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Sarcastic 1999
We can’t take ourselves seriously every day of the year, and April Fool’s Day is the perfect day to let our hair down. In our annual campus humor magazine, we take stabs at that strange lump on Bob Davie’s head, The Observer and countless more campus people and happenings.

A Different Perspective
Scholastic recognizes National Disability Week by examining how Notre Dame students cope with their disabilities and celebrating their unwavering courage.  by Shannon O’Keefe

Strike Up The Band
The Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival, the nation’s oldest, begins next Wednesday with a concert by jazz saxophonist Branford Marsalis. A jazz band competition concludes the festival over the weekend.  by Jim Bilek

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Sincere Flattery

I have always been a fan of the Muppets. If I am ever forced to choose between a current hit television show and the antics of the Muppets, I will choose Kermit, Gonzo and Fozzie in a second. I certainly don’t care if Ross and Rachel stay together, but I am frequently up nights worrying about whether Miss Piggy will ever become Mrs. the Frog.

The Muppets are masters of parody. For the last 20 years, they have mocked nearly every great television show, movie, celebrity and historical event.

In Muppet Treasure Island, director Brian Henson created a new pig character named Spam. Hormel Corporation, which makes Spam, sued Jim Henson Productions for trademark infringement. After a short court battle, Hormel lost the suit. The judge said in his summary that parody is one of the greatest forms of comedy and that Hormel should take it lightly. To this day, all Muppet products still carry a seal which says, “Muppet Parody: The Greatest Form of Flattery.”

Our annual April Fool’s Day tradition is to create Sarcastic Magazine, a parody of the people and events around campus. We take shots at well-known campus personalities, events around campus, administrators and even The Observer.

We had a lot of fun doing this parody issue, and we hope you have just as much fun reading it. Just like the Muppets, we intended every joke to be taken as a form of sincere flattery.

Janice, the guitarist in the Muppet’s Electric Mayhem Band, once said, “I’m not taking my clothes off, even if it is artistic.” Though most of us probably wanted a good look at what was under her tie-dyed shirt, she didn’t want the humor to become tasteless. We feel the same way at Scholastic. We don’t want to take our clothes off, even if it is artistic.

Welcome, Freshmen

A hearty thank you goes to Pat Downes, Allison Fashek and their staff for all the time and effort they put into making Scholastic Magazine a success during the 1998-1999 school year. After spring break, they were replaced with a young, new staff. Hopefully, this staff can continue the tradition of excellence that surrounds Scholastic. After working with them to produce this issue, we are confident that they can. We look forward to working with them this year.

Also Inside

Not all of the magazine is humorous this week. With Disabilities Week having just drawn to a close, Scholastic wanted to recognize many of the students on campus who are disabled. Shannon O’Keefe talks with some students who deal with disabilities every day on page 8. The winning essay in the Disabilities Awareness Week Essay Contest is reprinted on page 32.

You’ll also want to check out the preview for next week’s Collegiate Jazz Festival on page 26.

106 Years Ago:
Mr. Popularity

In the April 1, 1893, issue of Scholastic, one writer considers the components of a good personality.

“One finds among the crowd at college, persons who are popular, not because they have an uncommon amount of good-sense, but because their foolish jest amuses others. While these persons never lack friends, because, generally, they are so good-natured as to offend no one, still they are always considered by many as fit for nothing more than amusement for others. Furthermore, there is nothing that is more detested by the people at large than a man with a sarcastic countenance.”

For more information, check out the Gipper’s column on page 21.

—JP

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

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Disc Quasi Semper Victurus
Vivo Quasi Cras Morturus

Cover art by Dave Leenen

2 SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE
Sincere Flattery

I have always been a fan of the Muppets. In Muppet Treasure Island, director Mr. McKenna, an anthropology professor and director of Notre Dame’s new Mother-Baby Behavioral Sleep Lab, is an expert on the sleeping patterns of mothers and their children. "There’s a consensus of about five or six people on sleep issues," McKenna explains. "You get known by journalists and the media in general."

In the April issue of Glamour, McKenna’s expert advice is called upon to address a question with which he is quite familiar: should mothers sleep in bed with their babies? He is quoted as saying, "The absolute safest and most biologically appropriate way for a baby to sleep is next to its mother."

This idea comes as a jolt to a nation raised to believe that children should sleep by themselves, in separate rooms as well as separate beds from their parents. But on a universal level, this isolation is a minority practice. "Ninety-five percent of the world sleeps next to its babies," McKenna says.

Aside from comparing American sleeping habits to those of other cultures, McKenna has also studied other mammals, especially primates, in hopes of learning more about the relationship between mother and child. He discovered that primates are most dependent on their mothers for the longest period of time and require constant touching and cleaning by their mothers. Humans have an even longer childhood, leading McKenna to the conclusion that children require even more contact with their parents. For a baby, sleeping between its parents helps accommodate this essential biological need.

At the new sleep lab, McKenna hopes to discover even more about the sleeping patterns of mothers and babies. Located in the Reynolds Laboratory near the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union, the lab has only recently been finished. McKenna and his team of 20 undergraduate students will begin working there soon, trying out the lab equipment and running experimental tests to see, for example, if people can follow instructions given to them in their sleep. "We might have moms, dads and babies coming in during April," he says, adding that fathers should sleep with babies, too.

And it looks like Glamour might be more scientific than you thought.

— Kathleen Corte

Q&A

1 Questions with

Wade Stoller

OIT Techno-babble decipherer

You turn on your computer, wait patiently for it to bring up that eight-page philosophy paper, when suddenly the screen goes blank. Where do you go? If you wind up in a panic at the OIT office in the Engineering Library, one of the guys who will do everything he can to help you to get your machine working smoothly again is Wade Stoller.

How long have you worked at Notre Dame?
About two years.
What exactly do you do with all the computers brought in here?
We’ll repair anything from hardware (floppy drives, bad printers, etc.) to software. We also do installations of software.
What’s the best part of your job?
I enjoy interfacing with the customers. People usually are very upset when they come in, and I try to help them see that it’s just a computer, not the end of the world. My goal is to make people smile by the time they leave here.

What’s the most frustrating part of your job?
Sometimes, problems can’t be fixed. If a customer brings in a machine with what they think is a software problem, then we turn it on and find the hardware’s out to lunch, it’s hard to tell the customer. I hate breaking the bad news to them.
So why are you at Notre Dame and not, for instance, at Cal Tech?
My boss and I used to work for the same company, and I was recruited by him when he came to the OIT. My wife and I talked it over and decided it was something new, so we would try it.

What’s the silliest computer question you’ve ever been asked?
A lot of what we’d find funny you probably continued on next page.
Q&A
continued from previous page
wouldn’t, just because we know more about what the problems are. But I guess a line we found pretty funny at the time was a girl who came in with a printer and asked us to get out the hoop earring that had stuck in it. Since then, we’ve had to pull all sorts of things out of printers!

How did you first become interested in working with computers?
In the Marine Corps they sent me to Aviation Electronics School. It was just a natural progression from there.

If you could redecorate the CCMB, what would you do?
I’ve thought about that one a lot! The first thing I’d do is put in a new exterior, and then add more windows.

What’s your favorite website?
At work, it’s the Weather Channel, because it’s a large website so we can use it to test how a new network installation works. I do like www.hamsterdance.com, though. Sometimes we put it on four or five different screens at once in the office here. It drives people crazy.

Are you going to see the new Star Wars movie?
Yes! My 13-year-old and 14-year-old sons are practically chomping at the bit. We’ll probably be there the first day it opens.

— Kimberly Blackwell

IN AND OUT
Flying Doors Grounded at O’Shaughnessy
Safety of all at issue in classroom door replacement

Ever walked down the hallways of O’Shaughnessy and been railed by a “flying door”? The university is concerned — and it should be. The doors to many of the classrooms on the first floor of O’Shaughnessy Hall are being replaced, and for this very reason: safety.

The ultimate cause for the change in doors was a complaint filed by a faculty member who, while walking down the first floor hallway at O’Shaughnessy, was nearly hit in the face by one of the flying doors, opened by a student leaving class. Fortunately, the faculty member escaped without serious injury.

Over spring break, two doors on the first floor of O’Shaughnessy Hall were renovated in favor of doors opening inward to avoid collision with the passing crowds. There are plans to fix 24 more following finals week.

Not only are these new doors safer, they are also better looking, says Catherine Grundy in the Office of Academic Space Management. She says that, although they are an unexpected expense, it is important that Notre Dame look into problems of this nature — if, as Grundy notes, “we can afford it.”

For the most part, installing the new doors is just a matter of replacing frames and adjusting hinges so that the doors will open inward rather than outward, thus reducing the risk of “splinter face.” However, it must also be noted that the new doors do not have sickly, yellow numbers on their surfaces as before — this perhaps also being an issue of health.

Doubtless, this is not the first time someone has walked down a hallway at O’Shag and nearly met their fate in the person of a flying door. These doors are not only a problem on the first floor of O’Shag, they are a problem on the second and third floors as well. And a number of outward-swinging bathroom doors around campus have the same problem. When asked about further door reform, Grundy indicated that her office was hoping to fix as many of the problematic doors as possible.

— Gregg Murray

$22.4 MILLION AT WORK

The New South Park
The brand new Eck Center fills a multitude of campus voids

For months, students at Notre Dame watched the two new buildings rise past West Quad. Together, the two buildings form the Eck Center. One structure is the new bookstore, complete with a coffeeshop and even more Notre Dame paraphernalia than the old bookstore.

The building adjacent to the new bookstore houses the Notre Dame Visitor’s Center and the Alumni Association Headquarters, separated from each other by shiny glass doors. The visitor’s center contains several displays, including one that will be changed weekly to feature Eck Center events. An information desk and a kiosk with a touch-screen display provide information to guests while a cozy gathering of sofas offers a place where visitors can talk and relax.

Dennis Brown, who is in charge of public relations for the new center, explains the need for the visitor’s center in light of the overwhelming numbers of tourists who visit Notre Dame every year. "Notre Dame is the second most popular tourist destination in Indiana, after the Indiana Motor Speedway," Brown says. The visitor’s center offers these tourists a central spot near the much-visited bookstore where they can get information and begin historical walking tours of the campus.

The construction of the Eck Center also houses members of the Alumni Association, previously scattered around campus, under one roof. Their new headquarters includes a lounge area, complete with a fireplace, where returning alumni can congregate and visit.

