameen does not feel that Notre Dame imposes its beliefs on students but he does recognize a strong emphasis on Catholic faith throughout the administration. “I think it’s shy the way all students, even engineers and science students, are required to take two theologies, but in a good way,” Ameen says. A convert from the Muslim faith to Catholicism, Ameen has noticed a pervasive Catholic message in classes ranging from history to theology. But he feels that any students who express a belief and devoutly practice any religion, Catholic or non-Catholic, will be excluded. “You wouldn’t know by all the students’ actions here that most students are Catholic,” Ameen says. “The guys I go to Mass with are the same guys who look up pornography on the Internet and cut people down behind their backs. It’s a slap in the face.” Ameen feels that students truly devoted to their faiths are looked upon as strange. “No one will exactly criticize you for praying, but it’s still not easy,” he says.

The knowledge that practicing a different religion is challenging at Notre Dame makes the decision of whether to attend the university a difficult one. Senior Jason Zimbler almost decided against coming to Notre Dame because of his Jewish faith and the school’s incredibly small number of Jewish students. “At times I regret my decision because I never really had the chance to explore my religion and there is no forum for Jewish thinking at the university,” he says. Zimbler feels that school unity and spirit rely heavily on the common Catholic religion and that in some ways his belief excludes him from this unity. “As a member of the Glee Club, I have chosen to sing with a group that sings a lot of spirituals at Masses and weddings,” he says. “But it hasn’t been a conflict of interest because this is not a forum I use to communicate spiritual messages.”

Senior Reggae Singleton, an African Methodist Episcopalian, has had similar regrets about coming to Notre Dame. “I came here because of the school’s academic offerings, but had I known how oppressively Catholic it was, I might have thought differently,” she says. Singleton had a difficult time in one of her theology classes trying to express a belief that actually agreed with Catholic ideology. “It was really hard defending a pro-life belief from a different perspective,” she says. “I felt like the Catholics were always right.”

Singleton has known Muslim students during her time at Notre Dame who have had problems practicing their faith. “I had a Muslim friend here a couple of years ago, and during Ramadan he had to fast in daylight,” she says. “Unless he got ‘grab n’ gos’ all the time, he could not eat. The university really has little consideration for people outside of the Catholic faith.” She feels her beliefs are respected on a personal level by her friends but not by the university as an institution. “There is no way for students to

Faith is something passed onto people by their families; it must be respected.
there's definitely a temptation for non-Catholics to come here and just not worship as they used to.

have non-Catholic church services on campus, only interfaith or prayer services. As a result, Singleton has not been able to maintain worship as she used to.

Warner feels it is an important distinction that only prayer services and Bible studies are offered. "I think the reasoning behind this decision is that people enjoy going to church services on their own," Warner says. "We help them find opportunities. I think that's a better approach than using a setting for a different faith each week."

Because non-Catholic religious services are not permitted on campus, many students have felt left out of the spiritual community. "There's definitely a temptation for non-Catholics to come here and just not worship as they used to," Evans says. She remembers how hard it was calling people, trying to get rides to off-campus services during her freshman year. "There is the temptation to just give up and forget it," Evans says.

Freshman year can be particularly hard for non-Catholic students, especially when virtually the entire dorm shuffles down the hall to attend dorm Masses. "During my freshman year, all my friends went to Mass together at first and I felt like I wasn't a part of it," junior Lutheran Lauren Otto says. "But as you get older, you meet a wider variety of people with different religions."

Freshman Lyndsay Sanford had a much easier time finding a way to worship on campus. She attends a Bible Study called Iron Sharpens Iron, run on Thursday nights at the Knights of Columbus Hall, which is quickly growing in popularity. Sanford likes the fact that the program is a Bible study and not a church service because it is informal, allowing students to stand up and speak out about how a certain part of the Bible applies to them. "I think the fact that Notre Dame is a Catholic school makes its students more open about faith, whatever faith," Sanford says. "People are more open to talking about it and even practicing it."

Several non-Catholic students feel that while the spirit of Catholicism surrounds the Notre Dame campus, it hasn't interfered with their lives. Sophomore Matt Mamak finds that people are often surprised that he is Lutheran. "It's really funny that people make such a huge assumption, that everyone at this school is Catholic," he says. Mamak expected to face problems in his theology class, but even there, he found a great deal of support. "My first theology professor wasn't even Catholic," he says. "It was really great being taught from such an overall perspective. A group of us non-Catholics formed in the back of the class, but it was just a joke. It didn't matter."

MBA Candidate Kevin Kreutner, who is a Jewish student, had a much different experience. He is curious about how much Catholicism he would encounter at Notre Dame and specifically asked to be assigned to a class where he would not be in the majority. Kreutner has felt uncomfortable in a theology class, but even there, he found a great deal of support. "My first theology professor wasn't even Catholic," he says. "It was really great being taught from such an overall perspective. A group of us non-Catholics formed in the back of the class, but it was just a joke. It didn't matter."

Senior Sanford and Kreutner both feel that this is a major reason Notre Dame is an attractive place for them. "There are plenty of opportunities for non-Catholics here," Kreutner says. "I've had people here ask me questions about my religion." Sanford feels the same way. "People really do respect everyone's beliefs," she says.
Jewish, was also curious about how much Catholicism he would encounter at Notre Dame. "I was recruited by Notre Dame and specifically asked about the religion," Kreutner says. "The recruiter told me there was a crucifix in every other room, but that otherwise, I would never notice." But Kreutner has felt uncomfortable in a couple of instances, such as luncheons where grace is said for everyone in attendance. "In Judaism, the only thing we bow toward is the Torah," he says. "Often during grace you will be asked to bow your head and if within that context Christ is mentioned there is a conflict. By bowing I'm admitting an inferiority to Christ I don't believe in."

Kreutner has also noticed a general ignorance about Judaism among Catholics. "I've had people here ask me if Jews believe in God," he says. "This always surprises me about Christianity, this lack of knowledge."

Senior Amanda Epstein, who is also Jewish, noticed this lack of knowledge about other religions. "Professors may say things about the Jewish faith that aren't true," she says. "I'm able to correct them." Epstein recognizes the fact that many students have never even known a Jewish person before. "I kind of like it sometimes, being able to teach others, being something other than the majority," she says. Epstein feels that the Jewish faculty have been very supportive, inviting her to talk and go to temple with them. Even while she lived in Farley, although candles are considered illegal in the dorm, her rector allowed her to light a Menorah every night during Hannukah.

