

the barry buccaneer

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Alternative Spring Break Turns a Vacation into a Mission

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Landon 203, the seven members who make up the executive board of Alternative Spring Break come together to discuss plans for that time-honored college tradition. Now before you get all excited and think about Spring Break in terms of partying in a hotel or hanging out with friends on the beach, this meeting is all about helping others. Before you know it, Spring Break will be arriving, and dozens of Barry students will be taking the opportunity to travel outside of Florida to perform community service.

The students on the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) executive board are in charge of deciding where to go, where to stay, where to eat, what to do, etc. Even for the most experienced person,



The Barry volunteers get their hands dirty during Alternative Spring Break.

these tasks are difficult. Yet the members of the ASB Board are not that experienced; in fact, all members are new to ASB program. Even so, they all have goals and are working hard to

make sure that this Spring Break is a memorable and meaningful one.

"Coming into this experience was unlike any other because all the board members

were new to ASB, and although we did not know much about this program, we knew from the start we wanted to make this a great experience," said Lupita Murphy, a member of the executive board. Still, Murphy felt that nothing could stop them from giving themselves and their fellow volunteers a memorable Spring Break.

The members of the ASB Executive Board — Nicole Marcellus, Nicole Okubanjo, Lupita Murphy, Ana Acevedo, Rebekah Evans, Nikki Chandler, Fred Day, and Danielle Jackman — see Spring Break in a way different than most college students.

"We have so many opportunities to go to a party, but when we find such a good opportunity for a week to help others,

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Broadcast Majors Apprenticed with *The Early Show* on CBS

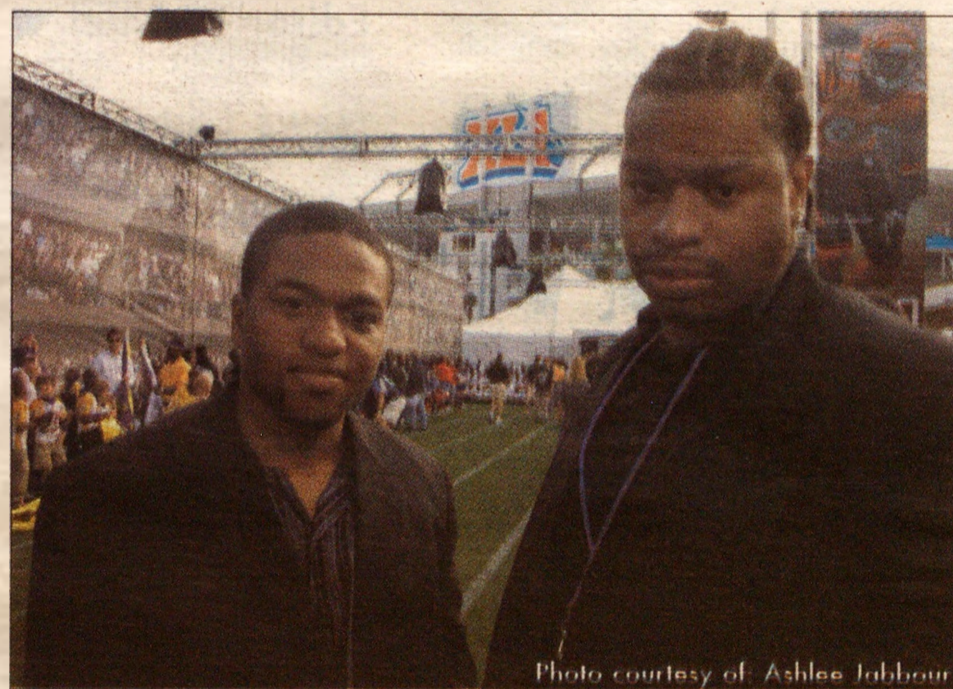
By Ashlee Jabbour
News Editor

For the past two semesters, some of the communication students, including myself, have been working with *The Early Show* on CBS. While interning, myself, Jeanette Raiford, Rodney Burton, Brian Caso, Devin Browne, and Alphin "Mike" Watts have worked as a team on a real production, balancing the demands of school and work. We are all about to embark on careers in the field of broadcast communications, in different areas ranging from on-air to the production side. I spoke to the students about what they have gained from this experience, and with the producer, Steve Cohen — who has become our mentor.

Jeanette Raiford and Brian Caso, like myself, worked with Cohen and the crew in New York to set up the live audiences for the productions here in Miami. The most recent event was with the Superbowl. Brian and I worked over the Christmas break on putting together a contact list of nearly 1,000 people, including schools, non-profit organizations, charities, colleges, and local businesses. This was the first step, and probably the most tedious. But it definitely

gave us an inside look at what really goes on to set up such a massive production. "It was a great experience to see what goes behind the scenes with such a huge network and successful show," says Brian, a senior.

As the new semester began, it was time to buckle down, with the Superbowl only weeks away. We had meetings a few times a week to discuss the reservations we each had made, and what we could do next to make the show a success. You could call our little team "Barry's production team," because within those few weeks, we all became so close and were actually making the decisions that any producer in the industry would have to make. Cohen was constantly in touch with us, as well as other members of the CBS crew up in New York. I was fortunate enough to be able to speak with a lot of the New York crew members. Samantha Lane, an employee of CBS, had once remarked, "I don't know how you all do this with school and everything else." I replied, "It has been tough, but we all realize how much we can gain from such a notable experience, especially the Superbowl."



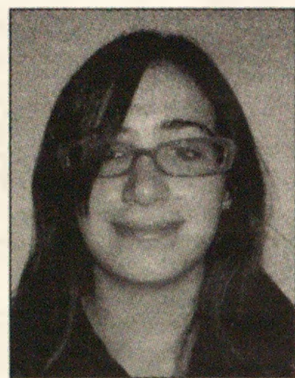
Barry communications students Alphin "Mike" Watts and Rodney Burton.

As with all pre-production work, there were some problems and moments of tension along the way, including some confusion about what schools were actually coming, tour agencies backing out at the last minute, and even some angry public relations people. But through all learning experiences, we did the best that we could, and went on with our work in the best manner possible, heads up high and looking forward to January 31st, when the production would finally begin! I remember

that Sunday game when the New England Patriots lost to the Indianapolis Colts; our team had a phone-conference with the producers in New York as we all watched the game. We realized that the winning team would also lead to the next step in this huge project, contacting Colts fans and setting up events in Indiana. It gave us a real glimpse into the fast paced life of television production.

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Letter from the Editor



Spring Break! Well-needed and well-deserved. We all have been looking forward to a week of fun, but most importantly, a week of relaxation. Unfortunately for us, the students, our professors usually load us up with a bunch of assignments, papers, or exams right before the break. So for some of us, especially me, the week of spring break is time to play catch-up.

Other than that, Miami is the best city to spend spring break in. Forget the amazing beaches and the beautiful weather; we also have different types of museums, South Beach, the District, Parrot Jungle, and if you're willing to drive, Disney World or the Keys. Just remember to be safe, and don't overspend.

After spring break, we can celebrate St. Patrick's Day, which fortunately falls on a Saturday. This issue has an entertaining and informative article by Danielle Reyes on why we celebrate St. Patrick. In our sports section, Kristy Singetary writes about a new major being offered at Barry University: a bachelor of science degree in leisure and recreation management with a minor in environmental studies. If you like exploring the outdoors and teaching people, this just might be the major for you.

I hope everyone had an amazing spring break. Good luck restarting the semester!

the barry buccaneer



The Buccaneer welcomes all student, staff and faculty contributions. Letters to the editor, story ideas, news releases, photos and artwork can be submitted to the Barry Buccaneer office in the Landon Student Union, Suite 202-J, or through campus mail, e-mail or the suggestion boxes around school. All contributed material must include the signature and the mailbox or telephone number of the contributor.

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of every month.

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What Will Be Funny When Nothing's Shocking Anymore?

By Joe Boyer
Staff Writer

Pick an emotion. Any emotion at all will do. Any emotion you select, under the right circumstance, can be dubbed *fun!* That is because fun is not an emotion per se; it is an empty frame until filled with any of a myriad of emotions. Terror, suspense, compassion, sex, hysterics all can occupy the mind, relieve boredom, and be fun to witness or experience.

Much of America gets its fun from television and movies. Filmed dramas are emotional and heart-pounding. TV shows like *CSI* shock us with gore and thrilling suspense. We feel alive while watching heroic characters come within inches of peril, only to triumph over certain doom. Because we vicariously identify with the characters onscreen, the good guys must seize the day. In the end, we don't want to identify with a loser; that's no fun. Americans must be winners. Therefore, a good Friday night at the movies means the main character gets the girl, and you become confident that you too can get that sweet-smelling blonde sitting a row back.

Comedy is right on par with drama in its ability to entertain, and is edgy, equally shocking, but funny rather than thrillingly fun. I hear the next *Survivor* is set at Neverland Ranch—*Survivor: Exile Pedophile* (crude, but amusing nonetheless). Filmed comedies are becoming

increasingly cruder in order to shock us into hysterics. Think of how many times you laughed at *Family Guy* and *South Park* because you were shocked that the characters actually did what they just did. To shock you is to make you feel something. Call it shock. Call it an emotion. Call it a thrill. You can even call it amusement and laughter.

But the thing about emotions is that they come and go; they are temporary. And the next time you watch that same episode of *South Park*, the next time you experience that same shocking moment of crudeness, the accompanying amusement just isn't as strong. There is no surprise and less shock. It's why you can't

really laugh multiple times at the same thing as hard as you laughed the first time. It takes new material to penetrate your emotions and amuse you again. And over time, you will build up an immunity to that particular kind of entertainment, whether it is racial comedy, slapstick comedy, or gory violence, so that it takes even more racist comedy, even more physical comedy and even more gore to make you feel something. You've become desensitized.

Desensitization can happen on the collective level as well as the individual level. After seeing an extremely horrifying movie, a person may never again be shocked by anything less terrifying. And

there are obvious trends in the level of desensitization among generations of people. Horror movies today would never have been allowed to appear onscreen in the sixties. Anyone who has seen the film *The Hills Have Eyes* can attest to that. (I'm not even going to attempt to go into detail. Just see the movie. Better yet, don't.)

The Simpsons was a funny show back in the day—but now, *The Simpsons* is outdated. It had its time. It's not edgy enough anymore. Believe it or not, we've become desensitized to *The Simpsons*. Its successors, *South Park*, *Family Guy*, and the like, have clearly been excavating the most extreme levels and terrains of hilarity and vulgarity. These programs would not have aired 20 years ago—and arguably, because nobody would have laughed. But we laugh now. And these programs continue to push the limits of shock value. I ask you, what in the world is next? What will we laugh at when *Family Guy's* Peter hitting Meg with a bat (for no good reason) is no longer funny? What will succeed this utterance made on *South Park* by two male aliens after a night of drug-taking: "Oh, I can't believe we sucked each other's jaggons last night."

The stakes will only get higher. We'll need more vulgarity, more sex, more violence—all wrapped in a big bow of happy-ending-ness, or a laugh.

