IDEALIZE
ME
SEARCHING FOR THE PERFECT BODY
I will give you shepherds after my own heart.

JER. 3:15
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There seems to be a widespread misconception that senior year is relaxing and fun. But with a quarter of the year completed, I demand to know where the weeknight parties, easy A's and stress-free days are.

And as friends in other majors accept job offers and check on the status of their 12 med school applications (which, I was informed, is on the low end of the scale), the pressure mounts to figure out who you will be post-graduation. Most of that exploration, however, occurs over the course of college.

Students are made aware of how they are growing as a community, united under the Dome (to read about what it is like to be in the Dome, see Associate Editor Clara Ritger's story on p. 16). At the same time, however, we are meant to develop as individuals, able to navigate the world beyond Notre Dame Ave.

Many begin this exploration by, quite literally, immersing themselves in an unfamiliar world while studying abroad (see News Editor Laura Kraegel's profile of study abroad programs on p. 8). Some unabashedly pursue their interests (p. 15) and others take on physical challenges (p. 28).

Occasionally, however, the pursuit of the person you will be can become anxiety about who you think you should be. Societal values, pop culture and a competitive atmosphere put pressure on students to be perfect academically, socially and physically. In this month's cover story, Culture Editor Chris Milazzo takes an in-depth look at what happens when initially healthy habits become physically and psychologically damaging and why Notre Dame students are particularly susceptible (p. 18).

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Until December,

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Editor-in-Chief
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Death is nothing at all.

It does not count.

I have only slipped away into the next room.

Everything remains as it was.

The old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged.

Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name.

Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.

Put no sorrow in your tone.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.

Let it be spoken without effort.

Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was.

There is unbroken continuity.

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner.

All is well. Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.

One brief moment and all will be as it was before.

How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting, when we meet again.

- Canon Henry Scott Holland

son, brother, friend.

May 26, 1990-October 27, 2010
May he rest in peace.
We Are ND: Students gather outside the Basilica at the memorial service for Declan Sullivan.
the stories we live
How to Get a Grant
To Travel to Timbuktu (and I’ll Charge that to ND)

Katherine Gates

One of Notre Dame’s best-kept secrets is the money available for undergraduate students to explore their academic passions and indulge their wanderlust. Whether researching the history of fashion in London and Paris over spring break or serving an impoverished community in India next summer, your dream excursion is possible. Read on to find out how your farfetched wish could be grant-ed too.

1. Pin down your passion and destination: Identify what you are interested in researching and why. Visiting your significant other — BFF, boyfriend, bromance, girlfriend, roommate — who is studying abroad in a foreign country may not fly with the grant committee. (But, while Scholastic is not one to name or point fingers, we would love for those of you who have finagled a bankrolled romantic rendezvous to teach us your ways!) Once you pick a place, half the work is done; where there is a will, there is a way — especially if you and your parents are not paying. Travel before the impending doom of real-world college debts and joblessness sets in.

2. Learn to speak an exotic tongue: Arts & Letters majors have to take a foreign language, so why not see what those three semesters have taught you by stumbling through sentences with locals for a few weeks in Italy or Spain next summer? Both the Nanovic Institute for European Studies and the Office of International Studies offer grants to improve language skills. Last year, over 100 students received funding through the Summer Language Abroad Grant Program. So that Italian coffee hour you were planning on skipping? Go and chat up your professoressa to score some points. All grant proposals require you to have a faculty sponsor/supervisor.

3. Learn beyond the classroom: If you are not linguistically inclined and perhaps want to attend a cultural event or conference or conduct research on a smaller scale, Learning Beyond the Classroom offers grants during the school year over fall, Christmas and spring breaks to investigate a topic related to your coursework or major.

4. Get an internship abroad: If you landed that killer internship already, apply for funding to subsidize for housing and travel costs. If you are still searching for that perfect fit, check out internships through the Nanovic.

5. Make a difference: Between ISSLPs and the Kellogg Institute, there are endless ways for all you idealists to experience a different culture and do some thoroughly engaging and profound volunteer work. It will make you feel warm and fuzzy, and you will appreciate the running water in your dorm more than ever.
SBforME.com: Providing Students Discounts at Local Businesses

Calie Mohamed

In an effort to strengthen the relationship between South Bend and universities in the area, the Web site SBforMe.com offers students a centralized database of popular restaurants, car dealerships, shopping centers, hairstylists and other businesses. It was created not only to help students find trusted local establishments easily but also to give local businesses a modern form of advertising and a new source of clientele.

Created this past summer, with the motto “Saving you time and money,” the Web site labels each business under its appropriate category (Services, Food/Dining, Shopping, Entertainment/Nightlife, Health/Beauty, Automotive and Dorm/Home Furnishings) to make it easier for users to find what service they are searching for. Junior English and economics major Sarah Profumo says, “It’s nice to have all of the information in one place. This is an easy way to become more familiar with South Bend.”

Freshman history major Kim Dumais says she thinks the creation of the Web site was a great way for students to contribute to the South Bend community. “I think it’s good that it helps support local businesses. It helps me get to know South Bend better,” she says.

The Web site provides each business with its own page that includes the most important information about it. By clicking the “More Info” tab for a selected business, users access a page with the business’ hours of operation, address, phone number, Web site link, discounts and photos. The site also includes reviews from other customers and a map showing the location nearest to Notre Dame.

SBforME.com helps students save money by providing special discounts for each business listed. Offers include cheaper meals, free gifts, free t-shirts, 10 to 15 percent discounts and other rewards that are accessible with a student ID. Freshman American Studies major Mary Kate Veselik says, “It is good that they are looking out for students who don’t have a lot of spare cash, especially in this tough economic time.”

Sophomore anthropology and peace studies major Suzanna Pratt, who had not heard about the site, says, “I think it’s a really good idea. It could turn into something like ndtoday.com, a site that most students know about and use.”

“It’s really well made and very organized. If word is spread about the Web site it would be very useful to students on campus,” sophomore science preprofessional Brynne Miller says.

TOP FIVE
Things to Do When You Leave the Football Game at Halftime

1 Watch a winning team on TV.

2 Marshmallow fight on God quad.

3 Sneak a keg into your dorm while the RAs are gone.

4 Finish your Four Lokos before they get banned.

5 Sit.
OIS Expands Abroad Options

New Senegal Program Anticipates Future Additions

Laura Kraegel

Students wondering where to study abroad had one more option to consider when the Office of International Studies (OIS) announced a new program in Senegal for the spring of 2012. And with the ideas that OIS has for future programs, students can look forward to more abroad opportunities down the line.

"There are a lot of exciting things going on, but it's all potential at the moment," OIS Director Kathleen Opel says. "Senegal is a great, exciting program for next year, and I think there will be more in the future."

For 11 years, Opel has worked for OIS, which employs 19 people at Notre Dame and 130 all over the world.

"In the time I've been here, we've really added a lot of programs," she says. "We started as a relatively small office, with just two employees and a few programs. And over time, we've really been adding."

The program in Senegal's capital city, Dakar, is the latest addition to the expanding study abroad program.

"It started as a proposition from the French department, which was looking for a francophone country in Africa. There are already French programs in Paris and Angers in France, but they were looking for a way to expand the breadth of their offerings," Opel says.

The Senegal program aims to offer French students an immersion option outside of the typical European choices. Students in Dakar will take courses with North American and African students and live with Senegalese host families. These students, Opel says, will study French while experiencing the rich local language, culture and history of the West African nation.

"It's not exclusively for students in French or Africana Studies," Opel says. "You do need at least two semesters of college-level French, but it is open to students with an interest in Africa and that part of the world, like students in peace studies or art history. There are all sorts of classes on the slave trade, literature, arts and culture, French, and the local language, Wolof."

"It sounds like a really great opportunity," sophomore Program of Liberal Studies major Katie Bond, who plans to study French in Angers, says. "I've always had it in my head that I would go to France, but I think it's great to be able to go somewhere other than Europe. Europe is a culture shock, but going to Senegal could be even more of a different cultural experience."

Despite the cultural offerings, Opel is not sure whether the Senegal program, a partnership with Suffolk University at Dakar, will catch student attention.

"It's almost like a pilot program," she says. "We're putting the program out there and we'll see if there is student interest. I think we have about eight students who have begun applications online, but we'll see if they actually submit them. On Nov. 16, we'll know a lot more about how this program will play out."

Opel says that the program does not necessarily need to be popular for it to survive.

"We don't need a lot of students, but we need the right students," she says. "We need students who have an interest in being in a unique, diverse and developing country like Senegal."

That sentiment holds true for most study abroad programs, Opel says.

"Popularity usually isn't the most important issue," she says. "It's more about meeting a niche interest."

Planning each program is a lot of work, however, and OIS makes sure that the benefits for students justify the expense and labor.

"There's a lot to figure out — transportation, housing, food, how a program fits in with our school calendar," Opel says. "Sometimes it goes quickly. For the Hong Kong program, we took one trip and it was clear that it would work. But not all of them go so smoothly."

Senegal was one of the quicker programs. Still, a lot of research went into creating it, Opel says.

