There's always fun calling ... 

1939 Nightclub Murders 
interactive comedy, dinner theater, dress to impress

Lafortune Ballroom 
April 19, 8-11 pm
$5, tix available April 16 at Lafortune box office

All the Pretty Horses & The Contender
Debartolo 101 & Debartolo 155
April 19, 10:30 pm
April 20-21, 8 pm and 10:30 pm
$2 at the door

Acousticafe
Lafortune
Thursday, 9 pm

You just have to know where to look for it. SUB.
Brian Bedford, a native of Yorkshire, England, studied acting at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. At age 21, he played Hamlet at the Liverpool Repertory Company, which led to highly successful performances in London's West End and at Stratford-Upon-Avon, working with, among others, Sir John Gielgud and Peter Brook.

Mr. Bedford has starred in more than 30 productions on Broadway, receiving five Tony Award nominations for Best Actor. He has won one Tony Award, the Obie and New York Drama Desk Awards, and was inducted into the American Theatre Hall of Fame in 1997.


Brian Bedford's one-man Shakespeare evening, "The Lunatic, the Lover, and the Poet," has taken him around the world, including New York, over 100 cities in the United States and Canada, and now to South Bend!

Mr. Bedford's leads in London, on Broadway, and in the internationally known Stratford Shakespeare Festival have garnered a Tony Award for Best Actor on Broadway and a place in the American Theatre Hall of Fame.

April 23, 2001
7:30 pm EST
Jordan Auditorium
Mendoza College of Business Administration
University of Notre Dame

Tickets available at LaFortune Box Office | 219-631-8128 | $10 General Admission
Brian Bedford's one-man Shakespeare evening, The Lunatic, the Lover, and the Poet, has taken him around the world, including New York, over 100 cities in the United States and Canada, and now to South Bend!

Mr. Bedford's leads in London, on Broadway, and in the internationally known Stratford Shakespeare Festival have garnered a Tony Award for Best Actor on Broadway and a place in the American Theatre Hall of Fame.

April 23, 2001
7:30 pm EST
Jordan Auditorium
Mendoza College of Business Administration
University of Notre Dame
We have a virgin here.

The words silenced my three friends. We were sharing lunch over winter break in a New York City restaurant. The conversation had decayed to spatterings of our favorite lines from the Mike Judge soon-to-be-classic Office Space. As the laughter died down, I had asked the one friend at the table who hadn’t been contributing lines if she had seen the comedic masterpiece. She hadn’t.

My response was automatic. My friends knew, of course, that my reference to virginity was merely metaphorical, but they flushed and looked around the restaurant as if a group of grandmas might be listening over their shoulders. Now, trust me, no heads turned and no disgusted—or interested—glances were directed our way. However, they did proceed to chide me for my ridiculous behavior. I had been way too loud, they claimed.

OK, I might have been a little too loud. Note that I’m not confessing to being totally obnoxious, but I could have been a little more in control. At any rate, it would have saved me the reproach of my ashamed friends. But it would have been less fun. We did laugh after the initial shock.

In this tradition, I present to you Scholastic’s annual humor edition. Starting on page 15, you’ll find ridiculousness, debauchery and, of course, wicked sarcasm. Once again, I wonder if we’re speaking a bit too loudly with words that are a bit too scandalous. But I beg you to take these eight pages as they were meant to be taken: with a grain of salt. Persons attempting to take this issue seriously will be shot.

Here is Sarcastic. Take it before I change my mind. Turn your head; glare disgustedly. And, please, send any and all complaints to scholast@nd.edu.

We’re on the One Road

Two weekends ago, Scholastic road-tripped to Indianapolis for the Indiana Collegiate Press Association conference and was named Magazine of the Year.

The Juggler won literary magazine of the year, and The Dome and The Observer won second- and third-place awards, respectively. Congratulations to all the winners.

The King is Dead, Long Live the King

This issue is the first produced by the 2001-02 Scholastic staff. It is also the first in a long time not produced under the leadership of Jim Pastore. Jim’s contributions over the past four years were invaluable, and his tenure as editor in chief transformed the magazine. Thank you, Jim, and good luck at law school.

Michael P. Griffin
Editor in Chief
There's one great thing about going fishing here.

There's no limit.

The delicious BK BIG FISH® Value Meal.

After one bite, you'll be hooked on our tasty fish fillet topped with fresh lettuce and tangy tartar sauce along with crispy fries and an ice-cold drink.

And best of all, this is one fishing spot that never runs out.

The Huddle LaFortune Student Center
No Sun for You
Domers denied artificial rays

First few days of sunshine got your skin itchy and red just walking from class to class? Don’t worry — it’s nothing to be ashamed of. The long South Bend winter can turn even the darkest California tan into a hue resembling that of Casper the Friendly Ghost. “But wait,” you say, “how did that girl in philo class keep her bronze tone?” The answer may be as simple as a few visits to a local tanning salon.

A survey of 100 Notre Dame students conducted last year found that nearly 25 had been to a tanning salon within the past 12 months. Responding to substantial student interest in an on-campus salon, the Student Business Board attempted to bring tanning to the students.

The board moved to install a small two-bed tanning shop in the basement of LaFortune Student Center. The resulting proposal, written by Andrew Fitzgerald, was submitted last March to the four required administrative groups. Each gave the green light — except Student Affairs. “Had Student Affairs approved it, there would be a tanning salon in the basement of LaFortune right now,” Fitzgerald says. But according to John Veit, a former board manager, the administration was more interested in creating a social atmosphere in the basement.

But Fitzgerald doubts this was not the university’s only motive for refusal. “The impression I got was that it didn’t convey the image they wanted,” he says, suggesting that the administration thought the salon “too vain” a business for Domers. Veit is also skeptical of their desire to create a social space. As he points out, “Realistically, what social establishment can you put into that small space?”

Administrators recall a different version of the situation. David Moss, assistant vice president for student affairs, says the proposal was rejected not only for social reasons but also because of potential health issues. The move had nothing to do with the university’s image, he says.

The board continues to look for businesses that promote a more social atmosphere in the basement of LaFortune. Meanwhile, the space lies empty, and students continue to trek off campus to achieve their healthy glows.

Ten Questions
with the Molly’s Club president

You’ve heard whispers. Maybe you even know a member. But, really, what is this Molly’s Club everyone’s talking about? Scholastic sat down with club founder Molly McShane, a.k.a. “The All Powerful Controller of Time, Space, and Pants,” to find out just how ridonkulous she is, and, well, how we can get into the club.

So Scholastic knows that you’re a Badin Hall sophomore, but, really, who are you? Who starts her own club and names it after herself?

Well, I’d have to say that I’m someone who gets bored easily and needs to do things — like start clubs — to keep myself entertained.

How did the idea for Molly’s Club come to you? Prophetic vision? Deep, meditative thought?

It came to me when I saw an empty table at Activities Night and a blank piece of paper and a pen, and I thought it would make my friends laugh if I stood there for awhile. I really had no idea that I’d be sitting here six months later wearing a club T-shirt.

What’s the 411 on the club? What do you guys do, exactly?

I believe our membership is at 165 today. We’re signing new people up all the time. We give out offices so that everyone will have one of those. Sometimes I give them little weekly missions, like sending me a postcard or prank-calling me. One time we
Rising out of South Bend — a place we normally see as nothing more than an ethanol-blanketed wasteland — is an up-and-coming music scene, and local bands like Space and Noise Productions are out to prove it.

*Space and Noise Productions*, its only release to date, hosts a plethora of sounds and styles. Playing anything from cheap keyboards to guitars and jingle bells to old horns and even toys, Space and Noise is out to do something different. Call it indie, lo-fi rock, quirky pop — or an odd combination of all these — the five tunes that grind out of their new EP are deep enough to revel in aesthetically, yet light enough to shake that booty.

Each song contains a multiplicity of time structures, volumes and rhythms that demand the listener’s attention. Such tracks as “Quite Like You” and “Chloride Chlorophyll” blast an energetic rhythm of rocking guitar riffs, punchy keyboard melodies and wrenching vocals. The band smoothly changes angles from one moment to the next. Another tune, “Pouring God into God,” displays the band’s raw vocal emotion, while “Magnetic” starts off with a hauntingly dark keyboard that blends itself into an infectious groove of stomping rock.

*Space and Noise Productions* has a well-created musical composition that ties directly into an emotional urgency that pierces through the layering of sound in each song. Its production might be a little dirty and unrefined, but this only increases the random character of the music. Giddiness, disdain, joy and suffering all erupt in a somehow-successful mix. Space and Noise Productions will help push the South Bend music scene out of the underground and show that there is something unique around here.

For more information on this band, check out its Web site at www.spaceandnoise.com.

What’s your preferred system of governance: democracy or dictatorship?
I’m going to have to go out on a limb here and say democracy, because if you’re a dictator, who knows? Everyone might start to hate you and throw things at you on the quad. I’d rather have a sense of community than a lordship over others.

What are your plans for the club?
I’d like to see us recognized by the university and for the club to continue after I’m gone, so that eventually just everywhere you go, people will be like, “Oh, you’re in Molly’s Club? I’m in Molly’s Club, too!”

So world domination is pretty much what you’re after.

Well ... yes.

What are the requirements for joining the club? How do I get in?
There are really no standards. There’s only one girl I won’t let in, because I saw her at Activities Night and she wouldn’t sign up. Pretty much you get official recognition and your office when you give me a high five. That girl really regrets it, by the way.

What’s your take on the recent Latin-pop explosion?
I’m all for it. I say *bueno* for that, and I’m going to look into a Spanish translation for “ridonkulous.” We’re going to start a Latin-pop dance group in Molly’s Club.

— Kristin Kramer
The following were among the “Regulations of the University” published in the September 6, 1876 issue of Notre Dame Scholastic:

Bad books and all works of irreligious tendency are destructive of religion, of society, and of family; therefore all such should be destroyed in order to prevent the moral pestilence which they will inevitably disseminate.

No one shall leave the University grounds without the permission of the President or Vice-President.

Students are expected to take baths regularly.

Students must show themselves obedient and respectful to the Professors and Prefects of the Institution, and must never absent themselves from the place in which they ought to be, without permission from proper authority.

All letters sent or received by students may be opened by the President or his representative.

Hey Monk, I'm going to Meijer. Is that OK?

— Cristin Fenzel
125 Years Ago

Big Brother's Watching

The following were among the "Regulations of the University" published in the September 6, 1876 issue of Notre Dame Scholastic:

Bad books and all works of irreligious tendency are destructive of religion, of society, and of family; therefore all such should be destroyed in order to prevent the moral pestilence which they will inevitably disseminate.

No one shall leave the University grounds without the permission of the President or Vice-President.

Students are expected to take baths regularly.

Students must show themselves obedient and respectful to the Professors and Prefects of the Institution, and must never absent themselves from the place in which they ought to be, without permission from proper authority.

All letters sent or received by students may be opened by the President or his representative.

Hey Monk, I'm going to Meijer. Is that OK?

-Cristin Fenzel

20\% national average

Label themselves politically liberal:

21\%

Notre Dame students

28\% national average

"That's why all of us Saint Mary's girls are here anyways, to marry a Notre Dame"

- overheard girl at Alumni Hall

"Look at that: It's not crowded. If I had a machine gun, I'd not hurt too many people."

- American studies professor

"This class is like Temptation Island... so much potential and so little substance."

- overheard government student

"If someone took me to Heartland [as a prospective student] I think I would run home the next day crying. Unless I was wasted. That's the only way I can stand Heartland."

- overheard student

"This would be really funny if you were high!"

"Scholastic is looking for photographers. Call today."

