Motivation

Evaluating the minds of Notre Dame students
Is God calling you?
Do you know?

We heard the call and gave over our life in service to the Church and the world in a more explicit way. And our life has not been the same since. We have found purpose, joy, and fulfillment. Christ invited and we answered.

Is God calling you to join us? Come and see.
Is God calling you? Do you know? We heard the call and gave over our life in service to the Church and the world in a more explicit way. And our life has not been the same since. We have found purpose, joy, and fulfillment. Christ invited and we answered. Is God calling you to join us? Come and see.
I was doing so well the first few issues. Ed notes would be finished with two nights of production left and I could focus on my main purpose around the Scholastic office: ordering food. Now, everyone else is putting the finishing touches on the few pages that are not complete and I am just beginning this. As with a lot of work lately, I am having trouble getting myself to start. What’s worse is that this is the last issue of the semester, so I won’t have Scholastic as an excuse for not doing assignments anymore.

The end of the semester also means the last chance to go out at Notre Dame in 2010 which means you will see more ugly sweaters than even Santa’s elves could stomach. Assistant Culture Editor Kristy Cлоething investigates the latest drinking craze across college campuses and its ramifications for the ND party culture on p. 14.

There comes a time, however, when sitting down to finish those papers becomes inevitable. With exams looming and staying under the covers becoming more appealing now that we’re walking in a winter blizzard-land, doing anything even resembling studying is repellent. Once you’ve read Scholastic cover to cover (as if you don’t do that every issue), flip back to p. 35 for staff writer Sarah Ceponis’s suggestions for further procrastination.

Which brings me to this issue’s cover story: Motivation, not only for studying and achievements but the drives that cause students to engage in all they do. This issue, Associate Editor Clara Ritger delves into Notre Dame students’ minds to see what drives them.

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

We will see you in the “spring” semester! To all of our staff going abroad, you will be missed. Be sure to read this month’s Gipper column (p. 33) for a special holiday-themed installment.

Thanks for a great semester,

Erica Pepitone
Editor-in-Chief
Like many New Jersey natives, I feel a special kinship with Bruce Springsteen. I may have never worked in a steel mill or driven Mary, Rosie or Wendy away on the back of my motorcycle, but I can relate to the feeling of wanting to get out and experience other things (also known as "pulling out of here to win"). Not to mention, I can pull off a bandana around my forehead, a v-neck and a sleeveless denim shirt.

The idea is cliche for college students — wanting to backpack across Europe, road trip across the country, join the Peace Corps — but it is cliché for a reason. Case in point: I have not spent more than two and half weeks at a time at home in almost two years.

The maturation that comes with going away to college, traveling to another country, providing your own meals and learning the importance of separating the whites from the darks is an integral part of growing up. Stagnancy is a dangerous condition from which it is difficult to escape. What begins as convenience can easily become habit. Without ever leaving home, you run the risk of getting stuck — comfortable but developmentally arrested. Placing yourself against an unfamiliar background allows you to more clearly see yourself and how you fit into the world.

There is, however, something to be said for being able to point to an empty patch of sidewalk and say that there was a bench where you had your first kiss in front of the pet bakery back when it was a nail salon. Before it was the toy store.

For running into people who know the names of your siblings and your cat. Who not only knew you back when you had headgear, but were actually willing to be seen with you. Poignant life events do not need to be relived because there is an implicit understanding between parties who experienced them together.

And, yes, it is impossible to go back to the way things were. People move away and die. Shops close and the shoreline erodes despite the new sea grass planted since you were there last. You discover that you no longer have anything but a shared past in common with those whom you used to be close or that your old haunts now have new regulars who don't recognize you. The effect is disorienting and, at times, upsetting.

Even if there has not been much temporal distance, the ability to understand the place and, more importantly, yourself in the context of the world ages you. Most strikingly, you are not the same person you were and therefore can no longer see things the way you used to through older lenses.

Returning home is like flipping through the pages of an old diary: funny and at times cringe-worthy, but ultimately illuminating. Though no one at college may know about the time you had to go to the hospital on Christmas Eve to have a ring sawed off your finger, you can bet your family and childhood friends will not allow you to forget it, even if it happened almost a decade ago. In teasing and keeping you in your place, they remind you of where you came from, which has a great bearing on who you are.

Life chapters that seem far removed cast their shadows against concrete day-to-day dealings. Events and people we had forgotten, whether from distance, lack of mental rehearsal or desire to forget, resurface and color your perception of yourself and the life you currently lead.

It does not, however, do to focus on the past or strive to return to a time and place that can never again be the way it was. Returning home is not for the sake of resting on any past accomplishments or living in the Glory Days, but to be reminded of a history of strength and growth. Home is a place where past struggles can be placed in the context of a life — there is perspective that is impossible to have in the thick of the moment. There is a collection of thousands of times when you were new and green and somehow floundered through.

Home is not exclusive to the town in which you were born. It is where you grew up, whether that occurred at age 12 or 22. No matter how long it has been since you've visited, melancholy and happiness are simultaneously experienced upon realizing what has radically changed and radically stayed the same. It is your hometown, the city in which you studied abroad and, eventually, Notre Dame — a place we will outgrow and return to as a marker of who we were and how far we have come.

The views of this author are not necessarily the views of Scholastic Magazine.
A Common Cause: Students gather at the Joyce Center Field House for Stand with Sudan Peace Rally.
the stories we live
How to Combat Awkward Gender Relations at ND

Calie Mohamed

Tired of the irritating, uncomfortable gender relations at Notre Dame? Want life to be normal like it would be at any other university in America, without parietals and rectors breathing down your necks as you try to get the number of the person you have been eyeing all night at a dorm party? Have no fear, Scholastic has come up with a few helpful suggestions for combating awkward gender relations at Notre Dame.

1. Avoid the dining hall at popular times Don’t want to run into that person you were really close to on Friday night? Avoid the dining hall during popular hours – especially 6:30 dinner – at all costs. Nothing screams awkward more than you holding a banana in the dining hall and running into that person you were with last weekend.

2. Break parietals The rebel type? If so, break the most hated “golden rule” of all dorms. Don’t wait until next weekend to hang out with a significant other of the opposite sex. Instead, extend your night with that person. Who cares if you are breaking the rules, you’re doing it all for “love,” right? Just know Scholastic won’t pay for your ResLife.

3. Be THAT guy or girl You know, the one who is constantly the only girl in a group of 10 guys or the only guy in a group of girls. Be the one to break the mold and hang out with members of the opposite sex. Pretty soon you will be so close with that group that they won’t even notice you’re of another gender. Chances are all the people of your gender will hate you out of jealousy, but who cares? You will be in the prime “friend zone” situation with those of the opposite sex.

4. Limit Your Vocabulary Girls: Don’t you ever say the words “date,” “marriage,” “walk around the lakes” or “Lyons Arch” around guys. If you do, they will most definitely “lose your number” or have a “broken phone” any time you try to talk to them. Guys: Don’t say the words “I have a girlfriend,” “sex” or, if they’re really innocent, “penis” around girls. You will scare them off – well, maybe not ALL girls.

5. Receive Holy Orders Give up on gender relations altogether and become a priest or nun. The idea may seem crazy at first, but if you really think about it, you will be saving yourself many nights of stress involving the opposite sex. Also, becoming a priest or nun takes the uncomfortable out of gender relations as your slate is wiped clean, and you will have a group of automatic friends.
Student government hosts Whine Week

Tommasina Dornel

In an effort to improve their dialogue with students, Student Government hosted “Whine Week” from Nov. 8-12, stationing representatives in both dining halls, LaFortune and dorm hall council meetings. Originally intended to be a one-day event, the Senate-led initiative blossomed into a much larger and more comprehensive week for students to make suggestions and air grievances.

Students were able to speak directly with their representatives or, if pressed for time, write them a note. “We hoped to catch a wide variety of people and make it convenient for them,” student body Vice President Andrew Bell says.

Over the course of five days, Whine Week representatives received a larger response than anticipated. Suggestions ranged from comically ridiculous roommate complaints to more serious food- or safety-related ideas. Returning quarter dogs to the price of their namesake was a popular complaint. An interesting suggestion, student body President Catherine Soler says, was immunity from parietal-related disciplinary action during fire alarms for the safety of those afraid to leave a room during such an emergency for fear of being discovered.

Not only was Whine Week successful for those involved in student government, but it also served to help to raise awareness among students. “One of the great things is that each Senator is working with us,” Soler says.

For example, several students asked about the possibility of getting a Red Box movie rental machine in LaFortune, which is now being discussed with contacts from Red Box. But what many students do not know is that there is a large file cabinet containing hundreds of movies for free student rental in the Student Government office of the second floor in LaFortune. “We are really happy with the response from Whine Week,” Soler says. “This gave [students] the chance to realize that these are the people in their own dorms promoting them … A lot of the things people whined about, many didn’t know that there are already services on campus that they could go to. And we want everyone to know that we are still open to complaints. You can just email us.” Student body Chief of Staff Nick Ruof says that although many of the ideas that surfaced during Whine Week may take a long time to implement, they are nonetheless being explored. “Some suggestions take time [to realize], but all are being considered,” he says.

