

# Observer-Dispatch

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Readers*

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Bush ads featuring Sept. 11 spur disgust

Outrage and disgust best describe my reaction to the Bush campaign ad showing images of Ground Zero, including rescue workers carrying a flag-draped coffin.

What would Bush (who approved the ad) say to Queens firefighter Tommy Fee who said, "It's as sick as people who stole things out of the place"?

What did Bush mean when he said of 9/11, "I have no ambition whatsoever to use this as a political issue"? At the least he's gone back on this promise. At worst, this ad exploits our national tragedy for political gain.

The 2004 political race has barely begun. Without loud protest now, expect more Bush re-election ads using these images; ads that cheapen a profoundly significant event that killed thousands and hurt us all.

Condoning these ads reflects poorly on the president. Remaining silent ourselves only makes us complicit in their ill-considered message.

CAROL OHMART BEHAN

West Winfield

Moshier captured true spirit of Jugglers

Ron Moshier's article on the Notre Dame Jugglers' Section III Class A Championship game was unbiased and insightful. He captured the grit and determination that this team displays seemingly against the odds.

This loss was a tough one to swallow. Why do the Jugglers - a Class C team by enrollment - compete in Class A?

They say it's to level the playing field - parochial schools draw from neighboring districts, public schools can't. Notre Dame doesn't "recruit" with academic scholarships. The draw for ND is a value-centered education, a challenging curriculum, dedicated teachers, a safe campus and a phenomenal coach.

The program should be fair to everyone. No free rides. No punishment for excelling. Whatever their class, these Jugglers will rise to the challenge. That's who they are, what they've been taught to be. The Juggler spirit is undeniable. Their shirts proclaim, "I bleed blue and gold" and their performance on the court proves it.

JUDIANNE BALZANO-SMITH

Utica

Christians understand Jesus' role on earth

It has become evident in recent decades that traditional religious faith has become challenged as perhaps never before.

Even many of those who claim to be Christians seem to have developed theologies that obfuscate what were once considered essential doctrines, or tenets, of faith.

Christian scriptures provide ample support for the concept that Jesus Christ's primary role on earth was to show God's love through serving as the "sacrificial lamb."

True Christians recognize that Jesus willingly submitted to the sentence of death on the cross because no other sacrifice could suffice to cover the sins of men so that they might merit eternal life in God's presence.

Jesus Christ, true Christians believe, was not coerced by God, inasmuch as he is God, in the God-man hypostatic union. He and the Father are one, as Jesus testified.

WILLIAM G. EVANS

Marcy

Kobryn a fine teacher and gift to community

Recently, the area lost an ardent advocate, reporter, teacher and citizen who spent more than 40 years writing about events in the area and issues of the day.

Nancy Kobyrn spent countless hours covering stories - sitting in courtrooms attending meetings. She was community-driven, particularly in covering political and human-interest stories.

Recently, she had become involved in teaching at the Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement at SUNYIT. Last fall, she presented a course, "Writing for Fun and Profit." She took an interest in every person, encouraging the pursuit of some kind of writing - commentary, letters, poetry, books, manuscripts - and presented her knowledge and experience to the class on how to report, write, edit and publish.

She was a gift to this area. She loved the arts, good food, her experiences with the Chinese people and her many years of teaching. She dared her students to be bold and passionate.

She deserves recognition for her accomplishments.

NANCY A. GRECO

Marcy