Bishop, Senate voice student concerns

**Bishop says student union is in the crossroads in annual address**

By MEGHANNE DOWNES
Assistant News Editor

Student Body President Libby Bishop said the student union is at a crossroads during her State of the Student Union address.

According to Bishop, this crossroads refers to the "huge group of students still feeling frustrated about the lack of input, but also the intersecting group of students who are writing in to the administration and voicing their opinion."

"It is not necessarily two completely separate groups of students but also other signs of student voices emerging," said Bishop.

Bishop stressed that the student union will only be strong if the correct path from this crossroads is followed. This path includes converting student concerns into constructive dialogue before student frustration becomes student apathy.

"We are going to try to build upon this interest of student involvement to use it in a constructive way to get students involved with student government," she said.

According to Bishop, the number of e-mails in her inbox, the students that stop by her office, and student letters to the administration are indicators that students are utilizing their voice.

Bishop called on her staff and other student leaders to use their potential "by being эффектив in our communication with administrators and also the student body."

The motivation of University administrators to improve Notre Dame, Bishop said that her direction is to work with the administration. She said that she believes that by being honest and coordinating more meetings with the administration that both bodies can benefit by strengthening the student union.

Bishop and her staff have made some headway by accomplishing effective communication with administrators.

According to Bishop, their most encouraging meeting was with Bill Kirk, who was open and honest about talk-
Wax Hands

A few days ago, I saw a poster for Antostal, and, amidst all of the exciting planned events, I spotted the words "wax hands" for this Friday. I was immediately whisked back in time about five months.

It’s Friday, it’s finals, and our wonderful student union board is concerned with us students being too stressed out. So they give us a stress reliever break by supplying us with crayons, cookies, music, jump ropes, massages, karaoke — in short, everything that comes to mind when you think of the word "fun." And to top it all off, the event’s posters proudly announce one thing that completely sparked my curiosity and interest: wax hands.

Excited about this strange event, I convince my friend Charles to come along. "There’ll be wax hands!" I tell him. "I don’t know what that means, but SUB is bringing them in for us, it has to be wonderful. We’ll love it!" So he’s sold.

We enter Lafortune Ballroom expectantly, and our eyes are dazzled with kids having fun all around us. Once in the wax hand line, we are asked to sign a waiver, and the first caution flag goes up in our minds. How can you get hurt or killed from something fun and relaxing? Well, to walk through the line, the two carriers in charge of the event tell us to dip our hands in the cooler full of ice. OK, so we do. And our hands go numb, then really cold. Then I start hopping around, waiting for the man to tell me that I can take my hands out of the ice. I want to cry, Charles is mad at me for coercing him into this horror, and I wonder why I am doing this. How badly do I want a wax replica of my hand? Why was everyone else going along with this?

Then, finally, we are allowed to take our hands out of the ice. To immediately have to dip them in a pot of hot wax. We are instructed to dip it in for three seconds, then out for three, for about five minutes. Hot wax.

My hands are numb from the ice, but after a while the numbness starts to wear off, and I accidentally dip too far in for a couple times, past the numb area, burning my wrist. Once the wax is dry, one of the carriers wipes off his credit card, cuts around the base of our hands, and yanks on this wax structure until our hands are finally free.

And then I look at that strange wax hand, and think about when I was little, and I would stick my tongue up to make my lips jolly, only to offer to step on my foot to help me forget about the first pain. While, I was killing off my nerve endings and immediately burning my hand in searching wax I can tell you I was not thinking at all about any papers or finals. I was just relieving my stress. Thanks, better yet, for giving me and all my friends the opportunity to relive this Friday for Antostal. Whoo-hoo!

Contact Kyle Carter at kcarterr6@uofm.edu.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Wax Hands

This Week on Campus

Thursday

• Lecture: 5 p.m. "Surprise Twists in a Career Path." O’Shaughnessy, room 242

Friday

• Opera: 7:30 p.m. "The Magic Flute," Washington Hall

Saturday

• Antostal: 3 p.m., Tie-Dye Fun with snowcones and music. Fieldhouse Mall

Sunday

• Concert: 3 p.m., Notre Dame Brass Ensemble

Beyond Campus

Connecticut law requires students to get vaccine

STORRS, Conn.

Thousands of college students across the state of Connecticut are rolling up their sleeves to take a needed in the arm. A state law now requires all college students, who live in universities housing to get the preventative vaccine for Meningococcal disease.

Meningitis is a bacterial infection that is potentially deadly.

