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Through the Eyes of a Father

By Elizabeth Suergiu Staff Writer suergiue@mail.barry.edu

live in a world where the existence of mysteries is denied. It's a world of technological pragmatism. But sitting across from Father Mark Wedig of the Order of Preachers, my take on reality becomes less what I encounter each day. I am entering a new world, and it is a world of mysteries.

A mystery is not just anything that I, as an inheritor of a world of technological pragmatism, cannot explain. A mystery is something that endures. I think as I sit in the conference room, surrounded by St. Dominic's Andy Warhol style portrait and the curved figures of eastern statues. Father Mark Wedig's world is a world of these endurances, ancient and strangely modern, eternal, but always with its own sort of new life.

Such a life comes through a calling. The way Father Mark tells it, he chose to join the Dominican Order right out of college, at twenty-one when he was young and in some ways a romantic. "Well," he adds, smiling, "I was very romantic." And

idealistic, though it was not the idle kind I'm used to, the idealism which faintly glosses over a shell of disillusionment. "I was looking for an alternative to some of the negative aspects of the secular world. I saw it as a way of serving people."

Outside of those internal motives the Order Dominican coincided with his studies in medieval Dept. history. In 1216, dis-

satisfied with the negative aspects of his world, St. Dominic founded the Dominican Order of Preachers based upon Four Pillars: Community, Prayer, Study, and Service. "The four pillars," Father Mark explains, "were Dominic's ways of understanding what would make a good preacher." Dominic held the view that study and prayer were uniquely linked. Not at all surprising, Dominic's Preachers were among the first to teach at the medieval universities.



May 2004

Keeping the Faith-Father Wedig (center), and members of Barry's community of Domincan brothers. Photo Provided By: The Theology

Dominicans have maintained strong ties to institutions of higher learning. Long before the 18th century invention of the seminary, Dominicans built houses of study in close proximity to universities, linking physically as well as ideally the holy life and the academic life. A Dominican novice first enters the Novitiate where they are required to consistently practice the Four Pillars. A year after his admission (CONTINUED, pg. 4)

Beloved Sister Goodbye to a Saying

By Abigail Wolfe News Editor wolfea@mail.barry.edu

he many career successes realized by Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin have been fueled by what she would call God's laughter. When asked about the woman succeeding her, sister Linda Bevilaqua, Sister Jean said, "I'll be 75! Linda is somebody with a new

energy and vision. This is a woman Barry before," I reply. founded school and should be run by a woman." Sister Jean also commented on leaving after over 20 years at Barry, "I love this place," she said, "I still have a sense of vision."

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Sister Jeanne to discuss her time at Barry before her eminent retirement this June. She expressed

Barry University is considered a unique and wonderful place largely due to its foundation on the doctrine of Dominican nuns. Barry, being a school founded by and run by women, has a way of nurturing students that I had never experienced in my many years of grueling academic work.

In this, my follow up article on

Sports Editor's Note Pat Tillman Commentary Softball Story

Baseball Story

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Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin-After 20 years at Barry, she steps down from her presidency.

to me the importance of living life in the moment stating that life is all about the person or people you're with in the present. She gave me her full and utmost attention, warming my heart at the same time.

Sr. Jeanne has spent the majority of her adult life trying to improve educational standards for worldwide. women "How has your experience at Barry been?" she immediately asks. "To tell the truth I have never experienced a place like

the retirement of Sr. Jeanne from the presidential office, I sought to discover how Sr. Jeanne really felt about leaving one huge part of her life behind and beginning a new chapter. It is always interesting to interview a person who has been interviewed so many times before. During Sister Jean and my discussion on her life and Barry she often mentioned things that other reporters had asked her in the past, one such question being 'What's been your greatest disappointment?' Without thinking Sr. Jeanne responded to this reporter's questions with, "I could never find a way

(CONTINUED, pg. 11)

May 2004 **DUccaneer** Letter from the Editor

By Elise M. Colon Editor-in-Chief colone@mail.barry.edu



A publication thrives on its readership. Over the course of this semester the *Buccaneer* has received more letters to the editor than ever before. Regardless if the feedback is positive or negative, it remains feedback and we really appreciate it.

One of the first letters we received was from an individual who thought we should be ashamed of ourselves for publishing 'secularthemed' articles. Like I said in my January letter, it isn't fair to our readers for the *Buccaneer* to write solely religion-based stories. Although we do promote as well as endorse faith and positivity, we feel the paper should have something for everyone, not just Catholics.

Another letter we received came from a woman who was touched after reading Andrea Ratto's, "My Life with Aspergers Syndrome." While I read this letter, my heart fluttered—I was so happy to hear that one of our readers was touched after reading an article in the paper. There aren't words good enough for that feeling.

Although it always enthuses me to hear good things about the paper, sometimes the letters we receive remind us that we could have used better judgment, whether it be in choosing which "Letters to the Editor" to print or the reporting and writing of a story.

Regarding the "Open letter to the President," that was printed in our last issue, on behalf of the *Buccaneer* we apologize to our readers, and we apologize to Sister Jeanne. Unfortunately, we didn't realize that the author of the letter was not a member of the Barry community and therefore, the *Buccaneer* was not the place for his letter to be printed.

The most recent letter received was in regards to the story, "Firings Cause Controversy: Future Student Forums on the Horizon." It seems that there were some inaccuracies in this article. Our writers referred to Alberto Fernandez and Jay Gannon (the subjects who were fired) as the "Primary editors of the image..." That wasn't correct. These men were the designers, not the editors of the calendar. Calling them 'editors' implies that they had the final word on the calendar. This was not the case. Although the last thing I want to do is attempt to make excuses forour errors, I will say, that as most of our readers know, that story was 'sticky,' to begin with. And despite the error, I feel our writers did the best they could to cover and write it as objectively as possible.

Moving on , there is certainly much for the Barry Community to look forward to and towards. The construction of the new, highlyanticipated Student Union Center is nearing its end (they are currently installing the water main). The building will be ready to move in come June. The opening of the center this fall symbolizes new beginnings and growth here at Barry. And I'm sure that there is much more to come. Barry owns the land stretching all the way to I-95. So what's coming next? Some possibilities include: a graduate medical school, and another smaller chapel with a steeple that can be seen from the highway (these aren't definate, they are just possiblities).

Barry University is definitely putting itself on the map, fast. It has no doubt come a long way since I started here in January of 2000.

And I have to tell you, my Barry experience has truly been amazing. From the diversity of the student body to the beautiful campus to the down-to-earth, dedicated faculty and staff, I couldn't have picked a better place to study. I never would have imagined I'd be this thankful for that red folder that somehow made it into my high school guidance counselors file cabinet that read, "Barry University." I think there are a lot of students who feel the same as I do about this school.

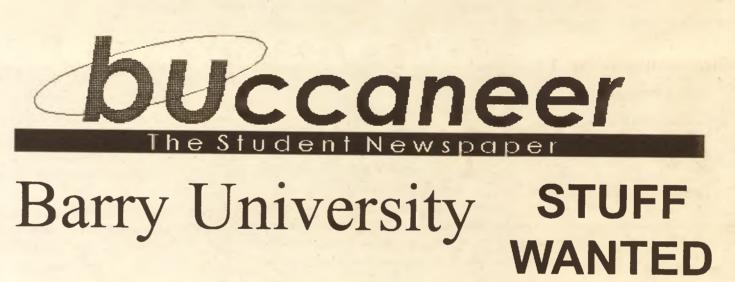
Although there are certain issues that we all complain about fromtime to time, I believe sometimes it is easier to complain about something than it is to attempt to change it. As you'll read in, "Student Leaders Raise Important Issues and Pose Possible Solutions," a couple of students chose to bring some of their concerns to the Buccaneer. Not to complain about what they don't like about this school, but to share what they feel are easy solutions to certain student-related issues of concern. As editor, I feel it would be an injustice to all students to deny any student the chance to voice their opinionn- their freedom of speechin the student newspaper. I feel strongly that is the duty of the student media (the newspaper and the radio) to allow these voices to be heard. In addition to that segment of the paper, this issue has a broad selection of articles from priesthood in a modern society to a crossfire commentary section on smoking.

We hope you'll continue to drop us a line here and there to let us know how we are doing, as like I said before, your input is *so* valuable to us. Happy reading and have a great summer.



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The Barry Buccaneer reserves the right to edit letters and guest columns for style and length. Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the Buccaneer editorial staff or those of Barry University.

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May 2004 **DUCCANEER** Barry Students 'Rocking the Vote'

By Melissa Adames Staff Writer radamesm@mail.barry.edu

About a month ago Urban Outfitters found themselves embroiled in controversy over a t-shirt. *Voting is For Old People* it proclaimed. Needless to say it was yanked from the

shelves once the media caught wind of the tasteless tee. But might the shirt hold some small ugly grain of truth just the same? Yes, the Presidential elections won't become major news to most young people until November. Or so some might assume. The war in Iraq has prompted many to cultivate strong opinions about and question what exactly is going on in the White House.

Recently, the Student Government Association has spearheaded their annual effort towards voter registration. SGA received accolades during the April 18th Student Services Banquet for its stellar success that transcended expectations. The program has yielded the highest number of newly registered voters among all Dade County colleges! The numbers certainly don't lie, it seems a lot of students here at Barry acknowledge the importance of voting. The Barry community has shown the world that "voting is *not* just for old people."

Dr. George Cvejanovich comments that, "the usual voting turnout by college students tends to be low 15-30% in part because they fail to register to vote in time for the election. Another reason students don't vote is because many are away from home and aren't aware that they can register and vote on their college campus or get an absentee ballot from their home district. I always recommend to my students that they also vote responsibly. That is, research the candidates and issues themselves and don't just rely on the

media spin or friends. There are a lot of web sites where students can find out about the candidates and issues." Media such as websites help strip down the fancy promises and political agendas into something that we, the coffeedrinking, sleep deprived college co-eds, can understand. Many of us have heard of MTV's annual, "Choose or Lose" huge RV where can-

didates are grilled by Kurt Loder and Gideon Yago. Their campaign collaborates with *Rock The Vote*, who also travel with the convoy, setting up voter registration booths at many of the college campuses that MTV makes pit-stops at to grab their target audience—us!