1-7569

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
315 LAFORTUNE STUDENT CENTER
NOTRE DAME, IN 46556-5635

SCHOLASTIC
Technology takes precedence over size in new performing arts center

SARAH CHILDRESS

When the university dreams, it dreams big.

So, when administrators began to envision a performing-arts center 12 years ago, the dream quickly spiraled into a multi-million-dollar complex. The plans became so extensive, in fact, that they had to be shelved for more than a decade until sufficient funds could be raised. Even then, compromises had to be made, and the original design condensed until the final plans for the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for Performing Arts were born.

The impetus behind the center came in 1989 with a donation from the DeBartolo family. Although much of the $33 million gift helped to build DeBartolo Hall and develop the quad on which it was built, the rest was earmarked for a performing-arts center.

Not all of the money was available up front, however, and with the inflated building plans, the university lacked funds for the building. "It turned out to be more expensive than anyone had anticipated," says Jeffrey Kantor, vice president and associate provost.

Finally, in 1998, in response to university President Edward Malloy's Colloquy for the Year 2000, the university decided it was the performing-arts center's turn to take center stage. The plans from 1989 were reevaluated. But it soon became apparent that the original conception — a complex centered on a 1,200-seat auditorium, with additional facilities for both musical and dramatic arts — would have to be scrapped.

The main problem was the price tag. Since the original gifts had been committed, building costs — and the committee's ideas — had greatly expanded. "So much has changed since then [1989]," says Bill Sexton, vice president of university relations. "Our plans grew considerably, and that's why it costs more now."

Less money means less space, and so the plans for the complex had to be reworked. The building's dimensions seem to be the greatest adjustment that had to be made in the plans. "It hasn't changed that much," says Don Crafton, the film, television and theatre department chair. "It just shrank. ... We had to chop off programs [individual spaces in the building] or make it smaller. We ended up doing both."

Money, however, was not the only reason to return to the drawing board. "Architecturally, it didn't seem to fit the campus very well," Kantor says. "We have a goal that our buildings fit our campus architecture and campus culture. Our buildings typically have a collegiate, Gothic appearance, and the proposed building was far from that."

In addition to the aesthetic concerns, the building was also significantly larger than what the university wanted to erect on campus. The center's original dimensions were daunting — 130,000 square feet. "It makes a huge difference in size," says Jim Lyphout, vice president for business operations, of the new, smaller construction. "It's at the front door of the campus."

The university had little choice but to try again. A new architecture firm was hired, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, which specializes in building acoustics and audiovisual systems. "We started over from scratch, working with a group of people drawn out of the College of Arts and Letters," Kantor says.

The two departments geared towards performing arts — music and film, television and theatre — were consulted on their priorities for the new plan. "It took months to understand the university's needs and FTT's," says Dough Marsh, director of facilities engineering. "We had workshops, exercises, studied student needs ... and everybody in the end said 'This is the best facility.'"

Crafton, a member of the committee charged with designing the new facility, says that although he understands the need for compromise, neither music nor FTT came away completely satisfied. "[The music department's] own space is not outfitted the way they wanted it," he says, and FTT is seriously lacking in storage space in the new building, among other things. Washington Hall currently houses all props, scenery and costumes, but Crafton is not sure where they will be stored in the new facility.

Another concession was rehearsal space. Although the two departments' rehearsal spaces in the new building will be separate, Crafton says that an ideal theater would have a rehearsal space similar in size to the actual stage. "We got a smaller space than the stage. ... There just wasn't that space in the program," he says.

One of FTT's greater concessions involves the 350-seat main-stage theater. Because the department currently presents its quarterly main-stage performances in 570-seat Washington Hall, the new theater will likely be too small. Crafton says he is unsure of what to do. "That puts us in a dilemma," he says. "We often sell out Washington Hall, so do we present over two weekends instead of one? Do we raise ticket prices? It's something we haven't really had a chance to think about."

Kantor admits that no solution for the main-stage productions has been presented. "That does present the program a challenge," he says. Despite this concession, Crafton feels that the department will still be able to fit in. "FTT people are very flexible and creative," he says.

The entire department will move into the new performing-arts center, which has sev-
eral offices and teaching areas for FTT in addition to the separate theaters. "It's going to be vastly superior to what we have now," he says — even in space, for which FTT professors are often pressed, especially for film production.

Originally, the music department was slated to leave Crowley Hall for the new center as well, but due to space constraints, only performance-related groups — such as the Glee Club, orchestra, chorale and the collegiate jazz band — were given offices in the new center.

The music department, too, had to make some concessions during the negotiations. The large concert hall was originally 1,200 seats. This has been reduced to 900. But Paul Johnson, the department chair, was satisfied with the decision. For music ensembles, his department requested a space larger than Washington Hall — one that could bring in bigger acts and better performers, as well as a place close to a parking lot for off-campus visitors.

Johnson is also satisfied with the plans for the new building. "I'm not going to say either is better, but this is an appropriate size," he says of the current plan. He and the other members of the committee considered a variety of factors in reducing the size of the hall. "There will be certain concerts where people won't get in — it might sell out," he says, but he added that such events are rare. "It's always an equation that balances acoustics with the number of people you can sit in the hall," he says.

Although the other theaters — the black box and the main stage — will be used primarily for FTT, the music department will use the smaller rooms, such as the organ and chorale hall. Johnson says that smaller musical performances will also take advantage of the main-stage theater.

Despite the arrangements, Crafton says: "There will be a strain when we move in. We'll feel a little constrained, but I think we'll adjust." He also said: "The dean, provost and department wanted to make sure there were no cuts in quality. We wanted the best possible quality in acoustics, lighting — everything." The committee was willing to sacrifice size for a state-of-the-art complex, and state of the art is what it got.

The main-stage theater was designed as a miniature Broadway stage, what is called a "jewel box," with a horseshoe balcony. The stage is fully equipped with a trap door; a hydraulic lift to create an orchestra pit, or "thrust stage"; and professionally designed acoustics. The complex will also house a 200-seat movie theater, with a 35-mm projector to compete with the Snite Museum and DeBartolo Hall.

But Crafton seems most proud of the studio, or black box theater, funded by Regis Philbin, Notre Dame alumni and television-show host. His $2.75 million gift provided for a state-of-the-art studio theater to replace the old lab theater in Washington Hall. This 100-seat theater will host productions that would draw a smaller crowd than the main-stage productions, such as student-directed plays and, perhaps, the Notre Dame opera.

The 900-seat concert hall will accommodate 85 to 90 performers, with room behind the stage for a chorus, as well as accommodations for multimedia performances and recording positions. The center also includes production spaces for film and video, as well as classes on costume and lighting.

"That's the advantage of being planned with collaboration. Like Decio [Faculty Hall] and DeBartolo Hall — they just appeared," he says, without any serious input from faculty members or students. Crafton says that the FTT and music departments were deeply involved in the decision-making process. "The department did have a lot of input," he says. "We had committees ... and traveled with architects." Johnson, too, feels the discussion was sufficient. "There are always compromises made, but they were made, in my opinion, in a fair and rational manner," he says. "These weren't compromises that disregarded our requests in any way."

But as the DeBartolo center takes the leading role in performing arts at Notre Dame, what will become of Washington Hall? "Washington Hall will continue to have a very important role on campus," Kantor says. The university tentatively plans to use the hall for recitals, dorm productions and other student activities, although he says that there is no program for the rest of the building at this point. Film, television and theatre department productions, however, will all be performed in the new center.

After all the haggling, the plans are essentially finalized. Groundbreaking is slated for June or July of this year, with the center opening in about two years. All involved appear satisfied with the results. "It's all done now, and everybody's happy," Sexton says. "At least, I think they are. We're all on the same page, definitely."
Dining Hall Delectables
Students respond to the call for recipes

KRISTINKRAMER

In our world of high-speed technology, the I-want-it-now mentality has become common. Ever wonder why so many people complain about the dining hall? Probably because they’re not taking the time to be creative. We’re lured into getting the same dish every time we visit, but what a waste of a golden opportunity—the dining halls actually have almost everything you’d ever want to eat. Of course, there is a catch. “You have to be willing to put the time in,” senior Corey Shalanski says. “My recipes offer no immediate gratification.”

So take a walk with us in the dining hall. Even if you only go so far as to add some cheese to your mashed potatoes or some ranch dressing to your chicken sandwich, your dining experience may be pleasantly improved.

— Photos by Emily Cerow

The Boulder Cone

Perhaps the Eighth Wonder of the World is the Boulder Cone, invented by Gina Montenaro’s brother, Pete (see Banana Split). Not only does it take strong forearms and a monstrous appetite for ice cream, but Pete also warns that only the scoopers at South can handle this amount of ice cream.

Ice cream (chocolate almond and black cherry were highly recommended)
1 sugar cone

As far as we could determine, the Boulder cone simply entails scooping together a huge ball of ice cream, but it’s not as easy as it looks. Like so many other things in life … it’s all in the wrist.

— Pete Montenaro

Bruschetta

Sure, the Pastaria does a pretty good job making us feel like we’re in Notre Dame’s version of Little Italy, and that pasta stir-fry at North isn’t bad, but sometimes you just need to recreate the whole meal. Bruschetta, a favorite Italian appetizer, or antipasto, is tasty and easy to make.

French bread, thinly sliced
Provolone cheese (optional)
diced tomatoes
basil (by the microwaves)
Italian seasoning
(by the microwaves)
oil (salad bars)
salt
pepper

Toast the French bread, with provolone cheese if necessary. Meanwhile, mix the tomatoes, basil and Italian seasoning together in a bowl. When the toast is finished, immediately drizzle with oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Spoon the tomato mixture on top of the bread.

— Author’s Choice

Panini Quesadillas

Who doesn’t like Mexican food? Now that we’ve got panini machines, there’s nothing to stop you from going south of the border.

2 tortillas
1 piece spicy chicken, diced
toppings (suggestions include lettuce, green onions, olives, cheese, guacamole and sour cream)

On one tortilla, place chicken and toppings. Top with the other tortilla and heat in panini machine until brown on top and cheese is melted.

— Jacki Kiefer
**Corn Pudding**

If you’re a corn lover, this dish is probably for you. Another of Corey Shalanski’s recipes, it’ll remind you of those big Sunday dinners at Grandma’s back in the day, or, er, something. Watch the amount of milk you add on this one — you don’t want it to be too soupy.

- cut corn
- chopped boiled egg
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 tsp salt

Mix all ingredients and microwave for 2 minutes.

— Corey Shalanski

**Chicken Cordon Bleu**

1 chicken patty
1 slice ham
1 slice cheese
1 bun

Either place the sandwich in the panini machine, or melt in the microwave for 45 seconds.

— Megan Farrell

**Greekish Panini**

Who says you can’t have a gyro every day at the dining hall? Or, at least, every day they serve pork.

- pork loin, diced
- pita bread slice
- diced tomatoes
- chopped lettuce
- ranch dressing
- flour tortilla

Place pork on pita with tomatoes, lettuce and ranch dressing. Top with tortilla and toss in panini grill.

— Corey Shalanski

**Banana Split**

Nothing like a “little” desert to finish the meal. Gina Montenaro, who has worked at an ice-cream shop for three summers, showed us how to make this one.

6 small scoops of ice cream
(traditionally, 3 different flavors)
1 banana, split lengthwise

toppings

Put three scoops of ice cream in a row, with the second scoop of each flavor on top. For our shoot, Gina dribbled strawberry, chocolate and peanut butter sauces on top of the ice cream, tossed on some nuts, and placed the banana slices on each side of the ice cream. Whipped cream on each stack of ice cream, along with three cherries, finished the split.