Sheila Burke, the assistant director of Health Services at Quinnipiac University, said that most students are responding to having to get the vaccine in a positive manner — as something they just have to do.

"It is so now we haven’t dealt with it before," Sheila Wheeler, the Health Services Director at Sacred Heart University said.

She also said that so far the students have not been affected because the law begins to take effect this fall.

The state law requires that students who attend colleges or universities in the state, public or private and live in housing must receive the vaccine.

The law also requires that universities and colleges provide information to students and prospective students about meningitis.

University of Minnesota

Student newspaper files complaint

The Minnesota Daily filed a complaint Tuesday with the Minneapolis Police Department’s Internal Affairs Division. The complaint claimed officers infringed on Daily journalists’ First Amendment rights during the April 7 riot following the Gophers NCAA hockey championship game against the Badgers.

The complaint stated that Daily journalists were prevented from filming the riot, when police officers repeatedly assaulted them with a riot stick.

Meanwhile, freshman Ron Hackel explained the motive behind the rally.

"There have been lots of demonstration here recently about occupation and aggression — Israeli aggression — the occupation of Palestine and all this stuff.

"We’re trying to point out that kind of language can be really misleading — language of occupation and aggression. "Hackel added holding opposing protests, as Israeli and Palestinian groups did on campus last week, is pointless. "The Israeli protesters yell and shout, and then the Palestinian protesters yell and shout. They all argue with each other, and it doesn’t us get anywhere," he said.

New York University

Protest mocks Mideast tension

NEW YORK

Three New York University students gathered on Union Square in New York last night to protest the American and Canadian occupation of Canada — each other. The students stood within three feet of each other, held small signs of protest and shouted at each other, attracting attention and a crowd of about 10 friends and passersby. "We’re in a rally to end the Canadian occupation of the United States. Meanwhile, he’s in a rally to end the American occupation of Canada," freshman Jesse Unenholz said.

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"We’re trying to point out that kind of language can be really misleading — language of occupation and aggression. "Hackel added holding opposing protests, as Israeli and Palestinian groups did on campus last week, is pointless. "The Israeli protesters yell and shout, and then the Palestinian protesters yell and shout. They all argue with each other, and it doesn’t us get anywhere," he said.

Local Weather

5 Day South Bend Forecast

The AccuWeather forecast for downtown Chicago, April 25.

National Weather

The AccuWeather forecast for noon, Thursday, April 25.
ROTTC hosts review, Pax Christi protests

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

Shortly after ROTTC’s annual Presidential Pass in Review occurred Monday night in Loftus, about 30 students organized by Pax Christi gathered to protest ROTTC.

“We are furiously concerned that the Catholic school of Notre Dame is not training future officers in the rich tradition necessary to make good and informed decisions about war,” said Pax Christi leader senior Tom Feeney after the rally.

Pax Christi-Notre Dame, “a group of students dedicated to prayer and political action for the peace of Christ,” was concerned about the moral awareness of the Notre Dame ROTTC program. Feeney said. He added that the University should work more with ROTTC participants in “form their consciences,” which he said included approaching the use of warfare with a Catholic or Christian perspective.

This year’s protest stemmed largely from a speech Pax Christi wrote for University President Father Edward Malloy to present at the ROTTC ceremony, where he is always recognized by Notre Dame students of the armed forces.

Malloy’s office redirected the group to Father Richard Warner, director of Campus Ministry and ROTTC chaplain, and they met Monday morning. Feeney said Warner listened to the group’s concern, but Malloy did not read the pre-written speech, which highlights the Christian just-war theory and Catholic Social Teaching as ways to deal with military conflict.

During the Monday night protest, Feeney read the entire speech. It also appears on page 15 of today’s Observer. Feeney said Pax Christi had three specific goals it hoped to attain from the protest: spark dialogue “in the context of friendship” on the issue, raise institutional questions and press for the administration to make reforms in ROTTC curriculum.

Many at the Pass in Review were aware of the protest that followed the ceremony, but they stressed the significance of the event in all ROTTC programs.

“For ROTTC members, it’s their key military event of the year,” said Col. Mark Gehri of Air Force ROTTC.

“I thought they [Pax Christi] made strides of improvement in communicating their respect for those involved in ROTTC,” Andrew DelBerry Air Force ROTTC cadet.

“I thought they made strides of improvement in communicating their respect for those involved in ROTTC. I think they bring up some good issues for the University to address, such as not having a clear class available on Catholic approaches to war,” said DelBerry.

Contact Helena Payne at payne.300@nd.edu.

Attention Seniors!!!