Top Five

Excuses for Your Bad Grades

1. How many times can you say you partied during reading days?
2. Turns out just because you don’t go to class doesn’t mean you won’t receive a grade.
3. There was only so much time left to drink Four Lokos.
4. The midnight showing of Harry Potter only happens eight times in a lifetime.
5. “Call of Duty,” again.

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Two months after a Rutgers University freshman committed suicide in response to his public outing, Notre Dame celebrated Solidarity Sunday, an annual event that recognizes and promotes inclusion of the gay, lesbian and bisexual community on campus (LGBTQ).

Solidarity Sunday, which occurred on Sunday, Nov. 21, is sponsored by the Core Council, an advisory council to the Vice President of Student Affairs. Co-Chair of the Core Council Rachel Washington says that its dual role on campus is “to create a safe space for anyone to talk, for anyone different, and to educate campus about the issues of LGBTQ students.”

Each year on Solidarity Sunday, masses across campus include a special petition for inclusion. After mass, a volunteer reads a brief statement about Catholic teachings on inclusion and acceptance of diversity. Students also receive copies of “The Spirit of Inclusion,” a statement written by a sub-committee of the Student Affairs portion of the Board of Trustees in 1997. This statement explains that Catholicism embraces diversity of all forms, saying, “We welcome all people, regardless of color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, social or economic class and nationality, for example, precisely because of God’s calling to treat others as we desire to be treated.”

“In the 96-97 era, things were still pretty tense on campus, regarding the LGBTQ community. The students, as well as the administration, were trying to come up with a way of addressing specific issues,” Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Co-Chair of the Core Council Sr. Sue Dunn says. “The Spirit of Inclusion” was the administration’s response to this tension, as well as the creation of a Student Affairs standing committee to discuss the issues of LGBTQ students.

The standing committee met monthly from 1996 until 2006, at which point the administration decided that issues of the LGBTQ community would be better served in a different setting. Following this decision, the Core Council was formed, which would “involve more students, some administrative departments and others,” Dunn says.

Today, the Core Council consists of eight students, at least half of whom identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual, as well as members from four administrative departments, including the Student Ministry, Counseling, the Gender Relations Center and Student Affairs.

These events are a way of showing people they aren’t alone. It’s a way of promoting the ‘We are ND’ idea and creating that ND family for everyone.

– Rachel Washington, Core Council Co-Chair

Campus Ministry, Counseling, the Gender Relations Center and Student Affairs.

Three semesters ago, the Coalition to the Core Council was formed. The Coalition consists of similarly-minded committees of Student Government, student organizations, and individuals who work to co-sponsor Core Council programming and help with event publicity.

This year’s Solidarity Coffeehouse, held on the Thursday night before Solidarity Sunday, was the direct result of feedback from the Coalition. When students asked to extend the programming beyond Sunday, Washington asked the Core Council members to brainstorm possible events and the Coffeehouse was born.

The Solidarity Coffeehouse, held in Geddes Hall, gave students the opportunity to casually talk about LGBTQ issues. The discussion was interspersed with dramatic readings of song lyrics, original poems, published poetry and portions of “The Spirit of Inclusion.” Over 35 students attended the event. For Washington, the event’s success was its inclusiveness. “Anyone was welcome. It was very chill, the poems weren’t even all about LGBTQ — it was more about solidarity,” Washington says.

The Core Council is most well known on campus for sponsoring special events like Solidarity Sunday and its larger counterpart, StaND Against Hate Week, which is held during the spring semester. These events are “a way of showing people they aren’t alone. And it’s a way of promoting the ‘We are ND’ idea, and creating that ND family for everyone,” Washington says.

The Core Council also provides more concrete educational programming and support for the LGBTQ community throughout the year. It organizes the mandatory CommUnity sessions for freshmen, which promote “the type of atmosphere and mutual respect that we expect in residence halls,” Dunn says. “Coffee and Conversation in the Como” provides monthly opportunities for students to meet and interact with student members of the Core Council and their allies.

Another monthly program, “Conversation in the Gold Room,” provides a safe space for members of the LGBTQ community to talk with each other and to receive advice from the Counseling Center on a specific topic. More information about these events can be found at http://corecouncil.nd.edu/current_events/index.shtml.

The Core Council actively works to let LGBTQ students know that they are not alone, through the creation of safe spaces and events like Solidarity Sunday. Moreover, all
ANCETOACCEPTANCE

the members of the Core Council try to be resources for students, providing information and support. Dunn says that with these resources and with active monitoring and support from allies, tragedies can be avoided.

With this month’s Solidarity Sunday, four years after the creation of the Core Council and 13 years after “The Spirit of Inclusion,” students and administrators have an opportunity to assess the changes in attitudes on campus and to assess the work that still needs to be done.

Both Washington and Dunn say that campus attitudes have changed but not enough.

“The atmosphere on campus is much different than it was in 2001 in that people do feel more included, recognized and I think, accepted. We’d like people to get beyond tolerating differences, and to accepting differences,” Dunn, who has worked at Notre Dame since 2001, says.

Washington, who identifies as bisexual, says that Notre Dame exists between tolerance and acceptance. “I think at one point that we were just tolerating, but we’ve moved a little bit toward accepting. But we’re not there yet.”

Freshman Alex Coccia says that events like Solidarity Sunday and the mandatory freshman CommUnity meetings are “wonderful for raising awareness about the difficulties that LGBTQ students face on this campus, but they do not solve the problems” of the LGBTQ community. Both national issues, such as the Rutgers student suicide, and local issues, such as last year’s reappearance of the offensive “Gay? Go to Hell” t-shirts during StaND Against Hate week and the difficulty of getting permission to march for LGBTQ rights on campus, demonstrate the continued need for change.

Washington says administrative change does occur but it occurs behind the scenes, where it is invisible to students. One such example is the President of Student Affairs’ recent invitation to all Core Council members to personally discuss their problems with LGBTQ issues on campus. Nonetheless, Dunn says that it “gets very complicated,” since the university needs to remain true to Catholic teachings.

For many students, true acceptance requires

For many students, true acceptance requires the university to include “sexual orientation” in its legal nondiscrimination clause.

the university to include “sexual orientation” in its legal nondiscrimination clause. Although harassment on the basis of “sexual orientation” is expressly prohibited by university guidelines, students since at least 1996 have claimed that this prohibition is not enough.

“Acceptance must begin at the core of the university and that is with the administration. If it is made clear by the university that it not only does not tolerate harassment of LGBTQ students but also works towards the active inclusion of LGBTQ students, faculty and staff, and the education of all students, then things will be changed for the better,” Coccia says.

Notre Dame has, however, resisted this movement. An open letter to the Notre Dame community from the officers of the university in 1997 explained that Notre Dame will not include “sexual orientation” in its legal clause due to its likelihood of being misinterpreted by the outside community. Catholic teaching promotes inclusion of individuals with a homosexual orientation, but denounces homosexual activity, or any other extramarital sexual activity. Since harassment is already prohibited, the university wrote that this legal clause may lead people to believe that Notre Dame endorses or supports homosexual activity.

Hastening this or any administrative change can be difficult, but Coccia says it is possible with student activism. Administrative change requires visibility of student needs, Coccia says. He says that students need to work to make it “clear to the administration that we, the student body which the university is supposed to protect as its child, are not happy with the current policy.”

For Washington, however, adding “sexual orientation” to the nondiscrimination clause is not enough. Although the Core Council is helping, she says that LGBTQ students still do not feel accepted or included. Washington says that Notre Dame students need to make it “more about human beings than about sexuality or any other label.” She says by listening closely, using inclusive language and being willing to discuss LGBTQ issues, students can become allies to the LGBTQ community and make “people more willing to come out, and more willing to talk about their problems, which will eventually turn Notre Dame into an inclusive campus.”

**Notre Dame students need to make it “more about human beings than about sexuality or any other label.”**

— Washington
TransPose [dance collective] presents their first production titled "Dante's Inferno."
the things we do
Reading days begin!

“The Santa Clause” airs on ABC Family at 8 p.m.

Need a study break? Check out the Don Carlo Opera in DPAC from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or the Glee Club winter concert at 2:30, 6:00 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets for both shows are available online at DPAC’s Web site.

Check out the men’s and women’s basketball teams today. The women play at 2:00 p.m. in the JACC and the men play at 8:30 p.m. in the JACC. Go Irish!

Hockey vs. Northern Michigan at 7:30 p.m.

Third Sunday in Advent

Admiring the Christmas Decorations in O’Shag? Stop by the Snite to check out an exhibition of Francisco de Goya’s etchings. The artwork will be there until January 9.

Last day of finals!

“Miracle on 34th Street” airs on ABC Family at 6 p.m.

“Home Alone 2” is playing tonight on ABC Family at 8 p.m. Flip on the tube to watch one of the greatest Christmas movies of all time.

Christmas Eve!