Every non-Catholic at Notre Dame has a different experience trying to express his or her faith, whether at prayer services or in theology class. The common factor for these students is a desire to practice their faith just like anybody else. The university tries to help such students, but as Warner says, "It will never be a matter of just going down the hall for Mass as it is for Catholics."
A Hard Road Ahead

After last year’s Final Four run, the Notre Dame women’s basketball team looks to build on its success — minus a few key players.

BY DANNY EASLEY

When the 1997 Notre Dame women’s basketball team walked off the court in Cincinnati, Ohio, after losing to Tennessee, an era came to a close. In what was the most successful season in their 20-year history, the Irish finished the regular season with a 31-7 record and second place in the Big East. The two biggest contributors to the team’s success were seniors Beth Morgan and Katryna Gaither, the top two scorers in the school’s history. Though they are no longer with the team, the memory of their post-season run will not fade any time soon.

“I think last year helped our team gain a lot of confidence as well as credibility,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw says. “Our success put this program on the map.”

Now Notre Dame hopes to remain on that map but they have some big shoes to fill. The team lost four of their five starters from last year’s squad who accounted for an average of 57 points per game. Gaither, the NCAA Tournament East Region MVP, and Morgan, a first team all-Big East selection, accounted for 38.7 of those points. Both players were named Associated Press Honorable Mention All-Americans.

Though the Irish, currently 3-1, lost the valuable experience of last year’s top scorers, this season’s co-captains, senior guard Mollie Pierick and junior Sheila McMillen, will provide the leadership for the team. “Sheila will be our go-to player this year,” says McGraw, who is in her 11th season as head coach. “She and Mollie will be the players to provide the leadership.”

Pierick is the only returning starter from last year’s Final Four team. Last season she averaged 7.9 points per game and 4.1 assists while leading the squad in 3-point field goal percentage, shooting 41.5 percent beyond the arc. Pierick knows what the Irish have to do in order to be successful. “I think last year gave us the idea of what it takes to have a great season,” Pierick says. “We worked really hard last year, and we all know we have to work just as hard or harder this year.”

McMillen is Notre Dame’s other co-captain. She has picked up
much of the scoring slack, averaging 19 points in Notre Dame’s first four games, including a career-high 29 in a double-overtime victory over UCLA. Last season she contributed eight points and 2.7 assists per game while shooting 80 percent from the free-throw line. “I hope to provide more scoring for the team this year, and play a role similar to Beth last year,” McMillen says. “I want to be able to hit the shot when the team needs it.”

Also returning are senior Kari Hutchinson, juniors Diana Braendly and Danielle Green and sophomores Julie Henderson and Niele Ivey. As a freshman, Henderson played in all 38 games and averaged three points and 2.3 rebounds while posting a 56.2 in field goal percentage. “I see Julie really stepping up and contributing a lot to our post play this year,” Pierick says. “She is our veteran post player.”

Ivey and Green return to the Irish backcourt after being sidelined by injuries last year. Green has stepped right into the starting lineup and is the second leading scorer on the team, averaging 13.2 points. “We are really excited to have Danielle Green and Niele Ivey back from injuries this year. I have seen a lot of improvement in them so far this season,” Pierick says.

While the Irish do return seven scholarship players, not many have seen significant playing time, so different players will have to step up. “I think one of our strongest points this year is the balance we have,” McGraw says. “No team can key in on one particular player because we are skilled in all of the positions. I think this really helps our team.”

Much of that depth comes from their talented freshman class. The Irish freshmen include guard Imani Dunbar, center Meaghan Riley and forward Kelley Siemon. Siemon is already starting at forward, and is averaging 11.5 points in her first four games. She scored a career-high 20, including a 12 for 12 performance from the free-throw line, against UCLA. She comes to the Irish after being named to the USA Today Honorable Mention All-American Team as a senior at Edina High School in Edina, Minn., averaging 21 points and 11 rebounds per game. She finished her high school career as Edina’s all-time leading scorer (1,418) and leading rebounder (963). “I hope to make an immediate contribution to the team this year,” Siemon says. “The veteran players are making me feel very comfortable. They have given the freshmen a lot of encouragement.”

Riley is also an important player. She contributed six points and six rebounds in the season opener against Butler. Riley averaged 26 points, 14.7 rebounds and 5.2 blocked shots for North Miami High School, earning first-team all-state in Indiana. “I think all the freshmen will make a positive impact on the team this year,” Pierick says. “They each play a significant role in our success. As long as each one of them understands their role, I think we’ll go far.”

McGraw thinks the beginning of the year will be important in the team’s growth. “We are going to have some peaks and valleys this season because of our youth and inexperience, but we have talent and team chemistry,” she says. “This group has a lot of the intangibles that make it a good basketball team.”

The Irish will have to mature quickly in order to tackle their tough schedule. The Big East conference will once again be very strong. Connecticut, Miami and Rutgers will all pose challenges to the Irish. Besides a vigorous Big East schedule, the Irish will face formidable opponents in their non-conference games. Already they have played number 19 Duke and UCLA, with Wisconsin and Purdue still to come. “I don’t see any one game being especially important to us because they are all important,” McGraw says. “We have a very strong non-conference schedule this year. We play so many top-25 teams.”

One of Notre Dame’s biggest games this season will be at home against the University of Connecticut on December 6. Last year the Huskies handed the Irish two of their eight losses. The first meeting came on February 9 at Connecticut with the Irish losing 72-49. The two teams met again in the finals of the Big East Tournament where the Huskies prevailed 86-77.

This season the Irish will try to turn that record around. The Huskies, like the Irish, have lost key players to graduation, and Notre Dame will try to take advantage of that, “The Huskies lost their big girl from last year which should help us a lot,” McGraw says. “In order to beat them, we have to play with poise and confidence.”

McMillen also believes confidence is the key to an Irish victory. “We have to go out there and not be intimidated by UConn. We know that we can play with them and beat them,” she says.

After losing two key players from their Final Four team, the 1997-1998 Notre Dame women’s basketball team hopes to create its own identity this season. Youth and inexperience will be overshadowed by strong work ethic, team chemistry and a balanced attack. “This is a team that believes it’s a pretty good ballclub,” McGraw says. “We’re just going to have to go out and prove it.”
As fall comes to a close, it heralds the arrival of winter’s colder weather. Touchdowns are traded for short-handed goals, tackles for bone-shattering hip checks, and goal-line stances for miraculous glove saves. Once again, it’s hockey season.