In all, the three parts of the new Eck Center: the bookstore, visitor’s center and Alumni Association headquarters, provide a central area where visitors to the Notre Dame campus can find all the information and souvenirs they need. These two buildings provide the setting for a central spot where students, alumni and visitors are all welcome.

— Kathleen Corte
BY JARED MARX

There is little argument that the new Rolfs Sports Recreation Center is an excellent facility. New basketball courts, an indoor track and a state-of-the-art weight room make it attractive to even the most athletically disinclined students. But the same characteristics that make Rolfs a favorite place to work out for Notre Dame students and faculty have also attracted people from outside the Notre Dame community, and this influx of visitors has become a concern.

According to Sally Derengoski, director of RecSports and RecServices, the center's staff was pleased when Rolfs' first year of operation passed by with very few security problems and instances of theft. But the honeymoon didn't last forever. Earlier this year, the facility experienced a rash of thefts during a period of only a few days. The thefts generally do not involve university-owned equipment. Instead, private property seems to be the main target.

At issue is what Derengoski calls a suspicion that there "could be a correlation" between the presence of non-university-affiliated people in the building and the theft that has occurred.

Both Rolfs and the Rockne Memorial are, for the most part, restricted to the use of students and faculty, and their spouses. Derengoski states that it should be the privilege of these students and faculty to invite guests to use the facilities with them. At the Rock, advance notice must be given before bringing a guest, but at Rolfs no such advance notice is required. In both cases, the guest must enter with a university-affiliated sponsor.

The implication is that the thefts could have been linked to misuse of this guest policy. Before the rash of thefts, the staff at Rolfs had been fairly lax in its enforcement of the official rules. For instance, people had been allowed to enter the building to look for their sponsors, rather than entering with them.

Now, the policies have changed. Guests are no longer allowed to enter the facility without having their sponsors present. Rolfs staff members now fill out registration information for guests rather than letting the guests fill it out themselves. Furthermore, new signs warn students and faculty not to sponsor a "guest" whom they do not know. Derengoski seems to think that these changes have helped.

Still, the problem of theft has not disappeared. At the Rock, it has posed a problem for years. Brother Louis Hurcik, director of the Rockne Memorial, says that there have always been cases of people's property being stolen, particularly before breaks and other peak times when people carry a lot of money. Although Hurcik refrains from drawing a connection between users not affiliated with the university and theft, he does encourage people to lock up their valuables.

Both the Rock and Rolfs offer lockers in which people with their own locks can keep wallets and other valuables. In addition, the Rock offers five-dollar rental lockers that can be used for the year. At Rolfs, there are also coin-return lockers, which require a quarter to use but return the money when the user is finished.

"The coin-return lockers would be a great place for all of the basketball players to put their stuff," Derengoski notes, since the lockers are located next to the basketball courts. However, she says that "they [the basketball players] always seem to just leave it on the floor."

The point is well taken. Storage facilities are available, so it is ultimately the students' responsibility to make sure that their items are safely stowed during their workout time. No rules about guests can protect users from theft by people who enter the facility legitimately.

Although security improvements have been made, the issue of guest use has not yet been put to rest, and the Rolfs guest-use policy is still subject to change in the future.

Safe storage facilities are available, so it is ultimately the students' responsibility to make sure that their items are safely stowed during their workout time.

Derengoski notes that while Rolfs has tried to avoid charging a fee for guests, the possibility has been considered. Undoubtedly, this would be an unpopular decision. But if it has a significant impact on the security of the facility, it may be worth the sacrifice for the people intended to use the facility.
Notre Dame defends its trademarks from illegitimate use through a combination of diplomacy and toughness

BY TINA ZURCHER

After a student has lived for four years at Notre Dame, he or she probably has a collection of must-haves obtained during college life: a diploma, of course, leads the list, but only a little less important might be the Absolut Notre Dame T-shirt.

What many students do not realize is that the Absolut Notre Dame T-shirt, like the other classics that float around dorms and tailgaters, is illegal. By using the Notre Dame logos without permission, they violate federal trademark and copyright laws.

"Any use of the [Notre Dame] logos without express permission is illegal," says Carol Kaesebier, vice president and general counsel of the Office of General Counsel. A specific licensing agreement with the university or, in some cases, a letter constitutes express permission. The Licensing Department conducts the day-to-day operations of licensing, while the Office of the General Counsel handles all the legal aspects of licensing.

Federal trademark and copyright laws exist in order to limit the use of trademarks to the organizations that originated them. A violation of these laws can result in a court injunction, the payment of fines and damages and the destruction of all the question-
able products. According to Kaesebier, when the university takes action against violations it is not looking to receive damages. Rather, it wants to ensure that its name and associated logos appear in places appropriate to Notre Dame and its mission.

“The reason is far more important than money — we need this sort of attitude to protect the mark,” Kaesebier says. But she adds that any revenues that the university does receive from violations are used for general scholarship funds with an eye to increasing academic scholarships.

Although the university deals with many infringements on its copyright and trademark rights, it rarely has to resort to civil action. Typically, just one or two cases of illegal logo use per year result in court cases. Kaesebier says that the vast majority of the producers who violate the university’s rights are willing to stop once they realize that Notre Dame is serious about protecting its exclusive use of its logos. In cases where the producers agree to stop illegally using the logo, their products are usually confiscated, and a fine is collected.

It is not surprising that most of the violations occur during football season, when vendors take advantage of the crowds on campus to sell cheap items separately from the bookstore. To police these illegal sales, Kaesebier says security people wander among the crowds and look for unlicensed vendors selling items with Notre Dame logos.

Bill Kirk, assistant vice president of Residence Life, notes that certain factors affect the amount of violations during the football season and automatically put security on guard. “The amount of misuse depends upon a big game or a big rival school coming in,” Kirk says.

The way in which Notre Dame deals with a violation depends on how and where it is discovered. Kaesebier notes that there is a worldwide market for Notre Dame apparel, and thus many of the illegal producers operate overseas. If material with any sort of logo on it comes through U.S. customs, permission for use of the logo must be verified before the item is admitted into the country. In these situations, U.S. customs calls the university to see if the material is licensed. If it is not, customs takes action against the producer, and the university does not have to prosecute for itself.

Another way in which violations are discovered is by routine policing at places such as flea markets. When the police find stands selling material with ND logos, they check with the university to see if the vendors and products are licensed. If the items are being sold illegally, the police take action in accordance with state criminal statutes. In this case as well, the university does not have to take legal action on its own.

A third way in which Notre Dame becomes aware of trademark violations is through tips from private investigators. In the course of their work, private investigators hired by other organizations sometimes come across the improper use of Notre Dame logos. They may bring the instance to the attention of the university, which must then discover who is responsible for the illegal material by hiring its own investigator. If the university unearths a violation in this manner, it must address the problem by settling with the producer or, as a last resort, by taking civil action.

Some of the university’s trademarks include: the words “Notre Dame,” the leprechaun, the interlocking ND, the dome and both the formal and informal academic seals. Often students use these logos on things like T-shirts and webpages, with or without knowledge of the legality issues surrounding logo use. Kirk says that the university is “pretty free on websites,” allowing use of the interlocking ND and other logos as long as they are not used distastefully and include visible registration marks. However, screen printing T-shirt designs without approval by the university is illegal.

This doesn’t mean students can’t design or distribute products with school logos. Kaesebier says, “You can produce, but only if you get a sheet of paper with Notre Dame approval.”

In order to use Notre Dame logos legally, students have to contact Student Activities for specific permission. They are then shown an official list of vendors that have contracts with the university to legally produce items with Notre Dame logos. The list is necessary to keep better track of those who are licensed to use the Notre Dame logos.

For students who are caught bypassing these licensing requirements, the penalties depend upon the circumstances. Kirk says that student violators typically have to stop the illegal action, forfeit their profits and perform some sort of community service. The type of misuse and the amount of money made from the items greatly influence the degree of the penalty.

Although unlicensed use of the logo by students may seem relatively unimportant when compared to overseas companies mass-producing illegal merchandise, Kirk says that it must be addressed.

“If we don’t enforce our rights to use the logos, if illegal uses go unchallenged, then we forfeit our ability to exclusive use of the logos,” Kirk says.

In regard to unlicensed logo use, however, Student Affairs has had to deal with fewer student offenders lately. As the Licensing Department has grown, there have been fewer incidents of students illegally using the Notre Dame logos. The department was begun in 1984, and Kaesebier thinks that its activities have increased the awareness of trademark and copyright laws on campus. Both Kaesebier and Kirk remark that far fewer violations take place now than in previous years. Kirk says there were “only a handful” of violation this fall.

One thing that students and others illegally using the logo might not have realized is that the use of commercial entities’ logos along with those of Notre Dame can result in far heftier prosecution than the use of Notre Dame logos alone. Kaesebier notes that, whereas Notre Dame might stop at leveling fines, businesses who have invested a lot of money in their trademarks would be more inclined to bring suits against those involved. Some good examples of businesses who would probably take action in court would be the Absolut and the Anheuser-Busch companies of college T-shirt fame across the country.

Kirk has seen many creative, though illegal, items with Notre Dame logos on them in his time here.

“I get a kick out of them,” he says, noting that he often grabs some of the more interesting ones that have been confiscated for his own collection.

“There have been some pretty tasteless ones, though — security arranges for them to be used as rags,” Kirk says.
For roughly 90 “disabled” on campus, life at Notre Dame presents unique — but not insurmountable — challenges.

BY SHANNON O’KEEFE

“In the past five years, my body has been essentially out of control with tumors and various medications basically wreaking havoc. But somewhere along the line, I discovered that none of that mattered — that the only thing that mattered was how I thought about my situation and myself,” says senior Jamie Przybysz, one of approximately 90 students on this campus who have identified themselves as disabled to the Office for Students with Disabilities.

From March 24 through March 26, we celebrated students like Przybysz on campus and throughout the community with Disability Awareness Week. A series of activities were co-sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns, Office for Students with Disabilities and the Logan Center. But what did this week mean? What did it do for this campus, for these students, for all students?

Exactly what it said: raise awareness. And the only way to truly do that is to take the word “disability” and break it down. Deconstruct it until we see what we are meant to see: our peers.

Jamie, a hearing-impaired student, offers a unique perspective to any discussion of the ways in which disability affects student life. Jamie did not develop her hearing loss until high school, when tumors were discovered on her hearing nerves and spinal cord, indicating that she had developed Neurofibromatosis 2.