"We started in the spring. We talked to three possible programs in Senegal and did research about them online," she says. "After we visited Senegal in June and picked a program, we presented it to the French and Africana Studies departments to see if they supported it. They did, and in the fall, we put the Senegal program up on the roster. It took less than a year."

Even though OIS has expanded, it has dropped programs, too. The Innsbruck, Austria program was canceled last year and the Monterrey, Mexico program has been suspended temporarily since last December.

Unlike the options that Opel says "do not need a lot of students," Austria was a program independently run by Notre Dame that depended on student interest.

"It was a stand-alone program and Notre Dame had to provide the whole infrastructure. We had to hire the faculty and find housing and classrooms," Opel says. "We had maybe three year-long applicants last year. With that minimal interest, we couldn't support a whole staff of people."

Although it was Notre Dame's longest-running study abroad opportunity, OIS had seen diminished enthusiasm for the Austria program since its creation in the 1960s.

"We had seen a steady drop in participation and interest over 10 years," Opel says. "In the end, we just didn't have enough students. It couldn't last."

The Berlin program will compensate for Austria's cancellation and be open for German students interested in studying abroad. That makes London the only "stand-alone" study abroad opportunity left, Opel says, which will help prevent programs from closing in the future.

"We haven't had to close many programs, but there are always some that fluctuate in interest," Opel says. "But the difference is — with affiliation programs — we can adapt to the flow of students without needing to shut..."
Even if you can’t study abroad for a year or a semester, do something that takes you out of what is comfortable and take advantage of one of these opportunities.

- KATHLEEN OPEL, OIS DIRECTOR

“We’ve added new opportunities in Africa with Dakar and Cairo and we’ve expanded into South America, especially with Santiago,” she says. “We’re looking to make it open for more students, too — students in the graduate school, the law school and engineering may be able to study in Santiago in the future.”

Opel says OIS recognizes that students in these departments have not been as well represented as others in terms of study abroad opportunities.

“I didn’t get too far into the study abroad process before I recognized that there are only two or three places I could go as an engineer,” sophomore computer engineering and Greek and Roman civilizations major Caitlin Cunningham says. “It doesn’t seem like study abroad is easily set up for engineers or double majors. It’s a difficult thing to pull off.”

But Opel expects it to become easier in the future.

More and more, we’re looking to expand opportunities for student groups that haven’t been as well represented, like those in medieval studies and classics,” she says.

“But we’re trying to do all of this while maintaining high-quality programs.”

The medieval studies major has already seen a new study abroad option in the St. Andrews program in Scotland. The first Notre Dame students studied abroad at St. Andrews last spring.

“The Medieval Studies department came to us last year, saying it was a great university for medieval studies and that they would love to send students there. Someone from their department went to Scotland to do research, then OIS sent someone as well, and now we have a program,” Opel says.

“It’s a brand new program, and I’m really excited,” sophomore medieval studies major Hillary Ott says. “It really cats to my major and it’s at one of the most prestigious universities in Scotland. When I came to Notre Dame, I had my sights set on Rome, but now I have another great option to consider.”

Opel also predicts the St. Andrews program could expand to departments beyond medieval studies in the future.

“It has a wonderful reputation for computer science and other areas,” she says. “I will need to discuss whether the university would be amenable to accepting our students from other disciplines. But that is the sort of opportunity we’re looking to give to our students.”

With the opportunities that OIS provides, Opel says she encourages Notre Dame students to explore some type of study abroad option — including summer programs, internships and research abroad.

“Of course I’m passionate about study abroad, but I really care about international experience in general,” she says. “Even if you can’t study abroad for a year or a semester, do something that takes you out of what is comfortable and take advantage of one of these opportunities.”

down the program.”

Monterrey, however, is one affiliate program that has been suspended because of violence in the area around the University of Monterrey.

“In November [2009], it was reported that there had been violence near the university and even gunshots on the campus,” Opel says. “And when we called the university to check in, they gave us ambiguous answers. Immediately, we started planning other options in case we had to shut the program down.”

“In December [2009], we did decide to suspend the program and in March, the State Department issued a warning about the area,” she says. “For students who were planning on going to Monterrey, we made it possible for them to go to Puebla, Mexico instead.”

But for students who hoped the program would return, the continued suspension was a disappointment.

“I was slightly upset when I found out it had been suspended because I had been looking forward to maybe studying there,” sophomore business major Jenni Sanchez says. “I understand that it was canceled for important safety reasons. But after they suspended Monterrey — which had both my business and Spanish courses — there really wasn’t another program that interested me in the same way.”

Still, the Monterrey program will remain suspended until the violence stops and OIS can reaffirm the safety and integrity of the university, Opel says.

“When a few months go by without these problems, we’ll check in on the program and reassess,” she says. “We’ll probably have someone visit the university and see if the program can be reopened. But we’ll have to ensure that the university and institutions are still as strong as they were.”

Opel says these concerns are always a part of managing the study abroad programs, even when they are running smoothly.

“It’s daunting and ever changing,” she says. “Since Sept. 11, 2001, there have been almost yearly changes related to visas and legal provisions. We’re constantly assessing how good the programs are and looking to fine-tune them.”

And beyond fine-tuning, Opel says OIS is looking to expand existing programs and create new ones that cater to more areas of study, more locations and more students.

“Since I’ve been here, we’ve dramatically increased our presence in Asia,” Opel says. “We went from one program in Japan to two in Japan, three in China and the summer program in Taiwan. Now we’re looking into developing something in Korea.”

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Backstage Pass: PemCo prepares for its performance of "The Drowsy Chaperone."
NOVEMBER

Need something to do this month? Check out a few of these events!

12
Swim meet against Utah
Come to the Rolf's Aquatic Center at 5 pm to see the men's and women's team take on Utah

Chorale Concert—“God, Country, Notre Dame”
The Notre Dame Chorale performs at 8 pm at DPAC

Fostering Global Citizenship Learning Community Session and Lunch
Come to Geddes Hall coffee house from 12:30 pm to hear Beatrice Dupuy, a professor of French and Foreign Language Education at the University of Arizona, speak.

13
Football Game vs. Utah, 2:30 pm. Come see the Irish play their last home game of the season.

15
Study abroad applications are due, sophomores! (And seniors, enjoy DARTing for the last time.)

16
Science majors, need some advice on landing an internship? Come to 126 DeBartolo from 4:30 to 5:30 to learn some strategies.

18
Comedy: Addicted...A Comedy of Substance
7 pm to 8:30 pm in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

19
Come to Washington Hall to see Asian Allure. Showtimes are 7:30 pm on Friday the 19th and 3 pm on Saturday the 20th.

20
Delta Spirit concert at Legends at 10 pm

22
Men's Basketball vs. Maine; 7:30-9:30 in the JACC

24
First day of Thanksgiving break!

26

29

30
From 12:30 to 2 pm, in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, Monika Nalepa Assistant Professor of Political Science, will give a lecture called "Skeletons in the Closet: Transitional Justice in Post-Communist Europe."
Behind the Scenes:
An Inside Look at Notre Dame’s Unvisited Locales

My Fellow Domers,

In this special edition of “Behind the Scenes,” we present you with a look into the Golden Dome. Though very few in the Notre Dame community have had the privilege to see what is inside, the Dome’s prevailing presence reminds us of the enduring beauty of our campus and the guidance of Our Mother.

Clara Rigler

The Golden Dome

The Dome, which was added in 1882 after the 1879 fire that burned the main building, reflects the dreams of Father Sorin, who wrote in 1942, “When this school, Our Lady’s school, grows, raise her aloft so that, without asking, all men shall know why we have a school.” The door on the fifth floor of the Main Building, which is locked and protected with a fire alarm system, is the threshold of a once accessible journey that door now aspirants to Our Lady’s many aspiring dome ascenders. This is the most recognized building on campus, said Lead Technician Jim Merkle. “The line would go out the door if people had the opportunity to go inside the Dome. I don’t even think I could put a number on it.”

Once inside, a winding, Harry Potter-esque staircase begins as travelers with a litany structure. At the top of the staircase landing, with a door leading to a balcony inside the rotunda of the mural and a daunting, heaven-bound ladder scaling the backside of the mural on a vertical path to the Dome. We stopped at the balcony first. “People shoot pictures up into the rotunda of the mural on a regular basis. It is a unique opportunity to be able to stand on its balcony and shoot down,” Merkle says.

The vertical ladder within the outer wall of the mural is placed between pressurized pipes which fill with water as the Dome’s only protection in the event of fire. The crevices are tight and the rungs are uneven, making a nerve-wracking ascent. At the top, there is a cavernous space which feels like a building. Below are the backside of the mural and above, the golden glory of Mary.

To get to the ladder which leads to Our Mother, climbers must balance cautiously on the support planks which line the mural. “Nobody knows how thick the plaster is,” Merkle says, “so if you slip, your foot could go right through the mural.”

The ascent up the final ladder is scary, but exciting. At the top, the names of previous explorers coat the walls; a symbol of the many Domers who feel proud of the university and its golden icon, whether they ascended or not. I left my name next to many others, among them the famed signature of Joe Montana, and the mark of oldest pilgrimage of 1967 by Tim Wagner and Jim Balter.