— Gina Montenaro

**The 'Shalaffle’**

One of senior Corey Shalanski’s concoctions, this Belgian waffle pizza may sound odd at first, but trust us, it works. Though it takes a little time, don’t discount this recipe, which Shalanski named after himself.

- 1 Belgian waffle
- tomato sauce
- diced tomatoes
- shredded cheddar cheese
- Parmesan cheese
- toppings

On waffle, spread tomato sauce, then top with tomatoes and cheeses and topping of your choice — suggestions include sliced mushrooms from stir-fry or ham and pineapple chunks for a Hawaiian theme. Microwave for about 1:30.

— Corey Shalanski
Room-Pick TRAUMA

After some confusion in the lottery, room picks for 2001 proceed on schedule

KRISTIN STECKBECK

"I hate room picks!" exclaims freshman Katie Nokes as she checks out the Howard Hall floor plan. "Why does it have to be such a problem?" On a campus where about 80 percent of undergraduates choose dorm life each year, living arrangements can mean the difference between a good and bad year.

The whole fiasco begins with an innocent little card mailed to each student in February, asking whether they want to live on campus for the next school year.

The Office of Student Residences enters the names of all students requesting on-campus housing into a campus-wide lottery. Rectors and hall staffs then decide whether their hall will use its own system or choose to use the assigned lottery numbers. Most rectors opt to use the official lottery.

"The lottery is all hall-based," says Scott Kachmarik, the director of Student Residences. "The halls can handle the lottery however they want. But if they want to use our lottery, there is a random generator that will take each building by class and do a random sort to assign the numbers."

The lottery is usually a simple process, but this year, a computer glitch caused a few problems. The names of juniors- and seniors-to-be in some halls were left in the order they were in last year, those returning from studying abroad or transferring from other halls were used to fill in the spaces. The result was a not-so-random list.

"[The problem] didn’t seem to hold with all the lists," Kachmarik says. "We did rerun those [that] we saw were a problem, but I think we avoided any big confusion because the problem was determined before any rooms were chosen." But when the numbers were re-distributed many students with high room-picks were frustrated. The decision whether to use the revised list or simply keep the original numbers rests in the hands of the rectors.

To avoid potential confusion, not all halls use the system from the Office of Student Residences. Some create their own lottery — or don’t use one at all. Carroll, for example, has a hall-wide gathering at which the rector draws names from a hat. St. Ed’s simply posts the floor plans and lets people sign up at the same time, class by class, in a free-for-all.

After all current students have chosen a room, freshman rooms are randomly assigned by a computer. But rectors frequently decide which rooms to set aside for freshmen to encourage interaction with upperclassmen. "Last year, we tried to figure out which rooms would be the freshman rooms ahead of time," says Father John Herman, rector of O’Neill Hall. "You probably want to keep them kind of in the mainstream. If they’re around a corner, they could get lost."

But room picks haven’t always been random. In the 1940s and ’50s, specific dorms were set aside for each class. "There were class halls," says John Manion ’56. "We were asked for a preference [before freshman year]." Upperclassmen received
preference based on grade-point average, which often led to students switching residence halls each year. Sorin was known at the time to be the most-elite senior hall, while St. Ed's was infamous for housing sophomores with the lowest grades.

The university turned to a lottery system and multi-class dorms in the 1970s, but freshmen had to choose their dorm from a letter until the '80s. "I picked my dorm in the summer before my freshman year, sight unseen," says Bob Heimach '81, a past Fisher Hall resident assistant. "They sent a one-page letter just listing the dorms, whether they had singles, doubles, suites, etc. — no other information." Freshmen had no say in their choice of a roommate beyond a smoking preference, and they usually remained in the same dorm for all four years.

Many individual lottery practices, such as Carroll's hat system, began in the 1970s and '80s, when desperation to find on-campus housing — which has never been in proportion to the size of the student body — led to corruption in the system. "The bottom line is that it's always been difficult to get on-campus housing," Kachmarik says. "Sometimes it has been more cutthroat in terms of getting on than others."

Past problems have included cheating on the lottery and tampering with housing contracts, which explains why the lists are now released only to rectors. Fortunately, there is now enough housing for all students who request a place on campus.

Aside from the lottery, the current system presents students with several difficulties. Turning in a housing contract after the February 9 deadline or pulling students in from other dorms, for example, results in being put at the bottom of the class lottery list in the dorm.

Another risky proposition in terms of getting housing is floating for a single. "You give up all rights to any type of housing and put your name on the waiting list in the hopes that a single will open up," Kachmarik says. After all other housing picks have been made, the Office of Student Residences creates another random lottery for those on the singles list and places them in whatever single rooms are left available. This can mean a long, uncertain wait before an assignment is made.

Some students avoid the dorm-housing hassle entirely by moving off campus. According to the Office of Student Residences, only about 20 percent of Notre Dame undergraduates move off campus annually, the majority of whom are upperclassmen. Residence halls generally lose 50 to 60 percent of their senior residents and a handful of juniors every year.

This small number of students living off campus looks even smaller when compared to other universities. This year, for example, Indiana University in Bloomington houses only 12,369 of its 27,139 undergraduates — about 35 percent.

Although the number of off-campus students at Notre Dame remains low, it has increased over the years. Manion says that during his years at Notre Dame, no students moved off campus voluntarily until their senior year, and even those who did, they were in the minority. Those who did move off earlier were either requested to do so for disciplinary reasons or did not have an adequate GPA to earn a dorm room. By the 1970s, a few more seniors were moving off campus, but not many. According to Burt Brunner '77, less than 20 percent of the senior class and hardly any juniors made the switch in housing.

Several factors contribute to the consistently low number of off-campus seniors. Rectors encourage upperclassmen to remain on campus because they serve as a great resource for younger students. The hall staff generally tries to keep about 50 to 60 percent of their senior classes in the dorms. "We have 23 seniors who are staying this year," Howard rector Annie Dougherty says. "More are staying than going off, which is a good sign. It's wonderful because seniors can bring a lot of leadership to the hall."

Another reason many remain on campus is the unique opportunities dorm life presents. "The dorms were the social centers for us: parties, friends, athletics. ... I still think the dorm atmosphere is the best thing Notre Dame has going for it," Brunner says.

Despite the stress of room picks, Notre Dame's tradition of dorm community makes the difficulties worthwhile for most. So take a deep breath, relax and be happy that room picks come only once a year.

"I picked my dorm in the summer before my freshman year, sight unseen."

— Bob Heimach '81

FREE-FOR-ALL. Guys are more laid back about room picks, but that doesn't stop them from scrutinizing the lottery list when it is posted.
Well, the Gipp’s glad to see that spring has finally arrived — and with it, more disappointing quotes from Bob Davie. The Gipp doesn’t get it. We haven’t even played our first game and Davie’s already hedging his bets. C’mon, coach, have a little faith — your team deserves it.

The CSC (Center for Stolen Cars)

It turns out the dining hall isn’t the only place students like to steal things from. A group of girls got a hold of the key to a Suburban owned by the Center for Social Concerns. It appears the foolish thieves made a copy of the key so that they could have access to the SUV whenever they felt like using it. But the girls didn’t stop there. When the vehicle got low on gas, they forged a signature to have the tank filled up on the university’s dollar.

You’d think that this would have been enough lawbreakin’ for the young hooligans — but it wasn’t.

Since the vehicle belongs to the CSC, the girls had no trouble driving it past the guard gate and onto campus. They were eventually caught when, in a move that the Gipp can only describe as sheer stupidity, they decided to drive up to LaFortune and do a very special backstage tour, an ND advertisement. Breaking up the happy couple, the administrator informed G. Love and his entourage they had about five minutes to get off campus.

The Gipp was not sad to see them go.

The Gipp’s glad to see that the library has taken steps to eliminate the viewing of inappropriate Web sites on library computers. New cards have appeared next to each computer that inform users about the laws regulating adult material. The Gipp would also like to report that library staff meetings have become much more interesting since his last column. Frustrated officials are trying to plug the leaks and save the library’s image. Maybe they should have thought about that before eliminating research options for ND students.

Finally, the Gipp has learned that the OIT official responsible for monitoring computer-cluster consultants has threatened to fire anyone whom she discovers leaking information to the Gipper. Much like the library officials, she is worried that the tips are hurting the department’s image. Maybe they should have had a better cover story on Notre Dame’s tuition.

The conversation went something like this:

"Hi. This is someone from the Development Office who hasn’t talked to you in a while. Nice cover story on Notre Dame’s tuition.”

“Thanks.”

“So who is ‘Jane,’ your anonymous source? She seems unhappy with her job, and I’d like to talk to her.”

“Well, she’s anonymous.”

“Yeah, but who is she?”

“I don’t think you understand what ‘anonymous’ means.”

“Well, I guess you’re not going to tell me. I’ll just talk to you never.”

One of the Gipp’s editors got a call from the Development Office shortly after the last issue of Scholastic came out. The conversation went something like this:

“Hi. This is someone from the Development Office who hasn’t talked to you in a while. Nice cover story on Notre Dame’s tuition.”

“Thanks.”

“So who is ‘Jane,’ your anonymous source? She seems unhappy with her job, and I’d like to talk to her.”

“Well, she’s anonymous.”

“Yeah, but who is she?”

“I don’t think you understand what ‘anonymous’ means.”

“Well, I guess you’re not going to tell me. I’ll just talk to you never.”

The Gipp’s glad to see the library has taken steps to eliminate the viewing of inappropriate Web sites on library computers. New cards have appeared next to each computer that inform users about the laws regulating adult material. The Gipp would also like to report that library staff meetings have become much more interesting since his last column. Frustrated officials are trying to plug the leaks and save the library’s image. Maybe they should have thought about that before eliminating research options for ND students.

First up, the always-popular dining-hall managers have been at it again. A student was enjoying some Cap’n Crunchberry in NDH when she made the mistake of tossing a crunchberry into the air and catching it in her mouth. The DH manager swooped down on her and warned her about throwing food in the dining hall. The students started to laugh and were promptly informed that this was no joking matter. Imagine if they had tried to sneak out with two pieces of fruit.

Keep those tips coming and remember: There’s only one real Gipp, and his e-mail address is gipper.1@nd.edu. Accept no imitations.
Don’t lower that standard.
—Lou Holtz

MOSES’ WRATH
OLD-TESTAMENT PROPHET RESPONDS
TO SATAN’S NOTRE DAME VISIT
DARKNESS FALLS ON GOD QUAD
New building funded by Satan will replace the Basilica

MRSBUTTERWORTH

Kiss the Basilica of the Sacred Heart good-bye. University officials announced Tuesday that the aging structure will be knocked down to make room for a new $3.2 billion building funded by Lucifer, Prince of Darkness.

Construction on the new facility, Hellonearth Hall, will begin this fall, just in time for the start of the academic year. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2012, but the university stresses this is only a tentative date. Despite the ambitious schedule for the project, university officials have expressed excitement about the new facility.

“We are delighted to get rid of that old church,” says University President “Drunk” Lovetoy. “This new building will look much cooler. Plus, I’ll get even bigger offices for me and my cronies.”

Arranged in nine concentric circles, the building will provide space for a variety of university departments. The outer circles will house the First Year of Studies, the Office of Financial Aid and other departments whose operations puzzle students.

“This will allow us to continue our primary service: giving bad advice to freshmen and telling them they are too dumb to complete proposed majors,” says Yura Dumass, head of advising at the First Year of Studies.

