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*This weekend's Romeo and Juliet production delivers a hilarious performance without putting non-English majors to sleep.*  
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**Dating blindly**  
*She's fun and he's cute, but how far does skin color determine who we date at Notre Dame?*  
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# THE OBSERVER

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## Costly Madeleva renovation prompts new plans

By MOLLY McVOY  
 Saint Mary's Editor

In the next several years, Madeleva Hall will more than likely not exist on Saint Mary's campus.

As part of the Master Plan, the College has decided to build a new classroom building that will replace Madeleva, and probably lead to the removal of the old building.

"As we started to determine the cost of all of our options, the dollars per square foot for renovating Madeleva got as high as building a new one," Keith Dennis, vice president of finance and administration said.

The original goal of this phase of the Master Plan was to renovate Madeleva to correct some of the problems with the building. Several fire codes needed to be met and plumbing and air circulation were a problem. Currently, Madeleva does not have an adequate air exchange system, according to Dennis. In addition, the size of the faculty offices needed to be increased.

"The offices in [Madeleva] tend to be 95-100 square feet in size," Dennis said. "The appropriate size is typically 150 square feet. Our goal was to make every office 150 square feet with a window."

Currently, the classrooms in Madeleva are used for most of the College's liberal arts classes as well as several science and math courses.

"What we're planning is a modern office and classroom building," said John DeLee, director of facilities at the College. "It will have modern ventilating and lighting systems."

The new facility will also be the home for the Center for Intercultural Leadership, a result of a Lilly Foundation grant the College received this year.

"With the center for Intercultural Leadership in the building, it became obvious we had to have an addition," Dennis said. "It [the renovation] just got unmanageable."

In addition to cost considerations, building a new structure will relieve some of the logistical issues a long renovation would cause.

"With any moderate amount of renovation, half of Madeleva would have to be shut down for a year," Dennis said. "Where do we put all those classes?"

The new building will likely be located north west of where the science hall is currently located, but plans for the new building have not yet been drawn. A meeting is planned with MPA, the architectural firm hired for the construction. MPA, run by Bill Coleman, also designed the plans for Regina Hall.

Although the fate of Madeleva has not yet been decided, Dennis thinks it is most likely that the building will be torn down.

"The other dilemma is what to do with Madeleva," Dennis said. "It could come down or could get converted to a multipurpose center. Probably the most likely outcome will be to tear [Madeleva] down."

In addition to the Madeleva renovations, this stage of the Master Plan calls for converting the dining hall into a student activities building. A new structure will be connected to serve

*"What we're planning is a modern office and classroom building."*

**John DeLee**  
 director of facilities at the College



CHRISTINE KAAI/The Observer

After determining the cost of both options, Saint Mary's will probably replace Madeleva Hall instead of rebuilding. The new building will have larger offices for faculty and modern ventilation and lighting.

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## Bederman: Media presents unrealistic image of women

By ELIZABETH ZANONI  
 News Writer

History Professor Gail Bederman led a symposium Tuesday night entitled "Images of Women Throughout History" in the basement of Cavanaugh Hall to an all female audience.

The discussion commenced after viewing a short film entitled Killing Us Softly 3: Advertising and the Image of Women. The film, hosted by specialist Jean Kilborne, is a study of gender representation in advertising and the media.

In the film Kilborne recognizes that advertising, a 180 billion dollar a year industry, sells not only products, but also values, attitudes, concepts of love and sex and the

desire for normalcy.

For women, the mass media focuses primarily on their physical appearance and presents an unrealistic and idealized image for young impressionable viewers. Although these images are "impossibly perfect," a core belief in American culture remains that if women try hard enough, they can attain a perfect body type.

Kilborne presents contemporary ads in newspapers and magazines that depict women in contradictory fashions. Although women are very often portrayed as sex objects and they are also shown to be childlike and passive. In both cases women are portrayed as powerless, said Kilborne in her film.