Final Class Mass

This Sunday April 28th

7 p.m.

The Grotto

Father Bill Lies

Refreshments to follow

Come celebrate with the Class of 2002

What you’ve missed:
NASCAR Simulation
Free Laundry
Chik-Fil-A Breakfast
“The Goonies”
Herps Alive Reptile Show
(Too bad, eh?)

IY

TODAY!
Thursday, April 25, 3pm-6pm
Tie-Dying. Snow Cones, and Music
Fieldhouse Mall (LaFortune Ballroom)

(Tomorrow!) Friday, April 26, 12pm-6:30pm
Inflatables, Wax-Hands, Live Music from “OK Go”
North Quad (Stepan Center)
Panel discusses Mideast

By JESSICA DALSGING

A panel discussion dealing with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict entitled "Making Sense of a Crisis: What is Happening in the Middle East?" was hosted by the College of Arts and Letters Wednesday night in Walsh Hall.

At the crisis between the Israeli and Palestinian people escalates, the world struggles to understand the violence.

"Along with our privileged state at Notre Dame comes certain responsibilities one of which is to address political and social justice issues," said Professor John Duffy, who served as moderator for the evening.


As Americans, the majority of information regarding the situation comes from the mass media that deals mainly with the after-effects of the conflict rather than giving explanations of the cultural, political and religious roots leading to such conflict, panel members said.

Mixing history with current facts and personal opinion, each panel member spoke for about ten minutes.

Smith, who lived with a Palestinian family for a summer, offered a personal perspective on the crisis. She was struck by the great disparities of wealth in the Gaza City between the Israeli settlement and the Palestinian town. She also said that the Palestinians have a mentality of "defeatism or having nothing to lose."

Leiber, a Government professor, focused on policy implications of the crisis. He believed that the current military operation by Israel was, in the short-term, quite effective in its goal of stopping terrorist bombings. But as long-term solution, Leiber said "a purely military solution will not work."

Though he concedes the United States has a far more sympathetic policy toward Israel, he said he sees the "real tragedy as the Palestinian story."

As an American student, Lusvardi focused on the American media perspective.

Lusvardi said that the American media is biased toward Israel and he challenged the audience to strive to see the full picture by consulting British sources and being critical readers.

Much like the American media, Lusvardi sees the United States foreign policy as bias.

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John Duffy

panel discussion moderator

Contact Jessica Dalsging at jdalsging@nd.edu.

Married poet duo to perform at SMC

By SARAH NESTOR

Joel Peckham Jr. and Susan Atefat Peckham are writers, poets and teachers. They are also married to each other.

In celebration of "National Poetry Week," the Department of English is sponsoring the husband and wife poets' joint reading of their work tonight in Stapleton Lounge at 7 p.m.

The couple currently lives in Michigan with their two young children. Both are professors at Hope College and share duties in a partnership so that both have time with the children, each other and their work.

"We call it literally five, five hours. I work from eight to one and Susan works from one to six," Peckham said. "We have five hours to get everything done, which has actually made me a more disciplined writer, splitting [time] between my scholarship and creative writing. I turn out a lot more work than most of my writer friends who aren't married and have children."

Peckham's first book, "Nightwalking," was published in 2001 by Pecan Grove Press and was his first poetry collection. Peckham also writes scholarly reviews, articles and is a scholar of American literature.

"You don't write poetry to make money. It's something you do because you can't stop," Peckham said.

Susan Atefat Peckham's first book "That Kind of Sleep," is this year's winner of the National Poetry Series and is published by Coffee House Press. In addition to writing, Atefat Peckham is also a musician and painter. As an undergraduate, she earned a pre-med degree from Baylor University, but instead of continuing on to medical school, she stayed at Baylor and received her M.A. in English, where she and her husband met at a Byron seminar.

"I don't think I knew I was going to be a writer," Atefat Peckham said. "It's something you just fall into, you do it because you need to."

Atefat Peckham explained that she is a "multi-task person" and so she thinks about and writes her poems in her mind during the school year and then writes books during the summer.

"I teach to support my habits, but the ideal job is to teach writing," Atefat Peckham said. "I can't believe I get paid to teach people what I love. I feel very lucky to have an academic job, I love my students and they are fascinating."

Peckham and Atefat Peckham will also be speaking at a poetry workshop in Haggar Parlor from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Friday afternoon.

Contact Sarah Nestor at nest9877@saintmarys.edu.

Indian Association & SUB Present...

"Bhangra Bash 2002"

Swing..Shake ..'n' Jive .. Come keep the Rhythm Alive TODAY!!!