Merry Christmas!
The big day has finally arrived. Among things Notre Dame students love, including Harry Potter, relationships, coffee, claddaugh rings and North Face, Christmas is definitely at the top of the list.
Behind the Scenes: An Inside Look at Notre Dame’s Unvisited Locales

My Fellow Domers,

Just when you were beginning to think that the Notre Dame bubble was a figment of your imagination, look again. Not only do we have our own city with a United States Postal Service office, but we have our own firehouse and power plant which serve our Indiana oasis. Located at the north end of campus, these facilities truly work behind the scenes to make your Notre Dame experience possible.

In November 1879, the university created the fire department to prevent disastrous fires, like the one that occurred the previous April, which incinerated the Main Building and devastated campus. Over time, the fire duties were split between the brothers who stayed in the fire station and volunteers who came from the power plant. Starting in 1961, students served as firefighters for free room and board, and by 1980 the first career firefighters were hired to work full time. Today, the university maintains 17 full-time and 30 part-time firefighters, with responsibilities ranging from burnt popcorn alarms to serious medical emergencies. The Notre Dame Fire Department responds to as many as 1,300 calls per year, and the university is considered the finest protected and finest detected university in the United States.

“All of the firefighters who have lived here [in the firehouse] do it because they love it,” Fire Chief William Farhat says. “Our visitors always tell us, ‘That’s got to be the coolest job in the world!’” While the fire department seems like it is a smaller part of the university’s support system, those serving say they feel very proud of the work they do. “Only 14 colleges actually have their own fire departments,” Farhat says, “and many of those maintain student firefighters rather than hiring full-time professionals like Notre Dame.

“Maintaining the department is costly, but the university has made the commitment to have NDFD [since fire safety is very important],” Farhat says. Today, the firehouse is equipped with three complex alarm tracking systems and a graphics display of each building on campus. Most schools don’t have those kinds of systems, and Notre Dame’s budget for the fire department puts it at the forefront of fire safety technology.

Photos and memorabilia indicate the rich history that surrounds the fire department. Seemingly out of place on the walls, though, was an axe from the Los Angeles Fire Department. “We maintain close ties with the LAFD,” Farhat says. “We have hosted them for the big football games, like USC, as a way to help them out. The LA guys love to stay in Our Lady, and we always change gilts—so much so,

The Power Plant

The power plant serves an important function at Notre Dame: the first university in the United States to generate electricity. Improvements to the generation of electricity, chilled water and steam started in the 1950s and continue today. “We handle most of the utilities on campus,” director of utilities Paul Kempf says.

The distribution control system allows the power plant to optimize its processes by seeing the functions all at once. “We buy about half of our power and we produce the other half, so we have to make sure that the input and output match up,” Kempf says. “If we can run the system and respond instantaneously to dips, then the university stays running.” The system projects the processes of all the functioning elements of the plant — the boilers, the generators, the chillers, the air quality controllers — onto the screen so that anyone can check up on the processes at any moment.

The symbol of the power plant, the large water tower, balances the pressure for the system. “Having the water suspended in the air creates a buffer for our system,” Kempf says.

Today the power plant looks to continue developing green sustainability initiatives. “This is an opportunity for us,” Kempf says. “The public is interested in it and the university has invested over $10 million in conservation projects. There are low costs associated with establishing environmentally safe, long-term efficiency at the plant.”

Currently, the plant is looking to reduce energy output through a number of Energy Conservation Measures, including replacing lighting systems with compact fluorescents. “We have reduced almost 10 percent of the energy used on the old part of campus,” Kempf says. “Now we’re looking at the research buildings, problem-solving to figure out how to maintain safety while reducing high energy products like furnace hoods.

Until our next adventure,

Scholastic
This semester, it was almost impossible to avoid the chatter about the newest sensation in alcohol: Four Loko. An energy drink as well as the means to a quick buzz, Four Loko became immensely popular across campus. About six shots worth of alcohol and five or six cups of coffee's worth of caffeine per can, the drink contains a mixture of depressants and stimulants that has been linked to heart attacks. Yet students continued to drink it, even after the statistics were released. "Numbers are up across the board," Mara Trionfero of the University's Office of Alcohol and Drug Education says. "We are seeing much higher BACs - more over .2, which is very high. Students are drinking themselves sick."

"The taste is terrible, but I think the appeal comes from the caffeine. Especially when I am feeling a little tired and do not want to go out as much, it is nice to get that jolt. It's a great pre-game drink," senior environmental science major Luke Stavole says.

And perhaps that is part of the problem: With the alcohol content in a Four Loko, experts say it should not be a pre-game drink - it should be the only drink.

So why do students feel compelled to drink so heavily?

"For the most part, the mentality is that drinking is a stress relief. It's how many people blow off steam," junior Program of Liberal Studies major James Stein says.

This "work hard, play hard" mentality seems to dominate the Notre Dame social culture. The average Notre Dame student not only devotes a majority of his or her time to studies, but is also involved in countless organizations and service projects.

With their time spread thin, students do not have time to drink during the week, therefore, all the drinking they are missing out on between Sunday and Wednesday is crammed into Thursday, Friday and Saturday. "Having worked all week, the weekend is the time to unwind," junior political science major Thomas Kenealy says. "While ND would like to think that it has a 'work hard, play hard' mentality, drinking is definitely compartmentalized to Thursday through Saturday, which is not the same for my friends at various state schools," junior English and Film, Television and Theatre major Tara Duffy says.

Due to recent off-campus arrests, most of the unwinding has been confined to an aspect of social life at Notre Dame — dorm drinking. Notre Dame students who are of age are allowed to drink beer and wine in their dorm rooms. This drinking culture is so integrated into social life at the university that students pick and choose where to go on weekends depending on their moods.

"Each hall has its own drinking culture," Trionfero says. "Because students are spending more time on-campus this semester, they are making safer choices," Ryan Hall rector Breyan Tornfolio says. "Students, or at least the women, are not getting as out-of-control on campus as off campus. Part of it, I think, comes from a threat of ResLife, as well as a respect for the hall staff," she says.

Students use alcohol, and perhaps specifically Four Loko, as a means to "cut through the 'ND Awkward,'" senior history major Victoria McBride says. It seems students are learning to socialize through alcohol, using it as a means of "social lubrication," as one anonymous student says, in order to make it easier to talk to people they do not know, especially during freshman year. "The down side to that is that often students end up with drinking buddies rather than friends," Trionfero says. "Life is awkward," junior FTT major Sean Leyes says, "and people try to use alcohol to avoid it rather than dealing with it. But awkward happens in real life, too, and alcohol isn't always there."

Whether or not the amount of drinking at Notre Dame pales in comparison to that at other, bigger schools, it still affects the way that students form their social habits. "Though not as many students are failing out because they are majoring in partying, it doesn't mean everything is good here," Trionfero says. "In college, you're creating habits you carry into adulthood."
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Junior engineering major Olivia Colangelo can tell you about almost any subject, from Europe's capitals to the latest celebrity gossip. If you go on vacation with her, don't waste money on a tour guide because she probably knows more.

Olivia claims she'll never use her vast store of knowledge, but she's being modest. In November, she was one of only 15 students in the nation to make it onto Jeopardy! College Championship.

You might think that competing on such a fast-paced show would be terrifying, but Olivia, who has played trivia games throughout her life, says it's therapeutic.

“It's kind of relaxing, I guess. It's pretty nerve-wracking when you get up there, but just getting in a rhythm, listening to someone buzzing is somehow relaxing to me, even though there’s a lot of pressure,” she says.

Olivia says she has loved Jeopardy! for as long as she can remember, and her life has unfolded into a 'Rudy'-like saga leading up to the show. As Rudy admired the Fighting Irish, hoping someday to be on the team, Olivia watched the show religiously, wanting to join the ranks of Ken Jennings and Alex Trebek. As a child, she entertained herself on long car rides by studying maps and atlases, and she competed in the National Geography Bee in eighth grade. (Trebek even hosted the final rounds.)

But Rudy only applied to Notre Dame four times, while Olivia tried out for Jeopardy! nine times. Since 2006, when the show started offering online tryouts, she took every available test. This year, all of her geography bees and random knowledge paid off. She advanced to the second round of tryouts last spring, and at the beginning of the school year, Jeopardy! told her she made it on the show.

While some students spent last fall training for the Chicago Marathon, Olivia followed an intense mental regimen. She says that there is no point trying to learn everything that could be on the show because she has seen categories as ridiculous as “types of vultures.” But despite her demanding engineering courses, she found time to watch Jeopardy! daily while practicing with a makeshift buzzer. She also had an excuse to play Sporcle and read Entertainment Weekly without feeling guilty.

“Luckily, or not-so-luckily for my classes, I spend way too much time on Entertainment Weekly and watching E!,” Olivia says. “I’m pretty confident in my pop culture knowledge. One of the questions was about ‘Kourtney and Khloe Take Miami,’ so all my E! watching has paid off, I guess.”

But nothing prepared Olivia for college-aged guys with extensive knowledge of Anne Hathaway.

“We had a category about Anne Hathaway — the actress, not Shakespeare’s wife,” she says. “All my friends [couldn’t believe] boys were beating me at Anne Hathaway questions because they were about ‘The Princess Diaries’ and ‘The Devil Wears Prada,’ and the boys got those. They got one about ‘Bride Wars’. I knew the answers, but they were just buzzing in faster.”