Candidates like Democratic frontrunner John Kerry understands the importance of gaining the support of young voters. Blink-182's Tom DeLonge, Bon Jovi and Senator Kerry aren't three men you'd be likely to expect to be working for the same agenda. Maybe Kerry and his crew figured out that reaching young voters means he has to show more than tell, that he can relate to us. According to the Associated Press article which appeared in the Herald, "this U of Pittsburg-stop was his fifth visit to various colleges. Even when the bus is rolling along yet another interstate or in the air, candidates, like Kerry, are keenly aware of the college



"Choose or Lose" **Showing Support-**One student chooses to tell the world website, and the she'll be voting this fall. **Photo By: Vanessa Cruz**

ballots." Like when Kerry, recently held a conference call with college newspaper editors, and his campaign has established voter registration booths on more than college campuses.

So where does that leave a campus like Barry, who's not a Big Ten or Ivy League university? Students at those schools votes are no more or less important than ours. Votes are counted by number, not judged according to whose views they represent. Elections aren't until November 2004, there is still time to register to vote. Anyone that cares to use their voice and take part in deciding who our next leader will be should register ASAP. It may not seem important now, but the decisions and policies of our government which are executed and carried out by our president will certainly effect us all sooner or later. Especially once we venture out into the real world and enter our careers.

Math Lab Offers Help for Struggling Students

By Andrea Ratto Staff Writer rattoa@mail.barry.edu

Hey, students! Are you getting panicky about your upcoming MAT 107 final? Are you struggling with pre-college math, precalculus, or even beginning calculus? Do you find it difficult to squeeze into your already busy schedule a trek to Garner Hall for some personalized math tutoring? If so, Barry University's Math Lab has a solution just for you. This spring, the Math Lab started a new service called the Math Hotline whereby students can call in with their simple questions regarding math homework in some of the more basic math classes. Although this new service is currently only available on Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons, its hours will eventually expand as demand increases. The Math Hotline is currently staffed by Sonja Zubanovic, graduating Math major and long-term Math Lab employee. By the time she graduates, Ms. Zubanovic hopes to have her replacement in place. Meanwhile, she is busy fielding calls about algebraic equations, polynomials,



The Math Hotline was originally developed as a way to bring the Math Lab's services to ACE students, Education 2+2 students, off campus students, long distance commuter students, and other student populations that did not spend much time on Barry's main campus. However, according to Zubanovic and Rokhseld, a significant proportion of Math Hotline calls come from traditional Barry students, including those who reside on campus. A related service that the Math Lab also started offering this spring is its E-Mail Help Service. Staffed by professor Roy Pais, this service is available around the clock and is somewhat more comprehensive than the Math Hotline service. However, Mr. Rokhseld still stresses that students needing extensive assistance with complex problems should still visit the Math Lab in person. To reach the Math Hotline, pick up your phone and dial (305) 899-4894 on Monday between 6:30-9:30 PM or on Thursday between 3:30-5:30 PM. To utilize the E-Mail Help Service, submit your math-related question to mathlab@mail.barry.edu.



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The Math Lab-Located in Garner Hall, the lab provides a great resource for extra help in Math. **Photo By: Elise Colon**

differentials, and all things mathematical.

Because of its very nature, the Math Hotline is best used for assistance with routine homework questions. In addition, it currently only supports MAT 100C (developmental math), MAT 107 (general education math), MAT 109-110 (precalculus), and MAT 211 (calculus I). Math Lab director Mark Rokhseld urges students to visit the Math Lab in person in Garner 107 if they have more involved questions or if they are seeking assistance with more advanced math classes.

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ELS Students Finding Barry is 'Where They Belong' to Learn Language, Culture

By Andrea Ratto Staff Writer rattoa@mail.barry.edu

As those of you who regularly read US News and World Report's annual college guide already know, Barry University is already the most diverse college campus in the Southeast and possibly one of the most diverse college campuses in the nation. Adding to Barry's already diverse student body is a group of foreign students who are not officially enrolled in the University but are here to experience American language and culture on a liberal arts campus setting.

The basement of the Monsegnior Barry Library is home to the Barry University campus of ELS Language Center, a private language training school that was founded in Washington DC back in 1961. It has now grown to 34 centers in the United States and 4 centers in other countries such as Canada, Mexico, and Great Britain. Most of the centers are located at private universities such as Eckerd College, Adelphi University, Case Western Reserve University, Florida Institute of Technology, and the Julliard School. ELS tends to gravitate towards private institutions because they are more flexible and more accommodating towards the ELS mission, according to Peggy Street, ELS-Barry director.

There are numerous English Language training institutes both in the United States and overseas. Most can be categorized as either academic institutes designed to prepare foreigners to study at American colleges and universities or as leisure institutes designed to help foreign tourists learn our language. The academic institutes tend to have programs of at least one semester in duration and universities. The leisure

universities. The leisure institutes are usually freestanding "storefront" schools that

offer short-term programs of no more than one month in duration. ELS's program is unique in that it combines the best of both worlds. Its modular approach divides the entire curriculum into short, "onemonth" blocks that can be completed either consecutively or individually, depending on the student's scheduling needs and desired level of English proficiency. When they first enter the program, students are



are usually affiliated with of the four ELS groups this semester. **Photo Provided By: The ELS Department**

placed in "starting blocks" based on their scores on a proficiency exam that is administered the first day of the program. A student entering ELS with absolutely no knowledge of the English language but who wants to learn enough English to pass the TOEFL (required for American university admission) would need to complete 12 units (one year) of fulltime study at ELS. The block scheduling method enables "leisure track" students to eventually move into an "academic track" without changing schools. In addition, it also accommodates students who wish to achieve the maximum level of language proficiency but who need to do it in short segments that can be squeezed in around their other commitments. For example, ELS-Barry once hosted an entire Latin American family who wanted to become fully proficient in the English language in preparation for (CONTINUED, Pg. 11)

Through the Eyes of a Father Continued

(CONTINUED FROM, Pg. 1)

Father Mark moved into a study house in Berkeley California, at the Graduate Theological Union. For four years he took graduate courses in Old and New Testament scripture, synoptics, church history, and morality. With the completion of those academic courses came courses in applied theology, hands on work in preaching, pastoral counseling, and spiritual direction to name only a few; standard fare for those wishing to enter the Order of Preachers. A long academic career has made Father Mark a doctor of ministry and a doctor of theology, two separate degrees with their emphasis respectively on the hands-on and the philosophical-historical aspects of ministry. His last two years were spent at Emory University, after which he accepted an assignment as chaplain of Emory's catholic campus chapel. "Then I had heard about this Sister Jean who was doing wonderful things at a Dominican university. I wrote a letter asking her if I could come down." Since then Father Mark has been an associate professor of liturgy and sacraments in Barry's Doctor of Ministry

Program and a priest-chaplain at the must remember then that your shop-Cor Jesu Chapel. ping spree took away someone's

"The important question is not why I joined, but why I stayed That's the question people should ask," he says, and so I ask the question. "I've been a priest for eighteen years," he says, now subdued, and perhaps touched as I am by the mystery of endurance. "The Dominican life and the priesthood have been the best way that I can serve other people and love God. It's a very simple

ping spree took away someone's computer they've been waiting for. It's going to have consequences." Community life is just that, a way of life. Part of that life is adherence to the Evangelical Counsels of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. And as much as I count myself a worldly type, I don't quite know how to proceed in the subject of poverty, obedience and...ahem, chastity. Father Mark does. "We don't live chastely because we deny psycho-sexual development, or because we deny sexuality. I live it so I can live in obedience to my community." Sexual license, rela-'tionships "on the side" are not going to allow the authentic community life emphasized by Dominicans. Any technological pragmatist is used to an individualistic life unlike the Dominican community. "The civilization we live in has two great is crises," Father Mark says. "Individualism and self-service." But do they have any effect on admissions to the priesthood? Definitely. "What [potential priests] are facing now is a highly scourged image of what the priesthood is," Father Mark says, adding that scantery.

dals and the self-oriented thrust of society have increased the view of the priesthood as a "last, misfit reality. They're either going to have to ignore that or really come to terms with it." There has been a crisis of those seeking vocation as priests since the 1960s.

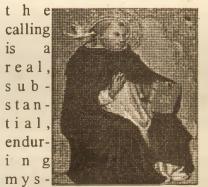
Still, the Order of Preachers remains. It has something to do with that complex reality that is a part of any enduring mystery: the calling. "You cannot become a priest until you know and are convinced that God and others have been recklessly generous with you. I think it comes from God. A calling has something to do with being pushed by the claims of the religious imagination and whether or not that calling substantiates itself in reality." It seems there will always be those for whom

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answer with a very complex reality.'

This simple answer with its complex reality offers its own set of challenges. "The biggest challenge was whether or not the (culture) of religious life and the (culture) of the priesthood were a correct fit. The culture of religious life is tested in community. The culture of priesthood tests your ability to serve."

Whether an individual is given to live in community can determine their course of self-realization. Dominican brothers live in a single household with all earned income kept in a single account. An arrangement like this requires one to always live in community, but it can't be forced. "You can't charge \$1000.00 at Bloomingdales. You can, but you



Above: A picture of St. Thomas Aquinas. Provided By: The Theology Dept

buccaneer May 2004 Leading By Example

By Elise M. Colon Editor in Chief colone@mail.barry.edu

One glance at Brett Nagelbush's resume and you'd be certain that it is one of a dedicated student—a success story waiting to happen. And after one conversation with him and you'd be convinced that he is undoubtedly a born leader. Nagelbush, a 21-year-old Senior majoring in Business Management, is one of Barry's student leaders and definitely fits the profile of a 'super-senior.' He plans to graduate in December and simply saying he is 'involved' here in the Barry community would be a severe understatement.