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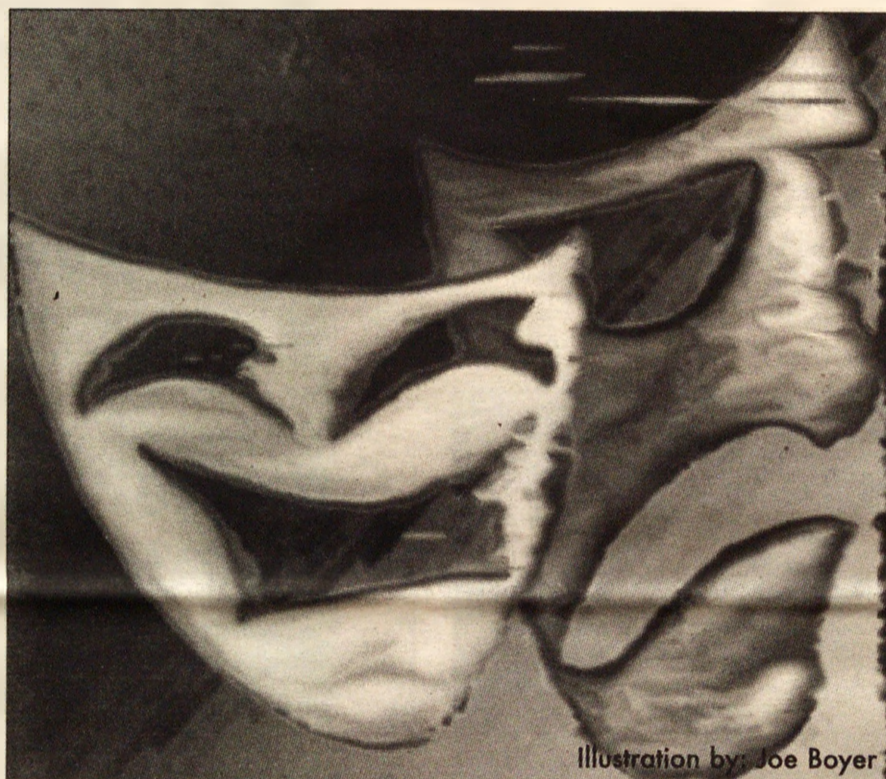


Illustration by: Joe Boyer

Darfur: Heeding the Cry for Help

By Candia Regis
Staff Writer

You wake up to gut-wrenching screams. You know it's happening again; you are scared, frustrated, and worried that you might be next. You hear your sister scream, run towards the commotion, and as you arrive, you hear the familiar loud popping sounds. Your sister, mother and father have been shot and killed. Many of your neighbors have also been killed, while countless women are raped and tortured, and thousands more flee from their homes. Shocking, right? This is a reality for the people of Darfur, where gang-rapes, torture, and mass murders are taking place every day.

Some victims of this cruel, murderous campaign have been brutally gunned down. Some 200,000 others, including children and the elderly, have died from hunger and disease. These refugees are forced to flee their homes, seeking shelter in camps in Sudan and the neighboring country of Chad, where there is often no running water, diseases spread easily; and medical aid is limited. Also, there is little or no food. Many refugee

camps in Sudan are constantly under attack by the Janjawid militia. Many people are killed as they leave the camps, trying to find safer places for both their families and themselves. But there really aren't many fortified safe havens for them to run to. So they keep running.

This continuous affront to human rights has been taking place since 2003. According to Amnesty International, the culprits responsible for this brutality are Janjaweed gunmen. As stated by many sources, it is suspected that the Janjaweed militia is receiving monetary and financial support from the Sudanese government in the militia's mission to terrorize citizens of Darfur.

The conditions in which these people are forced to live are no longer a secret to the world. Even though people around the world are aware of this crisis, very little is being done to stop it. Sure, some independent groups are commendably trying to raise awareness, but the rest of the world sits on its hands, doing absolutely nothing. The United States has sent humanitarian aid to Darfur, but on the grand scale, that does



Photo courtesy of: Andrew Mogridge

not weigh much. Consider for a moment that there have been many reported attacks on humanitarian convoys, and much of the food and medical aid intended for the people suffering in Darfur is not being received.

In response to the failure of the international community to bring an end to

this, many people argue that, "We can't save everyone." But with that attitude, why even bother helping anyone? With that attitude, why should we even care about any of the hungry, abused and neglected people in our society?

Peacekeepers from the African Union have been sent to Darfur since 2004

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Why do Catholics Observe Lent?

By Alex Schlich
Campus Minister

Each year, in preparation for the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection at Easter, Catholics and other Christians observe the season of Lent for the 40 days prior. There are many ways to observe Lent, but traditionally, Lent is a season of sacrifice marked with special focus on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving (Charity). Why sacrifice? If our God is a God whose very existence is marked by unconditional love and the ultimate sacrifice on the cross, then our lives as his followers should be marked by a continual growth in ways of selflessness and love. By practicing the art of sacrifice, we not only prepare ourselves for the joy of Jesus' Resurrection at Easter by clearing distractions from our lives, but we get small tastes of the very life of the God who died for us, and by so doing, we grow in the art of being better in all our human relationships. As we grow to be better daughters and sons, mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, girlfriends and boyfriends, students and

teachers, artists and workers, and human beings in every vocation and relationship, we grow better as we grow more selfless. Sacrifice and selflessness should not make us merely empty and miserable, but they make room in our lives for God, enriching all that we are and touch with the health, love and vitality of the living God we proclaim at Easter.

This year Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 21. The Lenten season lasts until the Easter Vigil which this year falls on April 7.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (April 6) are days of abstinence from meat for all who are fourteen (14) years and older.

They are also days of fast (one full meal and two small meals, with nothing eaten between meals) for adults from twenty-one (21) to fifty-nine (59) years of age.

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for those fourteen (14) years and older.



Lent is a time for Christians to remember the sacrifice of Christ.



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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	SUNDAY
Faith Sharing @ Thompson Dining Area, 5 PM	Meditation Study Break @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 9:15 PM	Pax Christi @ Powers 212, 5 PM (xanga.com/paxchristi) Spirit and Truth @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 7:30 PM	Student Mass @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 7 PM

daily mass @ cor jesu chapel, 12:05 pm

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Dying to Know: AIDS, Condoms and the Catholic Church

By Nadege Charles
Staff Writer

impressive network to help combat AIDS world-wide.

The number of people living with HIV at the end of 2005 was estimated at 38.6 million worldwide, according to UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS. An estimated 4.1 million were newly infected with HIV, and an estimated 2.8 million died from AIDS.

The present norm of Catholic doctrine is that any intentional use of contraception is a mortal sin. The Church promotes abstinence as a foolproof prevention against contracting AIDS. While the Church is pretty absolute in its teachings against contraception, the world has changed a great deal, and bishops, theologians and laypeople question whether this absolutist stance should apply to all situations.

The mission of this university states, "Barry University seeks to instill in its students St. Dominic's vision of a world that celebrates God's dwelling within us and among us, where life is revered and nurtured... and where the intellectual life is promoted and supported."

A notable debate on this issue arose in response to Cardinal Carlo Mario Martini, a Jesuit, a one-time papacy candidate, and a member of the College of Cardinals. He has come out in support of using condoms against the fight of HIV and AIDS.

In keeping with this mission, Barry University's Student Health Center offers free HIV/AIDS screening on campus every two weeks. Barry University is at the center of the AIDS pandemic. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Miami ranks in the top ten of U.S. metropolitan cities with a high infection rate. The Catholic Church, through its notable schools, hospices, missions, and diocese, runs an

The Religion Reporter, represented by Stephen Crittenden, hosted a forum on Cardinal Martini's statement on May 3, 2006. Martini was quoted as having said, "Everything must be done to oppose AIDS. Certainly in some situations the use of a condom can constitute a lesser

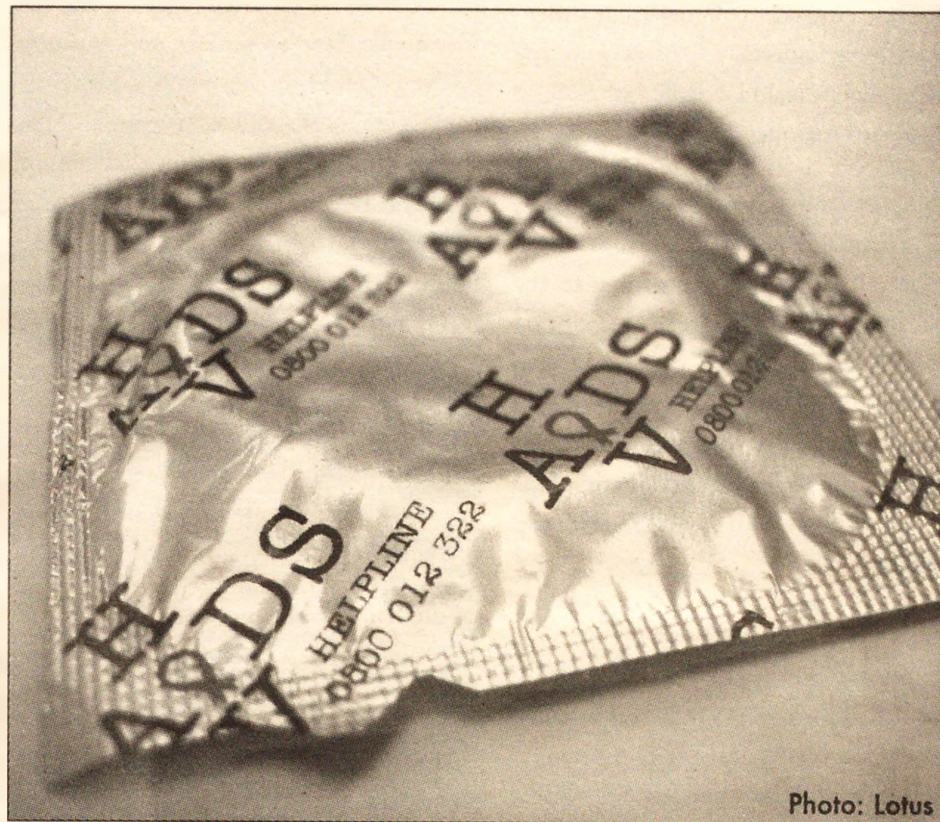


Photo: Lotus

Condom wrappers help reinforce the protection connection.

evil. The infected one is obligated to protect the other partner who should also be able to take preventive measures."

On the other side of the debate, Janet E. Smith, a professor of moral theology and consultant to the Pontifical Council for

the Family, had this to say: "What you have is latex up against skin, you don't really have a completed act of sexual intercourse, and so it would be immoral to use a condom not because it's a contraceptive, but because it doesn't allow

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Honoring St. Patrick on His Namesake Holiday

By Danielle Reyes
Staff Writer

On March 17, leprechauns and good luck charms may come to mind. It is St. Patrick's Day, when the color green and shamrocks are worn with pride. Yet this day is not just an excuse to wear your favorite green shirt, or to party with friends. The history of St. Patrick himself is one that should be truly honored and acknowledged.