The inner circles of Hellonearth Hall will provide space for key university officials who have already outgrown their obscenely large offices in the Dome. The Office of Inoperable Technologies will be nestled at the center circle of Hellonearth. Following a year of e-mail outages and Internet-service failures, the OIT needs the new, heavily guarded offices to protect its workers from angry student mobs.

“This new office space will be a great boost for the department,” says OIT head Uphi’s Arse. “We’ve also just finished a review of our operations, and we think we’ve found the problem: It turns out we’re completely incompetent. Hopefully, we’ll be able to solve that next year.”

But not everyone’s happy about the new building. Some students have expressed concerns about the source of funding for the new facility.

“We should not be accepting donations from Satan,” says student activist Aaron Kruddy. University officials, however, contend that accepting money from Mephistopheles does not violate the university’s principles.

“This move reflects our long tradition of funding projects with money from questionable sources, including sweatshops and the mob,” Lovetoy contends. “In general, however, I think students should shut the hell up.”

Kruddy promises swift action and a strong response from students. “We’ll be holding a rally at Stonehenge, in which we expect at least 30 or 40 people to walk by. With a student voice this united, the university will have to listen to us,” he says.

Lovetoy feels differently. “Kruddy can kiss my ass,” he says.

At the very least, students can expect no healthy dialogue to come from the debate. “We anticipate a series of poorly written, slightly off-topic and completely unintelligible letters,” says BSer Editor Quite Unmanly. “We’re also independent and nobody can tell us what to do.”

Lovetoy, who holds a dim view of the paper, isn’t worried about the potential bad press. “Unmanly can kiss my ass, too,” he says.

But Lovetoy might be facing an uphill battle. Some of his fellow priests disagree with his decision to scrub the Basilica. One priest, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, says his detractors are to hell, vows to fight the demolition. “What we’re witnessing here is a new Sodom, one in which heretics will introduce their own concepts of God and challenge the male-dominated hierarchy of the Church,” Father Sly T. O’Looney rambles. “Ever since we stopped Inquiring into people’s faith, the Church has continued to lose power. What we need is a return to the Church’s original ‘convert or die’ policy. Boy, those were the days.”

He added: “Well, at least I can continue to pass judgement on others. Condemnation is, after all, the central message of Christ’s Gospel. I’m ready to cast the first stone.”

Lovetoy laughs at the suggestion that he could face opposition from his fellow clergy members.

“I have a feeling they’ll go along with the improvements,” he says, smirking. “Let’s just say that the booze closet in the new building makes Corby Hall’s bar look like an Igloo cooler.”

Sources close to the project indicate that an entire circle will be used to house the new drinking establishment that will be open to priests only. “That vow of chastity is tough,” Lovetoy notes.

In the meantime, plans for the building move forward, and students can once again expect construction in the middle of Notre Dame’s campus for years to come. Some will be upset, some will be happy and most won’t care. Perhaps O’Looney sums it up best: “It doesn’t matter, since you’re all going to hell anyway.”
NEW, FRIENDLIER RES LIFE! ANNOUNCED

Discipline goes hip

AUNT JEMIMA

In the spirit of the recent highly successful IRS image-improvement campaign, Res Life has announced plans to create a fresh, neighborly new face. “We want Res Life! to be a friendly hangout — the kind of place you’d go after having your stomach pumped at St. Joseph’s to share your experiences with others,” says Lil’ Jerk, assistant vice president of student affairs.

Jerk has introduced several new features to the traditional Res Life system. Among them, an air-conditioned shuttle bus to cart recently banished parietals violators to their new off-campus dwellings. “We’re really proud of this one,” Jerk says, beaming. “After all, we can still keep an eye on them when they’re on the buses.”

At present, though, Res Life only ejects 10 to 15 students a day. In order to make the shuttle economically feasible, Res Life will have to double those numbers. How will Jerk accomplish such a feat?

“We’re proud to introduce a new intercourse-busting promotional program: McRezz — the Parietal-Violator-Fighting Dog!” Jerk plans to plaster the campus with posters bearing a German Shepherd in a trench coat and the slogan: “McRezz sez: Breaking Parietals. Not only is it uncool, it’s a sin!”

“We really expect students to warm up to this idea,” Jerk says. “Now they can feel comfortable turning in their friends, knowing that McRezz is on their side.”

Jerk has many other goals for Res Life! in the near future. Among them: sticking 1970s-style yellow smiley-faces with the caption “Smile! Res Life is watching” on campus security cameras, the placement of rectors in Turtle Creek and Castle Point apartment complexes, and the installment of convenient emergency call boxes in less-well-lit areas of Pangborn, Stanford and South Dining halls. “du Lac infractions don’t just happen in dorms!” Jerk assures us.

Father Poor Marksman, vice president of student affairs, sees these changes as indicative of a larger theme. “We want people to realize that Res Life! isn’t here to punish us,” he says. “It’s here to punish the students.” Marksman applauds Jerk’s addition of an exclamation mark to the traditional “Res Life” label as the symbol of change in his department. “Just as God went from being the angry, punishing God of the Old Testament to the compassionate, paternal avengers that Res Life! typically follows in such situations, Jerk detailed his plan for assisting students in finding apartments. “We’ve rented a whole block in one of the nearby complexes, so that all our ejectees can be immediately relocated,” he says. “Plus, it’s convenient for us to have them all lumped together so that we can continue to monitor their sexual tendencies. I guess you could call it a modern-day penal colony! Kind of like Australia, except with the added detriment of being in Mishawaka.” Conscious of his department’s new image, however, Jerk assured us that it will be an “extreme, fun-tastic penal colony.”

The Res Life! campaign is the focal feature of a university-wide initiative to improve its image without making actual positive changes. Dubbed “FrieND” by the campus hierarchy, its reach extends from North Dining Hall to the Hammes Bookstore. Harry Bowels, manager of NDH, detailed his plans to make it a more inviting eatery: “We’re going to put over two dozen more plastic bread loaves and cans of tomato paste on shelves and counters around the food. Hopefully, these decorations will prevent people from noticing that our ‘General Kai Ping Chicken’ is actually just old chicken nuggets with cherry juice smeared on them.”

Even the Hammes Bookstore is joining in the fun, offering students helpful new ways to pay for their textbooks. It announced that it will offer layaway for books at the beginning of next semester. Operating on a biweekly payment plan, “students will be able to pay off and acquire their books within six months of the semester’s start, assuming availability,” its press release promises.

Is change in the wind at Notre Dame? Father “Drunk” Lovetoy doubts it, owing to the university’s history of making superficial concessions to keep students and faculty satisfied. “Remember Diversity Awareness Week?” he asks. “Yeah, neither do I. It happened last month, though, apparently.” He then added, “You’re probably smelling the ethanol plant.”
Incompetence on the rise

By HULK HOGAN

Your mom!
The University announced a 4.9 percent increase in general incom­
pleteness for next year. Officials termed it the lowest in­
crease in five years.
“By continuing to make every effort for students,” said University
Registrar Lott Sacash. “Now, there’s just slightly more of
us who don’t know which way is up.”

But some students don’t understand the rationale for any increase at all. They
argue that the administration should be respons­
able to student needs and point to the in­
creasing evidence that University officials
are out of touch.
“Quite frankly, this announcement con­
firms what students have long feared to be
true,” said an anonymous student body presi­
dent who wished to remain anonymous.
“I’m just afraid to say that in public because
I might get sent to ResLife. Is that tape
recorder on?” added Look Homan.

In a press release that the BS-er has
essentially copied, the University noted that
many key projects required the increase.
“Ruptured gantry endless, manily delayed
building projects, stadium toilets over­
flowing with crap — these things don’t just
happen,” said Sacash. “It takes dedicated
administrators to achieve this consistently
high level of incompetence.”

Other factors contributed to the increase as well.
“By trumpeting a raise in tuition as a
good news, we prove we really don’t get it
at all,” said Sacash. “But, hey, this new
building has a really neat fountain, doesn’t
it?”

Students have their own theories about the
increase. “Didn’t you watch the Fiesta
Bowl?” That got us to account for at least 4.8
percent of the increase right there,” said
one disgruntled fan.

Regardless of the reasons, the increase has
been approved and students will do what
they always do: Bore and take over.

BSer Writes Article About Self, Makes Embarrassing Tae-bo

Reporting on its recent reception of the Nobel Prize in
Northern Indiana Collegiate Journalism, the BS-er lived
up to its 34 year-old tradition of screwing up a crucial
element of the article. Quite surprisingly, Editor-in-Chief
of the BSer, commended his paper on their success.
“We’ve really come a long way with our mistakes and
episodes. Back in the day, we just weren’t very
serious; now they are so bad that they affect the meaning
of the article,” he added, with satisfaction. “We even left
the last half of an [Associated Press] article about the
Middle East out of issue. Not bad, considering that
we didn’t even write it.” The BSer, unwilling to break
with its tradition, plans a similar action for the current
article. “In other words, we can’t stop now,” the editor-in-
chief chuckled.

We’re No Joke

By TIKI Qoastein

Standing up to the scrutiny of the Notre
Dame administration, the BSer’s editors
finally realized their dreams of being a true
laleralight-piece.

The BSer stunned the University yesterday
with an exposé of the administration’s
most recent decision: a 4.9 percent
increase.

“This is our big chance to prove to the world
that the BSer isn’t just a light piece,” said
Assistant Editor Mary’s undergraduates.

“We’re going to make them respect us,”
said Mary’s undergraduate. “We’ll take our
case to the administration and show them
we’re not just a lighthearted piece.”

Inside Column

In a recent request to the administration, Student Government demanded
that the University recognize students’ independence and rights.

News to Vagabond

By THE LEEPER

“Assistant” Editor-in-Chief

Remember the time when Mary’s
undergraduates created the BSer?
“We just didn’t know how to handle it.
Unusually, the BSer will allow us to
leak out and even have a column!

Everyone can have a hump day.
It’s like The New York Times coming to
the University.

I wouldn’t even accept a ride from
Bush, I don’t want to be seen with
him!”

Have you seen the roofie? It’s a tol­
ner of laughs.

Turtle says: She gets on pretty fast and I’m a slow guy.

Goo Goo’s working,
Then just go into the
back and do it.

I appeal to be in au­
thority, but in actuali­
ity, I’m just eating a
peach.

He’s a strange cat.
I mean, a strange
cat, too. But he’s a 
strange cat.

While no longer lust­ing after student editors, she has now
turned her sights on a new target:
Muder.

Anyone can have a hump day.

It’s like The New York Times coming to
the University.

I wouldn’t even accept a ride from
Bush, I don’t want to be seen with
him!”

Carpet DieDl
what’s in your quarter dog?

MARASCHINO
When I first heard the news, I was thoroughly dis­
treyed when the Cuddie revealed the ingredients make their quarters out the taxi, we treated them as 65
spuriously.
related one students the self-hated night.
that difference.
revelation

so sopho-

Cumings
the.

hadn’t dif-

ferent.

came back from that Deltop Water, a refresh-

of dish you’ve thrown up either
guess it really doesn’t

In the INFERNAL PITs OF HELL, COULDN’T POSSIBLY BE WORSE

I don’t think
even picked those by my eyebrows

Maybe we should start using

punch cards.

paper Devoted Entirely
gina Monologues Created

OFFICE VACCUM
To the Editor in Chief

I’m currently feeling overwhelmed from stress.

When the BSer Student Government

with its tradition, plans a similar action for the current

increase in general incompetence for next

year. We who don’t know which way is

Sacash.

firms what students have long feared to be

increase as evidence that University officials

are out of touch.

Incompetence,

Your mom!

"We

said University Rainmaker Lott

Every year, I have too much to do, so I don’t remember much about the incident. But I do recall feeling sort of sick and then looking down and

Being...