We looked out the turrets onto the rest of the campus, standing up in a small chamber just below Mother’s feet. No one describes the feeling better than Kevin Coyne in his novel, “Domes.” You can see everything, that is, except the one thing that shapes the view from every other angle. You have traveled too deep inside the Dome, that you have achieved a strange kind of unity with Notre Dame’s other icon, an object seen so often for what it represents that it is barely considered for what it is. You can no longer see the Dome, because you have, for a moment at least, become it.

November is marked by the holiday in which we say, “Thanks.” When you look at the Dome, think of the pilgrimage made as a symbol for the pilgrimage of Domers and visitors through this magnificent remembrance that is a fleeting moment in our lives and say, “Thanks.”

Until our next adventure,
Scholastic
Managing Technology in the Classroom

Caitlin Wilson

As Assistant Professor of Management Corey Angst’s Project Management class was a little different this semester than it has been in the past. Notre Dame lent each student in the predominately senior class an iPad, piloting a university-wide study on e-publishing and technology use in the classroom.

The E-Publishing Working Group, a committee created this spring to discover “what sort of e-publishing ecosystem makes the most sense here at Notre Dame,” Angst says, initiated the pilot. The committee, composed of diverse university departments, is not studying the iPad itself, but the digital content that the iPad delivers.

For the pilot to remain neutral, students were not told about the technology until three days before class began. Additionally, neither Angst nor the students were given formal training on how to operate the iPad in order to avoid biasing their use.

In exchange for the unlimited use of the iPad for both personal and academic purposes, students participated in surveys and focus groups and gave direct feedback to Angst. Based on the survey results, Angst says that the students were very receptive to the new technology.

Although students had strong opinions both for and against the iPad, the majority of the class found it to be a useful tool. Academically, students used their iPads to access their digital textbook and to take notes and online quizzes. Personally, students bought applications for entertainment and accessed the Internet.

The benefits of this technology are not limited to students. Professors can increase their efficiency and communicate more quickly. When students have, this technology, professors can send out media the morning of class and expect their students to have received and viewed it by the time class starts. Angst grades essays on his computer and scores presentations on his iPad in real time.

This so-called “iPad class” is only the first of several classes to pioneer this technology in the classroom. After fall break, the 1.5-credit Business Management class ended, and the students returned their iPads. They were cleared and then given to three new classes of students.

In order to explore the use of technology in a variety of academic disciplines, these classes are not in the business school: a design class, a research-based class and a First Year of Studies class involving journaling and sketching.

As a result of these pilot classes, Angst hopes to discover how e-publishing and new technologies can work at Notre Dame. Already, he believes that the university will have to support e-textbooks. Manager of Academic Technologies in the Office of Information Technologies Paul Turner agrees. “The real question becomes, does Notre Dame ever envision, like some universities have done, saying every student gets an iPad, a piece of technology,” he says.

The iPad classes are just one aspect of Notre Dame’s commitment to making the university technology friendly. In fact, the Academic Technologies Team in the Office of Information Technologies works exclusively on this goal.

Although Notre Dame’s standard classrooms are often equipped with projectors and DVD players, most classrooms lack the outlets, physical structure and strength of wireless internet which would allow every student to use technology such as a laptop or iPad.

Turner says that the team researches emerging technologies and ways to accommodate these technologies on campus.

“One of the things we feel strongly about is that classrooms are an important learning space, but they are not the learning space. Hallways, dorm rooms, apartments, outside campus — everything everywhere is a learning space. So we try to find technologies that facilitate that movement in and out of class, and the iPad was a nice addition to that,” Instructional Technologist on the Academic Technologies Team Jon Crutchfield says.

The Academic Technologies Team has been involved in several projects promoting technology on campus. In one project, it helped coordinate a semester-long course in which students designed a technology-friendly and pedagogically flexible classroom. The technological capabilities of Stinson-Rerrick Hall; the new engineering building, are the direct result of this course. The building has “10,000 feet of modern learning space that was very deliberately designed,” Turner says. New classrooms in Mendoza Hall and one new classroom in DeBartolo Hall have similarly flexible designs.


Every few years there is hype over a new book, television show or film series. In the 1960s and 1970s, it was "Star Trek" and "Star Wars." In the 1980s, the "Indiana Jones" movies were popular and in the mid-2000s, "Twilight" set off a vampire craze.

Similarly, "Harry Potter" cannot be considered a phase or mere hype. The series has come to define a generation and for many, reading "Harry Potter" defined a decade of their lives. After the bittersweet pang of finishing the last page of the seventh book, waiting for the movie releases has become a way to hold onto that anticipation and excitement for a little longer.

Perhaps that is why on a Saturday night, three Breen-Phillips residents sit perched on a futon and the floor, one holding the fifth "Harry Potter" book and reading off chapter titles.

"It was [freshman] Molly [Toner]'s idea during one of our hall sits," freshman Allison Bries says. The women decided that it would be fun to count down the last 50 days leading up to the release of the first part of the seventh movie, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows."

Every day, they list several of the chapters' titles, with a one-sentence summary and pictures. Witty remarks have included "The Mirror of Erised: So tell me what you want, what you really, really want," "Halloween: T-T-T-Troll in the dungeon!!!! Thought you ought to know!" and "The Potions Master: Snape, Snape, Severus Snape..."

They are not the only "Harry Potter" lovers on campus, but they have taken care to show their love for the "Boy Who Lived." It’s completely OK to love "Harry Potter" here, because everyone’s obsessed with it at Notre Dame. How many schools can you have someone dress up as Professor Quirrell and have everyone get it?" freshman Nicole Vasquez says.

How many times have you heard a Notre Dame student brag that the Great Hall was modeled after South Dining Hall? It’s a much-beloved misconception, but students would like to think that they helped shape the "Harry Potter" movies.

Bries, Vasquez and Toner will also be dressing up for the midnight movie. "Dressing up as a character helps you get ready for it," Toner says. "The four hours building up to it is just as much fun as watching the movie." They have each major female character covered and even some of the males. Many students like Bries are eagerly awaiting their “Harry Potter” care packages. "My mom is sending me stuff for Luna. I can't wait!" Bries says.

After so much anticipation for the book releases, movie premieres, theme park opening, Harry Potter: The Exhibition, and the deluxe editions of the books and movies, it is not surprising that the women are waiting once again.

But as Toner says, "This is the beginning of the end." After the release of part one of "Deathly Hallows," there will only be one movie release remaining. This is one of the last opportunities for Bries, Vasquez and Toner to dress up and proclaim their love for everyone’s favorite boy-wizard. So it is with much excitement and a bit of sadness that they will dress up and wait for the premiere of the movie at midnight on Nov. 19.

The love of "Harry Potter" extends beyond the halls of BP and crosses the globe. It is a phenomenon that caused children everywhere to await Hogwarts letters on their 11th birthdays, stand around for hours at the book releases, dress up as their favorite characters and read into the early hours of the morning with a flashlight in hand to see what would happen to Harry on his quest to defeat Lord Voldemort.

After nearly a decade of waiting for the seventh book, it is fitting that "Harry Potter" fans everywhere will gather again to show their love and dedication, waiting eagerly for the clock to strike midnight. This time it is to hear Hedwig’s theme once again heralding the continuation of the magic that is "Harry Potter."
Lately, things at Our Lady's University have been weird for me. I feel as if I've been transported to another time, in which college tuition is still affordable and students stayed for the entirety of football games. Obviously, this feeling is misplaced, and I'm sure I'm just dreaming, but I feel as if the shadows of four legendary characters are looming as I walk through the expansive quads and in front of the many academic buildings. To be honest, the feeling I have is of biblical proportions.

To paraphrase Grantland Rice of the New York Herald Tribune, "Outlined against a blue-gray October sky, the Four Horsemen rode again. In dramatic lore their names are Death, Destruction, Pestilence and Famine. But those are aliases. Their real names are bicyclist, scooter-er, skateboarder and golf cart driver."

I think we've all noticed the signs of the transportation apocalypse. The menacing click of scooter or skateboard wheels as they speed over the sidewalk. The grim realization that the bike in front of you is not moving and you only have seconds to dodge it. And, of course, the knowledge that that the golf cart on the open road nor on the golf course - try to drive in straight lines.

As a pedestrian, this renaissance of the vehicle keeps me up at night. I toss and turn in my bed, awaiting my dangerous trek to my 8:30 a.m. class. I shiver during my walk to DeBartolo Hall, not because of the cold, but because of my fear of the new Four Horsemen. I suppose there's nothing I or any other students can do, but I think there are a few rules we could all follow for safer travel around campus.

Bicyclists, this isn't the Tour de France. No one's offering you a yellow jersey when you ride from South Dining Hall to DeBartolo in two minutes flat. There's no need for you to try to swerve in and out of swarms of innocent students. Like biking the Tour, if you do that, then everyone falls on each other (I think Lance Armstrong would agree).