After a disappointing season last year in which Notre Dame lost 12 games by one goal, the Irish look to rebound. Through the first half of the season, the Irish have shown themselves capable of matching up against even the toughest teams. They pulled off upsets against such powerhouses as St. Cloud State and number-one Michigan State, including a huge 6-1 trouncing of the Spartans in East Lansing. One of the main reasons for the Irish’s early season success is junior Aniket Dhadphale.

“Neek,” as he is called by teammates, is off to a tremendous start. He has made 10 goals in the team’s first 14 games, the kind of production the Irish have been looking for from their left winger. Dhadphale scored a team-leading 13 goals in his freshman season but struggled last year. Though he led the team in assists with 16, he managed to find the net only five times. “It was tough mentally for sure,” Dhadphale says. “I think a big part of being able to score goals is confidence. I didn’t have much confidence at the end of the year.”

The fact that Dhadphale has come back in such a big way this season can be credited to his positive outlook and strong work ethic. “This year, I came out determined early on,” he says. “I didn’t want to get into a slump that I would have to fight to get out of all season.” Dhadphale remained on campus this summer, attending classes and...
making use of Notre Dame’s facilities. “The facilities here are excellent and I got a chance to practice a bit with [back-up] goalie Forrest Karr,” he says.

In addition, Dhadphale notes that the improved play of the team as a whole makes it easier to score goals. The Irish have many scoring threats, so opposing teams can’t single out any one individual on the ice for special attention. “The offense comes from a lot of places [this year]. I’m getting more time on the power play and the power play’s working well for us,” he says. Dhadphale, who is from Marquette, Mich., began playing hockey when he was about five years old. “Hockey is huge where I come from,” he says. “The winters are long and cold, so it’s about the only thing to do to keep active.”

Dhadphale took to the sport almost immediately, and he has been playing on a nearly year-round basis ever since. Aside from regular-season play, he attended summer hockey camps as a youth and has remained active in the off-season throughout his career. “I probably play about two out of three months during the summer,” he says.

His zeal for hockey has always been supported by his family. For Dhadphale, hockey is a family event. In the early years of his career, he found a role model in his older brother Lalit, who played hockey in prep school. “Early on, I tried to copy what my brother would do,” Dhadphale says.

His career has progressed, his family has maintained a tremendous level of enthusiasm for his playing. Dhadphale’s parents, immigrants from India, have always been proud of their son’s success. They attended nearly all of his games throughout his junior hockey career and continue to show a keen interest in his son’s hockey. “My family members come to almost every game, even though it’s an eight-hour drive each way,” he says.

In 1994, the Dhadphales were given another reason to be proud of their son. His playing ability attracted the attention of National Hockey League scouts and Dhadphale was drafted at the age of 17 by the San Jose Sharks. To be drafted directly out of midget hockey was an unexpected turn of events, especially as a teenager. “I was surprised to be drafted because I wasn’t coming off of a great season,” Dhadphale says.

Shortly before he was drafted, Dhadphale began to consider the possibility of playing hockey in college. “I guess right before I went to juniors I thought I wanted to play college hockey,” he says. “I love the atmosphere of college hockey and the speed of the game at the college level.”

After a year of junior hockey, in which he scored 31 goals and had 33 assists, Dhadphale made the decision to attend Notre Dame. “The chance to play right away was key,” he says. “I wanted to get as much ice time as possible to improve my game.”

That year, he saw plenty of ice time, playing in 34 of 36 games. Dhadphale went to work immediately, scoring a goal in his first college game on his way to the team-leading 13.

Dhadphale admits that the transition to college life was a little difficult. “It was a bit of a struggle at first, especially after being out of school for a year while I was playing junior hockey. You get used to it. It actually kind of helps to have practices and games because I know I have to get my work done.”

Dhadphale approaches his schoolwork with the same effort that he does his game. Now fully adjusted to life at Notre Dame, he made the Dean’s List in both the spring and the fall semesters of 1996 and is a finance major in the College of Business Administration.

As Dhadphale enters his third year at the university, the early-season play of the team has given him hope for a successful season. In the two years he has been at Notre Dame, Dhadphale has noticed a marked improvement in the play of the team and an increased interest in the sport of hockey. “When I first got here, we were definitely in a building stage,” he says. “Coming in [this year], I thought it was going to be another building year, but the younger guys have been playing well and really making a lot of improvement.”

Certainly Dhadphale’s play will serve as a model to those younger players. Relatively quiet and reserved on the ice, he inspires more through actions than words. “He’s not the most vocal guy, but he’s on the ice a lot for pressure situations,” captain Steve Noble says.

Senior Lyle Andrusiak concurs. “He’s not that vocal, he just goes out there and does it. Aniket doesn’t let the pressure get to him,” he says. “He started the rally against Bowling Green by scoring on the power play. In the game that we beat Michigan State, he had the third goal which broke their back.”

Looking to the future, Dhadphale hopes to eventually get the chance to play professional hockey. He plans on finishing out his eligibility here at Notre Dame and graduating before making any move toward the NHL. In the near future, he is looking forward to a homecoming of sorts on February 20, when Notre Dame will travel to his hometown of Marquette to take on Northern Michigan, a new addition to the Central Collegiate Hockey Association. Aside from playing in front of a hometown crowd, Dhadphale will be facing former teammates from his high school days. “I probably know about four or five guys and it should be exciting to play against them. It’s a little weird seeing them on the other side of the ice,” he says.

And Dhadphale doesn’t appear to be interested in going easier on his friends. He explains, “I hope we win, because I’m still really friendly with those guys. We hang out a lot during the summer and I don’t want to have to take a summer of ribbing from them.”

Whatever the future holds for Dhadphale, he will approach it with the same determination that he has displayed throughout his career. And with the way he has been playing recently, the Irish expect Neek’s career could help them become one of the best programs in the country.
I Irish Websites

Location: http://www.FightingIrish.com

Click here to discover several Irish athletics sites on the Internet that can help answer these questions

BY BRYAN WALDRON

If there's one thing Notre Dame sports don't lack, it's media coverage. Some students grew up with the Irish Sports Report and Blue and Gold Illustrated as staple reading material. Nowadays this intensive coverage has extended beyond the printed page in the form of countless professional and personal web sites. The most familiar of these is probably the official sports site on Notre Dame's home page, but there are numerous others. Some pages are creative, colorful and brimming with useful knowledge, while others appear as if the creators never took the time to read their Java manuals. Here is an overview of some of the best and most interesting, including some that are not so favorable to the Fighting Irish.