St. Patrick's biography is by no means boring. A life story that involves kidnapping, years of captivity, and spiritual visions is obviously a compelling tale. St. Patrick's full name was Patricius Magonus Sucatus, and he was born in England in the year 385 AD. Unfortunately, at the age of 16, he was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders. The raiders held St. Patrick captive for six years in Ireland. According to scholarly journals, he was reportedly held in solitary confinement and found comfort in his Catholic religion. It is no surprise that during that

time, St. Patrick devoted his life to Christianity in order to find strength.

After six years of being held captive, St. Patrick was able to escape. According to his writings, God visited him in his dream and told him it was time to leave Ireland. After this revelation, St. Patrick walked 200 miles from Ireland to England. But after his long journey, St. Patrick's second vision told him that he must return to Ireland to fulfill missions. Once St. Patrick became a priest, he followed his visions and returned to Ireland on missions to convert the Irish to Christianity.

St. Patrick became famous for correlating Irish traditions with the important elements of Christianity as he introduced religious customs into the Irish culture. For example, bonfires were a popular way for the Irish to honor their gods. St. Patrick, however, used bonfires to celebrate Easter in Ireland. A popular legend credits St. Patrick with creating the Celtic cross, a powerful symbol for the Irish, by combining the Christian cross with an

ancient pagan celestial symbol. His contributions heavily influenced the Christians of Ireland, and made him a renowned religious figure. According to the Catholic Church's *Dictionary of Saints*, St. Patrick was never formally canonized as a saint because he died before the requirements of sainthood were issued in 1200 AD. Despite the fact that St. Patrick never had a formal canonization, he was adopted as an official saint by the church.

It is important to honor such an outstanding religious figure on March 17, but the trademark festivities on this holiday are also spectacles. Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated around the world and seems to attract a younger crowd, such as college students. Barry University has students with an Irish background, which includes freshman Nathalie Fernandez. Nathalie's mother is of Irish descent, and she discusses the way her Irish background influences her St. Patrick celebration in America, "As a Catholic, I have always observed the day religiously," said Fernandez, though she sees the way American culture has altered

the meaning of a holy day. "My uncle just moved here from Ireland a year ago, and he is already angered that many people find this religious holiday as a day to party and get drunk."

The Catholic aspect of Saint Patrick's Day is truly acknowledged by those who have devoted their lives to Christ. Sister Frances O'Dell honors St. Patrick's Day with other Catholic sisters at Barry University, "We have a mass and special prayer in honor of St. Patrick on March 17. We generally gather together for prayer in the morning and evening." She explains that the prayer they use, *The Liturgy of the Hours*, which is also known as the book of Christian prayers, is used all around the world."

There are students at Barry University, however, who view St. Patrick's Day as an opportunity to honor a religious figure and have a good time without getting intoxicated. A freshman at Barry University, Nicole Betty plans to go with friends to the St. Patrick's Day festival and parade on March 11 in downtown Hollywood. "I heard there is going to be pipe bands and Irish food, so it would be something different, and a good opportunity to meet new people," Betty said.

However the day is spent, it is important to remember and honor the courageous St. Patrick on March 17. This occasion can bring people together to celebrate the shamrock pride and experience Irish traditions as well.



Photo: Enzo Cositore

St. Patrick's Cathedral, in Dublin, finished construction in 1254.

Alternative Spring Break Turns a Vacation into a Mission

(Continued from page 1)

have fun, and get to know each other's personalities, especially for so cheap, you have to take it," said Danielle Jackman, an ASB Board member.

During general meetings and the SOC fair, potential volunteers were given an application to fill out. According to the application, "Barry's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) offers the opportunity to do service in a city outside of the Miami Shores area while learning in-depth about a particular issue and creating lasting friendships with your fellow trip members."

True to that statement, this year there will be a total of three trips: one to Greenville, South Carolina, and two trips to New Orleans. This year's ASB director, Nicole Marcellus, is from New Orleans, and felt that the trips should focus on Hurricane Katrina relief. But in general, both trips to New Orleans and South Carolina will be centered on ways to help others, mostly involving shelter.

The two basic issues that the students will be dealing with are disaster relief and low-income housing. Specifically in New Orleans, student volunteers will recognize the many problems now facing people who were greatly affected by

Hurricane Katrina. Likewise, in South Carolina, students will immerse themselves in numerous projects, including landscaping, refurbishing, and building houses for low-income families and homeless individuals.

Most applicants want to help those less fortunate than themselves; they view service as part of being a good citizen. Indeed, for only \$50, participants can travel to either New Orleans or South Carolina to help others, and can expect to develop strong friendships with their fellow volunteers. This type of bond is evident even within the board members.

"We have become a family, and because we have put all of our talents and energy into ASB, we know we are going to have amazing trips that will inspire people to make ASB even greater in the future," said Lupita.

Although the members of the Executive Board have good intentions, they have their work cut out for them, especially being new to the program. "Being part of the executive board has been hard and frustrating at many times, but it has also been very rewarding. Each board member has used all their resources to get the job done; we feed off one another and work as one to make this ASB the best that it can be," said board member Fred Day.

The board members agree that it's all worth it. As Jackman says, "It's all about giving back."

For only \$50, participants can travel to either New Orleans or South Carolina to help others, and can expect to develop strong friendships with their fellow volunteers.

Broadcast Majors Apprentice with *The Early Show* on CBS

(Continued from page 1)

On the 29th, the crew made their way down to Miami. Barry's team was already in full gear, with Rodney Burton going full force with his loud vocals. He is always a pleasing figure at 5:30 a.m., as we are setting up the audiences, and believe me Rodney has no problem getting the crowds attention. Jeanette Raiford and myself would be at the entrance greeting our audience members, and the others would be set up around the production, ready to guide them in to their places. Telephones were a must because we were not so fortunate as to have walkie-talkies, or headphones. As the sets changed every few segments, we were constantly moving the audience members around, which was a hassle at times because people were not always so obliged to move. At times, we would have angry members, like I witnessed when a leader of a group confronted me about some issues she was having. This individual was very upset because her girls were not in front of the camera. I calmed her down, and within the next few minutes, her girls were there gleaming in front of the cameras. You come to find that it's all about the people, the audiences, and the ratings. Obviously, the ratings come first, but when you see the smiles on some of the people's faces, it reminds you that all the hard work does indeed pay off.

For our experience-hungry group, each show was just as challenging and insightful as the next. On Wednesday's Kickoff show, the students were put to the test as hundreds of unexpected guests began showing up less than an hour until show time. We had to make a game plan and act on it fast. Rodney and I came to the

front, assigned all the interns to different areas, and began slowly rotating the audience members around the different sets. At times it did not go as smoothly as we would have liked, but that at-the-moment action gave us the power to make a decision, like any real producer.

That night, as we sat around in my small office/room in Benincasa hall, we realized we needed a game plan. While brainstorming, printing out guest lists, and making last-minute reservations, we were each becoming more and more of our

publicist's concerning her client's lack of air time, the game plan proved to be a success. As with all the best new experiences, we were slowly growing as individuals and learning a lot along the way.

As the week went on, the students had the honor of meeting many high and influential members of CBS. "I thought it was a great opportunity. I got to meet a lot of amazing people who were very knowledgeable and gave me great insight into what to expect," commented Jeanette, a junior. Like myself, Jeanette

As the show came to an end, we were all exhausted, considering we only had seven hours of sleep throughout the week, but we were all one step ahead of where would be if we had not put in the hours at CBS. We all walked away with a once-in-a-lifetime experience of seeing a real production and the realities of all the work that goes into such a fast-paced, no-mistakes-allowed kind of industry. All of us keep in contact with Cohen, who recommends doing internships. He advises, "Internships are what you make of it. Some college students come in here and are here just to be here, while others make themselves known and work hard. These are the qualities we want to see."

A new employee at *The Early Show*, Samantha Lane spoke with me about her path to a career in the competitive field of broadcast communication. "I owe my interest in the broadcast industry — and morning TV in particular — to my internship at ABC's *Good Morning America*, which I had my junior year of college," she says. "Not only did I make connections with fascinating people that served me well after college, I also mastered a basic skill set and got behind-the-scenes knowledge that served me well in interviews...and looked good on my resume."

Lane did admit that finding a job was not easy. That internship is not always the "magic key," as she put it, but rather the hard work and the connections you make along the way. As Lane observed, internships are where you learn what your field is going to be like, while meeting many important people along the way.

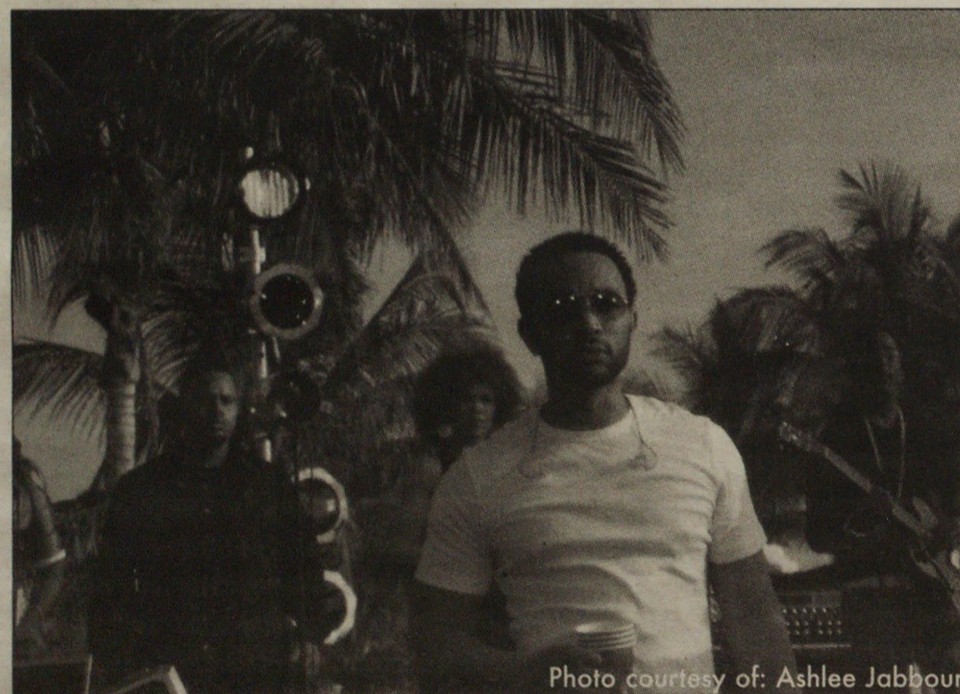


Photo courtesy of: Ashlee Jabbour
The *Early Show* set is a great place to see celebrities, such as John Legend.

own team, Barry's production team. The next day, the show aired from two remote locations, at 10th Street and Ocean Drive across from the Cleveland on South Beach, and at the NFL Experience at Dolphin Stadium. Despite a delightful call to my cell phone from Luther "Uncle Luke" Campbell's

would like to be on-camera someday. I would like to go into news, while she seeks to enter the entertainment field. This experience allowed us to see the excitement of the production aspects as well as opening our eyes to the different possibilities that a broadcast communication degree offers.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Promises a Rewarding Experience

By Meghan Wallace
Staff Writer

In my three years at Barry University, I have participated in a variety of activities both on-campus and off-campus. At times, I have found more engaging things to do off-campus. Up until this year, I had heard of the organization Big Brothers Big Sisters, yet I did not think I could be involved with them. I thought it would be too much of a time commitment.

