

# New racial slurs inspire meeting

By KEIR BANCROFT  
Assistant News Editor

The University held an open discussion with residents of Redington Hall last night in response to further vandalism and racial epithets found there during the week.

According to Franz Alcindor, a Residence Life Coordinator from Elmont, N. Y., a "KKK" was found carved into wood in the zero floor lounge on Monday. Vandals also wrote racial epithets in a second floor bathroom on Tuesday.

The "KKK" is an acronym for the Ku Klux Klan, a well-known hate group who have traditionally labeled both blacks and Catholics as undesirables.

Patrick Rombalski, director of Residence Life and James Bryan, vice-president for Student Affairs, began the meeting with an address to the residents. Rombalski explained the purpose of the meeting, saying he wanted to, "do a review of the situation."

He asked the residents to respond to the negative trend by

supporting each other. Such a community effort may help residents deal with the problem and prevent further incidents.

"I hope that after tonight, students will learn more about this and help those who are affected," Rombalski said.

Bryan and Rombalski, both considering that the perpetrator or friends might be present in the audience, asked for a stop to the vandalism. Bryan added, "If you can dissuade people from doing this, I ask you to please do so."

The Rev. Thomas Masterson, S.J., vice-president for Campus Ministry, recalled growing up in a racially divided neighborhood in Washington, D.C.

"I look back now with sorrow, because I know how much I missed," Masterson said. He urged the residents to embrace racial diversity and acknowledge its presence on campus and in the world outside the University.

During the discussion, residents asked Rombalski about actions being taken, who was suspected, and if the different inci-

## House burns again



Firefighters returned to the scene of last year's fire in a former student home at 429 Quincy Ave. to fight another blaze on Tuesday morning. Although the house is now vacant, the blaze appears to have been purposely set. The matter is still under investigation.

Aquinas Photo/CHRISTINA ANTIOCO

dents were the work of one person.

Rombalski reported that resident assistants had been instructed on how to report such incidents so as to preserve evidence.

He added that Public Safety would increase patrols in Redington.

When asked if he suspected a

Redington resident, he replied that he did but added that he would not draw any conclusions based on the current evidence. He gave the same answer when asked if he considered the slurs the work of one person.

Mariaelena Galie, a senior RA from Pennel, asked residents to stop distributing outer door combi-

nations to those not living in Redington.

Vivian Berrios, a junior RA from Dix Hills, N. Y., spoke to the residents during the discussion and urged them to keep aware and rely on each other to combat the problem.

"We all are the only weapon we have against this," she said.

## NewsWire

Briefs from Beyond the Commons

### Russians get mad

Turnabout is fair play, unless the people you're turning against happen to be traditional allies of Russia. Claiming that the Serbs are facing genocide with the dawn of NATO air attacks, the Russian government warned that continued aggression against the Serbs could endanger recent friendly relations between East and West. Lt. Col. CHRIS VERNON, a United Nations spokesman, said that attacks will continue until the Serbs remove heavy weapons from around Sarajevo.

### Squirrel holds up train

It all started with a squirrel. After climbing onto the power lines of the Metro-North Commuter Railroad, the squirrel set off a power surge. A wire came loose and, after getting caught in an oncoming train, tore down all the

lines on the track, stranding 47,000 commuters in Manhattan on Monday afternoon. No word on whether the squirrel will be charged as a minor or as an adult at trial.

### World goes to hell

A United Nations scientific panel on climate change says it is now convinced that global temperatures have warmed over the

last century because of human activity. The statement marks a shift in the position of top climatologists, who previously said that they could not tell whether global warming had been caused by nature or by man. Meanwhile, students at the University pondered global warming while heavily blanketed last week, as temperatures fell into the 40s.

### Americans go nowhere

A smaller percentage of Americans are pulling up their roots and moving out of state than at any time since 1950, according to a report released by the Census Bureau this week. Ex-

perts believe that the post-war population shifts that reshaped the country's political, social, and economic landscape have, for the moment, come to an end. Demographers have suggested many possible reasons for the recent tendency of Americans not moving, except the most obvious: rampant laziness.

### "ER" starts on top

The NBC medical series "ER" series passed its first Emmy checkup Sunday. "ER" won eight awards, tying records set by "Hill Street Blues" for most wins by a series in one year and for most wins by a new series. NBC led all

networks at the 47th annual Primetime Emmy Awards with 28 wins. NBC's comedy "Frasier" won five Emmys, including best actor for KELSEY GRAMMER.

### Beatles battle back

A collection of more than 40 previously unreleased studio recordings and live performances by the Beatles, as well as a "new" Beatles recording, will be released by Capitol Records on November 20. The two-disk set, called "The Beatles Anthology, Vol. 1," is to be the first of three such compilations to be released by the middle of next year. Yoko Ono's involvement remains unknown.

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