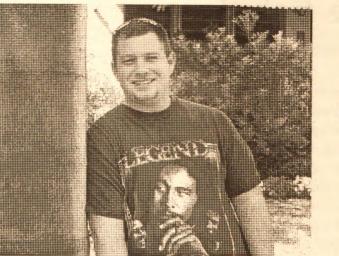
As a Junior he was Vice President of SGA, an Orientation Team Leander and also a member of the BLAST team (Barry Leadership and Skills Team). He also went on the Alternate Spring Break trip with Father Victor to Dominican Republic (March 2003) where he and other students painted a preschool and interacted with the children there. He explained this trip as, "the most spiritual experience of my entire life." Growing up, Brett got a chance to travel the world with his mom (on business) visiting almost 20 different countries from Thailand to Ecuador. "I'm lucky," he comments, "I feel really lucky to have seen so much of the world so early in life." But despite his many vacations,

his all-time favorite trip was to the DR with the Alternate Spring Break program. He calls the experience, "unbelievable."

Brett is well-known on campus for his involvement with **SGA** (Student Government Association). He served as President for one year along with the other SGA officers really made things happen for students here at Barry. Acting Student Body, each member of SGA made it a point to let

students know that it is their *right* to have their voices heard. He told me that his getting involved with SGA really gave him a chance to speak up for his fellow students. Brett calls himself a "seeker of truth." In fact, some words that he lives by are, "speak the truth, because the truth always prevails."

In addition to proficiently representing the student voice; under Brett's noteworthy leadership, SGA's annual events (The Toy Drive, The Haunted House, and Feb Fest) were all huge successes (the biggest student turnouts ever) this year. And just recently, SGA was responsible for registering the highest amount of student vot-



Former President of SGA Bret Nagelbush-One of as faithful leaders of the Barry's finest poses in front of the chapel. Photo By: Elise M. Colon

ers in all of South Florida! That truly is something to be proud of.

Brett is also involved with club TEKE, which is a club designed for people who don't particularly care for coventional fraternities. This club is based on three principles: love, charity, and esteem. He tells me that they are currently in the process of becoming an official fraternity.

Motivated and guided by his mothers exemplary professionalism, Brett is on his way to the top-fast. He has certainly done his part as a student leader here at Barry, and his dedication and involvement is certainly setting the mold for Barry's future student leaders.

From the Roots of Endurance

By Elise M. Colon Editor in Chief colone@mail.barry.edu

Mercedes was living with her grandparents in Louisiana at the time when her grandfather told her the story about her great-great grandmother who was a slave at a plantation. One day the slave owner told her that she and her two small children would be sold the next day, but not to the same slave owner. Imagine the pain that a mother, who was already suffering, felt when she heard this horrific news.



She knew what she had to do. She had no other choice. That night, she crept to where her children slept and quietly got them out of bed. She walked with them all the way to the Mississippi river where she proceeded to tie them to her back with some rope and swim across the river to safety. After hearing this story, Mercedes Topaz Washington, at a very young age was able to embrace her roots and discover that she came from a long line of resilient people who refused to give up. It is the same perseverance and endurance displayed by her great-great grandmother

years ago that runs through the veins of Ms. Washington.

A senior, graduating in May at the top of her class (with a 3.6 GPA) from the School of Social Work, Mercedes lives

as

mentors fourth grade girls at

to attend graduate school

where she will pursuit her

masters in Social Work. She

praises the School of Social

Work at Barry saying, "from

the secretary to all my profes-

After graduating she plans

Little River Elementary.

selected

sors, they have all helped foster and support my growth and development. Everyone has been amazing." Although Social Work seems to be her forte, she tells me that after she gets her masters, she plans to go to law school. As far as a career choice goes, she sees some sort of non-profit organization in her future and possibly a political position.

The things that are most valuable to her: her family, her education, and mother Africa-her roots. As President of The BSU (the Black Student Union) she has lead a club that is reaching to new heights in its pursuit of promoting a universal understanding that transcends cultural barriers. The club serves as an outlet for sharing common interests, community, and a quest for knowledge-things that all





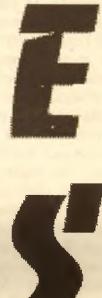
A Student Who Speaks Her Mind-Mercedes Washington makes a point at the forum in February. Photo By: Elise M. Colon

humans can relate to. They focus on polto, "assist and empower itics, culture, and health.

oppressed people." She works Her grandfather used to always tell her, at New Horizon, a local "no one can take your education from agency that counsels and you." Those words will stay with her assists people who are dealing always. She will be the first in her family to graduate from college. The story of her with various issues and problems. She was also recently great-great grandma-where she came Barry's from will forever stick with her too mak-Homecoming Queen. She also ing sure she, "never gets tired."

> "I am the offspring of the ancestors that would not die. Racism, lynching, and death and we are still here, and I'm about to graduate from college."

> Mercedes is a true leader-a revolutionary by her own right. An example that many will surely follow. She has definitely made her grandfather a very proud man.



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Student Leaders Raise Important Issues and Pose Possible Solutions

By Mercedes Washington & Brett Nagelbush

May 2004

Better Selection in the Cafeteria

This issue has been visited and revisited. Sodexho has attempted to make improvements. However, students still continue to lose weight from not eating. Conversely, other students continue to spend the majority of their money at the BucStop or other off campus locations. Improved quality of fruit and vegetables, a larger selection of entrees, and more vegetarian options are potential solutions to this problem.

Running out of Bucks

The price gouging at the BucStop must cease. \$2.13 for a cone of ice cream is equivalent to the price for a pint of ice cream in the grocery store. Students are already losing money from the sustained tuition increase. Corporate presence always comes with a price. Instead of raising the charges for overpriced bagels and coffee, the BucStop should consider raising the salaries of the diligent staff that accommodate our various needs.

Tuition Cap Now

As student satisfaction decreases and tuition continues to rise, a clear demand for an immediate tuition cap is warranted. Although both students and faculty must unite to voice their concerns, it is up to the Board of Trustees and Barry's new President to respect our respective financial constraints and stop raising the tuition. If tuition is being increased, can the number of 24 hour computer labs on campus increase as well? Potential solutions include cutting back on the amount of water spent on landscaping or redistributing the University's resources to effectively mange fiscal responsibilities.

Improved Treatment of Staff

There should be a better community built around staff support. This includes making our staff feel apart of our "caring environment." This can be accomplished by creating a living wage for our staff, providing programs related to staff appreciation, and focusing on the vital contributions made by staff. Thank you to all the many staff community members that continue to allow Barry University to prosper.

Student Representation

Student Representation on the Board of Trustees would lessen the students feeling of being marginalized and increase feeling that our voices are heard. Giving Students a slot on the agenda at every Board Meeting would allow this to happen.

Student Government representation in Student Services' Directors' Meetings would allow Student Services to clearly show the students why certain decisions are made within the division and Student Services will be able to more clearly understand why Student Government Association makes decisions that they make.

Budget Increase

Increase in Budget for Student Government Association (SGA) which funds our 40 Great Student-Run Organizations. Currently SGA has to divvy up the little money allocated to SGA in order to make sure that the Student Organizations that request funds for sponsoring events can actually get enough funds in order for them to properly function as student-run organizations.

Proposing RHA Elections

Resident Hall Association (RHA) should have elections and along with SGA be one of the main channels of student concerns to be heard along with making change. RA's should also be able to be apart of RHA as well as SGA in order to make a positive impact on policy decisions made by the administration. RA's can not freely speak their mind to Residential Life without the fear of repercussions and allowing them to join RHA would lessen that fear.

Intel Clubhouse: Sharing Technology with Local Kids

By Kobina Aidoo Staff Writer

aidook@mail.barry.edu

As summer activities go, volunteering may not necessarily pop up as one of the fun ones to do. When one thinks of volunteering, one thinks of performing for free, activities that make life better for other people, in a rather broad sense. Fun, on the other hand, is, well, fun. Somehow, "better life" and "fun" do not necessarily go together. It's like food; if it tastes good, it's most likely bad for you.

The Intel Computer Clubhouse was started to address this social dichotomy, if you will. It was designed, among other things, to put fun into kids' learning experience. Imagine 8 – 18 year olds engaging in productive ventures after school! It all began in 1993 with an exhibition at the Computer Museum in Boston (now a part of the Museum of Science). The renowned MIT Media Lab put up a computer-based exhibition for kids. The kids loved it, came back, but the exhibition was gone. So began the idea for a Computer Clubhouse; a state-ofthe-art environment where kids from underserved communities worldwide could explore technology without the rigid structure of school. Intel corporation, the microchip manufacturer, took up the project and little more than a decade later, there are over 100 clubhouses

all over the globe: from Boston to Bogota, from Ireland to India, from Pittsburg to the Philippines

And of course Miami! Miami's own clubhouses are housed at the Little Haiti Housing Association on 181 NE 82nd Street and at the YWCA of Greater Miami at 351 NW Fifth Street. By their deliberate location in underserved and inner-city neighborhoods, the clubhouses provide youth in those communities access to technology they would otherwise not have had: digital microscopes, video cameras, nonlinear editing systems, robotic Lego bricks, graphic arts software, music studios, scanners, and several other software and peripheral devices. But access is not enough! The clubhouse relies on adult mentors (18 years and older). Mentors are mostly professionals and college students with interest in computers, music, art, architecture, engineering, fashion design, graphic arts, multimedia systems, journalism, education, science, and a diversity of other fields. Even more important than one's occupation is the interest in learning and sharing technology and/or working with youth.



Doing his Part-One mentor instructs a student on using PC's. **Photo by:** Kobina Aidoo

Mentors perform various functions such as working with members to create fun projects, offering specific guidance in the mentor's area of expertise, chaperoning on field trips, and supporting members in making college/career choices. By design, this is a very dynamic environment where one operates based on one's interests. Whether teaching 3D animation skills or playing chess with the members, or just "chilling," mentors make a big difference. Just by being there and being who they are, mentors inspire.