Venue: Alumni Senior Club

Time: 9:00 PM to 2:00 AM
IRA denies Colombian terrorist ties: The Irish Republican Army has not trained rebels in Colombia, the group insisted Wednesday as a U.S. congressional report accused it of spreading terror in the South American nation. "The IRA has not interfered in the internal affairs of Colombia and will not do so," the IRA said in a statement.

Mystery virus spreads in Greece: Seven new cases of a mystery virus suspected of causing a potentially fatal heart inflammation were reported Wednesday. So far three people, all adults, have died from the infection. Doctors urged Greeks to remain calm as the total reported cases of the ailment reached 39 since officials began counting on April 18.

Colorado fires displace thousands: A 1,400-acre wildfire jumped from treedtop to treetop Wednesday as gusting winds pushed it past containment lines and authorities evacuated this mountain town. About 1,000 homes and a dozen businesses were threatened, but none had been burned. Crews stood ready to defend downtown buildings as about 200 firefighters battled the fire, assisted by aircraft dropping slurry. At least four streets were closed and a stretch of Highway 285 was shut down. Sheriff's deputies were gearing up for more evacuations.

Committee passes discrimination ban: Tommy Herald when he asked for support against homosexuals is headed back to the Senate floor, its prospects seemingly improved this year by aircraft dropping slurry. At least four streets were closed and a stretch of Highway 285 was shut down. Sheriff's deputies were gearing up for more evacuations.

Scott County jail escapee still missing: A Scott County jail inmate remained at large Wednesday following a weekend escape while helping with a campaign dinner for Tommy Herald when he asked for permission to go to the restroom and never returned. Detective Lymon Gobin said. Campbell was being held on charges of fleeing police and public intoxication.

YUGOSLAVIA

General surrenders to tribunal

Associated Press

BELGRADE Yugoslavia delivered indictments for 18 war crimes suspects to a Belgrade court Wednesday, and the country's former army commander said he would surrender to the U.N. tribunal the next day. The 18 suspects include the most-wanted fugitives — former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his wartime commander Gen. Ratko Mladic — court officials said.

The rest are either Yugoslav citizens or Bosnian Serbs who have been hiding in Serbia, Yugoslavia's larger republic. All have refused to turn themselves in voluntarily despite government pleas. Besides those indicted, six suspects have promised to turn themselves in to the court, including former army commander Gen. Dragoljub Ojdanic. He said he would surrender to the U.N. tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, on Thursday.

Delivery of the U.N. war crimes tribunal indictments to the Belgrade court is the first step in a process Yugoslavia hopes will end in the arrest and transfer of war crimes suspects to the U.N. court. The court, as a next step, must issue warrants and order police to arrest the suspects. But it could be weeks or months before any extraditions take place, even if police make arrests.

Ojdanic, who led government forces against ethnic Albanians and NATO during the 1998-99 war over Yugoslavia's Kosovo province, said he would leave for The Hague aboard a commercial Yugoslav Airlines flight. "I have nothing to fear, nothing to be ashamed of — my conscience is absolutely clear," Ojdanic told reporters at his Belgrade home. "With this modest act, I want to give my own contribution to ending my country's pariah status in the international community."

Ojdanic said it was his task "to prove his own innocence and defend the honor of the Yugoslav soldiers" before the U.N. court.

Ojdanic said he had decided to surrender after parliament adopted a new law allowing extraditions. He claimed the army had "behaved honorably" in Kosovo and dismissed allegations the military committed war crimes.

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NIGERIA

Oil hostage negotiations resume

Associated Press

LAGOS U.S. oil companies and Nigerian authorities pressed negotiations Wednesday for the release of dozens of Nigerian and international workers held hostage on an oil rig off southern Nigeria.

Noble Drilling, the Sugar Land, Texas-based contractor that operates the rig, said in a statement it was "optimistic that the situation will be resolved amicably."

Most of the original group of foreigners taken hostage were Americans, but Francisco-based ChevronTexaco workers. Nearly 20 men from the village of Igbe stormed the rig on Sunday, setting fire to the police, and blocking off the helicopter landing deck, oil company officials said.

The rig is five miles from Escravos, the site of a major oil export terminal. Talks Tuesday led to the release of 45 hostages. The identities and nationalities of the remaining 43 captives were not disclosed.

A ChevronTexaco spokesman in Lagos said the 85 original captives were "mainly Nigerians and Americans" and included "a few others" from Canada, Britain and Thailand.