“I still interpret everything happening to me, in a sense, as if I am still ‘non-disabled,’” she says. “I know what it was like to lead a healthy, active life, how I felt a bit uncomfortable around people who had obvious disabilities, how I felt sorry for them and the way their life must be.” Now that she has become one of ‘those’ people, Jamie is optimistic about life with disabilities.

“I think on some level I actually enjoy the challenge of it all.”

With this challenge comes problems, both for Jamie and the academic community that surrounds her. Yet she isn’t asking for special favors, simply equality. “I think it is too easy to expect everyone around me to adjust to me and accommodate my needs. I hate the idea of people having to go out of their way to ensure that I have access to things which should be perceived as rights. It is both realistic and logical for everyone to work together and meet somewhere on middle-ground to ensure that we create avenues of opportunity for any individual to fulfill their potential.”

The Office for Students with Disabilities, established in July of 1995, seeks to make these transitions easier for students. Under the direction of Scott Howland, the office attempts to serve each student’s individual needs. Among other things, this may include arranging for note-takers, giving extended time on an exam to students with learning disabilities or attention deficit disorder, or providing real-time captioning to students with hearing impairments. Dorm rooms may also be modified in order to accommodate individual needs. Nine residence halls have rooms designed for students with disabilities, featuring power doors, lowered sinks, special tables and modifications to the bathroom.

For Jamie’s first two years, she had...
note-takers and an occasional tutor. When almost all of Jamie’s hearing was gone, Howland arranged for a transcription service known as real-time captioning. This system was used in Professor Grant Jenkins’ English/American Studies class last semester to accommodate Jamie. In this course, Jenkins and Jamie’s classmates spoke into a microphone that transcribed the lectures almost instantaneously.

Some professors are unwilling to use the microphone device, as it slows class and causes interruptions. Jenkins notes, “I had no problem using the microphone in class. I got something out of it as well. I now have transcripts of my lectures, which I have found useful.” However, he recognizes certain drawbacks to the system. “I think that some of the students were bothered by it, that it intimidated them. There has to be a better way. There was a three or four second gap in between the words being said and transcribed, just enough to keep Jamie behind in discussion.”

A student in the course, senior Jolene Cihak, agrees. “I did find it intimidating at first. We had to pass [the microphone] through the room anytime that we had a thought so we lost some of the spontaneity of discussions. But as time went on we all became less self-conscious. We became used to the process and realized how important it was to keep Jamie within the discussion. Sometimes she would comment on a given topic and I was very impressed by her oral presentation, she was so confident.”

Jamie concedes, “Things are far from perfect, but it’s amazing that I am able to even participate in some classes when I cannot actually hear more than one percent of the words that are said.”

One problem Jamie did identify with the Office for Students with Disabilities is the lack of networking between students. Howland explains, “At this point the office works individually with students to provide the accommodations they need. So we haven’t sponsored activities that bring students together.” Nevertheless, this is something that the office has also acknowledged as a weakness, and they are working on ways to improve relations in the future. Howland is already making progress toward that goal. “Recently I invited students to a meeting to discuss how Notre Dame is meeting their needs. The meeting went well and gave students with disabilities the opportunity to talk and share their experiences. I think that such activities are valuable.”

Another student who has had some experience with the Office for Students with Disabilities is sophomore Meaghan McCarthy. She is afflicted with Osteogenesis Imperfecta, a brittle bone disease. Born with broken bones, she was often in a body cast as a child because she fractures very easily. Now she is able to walk with a crutch. The Office for Students with Disabilities has offered Meaghan a cart, but she refuses any such assistance even in the winter months of ice and snow, only calling for a ride when absolutely necessary. Weather was one factor Meaghan knew she would
"I think it is too easy to expect everyone around me to adjust to me and accommodate my needs. I hate the idea of people having to go out of their way to ensure that I have access to things which should be perceived as rights."

— Jamie Przybysz

have to overcome to attend Notre Dame. Originally from Massachusetts, she had planned on going to a southern school to avoid any impairment to walking. But on a trip to Notre Dame in her junior year of high school, she knew that this would be home regardless of the weather.

“I didn’t want the disability to decide where I would go,” she says. “There are risks in everything. I have to set my own limitations—decide if it’s worth it.” And it has definitely been worth it so far, she says.

An active member of the Notre Dame community, Meaghan is off to London next semester. She admits to giving little thought to any limitations that may exist there, in a country without the regulations for disabled people that the U.S. has instituted.

“Sometimes I have to stick to more realistic possibilities, but there are ways to do the things that you want to do,” Meaghan insists. “If you really want it, you can find a way to do anything. I could miss so much by being afraid all the time.”

Sr. Carring Etheridge, rectress of Farley Hall, finds Meaghan to be an asset to community living. “People see Meaghan’s courage and suddenly all of the little petty things we endure are nothing. It’s amazing to me. Disability is a joke, it’s not in her vocabulary.”

Moreover, Etheridge feels that Meaghan’s strength of character and determination have secured her an important place in the dorm community and that the women of Farley have responded in turn. “She has been so well accepted by her peers. There are some times when it’s hard to know how to act around people with disabilities. That has not happened here. She was a commissioner for Pop Farley, which is a huge responsibility, and she is currently running for co-president of the dorm. Meaghan is remarkable.”

The question of social acceptance is one issue that each student must address. Jamie notes, “What’s most difficult for me is the communication barrier that exists. Having to have people repeat things a lot or write them down means that I miss a lot of the off-hand and funny, casual remarks we tend to make through the day.” Complications arising from her health have also presented a barrier to forming casual relationships. “Having all of the health concerns, I was not able to get involved in many campus activities. This is something I’m still working on. A work in progress.”

Meaghan discusses this problem from a different angle. “It’s hard. I realize that. It’s an uncomfortable situation to be in, when the first thing people see is the crutch or the disability and not me. But this is only an initial reaction, and we get through that very quickly. I’ve been very happy with the social scene at Notre Dame.”

Lending further insight, Jamie notes, “Who is it to say that my life would be any better if I had never had any disabling experiences? Actually I consider myself quite blessed to have the insights I do from the experiences I have had — to appreciate the simple, daily activities that a lot of people never think twice about.”

In the end, what difference does a disability really make? “I think the most important thing for anyone to realize is that ‘disability’ is a social construction,” Jamie says. “Everyone is unique in some respect and we need to make an effort to understand anyone before ruling out their capacity to contribute to society and our own lives.”
Major Decision

With four colleges and 59 degree programs, choosing a major can be intimidating

BY JEREMY SONY

What do you want to be when you grow up? We are all asked this question at some point in our childhood. Everyone from the teacher to mom and dad to Big Bird has asked that question. Most kids have creative answers, such as an astronaut or a marine biologist. Then that little grade school kid grows up and goes to college and the question changes to, “What are you majoring in?” Right after “What’s your name,” that one question is probably one of the most popular phrases heard on campus when two students first meet. It is mostly a first-year conversation, but at that point, how many students have answers that will still hold true at graduation, or next semester, or even next week?

Changing majors is a choice that some see as abominable, having known their career choice since kindergarten. Others see changing majors as a hobby, a way of tasting a little of everything on the academic smorgasbord. But eventually, something has to “taste” right and every student has to pick a major and go with it. But how does a student do that? This is where the administration steps in, offering assistance to confused students who might otherwise fail to obtain the credits necessary to graduate with any major.

Notre Dame promotes its First Year of Studies program to its prospective students and their families as an approach to college education that is necessary for the student. FYS, according to its mission statement, “is an academic unit which, utilizing a variety of support services, facilitates the transition of first-year students from high school to university life. It advises them in the selection of courses in the First Year curriculum and an appropriate undergraduate college or major while seeking to prepare them for the academic and personal challenges of Notre Dame.”

With the assistance of an advisor, each student has the chance to work out a schedule which will provide a better understanding of a chosen field, helping that student to decide whether the major is right for him or her. It is this noncommittal transition program that the university believes helps all of its students make the right choices.

FYS sends out a newsletter each month called the Dean’s Newsletter, something all students are familiar with, or remember from years past. It contains information and dates of important meetings about major selection.

But FYS is not the only resource on campus that helps students choose a major. The colleges themselves invest time and effort to gain student interest in their respective fields. The five schools — Arts and Letters, Business Administration, Engineering, Science and Architecture — all want new students to join their ranks.

This year, the colleges began holding informational evenings in February in order to get the students’ attention. The colleges of Arts and Letters and Business Administration cooperated for a joint program in late February that was geared toward helping students choose between a business or a...
Changing majors is a choice that some see as abominable, having known their career choice since kindergarten. Others see changing majors as a hobby, a way of tasting a little of everything on the academic smorgasbord.

liberal arts degree. Specific programs also attempted to attract the attention of students. The pre-professional programs and the Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) each held information nights as well. The College of Engineering held open houses for each of its concentrations, as did the School of Architecture.

In the crucial month of March, shortly before DART would take the campus by storm, each college readied itself for a final informational attack, promoting itself as much as possible in order to gain the most students for next year.

Following spring break, the College of Arts and Letters held its annual program fair where information on many of the majors was offered in the forms of packets and advisors, ready and waiting for the curious student.

The following week, however, was the real test. As the hours counted down, all of the colleges opened their doors and put on their best faces, prepared to sell their school to whomever walked in.

The College of Business Administration opened its doors from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. starting on the March 22, letting students talk to advisors from the office of the dean for the undergraduate program. The College of Arts and Letters did the same thing, either by appointment or on a walk-in basis. Certain concentrations within the college held more informational nights that week, including the English Department, Film, Television and Theater, Computer Applications (CAPP) and Medieval Studies.

The university feels that these open houses are important to the students. Samuel Gaglio, assistant dean of the College of Business Administration, says that “these are specified times when we make ourselves available to the students in order for them to compare a number of different disciplines and choose the one that would be best for them.” Gaglio says that some students choose majors because of outside pressures. He feels this campus-wide college comparison gives them a helping hand in choosing the major that they will thrive in.

So how does a student know what he will enjoy? One can only take so many different classes in different areas before the university wants a declaration. This is why the colleges got together and decided to showcase and summarize the vast opportunities that await the students who come to their offices and show some interest.

As the time to DART approaches, the students should rest assured that the administration has given them everything they can in preparation for this most stressful of weeks. From packets to flyers, the colleges spoke out.

Hopefully the students were listening when the colleges were talking, because in just another week everyone’s going to be asking just one question: what’s your major?
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It's Potty Time!