An episode of *The Simpsons* was what had first introduced me to Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS). The show depicts how Bart gets a "big brother," and they spend lots of time and lots of money together. So as a college student here at Barry, I thought I would have some restraints from being a big sister. My suitemate said that she was interested in volunteering for the organization, and had heard there was going to be an informational meeting in Landon.

The meeting was attended by mostly women, about twenty. We found out more about the organization and what role Barry students would play in their program. Contrary to my initial belief, individuals donate a minimum of an hour a week at Gratigny Elementary School, which is right up the block from

Barry. The children are nominated to participate in this mentoring program. What we as students would do is just be friends, mentors, and guides to children who are not as fortunate as some. Students, as "big siblings," are there to be a solid support for the kids.

This all sounded nice to me, yet I was still a little unsure if it would be worth the time investment, because of my full schedule as a junior. I asked junior Michele Etienne, who has been a "big sister" for two years now, about the experience, and she said, "Being a 'big sister' is extremely rewarding, and it makes me feel great because I feel like I am really making an impact." Etienne is an extremely busy student too, and she still finds time for her "little sibling." I was not really sure what "big siblings" do with their "little siblings," so I asked her to clarify it a little more. "I help my little sister with her homework or check it if she is finished. After that, we play games together or she talks to me," Etienne explained. "I basically do what she wants to do, and I'm there for her."

Now, to me, that sounds like a lot of emotional time. "I only spend about an hour to an hour-and-a-half with her a week," Etienne said. "There are no problems in my schedule." When I asked her what she felt she was getting out of it,



Photo: Gary Scott

Etienne replied, "I love the fact that years down the road, I could still be there and in contact with my 'little sister.' I like that I could have really made an impact in someone's life."

It sounded like a plan to me. I signed up, got the interview, and now I am waiting to find out to whom I am assigned. The saddest thing I heard in the meeting was the lack of men they have volunteering. A lot of these kids are boys, and boys don't always relate to women; some prefer "big brothers," as opposed to "big

sisters." Barry occasionally hosts informative meetings about this organization. So I encourage you to pay attention to the flyers around campus and notice when BBBS signs are around. Not only is it not a huge time commitment, but those few hours a week also fulfill service hours for required courses—and make you feel like you're making a difference in someone's life. What more of a rewarding experience could you want?

For more information regarding Big Brothers Big Sisters, visit www.bbbs.org.



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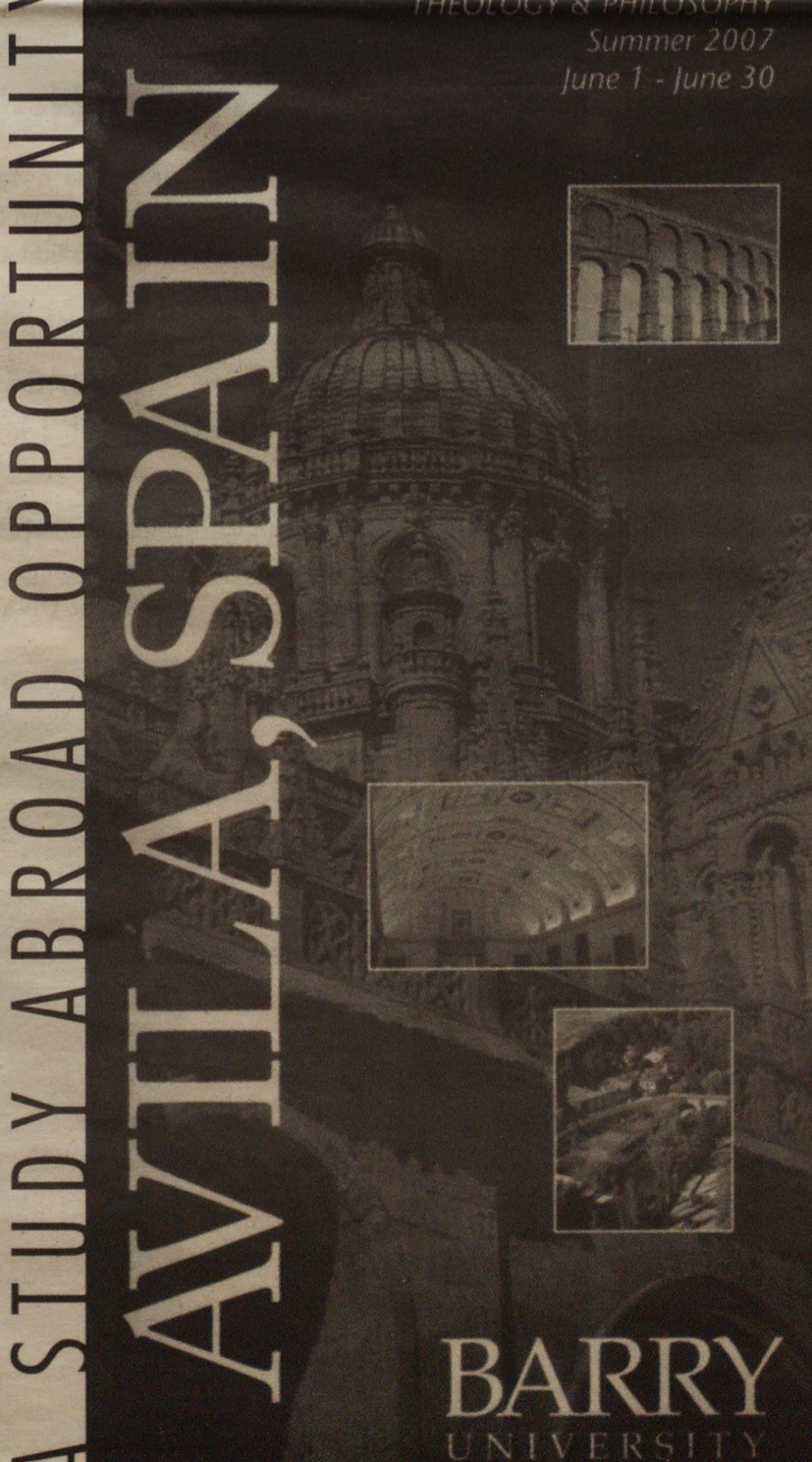
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THEOLOGY & PHILOSOPHY
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June 1 - June 30



A STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITY AVILLA, SPAIN

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Dying to Know: AIDS, Condoms and the Catholic Church

(Continued from page 5)

the couple to achieve supposedly what they're trying to achieve, which is an act of union."

The issue of HIV/AIDS is not black and white, and neither is the use of contraceptives in Catholic teachings. There are no absolute answers. The Canon laws provide an external forum or general application of these laws, however with the way the world has changed and the rise of the AIDS pandemic, the absolutist stance is debatable, and rightfully so.

What about the prostitute in Africa living in poverty—whose only means of survival is getting paid for sex? There are no other options. Can she use a condom? And how about the cases of the infidel husbands, who contracted AIDS—can they now use a condom to protect their wives and unborn children?

There is a clear distinction between promoting condoms and informing people about the effectiveness of condoms. It is a great disservice to any community to propagate lies and false information about the value of condoms in the fight against AIDS. Dr. Edward Sunshine, a professor in Barry's theology department, asserts, "You don't have to promote it, or endorse it, but everyone has a right to know." At some point we need to have a clear and informed conversation about AIDS and condoms, because this disease is not going anywhere.

Whether a person is single or married, sexually active or not, we need information to act maturely and responsibly. Eileen Egan-Hineline, Director of Student Health Services, says, "From any health perspective, if an individual is not practicing safe sex, you have a responsibility

The issue of HIV/AIDS is not black and white, and neither is the use of contraceptive in Catholic teachings.

to protect your partner. Of course being a Catholic University and keeping with the mission of the university, we have a moral obligation to promote abstinence."

We also have a right to be informed about all methods that will assist in the prevention of HIV/AIDS, not limited to abstinence, but including condoms as well.

It is noteworthy to mention that Pope Benedict XVI has requested a report by top theologians and scientists reviewing the correlation of condom use and AIDS. While this is not a guarantee that the Church will alter its teachings in any way, it is a step toward an international conversation that is long overdue.

What Will Be Funny When Nothing's Shocking Anymore?

(Continued from page 3)

I don't think Americans will ever get to the point where we can tolerate a story that has a happy beginning and devolves into a truly horrific ending. At least not on our raucous Friday night romps at the local cineplex. Some films challenge the norm, like *Requiem for a Dream*. The film, unlike a good magic trick, has a hopeful beginning, a truly conflicted downturn, but no prestigious reprisal, no repentance or redemption. The entire movie is a

downward spiral, without a sudden gleeful, spiking heart attack of a happy ending (in fact, the end is its darkest moment). And if you've never heard of this movie, that's because it wasn't a billion-dollar seller at the box office, nor did it win awards for Best Picture. No, we can't be entertained by drama that challenges us to identify with a real loser, challenges us to confront what we don't like about ourselves, and therefore, take action. Not on Friday nights.

The stakes will only get higher. We'll need more vulgarity, more sex, more violence. Soon, we will no longer be amused by humor that dances around the word

masturbation (*Seinfeld*). Just like we aren't amused by Lucille Ball fussin' around in the muffin factory (or whatever it was). We will become so gross, so desensitized and unrefined as to need everything spelled out for us. We will need to actually hear the word masturbation to feel anything good, and every bad feeling will be denied and avoided. But, as Maynard James Keenan of the American rock band Tool beckons in his lyrics, "Try and read between the lines," he asks, "What became of subtlety?" In a world where simplicity may rule, what will happen to the beautifully hilarious, subtle complexity of dancing around the word mas— (you know)?

Darfur: Heeding the Cry for Help

(Continued from page 3)

with the promise to "protect civilians under imminent threat and in the immediate vicinity." So far, that mis-

enforce its own requirements. It's going to need to enforce its own Security Council resolutions. It's going to need to find a way to say to the Sudanese that this is

It is suspected that the Janjaweed militia is receiving monetary and financial support from the Sudanese government in the militia's mission to terrorize citizens of Darfur.

sion has been shamefully unsuccessful. In an attempt to help remedy the situation, the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution to send peacekeeping troops into Darfur; however, the Sudanese government refuses to allow the peacekeepers entry to the country.

simply unacceptable." But international respect for the UN is waning. I recall that one of my professors likened the UN's efficacy to "bad parenting." With sen-

timents similar to this becoming more widespread, no wonder this humanitarian crisis persists. Where the UN is lacking, it should be the responsibility of individual countries to not only supply food, but to also wholeheartedly stop this atrocity.