Olivia was born to answer her Final Jeopardy question, which asked the players to identify a company by its address. The company, luckily for Olivia, happened to be Heinz Ketchup, which is headquartered in her hometown of Pittsburgh.

“I live 17 minutes from headquarters,” she says. “When I’m in a random place and there’s Heinz ketchup, I like to take a picture of it. In the past year, I’ve found Heinz on a table in a pub in Windsor Castle, in a cafe across from Notre Dame in Paris and in a Burger King in Alicante, Spain.”

She also met some competitors on the show who are just as dedicated to trivia as she is. One contestant bought a Jeopardy! buzzer online to use while she practiced, and another was Olivia’s long-lost friend from her junior high geography matches.

“One of the other people was actually at the National Geography Bee with me when I was in eighth grade,” she says. “He figured that out before we went and called the Jeopardy! offices, panicked that we wouldn’t be allowed to compete with each other because we already knew each other.”

Although she didn’t win, Olivia achieved her goals of answering Daily Double and Final Jeopardy questions and earning $15,000.

“I was nervous because going in I wanted to answer Final Jeopardy right,” she says. “When that question came up I was so relieved. I’m finished writing before [Trebek] finishes the question — you can see that. I just had a huge smile on my face.”

— Claire Reising

The views of this author are not necessarily the views of Scholastic Magazine.
Some songs define a generation while others define a decade. Still others define the cramped, sweat-drenched, gender relations experiments known as dorm parties. No party is complete without a slickly produced, superficial sing-a-long, and in this month's issue, Scholastic counts down the top five songs that defined the year in dorm parties (and off-campus parties, too).

"DJ Got Us Fallin' In Love," Usher: Usher faded from the pop music scene in the mid-2000s, and his return to it, "O.M.G.," sputtered in the charts. With the release of "DJ," however, Usher returned to the deep bass beats and catchy choruses that defined songs such as "Yeah!" that catapulted him to superstardom. It is certainly not perfect. The song should be shorter, and Pitbull's 30-second, momentum-slowing appearance is misplaced. Despite these flaws, Usher delivers a rousing party song that harkens back to days of old (as in elementary school old).

"Teenage Dream," Katy Perry: After the success of "I Kissed a Girl," one would not expect this sexpot's next hit to be a romantic pop ballad in the vein of Taylor Swift's "Love Story." Yet the charming if occasionally whiny single proves that there is plenty of room for another tween idol. The song's simple melody provides an effective backdrop for Perry's catchy lyrics. Not that all the sex appeal has vanished; "skin tight jeans" are certainly not in Swift's vocabulary. Sure to be found on playlists for many years, "Teenage Dream" was one of the best party songs of the year.

"Like a G6," Far East Movement: Club music is a rarity on campus. Except the occasional Deadmaus, party playlists are generally dominated by catchy pop songs and classic rock. Far East Movement, however, is able to envelop catchy pop lyrics in a club music package, giving party goers something to dance and sing to. The dance-worthy synth beats and bass flow are combined with sing-a-long lyrics to create one of the best party songs of the year. (In case you were wondering, a G6 is the next generation Lear Jet.)

"Dynamite," Taio Cruz: Cruz's single is a hall staff nightmare. "Rock this club?" "Go all night?" His ignorance of parietals aside (or perhaps because of it), the single lit up the airways and dorm parties in 2010. A mix of simple, repetitive lyrics and fast-paced tones, "Dynamite's" formula is unoriginal, yet its ability to capture the party atmosphere transcends its weaknesses.

"F**k You," Cee Lo Green: With an unlikely combination of 1960s Motown, vulgarity-laden choruses that is almost too vulgar to be taken seriously, the oddly reflective verses ground the song, which gives it lyrical depth — rare among contemporary pop music. Make no mistake: The song's appeal does not stem from its verses but rather its chorus, which makes screaming "F**k You" much more than male dorm vernacular. With a name unfit for print, Green's chart-topping single was the "must play" in 2010.
Clara Ritger

Junior Arabic, Film and Theatre major Carolyn Demanelis barely manages to get a good night’s rest as she balances school and extracurricular activities. After working out and attending morning classes, she leads production meetings for the show she is directing, then races straight to band rehearsal, and then back to an actors’ rehearsal for her show. She makes it to LaFortune by 11 p.m., when she starts her homework, and if all goes well, crashes in bed by 3 a.m. Some days her only source of nutrition is Grab ’n Go.

Her story is not unlike that of other Notre Dame students. “I have this problem with over-commitment,” senior accounting and theology major Kayla Bishop says. What is it that propels students to balance multiple interests, or become so involved in one activity that they barely have time for anything else? Is it a part of being at Notre Dame or just a characteristic of certain individuals?

**Motivation - Not Just a Personality Trait**

Some students may be motivated to go to football games, others to study hard and ace tests. Just because one student performs better in class than another does not make him or her more motivated than the other. Psychology professor Julie Turner studied motivation with a group of middle school math students and found that all people are motivated by four needs: to feel competent, to exercise autonomy, to belong to a community and to find their pursuits meaningful. “All people are motivated by the same kinds of things, but some people pursue some goals over others,” Turner says.

People often find meaning and a sense of belonging through community service. “I think meaningfulness is very big in community service. It’s about creating or trying to join a community that you have never been familiar with. To be welcomed into homes and to be fed is an example of developing a sense of community — it is very flattering to be invited into a community that is not your own,” Turner says.

Universities are good places for students to feel competency and exercise autonomy. Pursuing higher education is not only an autonomous choice, but mastering a skill represents competence. “For some things, you may do them just to get better at it, but then you feel
Student Leaders: Motivated

The “Unmotivated” - A Different Outlook on Learning

“Attendance in class? Depends on if I like the class. Otherwise I don’t go if I don’t have to,” senior biochemistry major Mike Attanasi says.

He would classify himself as “unmotivated,” but as Turner says, his motivations are simply different from those of others. He finds his fulfillment in the academic community provided by a university environment. “I came to college to learn what I couldn’t on my own. Plus, it is more fulfilling to be here than in the real world, reading on my own,” Attanasi says.

Attanasi uses his autonomy to focus on the material he enjoys, but recognizes that good grades often force him to change his preferred methods. “Nothing really motivates me in the classes I hate — except good grades. Sometimes studying hard for a test that will raise my grade will make me appreciate the material more.”

It is not that Attanasi is a bad student, he just does not find his pursuits meaningful in particular classes, so he chooses to put more effort into the classes he does enjoy, like applied sciences. “I like classes that deal with the applied sciences because I plan to have a career there — not in the boring math computations of chemistry.”

Common Interests - Notre Dame Attracts and Fosters Particular Students

Notre Dame students tend to be charitable leaders. “Notre Dame students are all so gifted, they want to share it,” senior science pre-professional major David Zimmer, the
Leprechaun, says. As the Scholastic October cover story “Engaging Minds” found, students at the university tend to be less interested in classroom research opportunities, and instead, focus their time on extracurricular activities.

One such activity is community service. “I’m really motivated when I feel a lot of gratitude; when I’m at Notre Dame, I’m reminded of how fortunate I am. It has made me want to give back so much more,” Student Body President Catherine Soler, a junior accounting major, says. Like many Notre Dame students, Soler sought her leadership position because it allows her to use her strengths to help others.

“I definitely think people volunteer a lot more here than at other universities. Students come here because they know that this is a service-oriented school, and they keep that mentality alive. It is definitely a cycle of the Notre Dame image and the kinds of students that attend the university,” junior psychology major and President of Circle K Brooke Reid says.

Being Catholic may have established the value of service in some students from an early age, but it certainly is not the only explanation for students’ unbridled enthusiasm for giving back. “I think that being Catholic is an underlying factor. I’m not sure it is what makes me feel a need to give back, but I’m sure that it is why my family has always emphasized being charitable,” Zimmer says.

**Sports - Affecting Others**

Two interhall football leaders, seniors Jordan Smith and Kayla Bishop, management and consulting and accounting majors, respectively, are in leadership positions due to their enthusiasm for sports and ability to help others.

“I love football more than any person should,” Smith says. “Coaching interhall football these last two years has been my favorite experience at Notre Dame. If I had put half the effort into homework as I did preparing for interhall games, my professors would be a whole lot happier. But, football is a lot more intrinsically motivating for me, so especially in the beginning of the season in addition to spending a couple hours at practices, I would spend an hour or two a day drawing stuff up or game planning. I enjoyed every minute of it.”

“Leading is very rewarding,” he says. “I remember the first game I coached, everything went almost perfectly and I felt a huge sense of pride. It was also fun using a lot of what I learned in my management classes on the football field. I am able to use a lot of the group dynamic, motivation and leadership theories I picked up in class. I love my players
and it is a lot of fun to motivate, coach and celebrate successes with a team.”

“I have three little siblings. Growing up in the backyard teaching them everything — being their mentor — has naturally led to my leadership role on the various sports teams,” Bishop, an athlete and team captain for various sports in high school and college, says.