This is a fun, community-building, human resource-building program that gives mentors the opportunity to lead; teach and share their knowledge; inspire; learn new skills; and get free access to highend computers while school is out. Besides, volunteer experience is becoming increasingly valuable for college and job applications. Several college students have chosen to do their service learning hours at the Intel Computer Clubhouse and had more fun than they had expected. So as the summer approaches, make mentoring at the clubhouse one of your goals.

To begin mentoring, call Kobina on 305 759 2542 extension 109 or email him at kaidoo@littlehaitihousing.org.

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Dominican View on The Passion of the Christ

By Elizabeth Suergiu Staff Writer suergiue@mail.barry.edu

How many liberties can you take with a filmic rendition of a book? A historical event? A religious doctrine? What if your film is all of these?

Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ has been called everything from a religious awakening to an anti-historical flop. The fact is, love it or hate it, Gibson's undertaking is a massive work driven by-pardon the word-passion, both artistic and religious. The questions have arisen: 'Is it anti-Semitic? Is it historically accurate? Is it faithful to catholic doctrine?' The answers aren't simple.

Q. Is it historically accurate?

A. According to Dr. Edward Sunshine of Barry's Philosophy/Theology department, history plays a slim role in Gibson's vision. "It is not historically accurate," he says. "Put big caps for Gibson himself does not NOT. make that claim." One important source for the Gospel According to Catherine Gibson is Anne 1833 work Emmerich's The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, which details her personal

meditations on what the suffering of Jesus must have been like. Emmerich was by no means a historian, nor theologian, and so viewers should remember that much of the violence onscreen, while a hopeless historical misrepresentation is, like Emmerich's work, the product of Gibson's personal inspiration. The simple fact is that "The Passion" may not need historical accuracy because it is an artistic vision. Its unhistorical elements are no more blameworthy than the unhistorical elements in "Gone with the Wind" or "The Mummy," right? Well, maybe. But Gibson's film has elements which may increase the need for historical accuracy. Among them is the claim to scripture.

Q. Is it faithful to scripture?

A. In the first place, true scriptural fidelity is nearly impossible given the divergence of scripture. Each of the gospels is an individual unit which tells the story of Jesus for different audiences and so each story takes on different nuances appropriate to these different listeners. Gibson's Passion is a composite so it must at times forego one interpretation in favor of another.

Complete fidelity is also not a pressing concern. The purpose of the Gospel is to get across a mean-



Cor Jesu Chapel-Barry's place of worship. Photo By: Elise Colon

ing: Jesus' life and what it means to an individual. Mary the Mother does not appear in any gospel version of the passion except at the foot of the cross. Her presence throughout Gibson's film is used to convey meaning, as is the unbiblical presence of Satan and the many unbiblical words of Pontius Pilate. So Gibson, like Catholic writers before him, is shifting, adding, and subtracting details to convey to modern audiences his take on the meaning of Jesus' life.

Q. What is his take on the meaning of Jesus' life?

A. More accurately stated: what is Mel Gibson's theology. As Dr. Sunshine states: "even in an artistic representation, you have an implicit theology." "The Passion" is closely aligned with the theology of medieval churches. Does God want Jesus to die? "Gibson," says Sunshine, "would say yes." The God of the medieval church is a "juridical god;" kingly, at times monstrous in his demand for the sincleansing blood of Jesus. The medieval god has nothing in common with humans and that inhuman-(CONTINUED, pg. 15)

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Ethnic Diversity on College Campuses Reduces Binge Drinking

By Elizabeth Suergiu Staff Writer suergiue@mail.barry.edu

It is a concern on campuses across the nation. Studies and investigations finger alcohol and binge drinking as a factor in offenses ranging from unwanted sexual advances to wide-scale rioting and violence. Solutions to the problem are equally varied and many universities stress the importance of sobriety and look to the normative influence of an environment, which embraces, sober-living as a potential solution. The idea may now have support from the scientific community. In 1993 through 1999 surveys conducted by Harvard University's College Alcohol Study (CAS) found binge drinking on the rise among America's college students. The term binge drinking itself became a catchall phrase, connoting both excessive consumption of alcohol, ensuing drunkenness, and reckless or dangerous behavior, especially in young adults. But binge drinking in its formal definition is much simpler. A man who consumes five or more drinks in a row at least once in two weeks is a binge drinker. For a woman the ratio is somewhat lower: the consumption of four or more drinks in a row at least once in two weeks. The surveys, distributed and analyzed by Drs. Henry Wechsler,

Hang Lee found that the rate of binge drinkers from 93-97 was climbing, and the effects becoming more drastic. Two out of every five students were classified as binge drinkers. 2 out of 3 students residing in fraternity or sorority houses were found to be binge drinkers. Those classified as binge drinkers tended to experience at least five, and often more than 5, alcohol related problems. Among the most serious offenses were driving while intoxicated and vandalism or destruction of property.

risk. Students most likely to binge drink were White males, those who had begun binge drinking in high school, single students, young (or underage) students and those connected with fraternities, sororities, and Greek organizations. Among these groups the rates of binge drinking increased significantly. Other groups showed an opposite trend. African Americans, Asians, married students, and older students showed marked decreases in binge drinking when taken as a group. These trends within campus subgroups sparked researchers to reanalyze their old findings along with new information from the same representative sample of college campuses. The results were eye open-

Jae Eun Lee, Meichun Kuo, and ing. Campuses with higher percentages of ethnic minorities, females, and older students showed a decrease in overall rates of binge drinking. Even more encouraging was data showing a campus population with a large percentage of these low risk groups tended to coincide with decreased binge drinking even among the high risk White, male, and underage groups. On campuses with a high percentage of minorities, students were found less likely to begin binge drinking in the first place.

The reason may lie in psycholo-The surveys also identified high gy. One hypothesis suggests that high-risk students find models for alternative behavior in their low-risk friends, roommates, and classmates. Diversified dormitories, in which many different groups shared housing, showed decreases in binge drinking among high-risk students. The presence of older students living on campus among younger students also coincided with decreased binge drinking for the high-risk underage sub-group. The survey suggests that practical application for lowering binge-drinking rates may include increasing diversity in campus housing in terms of age, ethnicity, and race. High risk students will, the hypothesis goes, be less likely to begin binge drinking and also less likely to continue if this

mode of behavior is not supported and reinforced by the surrounding low risk student groups.

Many universities, including Barry University, house students without any attention to race, ethnicity, or gender. Instead a roommate matching form, designed to pair students with their ideal roommate, is used to determine housing arrangements. The form asks such questions as what time do you go to bed each night and whether or not you are socially active, how much time you plan to devote to studying, and other non-biased questions. With regard to age, the situation gets trickier: non-traditional undergraduates (those older students returning to school and requiring housing) are paired together. In fact many students are paired together based on their age group. This may not discourage binge drinking according to Harvard, but it does allow the University to crack down on underage drinking. All freshmen dorms are dry, and no alcohol is permitted imany common living area, such as a bathroom or living room, where at least one of the roommates is underage.

Like most college campuses, Barry's largest category of on-campus crime is alcohol related. And

(CONTINUED, pg. 11)

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To Smoke or Not to Smoke, That is the Question

Tobacco Rules

By Abigail Wolfe News Editor wolfea@mail.barry.edu

moking has become a huge issue in the United States over the past few decades. Anti-smoking advertising campaigns, litigation, and regulations have constantly progressed to ban cigarette smoke from public places in cities such as Miami, Los Angeles and New York. While it has, in fact, become somewhat of a cultural taboo to smoke in public in the United States, the rest of the world continues to light up with little consequence. Is it possible that our political viewpoints on tobacco and smoke have become somewhat nearsighted and judgmental over the years?

Allow me to share a personal experience with you. Three summers ago I spent a few weeks in the south of France at an ecumenical monastery called Taize. Thousands of people from all over the world flock to Taize every year to sing and meditate as well as discuss religion with the monks and nuns who live there. My Dutch cousin Sebastian is a fellow monk at Taize. A discussion arose amongst the group of Americans I was traveling with in regards to drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes. It is an informal Christian principle in the United States that drinking and smoking are "sinful" or "signs of poor moral character" while in European countries a glass of wine with dinner or a cigarette is a normal and acceptable cultural practice to many. I witnessed, to my amusement, nuns and monks sitting amongst the travelers in the cantina at Taize, enjoying a glass of wine and a cigarette before bed while socializing with various people in search of spiritual enlightenment. Does anyone want to judge these holy people who have dedicated their lives to the service of God based on the criteria listed here? Didn't' think so.

While I am not an avid smoker I would like to make the following points. This country was originally founded on tobacco as a cash crop to be sold in Europe. Big tobacco companies sell more of their products over seas now than in the United States, making us a comparatively smarter market. When our national economy is at a loss due to anti-smoking litigation and big tobacco is moving out you can be sure we'll be seeing infomercials on how smoking is beneficial for your health. Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker Union, an activist for human rights throughout her life was an avid smoker and died of non-smoking related causes at an old age. The actor George Burns was a smoker and died at the age of 100 having smoked every day his entire life. While cigarette smoking is terrible for an individuals lungs and over all health, it is not the most prominent issue in American health care; obesity is.

I am writing this commentary not to inspire people to go out and buy a pack of cigarettes but in response to an antismoking commentary with very conventional arguments against smoking. While smoking is a smelly and unhealthy habit it is also not the worst thing in the world a person can do. The particular anti-smoking essay complained about the Barry University campus specifically being smoke filled. This individual complained about Garner specifically as a hotspot for smokers to sit, and well smoke, stating that a "designated" area needs to be defined. Well Sherlock, I think it already has. People aren't lighting up in the computer lab while you work or in the classroom while you learn. Is the bench beside the ashtrays really off limits too? People can't smoke inside anymore in Miami, what more do you want?