Most of the workers were employed by Noble Drilling, but two ChevronTexaco workers were also being held, ChevronTexaco said.

A new round of negotiations Wednesday involving ChevronTexaco, Noble Drilling, government officials and local community leaders was under way, the ChevronTexaco spokesman said. The company would not say where.

"We are optimistic that we can put this crisis behind us very soon," the spokesman said.
CAMPUS MINISTRY

Contemplations

What are you living for?

By Fr. Bill Wack, c.s.c.
Director, Freshman Retreat Program

Now that seems like a strange title for a column by someone in Campus Ministry! First of all, I'm not implying that I think you should be dead or anything like that. I am simply asking you to think about your life's goal. What is it that you hope for, now and after your death? While these questions are not usually a part of our everyday conversations, I believe they should be asked again and again.

This quest is nothing new. Ever since humans have been around we have been trying to uncover the meaning of life. Even a cursory glance through the Scriptures shows this (for example, see Job, the Psalms, Ecclesiastes, or the prophets, not to mention Jesus' teachings in the Gospels). It is really very human to ask the ultimate question: "What is the meaning of (my) life?"

Many will tell us that this question is un-answerable. Life is a mystery, after all. There is no way we can understand it, or know why we are here for that matter. Others think that they know the answer and they are happy to tell you: The goal of (your) life is to do as well as you can for others. This is certainly possible, but I believe it to be an incomplete answer. So many of us are not very concerned with others, even as we play that role in our lives.

While some of these may, indeed, happen to you (and certainly are not inherently bad), these should be regarded as blessings from God and not goals in themselves. Even though many voices in our culture and society seem to be telling us to watch out only for ourselves, Jesus came to teach us another way. How might he answer these questions?

Why are we here?

We are God's beloved children, created in the image and likeness of God. We were created in love in order to love and serve God and our neighbor in this life, so that we can be eternally happy in the next.

What am I living for?

Simply put: to get to Heaven and to help others get there, too. This is the goal and endpoint of all human life. In his very oft-quoted saying, St. Augustine states this beautifully: "Our hearts are restless, O God, until at last they rest in You." There is no other reason for living. Jesus poses the terrifying question, "What does it profit a person to gain the whole world and lose his[her] soul in the process?" (Mt 16:26). Everything we see and have here on earth will vanish one day, but the souls of the just rest forever in God.

This may seem to be a curious topic about which to write for the last Considerations Column for this year. But it's something I have been thinking about for some time now, and I believe it is a topic which absolutely deserves our attention. It would appear as though we have forgotten why we are here, judging from the many evils we see perpetrated in the world and in ourselves. Without remembering why we were put here or where we hope to go when we die, we become selfish and prideful.

To counter this sinful attitude, we would do well to remember constantly that we live in order to get to Heaven with God.

"We would do well to remember constantly that we live in order to get to Heaven with God."

In this Easter season we celebrate God's greatest gift to humankind, salvation in Jesus Christ. Now that Jesus has been raised up to Heaven, we pray that we will soon follow. But we won't get there if we focus only on ourselves. We won't get there if we disregard our neighbor in need. And we won't get there simply by asserting that we are a disciple of Christ. Rather, "Only those who do the will of my Father shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven" (Mt 7:21).

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God ... and all these things will be added unto you" (Mt 6:33). Now THAT'S something to live for!
Students!

Congratulations to the 2002 graduates with a special ad in the graduation edition of The Observer! Reserve your space by April 30th! Call 631-6900

Life continued from page 1

facing similar pressures that she once faced as a student. "I think we’re helping to enhance the culture at Notre Dame for women in a way that’s more conducive to our lifestyle and to our ways of thinking," said Johnson.

Frequently referring to the Bible, Johnson cited the lessons and stories of some of its women as a source of reflection and strength in improving personal will.

Johnson pointed to the creation story in the Bible in relating Eve’s self-doubt to the struggles of many other women in identifying healthy self-images. "Our power rests in that we’re not afraid to share our story," said Johnson of the women gathered around to hear her message. "Whenever I share my story, someone is healed — and that has to do with God," she said.

In defining what it means to be uncommon, Johnson cited society’s paradigms that confine women to fit into unrealistic standards and roles. "Living a life uncommon has everything to do with self-esteem," said Johnson. "It has everything to do with your belief in God — it’s a faith issue," she said.

In the Garden of Eden, Johnson likened Eve’s temptation to outside, worldly distractions that can often influence a person in assessing their own self-worth.