Absurdly wealthy alumnus Crank Ecch proves that it's his potty, and he'll do what he wants

by Joke Alligher

Just a few months ago, the Shakespearian New Testament was first performed in the new Crank Ecch bathroom. The $4.5 million project was initially funded by a $2 million endowment to the humanities. It's been nearly a year since the opening of the bathroom, and now the campus is reaping the benefits of Ecch's massive gift.

In the spring of last year, the entire student body was invited to cast their vote on a new bathroom design. After a series of surveys and public hearings, the student body overwhelmingly approved the Crank Ecch design. The new bathroom was constructed with an eye towards maximizing student comfort and convenience.

The Crank Ecch bathroom is located on the second floor of the Student Center. It features a state-of-the-art flush system that uses a combination of air and water to create a powerful jet of water. The flush system is so powerful that it can be heard from anywhere on campus.

The bathroom also features a high-tech control panel that allows students to adjust the water pressure and temperature to their liking. The control panel also includes a wide range of additional features, such as a built-in scale, a hairdryer, and a makeup mirror.

In addition to the high-tech features, the Crank Ecch bathroom is also designed with comfort and convenience in mind. The spacious stalls are equipped with a comfortable seat, a supportive backrest, and a privacy partition. The stalls also feature a built-in hamper, making it easy for students to dispose of their trash without leaving the bathroom.

The Crank Ecch bathroom is a shining example of how a wealthy alumni gift can be used to improve the quality of life for students. It's a testament to the fact that even the most basic needs, such as a comfortable bathroom, can make a significant difference in the daily lives of students.
Dear Yawn,

I am a 16-year-old girl with a problem. My boyfriend and I have been dating for a month, and he is pressuring me to have sex. I am not sure if I am ready to take that step. What should I do?

— Confused

Dear Confused,

St. Thomas Aquinas writes: “Since some are found to be depraved, and prone to vice, and not easily amenable to words, it was necessary for such to be restrained from evil by force and fear, in order that, at least, they might desist from evildoing, and leave others in peace, and that they themselves, by being habituated in this way, might be brought to do willingly what hitherto they did from fear, and thus become virtuous.”

The evil force that dwells within your boyfriend is one that can be controlled only by instilling in him a fear of the wrath of God, which will surely condemn your souls to eternal torture in the fiery depths of the underworld.

— Confused

Dear Yawn,

I really admire your practical, helpful advice. How have you, as a sophomore in college, been able to amass the wisdom necessary to confidently tell others how to live their lives?

— Awed

Dear Awed,

You are right to be impressed by my level of insight. Mine is a rare intellect, and it has given me the ability to know what is best for everyone else, even though I am still too young to legally purchase alcohol or rent a car. I have honed my formidable skills by perusing the work of everyone from Pat Buchanan to Rush Limbaugh. I added to my vast body of knowledge by studying both Aquinas and Augustine, as well as the work of several pagan philosophers who, despite their ignorance of Christ’s teaching, for which they face an eternity in the pits of hell, are nonetheless admirable for their dogmatism.

— Awed

Dear Yawn,

I am a senior PLS major, and I’m having trouble meeting women. I’ve tried everything from wearing black to growing facial hair to hanging out in Waddick’s and quoting Nietzsche incessantly. Even my condescending attitude has not paid off. How can I win the favors of a lady of the exalted caliber of the Dark Lady of the Bard or of Dante’s Beatrice?

— Pretentious

Dear Pretentious,

I grant you points for your condescending attitude. I suggest that you work at exuding an aura of superiority, which will alert potential love interests to the high quality of your moral fiber. Although as a sophomore I am unfamiliar with the work of Nietzsche, I am aware that the sheer mention of such a name should give all those around you a sense of wonderment at the power of mind. I achieve the same effect by referring to the Old Testament’s teaching on homosexuality.

— Pretentious

Dear Yawn,

Do you have any advice for someone who wants to follow in your footsteps?

— A Big Fan

Dear Fan,

I advise you to avoid the temptations of liberalism, which will lead you into the forest of confusion where the wolves and tigers of sin will prey upon your soul.

Though I have never met an actual liberal, my philosophy professor assures me that they are a dangerous force indeed, and I trust him blindly because he is very old and an expert in Aquinas.

Yawn Finck is not a licensed therapist, but he is a sophomore PLS major. And not one of those long-haired, dope-smoking types, either. He is badly in need of a girlfriend.

— A Big Fan

Ask Yawn! Please note: Everything you write will be thoroughly monitored by a group of card-carrying ultra-right-wingers, and any references to questionable activities of any kind will be passed on to the proper fascists ... er, authorities.

yawn.l@rightwing.org: your link to the Finck
Sports Wisdom from Dan

I will babble until you want to poke your eyes out

BY DAN COPPOLLA

Yes, faithful readers, one knows what time it is. It is time for one to prepare themselves for yet another rambling, incomprehensible commentary from the great one concerning the "way-out" world of sports. This one's dedicated to my loyal fans in the mental institutions, seemingly the only ones able to navigate through the tangled web of inconsistencies, contradictions and sheer idiocy that have become my weekly trademark. Geared toward the uninhibited, this piece shall cover some of the most memorable Coppellan insights from this past sports year and future predictions on upcoming events.

Let's start with my favorite topic: the NBA. I've written volumes of economic masterpieces telling why the league will not only survive the lockout. But also, remember that no one will watch anymore that Michael Jordan is out of the game and that one will turn to other sports to fill the void. This is because there are no superstars in the NBA and players are unusually tall and have multiple children out of wedlock. Last night Jay Leno told a joke about this that was funny. People will instead gravitate towards the intensity of exhibition baseball, enjoy the thrill of regular season hockey and pore over the minutiae of Jimmy Dillon's off-season workout program (seriously, just how does one become that darn good at the game)?

The NBA will also benefit from Jordan's retirement because everyone was sick of the Bulls winning every year. Who in one's right mind would want to watch the arguably greatest and most exciting athlete in history add to his legend? This uncanny ability to bore fans and play in nightly snoozers is why they sold out every game they played last year, including one in a football stadium. Plus there are no superstars in the NBA like Alan Iverson, Steven Mayberry, Dr. Erving "Magic" Johnson and everyone else on my favorite team, the Los Angeles Lakers. (Let me try out some brand-new material here). If Shaq would stop rapping and acting the Lakers will win the title over the Indiana Pacers, who are coached by the player I hated growing up but now love and hate because of his contract and wedlock child and the lockout and Celtics.

Speaking of Larry Bird, the baseball season is almost upon us and as always, I have some forecasts to publish. Like I said in the offseason, Mike Piazza will hit over 100 homers now that he plays his home games in the altitude with the Colorado Avalanche. I also predict that Randy Johnson will lead the Houston Astros to the World Series, where they will lose to the greatest team of all-time in any sport; the New York Yankees. I know that this is the greatest team ever because I saw them on Fox once and they have lots of money and also because Derek Jeter goes out with Heidi Klum and Mariah Carey is rumored to have been involved with Puffy Combs but she denies that. They must be better than the Big Red Machine because Pete Rose isn't in the Hall of Fame and Denny McLane gambled a lot and Johnny Bench is old now and Joe Morgan doesn't even play baseball anymore. Also I wasn't even born when Babe Ruth was playing, so Mark McGwire is obviously better than the Bambino ever was. But I don't think Mark will never break Roger Maris's 58-game hitting streak. Unless he does it, and then he can probably do it then.

I have a deadline to meet in an hour and I'm running out of ideas and I still need to fill more space so I think now I'll make a smooth transition and thank all of the under-appreciated student managers who work so hard throughout the year. Let me list all 249 of them in my sports column and then maybe some of them will vote for me and I can be a football manager last year. I like writing down whatever I think about because it takes up lots of lines and I can put this on my resume on my homepage.

That reminds me, since the brackets for the 2000 NCAA Tournament don't come out for another year, I'd better start think about making myself look ridiculous again and choose a Final Four before the teams are even assigned to one of the six regionals. That way, I can be positive that none even have a chance playing each other before the Final Four. Let's revisit last season's award-winning rationale: 1.) The Duke Blue Devils are the best team ever besides the Yankees. 2.) Connecticut won at Stanford by over 20 points without their best player, First Team All-American Christopher "Rip" Hamilton. 3.) Stanford has been overrated all season and consistently struggled against quality competition. 5.) I'm from California. 6.) California is bigger than Connecticut and Duke combined. 7.) Stanford will win the national championship.

See, if you just look at things logically, everything always works out. So what if Stanford lost in the second round to Gonzaga and Duke and Connecticut played for the title? It doesn't matter. I refuse to stop enlightening the ignorant masses. Knowledgeable, sane fans like me always know better than to bother with the annoying aspects of reality. Reality spoils one's fun thoughts for everyone. Six words left now. Two. One.

Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in this Coppollan column are deranged, impossible to justify and may cause insanity if ever taken seriously.
Doofie’s Downfall: “Right thing to do”

Former football coach insists he wasn’t fired but refuses to take lie-detector test; athletic director cackles at press conference

BY SKIP BRAINLESS

Sources in the administration say that Head Football Coach Bob Doofie’s will be forced to resign this week in an awkward, bitter press conference. “It doesn’t matter how he leaves,” said Athletic Director Michael Wadsworthless, “so long as it’s a PR nightmare and provides weeks’ worth of material for vitriolic Chicago Tribune columnists who hate Notre Dame.”

This news follows last week’s discovery of some skeletons in the head coach’s closet. As a child, Doofie apparently stole several cookies from his mother’s cookie jar.

Doofie was defensive when presented with the revelation. “Come on, guys, give me a break. I was only 10,” he said. “I was punished enough back then — mommy sent me to bed without my supper!”

University President Fr. Ed “Funky” Boy was unmoved by the coach’s plea. “We can’t have criminal degenerates of this sort running rampant on our Catholic campus,” said “Funky” Boy, during a brief break from his afternoon regimen of self-flagellation. “Now if you’ll excuse me, I have to get back to my ritual purification.”

“Funky” Boy and his deputy, Executive VEEP/Money Launderer Billy Bo[champ, we presume] have a history of impatience with sinful coaches. When Wadsworthless recommended Utah Coach Wreck Minorus for the vacant basketball coaching position, Bo[champ] scoffed. “I wouldn’t hire that glutton in a million years,” he said. “Funky” Boy was equally sanctimonious. “Not only did he cheat in college, just imagine how many cookies he’s stolen from the cookie jar,” “Funky” Boy said. “Plus, he lives in a hotel — we all know what goes on in those dens of depravity. Now if you’ll excuse me, I have to go take a cold shower.”