Tobacco Stinks

By Melyssa Sueiro Staff Writer sueirom@mail.barry.edu

re you one in 137 million Americans breathing unhealthy air? Currently a junior at Barry University, I have noticed, over the years, that those who choose to smoke monopolize most of the outdoor sitting areas around the this campus. According to the American Lung Association, secondhand smoke kills about 38,000 people a year, infecting them with terrible illnesses such as lung cancer and heart disease. With that said, who in their right mind actually wants to subject themselves to smokers' fumes outside of every building on the campus of Barry University? Smoking is a slow form of suicide and while I do have friends who smoke, I, along with numerous other students on campus, made the choice at an early age that I didn't want to take up the habit that many see as a stress reducer. It seems as though the campus is becoming overrun with chain smokers that insist on smoking at every possible bench, table, or outdoor common area. Oxygen mask, anyone?

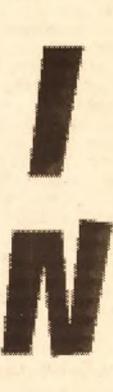
I just do not think that it is fair for students who do not smoke to be exposed to the fumes coming from others who feel the urge to 'light up' on campus. Secondhand smoke, which comes from the smoke breathed out by the person who smokes, and the smoke from the end of a burning cigarette, can cause a variety of health problems, including cancer, asthma, and respiratory infections. Also called environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), exposure to secondhand smoke can also lead to irritation of the throat, eyes, nose, and lungs which can produce coughing, excessive phlegm and chest discomfort.

While I completely understand that the University cannot put a ban on smoking altogether, I do feel that they should set up certain designated areas around the campus for smokers to congregate after class. With students smoking only in designated areas, it would greatly limit the nonsmoking student's exposure to the thousands of toxic chemicals that make up secondhand smoke.

Secondhand smoke contains over 4,000 chemicals, 200 that are poisons, and 43 that cause cancer. Furthermore, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified secondhand smoke as a known cause of cancer in humans. might as well take up the habit of smoking like the rest of the students at Barry University, because I am being exposed to almost as many deadly fumes.

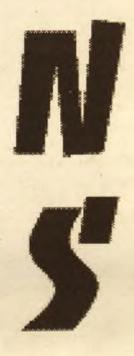
Last year many Florida places of employment placed a ban on cigarette smoking indoors. Put forth by a voter-mandated amendment to the Florida Clean Air Indoor Act, the ban was signed by Governor Jeb Bush. Most Floridians agree that this is a public health issue and maintain that while the goal is not to prevent people from smoking, it is to try and protect the population from secondhand smoke. The cigarette ban prohibits people from smoking in indoor restaurants, prisons, bowling alleys, indoor cafes, hotel lobbies and on film sets. For many years, smoking has been banned from most major commercial airlines, trains, and tour buses. Hotels even have specific floors that are solely for those who choose not to smoke. If all of these major businesses, attractions, and areas of commerce can identify that secondhand smoke poses a serious health threat, why can't Barry University see the light and follow in their footsteps? In addition to being a health threat, smoking around those who are not smoking is also inconsiderate. I cannot count the numerous times I have sat down on a bench in front of the library, only to have to get up and move a few minutes later because someone decides to sit down next to me and light up their cigarette. Those of us who choose not to smoke, end up surrounded by numerous students who contaminate the air for the rest of the campus population. Is this fair? I certainly don't think it is.













My View on The Passion of the Christ

By Maresa Patience Staff Writer patiencem@mail.barry.edu

About a two months ago I was speaking with a friend of mine about the movie, The Passion of the Christ, and how eager I was to see the film. I told her that all this controversy about the film being anti-Semitic was ridiculous and that Jesus died for all human kind, not just for Christians. Even though I read almost every article I could get my hands on nothing would justify or prepare me for the experience that this film left upon my heart. All the critics said that the film was a brutal and very graphic portrayal of Jesus' last hours. However, I wanted to see for myself and pass my own judgment on this film and see if these critics gave any justice to Mel Gibson's work.

While I was visiting some friends in New Jersey, I got the opportunity to see The Passion of the Christ that I so patiently waited to see. As I sat in the theater I could feel the blood

run through my veins as goose only words that had escaped my bumps slowly rose from my skin electrifying the hairs on my arms. The credits rolled and the opening scene of Jesus praying in the garden, showed across the screen. I sat silently but tensed in my chair thoroughly immersed in the scene before me. I felt as if I was in Jerusalem myself on the streets with all those other people. I quivered and my muscles tightened as the reenactment of Christ's death began to unfold before my eyes.

When the movie came to the scourging at the pillar, I found this horrific to watch. The only thing I could think of at this time was, "why would someone want to do this-put himself through this ineffable torture when with a snap of a finger he could save himself. The answer came right to me. He loved us that much that he would lose almost every drop of blood in his body, every scrap of dignity; he gave up everything to save us from the torture of hell. WOW!! These are the

lips-however; they do no justice to the extent of this experience. I could not fathom the feeling in my heart how one person could love me so much. I could not understand how he could die such a painful death among thieves to save people who will betray him and curse his name. He showed no revenge only forgiveness even for his executioners. Tears began to stream down my face and my shoulders were almost touching my ears. There were people sobbing behind me saying "no, no," as they watched Christ's crucifixion on the big screen. What an experience.

Jesus' mother was by his side every step of the way; however she wasn't able to comfort her son or to hold him in her arms before his death. There was nothing she could do but watch and suffer beside him until this act was fulfilled as prophesized Jesus fell multiple times but, there was one moment when Jesus fell and Mary's heart fell with him and she ran to comfort her son saying, "I'm here, I'm here." This moment in the film was absolutely heart wrenching. Imagine the pain Mary went through as a mother seeing her son fall and not being able to help him? Even writing about it now makes my insides twist and hurt. This scene between Mary and Jesus, in which only two words were spoken, expressed such deep emotion, of love and of pain all at the same time.

They nailed him to the cross showing no mercy. I wondered to myself, he lost so much blood, how could he be alive? But he was there, on the cross, high on a hill named after the place of the skulls. He died. Immense emotion and love engulfs me and I am speechless. I cannot say anything-no words could explain how loved I felt. Mel Gibson is truly a passionate visionary and has produced and amazing work of art. A truly heart felt moving film which everyone should see.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

In the January 2004 issue of the Buccaneer I had the great displeasure of reading a letter to the editor written by a Mr. John Johnson. Apparently, Mr. Johnson, though I'm sure he meticulously read the entire newspaper for a mention of the word "gospel" or "scripture," negated to read the banner just under the name of the newspaper that reads, "THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER". If that requires explanation, then it means that the paper is geared toward the student population of Barry, which has var-

ied concerns and interests, not excluding those of a Catholic community. If the inverse were true then Mr. Johnson's letter wouldn't have been published. Also apparent is that in all of Mr. Johnson's bible study he never read a passage, sometimes called the Golden Rule, that stipulates, "Do on to others as you would have done on to you." I find it relevant to highlight this passage because while the editorial staff at the Buccaneer was hard at work, Mr. Johnson could only find the time to criticize, not only the editorial staff, but the interests of the students at Barry University. Instead of threatening with what,

"the Archdiocese has to say about that" he should get himself behind a word processor, write an e-mail to the editor, and ask to contribute a story of INTEREST that promulgates a purely Catholic agenda. His statement that the Buccaneer should "not depend on statistics furnished by the National Organization for Women" is insulting to me, as well as to the struggle of women in this country, to the achievements of Sister Jean, and the editorial staff of the Buccaneer (largely made up of women). His incendiary tone and his proclivity to insult, albeit in an egalitarian way, the family that is

the Barry University community takes on an air of outsider tattletale that is neither appreciated nor conducive to the Barry community. If Mr. Johnson wants to control the editorial decisions at the paper, then maybe he should go about it in a way that embraces the diversity that Barry strives for and not by admonishing the hard work of THE STU-DENT NEWSPAPER Staff.

Respectfully, Daniel J. Fernandez



Know your RIGHTS and OPTIONS regarding IMMIGRATION!

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The Buccaneer staff looks forward to future letters to the Editor. We hope that you will continue to submit your comments and concerns for possible publication. Thank you!

Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the Buccaneer editorial staff or those of Barry University.

With the current changes in Immigration laws, it is vital that you know your rights and options. The Law Offices of Rawny Garay, P.A. will take care of all your Immigration matters. We handle all Immigrations cases ranging from H-IBs to Family Based Petitions.

The Immigration Services recently announced that, based upon first quarter tabulations, 43,500 H-1E cases that could count against the 65,000 cap for Fiscal Year 200404 have been either approved or are in the queue for adjudication. So act fast before it's too late!

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Tina Carla on Fashion

By Tina Carla Franklin Staff Writer

The hottest new look of spring 2004 is the polished prep look. Everyone from rappers Eve and P-Diddy to actress Cameron Diaz has been spotted sporting this



new trend. For spring, an easy way to update your closet is by simply adding anything from a white tennis mini-skirt, white pants for men or a colorful polo shirt.

For the classic preppy look, visit a LaCoste boutique (there's one at the Sawgrass Mills Mall), but if you're in the mood for something a little wilder and colorful, you can always opt for Tommy Hilfiger or Rampage, which both carry the polo shirts and the cute and hip white skirts. The white pants for men can be found at any Sean John store (Bloomingdale's at the Aventura Mall has Sean John). And for a steal, all of these designer's looks can be found at Marshall's, T.J. Max, or Ross

If the preppy look isn't for you, you can always go for a little splash of color. Yellow, pink, and green are the season's colors this year and you can experiment with anything from eye shadow to converse sneakers.

The best cosmetic colors of the season are found in the spring collection of Maybelline, Cover Girl and Jane cosmetics. Try Cover Girl's eye shadows in Moonlight Lilac or Golden Sunrise and Jane's lipsticks in Pinkling or Sand Dune. For extra color, you can even try Jane's nail polishes in Best Friends or Kiss and Tell.