Even though Eve had everything, she still felt she wasn’t enough, said Johnson. By going outside of herself to achieve more was the path she and countless other women choose from societal pressures she said. Accepting yourself as you truly are is important in reaching inner spiritual peace said Johnson.

"When you believe in Christ, you believe without a shadow of a doubt that we were created in the likeness of God," said Johnson. It begins from within by controlling inner perceptions about the self, said Johnson. Through this reflection, women gain strength in knowing that it begins from within she said. "To live a life uncommon means that you find for yourself your sacred space," said Johnson.

"There’s nothing that you need that you don’t already have," said Johnson.

Contact Kiffin Turner at kutner@nd.edu.

Senate continued from page 1

that in-hall dances should be reinstated, while the second resolution resolves that in-hall dances be allowed to continue for a probationary period of one year after which they will be assessed in light of the ban on hard alcohol and increased student pressure.

"If we do concede the hard alcohol aspect, there’s no why not give us this probationary period?" said Connolly.

On the March 25 meeting, Father John Herman, O’Neill Hall rector, suggested that the in-hall dances be put on a probationary period of a year and to observe how students react and dance operate under the new guidelines. He cited that after the O’Neill Mardi Gras was put on probation, residents realized the risk of losing their signature event.

"No one knew that they were in danger of dances being taken away across the board," said Connolly. The resolution includes a clause stating, "many students were unaware of the gravity and frequency of problems arising from in-hall dances and the concern of administrators."

Connolly said that the student realization of hosting in-hall dances and the new restrictions under the alcohol policy would diminish the problems that contributed to the decision to eliminate in-hall dances.

In other Senate news:

◆ The three possible topics for the Fall report to the Board of Trustees include the following: student participation in University policy making, procedures of the Office of Residence Life and Housing, and a plan for the Office of Drug and Alcohol Education.

◆ After meeting with administrators this week, Libby Bishop, student body president, said that the new policy regarding tailgating will not be in effect this weekend for the Blue-Gold game.

◆ Matt Kinsella, sophomore class treasurer, was approved as the class treasurer to serve on the Financial Management Board.

Contact Meghanne Downes at downes4@nd.edu.

Speech continued from page 1

ing about du Lac revisions in a active way.

As a result, there will be increased student input in the drafting of the du Lac revisions. Her early April meeting with Father Mark Poorman was not as successful because the vice president for Residence Life remained firm in his stance that a definitive direction is already set with regard to the alcohol policy.

Contact Meghanne Downes at downes4@nd.edu.
Studying abroad is hard, but worth it

So far this semester, all my columns have related to me being in Ireland but in connection with the events more relevant to the bulk of Notre Dame students. In this final column, however, I want to write entirely about the abroad experience itself.

This is still pretty relevant — Notre Dame sends 900 kids per year abroad, which means that almost half the school goes at some point. This column is primarily for the 900 people going next year and secondarily for the 2000 freshmen considering applying.

Going abroad is actually not the best thing I’ve ever done and it hasn’t been the best semester of my life. The first month I was here, I seriously questioned my sanity for applying. I am very prone to homesickness, and I was intensely homesick for both Notre Dame and home for the first month. I was counting the days, I was thinking (only briefly) of giving the whole thing up and going home, and I was homesick and lonely for quite a while.

Going abroad is a lot like being a freshman at Notre Dame — you don’t know what’s going on and you want to go home. What’s worse, everyone else seems to be having the time of their lives. But, like freshman year, it only seems like everyone else is perfectly fine. Almost everyone is scared and lonely sometimes during freshman year, and almost everyone is lonely and homesick sometimes while they are abroad.

Going abroad is frustrating. If you don’t know the language, there will be days when you don’t understand anything anyone says. You may know the language and still have days where you can’t figure out what is going on. Little things like no paper towels in bathrooms will drive you nuts. The accent will get on your nerves. You’ll wonder if it’s always going to be like this. You’ll get really, really lost. Some nights all you want to do is curl up and cry for your mom.

But it is honestly worth it. You’ll learn so incredibly much abroad, and at least 98 percent of it will be outside the classroom. You’ll learn to cook, to make international phone calls and travel plans and to use your way through an assignment in a foreign country. You will (eventually) learn the bus system, the train system and the educational system. You’ll learn about budgeting and independence. You’ll learn about yourself.

In those early days when I was really unhappy, I was pretty well convinced that I was that person. But it got better and I haven’t hated it here, and trust me, if anyone going to it, would have been me.