It would be really easy to say this is a Sudanese problem or an African problem, however we know that is not true. When our fellow humans are being tortured, raped, hunted down, shot and killed like animals, is it not our responsibility as members of the human race to put an end to the bloodshed? But who really cares if tens of thousands of Africans are being slaughtered? Who really cares?

According to the U.S State Department, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has said of the Darfur crisis that, "The international community is going to need to

So as the world continues to watch, each country looks on, waiting for the next country to act first. The atrocities continue, thousands are murdered, and those who manage not to be killed will starve to death. And what do we do? We sit and watch; we sit and watch because, after all, who really cares?



Photo: Francois Carstens

The Hitcher Takes Viewers for a Scary Ride

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

I am often perplexed when it comes to giving film critiques. How do you judge a movie? If it isn't going to be nominated for an Oscar anytime soon, should we just label it a bad movie? I remember back when *Austin Powers in Goldmember* came out. I thought it was the funniest movie I had seen in theaters. Yet, some critics were harsh. Still, you have to wonder, if the movie achieved its purpose and kept you entertained, then isn't it a good movie in the sense that you got what you expected? I was laughing hysterically throughout *Austin Powers*; to me, it was a great movie. That's how I view *The Hitcher*. This movie delivers what it promises, a young couple being relentlessly terrorized by a crazed psychopath.

The movie actually starts off very casual and carefree. As Jim (Zachary Knighton) picks up his girlfriend Grace (Sophia Bush) from college, they drive off into the distance with the upbeat song "Move Along," by the All-American Rejects, playing in the background. It's ironic in light of the pain, suffering and terror they will be dealing with in the immediate future. The scenery is beautiful, benefiting from the long stretch of highway through the barren desert and mountains in Texas and New Mexico.

Soon the jovial cross-country trip takes a turn for the worst. Eventually, it starts to rain on the lonely highway, but that doesn't dampen the high spirits that both Jim

and Grace are in. You see, they are on their way to California to tell their friends and family a big surprise, whatever that may be. But in a flash, it all changes. Grace screams. Jim swerves his car into a 360-degree turn. Heavy breathing ensues. They almost hit somebody. But who? Some guy just standing in the middle of the pouring rain next to a car. As a form of repentance, Jim wants to offer the stranger a lift to a gas station. Grace is a little less than ecstatic. She concludes that no normal person would be standing in the middle of the road, not moving a muscle throughout the whole ordeal. Grace wins, and Jim drives off, leaving the stranger (Sean Bean) where he was found. But it certainly isn't the last time they'll be seeing each other.

Although the murder scenes are gruesome and scary, it was actually something else that made my palms sweat. This one guy was able to completely alter the lives of Jim and Grace forever. Just one guy. I started to wonder: Who's to stop that one person at your job to start stalking you? Who's to stop that guy in the supermarket from following you home? It's happened before. During the summer here in Miami, a man followed a woman home from a casino where she worked and killed her at her front door for no apparent reason, except for maybe the thrill of it; which I guess is the motive for the Hitcher.

Will this movie win an award any time soon? Of course not. Is it worth watch-

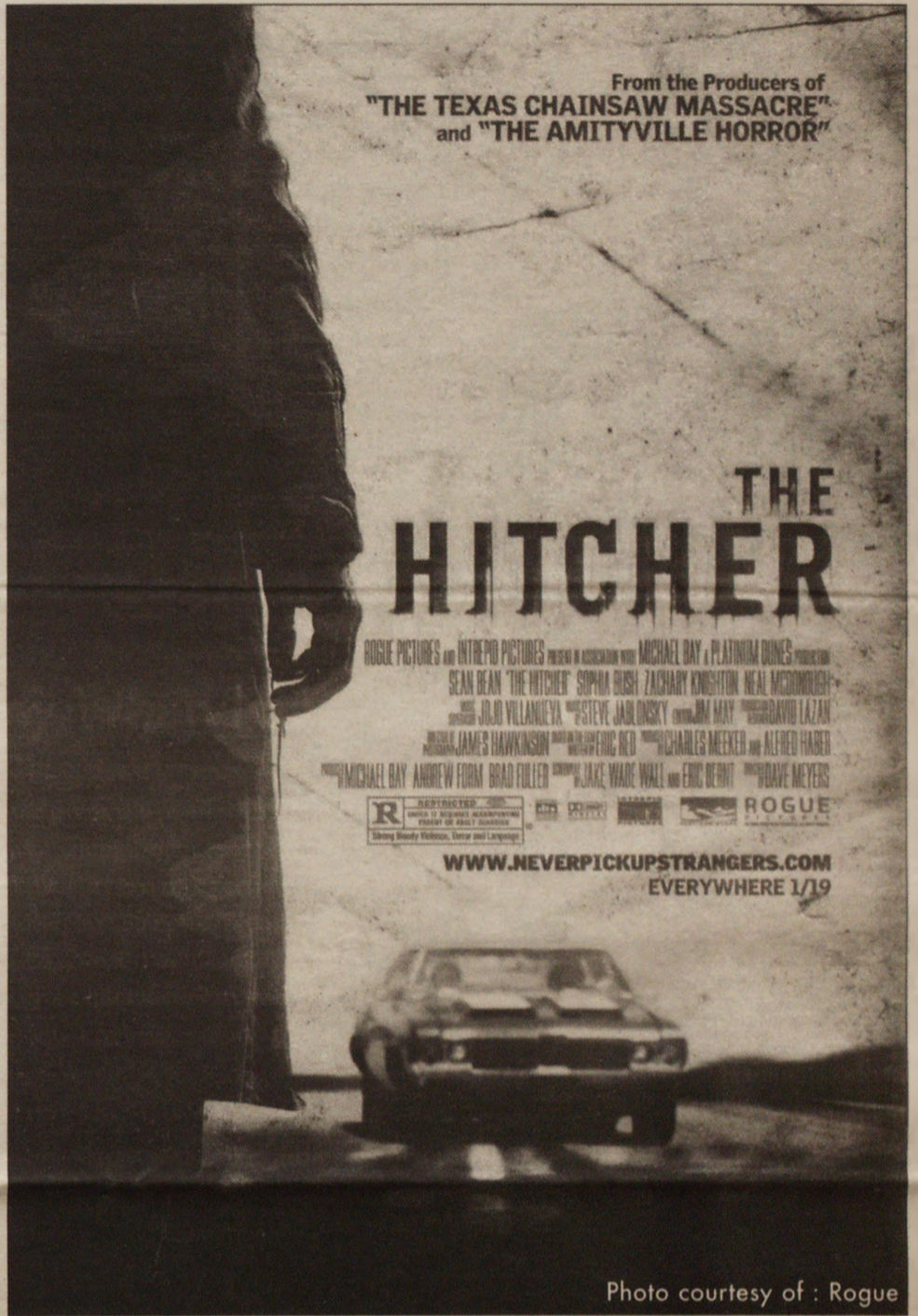


Photo courtesy of : Rogue

ing? I think so. For me, the movie did its job. It presented a simple storyline with some brutal death scenes. I will admit, my heart started to beat faster at some points in the movie. It kept me enter-

tained. If you want to see a scary movie about two young adults getting tormented by a killer, to the point where you are ordering the good guys to turn around or to shoot him, then *The Hitcher* delivers.

Campus Cabaret Turns Students into New Stars on Broadway

By Shannon Spillman
Staff Writer

In the last week of January, Barry's Fine Arts Department put on a cabaret-style production in the Broad Auditorium. Entitled *New Stars on Broadway*, the performance featured selections from 16 different Broadway musicals. Anyone who came out to see the show was more than entertained. "It was really fun!" said Elizabeth Dalrymple, a student musician who attended a performance. "I hope they have more productions like that." Many other students agreed, saying they didn't know how much talent some of their peers had.

The unique approach to the cabaret arrangement allowed a lot of opportunities for the performers to have their own time to shine. Most of the cast got to do at least one solo, and some had a chance to shine more than just once. Dr. Beverly

Coulter directed this musical showcase, and the cast consisted of students in the performance workshop class, as well as a few additional people from the music

"Everybody becomes a family through all the rehearsals and performances. The excitement backstage is irreplaceable"

-- Justine Frias

department. Some of Barry's past graduates even came back to shine once more in the lights of the Broad Auditorium.

The cast and crew enjoyed themselves just as much as the audience. Justine Frias, a senior in the music program, portrayed the infamous Rizzo from the popular musical *Grease*. Frias' voice wowed the crowd in her powerful rendition of "There Are Worse Things I Could Do." She remarked that, "Everybody becomes a family through

all the rehearsals and performances. The excitement backstage is irreplaceable; it's a feeling you can't get anywhere else." When asked about stage fright, Frias

admitted, "I am so nervous right before I go on, but once I walk onstage and start singing, it just feels normal."

A musical theater major and fellow cast member, Elizabeth Garrard, had three solo acts in the musical revue. Her solos consisted of a crazed baker in Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, a confused acting student in *A Chorus Line*, and an outdated actress in *Spamalot*. Garrard's performance was intoxicating; her portrayal of each different character was very con-

vincing. "I like to think of it as a refined skill. It takes a lot of skill and hard work to make it look easy," Garrard said. She considered the cabaret format a good

choice because it gave the student body a broader view of musical theater. "It blows my mind the amount of students on this campus that have never seen a musical theater production."

The show was a learning experience for all involved, on and off the stage. Those who caught a glimpse seemed to agree that it was a success overall. Way to go, Barry performers!

A Student Critic Muses on Oscars Past and Present

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer



What a difference a year makes. Almost one year ago, Reese Witherspoon won a well-deserved Oscar for *Walk the Line*, and was one-half of Hollywood's Golden Couple, happily married to Ryan Philippe. Flash forward one year later: Witherspoon walks the red carpet at the Golden Globes solo, having divorced her husband, and is reigning as Hollywood's highest-paid actress at \$29 million per picture. It is now Witherspoon's turn to announce the winner of the Oscar. Who will it be?

Those who actually vote for at the Oscars are not highly publicized. The Academy is made up of respected actors and others who work within the film

industry. With this, you have to keep in mind that these voters are human and just as easily influenced as we are. Take, for example, myself. Last year, the competition for the Best Actress Oscar was essentially between Witherspoon for *Walk the Line* and Felicity Huffman for *Transamerica*. I don't like Huffman. I just don't. But I love Witherspoon; I love her movies, her acting, her persona, and her qualities. Just for that, I would have voted for her to win the Oscar. While voters would naturally want the truly best actor to win, I doubt they would give an Oscar to an actor if he behaves badly or shows little respect for the Academy.

Haven't you ever noticed that towards the holiday season, all these Oscar-caliber movies come out? In December alone, *Dreamgirls*, *The Pursuit of Happyness*, *Apocalypto*, and *Blood Diamond* were released. It's not just a coincidence. Film companies release their movies as late as possible so as to remain fresh in the minds of Oscar voters. It makes sense, as I remember *Babel* from December more clearly than *The Departed* in early October; I'm sure the same happens to Oscar voters.