Chuck Taylor's Converse All Star is also a great way to add color to any plain wardrobe. They now hold an entire women's collection which includes bright pinks, bright greens and bright yellows. You can even go wilder by sporting their new comic strip collection, which includes a collection of sexy comic strip heroines in the design

For men, just adding a fun and loud hat will do. Designers such as Von Dutch and Diesel are great in experimenting with colors for men. Von Dutch is famous for making hats and bags in crazy combinations such as orange and bright blue made cool enough for any man. Diesel, mostly known for their shoes also takes those crazy color combinations into consideration when creating sneakers, which vary from blue/yellow to orange/black. If you like these designers but can not afford them, Puma is a great alternative, often priced much less than Diesel or Von

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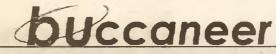
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Dutch but just as wild.

Whichever style you choose to sport this spring, remember to always incorporate some of the old with the new. It's always great to be able to duplicate some of the runway looks, but it's even better to be able to take those looks and make them our own. Event mgmt co. in search of a sharp & hardworking individual for research, sales & marketing. Must have a hunger to succeed. High potential for growth within the co. Knowledge of Microsoft Office & thenternet a must. Hourly base. Salary, commission & benefits available. E-mail resume to <u>entrysales@csmipi.com</u>.



May 2004 ELS Story

(CONTINUED FROM, pg 4)

someday relocating to the United States. However, they could only study in the summers because that was when the children were out of school. To support its unique "block-modular" approach, ELS has developed its own proprietary set of textbooks that all its centers use. This makes it easy for students to start their training at one ELS center and complete it at another center, an option many students use to experience different American subcultures.

ELS-Barry students have the option of either enrolling in the fulltime Intensive English Program or part-time Semi-Intensive the The Intensive English program. English Program is designed for academic students and is so rigorous colleges/universities that 500 will automatically nationwide accept its graduates without requiring the TOEFL. The more conversational Semi-Intensive program is targeted at leisure students who are not necessarily interested in studying at an American institution of higher education.

The ELS school week runs from Monday through Friday. In the mornings, all students (Intensive and Semi-Intensive) work on their English speaking skills either in a classroom setting, in the Foreign Language Audio Lab (which is shared with Barry's Department of English and Foreign Languages), or in a special dedicated multimedia language lab in Garner Hall solely reserved for ELS students. In the afternoons, Intensive students work on their written English skills (sometimes using the multimedia language lab) while Semi-Intensive students are free to explore the Barry campus and the Greater Miami area.

While some ELS students live in Barry University dorms or in their own furnished apartments, most live with host home stay families. Ms. Street strongly recommends the home stay option for ELS students because of the cultural exposure it provides. "Because of their stability, home stay families can offer our students cultural integration opportunities that would be impossible for even the most organized of student households to provide." ELS's unique curriculum builds in numerous opportunities for students to practice their newlyacquired language skills. It is not uncommon for foreign students to be seen hanging around Thompson or Garner halls conducting surveys on American opinions towards just about any topic. "Usually they target the students of foreign heritage first," says Ms. Street, "then they

approach the domestic students when they feel a bit more comfortable with the language." Another popular enrichment activity for the Intensive English students is audituniversity-level classes. ing "Because of the strict Barry University policy on requiring the TOEFL, our students technically cannot audit Barry classes and can therefore only attend one class meeting per semester as a guest. However, many of the professors here are quite cooperative and will keep inviting our students to come back again and again," reports Ms. Street.

When it comes to leisure and fun, ELS-Barry students have numerous options. As guest members of the Barry community, they can participate in just about any campus activity available. In addition, many home stay families include ELS students in their own leisure activities. Finally, ELS itself sponsors its own activities such as luncheons, informational seminars, museum visits, and trips to Orlando.

While a majority of ELS students are obviously from overseas, some are non-English speakers who already live in this country and want the meal ticket that an English language skill can provide them. Jean-Marie (name changed to protect identity) is a Hatian in her 30s who came to this country a couple of years ago without knowing any English. But when her son started kindergarten, she wanted to be able to communicate with him and his teachers. So she enrolled in ELS. "Thanks to ELS, my ability (confidence) has improved to the point where I want to go into Barry's Nursing school."

Because ELS-Barry is not an official Barry University program, ELS students do not pay tuition to Barry University but rather to ELS itself. Barry University merely leases space to the ELS program. However, according to Ms. Street, students are charged tuition "similar to what they would have to pay if they attended Barry," although she would not disclose the exact dollar amount.

A Beloved Sister Cont.

(CONTINUED from, pg 1)

to really help the Haitians." She expressed shock at her own answer. From 13 on all she wanted to do was give her life to God and keep educating people to end ignorance and fight prejudice. Our beloved Sister entered the convent at the age of 16, not expected to live to adulthood, for what many don't know is that Sister Jeanne battled with inflammation of the heart for many years. Needless to say, Sr. Jeanne managed to recover and according to her, has been physically strong from 35 on.

One thing you may not know about the Barry president with a capital S is that she has a very special relationship with her garbage collectors. Having spent most of her life living in convents, Sr. Jeanne described her amusement at having her first real home, located in Miramar. Sister Jeanne said she never really thought about all the components of being a homeowner previous to her purchase. It was from this point on that Sister Jeanne made best friends with her garbage collectors. She began by leaving the men a cooler full of cold drinks and snacks assuming that they were

hot and thirsty in the South Florida sun. She would also leave out small notes thanking the men for a job well done. After a few weeks Sr. Jeanne began to notice that her trashcans were neatly placed side by side in her driveway after trash collection, while her neighbors garbage cans were strewn haphazardly around the street. The first day she had the opportunity to greet the men collecting her garbage completed this touching story. The men took the time to get out of their truck and approach Sr. Jeanne. Each of the men carefully wiped his hands to shake hers, but found themselves greeted instead with a hug. At this point of the story I was looking for a tissue. From then on the men honked their horns whenever passing Sr. Jeanne's house. She certainly has a way with people that stems from her strong and intimate relationship with God. In little over 20 years, the Barry President has turned Barry from a dot on the map, into a first rate University. We all have a lot to thank her for and a lot of love to reciprocate.

Ethnic Diversity Reduces Cont.

(CONTINUED FROM, pg 7)

though being a religious institution helps, according to the study, to lower our alcohol and drinking rates overall, it is still an internal concern. The simple fact is that binge drinking and alcohol related problems are a concern on all campuses. Yet still, the survey may prove to be a nonviable option for many.

The reason is in many cases that no campus anywhere wants to appear as though race, age, or ethnicity is a concern. And in an environment where even the whisper of age or race ranking is unwanted and potentially dangerous a survey like this, no matter how altruistic the suggestions may be, will probably not find wide-spread use or acceptance.

For now, personal and social responsibility campaigns as well as social norms seem to be the best option for students and for universities looking to avoid the effects of excessive alcohol use and binge drinking. But a multi-cultural campus, where students interact socially on a regular basis even if they are not housed together and where the ratio of low to high-risk groups is high may have a considerable advantage in the struggle against binge drinking.

So the next time a "foreign" student walks up to you and asks you to participate in a survey, keep in mind that you are helping someone achieve their dreams of studying in America while making Barry a great place to get a multicultural education.



bUccaneer May 2004 A Taste of Japan: Visiting a Local Japanese Museum

By Lourdes Gutierrez Staff Writer gutierrez@mail.barry.edu

Barry students interested in Japanese culture, or who are fans of the 2003 movie releases The Last Samurai and Kill Bill Vol. 1, may take interest in the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens located in Delray Beach Florida. Situated on 200 acres of land donated to Palm Beach Country by George Sukeji Morikami at the end of his long life in the 1970's, the Morikami offers a peaceful escape from the hectic lifestyles and traffic nightmares of South Florida.

At the museum one can take a walk through traditionally landscaped gardens with real bamboo trees, sit and meditate in the Zen rock gardens, feed enormous koi fish or take a look at the museum's impressive bonsai tree exhibit. Visitors can also walk through a traditional Japanese home, without shoes (paper slippers are provided), and learn about George Morikami's family life and the history of the museum's foundation.

The Morikami also has a lot to offer visitors indoors. The museum features



A nice place to relax-The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach provide a great escape from our day to day routine. **Photo By: Lourdes Gutierrez**

arts and crafts on the weekends, Japanese holiday celebrations and various lectures on Japanese culture that anyone can participate in. Visitors can also get an upclose look at real samurai armor, silk paintings and various artistic and photographic exhibits.

Although small in comparison to other South Florida museums such as MOCA (Museum of Contemporary Art), the sado, or tea ceremony demonstrations, Morikami is still worth considering if you

are a fan of Japanese culture, and cannot afford to travel to Japan and experience it first hand. The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens operates Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm. For information about exhibits, directions and admission prices, you can call 561-495-0233, or visit the museum online at http://www.morikami.org.

Say Goodbye to the Icons of an Era: No More Sex and

By Dominique Agri Staff Writer agrid@mail.barry.edu

Day in and day out, television shows us sitcoms about traditional families, a romanticized view of the teenage years, and maybe once in a while, the comedic world of the elderly. Women are rarely given a show entirely about them, perhaps with the exception of The Golden Girls. Women tend to be the offset of a male character, serve as comic relief, or are the utter depiction of failure because they are not yet married. Never before has this country seen such an abundant display of sexuality, eccentricity, and sentiment in solely female characters than in the critically acclaimed HBO series, "Sex and the City."

Widely criticized for its racy dialogue and anti-conservative cinematography, the show was noticed six years ago almost instantaneously. It has won a multitude of awards and touched the lives of people throughout the world. The seemingly most important aspect of the shows existence however, is the innovative fact that the show highlights the lives of four the final episode, the main character women without male counterparts.

The show delves into the lives of four individual women's emotions so that the characters became highly relatable. Each of them served as positive female role models, which is in an extreme deficit in today's patriarchal world. The series, while misunderstood by some as vulgar and highly offensive, was the first time in television history that women were shown as equals to men in their sexuality and power. Each character was well educated and well accomplished. They each occupied reputable and coveted positions in the workplace and chose to dwell in one of the most fascinating cities in the world: New York, New York.