Skateboarders, chill out, bros. I know you like to pretend that you're tearing up the skatepark in California, but wiping out in front of your friends isn't as cool as it was in elementary school. Besides, taking a skateboard to the ankle hurts. A lot. On a related note, scooters were only acceptable in elementary school, scooter-ers. (Do you get around any faster with those flimsy pieces of metal, anyway?)

Finally, golf cart drivers, try to remember you're neither on the open road nor on the golf course - try to drive in straight lines. There is no need to run pedestrians off the sidewalks because the alumni attending the football game in the backseat are anxious to arrive at their private brunch. (Why they think they can be impatient is beyond me. They sit silently at the games like petulant children who don't enjoy watching a losing team. Neither do we, but we still cheer. I await your Viewpoints, dissatisfied alumni.)

Maybe these suggestions will end the transportation apocalypse, but I realize that it's unlikely. So while bicyclists and skateboarders take aim at their next target, I keep a watchful eye on my horizon, and I hope you do too.

-Chris Milazzo

*The views of this author are not necessarily the views of Scholastic Magazine.*
A Review of Colum McCann’s Let The Great World Spin

Raw, poignant and impactful. Colum McCann’s “Let the Great World Spin” draws upon the universality of the human heart. It transcends boundaries of gender, belief and class to deliver the stories of everyday people. Separate lives are connected by “beauty ... something beyond equilibrium.”

The story begins circa 1974, with Philippe Petit’s Twin Towers tightrope walk. It focuses on the standstill moment of the act, which momentarily unites a city that bustles with questions of war, faith, technology and art. In many ways, it parallels the post-September 11 New York City, in which similar questions abound. The novel connects corners of lives touched by the act, from an Irish priest to a 30-year-old prostitute, a struggling artist and a grieving mother, among others.

McCann lends different voices and different tones to the story of each character. He captures the reality of both life on the street and among the upper echelons. He covers the young, the old, the tired and the troubled. But he showcases the unity of the human spirit, courageously begetting strength and attempting to find comfort in one’s surroundings.

With its lyrical diversity, “Let the Great World Spin” is a worthwhile, quick read. It paints an unapologetic portrait of 1970s New York that resonates today. It transports the reader into the city, its people and its complexities. “Let the Great World Spin” lets readers witness the world from an angle of new height and disparate depth.

A Review Daniyal Mueenuddin’s

In Other Rooms, Other Wonders

Daniyal Mueenuddin’s “In Other Rooms, Other Wonders” begins with the quote, “Three things for which we kill — Land, women and gold” — an ominous opening for a collection of short stories. From the slums of Lahore, Pakistan to the wealthy vacation escapes of Paris, Mueenuddin weaves a messy tapestry of men’s dreams, their struggle, their simplicity and, most of all, their failure. Whether it be through adultery, greed, age or drugs, their disillusionments are abrupt and unceremonious.

Mueenuddin switches from third- to first-person perspectives, but threads all of the tales together with one character, the evasive and wealthy K.K. Harounis. The individual stories are elaborately detailed and filled with textured imagery, and, as a collection, give insight into Middle Eastern culture and its many complexities. Each protagonist has some connection to K.K. Harounis, which maintains the book’s cohesive and mysterious nature.

“In Other Rooms, Other Wonders” is a book for those who desire a literary perspective on contemporary Middle Eastern culture removed from the political lens that often colors it. The characters are modern, conflicted and broken, and inhabit an unfamiliar and somewhat wild world defined by poverty and luxury, which leaves one wondering: For what shall we kill? For what shall we die?
There are no quiet hours at Rolfs Sports Recreation Center. The strained breaths and muffled grunts of its exercising patrons can be heard from opening until close. Whether they come once a week or once a day, visitors to Rolfs and other athletic centers on campus come for one reason: self-improvement. Some hope to improve athletic stamina or lose weight, while others strive for a perfectly toned body.

"It makes me feel healthier, helps reduce my anxiety, and part of me feels like it's just something that I should do, like I'm lazy if I don't," sophomore economics and peace studies major Melissa Maggart says.

With a student body composed of many current and former student athletes, it is unsurprising that Notre Dame is exercise-oriented. From a pick-up basketball game to interhall football, students are eager to stay active even if they can no longer play a varsity sport.

RecSports' Assistant Director for Fitness and Facilities Jennie Phillips says that this eagerness helps many students stay healthy and prevents obesity. "When kids are coming here, so many of them are active in high school. We don't... see as many [cases of obesity] as some other places might. I've never been struck by it here," she says.

One must consider, however, if this activity is taken to an extreme. Phillips says some students feel tremendous pressure to achieve an ideal body. "I think there's a lot of pressure for people to look a certain way. Constantly being bombarded by media where they're showing unrealistic pictures of people, whether it's a woman that's 6 feet tall and weighs 110 pounds... or a guy with 6- or 8-pack abs. Are the pictures that we see actually real? I think it can be an issue for people when you're constantly being bombarded by these images."

The university's Manager of Nutrition and Safety Jocie Antonelli says that many students feel their bodies are not ideal. "When I meet one-on-one with a student, I have a list of questions that I ask them. One of the last questions I ask them is how they would rate their body image. Most of the people... are coming to see me because they want to lose weight. When I ask them 'What's your body image?' most of them say, 'Not very good.'"

If a student's body is the medium, then what is the message he or she is sending to her peers? Is Notre Dame body image obsessed?
AN IMPOSTOR CULTURE

Ranked No. 19 in U.S. News and World Report’s list of top national universities, Notre Dame attracts intelligent, high-achieving students that were at the top of their high school classes. Through athletics, extracurricular activities and, of course, academics, many students established their self-worth and felt comfortable with their lives both inside and outside the classroom. According to the Gender Relations Center’s (GRC) director and former rector of Pangborn Hall Heather Rakoczy Russell, many students lose this feeling when they arrive at Notre Dame.

“[Students are] expecting to indefinitely be able to set a goal and achieve it. When they get to a place where everyone’s on an equal playing field, it really starts to call [that ability] into question,” she says.

Russell says that moving from a high school environment in which they were the exceptional members of their classes to a university environment composed of exceptional students creates a sense of loss for many students and fosters insecurity.

“It’s called impostor syndrome. The idea is you [the student] get here and you think to yourself, ‘I’m not ... good enough, smart enough, tan enough, tall enough, good looking enough, beefy enough ... and everybody else is and somehow I’m the person that admissions didn’t catch ... but I’m the only one who feels this way,’” she says.

It is impostor syndrome that can create body image issues. “There’s this drive to be the best in all things you do. Work hard, play hard. The body issues and the eating disorders end up being a product of that culture,” she says.

“Students end up making themselves crazy because they feel they’re never good enough,” Russell says. She says that much of this insecurity stems from students’ tendency towards perfectionism: They hope to achieve both academically and physically.

Pressure to achieve the ideal body is not only caused by Notre Dame’s high-achieving, athletic culture, but also by external influences such as pop culture and media. Sophomore Program of Liberal Studies and mathematics major Elliott Pearce, who works as a FIRE Starter at the GRC, says that these influences place the ideal body on a pedestal that students try to reach.

“I think that the media does have a strong effect on how we view our bodies. Notice that the only time ... leading roles are not played by actors and actresses in tip-top shape is when the directors are intentionally ... trying to make a point about body image.” Usually, he says, only those who have the ideal body are idolized.

“The ideal body for a Notre Dame student, to quote Snoop Dogg, is ‘toned, tan, fit and ready,’” he says.

According to staff clinician Valerie Staples of the University Counseling Center, this insecurity is also the result of influences unique to every student. “There’s certainly some individual characteristics that we don’t always know about. [How students feel about body image] is related to their emotions ... and, certainly, people have very different experiences growing up — whether they’ve been teased about their body, if they’ve struggled with weight. They’re carrying around ... those experiences that contribute to how they see themselves,” Staples says.

Russell says the irony of students’ body image insecurity is that if they talked to each other, they would realize that they have the same insecurities. “The reality is that as soon as you tell your roommate you feel [insecure], and as soon as your roommate says, ‘Hey, I feel that way, too’ ... the myth is busted. The reason it works is that no one wants to tell anybody else that they have those fears because it’s part of the shame of the fear. The myth keeps working because people keep it secret,” she says.

MORE THAN A GAME

Many students who have body image issues are former athletes. When they reach the university level and are unable to play their sports, many of them feel a sense of loss because they no longer have the structure that playing team sports provided.

“I miss having people to push me when I’m working out, making me work harder than I ever do when I’m by myself, and I miss working together to achieve a goal, like winning a tournament,” Maggart says.

Russell says that because they lose the team structure and a coach’s instruction, former student athletes often struggle to healthily maintain the physique they had in high school. During her time as rector, she says the majority of reported cases of body image issues and eating disorders she saw were former and current student athletes.

“About 85 percent of the student body lettered in ... a sport. Then they come here and they’re not the athletes they were in high school. They’re calling into question how they spend their time and things that would’ve been life giving to them have disappeared, namely ... being fit,” she says.