For those reasons, I have make two lists: one list comprising those whom I think should win, and the other, of those who will probably win.

Those who will probably win:

Best Actress: Helen Mirren. She won two Golden Globes this year, one for playing Queen Elizabeth I on television and one for Queen Elizabeth II in the movie *The Queen*. Oscar voters will acknowl-

edge her strong performances and dedication for playing these famous women in English history.

Best Actor: Forest Whitaker. He already won a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award. Actors who win the Golden Globes and other awards before the Oscar tend to win the Oscar. But one thing concerns me: Who is Forest Whitaker? I kid you not, I've never heard of him. But back in 2002, I had never heard of Adrien Brody, but he won an Oscar for *The Pianist*. So Whitaker still has a shot.

Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Hudson. American has fallen in love with this former *American Idol* finalist who makes her acting debut in *Dreamgirls*. She has won a Golden Globe and a SAG award.

Best Supporting Actor: Eddie Murphy. He's come out with some less-than-stellar pictures lately, but he's proven he can act (and sing) with a dramatic turn in *Dreamgirls*, and has been rewarded with a Golden Globe.

Those whom I think should win:

Best Actress: I am stuck between Penelope Cruz and Kate Winslet. This is Kate's fifth Oscar nomination (for *Little Children*), and she still hasn't won. I like Winslet; she seems very wholesome, sincere, and warm-hearted. On the other hand, Cruz did a wonderful job going back to her native Spain to shoot *Volver* with her long-time collaborator, director Pedro Almodovar.

Best Actor: Once again, I am torn,

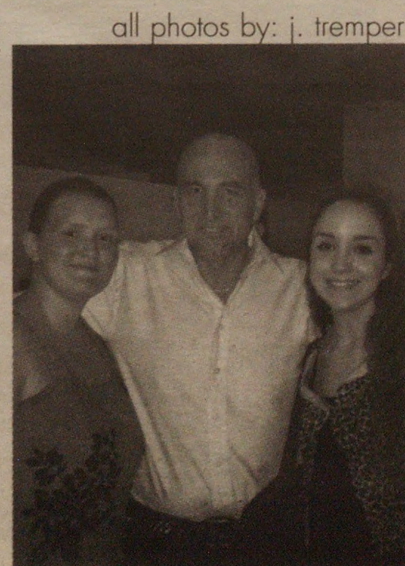
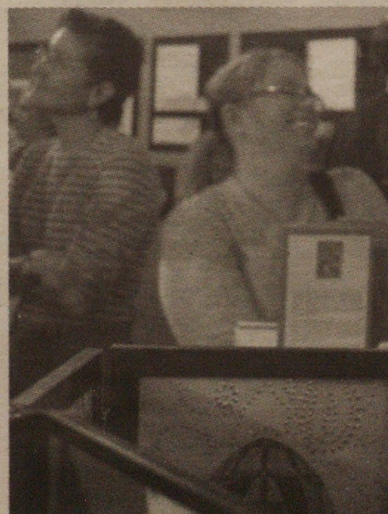
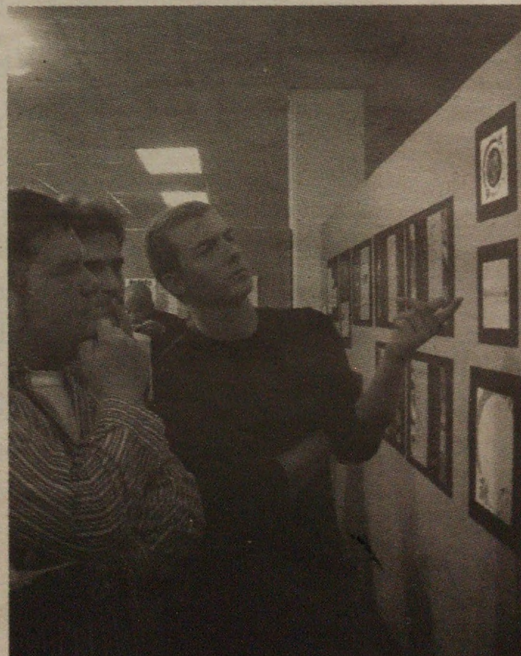
between Will Smith and Leonardo DiCaprio. Will Smith has had an amazing career, and his charisma penetrates through the silver screen. This is only his second nomination, but a well-deserved one for his emotional performance in *The Pursuit of Happyness*. On the other hand, Leonardo DiCaprio has been nominated several times, and lost each time. He is an amazing actor who never seems to compromise himself to make a blockbuster movie, but prefers Oscar-caliber work like his turn in *Blood Diamond*.

Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Hudson. Her life is truly a fairy tale. She didn't win *American Idol*, but she was able to move on and involve herself in bigger projects. She took a risk, and it has paid off. Can you imagine working with Beyonce, Eddie Murphy, and Jamie Foxx on your first film? I would be terrified, and I'm sure Hudson was too, but she never showed it onscreen.

Best Supporting Actor: Eddie Murphy. Murphy reminds us why he was so famous in the first place; we can relate to him. *Dreamgirls* has helped his acting credibility, unlike *The Haunted Mansion* and *Daddy Day Care*.

Those are my picks — but don't quote me on that. Last year, *Brokeback Mountain* was set to win for Best Picture, but lost to *Crash*. Now that *Dreamgirls* failed to garner an Oscar nomination for the top prize, *Babel* is set to win — or maybe *The Queen* will come from behind and snatch that little golden statue.

IF YOU MISSED OUT...



all photos by: j. tremper



...the exhibit runs 'til april.

Spring Teams Are Ready to Take Opponents by Storm

By Alisha Sanford
Sports Editor

Women's Golf

Head Coach: Patti Rizzo (3 seasons)

Fall Season Record: Finished fifth or better in every tournament

Key Players: Johanna Soderstrom, Remiji Camping, Anna Haglind

Next competition: March 12-13, Peggy Krik Bell Invitational at Tusawilla Community College in Winterspring, Fla.

During the 2006 fall season, the women's golf team finished an impressive fifth or better in every tournament. Three players currently post an average score of 77 or less, including freshman standout Anna Haglind. A solid player and a nice surprise for the Lady Buccaneers, Haglind rounds out the team's top three at the end of the 2006 fall season, including junior Remiji Camping and sophomore Johanna Soderstrom. The team recently placed fourth at the Miccosukee Championship in Miami. Going into the spring season, the Lady Buccaneers expected to face some tough competition. Camping led the pack, finishing eighth place out of 49 individuals and earning the honor of Sunshine State

Conference Player of the Week. "Our team has been working really hard to improve and we are going to face some tough competition, but we are looking forward to the challenge," Haglind said.

Men's Golf

Head Coach: Jimmy Stobs (5 seasons)

Key Players: Juan Weissenberg, Carlos Velez, Hernan Borja, Nick Gillaspay

Fall Season Record: Placed 10th or higher in every tournament

Next Competition: March 19-20, Southern Intercollegiate Invitational at Kinderlou Forest Golf Course in Valdosta, Ga.

This season the Bucs have high expectations, but they are going to have to work hard for everything that they get. During the pre-season, the men's golf team was ranked fifth in the nation on the Division II coaches' poll, with four other members of the Sunshine State Conference (SSC). "Our conference is a tough one, but I know that as long as we continue to work hard as a team, we will reach our goals," said freshmen Carlos Velez. During the 2006 fall season, four players posted an average score of 74 or less and at least three rounds better than par.

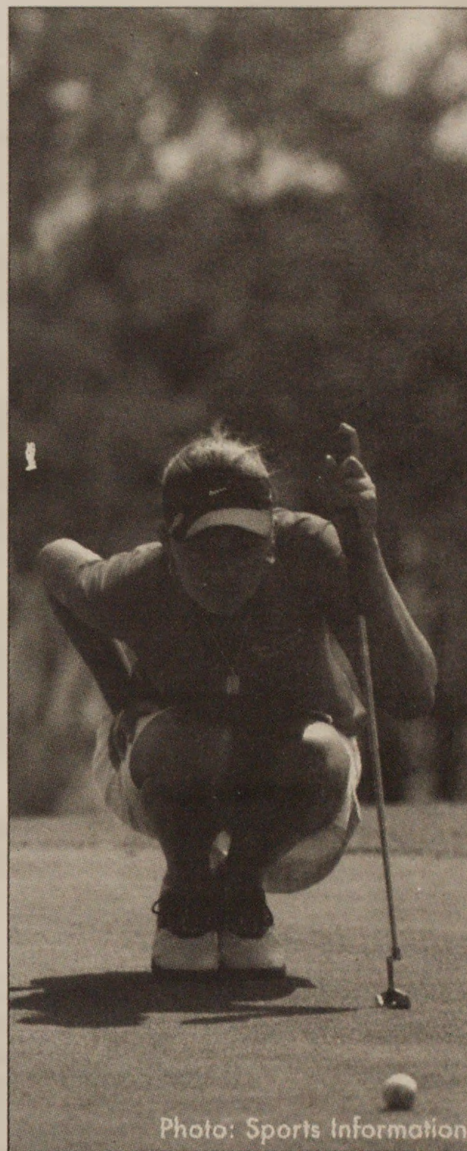


Photo: Sports Information
Remiji Camping lines up a putt.

Recently, the Bucs opened up their 2007 season finishing an impressive second place at the Matlock Invitational in Lakeland, Fla. Velez led the team, finishing a personal best, fourth place out of 60 players. This season the Bucs have their sights set high and hope to be at the top of their game come April.

Women's Rowing

Head Coach: Dawn Scott-Viyella (1 season)

Key Players: Elise Carlson, Linsey Bierschbach, Libby Lowe

Next Competition: March 10 vs. University of Connecticut in Miami Beach

During the spring 2006 season, the women's rowing team posted the most impressive finish of the season. They placed second in the 2006 NCAA National Championship in Princeton, New Jersey, under Coach Paul Mokha. Following such an impressive finish, a lot of changes took place during the off-season for the Lady Bucs. After coaching for eight seasons, Mokha resigned in order to become the head men's rowing coach at UCLA, and five key players either graduated or transferred to other universities.

(continued on page 14)

New Degree Will Train Students to Deliver the Great Outdoors

By Kristy Singletary
Staff Writer

Starting next fall, Barry University will offer new opportunities to those who enjoy the outdoors and recreation. Dr. Gayle Workman has proposed a program that meets the rising demand for certified professionals in the leisure industry around the world.

Tourism is one of the biggest industries in the state of Florida, and to address the interests of students in pursuing this as a career, the Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences has created a Bachelor of Science Degree in Leisure and Recreation Management. This program trains students to be able to design, manage, and deliver leisure and recreation services to an eclectic range of people.

"I'm happy that Barry University is finally offering a major specific to something that I am interested in," said sophomore Christina Thompson. "I'm really interested in this new major. I would like to work on a cruise ship, and I feel like this degree will give me a step above others."

This degree requires 124 credit hours to be considered for graduation, which includes an internship and a 23-credit-hour minor in environmental studies. This minor, focusing on human impact on the environment, is included to teach the students about stewardship of the earth by intertwining sustainability, social justice, and global issues within the curriculum.