I'm just eating a pear.

You’re probably reading this and thinking, "What relevance does this have to my life?"

Other BSer staff member who can’t hold her liquor—why should I care?" But just wait—

the saccharine moral is coming.

So anyway, my roommate—

we’ll call her "Bitch"—was definitely not pleased about this whole stripping thing.

In fact, she’s still not speaking to me, even though

you can barely see the stain, and come on, smells don’t last forever.

But you know what does last forever? Those memo-

ries that we made at Saturday night. When we look back on our college years, are we going to remember who

wiped on whose carpet? No! We’re going to remember

those times when we go to trash we couldn’t remember anything.

I’m sure, where else are we going to be able to make such wonderful memories, if not here at Notre Dame?

What Bitch fails to realize is that she will look back on this in a few years and think, “Those nights I spent cleaning up my roommate’s yip were the best, funniest

times of my pathetic life.” Then Bitch will stop whining and thank me for giving her those wonderful memories...and if she doesn’t, she can kiss her Dave
good-bye. (blythefield)

But back to my point. We need to stop nit-picking about all these little things and learn to "carpet diem," as they said in that Robert Sean Leonard movie.

Because guess what, friends? In case you haven’t read any of my columns to date, let me fill you in:

we don’t have much time left! Start better saying those things [hysterical] now, because let’s face it, after graduation, you might as well be dead.

The views expressed in the inside column suck.

Perhaps you’ve also noticed that this isn’t really an "inside" column. It’s actually "outside." Tell a soul, and I’ll eat you.

CORRECTION: There were 47 errors in yesterday’s edition. The BSer regrets being in print.
I was enjoying a fun night of *Irishopoly* with my roommates last weekend as punishment for coming home intoxicated. When I realized how false and idealized the game’s world is. It brought out the happy lives of all who have been touched by the Notre Dame community, but left out so many of the things that we students hold near and dear to our hearts — Lil’ Jerk, parietals, cockroach-infested dorms and computer technology that never works — the list goes on and on.

As a result, I created this game so students can fully celebrate Notre Dame and the traditions it fosters — without shame. So go out and make the most of the only four years of your life in which you have the opportunity to break parietals.
Can you spot a banana from 50 yards?

Join the Dining-Hall Team!

We're now hiring for the following positions:

- Sniper
- Stormtrooper
- Hired Goon
- Elderly Person

All applicants must possess excellent eyesight, quick reflexes and a ghetto booty.

If you are tired of writing parking tickets for the NDSP, try us out! You'll see action on your first day.

Goose-step over to the dining hall and drop off your resume, schnell!

Please include a 500-word essay on the topic: Why cereal is more precious than gold.

* Pax Christi members need not apply

Tired of Productivity?

Then check out all the Office of Inoperable Technologies has to offer:

We feature:
- Nightly Server Crashes!
- Weekly Internet Outages
- A total lack of 24-hour support
- Computer-cluster consultants with absolutely no training (Try our "Just Reboot!" policy to fix anything from computers to relationships.)
- A speedy 45-minute log-on procedure
- Timely voice messages to let you know we have no idea why things aren't working and no idea when they'll be fixed! (Featuring i-Rene, our sexy virtual announcer.)
- A budget reduced by 400% to pay for extravagant fountains in new buildings

Send us an e-mail to find out more.

Actually, don't. Write us a letter.
The most memorable experience in my career at Notre Dame will be playing in the College World Series.

The best thing about having seven teammates from California is that: it brings a piece of home to South Bend. It is great to have competed against or with some of my current teammates during our youth, and now to be sharing an amazing experience such as this is very exciting. It is great to travel to California for tournaments because we are always guaranteed to have a lot of fans!

I decided that I wanted to attend Notre Dame when: I was walking around campus with the coaches and my parents on my recruiting trip. My dad asked me what I thought, and I said with little hesitation, “I want to come here!” I guess you just know.

I started playing softball: when I was seven years old and my dad coached me in T-ball. The rest is history.

I enjoy pitching more than hitting because: I would rather hit someone with a pitch than be hit by a pitch.

The softball team’s goals for this year are: the College World Series and a national championship.

My favorite class at Notre Dame was: photography. I enjoy taking courses that stimulate my creativity. It is somewhat therapeutic and an escape from the daily routine to go out and take pictures. This would be a hobby that I would like to continue after school.

The aspect of Notre Dame that I appreciate most is: the storied tradition. It is inspiring to be a part of a university with such an amazing history and to know that you are leaving a legacy for the future.

My favorite food is: Moose Tracks ice cream.

California is the best state because of: the sunshine, the beaches, the warm weather and 60- to 70-degree winters. Is there any question?

— David Murray

Senior left-handed pitcher Jen Sharron is the co-captain for the Irish women’s softball team, which is currently ranked No. 11. Sharron was named Big East Pitcher of the Year in each of her first three seasons with the Irish. She was recently named Big East Pitcher of the Week for the second time this year after tossing her first career no-hitter. Last year, she set the Notre Dame record for wins in a season with 26.

Jerry’s Jabber

On Tuesday, junior forward Troy Murphy declared himself eligible for the 2001 NBA draft....

The women’s lacrosse team clobbered Connecticut 19-5 on Sunday in its first conference home game. Sophomore midfielder Danielle Shearer scored five goals and had two assists. Lael O’Shaughnessy and Natalie Loftus each had three goals. The Irish are now 3-0 in Big East play....

Jon Harvey and Todd Ulrich each notched three goals as the men’s lacrosse team cruised to a 13-2 victory over Air Force on Monday. The Irish improved to 8-1, their only blemish, an 11-10 overtime loss at Hofstra.... The No. 16 men’s tennis team rallied from a 3-1 deficit to defeat No. 19 Indiana State 4-3 on Tuesday. Junior Aaron Talarico won the final match 7-6 (8-6), 4-6, 6-4 in No. 4 singles. With the victory, the Irish improved to 15-5....

Led by third-ranked Michelle Dasso, the No. 8 women’s tennis team defeated Illinois 4-3 last Thursday to improve to 19-4 on the year.... The women’s track and field team amassed 170.5 points in a blowout victory over Miami of Ohio and Western Michigan on Saturday. Dore DeBartolo won the weight throw and the shot put, while Tameisha King claimed the long jump and the 100-meter hurdles....

The men’s track and field team placed second on Saturday in the spring opener. Western Michigan won the meet, besting the Irish 202-174. Ryan Shay won the 5,000-meter run and placed third in the 1,500-meter run.
Great Midwest Lacrosse Conference.

Notre Dame arrived in Durham, N.C. to face the Blue Devils, champions of the nation’s toughest lacrosse conference, the ACC, after having been outscored in its three previous tournament losses by a combined total of 57-20. Most expected Duke to easily advance past Notre Dame to face ACC foe Maryland. “The whole lacrosse world expected a Duke-Maryland rematch,” said senior midfielder Jason Pett. “We had something to say about that.”

The Irish’s chances for winning, however, did not look very promising as they trailed 7-4 at halftime. Notre Dame had struggled throughout the first half to find good scoring opportunities, and it seemed as though the Irish were on their way to yet another early exit. This outlook changed when senior Randy Colley, an attack who was Notre Dame’s career leader in every major offensive category, quickly swung the momentum in the Irish’s favor. Teammate Brian Giffinian fed Colley, who caught the pass while coming around the crease. His subsequent score helped jump start the Irish comeback. Colley scored again a short while afterwards. Later in the game, after a fast-break goal by sophomore Tim Kearney, Colley picked up the ball off of a failed clear by Duke, hitting nothing but the back of the net from 35 feet out. This drive put Notre Dame ahead for good, 8-7.

Duke coach Mike Pressler acknowledged Colley’s talent. “We shadowed him the whole day,” Pressler said, “but he is just too good to shut down.” Colley affirmed Pressler’s comment, keeping the pressure on and scoring immediately at the start of the fourth quarter to add to Notre Dame’s advantage. Senior Willie Sutton said: “If you let Randy shoot from 10 yards, he’s going to put it where he wants. I just have to get him the ball.”

Colley showed that he could do more than shoot. He fed wide-open sophomore Tim Kearney a perfect pass, which led to another goal and gave the Irish a 10-7 lead and firm command of the game.

The Irish defense also stepped up their play, containing a high-powered Blue Devil offense that featured ACC MVP Matt Oglesby and ACC tournament MVP Ross Moscatelli to 10 goals.

“Our defense did a hell of a job,” Oglesby said. “Notre Dame forced us to rush and go into a one-on-one offense.” Defensive midfields Todd Bialous and Jimmy Keenan did an outstanding job of controlling the tempo and limiting scoring opportunities for Duke’s own middies. They controlled the ground, scooping up every loose ball that came their way. “The balls just seemed to roll into their sticks,” Oglesby said. “We thought we’d wear them down, but that didn’t happen.”

Pett also had high praise for the middies. “Our defensive midfields did an absolutely incredible job,” he said. “They just wore them down.” In addition, freshman goaltender Alex Cade was at the top of his game, saving 17 shots and blocking any Duke attempt to get themselves back in the game.

The Irish won the game 12-10, and Notre Dame head coach Kevin Corrigan called it “the biggest win in Notre Dame lacrosse history.” The Irish had shown the collegiate ranks that they could compete with the best that NCAA lacrosse had to offer.

“Maybe we put the stigma of western lacrosse to bed,” Sutton mused. “All but one of us are from the East. It doesn’t matter where we play, the brand of lacrosse is still the same. This win will solidify all the work we’ve done.”

Although the Irish were defeated by Maryland the following week in the Elite Eight, the win over Duke showed the country that Notre Dame was capable of competing with the best. The Irish were not leaving the lacrosse elite any time soon.
If you ask sophomore center Amanda Barksdale, the 2000-2001 women’s basketball team had one important goal: winning the National Championship.

But, she is quick to add, that was not the only goal. “Other then winning the championship, we wanted to have fun,” she says. “We always found a way to stay together—we were like sisters. We laugh a lot, but on the court we are serious.”

Irish opponents quickly discovered just how serious the team was. The women began their season in mid-November at Valparaiso. The Irish, ranked sixth in the preseason poll, stomped the Crusaders by 25 points with surprisingly little fanfare. Five months later, they knocked off another Indiana school. This time, the opponent was Purdue, the margin of victory was two points, and the reward was the Sears National Championship trophy.

The team’s chemistry and cohesiveness played a large part in its success this season. Although each player had some good games and some bad ones, no individual player—All-American, captain or otherwise—took individual...
credit for a win or blame for a loss. Each player simply knew her role, the piece of the puzzle that she represented. "There isn't one person who is more important than another," senior Kelley Siemon says.

Coach Muffet McGraw agrees. "Their ability to mesh as a unit, their unselfishness and their willingness to sacrifice personal goals for the team has been amazing," she says. "I don't think I've ever enjoyed being around a group of people as much as I have this one. They truly are a group of winners."

The domination and perseverance that Notre Dame showed throughout the season was astounding. The Irish took only four of their 34 wins by fewer than 10 points, and the two losses were by a combined three points. Notre Dame's average margin of victory was nearly 23 points.

The Irish also displayed tremendous resiliency after their two losses this season. They followed the Rutgers loss with a 38-point drubbing of Miami and beat Alcorn State by 49 points after a loss to Connecticut in the Big East championship game.

After all the success that the Irish enjoyed this year, it is difficult to believe that they began the season with relatively few believers outside of the Notre Dame community. They trounced their first three opponents of the season, Valparaiso, Arizona and Wisconsin, by a combined 82 points.