I’m saying all this to reassure everyone going abroad that, even though it won’t always be easy, it will be worth it. I think the best way to go to anything is with a realistic sense of what it will be. It’s probably going to be hard at first. So cut this out, bring it with you and read it those first few weeks when it’s difficult. Then, when it all gets good (and it will), throw it out and have a brilliant time.

Marlayna Soenneker is a junior psychology major studying in Dublin this semester. She would like to thank all the people in Dublin who have made her abroad experience grand, especially Annie, Katie, Jenn, Erin and Anne. She can be contacted at marlaynam@email.nd.edu, and her column will be returning to its regularly scheduled country next semester.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Military protection of rights is a myth

Congratulations to the ROTC cadets who participated in the Presidential Pass ceremonies and graduate to officer class in the U.S. armed forces. Like Gennie Quinlan in her April 23 letter, I applaud their dedication, hard work and service to our country. I do not applaud, however, the institution for which they are going to work.

In particular, I reject the powerful myth that the armed forces are in the business of protecting the right to free speech and protest. In reality, those rights come under assault during every large-scale military operation. Today many academics are under attack for their public opposition to the war in Afghanistan. Dr. Lynne Cheney, the wife of the man who is second in line to command of the armed forces, is leading the campaign to compile a blacklist of intellectuals who have exercised their free speech in protest of the war. So far, no one in the military has articulated a plan to protect us from Cheney. But I do appreciate and respect what war memorials, such as the cemetery at West Point where I have visited, really stand for. There I felt the powerful presence of so many souls given for others. Most of all I felt sadness for the immense loss of life represented there, nearly all of which since 1945 has been unnecessary. This is bound to continue after the Presidential Pass, and I will not applaud its perpetuation.

Michael Flannery

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“An inexhaustible good nature is one of the most precious gifts of heaven, spreading itself like oil over the troubled sea of thought, and keeping the mind smooth and equable in the roughest weather.”

Washington Irving

Saturday, April 24, 2002

TODAY’S STAFF

ND Today/OBSERVER POLL QUESTION

Is the United States being sufficiently proactive in the Middle East?

Vote at NDToday.com by today at 5 p.m.

The Observer

Thursday, April 25, 2002

page 8
There is danger of a new Notre Dame mystique

The Sunday South Bend Tribune reported that there have been seven allegations of rape against Notre Dame football players since 1998. Kathy Redmond, the director of the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes, comments, "I receive more calls from students regarding Notre Dame than any other school in the country. I feel like I am always dealing with Notre Dame in one way or another."

Female students regularly report to me that the football team has a "reputation" for having a disproportionate number of players who are sexually violent. David Haugh of the South Bend Tribune did the calculation on the allegations. It's one out of every 12.4 football players recruited, "an average of nearly one accused rapist per hundred," if the national average of 87 percent of rapes going unreported also applies to Notre Dame, then the situation is even worse.

Some of the fallout from the most recent cases has been evident in a letter to The Observer. One student writes that she believes the woman. Others write to challenge her for being too quick to judge.

Here, it might be helpful to distinguish between legal guilt and whether the charged actually committed the crime. During the O.J. Simpson trial, for instance, one of the reasons the jury was so suspicious was that he did commit murder but would be judged not guilty because of the lack of burden of proof necessary to obtain conviction.

Those believing the woman in the most recent Notre Dame case need to be aware of the gap between the level of evidence required for such a belief and the level of evidence needed for legal conviction.

Those who wish to withhold all judgment until legal judgment is reached need to be aware of the social and legal matrix of rape that functions to make the rate of conviction far lower than the rate of incidence. To stop one's critical thinking at the question of legal conviction is to ignore a not-so-obvious nuance.

Rape is, in some respects, an even harder case than murder to convict. The state of Illinois, which is reconsidereing the death penalty because of the large number of false convictions, still allows a murder conviction based on a single eyewitness. With rape, it is still considered a matter of "he said/she said" when there is no further evidence. The testimony of the primary witness to the crime is not sufficient for conviction.

It is sometimes cautioned that the woman, out of anger or spite, might be seeking to trap the man, but one reported statistic is worth noting: Only one percent of rape charges are false reports. If this statistic bears up, then in cases where there is no mistaken identity regarding who is the rapist, the total for misreports remains at one percent. In the seven cases of alleged rape involving Notre Dame football players, the women making the charges knew the players.

The University has not been inactive in responding to the problem of sexual violence. The Student Development program for student-athletes includes a "Men Against Violence" workshop, a workshop that the University would do well to require of all students. The University also provides resources for women who have been sexually assaulted. Moreover, Notre Dame is far from alone among universities for having problems with athletes and others in their academic community being sexually violent.