Although current athletes might appear to be immune to this type of insecurity, Russell says they are doubly susceptible to those feelings. “The general population would think that they have it all figured out. Many [students] would say that [student athletes] have what they consider an ideal body type ... but they live in rarified air. They are in a community of fit people. They [think] they have to be more fit then everybody else. They’re on this pedestal as really exceptional, and the way they’re evaluated is by their body.”

A GENDER DYNAMIC

No matter their athletic background, students of both sexes face pressure to achieve a certain body type. “In general, for guys it’s bulk up, be bigger, be buffer. Take up more space. Whether that leads to guys using creatine or other supplements or being in the gym, it’s about those six-pack abs and how ripped you are. For a woman ... take up less space; make sure your jeans don’t change from the size you were in high school. The smaller your size, the better you are,” Russell says.

Although both men and women face similar pressures, Pierce says they react to them in different ways. “I think women here are more likely to be dissatisfied with their own bodies than men. Many men
have their own body image issues as well, though.

Pearce says that men will often deflect their own body image insecurities by placing pressure on women to conform to a certain body type. "Men often casually objectify the women in their social circle and 'rate' them based on their physical appearance," he says. Because of this pressure, women also deflect their insecurities by antagonizing other women and men about their appearances.

"Women ... [sometimes] maliciously insult other women to compensate for their own body image insecurities. Women objectify men, too. I know a few girls who won't give you the time of day unless you're a football player or you look like one," he says.

**A DANGEROUS QUEST**

While proper diet and exercise have great health benefits, many students abandon health in their pursuit of the ideal body, which can have dangerous consequences. Phillips says that RecSports' staff is always on the look out for students who might be over-exercising.

"If I notice someone who's in here a lot — a lot being a few hours a day or coming back a couple times a day for a few hours — I try to find out what they're doing. Some people are training for something, but ... over-training can be pretty devastating to a body," she says.

Body image issues, however, are not limited to over-exercising. Some students try to change their diets to achieve the ideal body, and many do so improperly without realizing it. Even if they do realize they are modifying their diet improperly, many students will rationalize their
actions.

"Some of the signs I’ll see are things like ‘I’m a vegetarian.’ That gives them an excuse. Another red flag is ‘I don’t like desserts’ or ‘I don’t like anything fried.’ It’s these big food categories [that students] eliminate that are red flags for me. When I get these signals and piece them together, I know what’s going on,” Antonelli says.

Staples says that diet modification, if taken to an extreme, can be a sign of an eating disorder. “We see all types of eating disorders [at Notre Dame]: anorexia, bulimia ... binge eating. We see the gambit of eating disorders on campus.”

According to the Mayo Clinic’s Web site, people suffering from anorexia or bulimia are unable to maintain a healthy body weight. Anorexics might over-exercise or starve themselves, while bulimics might binge eat and then purge through forced vomiting. Both of these conditions and other eating disorders like them can have dangerous health effects.

Although they are often associated with women, Staples says eating disorders can affect men as well. “It’s certainly a misconception that [they are] just a female disorder. We’re finding that this is an issue that cuts across gender, socio-economic status, age and ethnicity. In the past three years, we’ve seen many more men come to the center with an eating disorder.”

Staples says that because students are very goal-oriented, some are unwilling to seek help. “Many times [students] have set a goal and figured out how to get there, and I think many times when they’ve tried to make changes on their own related to their eating and it hasn’t worked, sometimes there’s that mindset that, ‘Well, I’m just not trying hard enough.’ They feel like it’s something they should be able to do on their own. Asking for help is something that is hard for students with eating issues. For our students, asking for help is pretty tough.”

Body image insecurity also manifests itself in less extreme ways. Antonelli says that many students simply have poor diets. “One of the biggest messages I try to give to people in order to have a healthy diet: You’ve got to get enough vegetables in, and that’s something I see across the board that people aren’t meeting the minimum servings per day.” A poor diet, however, can have serious health effects.

“If they’re restricting [their eating], they’re not going to get enough calories and they’re not going to get enough nutrients. For women especially, if they don’t have enough calcium and calories, their bone density is going to be affected, which is more dangerous for women than it is for men. Also, if [students are] not taking in enough calories, their metabolism is going to be affected in a negative way, which is the exact opposite of what they want to do. They shoot themselves in the foot by consuming too few calories,” she says.

Severely restricting one’s diet can also have mental health effects. “[Students’] concentration is going to be poor. Also, if they get to be too restrictive, the mind
takes over. So if they try to ignore the stomach by restricting and not eating enough calories, eventually the mind will take over and people get preoccupied then almost obsessed with food. It’s a very closeted thing. They don’t talk about it but inside... if they do eat something that they think is a splurge... they’ll feel extremely guilty. That’s hard to do on top of all the other things your mind needs to do in college,” Antonelli says.

**Finding Security for Insecurity**

Antonelli says that the university attempts to help students avoid unhealthy eating habits. “We do a lot of education in the dining hall in terms of posters. I go around and talk to the dorms. I do healthy eating tours of the dining halls. My message is that nothing needs to be eliminated. All your favorite foods can fit. It’s all about balance and moderation,” she says.

Despite the university’s efforts, some students still need help with body image issues. These students, however, have an array of resources to choose from on campus.

“If somebody comes to me that I know has an eating issue — I can tell by what they’re saying — we need to get them into the Counseling Center because it’s no longer just a nutritional problem; it’s a psychological problem. The sooner we get somebody in and get treatment started, the better their prognosis for a full recovery and return to a normal, healthy relationship with food will be,” Antonelli says.

The University Counseling Center offers one-on-one counseling and has a hotline to talk to a counselor in an emergency. Staples says the Center has many other resources for students with body image issues, especially those struggling with an eating disorder.

“We have a dietician who’s available to see students. We also have them meet with a physician at the health center, so we’re looking at the nutritional, the medical, as well as the psychological aspect. The actual treatment depends on what their issues are. It’s about trying to help them develop some stability,” Staples says.

Russell encourages students to talk to their dorm’s hall staff if they are uncomfortable going to the Counseling Center. The university, however, has more than just mental assistance. Phillips says students can enlist the help of personal trainers and exercise programs through RecSports to ensure they are exercising in a healthy manner.

“There are so many resources for students on this campus. They can come and talk with [RecSports]. One of the things I see with students because so many of them played a sport in high school is that they come here and they don’t have the structure of practice and games. Now they have to figure it out for themselves. We have personal training programs... [where they can] work one-on-one with a trainer,” she says.

Russell says, however, that the best resource for students to deal with body image issues is to talk with their peers. “I think the best resource any student has on campus is to open his or her mouth and talk to other students because as soon as other students realize that many of you feel these same insecurities... you help each other,” she says. “Find good friends. Be yourself with those people... so that in good times and rotten times you have a support system.”
Row Like a Champion: Men's rowing takes the top spot at the Occoquan Regatta in Virginia.
the games we play
Irish Eyes On: Lauren Fowlkes

Senior defender and soccer co-captain Lauren Fowlkes has done it all in her four-year career at Notre Dame. Fowlkes, a Missouri native, has established herself as one of the most versatile and well-rounded players on the Irish women's soccer roster by playing all three field positions — defense, midfield and offense — during her career. The science-business major also excels in the classroom, earning both All-America and Academic All-America honors last season and pursuing that feat again this year. Fowlkes, who is currently a member of the U-23 National Team, boasts much experience competing at the international level as well. She helped lead the US U-20 squad to a gold medal at the 2008 Women's World Cup in Chile. But right now there's no place Fowlkes would rather be than Notre Dame, as the women's soccer team begins its run into the NCAA Tournament in pursuit of a national championship.

You earned All-America and Academic All-America honors last season. What do you think is the key to having that success both on the field and in the classroom?

I think especially in the classroom — and then being able to fit in all of the soccer and [other things] that you want to do — time management is the biggest thing. And then being organized and getting stuff done early is important. On the field, it’s obviously a lot of your effort, and then the team you have around you supporting you.

You have played all over the field during your four-year career at Notre Dame, from defense to midfield to forward. Which position is your favorite and why?

When people ask me that question I always tell them that my favorite is the position I’ve been playing most recently, because it’s just easier to be used to that position. But having said that, I don’t necessarily have a favorite. There are different things about each position that I like the most.

As a freshman, you started all 26 games and led the team in minutes played with 2,324. Were you expecting to have such a big role in your first year on the team?

I don’t think any freshman comes in expecting that. You’re hoping to be able to make that kind of impact, but you’ve never played at this level before. So I would say, no, I definitely wasn’t expecting to do that. But I was fortunate enough to have that. When I did the World Cup, we were [in Chile] for a month, so we got to see so many different parts, but Chile was awesome. I just loved the people and loved the culture. I would definitely go back there and it was beautiful as well.

What has it been like to play soccer all over the world, in places like Germany and England this past summer? Is there a favorite country you’ve traveled to?

It’s been awesome. I’ve been able to see so many different parts of the world and experience so many different cultures, and then also being able to play for your country and represent your country is a really rewarding experience, and I’m very fortunate to have had that. When I did the World Cup, we were [in Chile] for a month, so we got to see so many different parts, but Chile was awesome. I just loved the people and loved the culture. I would definitely go back there and it was beautiful as well.