Ex-Offensive Line Coach Job Moorun was reportedly ecstatic upon hearing the news of Doofie’s pending resignation. Putting his dentures in, he exclaimed, “YES!” He then collapsed from the exertion and had to be wheeled away. Moorun himself was a coach in good standing until he showed up for work in the nude one day, too senile to remember even to dress himself.

Famed ex-coach Loo Spoltz, who was also forced to resign in an awkward, bitter press conference after Wadsworthless discovered his picture on Spoltz’s office dartboard, expressed similar pleasure with Doofie’s resignation. “Heh! I heard Doofie said he was leaving because he felt it was ‘the right thing to do,’” said Spoltz. “Yeah, right — just like going to a proctologist is the fun thing to do. I don’t believe I’ve ever heard such a ridiculous line.”

“Funky” Boy has recently learned that others besides Doofie and Minorus might be inherently sinful. When informed that several professors at his university might be homosexual, “Funky” Boy responded that none of those professors would be forced to resign. “That could leave us vulnerable to civil litigation or, worse, bad press,” he said. “A firing squad, on the other hand. … Oh, wait, I just remembered. We don’t include sexual orientation in our non-discrimination clause! We can do whatever the hell we like! Now if you’ll excuse me, I have to atone for my recent profanity with a 10-day fast.”

There has also been speculation that most remaining students, faculty and staff will be separated from the university for the various sins that they have committed. If this comes to pass, the only people who will remain at Notre Dame will be “Funky” Boy, several like-minded Holy Cross priests and the entire staff of Right Reason. “This university was not created for heathens, libertines, Protestants and other foul scum,” said “Funky” Boy. “Now if you’ll excuse me, I have to cast the first stone.”

SPLINTERs

FROM THE PRESS BOX

Men’s Basketball * 1999 Record [*::-]}

Streaking: I haven’t been to a game in over two years, but streaking is something that I think I wouldn’t want to miss.

Prime Time Performer: Junior and Assistant Waterboy Tommy Tool refused to travel with the team to the Big Easy Tournament last month out of fear of again being molested incessantly by loved ones in attendance.

Did You Know? Notre Dame’s starting five was recently allowed to participate in the Bookstore Basketball Tournament. Much to the dismay of the varsity athletes, the committee ranked them #11, right behind “Five Guys Who Prefer Eating Out to the Dining Hall” and just ahead of the perennial crowd pleaser “We Like To Play With Balls.”

On the Horizon: Following the steps of Duke, which regularly scrimmages against local high school and national powerhouse Mount Zion Academy, next year Notre Dame will begin practicing against Lincoln Elementary School’s 7th Grade A Team.

So, What’s Your Point?

“It’s just that”

some Women’s Crew Coach, unjustly, complaining that no one cares about the sport.

Pointless Prediction

On November 28-1998, the Fighting Irish football squad will face off with USC. Despite a brilliant game plan centered around throwing the ball “really hard” at USC defenders in an attempt to knock each one of them unconscious, Notre Dame will fall to the Condoms 10-0.

APRIL 1, 1999
Tony Driver leaves campus

By LABRA “BIG RED” PETAL
Ass. Managing Editor

Sophomore football standout Tony Driver left campus today in a red Nissan Sentra. Coming out of the D6 parking lot, he took a left turn onto US 31. Because he lives south of Louisville, Kansas, he was obviously going home because of his frustration with the Notre Dame program.

When his roommate, who wished to remain anonymous, was contacted about his departure, he merely replied, “He was going to Meijer to pick up some soda for a party we are having. He said something about maybe stopping at the mall for some CDs too. I think he should be back in half an hour.”

His roommate was obviously covering for him. The only possible reason he could have left would have been to go home. After all, why else would he leave campus on a Sunday afternoon????

To figure out exactly what drove him over the edge, we talked to offensive coach Jim Smalletto. “I know he’s played defense, but he and I became close because I don’t really pay all that much attention to the offense,” Smalletto said. “I’m not really sure, though. Why would he have been heading south on 31. Maybe he was going to that new movie put out on south campus.”

Smalletto’s incompetence is obvious from the performance of his offense. “Talulah,” The Observer’s //

Clue added, sale at BK

By JOSHUA PROLE­TARIAT
As. Managing Editor

In a shocking, unexpected announcement today, the university announced that it will change non-discrimination clause to include a non-discrimination policy for gays. Bill Kirk, Vice President for Student Affairs, made the announcement on behalf of university Vice-President for Student Affairs, Patricia O’Hare, who was too busy knitting a new Notre Dame square for the AIDS quilt in honor of the celebration, and Vice-President Father William Beauchamp, who was seen trying to find Patty O’ to tell her that you don’t quilt a bit but sow a quilt. (You knit a sweater)

In his prepared statement, Bill Kirk said, “The change in policy really came about when Morri, Patty O’, Billy Beau (champ, we assume), and I were having one of our weekly pajama parties. We had just finished

We straight people! have to leave or you don’t knit a quilt but sow a really came about when Monk, Patty O’, and I were having one of our weekly pajama parties. We had just finished

Sleeping at 31. Because he lives south of Louisville, Kansas, he was obviously going home because of his frustration with the Notre Dame program.

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Smalletto’s incompetence is obvious from the performance of his offense. “Talulah,” The Observer’s //

somewhat.

The board of Trustees usually meets in London because they have more comfortable chairs in the conference room of the

take a look at the lyrics before.

The last line was...

“We’ll have to go later. Now, honest. Bedrock can’t provide us with the same. We must move to Notre Dame. When I say words, I look in the mirror and I look angry. I don’t want you to feel that same fury we realized that our campus is not safe. The student body is in constant danger. From sex offenders, we run the risk of them walking in, my face about equality or expand- it is. It is. It's like I said to that psychiatrist

So step off, or my fist will be at your throat. Period. Because the hazing rituals. Period. It's just a rope thing. If we just went in the class, the Malory would send us..."

And that would have been a strength。“Maybe I know. little, blue, and I interrupted him to say that I was thinking of Notre Dame.” He then only replied, “Yes, but they don’t have Tota."
Insider’s Column

I’m Bigger Than You

By SPANKER STIFFKO
Miss Hawaii, 1982

I mean business? Good. Now pipe down. If I hear one more fairly intellectual with a bunch of letters after his name try to tell me about what’s “politically correct” or “legal” or “morally right,” I’m going to lose it. This ain’t the University of Mom, you little pinkos, no matter what your elitist philosophy books tell you. So step off, or my fist and your face are going to have a Socratic dialogue of their own.

It’s like I said to that psychiatrist after he told me I only act so tough to overcompensate for some deficiency: what could be deficient about someone as big as me?

Spunker Stiffko was a member of student government, but that doesn’t make him a wimp. In his free time he enjoys humiliating Zalm Freshmen and looking at his muscles in the mirror. You got a problem with that?

Letter to the Editor

University favors homosexuals

Dear Editor,

I came to this university because, frankly, I wanted to avoid homosexuals. They needed to be shot anyway. So I thought this would be the best place for me because, obviously, Notre Dame would never allow that type of thing.

You can imagine my surprise when I realized how prejudiced this administration is toward homosexuals. Take parrallels, for instance. From midnight — or 2:00 a.m. on weekends — we straight people have to leave our significant others and sit alone and depressed in our rooms, overlooking carpet fuzz for fun. But gay people, of course, don’t have this problem. Their dates have to leave, Ever. Clearly a stab at the straight-sex students.

What I’m asking is that straight students on this campus take matters into our own hands.

Bothparrallels won’t listen to reason (and they obviously won’t, since they have the same liberal agenda as the administration), we have to take matters into our own hands. I vote for an end to parrallels altogether. And to prevent students from living in sin, I suggest that every room be turned into a single, and RAs should perform mandatory bedchecks at 9:30 every night. One person to a room, and this blatant discrimination could finally end.

Progressive Student Alliance

Observer. We’ve got issues. And we’re getting therapy for them.

CLASSIFIEDS

Firebomb the news department. Catch the fever.

You can’t handle the heat that’s why we don’t print it

Wahoo! We went to L.A. and got really really really drunk and we’re not going to tell you about that (except for here)

It’s late.
"The Sexiest Administrator of the Decade"

monk MALLOY William BEAUCHAMP Stephen COVEY

there's something about patty

Another Crushing Movie

S$2 FOR STUDENTS, FREE FOR SNUB STAFF AND THEIR FRIENDS
Hello everyone, and happy April Fool’s Day. Don’t worry — the Gipp won’t be playing any tricks on you. Actually, he’s been too busy scanning MTV for naked Notre Dame girls to do much of anything lately. And now that the halcyon days of spring are approaching, the Gipp would rather sit back in his lawn chair with his good friend Jim Beam and hear about the dumb things everyone else is doing. So keep them coming.

Second Banana No Longer
Not to belabor this naked thing, but the Gipp heard that the girl from the Springer show wasn’t the only one to embarrass Notre Dame over spring break. Word is that Tony “Lucky” Driver, the proud winner of a “best body” contest at a bar in Panama City, celebrated by dancing naked on the bar with the female winner, another Notre Dame student who was wearing only slightly more than he was.

The Gipp is glad Tony is finally getting some recognition these days, although he feels obligated to point out that, in typical fashion, Driver was only able to succeed when Autry Denson wasn’t around.

Wash Those Sheets Twice, Please
The Strippin’ Irish weren’t the only ones getting themselves into trouble in spring break land. A group of Domers learned that the hard way in the Bahamas, when they arrived at their hotel only to be told that their room wasn’t ready because someone was using it “for a couple of hours” and it had to be cleaned.

Disgusted but in dire need of a place to sleep, the group agreed to wait, but found that the “cleaning” was taking an unusually long time. They went to the room to investigate, and found a hotel employee sitting on one of the beds, fully engrossed in a porno flick.

Now, a hotel clerk’s got to do what a hotel clerk’s got to do, but the Gipp has been getting so many tips about topless, bottomless and otherwise debauched Notre Dame people lately that he can’t help but wonder if the guy would have gotten a better show by just keeping an eye on our tippers for a while.

Either way, this ranks right up there with fish-tossing as a trend that the Gipp would be happy to see continue.

“He Took $100,000, Officer. Over Four Years.”
Notre Dame students should be accustomed to priests going after their money, and it seems to the Gipp that, given the status of one of their neighbors, Sorin residents especially should have become used to that sort of thing.