The two standbys of Notre Dame sports have expanded to the web. Both the Irish Sports Report (www.IrishSports.com) and Blue and Gold Illustrated (www.blueandgold.com) maintain excellent sites where the complete texts of their publications can be accessed. Another exceptional source of reporting and in-depth coverage is the Irish Eyes site (www.getsports.com). This site is completely dedicated to reporting on Notre Dame sports. The one drawback of this site is that after a trial subscription, a fee must be paid for continued reading. The same applies for the Blue and Gold page. These three sites are broad in scope and provide a good overview of the major Notre Dame sports events but tend to neglect the minor varsity sports.

To find up-to-date coverage of the women's lacrosse team or men's cross country, www.und.com is the place to go. This page is truly an all-encompassing source of current Notre Dame sports information. Every varsity sport is given a section. Recent press releases are immediately accessible along with an almanac of older articles. The current schedule, roster and past results are available. For the fan who wants to know everything, this is the most comprehensive site.

While some fans simply enjoy reading about the Irish and cheering them on, others need to share their opinions with anyone who will listen. For such people there is a chat room site at www.goodnet.com/~mechev/irish/wwwboard/index.html. This site allows fans to discuss Notre Dame sports — including how your school will fare against Notre Dame — in an intelligent, civilized manner. One such comment was posted by "Here come the 'Eers" under the title "WVU's impending attack." It included four questions, one of which was, "How are you going to stop the best back in the country — Amos Zerouoe." Apparently, we showed him.

A school with the esteemed status of Notre Dame is bound to have many admirers, but along with this admiration comes a great deal of resentment. One person in Harrisburg, Penn., took the liberty of starting the "Cheer, Cheer Against Old Notre Dame" newsletter. Included in this site are recaps of some major losses in Notre Dame history, reasons to hate Notre Dame and samples of e-mail sent by defenders of the Irish in response to the site. This bastion of insightful information can be reached at www.ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/ih8nd/.

This is but a sampling of the many good places to read and discuss Notre Dame sports. For a comprehensive directory of many more sites, go to www.robbys.caltech.edu/~goodwine/nd.html. This includes links to student, media and merchandising sites.

With this variety of choices, Notre Dame fans (or haters) can find just about any type of information they desire. The variety proves that, in yet another category, the Irish should be ranked number one.
Women's Soccer • 1997 Record 23-0-1
Streaking: Notre Dame advanced to its fourth consecutive NCAA Championship semifinal game.
Prime Time Performer: In the victory over UCLA, sophomore goalie LaKeysia Beene recorded her 18th shutout of the season, upping her single-season record.
Did You Know? Notre Dame's 8-0 victory over UCLA is the largest margin of victory for the Irish in an NCAA tournament game.
On the Horizon: The Irish head to Greensboro, N.C., to take on Big East rival Connecticut in one semifinal while North Carolina and UC-Santa Clara battle in the other.

Bad Guests at Rockne's House
"I hate the Grotto, I hate 'Touchdown Jesus,' I hate the Golden Dome. I hate Lou Holtz, and he ain't there no more. I hate [former assistant coach] Dave Roberts. I don't like nothing about Notre Dame. I hate Autry Denson. I do not like Notre Dame, NBC, anything they're affiliated with, I do not like Notre Dame football. I hate the fact that they added extra seats to their stadium because I don't want anybody to ever come and see them." Gary Thompkins, sophomore free safety for West Virginia, before their game against Notre Dame.

Fats' Forecast
The women's soccer team rolls through the opposition in capturing its second national championship in three years. For the third time this season, the Irish defeat UConn, manhandling the Huskies 5-0. In the final against Carolina, Notre Dame exacts revenge for last year's heartbreaker, dominating theTar Heels on the way to a 2-0 victory.
The entertainment industry in 1997 brought us some new faces and some scary faces, old favorites and some non-talents that just get old. Ska has unseated alternative as the hot new music trend. The Spice Girls became international sensations. Star Wars returned with all blasters firing, providing more hoopla than its initial arrival 20 years ago. Joining the Jedi and the Emperor, a mass of aliens blitzed the big and small screen. Men in Black, X-Files and Contact prove science fiction's stronger and more popular than ever. And then there was that funky-haired guy named Kramer, who could just as well pass for an alien.

The year definitely had some highs and lows. To find the best and worst of '97, Scholastic surveyed a random group of students to find out what Notre Dame has to say about the year in entertainment.

**Best Musical Performer(s)**
1. The Dave Matthews Band.
   With his laid-back vox and fretwork, Dave Matthews seated himself at the top of the Notre Dame musical throne, no doubt propelled there in part by his concert appearance on campus last year. Matthews has become a mainstay of campus parties, and finding someone on campus who doesn't listen to his music is like trying to find a man in Howard Hall after 2 a.m.
2. (tie) The Mighty, Mighty Bosstones/U2
   Neither the Bosstones nor U2 are new faces, but they're two bands going in different directions. Though U2's latest, PopMart, earned high praise from select students, it garnered equal criticism. The Bosstones are a rising force, the champions of the ska trend. Though they've been around for more than 10 years, they have only recently found a following at Notre Dame.

Other favorites:
- "The Liturgical Choir and the Marching Band. They're both sooo good," says freshman Jeremy Heilman.

**Worst Musical Performer(s)**
1. The Spice Girls
   Sugar and spice, and everything nice ... or not so nice. Sweet and hot they may be, but the Spice Girls received an ungrateful reception from this crowd. Notre Dame students prefer their music unseasoned.
2. Hanson
   A bunch of kids who appeal to little kids, Hanson attempts to make an art out of musical simplicity. We prefer to call it a lack of experience. Add five years of practice and talent, and Hanson will get a kinder reception (provided, of course, that puberty is kind to their voices).
3. Marilyn Manson.
   Also receiving votes:
   - "Notorious B.I.G. just had a bad year," says sophomore Andrew Blume.

**Best Album**
1. Radiohead, OK Computer
2. The Mighty, Mighty Bosstones, Let's Face It

Radiohead pulls a surprise upset. The Bosstones get more nods as the better group overall, but Radiohead brings in real critical support for OK Computer. "This band will give you hate, love, happiness, frustration and confusion. They'll make you want to think, and make you not want to think," freshman Timothy Doenges says. "Radiohead will comfort you, push you and help you through anything. A very sincere album."

**Worst Album**
1. The Spice Girls, Spice
2. Hanson, Middle of Nowhere

Do we need to reiterate how bad these groups are? Wouldn't we be better off if they were in the "Middle of Nowhere??"