What was it like to win a gold medal at the 2008 FIFA U-20 Women’s World Cup?

It was a surreal experience. You worked so hard for a year and then it boils down to one game. And for us to win it, I’ve never been more excited or more happy about something in my life.

Matt Formica

While playing for the U-20 National Team you missed some time with your Irish teammates, including the entire NCAA Tournament. Was that hard on you?

It was definitely one of the hardest things I’ve had to deal with, both leading up to it and after. And I think, ultimately, I made the right decision for myself, but it was really hard. It took time to — not mend relationships — but maybe get back in a good way with my team here. But I think that if other people were faced with that same decision they probably would’ve done what I did. You never know that for sure.

Is there a different feel playing for your country compared to playing for Notre Dame?

Not necessarily. I think you think of the style you want to play and the way you’re used to playing, just the same level. The teams are different in that country.

Your teams have done really well during your time at Notre Dame. Why do you think the women's soccer program has been so successful?

It has been for a while so it's a tradition. I think that our coaching staff and the players who have come before us have a really strong culture and atmosphere that we try to cultivate and continue every year and we just expect that of ourselves.

What has it been like to make that kind of impact, but you’ve never played at this level before. So I would say, no, I definitely wasn’t expecting to do that. But I was fortunate enough to have that. When I did the World Cup, we were [in Chile] for a month, so we got to see so many different parts, but Chile was awesome. I just loved the people and loved the culture. I would definitely go back there and it was beautiful as well.

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The team recently had the conference winning streak snapped at 77 games. How have you and your teammates responded?

Initially it was upsetting because we didn’t come out to play in that game and we didn’t do well in that game. But I think now after having some time to digest and see what happened and what we did wrong, ultimately this might be the best thing for us and I think that we are going to bounce back from it stronger and really figure out what we need to be successful at the NCAA Tournament and that’s extremely important at this point in the season.

What do you hope to accomplish in the NCAA Tournament?

I think we still have the same goal of winning the NCAA Tournament. I think that now more than ever we have that feeling, taking it one game at a time just because of what happened this summer and [during the streak], so that’s what we were going to do. We’re going to focus on each game and just go from there.

What are your post-graduation plans?

I am planning on playing soccer and continuing in the WPS [Women’s Professional Soccer]. It’s a relatively new league, that’s struggling a little bit, so hopefully it stays afloat. One day I’d like to play on the full national team, but I’m not quite at that level yet, so we’ll see where it goes. And after soccer, something in medicine, but I’m not sure what.

What’s your favorite part about playing soccer at ND?

It’s such a great place to be with amazing people and an awesome tradition. It’s hard to put one thing to it.
SPORTS

Survey Says...

Brian Kaneb

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<th>Melissa HENDerson</th>
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<th>Twitter</th>
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<th>Saw 3-D, [which was the] No. 1 most gory movie</th>
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<td>Water</td>
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Time Travel

November 3, 1993

Hyped as the “Game of the Century” by NBC and ESPN, the 1993 match-up between Notre Dame and Florida State was one for the ages. During the Seminoles' first possession, quarterback Charlie Ward helped execute an 89-yard touchdown drive that hushed the stadium. The Irish dominated the game, however, until midway through the fourth quarter. Led by junior Lee Becton, who had 122 rushing yards, the Irish ran for three touchdowns and went into halftime with a 21-7 lead. The Irish led the Seminoles after halftime, but the momentum changed late in the fourth quarter. Revitalized, Ward brought Florida State within 7 points in the final minutes of the game. After the Irish had a mistimed three-and-out, Ward drove them to the Irish red zone but couldn't find an open receiver. The victory vaulted Notre Dame to the top ranking in all polls, but a last-second loss to Boston College later ended hopes of a national championship. Though the Seminoles eventually became national champions, it was clear that Notre Dame was the better football team on Nov. 13, 1993. Even Florida State coach Bobby Bowden recognized it, saying, “They made us eat everything that was said.”

TOP PERFORMERS

Matt Formica

1. GRANT VAN DE CASTEELE, MEN'S SOCCER
   The sophomore defender netted the game-winning goal for the Irish in their 2-1 Big East Tournament victory over Marquette last Saturday. Van de Casteele and his teammates improved their current unbeaten streak to a season-high five games, and will meet Louisville in the semifinals.

2. GEREK MEINHARDT, FENCING
   Meinhardt captured the bronze medal in men's foil at the FIE World Championships in Paris last Sunday. The Notre Dame sophomore became the first US fencer ever to medal at the World Championships.

3. BEN HANSBROUGH, MEN'S BASKETBALL
   The senior guard scored a game-high 30 points in Notre Dame's exhibition win over Catholic University. Hansbrough knocked down six three-pointers in the game, and will look to stay hot when the Irish begin their regular-season schedule on Friday night (11/12).
The pounding of red boxing gloves between opponents begins the spar. “Box!” yells the coach. Red-faced and sweaty, with eyes focused and hair protruding from every hole in their headgear, the women spar. They keep moving despite the never-ending punches they receive from their opponent. “Time!” is called and the spar is over. Exhausted, the women pound their boxing gloves against one another once again and walk off. What happens in the ring stays in the ring.

Notre Dame alumnae Amy Buccellato started the Notre Dame Women’s Boxing Club in 1997. She is now a Notre Dame staff member and boxing coach with her husband, Kevin. By 1999, enough female students had joined the Women’s Boxing Club that it was given official club status. The first Baraka Bouts boxing match occurred in four years later in 2003. This year will mark the seventh year that Baraka Bouts will be held at Notre Dame.

The women participating in Baraka Bouts have received mixed reactions about their boxing hobby. Senior Co-president and four-year member of the Women’s Boxing Club Anna Dwyer says that her decision to participate in boxing is often met with surprise. She has received comments such as “What do guys think of your boxing?” “You shouldn’t be doing that,” and “How is your dating life affected?”

Others, however, have received positive reactions. Seniors Michelle Notardonato and Holly Hinz, three-time participants and reigning champions, have astonished people with their participation in boxing. “People are impressed. They think it is awesome,” Notardonato says. Most women join the Boxing Club to stay in shape, push themselves both mentally and physically, do something different, or regain the feeling they once had from being part of a team in high school.

For some, the Women’s Boxing Club is the closest thing to finding a team sport with consistent practices, less commitment than a varsity sport and a more structured format than intramurals.

For example, boxers must meet specific requirements prior to Fight Night. Most of these requirements are physical, such as attending an average of four practices per week to keep in shape and learning the skills to pass muster, which include stance, footwork, suitable defense, the jab and power punches. Women must also compete in three spars before Fight Night and raise $200 for the East African Holy Cross Missions that build secondary schools in impoverished nations.

As the program grows, it brings the skill level of the boxing up to a higher quality. The club aims to have a boxing tournament comparable to the men’s boxing program, Bengal Bouts, which starts with four rounds instead of two. With enough women, it could happen by next year. This year, they were very close but lacked the time to organize a tournament.

There are 126 women on the Baraka Bouts roster and about 100 of those are expected to compete at Fight Night this year. Participants range from freshmen to MBA and law school students, and the club contains both veterans and novices to the sport. Unlike the men’s program, it is rare for most women to stay active within the program for several consecutive years. Many women participate once and do not return the following year.

Although boxing is an individual sport, boxers say there is a strong team spirit within Baraka Bouts. The understanding of sportsmanship and the fact that participants train with the women who will be their opponents in the ring on Fight Night is an integral part of the bonding.

“If this bonding is cool because you are helping your teammates — who are also your potential opponents — get better,” Dwyer says. “You work with those who have advantages over you — or you over them — in order to improve. In this way, you put yourself to the test and push yourself further.”

After putting in the hours day after day, running one to two miles, doing sit-ups and push-ups, learning from glove drills and working through boxing training, the women will show off their skills at Fight Night on Thursday, Nov. 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joyce Center. Students can support the Holy Cross Missions in East Africa by donating $6 to watch the women duke it out.
The pounding of red boxing gloves awesome," Notardonato says. Between opponents begins the Most women join the Boxing Club to stay spar. "Box!" yells the coach. Red- in shape, push themselves both mentally faced and sweaty, with eyes focused and physically, do something different, or hair protruding from every hole in their headgear, the women spar. For some, the Women's Boxing Club is the closest thing to finding a team sport over. Exhausted, the women pound their boxing gloves against one another once and walk off. What happens in the ring stays in the ring. For example, boxers must meet specific requirements prior to Fight Night. Most Notre Dame alumnae Amy Buccellato of started the Notre Dame Women's Boxing Club in 1997. She is now a Notre Dame staff member and boxing coach with her husband, Kevin. By 1999, enough female students had joined the Women's Boxing Club that it was given official club status. The first Baraka Bouts boxing match occurred in 2003. This year will mark the seventh year that Baraka Bouts will be held at Notre Dame. As the program grows, it brings the skill level of the boxing up to a higher quality. The women participating in Baraka Bouts have received mixed reactions about their boxing hobby. Senior Co-president and Bengal Bouts, which starts with four rounds instead of two. With enough women, it could happen by next year. This year, they were very close but lacked the time to organize a tournament.