The first time the nation saw the team was in the "Coaches vs. Cancer" challenge on ESPN, in which it barely survived a nailbiter against Georgia. The Irish then racked up 12 more wins in a row to improve to 16-0, stretch their home winning streak to 31 straight games and earn the No. 3 ranking in the country. As Notre Dame continued to tear apart its opponents, it gained increasing fan support.

It was at this point that the team encountered its first major challenge of the year: top-ranked Connecticut. Prior to this matchup at the Joyce Center, the Irish were 0-11 all-time against the Huskies and 0-9 when playing top-ranked teams.

Many wondered whether the Irish, despite their prior success, were good enough to finally leap this monumental hurdle. "We had a lot of doubters before that game," Barksdale says. "The only people supporting us were our friends, our families and the Notre Dame family."

The two teams fought hard for the entire game, but the Irish eventually pulled away with the victory, earning the No. 1 ranking in the country in front of the program's first-ever sellout crowd. The win captured the attention of the nation and finally showed that Notre Dame deserved respect as a basketball powerhouse. "That win lifted our spirits and showed everybody that Notre Dame could compete with the best, and that we were on top," Barksdale says.

The victory convinced the players that they could play with the best in the country. McGraw considers the first Connecticut win the most important game of the regular season. "I think it gave us confidence, and it gave us the No. 1 ranking, which I think set us up for the run to the National Championship game," she says.

The Irish continued to cruise after the Connecticut game, winning six in a row to improve to 23-0 on the season. Their record was finally blemished when they were edged by one point at Rutgers. "We weren't playing our best basketball going into the Rutgers game," senior Ruth Riley says.

Barksdale agrees. "Between the UConn and the Rutgers games, we did not play very well, even though we still won," she says. She also acknowledges that the increasing media attention became somewhat of a distraction: "We would come out and practice and there would be cameras in our faces," she says. "It was hard for us to stay focused."

The team used this slight setback as a learning experience. "The loss at Rutgers causes us to become more focused," Riley says. "I don't think we lost confidence after the game."

Notre Dame suffered its second defeat of the year in its last game of the regular season — the Big East championship game against Connecticut.

Once again, the loss served mainly as a learning experience rather than a devastating one. "We had lost to UConn on their home floor, but we knew that we would meet them again in the tournament, and that there was much more to come," says freshman Jeneka Joyce. Riley agrees. "That game prepared us for the tournament," she says. "It gave us the experience of playing in a close
game, and it taught us what we needed to do in late-game situations.”

The Irish steamrolled their way through the first four games of the NCAA tournament, winning by an average of nearly 27 points per game and setting up their third matchup of the year against Connecticut. This time, the stakes were even higher, as the season would end for the loser of the national semifinal.

The Irish started off the game on the wrong foot, trailing the Huskies by 16 points at halftime. Unfazed, they pulled together to post the biggest comeback in Final Four history, defeating Connecticut by 15 points in the end. “We started out slow and played tentatively,” Riley says. “In the second half, we were more aggressive and stuck to the game plan we have had all year.”

Senior co-captain Niele Ivey says that team dynamics played a major role in the comeback. “We just decided to come together,” she says. “We had 20 more minutes no matter what the score was. Our chemistry kept us together, just like it’s been helping us all year.”

The championship game against Purdue began much the same as the semifinal had. Notre Dame once again was outplayed out of the gate and trailed at halftime, but it rallied in the second half. However, Purdue refused to let Notre Dame take the lead, repeatedly countering Irish baskets with scores of its own. Notre Dame continued to close the gap, however, and it finally tied the game with a minute to play on a Riley bucket. The Irish stopped Purdue on its next possession and had the ball with the chance to take the last shot of the game. Despite the crowd of Boilermakers around her, Riley was able to receive a pass from Siemon and draw a foul with 5.8 seconds left.

Surprisingly, the only one on the court who wasn’t nervous was Riley. “I was relieved to get fouled because I missed the shot, so I knew that I had the chance to put us ahead,” she says. “I was very focused the whole game; that didn’t change at the end.” It certainly did not appear that her approach changed. She calmly sank her two free throws, and the Irish went on to win the championship after a hurried shot by Purdue’s All-American Katie Douglas fell short.

In addition to working together, several team members distinguished themselves as individuals. Ivey, for one, was the team’s leader. “Niele’s leadership was so important, even off the court,” Barksdale says. “She’s the captain and a fifth-year senior, and when she would tell us where to go, we would listen. She knows what she’s talking about, and we knew we should pay attention to what she was saying.”

Riley, the player of the year, displayed tremendous poise under pressure, and her positive attitude was contagious. She played a huge role in Notre Dame’s success, right down to the last few seconds of the season. Guard Alicia Ratay also played a large role as the best three-point shooter in the country. Siemon and Ericka Haney displayed grit and determination throughout the year. McGraw, the AP Coach of the Year, was a tremendous source of guidance, as were her assistant coaches.

Some people wonder whether this season marks the beginning of a Notre Dame legacy. Riley believes the Irish have established themselves permanently. “I think Notre Dame has emerged as a powerhouse,” she says. “Coach McGraw has done a tremendous job building up the program here, and I think it will become a dynasty.”

Joyce agrees. “I think we’ve always been up there, but now that we’ve won the championship, people look up to Notre Dame and say, ‘Wow, they can play,’” she says. “Recruits come knowing that they can win another championship here.” Despite the loss of five seniors, the Irish will return starters Haney and Ratay as well as several other talented bench players, and they will surely have a few prize recruits coming in. “We will be fielding a team next year,” McGraw jokes.

Regardless of what next season brings, few will forget the personalities and triumphs of this year’s Irish team. Recalling the most memorable aspects of the season, McGraw says: “I think I will remember their smiles. The look of absolute joy on their faces when they were cutting down the nets as the final buzzer sounded. That’s a moment that I will treasure forever.”

The rest of the Notre Dame community will treasure it, too.
Irish pitcher Christian Parker makes his debut in the Big Apple

GERARDMESKILL

It's hard to think of baseball without Yankee Stadium coming to mind. Some of the game's most memorable moments have unfolded between 161st Street and River Avenue in the Bronx. Many who grow up in love with America's pastime dream to one day play ball in Yankee Stadium and become part of its history. For all but the luckiest few, it remains nothing more than a dream.

On March 29, former Notre Dame hurler Christian Parker discovered he was among those lucky few. After that evening's contest with the Pittsburgh Pirates was rained out, Yankees manager Joe Torre summoned the 25-year-old pitcher to tell him that he had won the final spot in a rotation that includes five-time Cy Young Award-winner Roger Clemens, Mike Mussina, Andy Pettitte and Orlando Hernandez.

Parker's path to Yankee Stadium began in the ballparks of Albuquerque, N.M., where he started playing organized baseball at age seven. "I just grew up loving sports," he says. "I played baseball and football all the way through high school."

But as high school ended, so too did Parker's football career. He settled on baseball and looked at several colleges across the country before finally settling on Notre Dame. "I had other places obviously that were a little bit warmer that were around my home," Parker says. "I was thinking about going to Stanford, Rice and some other spots, but I just liked [Notre Dame] the best. I went on my visit, and they just kind of sold me. A lot of recruits that get recruited to go there just fall in love with it, and that's what I did."

Parker's stay at Notre Dame only lasted two years, and his numbers weren't overwhelming. In his final year with the Irish, he posted an 8-3 record and a somewhat bloated 4.24 ERA. Nevertheless, the Montreal Expos' scouts—who seem to have an uncanny knack for judging potential in their choices—acquire Pedro Martinez, Larry Walker, John Wetteland and Vladimir Guerrero—looked past Parker's stats and selected him in the fourth round of the 1996 Major League draft. After his short stay with the Irish, Parker left Notre Dame to begin his career in the Expos' organization.

In his three years with the Expos, he never ascended higher than the double-A affiliate in Harrisburg, Pa. Parker's Expo career ended in December 1999, when he was traded to the Yankees as part of a three-pitcher package for Hideki Irabu.

Even though Parker was leaving a struggling club for an organization whose 25-man staff might be the hardest to crack in baseball, he never lost hope that he might someday pitch in a Major League game. In fact, the young right-hander saw the deal as an opportunity. "I was looking at it very positively, a new start for my career and a new opportunity, and I took advantage of it," he says. "I kind of took it and ran with it."

It was actually more like a sprint. Parker pitched the 2000 season with the double-A Norwich (Conn.) Navigators, posting an impressive 14-6 record and a 3.13 ERA. His season-long consistency earned him an invitation to Tampa Bay to try out for the 2001 Yankees. Competing with him for the fifth spot in the rotation were the 1985 National League Cy Young Award-winner Doc Gooden, Sid Fernandez, Adrian Hernandez and Randy Keisler. Parker made
five appearances over the course of the spring, finishing 1-1 with a 3.60 ERA. Meanwhile, his competition pitched with what one New York sports writer called "aggressive mediocrity," making the decision that much easier for Torre. Just three days before Opening Day, Torre told Parker that he would make his Yankee debut on April 6 against the Toronto Blue Jays.

As far as Torre was concerned, Parker was the only one who showed the heart necessary to join the Yankees' rotation.

"Well, you know [Parker] was the young pitcher who pitched the most consistently in spring training," Torre says. "He had a couple of guys ahead of him, and he may have had aspirations when he came to spring training, but he was probably the only one at that time that had aspirations that he was going to make this starting staff."

"I'd say he was the right pick for the job," pitcher Andy Pettitte adds. "There were several guys fighting for the spot in spring training, and he must have done something really special to win the spot over the guys he was competing against, so I'd say he did pretty good."

While many might look at his situation as intimidating, Parker chose to view it as both a unique experience and an opportunity to learn.

"[Being a member of the Yankees' rotation] is a special thing," Parker says. "These guys are so proven, the best at what they do. It's nice to have the guys on the staff, not only personally, but for what they do on the field, too, because they're all so good, and ... [I have the opportunity] to learn from that and really get into what they do as professionals."

With Parker looking on, the Yankees' season opened against the Royals. Clemens, Pettitte and Mussina combined to allow just four runs in 23 innings of work, leading the Yankees to a three-game sweep of the Royals. The three starts also set the bar for Parker, who was due next in the rotation. Parker wasn't fazed. "It definitely takes the pressure off, knowing that I don't have to be perfect every time out," he says.

The Royals left New York quietly, and the red-hot Toronto Blue Jays rolled into town trailing the Yankees by a mere half game in the American League East. Coming into the series with the Yankees, the Blue Jays had scored 11 runs in each of their last two games. Parker came after the leadoff man Shannon Stewart, who connected for a leadoff single. After that, Parker seemed to settle down, recording two straight infield outs. However, Carlos Delgado smashed Parker's first pitch, a fastball, for a mammoth two-run home run. Parker then recorded four straight outs before running into more trouble in the third. Two singles, two stolen bases, a walk and a double led to two more Blue Jay runs. Parker battled out of the third, only to be bounced from the game in the next inning. A leadoff single immediately followed by a Jose Cruz Jr. home run brought Torre out of the dugout, signaling the end of Parker's rough debut.

Despite the poor performance, the Yankees had nothing but praise for the young starter.

"He's got a bulldog attitude about him, he's a tough competitor and he doesn't back off," Torre says. "I mean, just comments he made after he got roughed up [Friday night]. He wasn't looking for any scapegoat. He was just telling you that he didn't do his job and that hopefully he'll be better next time. The kid's a standup kid, and hopefully we can help him get a win his next start."

"Hopefully he'll settle in and get some experience and learn about the game at this level and see what happens," Mussina says. "It's a good opportunity for him, and we hope everything works out."