**Best Campus Band**
1. Skalcoholiks
2. Stomper Bob
3. The Notre Dame Marching Band
**our picks**

Our choices for the best and worst in film may come a bit prematurely, but through November, L.A. Confidential and In The Company of Men are standouts, and despite their flaws, Donnie Brasco and Boogie Nights deserve repeat viewings. Andy chooses The Fifth Element as the year’s most underrated flick, while Chris takes Mother Night as the year’s missed gem. Al Pacino broke out of his overacting rut in Donnie Brasco and found the perfect role to chew scenery with in The Devil’s Advocate, this year’s guiltiest cinematic pleasure. Brasco co-star Johnny Depp, Ulee’s Gold’s Peter Fonda and Face/Off’s John Travolta also get nods for their great performances.

In another down year for women in the movies, Katrin Cartlidge (Career Girls), Judi Dench (Mrs. Brown) and Stacy Edwards (In The Company of Men) are three strong female leads that come to mind, while Charlize Theron (Boys Don’t Cry, 2 Days in the Valley, Trial and Error, The Devil’s Advocate) and Anne Heche (Donnie Brasco, Volcano, I Know What You Did Last Summer) became breakthrough supporting actresses, surviving their respective bombs.

And as far as this year’s worst goes, it was split votes all around. Andy chooses Con Air and Chris goes with Contact as the year’s worst film. Oliver Stone’s U-Turn is Andy’s choice for biggest disappointment, while Chris takes the bloated Cop Land. And for most overrated film, Andy says it’s a toss-up between Contact and Air Force One while Chris picks Men In Black.

—Chris Myers and Andrew Nutter

**Best Film**

1. Contact
   A love-it-or-hate-it movie, Contact earns high marks for its daring, as it addresses serious concerns about space travel and extraterrestrial life, especially the most mysterious of “aliens,” God.
2. Star Wars, Special Edition
   Without question, Star Wars has become the movie of our generation, and the one before ours and the one to follow. This classic never gets old, and as seen this year, it just gets louder, prettier and sprouts more ships with time.
3. Chasing Amy
   Chasing Amy’s a little more down to earth — sort of. Delightfully spacey characters talk their way through a great film, proving big explosions and clichéd actors aren’t necessary for true artistic greatness.

**Worst Film**

1. Batman and Robin
2. The Lost World
   Who would win in a fight, Batman or the T-Rex? Neither. They’re both losers.

Joining the ranks of the heavily ridiculed: “Gone Fishin’. I felt sorry for Joe Pesci and Danny Glover, although I was inspired by Willie Nelson’s performance. Maybe the worst movie of the ’90s,” says Joe Sandavai.

“Crash. No plot whatsoever, non-realistic. If I wanted constant nudity, I would have rented a porno,” says freshman Mike Pettei.

**Best Actor**

1. Al Pacino, Donnie Brasco and The Devil’s Advocate
2. Harrison Ford, Air Force One and the Star Wars trilogy
3. Nicholas Cage, Con Air and Face/Off

**Best Actress**

1. Jodie Foster, Contact
2. Julia Roberts, My Best Friend’s Wedding
3. Elizabeth Shue, The Saint

**Best Comedy**

1. Seinfeld
   NBC’s two biggest phenomena may be Seinfeld and Notre Dame Football. Good thing for Coach Davie that the student body doesn’t have to choose between the two, or he might have to redo his cheer. “Go, Jerry.”

2. The Simpsons
3. South Park
   Other favorites:
   “My pet peeve is when people get hooked on TV shows — especially soap operas. And then they talk about the show all the time,” says senior Kathy Tschanz. “I do think, however, that the producers of Friends are geniuses in their field ... They keep me watching week after week.”

**Best Drama**

1. ER
2. Party of Five
3. Beverly Hills, 90210
   Other favorites:
   “Does Sportscenter count?” sophomore Brendan Farrel asks.

**Worst TV Show**

1. Suddenly Susan
2. Union Station
3. Jenny
   Brooke Shields and Jenny McCarthy may be gorgeous, but perhaps they should stick to modeling. Acting doesn’t seem to come too naturally.
Many people only know of the sunny, public side of WNDU. Few can fathom the dark secrets hidden in the television station between D6 and Route 33. Beneath the world of Contact 16 and Doppler radar lurks a web of little-known facts that would give Oliver Stone pause. You probably weren’t aware that the official name of this multimedia conglomerate isn’t WNDU, but is actually the Michigan Telecasting Corporation. Nor was it ever called to your attention that WNDU is currently composed of a TV affiliate for NBC, U93, WNDU AM radio and Golden Dome Productions. And, would you believe it—Maureen McFadden and Terry McFadden are actually siblings. Most importantly, did you know that becoming involved with WNDU is as simple as DARTing into an Introduction to Broadcasting and Cable class? Students pursuing careers in broadcasting have found a home in the internship opportunities offered to them by WNDU.

Though the call letters seem to indicate that Notre Dame owns the station, WNDU actually operates as an independent business. Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students who wish to intern at WNDU must first complete an Introduction to Broadcasting and Cable class, taught by Karen Heisler. Heisler warns that even the students who get into the introductory level class are not guaranteed success. “We have some students who are very eager and competent, and others who see it as three hours of easy credit and take it pass/fail,” she says. “NDU is a commercial television station, not a training center. If they’re not pulling their weight, we let them know.” This expectation of dedication ensures that only the students most eager to learn enter the program.

Students are still lured, however, into the WNDU web of intrigue by the experience that the Broadcasting and Cable class offers. “We rotated jobs so we got to run every position: teleprompter, anchor, floor director. They gave you a script to read on-camera so each person got a chance to read the news as an anchor,” senior Anne Vales says. “In the final project you’re in a group with four or five people to fill 15 minutes, and you spend one day taping a full show. You basically learn about every aspect of what goes into being involved with a news show.”

Students who pass the introductory class may then choose to apply for a broadcasting internship at WNDU. The internship offers students experience in all facets of media and is not focused solely on news production. Students are offered a glimpse of the full scope of broadcasting. “[The business and cable introduction course] makes sure the students have a background in the broadcasting industry,” Heisler says. “It also lets us get to know them and put them in the right place.” WNDU internships suit students with interests in television journalism, while students seeking a future in advertising would be better off working with local business commercials at News 16. And a student with technical expertise might...
prefer editing videos at Golden Dome Productions.

No official affiliation exists between WNDU and the university, but the proximity of the two institutions made them inevitable associates. "There's a tight-knit connection between our department and WNDU," communications professor Ted Mandell says. "NDU has the most extensive and coordinated set of internships offered on a regular basis."