Over the duration of six titillating seasons, each woman was portrayed in new lights. Every aspect of their strengths and character flaws were revealed and improved upon. They were constantly learning and developing themselves, men are in charge and women just get to never conforming to what society expects live in their world. Sex and the City is the of them as they explore their individuality to insure their personal happiness. In as equal to men.

"Carrie", Sarah Jessica Parker, does a voice over as the camera shoots its final scenes. She is describing different types of relationships, be it the familiarity we gain in friendship or the closeness we gain from intimate unions. The final line of the series states; "If you find someone to love the you, you love, well, that's just fabulous." The show stresses the idea of constant sense of self, instead of compromising yourself for another. The premise being that many women compromise themselves to the point of not recognizing themselves any longer.

The characters leave us with these final thoughts and the aspiration that some day we can have lives just as fabulous as theirs. Each woman displayed an ageless individuality, timeless class, and power that can not be simulated only harvested from experience. It seems the show is a symbol for the changing of an era, where symbol that women can finally be viewed 12

Man on Fire: The Best Film of the Year

By Abigail Wolfe News Editor wolfea@mail.barry.edu

Man on Fire, starring Denzel Washington, Christopher Walken, Marc Anthony and Dakota Fanning is the first good film I have seen this year. Washington and Walken are both former United States military assassins, trying to lead lives that don't involve killing. Denzel's character Creasy, arrives at Walken's doorstep in Mexico, a washed

out drunk looking to his best friend for direction. Creasy sets the stage asking Walken's character Rayburn if he thinks God will ever forgive them for the acts they have committed in their lives, Walken responds quickly; no. It is little Pita Ramos, the adorable and clever character played by Dakota Fanning, that Creasy is hired to protect in kidnapping central, Mexico City. Pita gives Creasy's life meaning again. Her honesty and ability to love him in a pure and real way does

away with his alcoholism and thoughts of suicide. In the absence of her real father, the rich car industry heir Samuel Ramos, played by Marc Anthony, Creasy spends more and more time nurturing Pita as her parents live out their socialite dreams.

Little Pita is kidnapped an hour or so into the film, a real gift to the audience so used to experiencing the film's crisis immediately after being introduced to the

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

buccaneer May 2004 A Morning with Kevin Smith

By Dominique Agri Staff Writer agrid@mail.barry.edu

After attending an advanced screening of Kevin Smith's newest film, Jersey Girl, with Liv Tyler and Ben Afleck, a week later I had the opportunity, to participate in a round table interview with Kevin Smith himself. My editor and I arrived at his hotel suite and were quickly shuffled into the kitchen area while he completed other interviews. I stood in anticipation and conversed with the writers from other colleges about the questions we were to ask him and what we thought of the film. Almost immediately I came to the realization that I was alone in my distaste of the film I began to feel bad about it and decided I would refrain from outwardly displaying my revulsion. We were summoned into the common area of the lavishly decorated room and waited for our host to reappear from the bedroom. As he emerged, we all seemed to study him intently as anyone does during celebrity sightings. It was instantaneously noted that he cut his hair much shorter, that he is

much thinner in person and that his arms were a shrine to his wife, covered in tattoos of her name. He wasted no time making himself comfortable, placing himself on the couch within our circle of chairs and pulling out a menthol cigarette. As he lit up, he asked who would go first and the questions commenced. When it came to me, I asked him why he chose to make a film that

Agri "flicks," as he called

them. He didn't agree that it was mainstream and my dislike of his film began to reveal itself. Most of the other things said were more of a fawning over a celebrity than questions about the movie. He was at total ease with us throughout the interview. He cracked jokes, which I usually took the brunt of, and he spoke freely. In his answers, he was confident in his actors and he adamantly stood behind his film. He



seemed more convention- Smoking his reds-Director Kevin Smith sits and talks with student journalists at al than his previous a roundtable interview sponsored by Allied Advertisement. Photo By: Dominique

stated that as he got older and his personal leap into fatherhood grew, he felt himself appreciating different aspects of life. The jokes that used to make him laugh were not as significant as the life he has with his family and he wanted to show that in the relationship between Affleck and his daughter described in "Jersey Girl." I then decided to ask him if he was satisfied with his career, out of sheer curiosity for his reply. His

response was profoundly different from what I expected; he said that satisfaction wasn't descriptive enough for the sense of joy he felt. He stated that he never expected to accomplish as much as he has, and that he needs no more proof for the existence of God than the fact that he has a thriving career. I have been touched by Smith's films and was finally able to meet the genus that created them.

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Judd Might Be Twisted for Playing Her Same Old Role

By Melissa Adames Staff Writer adamesm@mail.barry.edu

Maybe Ashley Judd should avoid that cliche damsel in distress with attitude role. They're more tired than Bush trying to come up with reasons he should be reelected. Judd saw the screenplay differently arguing, "It has lots of twists, not to mention [...] ready to take on the sexual double standard and stand up to any man who challenges her." Whether she's right are for us moviegoers to decide. But this is a film review not politics. A harsh, comment, yes. Fair opinion? I think so. Sure she's earned Golden-Globe



Don't get it Twisted-Andy Garcia, Ashley Judd, and Samuel L. Jackson star in a flop of a show.

and Emmy nods. But think of all the roles where she's played that familiar role: tough wife/cop/bad ass fending off bad guys. The premise of the film might be better if Ashley Judd hadn't starred in at least three

thrillers before this. Enough Judd bashing, this dilemma is trying to tell this particular character from apart Judd's other films.

As freshly

promoted police inspector Jessica Shepard, Judd is battling the bottle and the boys' only attitude of her peers. Every man she's slept with turns up dead soon after they've

c r i m e done the deed. While all fingers point at her, her only allies appear to be fellow cops Samuel L. Jackson and Andy Garcia. Soon she begins to wonder if either of them is framing her. Jackson carries most of the film's curveballs as her slain father's former partner/commissioner/ confidant of Shepard. A lot on his plate, but those much touted-Twisted turns are all part of a vendetta where no one's who you think. If you're into the CSI style sexual thrillers that keep you guessing, split seconds away from the credits (or so you think) this 3.5 star movie is a good bet. Twisted's best qualities are that it's not too gory or too sweet.

Man on Fire Continued



What a man-Denzel doing his thing as a Man on Fire.

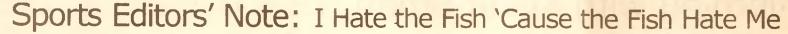
heroine. During this scene Creasy is shot multiple times and loses consciousness with Pita's screams as a soundtrack, visions of her as she is dragged off by her kidnappers. At this point Creasy is caught up in beaurocratic dishonesty and governmental corruption as he tries to avenge Pita's kidnapping. The ransom drop is botched during the month that Creasy is recovering from his own brush with death. His newly found reason for living gone,

fire, living only to seek revenge on the kidnapping ring in Mexico City. Creasy is aided in his pursuit of all those involved in the kidnapping by a daring reported dedicated to bringing down a corrupt group of Mexico City police officers known as la Hermanidad (the brother-Creasy aides the hood). police in their investigation, using vigilante methods to track down everyone involved with Pita's kidnapping one by

Creasy becomes a man on one, including the president on la Hermanidad. This film is not to be missed as it touches on real and important issues faced today in many Latin American countries and throughout the world. To quote little Dakota Fanning's lines, "Twenty four children were kidnapped in Mexico City in the last six days. That's four a day. What do you think about that Creasy?" The point of the movie is to make you think. Don't forget your tissues.

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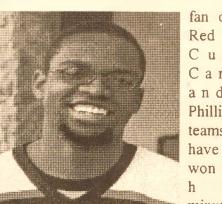
By Guy Harrison Sports Editor harrisong@mail.barry.edu

I know that as a journalist, I am supposed to write unbiased, informative stories, and just report the facts.

That being said, I hate the Florida Marlins. I hate everything about them, their name, their fan base, their players, their team colors, their stadium, everything. If this sounds like I am venting, it's because I am. I think I have earned that right.

First of all, I think I can speak for Red Sox and Cubs fans (as well as Phillies fans since I happen to be one) when I say this city, this fan base does not deserve two World Series Championships. I have nieces and nephews that are older than this non-fabled franchise (this is their

11th year in existence) and they have won two World Series never having won a single division title to this day. I will say that I prefer a team like the Marlins win a championship over a team like the Yankees, but can we put the Marlins in a different, more deserving city, like St. Louis (now is there a more model fan base?) There is so much to root for with the Marlins, but when you dig deeper, you realize that you're getting gypped (as a



minute.) Being a fan of one of these other, much more deserving baseball teams, is like 5 or 6 upstanding, dashing guys chasing one gorgeous, down-to-earth girl for a prom date, and the Marlins, are the new, ugly, nerdy, pizza/zit-faced guy that gets that girl. On the surface, you're happy that none of the jocks (the Yankees) got the girl, but you still feel as though you deserved the prom date as much as, if not more, than the nerd did.

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And let's talk about the players for a moment. One positive thing I'll say for the Marlins is that they have a great, young starting rotation. Other than that, I hate the players, too, as I said so vehemently above. None of these guys are household names, yet they walk around all high and mighty like they've got salt and vinegar chips stuck up their butt. Except for an above-average glove, Alex

fan of the Gonzalez is a terrible player. He couldn't Red Sox, hit his way out of a wet paper bag. Also, Cubs, sorry, who's Mike Redmond? I liked this Cards, team better when they had I-Rod. At least and/or they had a future Hall-of-Famer to follow. Phillies, all I can't really touch Mike Lowell and Jeff teams that Conine because they are both honorable guys, but because they are Marlins, I hate not in a them too. t

The stadium that these guys play in is nothing to brag about. I understand "The Pro" was originally built to be a footballonly facility, but what is the deal with the orange seats? Are they trying to distract the players?