Torre is confident that Parker will make it at the Major League level. "His first outing wasn't so good, but again, you have to just chalk it up as his first outing," he says. "We like him a lot. Whether his time is now or a year from now, we don't know that, but he's getting a great opportunity now."

No matter when Parker makes it, no one will ever be able to take away the memory of taking the mound at Yankee Stadium.

"Who gets that opportunity to make their debut at Yankee Stadium at home?" he asks. "It's something I'll always remember."
The Faces of Broadway

Jekyll and Hyde haunts the South Bend stage

TRACY EVANS

Perhaps you’ve witnessed it yourself. Your roommate spends her week running from classes to the library to meetings to the gym then back to the books, only making time to delight in the convenience of Grab ‘n’ Go. But come 4 p.m. on Friday, she suddenly morphs into a social butterfly, focusing all mental energy on deciding which party to hit first.

Could these two characters possibly be the same person?

Even before the age of dorm parties and all-nighters, cases of split personality were a documented mental phenomenon in humans. The legendary tale of Dr. Jekyll and his evil alter-ego Mr. Hyde is familiar to many, and now the chilling tale that pits man against himself has emerged in musical form in the Broadway spotlight.

The long-haired, obsessive Dr. Jekyll, played by award-winning actor Guy LeMonnier, presents an eerie and compelling character. His experimental goal to isolate and divide human nature’s essential good and bad elements escalates into a desperate search for success that forces him to use himself as a guinea pig. But when the method to his madness goes awry, Jekyll is left with a murderous monster. With lab results more frightening than those of a first-year chemistry student, Dr. Jekyll and his newly concocted evil counterpart, Mr. Hyde, vie for life in London’s high society and for the affection of the woman they love.

In four years on Broadway, Jekyll and Hyde has enjoyed immense popularity. The musical was composed by Grammy-nominee Frank Wildhorn with lyrics by Academy Award-winner Leslie Bricusse. It captured nationwide attention with such popular songs as “This is the Moment,” “Someone Like You” and other selections heard in the background at Olympic Games and Super Bowls.

The critics, however, have not been so kind. After the New York debut of Jekyll and Hyde, many decried the musical, scoffing at the excessive melodrama and cliches. Ben Brantley of the New York Times remarked in his 1997 review: “What it says, and the way it says it, often suggests the kind of staid costume horror movies with English accents that are usually shown on television only after midnight.”

Such strong distaste for the classic tale stood in sharp contrast to the record-breaking sales that accompanied the original performances in Houston. Despite the scathing reviews, the Broadway show continued to fill theaters until this past January, closing with well-known leads such as David Hasselhoff.

So just how did the musical survive? Even Brantley notes the popularity of the tale among the hard-core fans — referred to as “jekkies” — claiming “the large part of the appeal of the show … may be its very familiarity.” This reputation was built immediately, and soundtrack sales exceeded 150,000 copies by 2000. Some jekkies have seen renditions of Jekyll and Hyde up to 400 times.

Many students may believe that the closest they will come to a live version of this legend is through witnessing the bizarre living habits of their roommates. But thanks to the South Bend branch of Broadway Theatre League, a national touring company that brings imitations of Broadway shows to the newly renovated Morris Performing Arts Center, Jekyll and Hyde will be appearing here in Michiana this month.

According to Executive Director Anita Boorda, Michiana audiences will likely appreciate this atypical musical. “Today’s audience is more used to the scary and suspenseful than the audience at the time of Rodgers and Hammerstein,” Boorda says. “It’s the natural evolution of the musical as an art form.”

When Mr. Hyde emerges on stage from the thick, evening fog of the London streets, with a dagger in his hand and a wild look in his eyes, will you be there to meet his gaze?

Jekyll and Hyde will be at the Morris Performing Arts Center on April 20 at 8 p.m., April 21 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and April 22 at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the box office or by calling (219) 245-6085.
A warm wind greets us as my roommate, Carol, and I enter the backyard. Carol, her fellow art students and tag-along friends like me mingle among the art professors and their spouses, their children and their dogs. Somebody’s kid is sadistically dangling a live crawfish over boiling water, reminding it that its days are numbered. It’s the design department’s Crawfish Boil, held annually on the day before the Student Exhibition opening at the Snite, where all the M.F.A. and B.F.A. students display their thesis projects. It is hosted this year by senior graphic design major Dave Clark. As Dave greets guests, graphic design professor Robert Sedlack collects tickets. John Sherman, a graphic design professor with roots in Louisiana, boils the crawfish with potatoes, whole onions and corn on the cob, and product design professor John Caruso turns a lamb on a spit.

The majority of the guests are somehow involved in the art, art history and design departments, but it’s not an exclusive event. “This event is purposefully inclusive,” Sedlack says. “It’s an effort to continually build a community in the art program, and a casual atmosphere where students can get to see their teachers as people.” The following afternoon, when the art kids ditch their flip-flops and torn T-shirts and spiff themselves up for the Snite exhibition, the dress shoes and formal wear won’t mask the friendly ties between teachers and students. The professors, strolling through the crowded galleries, are as proud as the parents in attendance — if not more so.

Though the M.F.A./B.F.A. exhibit pulls in as big a crowd as I’ve ever seen in the Snite, not too many people really know what goes on inside the campus art building, Riley Hall. “Not enough people know we have Riley Hall,” Sedlack says, “although some people cut through the building to get from one class to the other.”

To help introduce non-art majors to the artistic campus subculture, the Arts Collective hosts an annual gathering called the “i.e. party.” Before the festivities begin, each guest gets a card with a word on it, which he or she must dress up as. The party takes place in Riley and the last one, which had a circus theme, included words like “ringmaster,” “polyster” and “shiny.” The party, like the Crawfish Boil, is open to anyone. “People who came to the i.e. party didn’t even know where Riley was,” Sedlack says, “but the next semester, they’re taking a drawing class.”

It makes sense that there would be a party in Riley now and then, since the building is alive around the clock. I had been soaking up the art culture until 4:30 in the morning the other day, and when I departed, there were still animated conversations going on in the computer lab and loud music playing in the studios. A security guard who came to lock up told us that the last one out should either lock up or say hi to the teachers in the morning.

Graphic design majors Shane Culey and Josh Rich admit that pulling all-nighters is pretty standard at Riley. “I only stay up about three nights a week, though,” Josh said. Only three.

The ceramics majors burn their share of midnight oil, too, no pun intended. In a round-the-clock endeavor, ceramics professor Bill Kremer, with the help of his students, fires a year’s worth ceramics art projects in his backyard kiln. “It’s a huge kiln, a wood-fire kiln,” says ceramics major Luke Schloegel. “He figured if he was going to build one he should build it really big. Twenty people can fit in there.” It takes a number of students to keep the kiln fire going at the right temperature in order to finish the ceramic pieces, so majors are encouraged to invite their friends to help out, too. “Everybody has to sign up to fire it,” Luke says. “Twenty-four hours a day for five days, people have to keep putting wood on.”

Nights at the kiln are like hanging out a big bonfire. Though most of the ceramic pieces will be sold at an upcoming sale, the ceramics folks will be holding on to the memories. Luke says, “My professor told me today that we all had a moment out there at that kiln.”

Another fun fact is that in the off-season, when there aren’t art projects to fire up, the kiln also functions as a high-capacity sauna. How convenient.

Oh well, stay tuned for next time. The last OOB of the year is on its way. Waywardness, ardor and hilarity are bound to ensue.
In-Your-Face Tedium

Not even vinyl-clad cheerleaders can save this league

CARRIE SWEENEY

Watching an XFL game is, sadly, not quite the intense experience that its promoters want you to believe it is. It’s not even really an entertaining experience, as it’s severely lacking in the costume and storyline departments that so distinguish the league’s founding corporation, the WWF.

After a lot of pleading and promises to vacuum later, my three not-very-intense roommates agreed to watch a game between the Chicago Enforcers and the Orlando Rage with me last Sunday night. As we flipped on UPN — a very intense station — I was certain that this would be a powerful experience because, after all, the league’s Web site guarantees that the XFL is nothing if not a “100 percent competitive sport — the brand of football that hard-core football fans haven’t seen in a long time.” We couldn’t wait to connect, although I was feeling a little intimidated by the potentially unbridled force of this game. But then it started. And it was simply (not very good) football.

The question at hand is whether this stuff qualifies as entertainment, as Jerry is tackling the league’s shady claim at constituting a valid sport (facing page). So I will not make any further judgements regarding the athleticism of the players, but I will add a side note: As I watched these ex-college players grunt at each other and roll around, I was continually reminded that although my dad played in an over-35-year-old basketball league throughout much of my childhood, he does not cite this participation as proof that he is an “athlete,” much less an intense one.

At any rate, the game’s overall lack of intensity doesn’t necessarily mean that there weren’t fleeting moments of furious passion, by which I mean “vague entertainment.” At one point, one of the announcers complained that “the only way to shut you [his fellow announcing buddy] up is to turn your microphone off.” After this utterly demoralizing, withering insult, the other guy responded with a lot of mumbled grunts that culminated with him declaring proudly — and, no doubt, intensely — “I’m gonna say what I want to say.”

Other key phrases uttered by these stellar announcers included, “That one’s gonna be a dandy,” in reference to an upcoming play-off game, and, “Well, these Enforcers are higher than a kite right now,” in reference — we think — to the Chicago team’s well-executed offense.

Furthermore, I particularly enjoyed the postgame interviews, during which reporters are apparently supposed to ask “in-your-face” questions of the players, according to the Web site. So, when the announcers descended upon the players, I was ready for some bigtime confrontation.

“You!” the announcer cried to Enforcer running back John Avery as I shivered with anticipation, “are the hottest team in football right now.”

“Yeah,” Avery eloquently replied, causing us, in unison, to wipe beads of sweat from our brows. “If anybody’s in this league right now, they’re scared to death of the Chicago Enforcers.”

Sadly, this statement seemed to lose a large percentage of its potential intensity when Avery qualified it by adding that minor part about “if anybody’s in this league right now.” Because, frankly, not a whole lot of people are. There are eight teams in the XFL, bringing the total number of players to fewer than the total number of Zahm residents. The lack of teams instead made us question why our announcer friends were talking so animatedly about the Enforcer’s chances at the playoffs. After all, if, in this league, you don’t make it to the four-team playoffs, I would venture to say that you should start sending resumes to Wendy’s, or at least resort to some less-intense league (recall the over-35 church-league option).

Even the cheerleaders — the self-invented ones and the actual, paid ones alike — were decidedly non-intense. The camera kept panning by a few inexplicably excited — and, of course, high-class — fans of the “fat old man” variety who were sporting wife-beaters that spelled out “Enforcers.” Just as I was wondering where the legitimate, and much-hyped, cheerleaders were, a few of them flashed across the screen, wearing black-and-silver vinyl creations that were strangely deficient in the front as they danced halfheartedly for a minute before stopping to chat with each other.

As we sat, soaking in the final extreme moments of the broadcast — actually, I was by myself at this point, as I lost my roommates to the considerable lures of a bag of Doritos, a People magazine from last October and accounting homework — I let loose a sigh of deep relief. I had survived my first XFL encounter intact, which leads me to ask: Does the game count as entertainment? Given a loose understanding of that word, sure. Was it quality entertainment? We’ll let you loyal readers decide.
W ell, it’s postseason time in the XFL. Do you have your tickets? Do you even know who made the playoffs? The XFL Web site’s Fan Picks of the Year section asks, “John Avery, Tommy Maddox, Mike Pawlawski, Jeremaine Copeland or Jeff Brohm?” If your answer is “Who the hell are these guys?” you are in agreement with the majority of the nation. The reason why these names are almost universally meaningless is that the XFL is a failure.