The Environmental Studies component could also increase employment oppor-

tunities for students seeking to mix leisure and recreation with environmentally-oriented careers. "I'm so excited to have this offered here at Barry," said Workman. "I have researched, and have not yet found a school that includes an automatically attached minor to go along with the Leisure and Recreation Management. This program offers more than most schools in the nation."

The Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences has created seven new courses to complement the requirements of this major. One of the most interesting is a summer intensive course called Wilderness Expeditionary Training, which involves adventurous trips such as hiking the Appalachian Trail and whitewater rafting. "This is an excellent opportunity for students, because they can learn while having fun in exotic environments," Workman said.

Students will develop leadership skills and accountability while exploring different branches of leisure and recreation to find the precise area in which they would like to participate after graduation. The required semester-long internship could entail working for travel agencies, guide services, theme parks, special events companies, hotels, resorts, and other leisure service providers.

Miami Shores Recreational Center is one of Barry's biggest supporters in this new

endeavor. "A major like this is a necessity, especially in consideration with people's lack of environmental awareness," said Lola Heasley, who works in the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation Department. "There is more to the environment than what society projects it to be." She noted, "Elementary schools are beginning to eliminate physical education for children. People do not understand the importance of green space, and how it is essential to incorporate the outdoors into our daily lives. Knowing the significance of the environment can have an impact on obesity and healthier life."

Graduates will be qualified for a wide selection of employment opportunities, including positions within the tourism industry, leisure management and marketing, leisure and recreational facility management, theme parks, adventure travel, parks and recreation settings, and event planning.

"Leisure and Recreational Management can assist students with planning and operation of park activities, management, organizing events and supervising," said Workman. "Many schools provide those who are interested in the outdoors with just the management major, but they lack acknowledgement of the environment. With the environmental science minor, they can know the ethical and environmental awareness involved in a recreational career."



Photo: Keith Syvinski

Program graduates could work on the many cruise ships that dock in Florida.

calendar of EVENTS

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Miami International Film Festival opens, running through March 11

4]

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6]

Baseball vs. Newberry, 6:00 PM

7]

Baseball vs. Newberry, 6:00 PM

8]

Miami Underground Film Festival opens, running until March 12. Find listings at: mbcinema.com

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10]

Films of the French New Wave: The 400 Blows (1959) @ Books & Books in Coral Gables, 8:30 PM

Women's Rowing vs. University of Connecticut

SPRING BREAK!

Baseball vs. Felician, 6:00 PM

11]

12]

Baseball vs. Massachusetts-Lowell, 6:00 PM

13]

14]

Black Gold @ Miami Beach Cinematheque, 8:30 PM FREE

15]

Men's Tennis vs. Rutgers, 3:00 PM

16]

17]

Softball vs. Millersville, 10:30 AM

Softball vs. Concord, 4:00 PM

Baseball vs. Bloomfield, 6:00 PM

Women's Tennis vs. Rutgers, 3:00 PM

18]

19]

Baseball vs. Franklin Pierce, 6:00 PM

20]

Softball vs. Southern Connecticut State, 5:00 PM

21]

Softball vs. Palm Beach Atlantic, 5:00 PM

Men's Tennis vs. Ouachita Baptist, 3:00 PM

22]

Women's Tennis vs. Armstrong Atlantic, 2:00 PM

Men's Tennis vs. Armstrong Atlantic, 2:00 PM

23]

Baseball vs. Lynn, 6:00 PM

Women's Tennis vs. Saint Leo, 3:00 PM

24]

Films of the French New Wave: Stolen Kisses (1969) @ Books & Books in Coral Gables, 8:30 PM

Baseball doubleheader vs. Lynn, 1:00 PM

Men's Tennis vs. Rollins, 11:00 AM

25]

Women's Tennis vs. Rollins, 11:00 AM

26]

27]

Baseball vs. Palm Beach Atlantic, 6:00 PM

28]

Cine-Improv @ Miami Beach Cinematheque, 9:00 PM \$10

29]

Babel screening @ MBC, 9:00 PM \$6

Baseball vs. Harvard, 6:00 PM

30]

Women's International Film Festival begins, running until April 1. Schedule is online at: wifffonline.org

31]

the month of **MARCH**

Elise Carlson Glides the Rowing Team to the Head of the Pack

By Taisha Coombs
Staff Writer

Last year the Barry University women's rowing team placed second at the Division II National Championship in West Windsor, New Jersey. The Lady Bucs competed in a heated battle against Western Washington University, Nova Southeastern University, and University of California, San Diego. Both the four-person and eight-person boat races, however, were won by Western Washington, leaving the Lady Bucs with the second-place trophy. The freshman stroke, of the four boat, Elise Carlson, said, "It was an awesome experience, and though it would have been nice to take first, we gave it our all and left with our heads up. We did our best."

Carlson, who is originally from Westchester County, New York, was a triple threat in high school, playing varsity basketball, field hockey, and softball. In her senior year, she was the captain of both the field hockey and softball teams; rowing was not yet on her radar. Not until she came to Barry as a freshman Athletic Training major did she develop any interest in the sport. After having

been so involved in athletics throughout high school, "it didn't feel right not playing a sport," she says. "I couldn't sit around and not do anything."

Carlson decided to try out for the rowing team after she saw a flyer in Landon inviting girls to try out for the novice team. Carlson went to the try-outs not knowing what to expect from rowing, since she had never played and had only viewed the action from the sidelines. In most sports, cuts after a try-out are decided by skill level and style of play. In rowing, however, only the fittest survive; whoever can last through the grueling practices, and Ergometer test on indoor rowing-simulation equipment, makes the team.

Carlson recalls her first time on the water: "It was a complete shock to my mind and body. I was amazed at how much synchronization this sport actually needed. Rowing is the epitome of a team sport, because all of us have to be on the same page at all times." It didn't take her long to get used to the amount of effort, hard work, and dedication necessary to be successful in rowing. Under the guid-

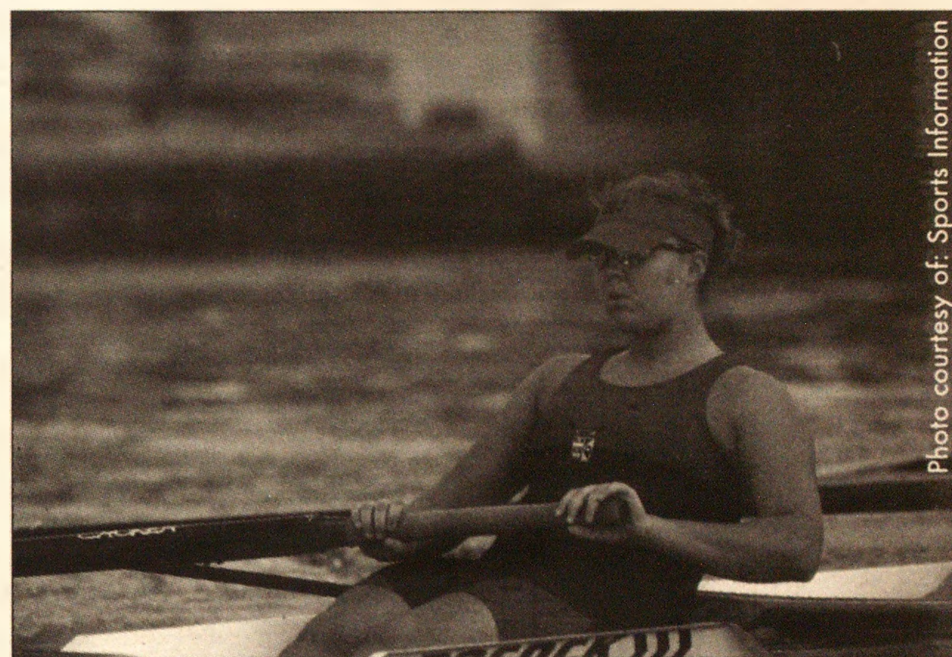


Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

ance of the experienced upperclassmen, Carlson found herself standing out among the freshmen novice rowers.

Within six months, Coach Paul Mokha asked Carlson to move up and join the varsity practices — pretty good for a first-timer. She was then placed in the four boat at the three seat, but as the team got closer to Dad Vails, one of the biggest regattas of the spring season, Coach Mokha decided that she would be better suited as the stroke, whose role is

basically to set the rhythm of the boat. Carlson says that after the promotion, she was "shocked and nervous." She adds, "I was amazed that he had enough faith in me to put me at the stroke seat. I wasn't expecting such a role as a freshman, and I knew my duties would be extended with this position."

Carlson was extremely successful as the stroke, helping lead the team to a second-place trophy in the NCAA

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Orestes Gonzalez Overcomes the Odds to Hit It Big in Baseball

By Brittany Holmes
Staff Writer

Orestes Gonzalez has always lived by the motto, "win big or go home." The senior catcher for Barry's Men's baseball team has proven himself to be a champion on

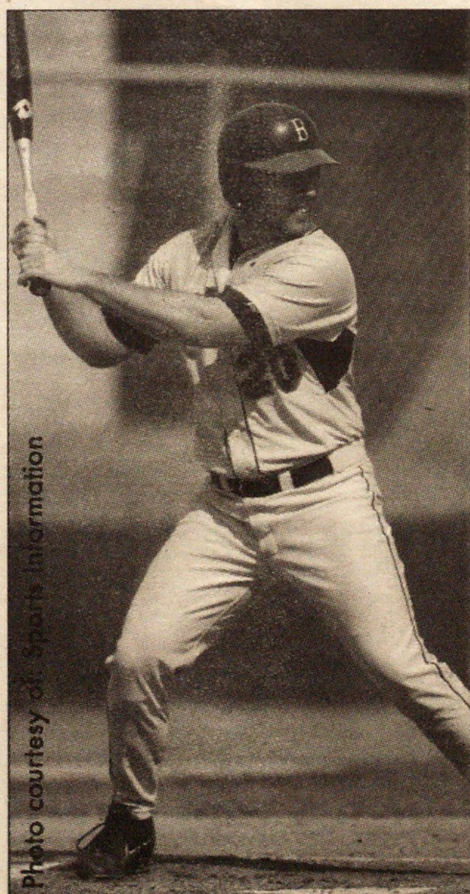


Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

had in the past. Gonzalez remembers, "We weren't able to move freely or own a business. The government controlled how much money everyone made." To make things worse, Gonzalez's father could not maintain a stable job. The isolated environment made making money nearly impossible. Therefore, Gonzalez's parents felt that it was best to break those restraints, leaving the country they had called home for many years.

When Gonzalez's family first attempted to leave Cuba, they got on a raft to sail over, hoping to reach the democratic land of America. Like any teenager moving in the midst of their high school years, he feared leaving family and friends. Life in Cuba was all he knew. "I didn't know how to feel, but I was told it was for the best," he recalls.

Yet his family's first attempt fell short. Gonzalez, his parents and his brother were caught before they reached the United States. He spent two days in jail as a detainee, and his father was held a little longer. Once released, they were watched like organisms under a microscope. "We were called traitors. Things for us weren't safe," Gonzalez says.