Internships at WNDU can involve students in any one of a number of different activities at the station. For senior Ryan Lutterbach, it involved working in "creative services" and with a firm in WNDU that produces local commercials such as those for Rafferty's, Fun F/X and Wal-Mart. "We do pretty much anything done with a low-budget camera, shot on video, airing late at night," Lutterbach says. "Screenwriting is the easiest part — getting in touch with the client and finding out what they're trying to say about themselves. We have to book production time, record sound and possibly do more based on how much money the client is spending." Television is, after all, a business, and commercial production is essential to making a station successful. "NDU is very well-endowed, probably in no little part due to the university," Lutterbach says. "Usually in a market this size, stations have less technology. It's good experience to be able to have it so easy, and it looks good on a résumé."

Obviously, there are broadcasting internship opportunities for Notre Dame students outside of WNDU. Lutterbach had another internship in Chicago, with an affiliate that was on more of a national level. "At NDU it's like working but going to class too. You get to learn at the same time," he says. "At a bigger company you don't get that. Here they teach you little nuances. They taught me pretty much everything I know about broadcasting."

Working with experienced professionals and potential ego conflicts might be a source of apprehension for some interns, but most find the other employees to be friendly and extremely helpful. Senior Kate Howard relates her experience with the employees' attitude toward the interns. "They're really nice," she says. "They see students all the time and they're very helpful. The place doesn't revolve around interns because it's a professional business, but they like to teach."

Other companies would probably have students leave if they suddenly had to change departments, but people who intern at WNDU seldom leave the program. WNDU keeps students in internships by accommodating their schedules. Howard, along with senior Susan Christie, began her internship at WNDU working on a Saturday morning show called Sixteen. The show was a student-run news show geared toward grade school and high school-age kids and dealt with local events and issues. "With Sixteen, we had a chance to do writing and scripting, which is something you don't get to do in the English department," Christie, an English and communications major, says.

When Sixteen was canceled, the two interns worked in Golden Dome Productions, which is billed as an "international production company creating concept, creative and production services for video, film, satellite, multimedia, Internet and Intranet communications." Christie notes that, besides the nature of production, there are certain similarities between video production and television scripting. "Both departments try to make you feel like part of the group rather than outsiders," she says. "They definitely want to give us hands-on experience." The new challenges presented by the sudden shift were rewarding. "There's a business-type atmosphere at Golden Dome," Christie says. "You'll be in the middle of an office with eight million things going on at once. It's like real-world experience."

Almost anyone involved in an internship at WNDU seems to agree. "I give [the WNDU internship] credit as a good learning experience and one that anyone with an interest in broadcasting shouldn't pass up," Lutterbach says. "Outside of the university it'd be much more difficult to get a foot in the door in the industry."

Heisler agrees. "If you want a job in this business, you need all the experience you can get," she says.

With WNDU providing this kind of a learning experience, who knows? The next Walter Cronkite or Barbara Walters could very well be your dormmate or the person sitting next to you at the dining hall. If Regis Philbin and Phil Donahue have anything to say about it, Notre Dame has no lack of television personality potential. All it takes is getting that first foot in the door.

"If you want a job in this business, you need all the experience you can get."

— Karen Heisler

THE DEAN OF LOCAL INTERNS. Though junior Chris Patka (opposite page) is not a Michozen, he enjoys his internship at WNDU, whose satellites are pictured above.
The Christmas trees are trimmed and the wreaths are on the door — all signs that the holiday season is right around the corner. Unfortunately, so are final exams. Students will soon be making the wintry trek to computer clusters for inevitable late nights of figuring out which font is more convincing: Courier New 12 or Palatino 13. OOB realizes how tough it can be to keep the holiday spirit in the midst of so much stress. Check out the following holiday homepages next time the end-of-semester workload has got you feeling like Scrooge:

The most comprehensive and intelligent Christmas homepage can be found at http://www.christmas.com. This homepage has everything you ever wanted to know (and a few things you didn’t want to know) about Christmas. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this page is the WorldView section, which describes the Christmas traditions of various countries around the world. Learn how people celebrate the holidays in Pakistan, Wales, Hong Kong and the site of the first Noël, Israel.

In Australia, Santa waterskis down the Nerang River in red swim trunks to deliver gifts. And American flags aren’t the only things that some Iraqis like to burn and then stomp into the ground. They do the same to a pile of thorny crowns to celebrate yuletide cheer. Hosannah!

The page also includes international Christmas songs and recipes. Banana Rama, for example, isn't just the female pop group that took the world by storm in the early '80s — it’s also a Caribbean holiday treat made out of bananas and rum and then set ablaze.

The christmas.com homepage includes a nifty (if not incredibly frightening) list of holiday chat rooms for anyone who’s sick of the same old sex.menageàtrois.hairy chat room. Try out some wholesome fun with the christmas.scrooge chat, then explore the real meaning of Christmas with the christmas.whatiwant chat. But for a real scare, check out the christmas.fanatics chat where you can witness maniacs bragging about how early they put up their Christmas lights: “Hi! I started putting mine up Nov. 11! The tree goes up Monday. I use every available outlet.” Unfortunately, this is an actual response in the Christmas fanatics’ chat room. Overall, this homepage is loaded with interesting yuletide information and is a great way to waste hours in the computer lab.

Another interesting and incredibly corny Christmas page is Homepage for the Holidays at http://www.merry-christmas.com. OOB found the storytime section to be as fun as a punch-drunk relative trying to play Santa at the family Christmas party. This features a MadLib-style story in which you enter your name, town and what you—want Santa to leave you under the tree. The next thing you know, a story starring you and Bippo the Wonderdog appears on the screen. Santa threatens the bad boy in your neighborhood with a bag full of coal. Bippo tells Santa to mellow out and saves Christmas — with your help, of course. The page also includes an activities list of crazy and silly things to do during the Christmas season. The page suggests creating coupons to give to loved ones, including ones redeemable for a get-out-of-leaving-the-toilet-seat-up-free, for an extended (5 minutes minimum) hug and for a foot massage. It’s the perfect idea for when you aren’t quite sure how to say “season’s greetings” to your roommates.

OUT OF BOUNDS

by Aaron J. Nolan
LIFE IN HELL

MY LIFE IS NOTHING BUT ANGUISH AND TORMENT.

I AM IN CONSTANT PAIN OVER MY LOSSES, MY SETBACKS, MY FAILURES.

I WANT TO LAUGH AGAIN.

LAUGHTER HELPS PUT MY TORMENT INTO PERSPECTIVE.