"She makes a strong case," said Bederman at the end of

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## Black Law Students Association questions race and death penalty

By ERIN LaRUFFA  
 News Writer

In perhaps an unusual way of celebrating Black History Month, Notre Dame's Black Law Students Association brought together four white males Tuesday night to discuss racism in America.

These four men — two of them lawyers and two of them law school professors — addressed race as it relates to the criminal justice system in a panel discussion entitled "The Disproportionate Application of the Death Penalty on African Americans."

"We should do more things like this at the law school," said Richard Garnett, the Notre Dame law school professor who moderated the discussion.

The anti-death penalty Garnett was joined by two other abolitionists, Speedy Rice of Gonzaga Law School and Richard Kammen, a capital litigator with over 20 years of experience in death penalty cases.

One of the most significant factors in a prosecutor's decision to seek the death penalty is

the race of the victim, according to Kammen. "If the victim is black, the case is more likely by a huge margin to be a capital case," Kammen said. "The race of the defendant also has tremendous significance. There is a vein of racism that pervades many, many jurisdictions."

Rice cited statistics indicating that while African American males make up 6 percent of the general U.S. population, 43 percent of death row inmates come from this demographic.

"You can't deny something is going on," said Rice. "African American crime is not substantially higher than their rate in the population. It's not disproportionate."

The one death penalty advocate on the panel, St. Joseph County prosecuting attorney Christopher Toth, disagreed with that assessment.

"We try to be colorblind. We try to have a standard for when we will ask for the death penalty and when we will not," Toth said.

Prosecutors in St. Joseph County, according to Toth, will typically ask for the death penalty

*"We try to be colorblind. We try to have a standard for when we will ask for the death penalty and when we will not."*

**Christopher Toth**  
 St. Joseph County prosecutor

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## Mating of praying mantises teaches wise dating lessons

Sometimes I feel that life would be better lived as a praying mantis. Oh yes, the lanky, green insects we pay little heed to live the life of goddesses. They meet their partner, mate and then eat them. Could life be any better? All the joys of dating, and they even get a free meal out of it.

Think about it. None of the awkward silences. No expensive gifts. Obligation is at a minimum, and, aside from the devoured partner, everyone goes home happy.

However, the odds are that if you are reading this, then you're probably not a praying mantis. (Or if you are, you're an extremely gifted bug.) And because the dating rituals of these insects aren't commonly analogous to the human world, chances are that for you, dating isn't quite so effortless.

Let's face it. We all spend a great deal of our time thinking about, noticing and chasing the opposite sex. It's like a game of tag in grade school — except dating offers better benefits than proclaiming a person "it." Dating is, really, a great idea. It's a way to attain all sorts of important people skills, brings a new twist to your weekend activities and it gives you someone to celebrate with on national holidays.

As wonderful as dating sounds, however, there is a catch — you have to get there. And when it comes down to it, praying mantises aside, it's not always as easy as meeting and mating. There's a certain protocol that is involved in modern dating. This is where problems arise, as it seems that men and women have been given different handbooks on dating etiquette.

The men's handbook, in short, reads as follows:

1. When you say you'll call on Sunday, this translates into Wednesday, after the hockey game.
  2. A kiss is just a kiss. Period.
  3. Anniversaries really only matter when you're married, right?
  4. Communication is always at a minimum. If you can't say it in 10 minutes, it's not worth being said.
  5. Watching the game and having a Bud with the boys is a perfectly acceptable reason to not see your girlfriend on a Friday night.
  6. Eyeing other women while on a date is only human.
  7. Male bonding time is priceless.
  8. Women should automatically know all of the above.
- The women's guide to dating is quite different. It's not "The Rules," but it's a precise and rarely yielding set of codes and regulations that reads as such:
1. Long, deep conversations about "us" are essential for building relationships.
  2. When you get half an inch trimmed off your hair, a boy should notice.
  3. If he doesn't call for two days, this is cause for alarm.
  4. You should be treated the same, if not better, in front of his friends.
  5. They're not chick flicks — they're date movies.
  6. He should be able to meet all of your expectations, even if you don't voice them.
  7. When you tell him that nothing is wrong, of course you don't mean it.
  8. "You look great tonight," should be a staple in his vocabulary.