Even so, one South Bend resident stepped over the line when he went door-to-door in Sorin, telling people that he was a priest and that he wanted to pray with them. When he got them started reciting their Hail Marys, he would return to their rooms, take their stuff and carry it out to his car in D2.

Someone eventually caught on to the guy’s act after noticing that he was dressed in rags and emitted a foul odor. The impostor was removed from campus, and everyone here can rest assured once again that only genuine, well-dressed holy men will be ripping them off.

Naked, Part IV
What’s that? You still haven’t heard about enough nudity?

Well, OK, if you insist.

In a shocking tale of an innocent trip downstairs gone awry, an O’Neill Hall resident reports seeing a male and a female in the dorm’s stairwell late one Friday night.

No, they were not having sex. Get your minds out of the gutter.

She was in her underwear, though. Well, sort of. The tipper reports, “Her scarlet panties were around her knees and she was squatting because she was busy urinating on the carpet in our stairwell.”

The tipper walked past them on his way down the stairs, and both of the culprits giggled, but the girl didn’t feel the need to cover up.

“She certainly liked to show her ‘stuff,’” our tipper notes.

Asked the only truly important question — whether the girl was attractive — he muses, “I find this hard to answer, because the first time I saw her she was in the process of urinating. I think that negates any positive traits she might have.”

Well said, young man. Well said.
BY KATIE RAK

With the Fighting Irish fresh off a 9-3 season, highlighted by an undefeated homestand, they look for continued success in 1999 as they begin spring practice. The road to victory, however, will not be smooth. The key to overcoming the obstacles is to see them as stepping stones rather than as stumbling blocks. And Irish players and coaches seem prepared to do just that.

The first hurdle that the Irish need to clear this spring is adjusting to a new offensive coordinator, Kevin Rogers, who directed a productive offense at Syracuse before coming to South Bend. The similarities between the Irish offense and that of the Orangemen will eliminate the need for drastic changes. Head Coach Bob Davie feels that Rogers is a perfect fit for Notre Dame football. "I think Kevin's reputation really speaks for itself in college football," he says. "There are a lot of good coaches out there that have had a lot of good publicity, but I think he fits our system so much. So you combine those two things -- the opportunity to keep some continuity in our offense because of his scheme and also his reputation -- and I don't think that the transition is going to be that difficult."

Because Davie wants the change to be as smooth as possible for the players, he made sure that Rogers would keep the same terminology and call plays the same way.

Defensive Coordinator Greg Mattison also sees the glass as half full when it comes to recent coaching changes. "The positive is you always get new ideas and new excitement," notes Mattison.

One of the most critical players that Rogers will evaluate on the offense is current sophomore Tony Driver. Driver, who played safety last year, will return to the tailback position for the 1999 campaign. Davie, who moved Driver out of Autry Denson's shadow and over to safety, is very excited about his return to offense. "I think that with the burning desire he has to play offense, you want to give him an opportunity to play with his hands on the ball," says Davie. "He's an exciting guy and that's why we did it."

Though there is a lot of hype surrounding the move, don't be surprised to see Driver on the defensive side of the ball as well. "He might fit in our nickel packages, our passing downs and substitution defenses," comments Davie. "He could go in at safety and not skip a beat. We're not going to decide that until the fall. I'm just going to let him go full-speed at tailback, but I think that's a realistic possibility."

Driver wants to put a little bit of excitement back into Irish football. "I want to get familiarized with being a back again," says Driver. "Hopefully learn some new moves. I really want to work on my speed -- get my speed back. I've been back-pedaling for too long. I think right now we're so mellow. I want to open things up."

Driver is not the only one who wants to see a change in the style of play; Davie agrees that the Irish need to speed things up. "I think last year we made strides in playing faster as a football team," says the third-year head coach. "It's not just the speed as to whether a guy runs 4.5 or 4.6 fowries; it's just playing faster -- a style of play. We want a more up-tempo, fast-break kind of a football team." Davie continues, "We changed our huddle on offense closer to the football where we can get up to the line of scrimmage faster. We want to be more aggressive and more on the attack. We want to be more on the offense on both sides of the ball."

Changes will be implemented on the defense during spring practice to foster this faster style of play, according to Mattison. "On defense, the biggest thing we have to do is, one, develop a better pass rush and, two, we have to be a lot more aggressive," says Mattison. "We'll be in a four-down front -- we'll have four down linemen rather than three. And we're going to have a big emphasis on pass rush and playing at a faster speed."

The player most likely to be that fourth "down" lineman is Grant Irons, who uses...
next season’s schedule as incentive during the spring. “We have one of the toughest schedules next year. But top teams — Michigan, Tennessee — great teams like that, just knowing that they’re our opponents, that’s a big motivation in itself. It’s going to be a new season and a new team. This is going to be a totally different team than our team last year, with new players coming in and other players leaving.”

No one can deny that the departure of a talented senior class loaded with leaders provides another potential stumbling block. Davie, however, is confident that there are players prepared to step in and fill those shoes. “There’s going to be talent that people may not recognize, but there is talent,” he notes.

Because of the young players, there is tremendous competition for starting duties at many positions, from tailback and fullback on the offensive side to the virtually wide-open linebacker position on defense. This is where spring practice becomes indispensable. It gives coaches a chance to see young talent that may have been hiding behind the likes of a Mike Rosenthal or an Autry Denson. Davie stresses that the purpose of spring football is to find the cream of the crop, regardless of experience or age. “You’re trying to find the best players,” comments Davie. “Not necessarily the players that know the most football or those that are most comfortable in the system, but just the best athletes. Everybody starts out, as much as possible, at the same level, so you want a lot of competition.”

One place for a young player to make a difference is on special teams, an aspect of the game that Davie has made it a goal to work on during spring practice. “It’s something you don’t normally do in the spring. More of the emphasis is on offense and defense. But this year we’re going in every day and our first meeting is actually a special teams meeting,” Davie adds. “You look at the schedule we play and in order to go to the next level, every opportunity we have we need to take advantage of. Last year we were a pretty average special teams football team. So we need to make an impact on special teams.”

Another goal Davie has set won’t be seen in highlight reels or stat lines. “I think we made a lot of improvement last year in operating more as a family — being extremely close as a football team, and that’s a credit to the seniors and the leadership, but I think that’s a goal,” Davie says.

Every family needs a leader, and it will be interesting to see who steps up to fill that role. Whereas last year the team was saturated with a talented senior class with obvious leaders including Kory Minor and Bobby Howard, this year’s leaders have yet to surface. “That’s going to be the big question mark as we enter this season because last year we did have great leadership and a really strong senior class and that’s a big challenge for this senior class,” Davie says. He is, however, quick to point out that the Irish are not completely lacking in the leadership department. “We certainly look at Jarius Jackson. You have to think Jarius Jackson is a natural leader. A’Jani Sanders is a guy that really came on late last year. Bobby Brown’s a leader. The best leaders are the ones that people naturally follow and it’s usually your best players, because on the field they’re the examples,” Davie says.

Irish fans will get a chance to see who will step up to fill the huge shoes of the exiting senior class a little earlier than expected. The Irish will host Kansas in the Eddie Robinson Classic on August 28, a game that Davie sees as a benefit to his team. “Because Michigan and Purdue are both on the road the first two games, the opportunity to play at home with some young players is an advantage,” he says.

Despite the uncertainty surrounding this Irish football team, the outlook is positive. It may be too early to tell, but the Irish seem well on their way to a successful spring practice. Already, Davie and his coaching staff have turned many of the potential stumbling blocks into stepping stones toward a winning season.
Baseball • 1999 Record 15-7
Streaking: The Irish have claimed victory in 12 of their past 13 contests.
Prime Time Performer: Junior Scott Cavey threw a complete game, two-hitter in the 10-1 win over Rutgers last Monday.
Did You Know? All-American shortstop Brant Ust connected for his 12th home run of the season against the Scarlet Knights.
On the Horizon: Notre Dame battles Providence today at noon in a doubleheader at Frank Eck Stadium.

Women’s Lacrosse • 1999 Record 4-2
Streaking: Senior captain Kerry Callahan extended her scoring streak to 20 games in the win over Connecticut last Sunday.
Prime Time Performer: Sophomore Lael O’Shaughnessy led all scorers with six goals and three assists against Connecticut.
Did You Know? Head coach Tracy Coyne has won seven conference titles in her 11-plus years as head coach.
On the Horizon: The Irish travel to Villanova Saturday for a 12 pm game against the Wildcats.

Men’s Lacrosse • 1999 Record 5-2
Streaking: Thirteenth-ranked Notre Dame has won five of its last six contests.
Prime Time Performer: With 53 seconds remaining in the game, sophomore attack David Ulrich scored a goal to propel the Irish to a come-from-behind 8-7 win.
Did You Know? Head coach Kevin Corrigan earned his 100th career win against Hobart College last Saturday.
On the Horizon: Hofstra hosts the Irish Saturday for a 1:30 start time.

Softball • 1999 Record 17-11
Streaking: Notre Dame has notched seven consecutive victories.
Prime Time Performer: Senior captain Amy Laboe was recently named Big East Co-Player of the Week, hitting .421 over that six-game span.
Did You Know? Freshman third baseman Jarrah Myers leads the team in batting, with a .357 average.
On the Horizon: The Irish travel to Chicago to take on Illinois-Chicago today at 3 p.m.

On the Ball
“T'm excited about walking into a gym with Notre Dame on my chest. I am excited about walking into someone’s home saying: My name is Matt Doherty, head coach, University of Notre Dame. That gives me goosebumps. With that I will work as hard as I have ever worked to bring a winning basketball program to Notre Dame.”
—New Notre Dame men’s head basketball coach and former Kansas assistant Matt Doherty at his Tuesday press conference.

Hamilton’s Hunch
With Matt Doherty taking over as head coach of the Irish, next year, much to everyone’s surprise, Notre Dame will find itself in the NCAA Tournament.