She says she wanted to share her abilities with others because of her excitement for sports. Both she and Smith say they are motivated by feelings of competence they felt as they mastered their sports, the sense of community they feel when playing with their teams, and the autonomy they are able to exercise as leaders who reach out to assist others. “We have this amazing ability to affect people. I want to be the Leprechaun because I want to share the gifts I have, make new friends, expand my horizons. I want to open myself up to new possibilities,” Zimmer says.

### A New Possibility - The South Bend Community

Senior political science major and president of the College Democrats Eileen Flanagan seized hold of an opportunity in 2008 during the Obama campaign to volunteer in the South Bend community. She says it was the first time she stepped out of the comfort of the “Notre Dame bubble.”

“The reason I originally became involved [with the College Democrats] was because I wanted something that transcended the Notre Dame experience. I joined to volunteer with the Obama campaign efforts. We got to be intertwined with the community — but not in the typical volunteer structure that distinguishes social classes — i.e. ‘I’m the playing field. Every vote counts the same,” she says.

Flanagan’s passion for politics motivated her to stay involved in the community, a swing county for the state. “Here, politics matter,” she says. “We [St. Joseph’s County] have the ability to sway elections one way or the other. In California, where I’m from, it is very polarized [to the left]. Nothing is going to change, so campaigning there doesn’t make a difference in the electoral college.”

St. Joseph’s County, which voted Democrat in 2008, was affected by the efforts of the ND College Democrats, but the effect was mutual. “We went to knock on doors, and most ND students have never been to the west side of South Bend before. The poor, stigmatized neighborhoods were the ones I loved the most because they were so grateful that we cared. Usually they were very well informed. They would invite you into their homes and offer you food. I was shocked by how quickly they opened their arms to us, and it felt very good to be accepted into their community,” Flanagan says.

Flanagan’s statements resemble Turner’s comments about motivation. “Just knowing about people who aren’t like you and learning to interact with them could be an accomplishment in competence,” Turner says. Additionally, Flanagan could have felt the

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“We have this amazing ability to affect people. I want to be the Leprechaun because I want to share the gifts I have, make new friends, expand my horizons. I want to open myself up to new possibilities.”

-DAVID ZIMMER, LEPRECHAUN VICE PRESIDENT FOR SERVICE
meaningfulness of her actions and a rewarding sense of belonging in the community.

"At Notre Dame, there is definitely a responsibility to interact with the community. The community was shaped around this university from the moment it was built. You have this accidental power by virtue of being a student here, and there's an obligation to act upon it," Turner says.

**Leadership - A Form of Service**

Catherine Soler did not always know that she wanted to be a leader. Her passion for student government stems from her involvement in sports teams and National Honor Society, two high school extracurricular activities which taught her about teamwork and service.

"I've always been really interested in service. It's tangible and involves teamwork," she says.

"Student government encapsulates me and gives me the opportunity to serve people. People are unaware that it is a role of servant leadership and making sacrifices."

Although other universities offer tangible forms of compensation for student government representatives, Notre Dame does not. Soler says, however, being involved in something she loves is enough compensation.

"I feel like we get so much more out of it than we put in it," she says. "The thought of asking for something to compensate me for my time as student body president never crossed my mind. Just knowing that I'm able to use my passions to the benefit of others is rewarding enough."

**Service - A Genuine Concern for the Community**

In a recent Scholastic survey, 94.3 percent of the students who reported that they did community service said that they would do it even if they were not required to for graduate school applications, ResLife or a class requirement. Of the 430 students surveyed, 294 students reported participating in community service — 68.4 percent of the population. This percentage is significantly higher than the national average, which in 2006 had volunteering at 30.2 percent of all college students. While some may jump to the conclusion that this percentage is correlated with the university's Catholic identity, 51.7 percent of students surveyed said that their participation in community service was not religiously based, compared to 43.8 percent who said it was and 4.5 percent who were unsure.

Soler says she feels positive about students' charitable actions. "We're surrounded by a lot of really incredible people here. It's a cosmic, contagious effect," she says. Accordingly, students' answers overwhelmingly indicated intrinsic motivation. Twenty point one percent of students surveyed chose the answer "helping others is important to me," and on the whole, 60.9 percent of students chose either or both "helping others is important to me" and "I like the good feeling I get when I do it."

"People here feel like they have a responsibility as someone who is blessed to give back to the community. Your morals and how you were brought up play a big role in the mindset that you should always help people," Reid says.

Reid has volunteered with the Kiwanis organization since the seventh grade. "I like doing it — it is just one of those things that I have always done," she says. She identifies the Golden Rule as a source of her motivation for participating in community service. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. If I see something that upsets me, then I want to fix it for others. I put myself in the shoes of the people I help."

Reid's reflection on a recent Circle K event matched the findings of the survey. "I have a habit of being involved in service, but so does a lot of the Notre Dame student population," she says. "We recently had over 115 people show up at our project at 8:30 a.m. on a Saturday. Granted, you have your resume builders and ResLife volunteers, but that doesn't cover everyone."

On the whole, the numbers do prove Reid's statements to be true — Notre Dame students tend to be selfless, especially compared to other universities. On the admissions Web site, the university recognizes that Notre Dame students are a unique breed. "Students admitted to Notre Dame build strong extracurricular records and are dedicated, passionate leaders in their communities and are evaluated positively by their guidance counselors and teachers."

Zimmer, as a transfer student, is happy with the opportunities he has had in life and at Notre Dame. He recognizes that his personal experience reflects the larger population. "Being the Leprechaun has opened me up to different opportunities, but as Notre Dame students we choose to take advantage of those kinds of opportunities."

Gender differences plague campus discussion — and rightly so. One hundred and thirty-four of the 208 (64.4 percent) males who completed the survey reported participating in community service as compared to 160 of the 221 (72.4 percent) females. "We tend to see more girls going to our projects. Even just in the past three years we've seen a sudden rush of girls. Our board has shifted from being completely run by guys to only two males of the 12 board members," Reid says.

Turner says she has also noticed the trend. "We had the decades where we were concerned that girls weren't being empowered near that brink of puberty where the social message told them to be followers," she says. "That started to reverse and people started saying that the boys were going downhill. Girls do mature faster than boys, and now that girls are given opportunities, we are worried about the disenfranchisement of boys. It is apparent because girls have higher rates of acceptance into college, higher graduation rates, etc."

Approximately 56 percent of clubs are headed by females — a percentage that indicates that females are dominating extracurriculars, given the fact that they only make up 45 percent of the school. For males, this could be a factor in the increasing acceptance rate of females into graduate schools. At Notre Dame, though, weekend dorm life illustrates this new swapping of gender roles. "In the past, it was always the boys who ran the clubs, while the girls planned the parties," Turner says. Today, virtually no dorm parties occur in women's dorms, while each weekend men's dorms are left trashed from the volume of partiers that filter through.
Irish Ball: Women’s basketball takes on Purdue in the Joyce Center. The Lady Irish won 72-51.
the games we play
Irish Eyes On: Sergeant Tim McCarthy

Sergeant Tim McCarthy's public service announcements and witty one-liners have been an essential part of the Notre Dame home football game experience for the past 51 years. With the words “May I have your attention please,” Notre Dame Stadium becomes silent as fans anticipate McCarthy's statement. What began as an effort to reduce traffic accidents after games has evolved into a tradition of safety-related humor.

Although Sergeant McCarthy has retired from the Indiana State Police, he continues to give his signature safety announcements at every home game. In “May I Have Your Attention Please,” a book he co-authored with friend and Notre Dame Stadium announcer Mike Collins, the pair gives a behind-the-scenes look at Notre Dame football games and share the memories they have gathered over the years.

We all look forward to your one-liners at the beginning of the fourth quarter. How did the tradition with the jokes start?

When I first started doing [the traffic safety announcements], I thought it went pretty well, but I felt that the people weren't listening to it ... they weren't really too concerned with listening to a police officer telling them to behave themselves after a Notre Dame home football game. Next season, I thought I'd do something to attract more attention to it, so I thought of using these quips. The first line I did was, “The automobile replaced the horse, but the driver should stay on the wagon.” There was a bit of hesitation after I gave the quip, and there were a lot of groans and a lot of boos — especially a lot of boos from the students ... but I thought I'd try it again and see what happened ... and as the season went on, I started feeling comfortable with them because it was obvious people were starting to listen just to see what the quip was. I'm sure they didn't remember the serious part of the message word-for-word, but they remembered the quip and connected it with their driving. It was a gimmick that worked.

Did you ever expect the announcements to be such a hit?

No, not in my wildest imagination. I never thought I'd be here this long. When I first did it, it was 1960, and I've been doing it ever since, so that's an awfully long time. I never dreamed that I would still be doing it. I left the state police to serve as sheriff for Porter County, but I stayed on because it was fun, and I really enjoyed doing it.

Do you think the jokes have helped to get your message across?

I think it helps quite a bit because people will think about the quip on the drive home, but still it brings up the point about them driving home safely. Really, the point isn't to be a humorist or a comedian or anything like that. The idea is just to have some sort of a routine where people will listen to the message, and these quips have worked.

