

# Up Front

The leprechauns of St. Patrick's Day left a friendly surprise for the college community on the morning of March 18, as on the once-empty pedestal in front of Ambrose Hall a new statue had appeared replacing the one that had toppled in November.

The Rev. Drake Shafer, vice president of student services, said the college did not know where the statue had come from, but presumed a student had acquired it during Spring Break from a parish that no longer had any use for it and had it kept in storage. Shafer said many parishes just keep old statues they have no use for stored away in their basements.

"I greatly enjoyed it," said Shafer. "It shows a fine sense of humor and is a nice gift to the college.

Kevin Cavanaugh, director of campus security, said the statue would be removed and placed into storage, unless the previous owner could be found and wanted it returned.

A letter found taped to the statue was turned into the *The Ambrose Magazine* office Monday night. The letter read:

**"To the Trustees of; St. Ambrose College:**

**We sympathize with you in your recent loss of a campus idol. We could have made a donation to the fund to replace old St. Ambrose, but decided instead to part with an old friend. Originally a St. Patrick, this statue has played a number of roles since coming to our house 3 years ago, and does a pretty good Ambrose. Please take care of him. we're sure that now you will be happy to call off the fund drive and find better uses for your resources. No need for thanks."**

Shafer said the statue is almost definitely a St. Patrick's statue, its right hand being probably being removed because it held a shamrock (or maybe because our old statue was also missing a hand), and the preparators had also tried to remove a snake on the bottom of the statue, snakes being a common tie with the St. Patrick's legend.

"This statue makes a good temporary replacement of our old statue, and we're quite sure that it was a statue some parish gave away to a student because they no longer had any use for it," said Shafer.

Spring is finally upon us, and with that the coming of baseball season. And with that, as a former sports editor and aspiring sports journalist, I cannot resist the temptation to give some thoughts on the upcoming season in the grand old game.

This will be the season of the Big Apple, forseeing in my crystal ball a "New York, New York" series, as the Mets will finally live up to their billing of the past two years and defeat the Yanks in an all Gotham City series.

For the other divisional winners I see the two best pitching staffs in either league coming out on top. The defending champion Royals, (with allcolades to a certain Mr. Dekinger) taking the American League West crown and the Dodgers grabbing the National League West title.

For the area teams, I look for the Cubs to linger at about the fourth place finish they attained last season (old overrated former American League pitchers and some just plain old bats will contribute to this). And my beloved St. Louis Cardinals finishing in the runner-up position to the Mets, who have to many horses for the speedy Redbirds.

The White Sox will have to settle for a fourth place finish in the A.L. West behind K.C.. the surprising Twins and the medicare-bound Angels.

Here are my picks in the divisional races: A.L. East: 1. New York Yankees 2. Baltimore Orioles 3. Toronto Blue Jays 4. Detroit Tigers 5. Boston Red Sox 6. Cleveland Indians 7. Milwaukee Brewers.

A.L. West: 1. Kansas City Royals 2. Minnesota Twins 3. Californai Angels 4. Chicago White Sox 5. Seattle Mariners 6. Oakland A's 7. Texas Rangers

N.L. East: 1. New York Mets 2. St. Louis Cardinals 3. Philadelphia Phillies 4. Chicago Cubs 5. Montreal Expos 6. Pittsburgh Pirates

N.L. West: 1. Los Angeles Dodgers 2. Cincinanti Reds 3. San Diego Padres 4. Atlanta Braves 5. Houston Astros 6. San Francisco Giants

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