WITH LAUGHTER, I WILL FEEL WHOLE AGAIN.

IF I COULD LAUGH, MY SOUL WOULD BE HEALED.

I FEEL TORMENTED TOO.

BWA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!

THANK YOU.
Bless Me Pixies For I Have Sinned

By Jenny Shank

A few summers back I interned for a big concert promoter in Colorado. I wrote press releases, pitched interviews, made sure photographers didn’t take pics of the artists when their hair wasn’t just so and, for six dollars an hour, sold my soul to the sweaty corporate beast that is establishment music. I had to suck up my punk propensities and worship with teeth gritted at the altar of the gruesome three-headed pop princess, Whitney-Mariah-Celine.

The office was a surreal circus of hypersensitive posers who ran around swearing and smoking and lamenting the death of arena rock. I think they were issued personas at the door, because every conceivable cliché music industry type ran rampant there. There was the terse, salty, recovering drug addict with the English accent and the Sid Vicious sneer. There was the 50-year-old rock chick in denial who relentlessly squeezed herself into animal print dresses and thigh-high black leather boots and dyed her hair into bottle-blond oblivion, who was never without her two over-stuffed rolodexes and a lipstick-ringed cigarette in her mouth. And there was my boss, who reveled in ’80s synth pop and hated alternative music. She wished The Pixies had never existed, and she could just dream away the blur of angst and feedback and unwashed souls that to her was the alternative concert experience. She had a deep, psychic loathing for Lollapalooza. It gave her rashes just to think about it. Lollapalooza was a nightmare of sweaty, stoned, goateed youth, reeking of patchouli oil, who could be good-looking “if they would just cut their hair!”

That summer, Yanni was forever touring. I sent out Yanni press releases to fan the flames of Yanni-fever near every venue in which he chose to park his glorious self and his equally exalted entourage. The Yanni press release was an early assignment. The first draft of it began, of course, “Yanni: the man, the myth, the HAIR...” My boss read no further than that before she looked up at me, imploringly, with eyeliner-smudged eyes. Had she been at all articulate, she would have told me that one cannot mention Yanni’s hair without irony. And concert press releases are where irony goes to die. The hair is divine, to be sure, but to mention it, even in praise, is to diminish it, to bring it down from its sanctified position as the ethereal, cascading crown on the head of the Artist Adored by Millions, to the squalid realm of gritty words which can be spoken in a sarcastic voice. And words can, when printed, be smeared. For example, “in the Yanni universe, in the beginning there was The Word, then The Word became flesh, and shortly thereafter there was The Hair and its insouciant counterpart, The Yanni Mustache.”

The boss didn’t say this, but she did tell me just where I could stick draft one. So I marched bravely onward toward draft two. “Don’t mention The Hair,” I repeated to myself, like a mantra. “The Hair just is. It was then that I sold my soul, officially, for I wrote passionately about the mystical experience of Yanni’s music — music that I had never heard, but music that I imagined might be adequately described by adjectives like “celestial,” “spine-tingling” and “righteous.”

That summer, the musical period was no longer High Grunge, for Kurt had already kicked the body habit, but his flannel-clad shadow lingered on the horizon, keeping ska and techno at bay for a time, and allowing the Widow Cobain to entice the country with her
lipstick-stained, rage-laced rock roars. Ms. Love was in town for Lollapalooza when the call came in. She wanted two passes to Denver’s excuse for an amusement park, Elitches, for herself and daughter Frances Bean. And the press must not, must never know. But the geeks at Elitches nearly wet their pants when told, wanting to rush to the phones and call NBC, CBS, ABC or at least their mothers. We had to tell them they must not let the press find out, for Courtney Love had wanted it so. You must remember, this was back before Courtney coated her rancorous self with a soothing glam veneer, back in the days when she’d sooner show you her underwear than regularly change it. And if there was a mistake, it was we who would have to face The Sneer. Ms. Love had a sneer that would turn Ahab from his quest for the white whale, a sneer that would keep Romeo from Juliet, a sneer that would, if properly aimed, keep plaid-panted alumni away from Notre Dame on home football weekends. So we plied them with concert passes until they were quiet.

I led a double life that summer. During the day I would try to convince people that if they missed the John Tesh show their lives would be a spiritual wasteland, and during the night, under cover of darkness, I’d trade away Tesh’s promo CDs for Ani Difranco at a sympathetic music store. The hypocrisy wore on me, I think, because I caught myself once, just once, staring far too long into the deep recesses of Yanni’s brooding eyes shining up at me from his glossy five by eight promo pic.

Some nights I still lie sleepless, haunted by the musical lie I lived that summer. I want to fax all my press connections and admit that the Megadeth show was not, in fact, “the concert of the century,” at least not any century that I’m familiar with. I want to get down on my knees and beg them to understand that when I described John Tesh as “a musical genius,” my tongue was planted so firmly in my cheek that I didn’t regain full use of it for weeks after. And Yanni’s music has never been, nor will it ever be, righteous. It’s not even sassy. There’s a special circle in the Inferno for sellouts like me. They play Hootie there, on eternal repeat.

Something to fit any size appetite and budget this holiday season

54533 Terrace Lane
277-7744

52577 US Route 31
277-1024

DECEMBER 4, 1997
Barbie World Update

In case you haven’t heard, Mattel Toys has gone back to the drawing board in order to give Barbie a more natural bustline. College kids are taking notice, perhaps because this is the first year in which one can buy a Barbie wearing university cheerleader garb.

Charles Powell, in an editorial for the Kentucky Kernel, the University of Kentucky’s student newspaper, thinks that critics of Barbie’s well-endowed features are justified and a change is necessary. “This is fair,” he writes. “The doll packs a chest like two beluga whales penned in unnaturally close quarters. Add to that a candy-thin waist, perennially steeped feet, and hips that resemble two miniature poodles fighting under a blanket and you’ve pretty much got her pegged.”

Well, that’s one way of putting it.

Entrepreneur Wanted

Recent Stanford graduate Jeremy Cowan admits he didn’t think his homemade concoction would ever be a success. But his beverage, Hebrew, “the chosen beer,” has shown that there is a huge market for kosher beer in California.

Cowan said he wanted to create a “hilarious, delicious experience” for the Jewish community with his first creation, Genesis Ale, and that the business just took off from there. Shmaltz Brewing Company now has its own line of microbrews with tinges of Hebraic humor on each beer’s label. Most bottles bear the slogan, “Don’t pass out, Passover,” though the soon-to-be-released Messiah Stout claims that it’s “the beer you’ve been waiting for.”