Unfortunately, it was another season marred by tough losses and missed opportunities. With three games left in the 2010 campaign, this season has not lived up to the great expectations and high standards that Notre Dame fans have for the Irish. Barring an extraordinary upset of Utah on Saturday, the class of 2011 will graduate without ever witnessing a noteworthy home victory. No matter what happens, 2010 will be remembered as one of the most difficult years in Notre Dame football history. With the arrival of a new head coach and the departure of Jimmy Clausen and Golden Tate, few expected this to be a stress-free year. Still, no one anticipated that so many key players would be sidelined with serious injuries, and no one could foresee that the Notre Dame community would be struck by such a tragedy as that which occurred last month.

As demonstrated by the wonderful Mass celebrating the life of Declan Sullivan, I have no doubt that the spirit and tradition of Notre Dame is alive and well. The passion that Domers share for this university will not fade. Amid the recent stretch of football mediocrity, what remains to be seen, however, is if football Saturdays will continue to have the same magic of decades past. As losses have piled up, the student body has developed a sense of apathy. Though we still look forward to the weekends, the reasons why we get excited stray from the core purpose of why thousands of people flock to South Bend on Saturdays in the fall — to watch the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, a team once considered the best in the nation. The tailgating, the reunions with family and friends, and the incredible pageantry of the college football atmosphere continue to attract visitors to campus, but many wonder if the aura of the golden helmet is losing its luster. 

By no means do I believe that football should be the be-all and end-all of life at the university. Notre Dame is about much more than football — that is what separates it from many other BCS schools. At the same time, Notre Dame's Catholic atmosphere and traditionally successful athletic teams, particularly football, are traits that differentiate our university from others of similar internationally recognized prestige. Having a competitive and successful football team is essential to maintaining the university's unique character. Football always has and always should be part of what makes this Catholic university in northern Indiana like no other place on earth. Today, Notre Dame football is at a crossroads. There has not been a truly great Irish team since Lou Holtz's tenure, and no Notre Dame undergraduates are old enough to appreciate the 1988 national championship run. Coach Brian Kelly is a proven winner in college football, but he has arguably never been presented with challenges like those he faces both on and off the field today. Although his first season has had its share of disappointments, now is the time to rally behind him rather than call for another rider on the 15-year Irish coaching carousel.

There is no guarantee that Notre Dame will return to the level of football excellence that once helped build the university's tremendous reputation. For now, however, all we can do is hope and wait. We can hope that Kelly is able to improve a damaged Irish program in the same way that he developed the unheralded Grand Valley State Lakers into national champions and a Division II dynasty.

And maybe part of this process is to wait for my classmates and I to receive our diplomas next May. Perhaps only then will Notre Dame be able to make progress towards becoming a dominant football powerhouse once again.
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Listening In...

Eager student to a friend:
I searched my bag to pull out a pen and accidentally pulled out a glowstick. So ready for this weekend.

Late-night television lover:
I love Conan as much as it is humanly possible to love a ginger.

Student who knows how to prioritize:
I'm sick but I can't take any Tylenol because then I can't drink.

Back In the Day...

Today, the norm is to live in the same dorm for all four years at Notre Dame. Until the early 1960s, however, this arrangement was unusual and often impossible to achieve. In the spring of 1961, the university began to consider a change to “Interclass Hall Residence.” Before that time, students lived in dorms based on grades, and ND even had a “Frosh Quad.” For the dorms not on “Frosh Quad,” the change proposed a ratio of students per dorm that would be 30 percent seniors, 30 percent juniors and 40 percent sophomores. Students who earned a higher GPA would be given the more sought-after rooms.

Advocates of the change envisioned a stronger, more influential Hall Council, with a Senate in the student government that would better represent each residence hall. They predicted that dispersing responsible student leaders would benefit the authority of dorm rectors and prefects. Additionally, students could enjoy more control over their social life because rules such as “morning checks” would be abolished.

Those wary of the adjustment, however, predicted the evolution of “dorm cliques,” because students wouldn’t have to branch out as much if they didn’t change dorms yearly. Despite this fear, ND eventually ceased enforcing yearly hall changes in an effort to enhance school spirit.

-Katie Fusco
Oh, dear, my little Giplings and Giplettes. My, oh, my. Tell me, what has happened to the days of yore when you all ran around sporting modest Minnie Mouse costumes and homemade hobo getups? What has become of trick-or-treating, pumpkin picking and good old-fashioned jumpin' around in leaves?! 'Twas not so long ago, my dearest Domers, that you were fighting with your mothers over whether or not to accessorize that pretty, pretty princess dress with a warm winter parka.

And yet here you stand, before my baffled eyes, running around in various versions of this year's "sexy [insert trend]" costumes. Mayhaps I'm turning into a crusty old curmudgeon -- after all, I was born in 1895 -- out it seems to me that your princess dresses have gotten significantly shorter, and that your winter jackets have been replaced with beer coats (and goggles, for that matter). The only doors you rascals went knocking on this year were the ones at Fever. And while they certainly tricked you into thinking their establishment is a treat, it's safe to say that Halloween has changed forever. And perhaps for the better, now that I've mulled it over ...

Though those adorable childhood anecdotes may be treasured around your hometown kitchen table, Gipp has no time for 'em! Out with the bags full of candy and in with the kegs full of questionable off-brand booze! Whether you spent this past week letting your inner Ke$ha out or running around town as a newly freed Chilean miner, the Gipper knows that you had more than a wee bit o' fun. Nothing gets past Papa Gipp, especially predicaments such as these.

In the spirit of shaking things up and trying on new looks, let's start this story at the

enq.: A boy wakes up in a Dorothy costume he had most certainly not left the

Giplings.

Our next spooky story takes place at a club not far across town from the first, where one of Notre Dame's finest fellas was also on the prowl. After several trips to the bar, it would seem to Gipp that his judgment was a wee bit wobbly. From across the room he spied a friend of his dancing the night away with a beautiful woman unlike any he had ever seen before! He knew at once that the lady must be his, and made his way through the crowd. His good pal graciously conceded, recognizing that these two were simply meant to be together.

The delightful duo got fresh and funky all through the night and into the morn'. When last call rang out across the bar, our loves truck lad decided that the two should head home together for a night of platonic cuddling. The lady acquiesced, and he quickly led her to his lair.

Now, Halloween is a time for putting on masks and pretending to be something that you are not for the other 364 dull and dreary days of the year. According to inside sources, what this particular lady was not was, well, a lady. For you see, my giddy Giplings, when the poor, confused chap awoke in the morning, he could not see his soulmate anywhere in sight. What he did see was a deflated blow-up doll lying beside him on what his roommates will forevermore refer to as "The Futon of Shame." Tsk, tsk, my tiny little tyrants! You have wreaked such havoc on this little town in such a short amount of time. And I'm so proud it's breakin' my heart! So as Halloween becomes a distant memory and dreams of Thanksgiving turkey begin to tantalize all you homesick little hellions, I beg of you ... don't forget to mess up, move on and mail in those tips! Nothing says Happy Holidays like publicly embarrassing your best friend and earning a fantastic free t-shirt in the process. Teach me how to Gipper, G. Q@ at gipper@nd.edu
Oh, dear, my little Giplings and Giplettes. My, oh, my. Tell me, what has happened to the days of yore when you all ran around sporting modest Minnie Mouse costumes and homemade hobo getups? What has become of trick-or-treating, pumpkin picking and good old-fashioned jumpin' around in leaves?! 'Twas not so long ago, my dearest Domers, that you were fighting with your mothers over whether or not to accessorize that pretty, pretty princess dress with a warm winter parka.

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In the spirit of shaking things up and trying on new looks, let’s start this story at the end: A boy wakes up in a Dorothy costume he had most certainly not left the house wearing, and upon reaching into his pocket for a phone, finds a pretty little pile of puke (again, not his). What’s that you say? Explain it, Gipp! I have to know!

Fret not, my faithful followers. We’ll get to the heart of the matter in no time at all! Back to the beginning we go, where this gentleman found himself preparing for All Hallow’s Eve in the company of his very best chums and a handle (or three, or four) of South Bend’s finest hooch. With light saber in hand and Han Solo by his side, our leading man, henceforth known only as Skywalker, set out for an otherwise ordinary night of collegiate Halloween debauchery.

Upon arriving at their watering hole of choice, the men surveyed the sampling of ladies. Flight Attendant Barbie or consenting-age Hannah Montana? The options were endless, but as you ‘lil’ geniuses can probably guess, young Skywalker made a beeline for Dorothy. She complimented her sparkly feet. She made a suggestive joke about his light saber. It was drunken mistake at first sight, my glorious little Giplings!

After the obligatory public bumpt-and-grind session, they decided to make it a party of two and headed for a cab. Unfortunately, the combination of bottom-shelf booze and dirty dancing got the better of poor Dorothy, and she suddenly felt the contents of her stomach creeping their way up north! Like a true lady, however, she managed to discreetly catch her cookies as they came out, and politely disposed of them in the pocket of her dress.