Christ Speaks
After a stunning 114 wins last year, the New York Yankees drop their opener against Oakland. They continue to lose three of their next five games. With starter Andy Pettitte on the disabled list, they struggle through the month of April, before turning things around for the remainder of the season. They cap off the season with 100 wins and a return trip to the World Series.
Sweater weather is melting away and pheromones are in the air. Are you prepared to inhale the sweet aroma of infatuation? Take this quiz and find out:

You’re listening to U-93 and suddenly you realize that your current romantic situation is best described by a top-40 artist. The song that’s playing is:

a. “Stay the Same,” that romantic number by former NKOTB crooner Joey-Joe McIntyre
b. “(Hit Me) Baby One More Time,” by a deserted and dispirited Britney Spears
c. Eagle Eye Cherry’s reflection on the short-term love affair, “Save Tonight”
d. “Believe,” Cher’s anthem of post-love empowerment

It’s Friday night. What’s your idea of a good time?

a. a walk around the lakes at sunset with that special someone
b. a good fight followed by a great make-out session with the one you (might) love (after all)

c. hitting the bars or a couple of parties and dropping your digits in the pockets of a few selected hotties
d. movies, parties, bowling or whatever your friends happen to be doing

As you stroll down the Blockbuster aisle, which flick best represents your idea of romance?

a. Say Anything (such sweet sappiness)
b. When Harry Met Sally (there’s a beauty in the bickering)
c. Swingers (nothing says romance like Vegas, baby)
d. Thelma and Louise (what could be more romantic than getting in a convertible with your best bud and leaving all this relationship goopiness behind?)

Some stranger calls to inform you that you’re his or her best match, according to an Irish Love Connection print-out. Then this person asks you to an SYR. What do you do?

a. Decline the offer and politely explain that you’ve already found your “best match,” without the help of Irish Love Connection
b. Readily accept and be sure to mention it to your semi-significant other in order to flaunt your overpowering popularity

c. Take a day to think about the offer, so as not to look desperate, and then decide to go — even if your date isn’t a fox, there are bound to be some other drunken dreamboats around

d. Agree to go on the grounds that one of your friends can get set up with your date’s roommate — that way you don’t have to brave the dance alone

Where do you sit in the dining hall?

a. with your object of affection, or at least in a place where you can easily gaze at him or her
b. strategically in view of your sometime-sweetheart, but with another companion to promote jealousy

c. in a central location to maximize scope-ability, where you can eat fast before doing the rounds throughout the DH

d. the same table at which you and your friends always sit

Out of Bounds

by Kara Zuar0

Mostly a’s:
Honey, you know you are not looking for a fling. What you want is the love thing — moonlit nights, candlelight dinners, cheesy poems and most of all, stability. You’re the person for whom the phrase “lovey-dovey” was invented. Enjoy your state of bliss, and don’t let it bother you if those who didn’t land in this category decide to puke on your shoes. (They’re just jealous.)

Mostly b’s:
Not to pass judgment, but there might be something really wrong with you if you ended up in this column. The “b” answers were meant mostly as comic relief from the inherent stress of the multiple-choice format. But if you really are in such a destructive relationship and you enjoy it, don’t be surprised if you find yourself in an S & M bar in a few years.

Mostly c’s:
You are a world-class flinger, a smooth operator, an international playboy/girl. You’re sufficiently equipped to dive into a fling and climb out when spring is over, without looking back. This is a special quality here at Notre Dame, where most kids are too religiously guilt-ridden to engage in such flirtatious behavior. Have a happy spring and don’t let it bother you if those who didn’t land in this category call you “loose in the caboose.” (They’re just jealous.)

Mostly d’s:
I’m no sociologist, but judging by the amount of times I hear phrases like, “Bro’s before [garden tool that rhymes with “bro,” plural]” or “Chicks before [nickname for Richard, plural],” I’m guessing that this is going to be a pretty popular category. You could have a little fling if you wanted, but even flings take work and are probably not worth the effort when you could just be rolling with your homies, right? Still, go easy on those who choose to be lovesick fools or full-time players because they obviously wouldn’t be the way they are if they had as good friends as you do. (Obviously, they’re just jealous.)
Branford Marsalis kicks off the Collegiate Jazz Festival

BY JIM BILEK

When you hear the swingin’ sounds of saxes and trumpets emanating from LaFortune Ballroom and Stepan Center, don’t mistake it for just another swing dance. The Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival, the nation’s oldest and premiere jazz festival, will take place from Wednesday, April 7, to Saturday, April 10.

This event, sponsored by the Student Union Board, has showcased some of the greatest collegiate jazz ensembles as well as talented and respected judges for the past 41 years. According to festival committee member Paul Krivickas, “The Collegiate Jazz Festival has a national reputation that far surpasses its reputation within the Notre Dame community.”

Festival Chair Lisa Zimmer adds that CJF “is a symbol of quality and music education. On the college jazz scene, it is a famous event known for its excellence in judging panels and laid-back atmosphere.”

This year’s festival receives a new look and a longer run-time with the addition of “An Evening with Branford Marsalis,” a concert that will kick off the festival on April 7. Marsalis, the highly touted saxophonist and brother to three other jazz musicians, is best known for his stint as former band leader on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno.

Since Marsalis left his late-night duties, he has concentrated on composing and recording music. He and his quartet recently released a new album entitled “Requiem.” The majority of the tracks were written by Marsalis, and the album has received numerous positive reviews from critics.

Marsalis is also a creative consultant and producer in the jazz division at Columbia Records, helping to sign new artists in an industry that is hard-pressed to compete with other genres of music.

He currently holds a position on the faculty of the Michigan State University music department, where he teaches jazz studies.

In addition to these two occupations, Marsalis still finds time to tour and compose some of the most highly regarded music in contemporary jazz, making him one of the most sought-after jazz performers today. The process of scheduling this concert was not an easy one, according to Zimmer. “It was a lot of work, but putting on this additional opening concert is something I have wanted to do for three years.” Special permission and funding from the Financial Management Board as well as detailed budgeting were necessary in order to secure the Marsalis concert for Notre Dame students.

Concerts commissioner Dan Puccini assisted Zimmer in coordinating the technical resources for the concert. A special request for a seven-foot Steinway grand piano was approved. The Steinway grand is a long-time fixture at the CJF and was repeated this year with a special request for the Marsalis concert.

THE FIRST NIGHT SHOW. Branford Marsalis, the first act of the jazz festival, earned his fame as bandleader on *The Tonight Show.*
Branford Marsalis kicks off the Collegiate Jazz Festival

BY JIM BILEK

The Collegiate Jazz Festival, the nation’s oldest and premiere jazz festival, will take place Wednesday, April 7, to Saturday, April 10. Marsalis, the first act of this year’s festival, earned a seven-foot Steinway grand piano, which will be rented and delivered to Notre Dame from Illinois, is just one example of the planning that is necessary for the Marsalis concert to succeed.

Following this concert, CJF continues on Thursday with a preview night performance of the Notre Dame Big Band in LaFortune Ballroom. This night is free to all, as are the clinics on Saturday morning in the Band Building.

The actual competition begins with the first third of the collegiate bands, including Notre Dame’s, on Friday at Stepan Center. Also performing that day is the returning group and crowd favorite Central Michigan Jazz Percussion & Steel Drum Ensemble. For regular attendant senior Adam Rieck, “The highlight of the Collegiate Jazz Festival is always the steel drum band from Central Michigan.”

After the four bands scheduled for Friday night perform, the five judges will give a concert together. Each judge is a specialist in his instrument and has played with some of the jazz greats. Gregory Tardy is this year’s saxophone judge. Originally a classical clarinetist, Tardy developed into a praised jazz musician who signed with the same record label that released the John Coltrane’s albums. The bass judge, Chuck Israels, is a composer as well as a musician who has performed with such legends as Benny Goodman. He is now the director of jazz studies at Western Washington in Bellingham. The horns judge, Michael Phillip Mossman, has performed with the likes of Dizzy Gillespie and the Count Basie Orchestra, for whom he also composed scores. The list continues with pianist Benny Green, who played with the Ray Brown Trio and now leads his own group. Percussion judge, Jeff Hamilton, has drummed for Natalie Cole and the Count Basie Orchestra, among many others.

Zimmer refers to a conversation with the judges at a previous CJF: “A few of our judges were talking about having played with Duke Ellington. These guys have been around.”

The festival finishes up Saturday after the clinics with performances by the rest of the bands at Stepan. The ensembles include Knox College from Illinois, as well as Drake University from Iowa and the University of Michigan. Smaller groups will include the Notre Dame Combo, the Louisiana State University Combo, Western Michigan Combo and the University of North Florida Combo.

An all day pass for the festival, including the Marsalis concert, costs $14 for Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students.

“It was a lot of work, but putting on this additional opening concert is something I have wanted to do for three years.”

— Lisa Zimmer

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What Godmilow Taught

An English-language remake of a classic Italian documentary by professor Jill Godmilow vividly retells the horrors of war

BY KARA ZUARO

Here is a footnote to the war in Vietnam, snatched from the archive," narrates a hushed voice in the opening sequence of What Farocki Taught. It is the voice of Jill Godmilow, an award-winning filmmaker and professor in the department of Film, Television and Theatre, who teaches classes in film production and documentary cinema. Godmilow’s voiceover explains that this film is a remake, “a perfect replica in color and in English, of Harun Farocki’s black-and-white, 1969 German language film, Inextinguishable Fire.”

Thursday, April 8, will mark the first formal screening of What Farocki Taught to an audience on campus. The Notre Dame audience, however, will not be the first to view the film. What Farocki Taught premiered more than a year ago at the Rotterdam Film Festival in January of 1998, and has since appeared in more than 20 national and international film festivals from Hong Kong to Chicago. It has received several awards along the way, including Best Documentary at the Athens International Film Video Festival, Juried Prize at the University Film & Video Association Conference and the Certificate of Merit at the Chicago International Film Festival.

The film addresses its subject, the development of Napalm B by Dow Chemical during the Vietnam War, in a way that may seem unfamiliar to many viewers. United States forces used Napalm, a sprayable gasoline designed to adhere to human skin and burn at extremely high temperatures, against the civilian population of Vietnam. What Farocki Taught, however, refuses to exploit the terror of this substance. Godmilow replaces what she calls “the documentary’s pornography of the real, as in the way we get off on war footage where there’s blood and dead bodies flung all over the place. ... We’re seduced by the reality of the horror.”

What Farocki Taught reconstructs ob-scene and explicit scenes of terror with small-scale, yet shocking, illustrations. In the opening scene, first-time actor Mario De Anda, explains, “If we show you pictures of Napalm damage, you will close your eyes.” He then puts out a cigarette on the underside of his forearm. Without creating a spectacle, without special effects, the pain of Napalm is demonstrated.