The life of a praying mantis looks better and better doesn't it? None of the anxiety, none of the confusion. However, there are cases when the guide books merge and everything eventually falls into place.

There is a way to incorporate men's and women's dating etiquette to fit most circumstances, particularly if you're patient. It's not a hopeless cause. There are exceptions to every rule, of course — especially when alcohol is introduced into the situation — but cases like these bring their own set of guidelines.

Unfortunately, we can't live our lives as easily as a praying mantis. Instead we're obligated to go about dating in a perilous and erratic manner that is far from the ease of the meeting and mating phenomenon. However, when it comes down to it, dating really is a great idea — as long as it's not "insectual."

*The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*



Jacqueline Browder

*In Vogue*



KRISTIN KRAMER/The Observer

Romeo (Mark Scheibmeir) and Tybalt (David Go) clash in this weekend's production of "Romeo and Juliet," performed by the Not-So-Royal Shakespeare Company in the Hesburgh International Center auditorium.

## Bard's "star-crossed lovers" return in modern production

By C. SPENCER BEGGS  
Assistant Scene Editor

A bloodcurdling scream comes from the normally tranquil Hesburgh International Center for Peace Studies auditorium.

A police officer rushes to the scene, seconds too late. Two lay murdered. Soon a crowd gathers, waking the weary from their slumber to behold the tragedy of love fighting hate.

Who says Shakespeare isn't fun? Certainly not Lisa Marie Fábrega, the director of the Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company's spring play, "Romeo and Juliet."

"A lot of people get turned off by Shakespeare because it is written during a time when writers liked to play around with the English language," Fábrega said. "The text was written to be performed, not just read."

Performance is easier said than done, as this cast quickly learned. The auditions were held before winter break so that the actors had time to study their lines.

Fábrega tried to get the actors to think about the show on a more personal level.

"You need to think about what each line is saying. Don't just read, you need to bring the words to life," Fábrega told the cast during a break.

The Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company, founded in 1993, is an entirely student-run organization.

The club does one or two shows a year, usually alternating between comedies and tragedies. Past shows have included "The Tempest," "The Comedy of Errors" and "Macbeth."

Fábrega serves double duty — not only is

she the director, she is also the club's president.

"I think the point of the Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company is to make Shakespeare's plays accessible to students in the modern day," said Fábrega.

"Shakespeare's words still have value in society. The more we study it, the more we realize the uncanny accuracy he had in depicting human experience."

This performance of "Romeo and Juliet" has been modernized in several ways. For example, Juliet is not portrayed as a damsel in distress.

Instead, the company opted to use more modern definitions of gender to depict the star-crossed

lovers. Costumes are simple in this show so the audience can focus on the performance rather than confusing period-costume intricacies.

In the end, the Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company is about having fun. "Shakespeare is not just for English majors," Fábrega said. "He wrote his plays for everyone."

"Romeo and Juliet" will be performed March 1 through 4 in the Hesburgh Library Auditorium.

Tickets are available at the LaFortune Box Office and stand-by tickets will also be sold at the door.

The Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company does have space limitations, however, and thus must stick to a strict lateness policy.

All ticket holders not present 10 minutes before the start of the show may have their tickets voided and resold because of high numbers of patrons wanting to see the show each night. Entrance into the theater after the performance starts is prohibited.

*"Shakespeare is not just for English majors. He wrote his plays for everyone."*

Lisa Marie Fábrega  
director of "Romeo and Juliet"

### "Romeo and Juliet"

◆ What: A production of the Not-So-Royal-Shakespeare Company

◆ Where: Hesburgh Library Auditorium

◆ When: March 1-3 at 7:30 p.m., March 4 at 2 p.m.

Tickets available at the LaFortune Box Office or at the door — \$7 general admission, \$5 for students.