Where do you get the inspiration for your jokes?

At that time, I was involved in a radio show called Signal 10, a program that was produced by WGN Radio in Chicago. It involved me carrying a tape recorder and recording conversations between myself and traffic violators that I stopped. The point was to show some of the nonsensical and foolish excuses people give for violating traffic laws. It became quite a show and ran for 13 years. There was another show on WGN at the same time where a police officer would fly over Chicago and report traffic conditions. My friend Len Baldy was on that show, and one time I was listening to him, and he gave a quip. He did it just to break up the monotony of the program. He gave me half a dozen of them, and later I came up with the idea of using them at the Notre Dame games ... I look for plays on words throughout the year. If I hear or think of something, I'll jot it down and file it away. At the beginning of the season, I'll put them together and come up with some sort of quip.

What is the best part about doing the announcements?

The best part, I think, is the excitement to it. The first time I did it, I was very nervous. They told me to be professional, to be articulate and not to flub any words because they'll laugh you right out of the stadium. I didn't mess up any of the words the first few times, but I was nervous.

You're retired now, but you still do the announcements at every home game. What do you think is so special about Notre Dame? What keeps you coming back after all this time?

I've always been a Notre Dame football fan, and I think the game is very exciting. There's nothing greater than a Notre Dame home football game weekend ... I just enjoyed it, and I still enjoy it. What impressed me about Notre Dame as I spent more and more time here was how well this university runs, how good they are at everything they do, and the enthusiasm and loyalty of the student body.

What was the most memorable game for you?

My favorite game was Coach Dan Devine's Green Jersey Game when they played USC in 1977. I think that was the greatest game ever here. The students were all built up for that game; they brought out the Trojan horse. I'll never forget — I was standing in the press box, outside where they used to have all the cameras. I was up there way before the game started, and there was a cameraman there, and he said, "Hey, is it always like this? The noise?" It was his first time at Notre Dame Stadium, and he had never heard noise like that ... this was before the game even started, and I told him the cheering was for the band. I told him to wait for the team to come out if he wanted to hear noise. That was when the team came out in their sparkling green jerseys, and that stadium went absolutely berserk — the noise was deafening. USC was supposed to beat Notre Dame that game, and Notre Dame took them to the cleaners.

The Irish finished 7-5 this season, their first winning season since 2006. Do you think that the glory days of Notre Dame football are returning?

I always laugh when I hear comments like that. There was a time when Notre Dame seemed like they couldn't get any worse, and you know what happened? They found a coach that they thought might be good at Notre Dame, and his name was Ara Parseghian. They won two national championships with him. So all this talk that Notre Dame will never be as good as they used to be, that's just nonsense. We were going to end up having just a terrible season, and look what happened at the last three games. When they get out there, they play their hearts out.
Time Travel
Matt Formica

December 5, 2004

The 2004 women’s national championship soccer game came down to penalty kicks, after the 1-1 stalemate forced the game into a no score overtime. UCLA scored first, but Notre Dame tied it in the 74th minute when junior forward Katie Thorlakson drilled a penalty kick into the lower left of the net after being taken down in the box. But with just a few minutes remaining in regulation, UCLA earned a penalty kick of its own and had an opportunity to take a late lead. That’s when junior goalkeeper Erika Bohn, who had not faced a penalty kick all season, came up with a clutch save to preserve the tie. “It was a pressure situation, but I just went with my gut,” Bohn said. “After I saved it, I knew we weren’t going to lose.” Bohn blocked two more penalty kicks during the shootout, and sophomore midfielder Jill Krivacek made the winning shot for the Irish, which marked the first time a women’s soccer title game had been decided in such a fashion. The Irish finished the season with a nearly flawless 24-1-1 record. Bohn was fittingly honored as the College Cup’s most outstanding defensive player, and Thorlakson earned the same honor for offense. “I’m not a very emotional person on the outside, but as soon as the whistle blew, I just started crying,” Thorlakson said. “It means everything to me because you play with these people every day.”

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
Josh Flynn

This past Sunday, exactly six years to the day after they won their last title, the Notre Dame women’s soccer team knocked off the unbeaten and top-ranked Stanford Cardinal to bring home the university’s 26th athletic national championship. With the game tied at zero in the 63rd minute, freshman Adriana Leon netted a pass from junior Melissa Henderson to give the Irish a 1-0 lead. Senior goalkeeper Nikki Weiss and the Notre Dame defense held strong for the rest of the game, and the lone goal proved to be enough for the championship.

The No. 4 seed Irish faced a pair of difficult road tests in their quest for a third national title. After winning first and second round games at Alumni Field, they traveled to face top-seeded North Carolina. The Irish dominated the Tar Heels 4-1, earning a berth in the quarterfinals, where they faced third-seeded Oklahoma State. Another road victory clinched a fifth consecutive berth in the College Cup, soccer’s equivalent of the Final Four. In the Cup’s semifinal matches, freshman Mandy Laddish scored in the 83rd minute to seal a 1-0 win over Ohio State, while Stanford topped Boston College, 2-0.

With the victory over Stanford, the Irish seniors closed their careers with the most wins in Division I over the past four years. Finishing 87-12-5, they top North Carolina’s 86 wins and are among the most accomplished players in program history, with four trips to the College Cup.

The victory over Stanford was also vindicating for Notre Dame. Two years ago, on the same field, it was the Irish who had their own undefeated season spoiled, as they endured a 2-1 heartbreaker in the final against UNC.
SPORTS

THE CORE FOUR
Notre Dame’s four co-captains lead the Irish down the right path

Matt Formica

The Irish men’s basketball team is brimming with pride. The squad is undefeated through eight games for the first time since 1973, which is their best start in the 11-year career of head coach Mike Brey.

“I think we’re a pretty confident group right now,” senior forward Tim Abromaitis says of a team that boasts an impressive 14-2 record in its last 16 contests, dating back to last season. “A bunch of those games we’ve been down and we’ve been able to come back, especially some second half comebacks. I think we go into the game knowing we can beat anybody we play, and, hopefully, we carry that into our play,” he says.

The Irish have yet to lose a game this year, which is consistent with senior forward Carleton Scott’s goal for the team. “Our goal is to go out there and win every game. We don’t want to drop any of them,” Scott says. “It doesn’t matter who steps on the court with us. We’re always working hard, and winning is pretty much all it’s about. We just want to try to win every game and try to get to the national championship.”

An integral part of Notre Dame’s success this season has been the strong leadership that emerged among the team’s four senior co-captains: Abromaitis, Scott, guard Ben Hansbrough and forward Tyrone Nash.

“I feel like everybody has evolved as a leader in their own way,” Scott says. There has been a lot of collaboration among the captains this year, Scott says. “I think we’re all working pretty well with each other without stepping on each other’s toes,” he says.

Each captain is a talented leader in his own right, despite differences in personality and style. “I think me and Ty [Nash] are the two quieter ones,” Abromaitis says. “Carlton knows when to be vocal. He’s got a pretty good voice out there. And I think Ben [Hansbrough] has done a good job of being a vocal leader, kind of being the guy that will get on you, but knows what to say and when to say it.”

“Communication is a big deal for us ... Ben [Hansbrough] is probably up there with me as far as communication guys. And then Ty [Nash] and Abro [Abromaitis] — those two are quiet guys, as we always call them, but they’re great leaders. They lead by example. They go out there and you just watch what they do, and you just follow in their footsteps,” Scott says.

In order to be an effective leader, you must earn your teammates’ trust, Scott says. “You have to know what you’re talking about. Trust is a big deal. You can’t lead without knowing where you’re going.”

So exactly where are the Irish going this season, after a hot start? Notre Dame’s schedule is about to get a lot more difficult, with five of the next seven games against opponents currently ranked in the top 25.

Facing higher ranked teams should indicate how the season will unfold. With a strong showing, the Irish could establish themselves as one of the better teams in the Big East. A disappointing performance, however, might suggest that Notre Dame won’t be able to sustain its early season success.

“Our goal is to get better every game,” Abromaitis says. “As I said before, I think we can beat any team that’s out there, and we have the guys to do it.”

With such a challenging schedule looming, Scott says he believes the Irish must “remain who they are,” to keep winning. “We can’t try to reinvent ourselves, as Coach would say. We need to stay on the key points we’ve always focused on. Defense wins games for us. As long as we focus on that, we’re fine.”

Carleton Scott
Tim Abromaitis
Tyrone Nash
Ben Hansbrough
Putting the **FIGHT** back in the **FIGHTING IRISH**

Clara Ritger

In an unexpected twist of fate, the Fighting Irish finished the season with an upset over Utah, a celebration in New York and a wave of relief after overcoming a longtime foe.

At IrishFest, the pregame party at USC, I met Pernell Taylor, class of 1987 and fullback for the Fighting Irish.

"In ‘86 we played at USC, and we were down 19 points in the third quarter," Taylor says. "We started making a comeback — [wide receiver] Tim Brown was fantastic, but he didn’t win the Heisman until the following year — and I rushed down to the 3-yard line. We took a time out and kicked a field goal to win."