When remaking the film, she cast from the community with a particular look in mind. Since Farocki himself played the role in his film, Godmilow wanted a non-European male who resembled Farocki for the part. De Anda, a Notre Dame graduate and worker in the Office of Student Aid, fit this description. After viewing Inextinguishable Fire, he agreed to take on the role, to make a four-minute speech in one take without mistakes and to burn himself with a cigarette on camera. “It was risky,” Godmilow recalls. “I knew I could only ask him to burn himself once.”

When the shot was completed, the crew was ready with ointment. In the finished film, Farocki appears along with De Anda in this shot through double exposure, like the ghost of a film refusing to be forgotten. Godmilow says the planning that went into other shots, such as “figuring out how to kill flies on camera,” was far more fun.

“The university was a wonderful place to make the film. It really is the university’s film in some way,” Godmilow says. “Right here I could find everything I needed.”

Besides providing supplies, such as camera equipment, plants for the “scientific” shots and vans for transportation, the university granted many human resources. Professors and members of the university staff were employed in both on-camera roles and voiceovers when the film was shot in the summer of 1996. The 10-person film crew was comprised entirely of students from the department of Film, Television and Theatre. Some students were paid out of a $6,000 grant for research assistants, some

GRUESOME BUT TRUE. The documentary has many gruesome scenes, including this flaming rat and a man burning himself with a cigarette.

FR homme, he agreed to take on the role, to make a four-minute speech in one take without mistakes and to burn himself with a cigarette on camera. “It was risky,” Godmilow recalls. “I knew I could only ask him to burn himself once.”

When the shot was completed, the crew was ready with ointment. In the finished film, Farocki appears along with De Anda in this shot through double exposure, like the ghost of a film refusing to be forgotten. Godmilow explains that students learn by copying. “Just as an art student might go to a museum to copy a Rubens or a Delacroix, the student crew of What Farocki Taught learned about filmmaking through this remake of Inextinguishable Fire.”

Tickets for the screening, which takes place on Thursday, April 8, at 7:30 PM in the Snite Museum’s Annenberg Auditorium, are available at LaFortune Box Office and the FTT office, 320 O’Shaughnessy.
You are not a Hamburger

A practical manual for discourse with the young and the old

BY MICHAEL ENGLISH

Unfortunately, I lack the ability and motivation to have meaningful conversations with many adults and most children. I came to this realization over the winter holidays. Torturous Christmas parties were only torturous because I have nothing to say to people who are older than I am. I am either immature or adults think that they are too mature, because whenever we are in the uncomfortable position where it seems like we should talk to each other, I am inept.

Perhaps I should qualify my categorical denunciation of adults by pointing out that I have no problem with many old people (by old people I mean people older than myself). To be fair, I shall group adults into two categories: regular, harmless adults and gross adults. Regular adults are fine. They talk about sports, make fun of people and stay out of the way. Gross adults are those people who act self-important and arrogant. These adults tend to occupy the financially successful class. At parties, they ask polite questions and do not listen to your responses because your responses are irrelevant. Only what they have to say is important.

Come to think of it, there is a quick and easy way to separate the regular adults and the gross adults. If you are standing next to an adult, bait him or her into making a simple personal statement such as, “I really like these oatmeal cookies.” To this statement respond, “You’re a sicko, please go away!” If the person laughs, he or she is a good adult. Only a grody adult would be offended. This simple test allows you to proceed with the appropriate and/or inappropriate behavior. The only weapon against predictable holiday gatherings is unpredictable behavior. Obey the following advice and you will be happy.

First of all, when talking to adults, lie. Adults are too prudent to accuse you of lying. Moreover, what would be your motive for lying? Here are some typical questions posed by gross adults and my recommended replies:

Q: How is school?
A: Awful, I would take my own life but I don’t have the courage.

Q: What is your major?
A: That’s none of your business, old man.

Q: What are you going to do when you graduate?
A: I’m going to take a couple of years to concentrate on smoking weed.

Talking to adults is awkward, but trying to communicate with children is downright frustrating. I have too much respect for myself to talk baby talk. People who talk baby talk look foolish. It is the children who should look foolish. So do not allow children to manipulate you into looking dumb by accepting their outrageous claims. I will explain this with two recent run-ins I have had with children.

Five friends and I took a road trip to Punxsutawney, Pa., for Groundhog Day. On the bus there I got stuck sitting next to a five-year-old boy. It seemed that I would have to talk to him. I opened as I always do with kids by asking, “What’s up, kid?” He responded, “You’re 66 years old.”

I tried to explain that I am in fact only 22 years old. I pointed out that old people usually have gray hair and wrinkles.

He wasn’t buying it. He simply kept shaking his head and saying, “You’re 66.” I decided to play along.

“Yes, I am 66,” I conceded, “and you are 45.”

“No, I’m only five,” he corrected.

I insisted that he was 45, thinking that this was how you played the game. He wasn’t backing down and eventually appealed to “Daddy.” Daddy confirmed that the boy was only five. I walked away from this mind game defeated. I vowed never again to relent to the outrageous claims made by children.

I next ran across a little kid here on campus in LaFortune. He was sitting next to me eating his lunch. “What’s up, kid?” I asked.

“I’m a hamburger,” he said.

“I’m pretty sure you’re not a hamburger,” I replied. Our argument continued until I pulled a trump card. I actually bought a hamburger from Burger King and showed the kid the differences between a little boy and a hamburger. Either out of enlightenment or exhaustion, the boy relented. I won that argument by proving that the boy was not a hamburger. This is how children must be treated: in a patient, reasonable manner. Do not let them trick you into making a fool of yourself like I did on the bus to Punxsutawney.

So there you have it, a revolutionary guide to public discourse with the old and the young. God bless you, and good luck with all those who aren’t your own age.
Gophers Make the Grade

Once again the record shows that saying no to the Big Ten was the right choice. According to the St. Paul Pioneer Press, four University of Minnesota basketball players, including starters Keon Clark and Miles Tarver, were implicated in an academic scandal. Apparently an employee in academic advising wrote papers and took take-home examinations for several Minnesota players over the last five years. The scam was working quite well until Keon and Miles had to give presentations on the papers they wrote, without any notes to help them. Keon’s position on World War II was unique, as he discussed Poland’s bombing of Pearl Harbor and Hitler’s role in the Communist Party. Meanwhile, Miles critiqued Robert Frost’s poem “The Road Not Taken,” comparing the work to his decision to drive to the hoop or to take a pull-up jumper. Upon graduation, Miles and Keon will be working as managers for Notre Dame Food Services, in hopes that their creative capacity in improvising will carry over into their kitchen creations.

Majerus Ponders Future

With the Utah Utes’ basketball season coming to a premature end with a loss in the second round, coach Rick Majerus had become a rumored candidate for several other coaching positions. Majerus, a native of the Midwest, had shown some interest in the Notre Dame job and he had sent a list of demands before agreeing to take the job. Among them were a $1,000,000 Adidas contract, a refillable lunch buffet for his office and a replacement for the “Inside Column” in The Observer. No word on if his demands were going to be met, but the “Inside Column” has not improved. When asked about leaving Utah, Majerus’s publicist stated that Rick never wanted to leave Utah anyway and that if it comes down to playing in front of Mormons or Catholics, Rick would prefer to avoid Catholics, especially on Sundays.

Election Fraud

Breaking election rules happens at even the smallest levels of government. After concluding a day-long investigation into allegations of campaign fraud at the University of South Florida, the election rules commissioner decided to kick candidates Tyvi Small and Tara Klimek out of the race for student body president and vice president. Apparently, Small and Klimek passed out campaign fliers during class, which is a direct violation of campaign regulations. The announcement is particularly ironic as Small and Klimek easily won the election, even though they were write-in candidates. Notre Dame is no stranger to election controversies itself. Topping off the number of inexperienced presidential tickets, Luke White, editor of Right Reason, took on the task of brainwashing the student body with his usual array of closed-minded and sarcastic humor. Alas, with only a week to prepare, White could attain a mere nine percent of the vote, the exact percentage of people who read Right Reason.

We Are Not Alone

The Undergraduate Student Government of Penn State is facing a budget crisis because inexperienced senators “overcommitted to funding student projects,” according to one senator. Despite the budget problems, the senate voted to spend $700 on year-end gifts for themselves and $2,500 on a year-end dinner. At the same time, they rejected a $400 proposal that would have sent student representatives to the Big Ten conference to lobby for student financial aid. It appears that the Notre Dame Student Senate is not the only body of student politicians inept at managing their budget.

by Eric Yuva

APRIL 1, 1999
Maierus Ponders Future
With the Utah Utes' basketball season coming to a premature end with a loss in the second round, coach Rick Majerus had become a rumored candidate for several other coaching positions. Majerus, a native of the Midwest, had shown some interest in the Notre Dame job and he had sent a list of demands before agreeing to take the job. Among them were a $1,000,000 Adidas contract, a refillable lunch buffet for his office and a replacement for the "Inside Column" in The Observer. No word on if his demands were going to be met, but the "Inside Column" has not improved. When asked about leaving Utah, Majerus's publicist stated that Rick never wanted to leave Utah anyway and that if it comes down to playing in front of Mormons or Catholics, Rick would prefer to avoid Catholics, especially on Sundays.

SCHOLASTIC MAGAZINE

Election Fraud
Breaking election rules happens at even the smallest levels of government. After concluding a day-long investigation into allegations of campaign fraud at the University of South Florida, the election rules commissioner decided to kick candidates Tyvi Small and Tara Klimek out of the race for student body president and vice president. Apparently, Small and Klimek passed out campaign fliers during class, which is a direct violation or campaign regulations. The announcement is particularly ironic as Small and Klimek easily won the election, even though they were write-in candidates. Notre Dame is no stranger to election controversies itself. Topping off the number of inexperienced presidential tickets, Luke White, editor of RightReason, took on the task of brainwashing the student body with his usual array of closed-minded and sarcastic humor. Alas, with only a week to prepare, White could attain a mere nine percent of the vote, the exact percentage of people who read Right Reason.

We Are Not Alone
The Undergraduate Student Government of Penn State is facing a budget crisis because inexperienced senators "overcommitted to funding student projects," according to one senator. Despite the budget problems, the senate voted to spend $700 on year-end gifts for themselves and $2,500 on a year-end dinner. At the same time, they rejected a $400 proposal that would have sent student representatives to the Big Ten conference to lobby for student financial aid. It appears that the Notre Dame Student Senate is not the only body of student politicians inept at managing their budget.
Abnormally Wonderful

by Angie Rausch

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