All joking aside, Cowan met with multiple brewmasters and rabbis in order to be sure that Hebrew is kosher. “I wanted to make sure everyone could feel confident they were getting a product that was up to kosher standards,” he said. “It was a commitment to give back to the community.”

Cowan seeks to benefit the Jewish community by donating to fundraisers, Jewish community centers, synagogues and the Traveling Jewish Theater.

Hmmm ... now that everyone knows there is a market for religious brews, could Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic beers be on the way? As for Catholics, imagine what a success Pope’s Blue Ribbon would be.

Sculpt This

Feel bad about always getting up at noon on Sunday? Ever wake up and know the day is already wasted, just as you were the night before? Perhaps you should listen to Chris M. Pappas, trainer of Harvard’s new Bodybuilding Team.

In a recent e-mail to the team’s new members, Pappas concluded by saying, “While all the rest of the college slime balls are in bed, you will be sculpting yourself into a work of art.” The bodybuilding team starts early, meeting four times a week at 6:30 a.m. to provide Harvard weightlifters with a chance to train in an organized program. No experience is necessary, only discipline, says founder Spencer G. Rhodes ’00. “I definitely want people who want to take themselves to the max,” he says.

Rhodes foresees the club expanding and has even conceived of a future “Mr. Harvard” competition. He doesn’t believe that tight underwear and cosmetic oil will be required of lifters participating in the event, however, saying he wouldn’t want people to be “scared off.”

Good thinking, Spencer. Apparently you must have heard about the “Mr. Irish” competition we used to have here at Notre Dame. If you think kids with 1550 SAT scores in underwear are frightening, imagine two dozen rectors in spandex.

by Zac Kulrurud

Gobbledygook Sightings

More pranksters have been at work in the world of higher education, and this time it’s at Yale. Four large, white turkeys were found between 8 and 9 p.m. on November 19 at various locations on Yale’s campus. Ana Titarchuk ’00 encountered one turkey in the rightmost stall of the women’s restroom of the language lab, while gymnastmum supervisor Harold McGrath found another one riding the elevator. “I opened the [elevator] door, and there was a big, monstrous white turkey,” McGrath said. The turkey appeared to present no threat, so McGrath corralled it into a corner and placed it in a cardboard box until police arrived.

Students in the library basement spotted one strutting around between the bookshelves. Edward Williams ’98, who first spotted the intruder, said, “It was beautiful, and it pootied on the rug.”

Afu Adusei ’00 babysat the turkey until police came and took it away. “It walked around for a bit and then it just sat down and looked around.”

Students have no idea how a turkey of that size could have been sneaked into the library, since a security guard keeps watch at the only entrance to the building. Most suspect Harvard students were behind the prank, but officer Earl Estes sounded stumped, saying it “could be Harvard students, could have been frat students, could be anybody.” Campus security forces across America have been put on red alert, expecting similar pranks as Christmas approaches. In order to deter any similar fowl play, Notre Dame security will keep a close eye on Board of Trustee meetings, the Campus Life Council and all other areas where turkeys are known to gather.

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Business Ethics: A Contradiction in Terms

by Tom Kilroy

The faculty of the College of Business Administration loves business ethics. Every professor wants to fit the subject somewhere into his or her syllabus. Very few campus publications are without full-page advertisements for upcoming speakers and seminars relating to ethical business behavior. The Observer recently featured a front-page article on the programs of the Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business.

This affinity for ethics can be explained by a very real tension between business practices and Catholic ethical teaching. Obviously, an academic department of a Catholic university would prefer not to teach a subject antithetical to religious doctrine. Thus COBA actively seeks to prove that business and ethics are reconcilable.

One cannot, however, resolve this tension simply by placing business and ethics in the same sentence. Father Oliver Williams said of the business ethics program in the recent Observer article, “It teaches students that you can be successful and still be ethical.” But is it possible to be successful and ethical in today’s business world?

To answer this question, let us consider the business practices of a corporation that embodies success, Nike. Their trademark swoosh is universally recognizable, even unavoidable. In 1991, manufacturing plants in Indonesia, licensed by Nike, paid their average female worker 82 cents per day. Their shoes cost less than $6 to manufacture and were sold for between $75 and $135. With those profits, Nike paid Michael Jordan $20 million. That’s more than the combined salaries of all their workers in Indonesia.

No moral individual could deny that these business practices are ethically deplorable. Nevertheless, no businessman would suggest that Nike adopt a different business strategy. To achieve its current level of success, Nike had to treat its Indonesian workers unjustly. If they paid them a fair living wage, they would not make the profit necessary to fund the marketing campaign that makes them so successful. They could not pay Michael Jordan $20 million, and then Reebok assuredly would. Any marketing professor will tell you that Nike should take all possible measures to keep Michael Jordan out of Reeboks.

Nike cannot afford ethical business practices. If they act ethically in every respect of their business, they will lose to other companies who will sacrifice justice for competitive advantage. Niccolo Machiavelli puts it well, writing, “A man who wishes to make a profession of goodness in everything must necessarily come to grief among so many who are not good.” Business executives face an impossible dilemma, either act totally ethically and risk the economic well-being of employees and family, or act unjustly whenever necessary and achieve success.

The College of Business Administration keeps this impossible dilemma a tightly guarded secret. They camouflage the secret with frequent seminars and lectures on business ethics that commend the appearance of justice rather than the actual practice of justice. Machiavelli would praise the business school for this public relations campaign. He recognized that in the pursuit of success one can get away with occasional unjust actions if one appears to be an ethical person.

We may once again consider Nike, our paragon of success. They run multi-million dollar ad campaigns promoting women’s issues with profits gained from exploiting their female workers in Indonesia.

The Business School presents ethics in a Machiavellian form. In their seminars, ethics is the study of the illegal rather than the unethical. They consider cases of white-collar crime such as falsifying financial documents, unfair competition practices and false advertising. These are depicted as unethical because they result in punishment and a failure to achieve success. Unethical actions that are not illegal, such as unjust treatment of workers, inflated executive compensation and environmental pollution, are not discussed. With this understanding of ethics, any legal action that advances the pursuit of success is just.

Do not be surprised if, years from now, we read about Notre Dame graduates embroiled in ethical scandals. Their words will be similar to those of Al Gore on his fundraising practices. Gore said, “I have done nothing illegal. I will not do it again.”

Tom Kilroy is a junior PLS major from Winnetka, Ill. He currently resides in Alumni Hall.
Business Ethics: by Tom Kilroy

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