Now, how exactly young Skywalker ended up in the costume of his companion is not entirely known to the Gipper’s informants. But such is the mystery of Halloween, eh? The Gipp will allow his loyal listeners to fill in the gaps with their imaginations. Creative you must be, my Giplings.

Our next spooky story takes place at a club not far across town from the first, where one of Notre Dame’s finest fellas was also on the prowl. After several trips to the bar, it would seem to Gipp that his judgment was a wee bit wobbly. From across the room he spied a friend of his dancing the night away with a beautiful woman unlike any he had ever seen before! He knew at once that the lady must be his, and made his way through the crowd. His good pal graciously conceded, recognizing that these two were simply meant to be together.

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Teach me how to Gipper,

G.

Tip the Gipp
O O O O at gipper@nd.edu

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An Open Letter To

ND Emergency Alert System

Sarah Ceponis

Dear ND Emergency Alert System,

Thank you for looking out for me tirelessly, day in and day out, and always being ready to respond in the event of an emergency. Thank you for letting me know when these emergencies come, and thank you for letting me know somewhere between eight and 12 times in as many minutes. I wish my alarm clock were as persistent as you, ND Alert. I wish it had seven modes of communicating to me, circa 7:58 a.m., that I should probably wake up for my 8:00 a.m. final.

And that reminds me, ND Alert, of what I most appreciate about you: your ingenuity. Not many inanimate objects are savvy enough to know that Notre Dame students have learned never to trust just one source. When we write research papers, we’re required to have at least five sources. When we try to ascertain with whom our ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend made out last night, we make sure to ask at least five people. But of course I don’t need to tell you this golden rule of multiple sources — you already know. And that is why you deliver me alerts in a minimum of five forms, including telephone call, text message, email, carrier pigeon and, new this year, ESP signal.

I wonder if you might consider branching into Facebook, ND Alert. In the (very plausible) event that my phone falls into a toilet at The Backer, and I forget the password for my ND Gmail account because I just had to change it for the 23rd time, and the carrier pigeon gets lost, and I mess up the whole ESP thing because I am not Harry Potter, there would be no way for me to know of an ND Emergency! If you try Facebook, you could branch out in so many new ways. My advice: Do not settle for the standard wall post — it is so blase. I’d be far more excited to get a message from you, because who doesn’t love that element of secrecy? You could also poke me; it’s irritating, but such is the nature of emergencies. Or, an even better idea, you could get really creative and, say, tag me in a picture of a tornado. It would be a visual clue that an emergency is imminent.

ND Alert, take my advice as you will. You already do such a great job, but I just want to make sure you keep pace with the changing times. You made the right call on eliminating the use of the telegram this year, but you can still improve. Consider Twitter, consider fireworks spelling out messages in the sky, consider yodeling from atop the Dome. Nothing is too much. No amount of persistence is too excessive when it comes to alerting ND students of an emergency.

Until next time,

Sarah
An Open Letter To Sarah Ceponis

Dear ND Emergency Alert System,

Thank you for looking out for me tirelessly, day in and day out, and always being ready to respond in the event of an emergency. Thank you for letting me know when these emergencies come, and thank you for letting me know somewhere between eight and 12 times in as many minutes. I wish my alarm clock were as persistent as you, ND Alert. I wish it had seven modes of communicating to me, circa 7:58 a.m., that I should probably wake up for my 8:00 a.m. final.

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Until next time, Sarah

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Propositions Notre Dame Students Would Rather Have Voted On

Clara Riggs

- Sperry Top-Siders will be mandatory footwear.
- To keep students involved, The Observer will be delivered off campus.
- Fro-Yo will be handed out for free in front of DeBartolo every morning.
- Annexation of St. Mary's College.
- "Sorry for Partying" pinny will become a Get Out of Jail Free Card.
- Classes will be canceled in observation of national holidays.
- The library will stay open 24 hours.

RESULTS

- Exit polls indicated that students were unhappy that Uggs were not included.
- The off-campus voter population did not care.
- The dining halls are now accepting student volunteers to work -10 degree shifts.
- The Notre Dame female population and Old College voted "no."
- Scholastic is not responsible for any legal ramifications of testing this proposition.
- God says, "no."
- Enough students were looking forward to more nights of Hesburgh Challenges.
**What is your favorite thing about teaching at Notre Dame?**

I find it very interesting to teach gender and sexuality in a Catholic context. It's the reason I would never leave. Today, people are pitting Catholicism and feminism against each other, but they shouldn't be. I came here knowing next to nothing about Catholicism, but I have found that if we can bring the two together, we can think about the common good. I'd love to see what Notre Dame could do to think in terms of hybridity, to see how both traditions could be informed by each other and grow.

**You often deliver lectures on why the history of sexuality should be taught in Catholic universities. Why do you think so?**

Sexuality is important to Catholics, and students often feel torn on how to feel about their sexuality. History gives people a set of tools to understand sexuality in a critical way and make their own decisions in a way that is neither theological nor ideological. Things haven't always been the way they are now, and it changes people's perspective to work through the history of sexuality, so this makes some logical sense — even if they arrive at the same beliefs they originally had, they gain a better understanding of how they might have gotten there.

**What would be your dream lecture to hear?**

I've been so lucky as a college professor. I've gotten to look up things, to read things, to hear things. If I really want to find something out, it's my job to go learn it, which is an amazing privilege. I would most like to hear a lecture that the people who are in my class now would give when they are my age about the things they study as historians in the future. I want to see what would or had become the important topics for them. Or, I'd like to hear the lecture that people will give about the American abortion problem years from now. My guess is that in 120 years, people will look back on the arguments of pro-life and pro-choice like the way people now look back on gold standard arguments. At the time, they were arguing about the economy, but about something they didn't really understand — and they were ready to kill for it. My sense [about the abortion debate] is that there's a glitch somewhere that makes this subject impossible to talk about because of certain preconceptions and I'm hoping that we can get past that without fighting the civil war. But I would love to see where it goes.

**Why do you think it's so important to examine the way gender and sexuality play into history?**

When I was in graduate school, women's history was new and they wanted to say everyone should study it because women are half the world. But the world is so complicated, so everyone has to come up with a set of questions. We all have a little piece of what's true, and we can't talk about everything at once. The more I study the history of gender and sexuality the more I want to understand it. For instance, currently I'm trying to figure out how abortion became the problem it is.

**Will historians of our time continue to find studying gender and sexuality just as interesting?**

Every generation asks certain questions. When I first started teaching, the most important thing to establish was that gender was constructed, but eventually I realized that my students had grown up learning that almost everything is constructed. The questions keep changing, and there will probably be a very different set of problems in the future than the problems we have now.

**If you could have lived in any other time period, which would you choose?**

I couldn't possibly have lived in a different time period — I would have been a different person. I'm really happy as a woman and someone of Jewish descent. I have a totally different set of options now than I would have as a woman living in 19th century France.

**Was it always your goal to become a professor? What would you be doing if you weren't teaching?**

I wanted to be an actress. I wanted to be Meryl Streep or Blythe Danner. I wanted to do alternative acting and I was working with a feminist theater in Rhode Island, but when [President Ronald] Reagan was elected, the funding for it was cut. It became clear to me that there was no future in that. It connects, though, to what I'm doing now. I was studying texts, and I love studying texts.

**What's the most useful thing you learned in college?**

I took an art history class, and at first I was so confused by all the Renaissance art I was studying. I remember finally looking at one painting and being able to describe it. I'll never forget the sense of being able to translate what I was seeing into words, or being given those tools.

**What would you do if you won the lottery?**

I'd take some time off and finish my book. It'd have to be a big lottery, though.

**If you could have a superpower, what would it be?**

I'd make sure everybody understood what I'm talking about in class.
Kelly McGauley
U.S. History and Gender Studies Professor Gail Bederman
didn't always believe that we could teach gender and sexuality in a
Catholic context. However, she has found ways to bring
hybridity into her classes, allowing students to explore
both sexuality and feminism in a critical way and make their own decisions
in a way that is neither theological nor ideological. Things haven't always
been the way they are now, and it changes people's perspective to work through
the history of Catholicism and its teachings.

Bederman believes that students should be encouraged to learn about
catholicism, but it should be done in a way that is not
dominated by one's own beliefs. Instead, she wants students to gain a better
understanding of how traditions could be informed by each other and grow.

Sexuality is important to Catholics, and students often feel torn on how to
deal with it. Bederman believes that students who are comfortable with
their sexuality will be more successful in their studies.

She is most excited about the possibility of hearing from students who are
my age about the things they study as historians in the future. She wants
them to be able to look back on the arguments of pro-life and pro-choice
and see how much has changed over the years.

Bederman has been a professor for many years and is currently writing a
two-volume history on the earliest origins of sexuality. She hopes that this
work will continue to be important for future generations.

She believes that everyone should study gender and sexuality because
women are half the world. It is important to understand how different
beliefs have shaped our current perspective on sexuality.

She has been happy to exchange ideas with others in the field of gender
and sexuality studies. She believes that there is still much to learn
about the subject, and she is excited to see where it goes in the future.

Kelly McGauley
U.S. History and Gender Studies Professor Gail Bederman
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