That game marked the first in a series of 12 wins over USC. Taylor has gone to every USC v. ND game since, hoping to see another long run of Irish victories. The 2010 game parallels the 1986 game in many ways. Both were lucky victories for the Irish, and both times the third quarter was nerve wracking for the Irish. Both games came down to the final plays. Both games were not televised in many areas.

"They cut the game early on national TV for ‘Heidi,'" Taylor says. "While this year the game was second seat to the Oklahoma vs. Oklahoma State game, both 2010 and 1986 mark historical moments in ND history, as this year the Irish ended an eight-year losing streak."

Neither team played its first-string quarterback for the game. USC sophomore quarterback Matt Barkley sprained his ankle during the previous week’s matchup against Oregon State. Notre Dame junior quarterback Dayne Crist ruptured his patella tendon during the Tulsa game in October. Senior Mitch Mustain replaced Barkley for the game, while freshman Tommy Rees filled in for the remainder of Crist’s season.

While Rees struggled with a few interceptions and some incomplete passes, junior wide receiver Michael Floyd and sophomore running back Cierre Wood carried the Irish through the game with a solid second quarter drive that gave the Irish a comfortable 13-3 lead at the half.

For the Trojans, Mustain had a good first quarter. The strong defensive front put up by junior outside linebacker Darius Fleming, sophomore safety Zeke Motta and sophomore linebacker Manti Te’o, however, kept the Trojans from putting a touchdown on the board.

Senior placekicker Joe Houston, who made a 45-yard career long field goal, scored the only Trojan points by halftime.

Irish fans gripped the edges of their seats through the third quarter, though, as Mustain’s offense and junior halfback Marc Tyler’s unstoppable rush attack tied the game at 13-13. Junior Irish defensive end Kapron Lewis-Moore shined through the rain as he shut down the Trojan offense and led the team in tackles for the game.

With under seven minutes left on the clock, Houston pulled through for the Trojans again when he kicked a 37-yard field goal to bring the score to 16-13. The Irish responded with a 77-yard drive led by senior running back Robert Hughes, which ended in a touchdown and a 20-16 Irish lead.

USC took possession of the ball with two and a half minutes left in the game. Although the defense held them off at first, the Trojans looked poised to snatch another victory from the Irish when Mustain threw a pass to senior wide receiver Ronald Johnson. He, however, dropped the ball. Four plays later, senior Irish safety Harrison Smith caught an interception that stopped the Trojan onslaught and sealed the victory for Notre Dame.

In the post-game press conference, Coach Brian Kelly said, "The feeling that I got in there [the locker room] is that it was everybody pulling together. Today we brought the fight back into the fighting Irish."
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Listening In...

Avast! Scholastic reader: I wish Scholastic had a looking glass, because if they could get a picture of the man bearing this kid near me in the library that would be awesome.

Misguided freshman: Dating an undertone is like dating a football player.

Student preparing for finals: I should just be able to pray for an A.

Boy with no game: All of the hottest girls are in Mendoza.

 Pretentious hot girl: Econ isn't in Mendoza.

Back In the Day...

While today, underaged students have to drive past the Canadian border to buy alcohol legally, before the National Minimum Drinking Age of 1984 they could take a quick jaunt up to the Michigan border. Indiana's drinking age had been 21 since Prohibition, but Michigan's was still 18, and one popular spot for townies and students alike was Kubik's Tavern in Niles. Hitchhiking was still considered reasonably safe, so students would often thumb their way to the tavern, where they indulged in pitchers of beer. Students coveted the glass pitchers, and on more than one occasion the tavern's staff apprehended them in their attempts to smuggle the empty pitchers out as souvenirs. While Kubik's is still up on State Line Road, business isn't as good as it was back in the days of the famed pitchers and lower drinking age.

-Meg Morrison
Ho. ho, ho my tiny, frosted Giplings! I sincerely hope that the hypothermia and frostbite aren't keeping your spirits down in this most wonderful of seasons.

If I know my dedicated Domers, not one of you let the subzero temperatures prevent you from participating in each and everyone of your culminating classes this week. As the semester draws to a close, some of you are snuggling up in cozy corners of Hesburgh, nestling your rosy noses into psychology books, and asking Santa for a whole big string of A!'s this year.

But surely, you're not all snow angels. No, no, not at all! Gipp knows better than that. If you think Santa is the only one you need to look out for, then think again, little ones! The only difference is, of course, if you misbehave, it'll be public exposure and not a lump of coal from Father Gipp.

So sit back, pull that official ND Bookstore Snuggie up to your chinny chin chin, and let Gipp spin you a classic winter tale...

'Twas the first night of winter, in an off-campus house. The band kids were dancing and just getting doused. Four freshmen crept out to the front lawn with care, in hopes that an untapped keg still would be there. As others were passing out, 10 to each bed, visions of stolen beer danced in their heads. The cab driver helped out for $10 more, a trifling fee for their unlikely score!

In Library Circle, they made such a clatter, some strangers dashed out to see what was the matter! Quick straight to the cab, they all flew like a flash, to assist in a most discreet, drunkenly dash. The moon on the rim of the just-stolen kegger gave the feeling of triumph to each proud bootlegger.

When what to their glazed-over eyes should appear, but a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer! Just kidding, of course, you naive little tots! But they did see the lights of their dorm 'cross the lot.

More rapid than golf carts they flew to their home, as they whistled, and shouted, and ran past the Dome.

Now Keystone! Now Natty! Now Anheuser Busch! On Bud Light! On Miller! On all off-brand slush! To the top of the dorm! To that quad in our hall! Now haul this keg! Lift this keg! Pull this keg, all!

Quietly up to the top floor they sneaked, wincing with fear as the elevator creaked. The contraband goods were hidden with care, in the quad of some juniors who were not even there! And then, in a twinkling, they heard in the hall, an RA's soft footsteps, making that night's last crawl. To the staircase they hurried, to their freedom they ran, but one lonely straggler was caught by the Man.

"Look bro, you seem chill, so I'll tell you what's up," said the foolish young convict, that rattlebrained pup! The rector was woken, and the whole tale was told. He could not believe his young men were so bold! And what made matters worse, what bothered him most - his gents had not stolen a tap from their hosts! How could they expect to unlock their great prize without the one key that would let them inside? He said not a word, but looked down at his group, and used only his eyes to chastise the young troupe.

And laying his fingers aside of his nose, and giving a nod, up the chimney he rose! Just kidding, again! Of course that's not true! But he did give a lecture or two to the crew.

And they heard him exclaim, as they fled from his sight, "Get a tap next time, lads, and do this thing right!"

Ah, the joy of a classic Christmas tale. It warms my heart so very much. As you finish up finals and flock home for hibernation, don't forget to be good to Old Saint Gipp. And when I say "be good," of course, I mean be bad. Be very, very bad.

Happy Non-Denominational Holidays!

The Gipper
T;PTHeg;pp
@ 0 6) 0 at gipper@nd.edu

Stress Relievers

Sunday, December 12th
7-9pm in the LaFortune Ballroom
Take a break from studying and relax with some food, music, and other stress-relieving fun!
Ho, ho, ho my tiny, frosted Giplings! I sincerely hope that the hypothermia and frostbite aren't keeping your spirits down in this most wonderful of seasons. If I know my dedicated Domers, not one of you let the subzero temperatures prevent you from participating in each and every one of your culminating classes this week. As the semester draws to a close, some of you are snuggling up in cozy corners of Hesburgh, nesting your rosy noses into psychology books, and asking Santa for a whole big string of A's this year.

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Happy Non-Denominational Holidays!
The Gipper
Finals time is almost upon us, and that means 'tis the season. No, not the season to be jolly. Students of Notre Dame, 'tis the season to procrastinate.

If you are saying to yourself, "Not I!" (Le. freshmen who spent the past three weeks making study guides for every class, including contemporary topics), I envy your ambition and drive, but don't be so quick to think that you are above the procrastination fray. The very fact that you are holding this magazine in your hands means you have torn your eyes away from that chemistry book, so you, too, my hard-working friend, are procrastinating. Well done. Read on.

For those of you who read the title and felt as though you had instantly found a new word to describe your greatest academic strength, I hope I do not have to convince you to read more. You're probably looking for something unproductive to do, so you have come to the right place.

Here is a compilation, from top-notch procrastimasters all across campus, of the top 10 ways to accomplish nothing.

Swing by the bookstore, too, for some early Christmas shopping. You're wasting time, so why not waste money?

Why are you even at the library?

Afleasf CoMo has free popcorn. Bead that way, but as you walk across campus, be sure to stop at the grotto. Have you noticed that it's always crowded this time of year? Even prayer becomes a way to procrastinate.

Eventually, head back to your dorm and spend at least 30 minutes in the hall complaining loudly about you (you are female, throw open your door and announce that you are going to watch "Love Actually." In less than five minutes, half of the dorm will be in your room.

And now if you're finally going to crack open that computer, be sure to foray into the vast wasteland that is YouTube. Or Sporcle. Or StumbleUpon. Or ND's very own Graduation Progress System to try out the GPA calculator and contemplate exactly how little you can do and still get by. (Or quietly, if you get fined for being loud. Or loudly, if you want to journey back to LaFun and the ATM to pay said fine.)