The biggest reason why? Simply because Vince McMahon failed to deliver the product he advertised. First, he proposed all sorts of extravagant rule changes to make the game more exciting. For example, he threw out the opening coin toss in favor of a midfield scramble for the football. When most fans heard this, they envisioned a guy, — or, better still, a team of guys — lined up in each end zone dashing for the football on the 50-yard line. That would have made the game more violent, as McMahon promised. Instead, he offered a meaningless track event to start a football game.

Then, he offered legal bump coverage to defend the pass, meaning that defenders could push receivers until the quarterback releases the football. This rule was eliminated midway into the season because what it actually did was slow down the game, since it rendered more passes incomplete. In essence, his new rule made the game more boring. The Super Bowl was boring enough, Vince, we don’t need to dedicate an entire league to the Nebraska Cornhusker offensive strategy. The N is for “napping.”

What’s the X for, by the way?

McMahon also eliminated the PAT in an attempt to eliminate “routine” plays. I commend him for the effort. But that’s why the two-point conversion was invented — it’s called the element of surprise. McMahon eliminated a play where teams usually score and replaced it with a play where teams almost never score. Watching something that you are fairly certain will fail isn’t exciting either, Vince.

The one idea that worked was the new overtime format. For those (many, many) of you who don’t frequently watch the XFL, the team that starts with the ball is given four downs to score and cannot kick a field goal during the fourth down. There are no first downs. If the first team scores in fewer than four downs, the opposing team is given only as many downs to score as the other team needs. But this only applies to overtime, so it did not make a huge impact on the season except for the Los Angeles-Chicago triple-overtime thriller. One game can’t make a season, though.

McMahon’s second major error was that the sideshow he created to enhance the awful football on the field actually devalued it. If you’ve ever watched WWF, you know that Vince understands very well that sex appeal sells. With the WWF, this works well because the wrestling is fake and the storyline is silly, so scantily clad women work well with the overall concept. However, with the XFL, fans who are watching to see football — a radical idea for fans of a football league — may feel that the focus on such low-value entertainment gimmicks as the cheerleaders, clueless politician-announcers and sideline interviews trivialize the game. If fans see the game as trivial, a die-hard fan base will not grow. For any sports league to succeed, it needs a strong, loyal fan base. McMahon’s tactics have turned the XFL into a football version of the WWF, minus any trace of athletic talent.

McMahon’s biggest mistake was relying on television ratings to support his fledgling league. Unfortunately, an XFL game isn’t remotely entertaining unless you are inside the stadium drinking beer with the rest of the crowd. But, then, as many college students know, standing in a cinder-block room doing nothing but drinking beer and talking to other people drinking beer can also be entertaining, so I’m still hesitant to give McMahon any credit.

Without added violence, exciting new rules or, for that matter, anything else to separate the XFL from the NFL in a positive way, it comes down to a contest of which football game is more entertaining. Even though the Super Bowl was downright awful, the NFL still wins that contest hands down. But cheer up, Vince: You still have the WWF.
When Doves Cry

The most important moment America has ever seen

JOSEPH HOWARTH

Trust me, my friends, this might be the most important story you ever read.

On Saturday March 24, 2001, the world shook.

In the seventh inning of a spring-training game between the Arizona Diamondbacks and the San Francisco Giants, hard-throwing, left-handed, National League Cy Young award-winning pitcher Randy Johnson completely unintentionally hit and killed a dove flying in front of home plate. The dove exploded into a cloud of feathers and bounced to its death in foul territory. Shocked players and fans who witnessed the fateful moment were both confused and horrified. I honestly believe it was one of the most important events in the history of the world.

I first saw the dove explode on an iMac in the DeBartolo computer cluster a week after the incident occurred. My first reaction, conditioned by the frequency of digitally altered videos nowadays, was that someone’s cruel imagination had created an emotionally intense but completely impossible scenario. It was just too hard to believe.

First, the odds were impossible. How could two remarkably small objects traveling at enormous speeds collide in such random fashion? I have tried hard, but without success, to hit a bird on purpose, so I struggle with the idea that Mr. Johnson, entirely unintended to hit one, would be any more fortuitous.

Second, what would a bird be doing flying so low and so close to the players in the infield? From what I can remember about animals — with the exception of the domesticated squirrels on Notre Dame’s campus — they make every effort to avoid contact with humans.

Finally, the spectacle of the exploding bird really made me wonder: Would a bird really blow up like that were it hit by a baseball, feathers showering in every direction, leaving nothing but a plucked, bouncing carcass? I really didn’t think so. But I was wrong. A little more research confirmed it.

Randy Johnson’s pitch killed a dove in a real baseball game, in a real ball park, in front of real fans. What I was seeing had happened. It was truly remarkable.

The video of the exploding dove had been attached to a quickly circulating e-mail that praised the hilarity of the event. I replayed the bird’s death dozens of times, frame by heart-stopping, ball-stopping, feather-flying frame, awed by the raw energy of such a striking death.

While some of my female friends winced at the shower of feathers, most everyone else who saw the incident has embraced it as one of the funniest or coolest things they had ever seen. I entirely agreed.

But not anymore.

In the long, storied tradition of baseball, America’s great pastime and national sport, only one other bird has ever been killed. In 1983, Yankee outfielder David Winfield killed a bird on a warm-up throw. The bird was a sea gull, it was aimed for, and it was in Canada. Last weekend, things were somewhat different — but the message was the same. Randy Johnson’s fastball killed a dove, the symbol of peace, on American soil, playing America’s game. I demand that the world recognize this as a prophetic warning that America is killing the peace of the world, the nation and the family. This dove’s death was not a coincidence. It was a divine symbol.

I know what you might be thinking: Just because I am Canadian, I am looking for another excuse to rip on America. I wish that were the case. Sadly, this is serious. America, I implore you to listen to this dove’s death. Do not ignore such an unbelievable phenomenon or throw it away as a freak coincidence or mere chance. I ask you to see the incident as it is: A screaming attempt to finally wake you from your continued slumber.

You have been told a thousand times about the moral degradation of your young and powerful nation. You see the rise in school shootings and gratuitous sex and violence in television, video games and movies. You are witness to the breakdown of the fundamental social communities of family, church and schools.

Yet you do nothing about these. While it is true that some people recognize the problem and attempt to teach the world, the country as a whole continues to sink lower and lower into its love of money, power and pleasure. Do you not see that this dove’s death is demanding that you change? Do you not see how its death truly was a sacrifice of the highest kind?

Do you not see its deliberate message to the world, the message that you continue to ignore, one that begs you to face the horrors of your self-righteous capitalism and globalization?

America, I write to you today that we may all honor this martyr, prophet and hero. I write to you today so that the unspoken purpose of the most amazing display of courage, bravery and sacrifice this country has ever seen may finally be heard. I write to you today so that history may not forget the most important lesson, the most significant sign, the most important moment in this country’s great history — the death of this dove.

To see footage of the exploding dove, e-mail “Canadian” Joe Howarth at howarth.1@nd.edu.
Bad news if you’re staying here over Easter break and are hunting for something strange and wonderful to do this weekend: It looks as though the Calendar Bunny has left us nothing but an empty, eventless basket. Things will pick up, though, when break is over. Check out the Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra on April 18. They will perform, among other things, a piece by Cristóbal De Morales that one chorale member described as “so pretty, it will put you to sleep, but in a good way.” Or pick up a new (well, new to you, anyway) bike at the spring Security Auction, where you can bid on bicycles and other abandoned items. Then ride it around campus to burn off all those Peeps and Cadbury eggs.

— Cristin Fenzel
Dreams Do Come True

by Karen Swanson

After my team won the National Championship in St. Louis, I couldn’t help but reflect on where we’ve been and what we’ve been through. What 12 athletes and five coaches achieved as one unit is in itself inspiring. But there were times along the way when the road seemed too rocky to overcome. One moment of pure joy came only after thousands of moments of pure anguish and seeming defeat. One title came only after hundreds of pre-season workouts, in-season practices, film sessions, wind sprints and weight lifts — not to mention physical and emotional breakdowns. At those times it took something extra to bring us from doubt to certainty. We turned to the strength we have within, our external support networks, and to any other inspiration we could find:

“In back of every creation, supporting it like an arch, is faith. Enthusiasm is nothing; it comes and goes. But if one believes, then miracles occur.”

— Henry Miller

My hometown, Westlake, Ohio, is a small suburb of Cleveland. It’s no Macy, Ind., but it’s small enough for me to appreciate my humble beginnings. I played for Westlake High School and National Title AAU, but that was the extent of my basketball exposure. I was a good basketball player, but not All-American.

People always said, “Go somewhere where you’ll play.” They’d laugh at me when I told them I was trying out for the prestigious Notre Dame women’s basketball team. And they were never careful to conceal the fact that they didn’t think I could make it.

“The path may be rocky and twisted, but the world is waiting for that special contribution each of us was born to make. What it takes is the courage to follow those whispers of wisdom that guide us form the inside. When I listen to that, I expect nothing less than a miracle.”

— Marilyn Johnson Kondwani

But I was a believer. I was determined, focused and dedicated, and I set my sights high. By believing in my dream and choosing to shut out all of the negative energy that surrounded me, I accomplished what I set out to do.

“Positive energy is all around you, like sunshine that warms your soul and puts you at peace with the world. Every blade of grass has its angel that bends over it and whispers ‘Grow, grow.’ ”

— The Talmud

The course of my own story is strikingly similar to the journey our team underwent. If you want to talk about humble beginnings, we didn’t even have a women’s basketball team until 1978 — and even then we were only a Division III school. We weren’t ranked No. 1 in the country, and we didn’t go to the first women’s Final Four. We had barely even begun admitting women to the university.

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us… It is not just in some of us, it is in everyone.”

— Marianne Williamson

When my team sincerely believed it’d be No. 1 during the season, people laughed in our faces. “People have no respect for you,” our strength coach constantly reminded us. “They don’t know about Notre Dame women’s basketball.” No one believed in the common vision that our 12 members shared from the very first time we stepped on the court this season.

“As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

— Marianne Williamson

But we were believers. We were determined, focused, dedicated; we set our sights high. By believing in our dream and choosing to shut out the negative energy that surrounded us, we accomplished what we set out to do.

“Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage. Sometimes you just have to take the leap and build your wings on the way down. Our feet are earthbound, but our hearts and our minds have wings. … Believe in yourself, and you will fly.”

— Anais Nin

My team and I would like to leave you with this: Always believe in yourself. Don’t listen to what others say. Follow your dreams, reach for the stars and go for the gusto. After all, not only National Championships, but the whole future, belongs to those who believe in the power of their dreams.
join the
FIRST AID SERVICES TEAM

Enjoy saving other students from harm with qualifications in CPR and First Aid.

**FAST** is looking for a few good volunteers.

No experience is necessary. We will show you what you need to know.

**FAST** provides aid at the football and basketball games, the Bookstore Basketball tournament, Bengal Bouts, all interhall sports, and most events that come to campus.

BE A PART OF THE ACTION

For more info try www.nd.edu/~fast
If interested, contact abarbour@nd.edu

FAST is also looking for a webmaster.
There's always fun calling...

1939 Nightclub Murders
interactive comedy & dinner theater, dress to impress
lafortune ballroom
april 19, 8-11 pm
$5, tix available april 16 at lafortune box office

All the Pretty Horses & The Contender
debartolo 101 & debartolo 155
april 19, 10.30pm
april 20-21, 8pm and 10.30pm
$2 at the door

Acousticafe
lafortune
thursday, 9pm

You just have to know where to look for it. SUB.