I went to a Marlins game last year where it took the fans in the stadium at least five tries to complete the wave around the whole stadium. This was in September, so the fans should have been great at this by then.

So I guess my frustrations here stem from the fact that Marlins fans really do not know how good they have it in this city. If you take this same fan base and put them in a city like Chicago and make them Cubs fans, that franchise would not last. People would have stopped going to Wrigley the first 10 years after the Cubs' last championship.

Then again, that's just Miami's style.

Pat Tillman: A Hero in Every Sense of the Word

By Guy Harrison Sports Editor harrisong@mail.barry.edu

Money, fame, fortune, and popularity. Pat Tillman, a former Arizona Cardinals safety, turned away from all of these things to join the U.S. army in the fight against terrorism. Yes, he was a hero in that he died for his country, but let's forget, for a brief moment, about patriotism and all the things that brought this country together.

Pat Tillman should be lauded, not just because he died for America in Afghanistan, but because he did the opposite of what 90% of the United States population would do.

As a member of the Cardinals organization, he became a free agent following the season which saw 9-11 bring football players come together like a band of brothers. The St. Louis Rams offered Tillman a fat, multi-year, multi-million dollar contract, which he declined, citing that the Cardinals were the team that drafted him and gave him a chance, so that was the team he was going to play for. Prepared to take less money to stay in Arizona (which hasn't exactly been a model franchise the past 20 years or so), Tillman then decided that his heart was not with football, but with his country, with the United States of America.

During the 2002 off-season, Tillman announced that he was enlisting in the United States Army, a move which was applauded then, and then forgotten, until Friday, April 23, 2004, when it was announced that he had been shot and killed in Afghanistan.

The reason I bring up the money/contract factor in all of this is because Tillman was the type of person America needed. People in nations across the world must have this idea that Americans are all money hungry, taking capitalism to an extreme. To those people who stick their nose up at the United States, I say to them, "We have Pat Tillman, who do you have?" The man is someone that all

Americans, patriotic or not, can be, no, should be proud of.

Last year, in this very publication, I said that as a journalist, there is no way I would ever risk my life to cover the socalled War in Iraq. That being said, I admire Tillman that much more because not only did he do something that I would not have the intestinal fortitude to do, but he did it with class. He set out from the beginning to have the spotlight shed on the war against terrorism and not Pat Tillman, the football player in his prime turned soldier.

Tillman's death should not only be mourned, but celebrated. It means more for the country than most people realize. Congressman George Allen requested that the NFL dedicate the 2004 season to Tillman. In my opinion, all professional sports leagues, businesses, everyday American citizens should dedicate the next 12 months, not just to Tillman, but to all Americans that have died in the war against terrorism.

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Softball Suffering a Bittersweet Season

By Guy Harrison Sports Editor harrisong@mail.barry.edu



As the Barry Buccaneer Softball Team wraps up the 2004 season, one only has to look at their record to know that it has been a bittersweet season.

The team is 29-17 overall, which is not a jaw-dropping record, but it is a lot better than average. The team's record against Sunshine State Conference opponents, however, is a pedestrian 8-10. This

comes after a season in which the team was ranked #1 and finished with a 52-10 record overall, 26-2 SSC.

Although the team has taken a few steps backward from last year, there were still bright spots this season.

For one, the emergence of the team's top three run-producers has been a vital part of the team's above .500 overall record. The great thing about them is that they all have at least two more years ahead of them. Kim Fujimoto and

Amanda Moore are sophomores, while Maile Keeney is a freshman.

Fujimoto leads the team in batting average at .331 and has shown great plate discipline by leading the team in walks (29), on-base percentage (an incredible .457), and runs (25.)

Moore, batting .282, is the slugger of the group amassing a team-leading 10 homeruns, which, as of April 21, put

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

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Aluminum Bats Ping a Different Song this Season

By Winston James Staff Writer jamesw@mail.barry.edu

Last year, the ping of a 1 u -

minum hitting a baseball often elicited cringes from the fans of Barry's baseball team. The pitching was a serious disappointment and was a good reason why the Buccaneers finished 18-35 and had the worst ERA in the conference with an astronomical 7.19. Several games were lost last year because of an utter lack of pitching and often times the Bucs would find themselves on the short side of a slugfest or an all out rout. Without the .300 plus hitting of Alex Meneses and the graduated Billy Zoffinger, the season could have been a lot worse.

This year brings a new cast and new attitude to the pitching staff. Gone are the elevated ERA's and the lopsided losses and in are masterful pitching performances leading to an

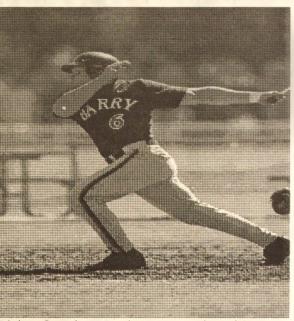
abundance of wins. Appreciable examples are John Adams and Greg Dicso have gone through dramatic transformations this year. Adams was 1-2 with a high 8.69 ERA and had battles with control all last year. He walked almost as many batters as he struck out and suffered as hitters hit .372 against him. Dicso was pummeled for a 10.04 ERA and gave up a .400 opponents batting average. This year has seen Adams drastically improved with a 2.52 ERA and his strikeout to walk ratio has improved to 30 to 9. He has appeared dominant on the mound with precise control and command of all of his pitches. Dicso has been nearly unhittable, holding opponent to a low .181 batting average. He is 2-2 with a 3.00 ERA.

While all the returning pitchers have improved, freshmen hurlers Jayson Brown and Michael Davila has proven effective. Davila is 5-0

with a 3.58 ERA and Brown has 5 wins and a 3.08 ERA.

The revamped pitching staff has been helped by the same accompaniment of hitting as it had last year. This year the runs support is definitely more than enough to win games and it shows with their improved record. The Bucs now sit at 31-20, only their second 30 win season in school history. The team ERA is now at 3.89 and they have pitched their way into wins against tough teams like Lynn, Valdosta State, Florida Tech and division 1 competition like LaSalle.

The fans are definitely enjoying this season and the crowds are getting bigger each home stand. It seems the positive effect of OUR



Ricky Sanchez makes sure that his teamates' bats are the ones heard this season. **Photo Provided By: Sports Information**

aluminum bats hitting baseball makes for a wonderful, cringe free experience. Not to mention a great season of baseball for Barry University.

Softball Continued

Amanda in the top three among SSC hitters (homers are much more difficult to hit in softball because the ball is not as dense as a baseball, thus the ball does not travel as far.)

Keeney, also hitting at a 282 clip, leads the team in doubles with 10 and Runs Batted In with 32.

Offensively, this team appears to be in great shape for at least a couple more years to come. Meanwhile, the pitching got a facelift this season. Last year, Geralyn Elam and Erin Cormier were the bell cows last year. This year, it has been freshmen Liz Bennett and Sarah Backe, particularly Bennett.

Average to go along with a 24-13 record. She also is in the top 10 in the SSC in strikeouts with 193. Liz also ranks second in the SSC in innings pitched with 224.2

Backe has been used more in a reliever/utility player role and figures to get more playing time next year, although she was among the conference leaders in Games in Relief and Games Finished with nine.

The team will only see two of its members graduate this year, thus losing the services of Kathleen McNamara and Heather Cook. Both players saw most of their time on the Bennett has a 1.91 Earned Run field as off-the-bench, situational

players. Even though these two did not put up numbers, their leadership will assuredly be missed next season as the team continues to go through a rebuilding phase.





Liz Bennett is hopeful to break the Barry record for most wins by a freshman. Photo Provided By: Sports Information

Dominican View Continued

ity is reflected in what are called the "Something that can portray on the Anti-Semitic? lord, and master.

"cold images of God:" judge, king, screen what [the suffering] are experiencing, especially in a religious answer. In an article by Philip A. tioned. context, is important. But," Dr. Sunshine cautions, "suffering in itself doesn't have meaning without context."

and Gibson's departure from this A. This is the hardest question to teaching, perhaps, can be ques-

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Modern theologians have largely adopted the pastoral theology, centered upon the (equally biblical) "warm images of God." God as friend, lover, spouse, and partner, imply a gentler relationship with humanity and with Christ. According to Dr. Sunshine, Pastoral theologians view Christ's mission as an effort to bring teachings that would provide men with a way back to God. Christ set in motion the events which led to his death, but the death itself was not something God demanded.

The constant violence onscreen is undoubtedly related to Gibson's acceptance of medieval theological interpretations. It may also relate to a prevalence of modern suffering.

It seems at most Mel Gibson is a bit behind the times (about 900 years, give or take.) But isn't the rejection of modern teachings tantamount to rejection of the church itself?

Q. Is Mel Gibson really a Catholic?

A. Yes. It is not church policy to oust those whose dogmatic variations take them left, right, back, or forward. However as Dr. Sunshine points out, a theology like Gibson's "is an inadequate connection to the community of Catholics."

Q. Is "The Passion of the Christ"

Cunningham, the Executive Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College entitled "A Dangerous Fiction" the Passion: "violates the mandate of the Second Vatican Council." Cunningham asks "whether it is acceptable for a filmmaker-even though he repeats the teaching of the Council of Trent that Christ dies for the sins of all humanity---to combine scenes from the four Gospel accounts with many unbiblical elements so that the malice of the Jewish characters is magnified."

One thing is certain: it is definitely not the policy of the church to hold the Jews responsible for the death of Christ. History and theology finger Pilate as the guilty party

Anyone who sees "The Passion" is in for an extremely bumpy ride. Reactions are emotional, at times visceral. When the house lights go up viewers will, because of the films very limited scope, have to seek some outside context. And this may be the most important thing they do. Says Father Mark Wedig, Chair of Philosophy/Theology the

Department: "As a theologian I understand Jesus passeo as his passage and that involves his life, death, and resurrection as a mystery. This is what the gospels do. They give us an image of Jesus passage after he is baptized in Jordan. The life he lives leads to his death; you cannot understand his death without the life he lived."

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