If you are male, turn up the volume as you play "Halo" or "Call of Duty." In less than five minutes, half of the dorm will be in your room.

If you are really starting to feel like you might start working, just open your computer and Google "the top 10 ways to procrastinate." The possibilities are endless.

The next learning moments came during the first Thanksgiving feast, which, to continue with the Harry Potter analogies, I enjoyed like any good Hogwarts ghost: through observation. Throughout this meal, my friend’s relatives would ask, “Aren’t your parents sad about giving you up for the holiday?” as if by spending Thanksgiving away from home, I had been put up for adoption. I would smile and reply, “Nope.”

This taught me my third lesson: Other people’s parents like me more than mine like me. Instead of calling to check in on me, my mom sent me pictures of her plate of wild mountain blackberry pie before and after she ate it. She capped them off with the message, “YUM,” written in all caps because that’s the only way she knows how to text. Had I been well, I would have fumed with jealousy at this message, but since I was celebrating my Thanksgiving Gandhi-style, the pictures just made me head for the nearest bathroom. When my dad heard about my infirmity, he sighed as if he hadn’t expected much more from me and told me to give his apologies to my friend and her relatives. So much for familial love.

Later, we went to another family gathering at a hotel. My third and final need to spew came in the hotel lobby, which, lucky for me, was set up like a maze and had no bathrooms. Later, when I was retelling this story, all three of my siblings asked me, “Did you at least find a plant? Or what about a housekeeping cart?” I, ashamed, had to tell them, “Actually, no, all I could find was the floor in front of my feet.”

Therein lie a few more lessons: One, always know the location of the nearest plant, and, two, never assume someone’s drunk. Just because you’ve never heard of a sober person throwing up in a hotel lobby doesn’t make it impossible. There were several old men who, after seeing me get sick, muttered something about drunk teenagers dirtying the streets of their city. To them I say: invest in more potted plants.

Fast-forward to Saturday: Somewhere between watching Lane Kiffin grimace and throwing back Sprites and Tums like it was my job, I started to feel better. Here lies the last, and most profound, of my revelations: A Notre Dame victory over the Trojans can cure anything. My gastrointestinal nightmare and our equally embarrassing eight-year losing streak both ended in one fell swoop.
Finals time is almost upon us, and that means 'tis the season. No, not the season to be jolly. Students of Notre Dame, 'tis the season to procrastinate.

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Here is a compilation, from top-notch procrastimasters all across campus, of the top 10 ways to accomplish nothing.

1. Go to the library, but be absolutely sure to update your Facebook status to tell the world that you are at the library. It's every procrastinator's favorite trick because other people at the library can come find and distract you, or vice versa.

2. Why are you even at the library? At least CoMo has free popcorn. Head that way, but as you walk across campus, be sure to stop at the grotto. Have you noticed that it’s always crowded this time of year? Even prayer becomes a way to procrastinate.

3. Swing by the bookstore, too, for some early Christmas shopping. You're wasting time, so why not waste money?

4. If you must sit down to do work, at least snag a coveted booth at LaFun. Everyone knows these are the absolute best places on campus to get nothing done. Easy access to food and a steady stream of people means infinite distraction.

5. And now if you're finally going to crack open that computer, be sure to foray into the vast wasteland that is YouTube. Or Sporcle. Or StumbleUpon. Or ND's very own Graduation Progress System to try out the GPA calculator and contemplate exactly how little you can do and still get by.

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EXIT INTERVIEW

PROFESSOR JOHN KENNEDY

Marketing Professor John J. Kennedy is one of the university's longest-tenured faculty members. He arrived as a department chair in 1963 and has taught at Notre Dame for nearly 50 years. He completed his undergraduate studies in engineering at the Newark College of Engineering and he earned an MBA and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. A father of five, Professor Kennedy and his wife also raised three of his brother's children following his untimely passing. Five are graduates of Notre Dame.

What is your favorite thing about teaching at Notre Dame?
I've been very fortunate throughout my life. It's been an interesting journey; I've had a lot of luck and a wide variety of experiences. On the completion of my tour of duty as an Air Force officer, I had a range of options in industry, government and academia. The academic choice was between Notre Dame and Harvard. I chose Notre Dame because of its values. My wife and I are Irish Catholic, so that was a factor, too. Compared to other options, Notre Dame had warmth, a family feeling, a personal touch. It was compassionate but still rigorous, demanding yet pragmatic. In short, it had a soul. It was, in my mind, more than an education institution. It had a global influence. One could "live the good life" and looking back, one might conclude that one had made a difference. At that time, I worked for a board of generals and admirals. I asked them which I should choose. They said, "No question — go to Notre Dame." I've been here since 1963 and I am still enjoying it. It's a privilege to be with so many bright young minds and memorable colleagues. I always remember my students long after they forget me.

If you were not a professor, what would you be doing?
I have had a host of life's possible adventures; I have tried and will try as many more as my time on this planet allows. Cosmology and the origins of existence are of interest to me, as is entrepreneurship. I have also served with our government with four presidential administrations in a range of capacities and committees. But, at the end of the day, being a husband and a father of a large family was and is my greatest blessing and joy.

What was the most useful thing you learned in college?
I learned self-discipline and how to think about thinking. I also learned the importance of daily exercise and a balanced life. I was involved in a rigorous engineering program, but I also studied the humanities. The humanities are the path to a sense of personal well-being. They help one to develop an inner peace and joy and the friendship of the humanities helps a lot during the tough times. If you learn to appreciate art, music and literature, it will give you access to alternative realities. It is a journey you can take by yourself once you have mastered the how. In college, students need to learn life's survival skills. They need to be able to look in the mirror and understand who they are looking at. They must discover their limitations, how to succeed and how easy it is to fail. If they are lucky, they may also discover what they are good at. Most importantly, they will discover the true values of life and the meaning of a "life well lived."

If you could only have one book, which would you choose?
"The Story of Civilization" by [Will] Durant or a similar equivalent. This 10-volume set provides a broad view of where we have been and what we are about. It provides a glimpse of most religions, philosophies, kings, emperors, wars and sundry world stage personages. One needs such a broad perspective, so I try to read often about a wide variety of subjects and disciplines. Biographies are insights into others' journeys.

Why should students want to study marketing?
I don't think they necessarily should. The key is to find a passion and then to match it to one's natural gifts. Stay flexible. Get on life's stage and be ready for life's opportunities. People need two sets of skills: One for survival and the other for personal enrichment. But, if students study business at the undergraduate level, marketing can be a good choice if it matches their skill set. Marketing is important because it impacts economic well-being. Properly executed marketing can address and partially resolve a range of the world's ills. Much of the world's power is now in the hands of global corporations. The world yearns for men and women of character and personal dignity. Marketing is indigenous in that world.

What are the most challenging issues college students face today?
Students today are confronted with a deterioration of society's moral and social structure. Many of the foundations of our beliefs about birth, life and death are routinely being dismissed. And they live in a world of increasingly rapid change: technological, social and biological. There are fewer and fewer "certainties." For example, the physics I studied as a graduate student are no longer "true." The cast keeps changing.

How has the evolution of technology influenced your class and teaching throughout the years?
Little is the same! There has been enormous change. Technology has changed the student-faculty relationship. Email, for example, can facilitate one-on-one mentoring for students who seek it. The accessibility of information on the Web can make each student a genius. They just have to understand the potential. The computer enables scholarly pursuit and can light a fire into scholarly passion. Universities are still in a quandary on how to handle the potentials of the new technological options.

If you could invite four people to dinner, who would you choose and why?
The first person I would invite would be Christ, to have a religious dialogue and maybe try to talk my way into heaven. I would love to talk to Einstein to have a scientific discussion and ask him what he thought about quantum theory based on the new developments that have emerged. I think Alexander the Great would make for an interesting leadership and philosophical conversation. Would his intriguing vision for one humanity, one common world and way of life ever have been possible? Then finally, Mark Twain because he would make for an engaging and witty companion for a grog or two.
Mark Twain because he would make for an engaging and witty companion for a grog or two. "The first person I would invite would be Christ, to have a religious philosophical conversation. Would his intriguing vision for one humanity, one common world and way of life ever have been possible? Then finally, would I invite Einstein to have a scientific discussion, one-on-one mentoring for students. How has the evolution of technology changed the student-faculty relationship. Email, for example, can facilitate one-on-one mentoring for students. The accessibility of information on the Web can make each student a genius. They just have to know how to handle the potentials of the new technological options. Properly executed marketing can address and partially resolve a range of the world's ills. Much of the world's power is now in the hands of global leaders, not in the hands of presidents, prime ministers or military admirals. I asked them which I should choose. They said, 'Do what you think you can do. It's not a question of the public interest. Do what you think you can do.'"

"The first president I would invite would be Thomas Jefferson, but I would invite him to dinner, not to breakfast. He is one of the most fascinating people I have ever read about. I would love to talk to him about his vision for the United States, and to have him help me understand who they are looking at. They must discover their limitations, discover what they are good at. Most importantly, they will discover the true values of life and the meaning of a life."
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