Refusing to be held captive in Cuba, they wanted to try again. They knew that America's "wet foot, dry foot" policy would allow them to automatically become citizens if they were able to hit land. This policy, put into effect by President Lyndon Johnson in the Cuban

Adjustment Act of 1966, granted Cuban immigrants political asylum. The permanent resident status gave them the opportunity to work legally and to receive government assistance such as welfare and medical healthcare, without the long wait other immigrants face.

On the second attempt, which occurred two months after the first, things were different. Gonzalez' father, who was a part of a dissident group that defended human rights and was itself the target of political discrimination, felt that things weren't safe for his family. The group granted the family a permanent visa to come to the United States that allowed them to legally leave Cuba without government interference.

"I would love to go back to Cuba," Gonzalez says. Even though conditions in Cuba are still difficult, his love of family outweighs all. Gonzalez adds, "I plan on going back this summer to visit my grandparents."

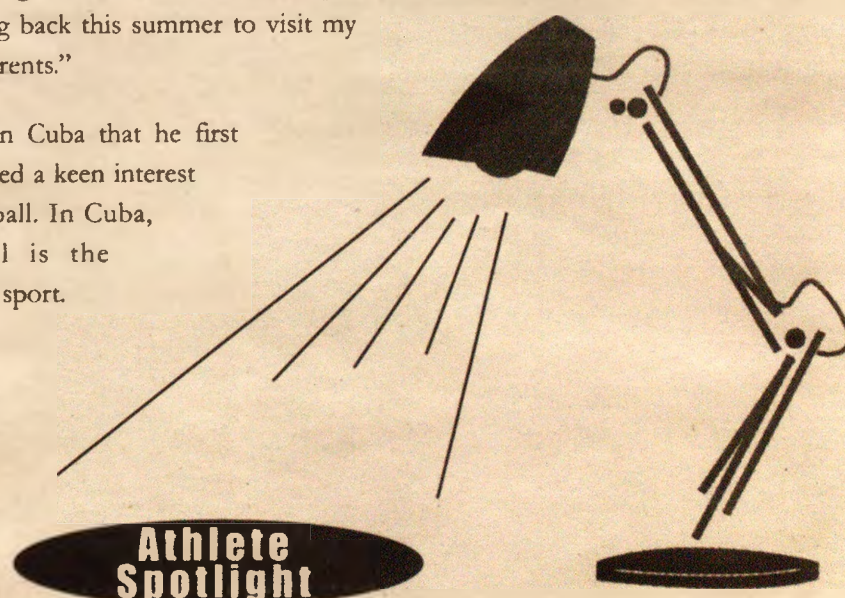
It was in Cuba that he first discovered a keen interest in baseball. In Cuba, baseball is the national sport.

During the early stages of his life, Gonzalez fell in love with baseball from watching his favorite Cuban baseball catcher, Agustin Marquetti. Standing at 6 foot 6 inches and 220 pounds, Marquetti was a perennial batting champ who retired in 1987 with 207 homeruns for Havana.

Gonzalez picked up his first bat at the tender age of five. He started to develop his craft on a team similar to that of an American little league team. When he reached the United States, he retained his love for the sport, and continued to follow his passion while attending Miami Beach High School.

After previously attending Indian River Community College in Vero Beach, the Catholic Gonzalez was attracted to Barry not only as a Catholic institution, but one

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Spring Teams Are Ready to Take Opponents by Storm

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Currently under the new head coach, Dawn Scott-Viyella, the Lady Bucs are looking forward to rebuilding the team. Senior Lyndsay Edmonds said, "Last year was really exciting, but this fall season we have really been working hard and staying positive, so we are ready for the spring."

Softball

Head Coach: Danielle Penner (2 seasons)
Last Season Record: 39-13 overall, 18-6 SSC
Current Record: 8-4 overall, 0-0 SSC*
Key Players: Maile Keeney, Shyla Rider, Liz Bennett
Next Home Competition: March 14th vs. Concord University at 4 p.m.

Last season, Coach Danielle Penner's first as head coach, the team posted an impressive 18-6 record in the Sunshine State Conference and also appeared at the 2006 NCAA South Regional. The softball team entered the 2007 season ranked 16th in the nation. Most recently, the team has posted impressive wins over Florida Tech (4-1) and West Florida University (1-0) at the Barry-Nova Invitational in Miami Shores. This season the Lady Bucs are well-rounded and

stronger than ever. "Everyone on the team works really hard. I know as long as we continue to stick together as a team, we will be successful," said freshman Amanda Goelz.

Baseball

Head Coach: Marc Pavao (1 season)
Last Season Record: 33-21-1 overall, 11-13 conference
Current Record: 5-4 overall, 0-0 SSC*
Key Players: Jayson Brown, Michael Davila, Orestes Gonzalez, Mitch Rodriguez
Next Home Competition: March 2 vs. University of Tampa at 6 p.m.

This season the Bucs are looking to their senior leadership to propel them to the next level. "I am really excited about this season, we are looking to improve on last year," said Coach Marc Pavao. While just beginning his first season as head coach, Pavao is very familiar with the program and all its talent after serving as the assistant baseball coach and recruiting coordinator for the Bucs for the past seven years. "Two keys to this season will be pitching and solid defense," said Coach Pavao. Recently, Senior Jayson Brown was named the SSC Pitcher of the Week after the Bucs' impressive win over Bryant University in Winter Park, Fla.

Women's Tennis

Head Coach: Dr. George Samuel (16 seasons)
2006 Season Record: 17-5 overall, 8-2 conference
Current record: 2-0 overall, 1-0 SSC*
Key Players: Ildiko Csordas, Helen Wisniewski
Next home competition: March 12 vs. Valparaiso University at 3:30 p.m.

Last season the Lady Bucs finished and impressive 8-2 in the Sunshine State Conference, and during the pre-season, they were ranked sixth in the nation. Junior Ildiko Csordas is expected to lead the team this season; during the pre-season, she was ranked 20th in the nation. In conjunction with young leadership, the Lady Bucs have a young team this season with five freshmen, three juniors and no sophomores or seniors. So far the Lady Bucs are off to a good start, defeating Florida Institute of Technology 8-1, followed by an impressive defeat of Southeastern University, in which the Lady Bucs swept all six singles competitions. Freshman Berit Peterson said, "We have started really strong this season, so now we are working really hard on the court, so we can finish as strong as we have started."

Men's Tennis

Head Coach: Dr. George Samuel (15 seasons)
2006 Season Record: 19-5 overall, 6-2 conference
Current Record: 3-0 overall, 2-0 conference*
Key Players: Patrick Rittenauer, Andrew Sharnov, Dirk Bennighaus
Next home competition: March 15 vs. Rutgers University at 3 p.m.

Barry men's tennis begins the 2007 season ranked second in the nation. They have been just as impressive at the start of this season, with a 3-0 record defeating Florida Tech, Saint Leo University and Palm Beach Atlantic University. Despite the recent graduation of Thomas Hipp, a number-one-seeded All-American who earned SSC Athlete of the Year and Player of the Year in 2006, the Bucs are projected to have a great season. "This season we are still a strong team and a hungry team. We aren't going to settle. Come May, we want to be on top," said senior Dirk Bennighaus. Now they will be led by junior Patrick Rittenauer, a tough competitor who has shown great improvement during the off-season. Rittenauer and Bennighaus were ranked 12th and 23rd, respectively, in the nation at the beginning of the season.

*as of February 22, 2007

Elise Carlson Glides the Rowing Team to the Head of the Pack

(Continued from page 13)

Championships — and hopes of winning it all the following season.

The 2006-2007 team, however would be a new cast from the team that had almost won it all the year before. First, Coach Mokha, who had been at Barry for 8 years resigned his position to be the head men's rowing coach at the University of California Los Angeles rowing team. Then the team lost five key players, two due to graduation and three others who transferred to other universities.

The new head coach of the team, Dawn Scott-Viyella, came in with an entirely

"[She] sets the tone in the boat. Elise is so positive, and you can tell how hard she's working and how much effort she puts in. She simply wants to win."

-- Summerlin Knipe

new philosophy. "Dawn definitely pushes us to go as hard as we can in our workouts, but it's a different feel from last year and a very different style of coaching. It's been a process, because we are rebuilding with a new coach after having had a really successful season the previous year."

Teammate Summerlin Knipe stated that Carlson undoubtedly "sets the tone in the boat. Elise is so positive, and you can tell how hard she's working and how

much effort she puts in. She simply wants to win." This season, Carlson was placed in the eight-person boat, and said she has a wealth of confidence because the boat is looking really strong. "Everyone is just working well together there. We may not go as far as we did last season, but as long as we stay focused and work hard, we'll be fine."

This year the team got the season rolling in Chattanooga Tennessee, where they

competed in the Head of the Chattahoochee, Carlson said they had an "average finish, but we learned a lot about our new team. We're learning our strong points and what we need to be better at." On Saturday, March 10, the Lady Bucs rowers have a meet against the University of Connecticut Huskies, and we can be sure that Carlson and her teammates will be steady on the water.

Orestes Gonzalez Overcomes the Odds to Hit It Big in Baseball

(Continued from page 13)

where he feels that he has been able to learn and get a better education. "I love Barry," says Gonzalez. "It's the best school I've ever been to." He is currently a criminology major, and his favorite class is the senior seminar. Not only does Gonzalez perform to the coaches' high expectations on the field, but he impresses professors as well. In order to even be a student athlete, one must have a GPA higher than a 2.0 — a minimum requirement that Gonzalez exceeds. Head Coach Marc Pavao says, "His GPA is

great for a student athlete."

Here at Barry, Gonzalez is a catcher just like his idol, Agustin Marquetti, whose stature also stood out. Freshman starting pitcher Robbie Conner says, "He is the biggest guy on the team, but also the nicest." Outfielder Alex Delgado calls him an "ogre," but he doesn't mean that in an offensive way, rather as an observation that Gonzalez is a large man with layers.

Delgado adds, "He is a guy you can look to for encouragement. He never

gives up." Pavao also gives Gonzalez high praise: "His character is tremendous. He is a real hard worker who is ready to step up to the plate whenever called." The coach says that Gonzalez "wears his emotions on his sleeve," a trait that helps the team by encouraging them to keep going.

During his last season at Barry, Gonzalez had a batting average of .328, 43 RBIs and 18 homeruns, the second-highest on the team. With the start of the new season, fellow teammates, coaches and fans

look forward to his performance on the field. After playing just three games this season, Gonzalez has the second-highest batting average, .583, from 12 times at bat. Coach Pavao says, "He is my big hitter." His willingness to deliver the big hit is spectacular — and has sparked comparisons to David Ortiz, the clutch hitter of the Boston Red Sox.

In the life of Orestes Gonzalez, overcoming obstacles is a battle he knows he can win. In his attempts to escape Cuba and succeed in baseball, he chooses winning big over going home.

"He is a guy you can look to for encouragement. He never gives up."

-- Outfielder Alex Delgado



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