Having one out of every 12.4 football players accused of rape means that 11.4 out of 12.4 have not been so accused, and this should not be forgotten. Still, seven cases, particularly with the low rate of misreports with rape generally, is far too many to set aside as isolated incidents.

If what Kathy Redmond tells us about Notre Dame being the most frequently reported school in her conversations is correct, then the "reputation" regarding its football players has moved beyond the concerns of a certain number of female students and permeated to national attention. There are dangers of this becoming Notre Dame's new mystique, something that is difficult to pin down with exact quantitative precision but has enough verifiable truth to sustain the reputation.

What specific steps to take in order to reduce the incidence of sexual violence on campus is not a straightforward proposition. The best thing for University to do is to gather the widest possible range of interested parties for conversations whose aims are at once reflective and policy-oriented. Such conversations need to be reflectice, not least because even good policy decisions will not be sufficient. It will be important also to ask what there might be in the national and in the University's culture that sustains attitudes that contribute to sexual violence.

Todd David Whitmore is an associate professor of theology and the director of the Program in Catholic Social Tradition. His column appears every Thursday. He can be contacted at whitmore.1@nd.edu.

I must say Jourdun Sorrel's April 22 letter hurt me. Although I agree with him about some students' lack of initiative and movement on important issues, you do not know the entire picture. For you to say that Student Government has done nothing to improve race relations on campus personally offends me.

For I was the Diversity Chair in that office this past year. Not only was I able to put on a successful Multicultural Fair where over 400 students, both minority and white, attended, but I also worked extensively to have a Learning to Talk about Race retreat for student leaders in Student Government and a training workshop for multicultural commissioners. In addition, I created forums and panels where at least 50 students, mostly white to your surprise, attended to finally open up dialogue about diversity, racial orientation and the like.

These events may not have turned Notre Dame into Berkeley in one year; however, it is a step. For the first times in my three years, I actually saw larger numbers of white students attending cultural and ethnic events than ever before. Even alumni from merely five years ago agreed with that observation. I agree with you that the University has a long way to go, but to claim that Student Government has done nothing for minorities is undoubtedly a false statement. Granted, diversity issues did not cure a stir like the alcohol policy, but perhaps this is because of the student media, not the effort of Student Government's or my part.

It is easy to get caught up and not realize some accomplishments. It is easy to get frustrated and think that other organizations have made in diversity, especially since it doesn't get into the front page of The Observer like other things on campus. However, in terms of diversity, I also do not know exactly what successes you believe have brought to the table, but I know you worked diligently all year toward a great goal.

Joyce De Leon
junior
former Diversity co-chair
April 22, 2002

## Student Government does help diversity

Democracy needs support

I am writing to voice my strong support for Paul Graham's April 24 article regarding the importance of democracy in the workplace and at Notre Dame.

As I have argued in my lectures over the year, one key element of the core values of the United States is the belief in democracy. However, in my courses on the history of modern United States foreign and domestic policy have witnessed the continuing challenge of achieving that important goal. As Graham points out, the struggle of workers in the United States to gain a voice and influence the development of their society is an ongoing effort.

The challenge to establish an open democracy at Notre Dame extends not only to the workers, but also to the faculty and students. Whether discussing the question of faculty governance or the rights of students to organize dances and their residence lives, the struggle of workers in the United States to gain a voice and influence the development of their society is an ongoing effort.

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Graham's challenge to the students to open their hearts and minds extends not only to the workers, but also to the faculty and students.

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Joyce De Leon
junior
former Diversity co-chair
April 22, 2002

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‘Murder by Numbers’ just a by the numbers movie

By JUDE SEYMOUR
Scene Movie Critic

From producer Sandra Bullock and director Barbet Schroeder comes "Murder By Numbers," which probably adopted its misleading title after deciding not enough time had passed to reuse the title "A Perfect Murder." Not unlike the Michael Douglas film four years ago, storytellers in Hollywood are out to prove that there are no perfect schemes to murder and that our heroes will always catch up to their suspects in the end (especially if they have to be kicked off the case to do so). Hitchcock perfected this entire storyline in one movie, "Strangers on a Train," but for those who want more of the same, this movie is not a bad way to spend two hours.

Bullock plays Cassie Mayweather, a meticulous homicide detective whose newest case not only has an unknown victim but no apparent motive or trail of clues. Cassie's burden is saddened by newcomer Sam Kennedy (played by Ben Chaplin), who is full of theoretical knowledge and promises sensitive treatment for the man who lost his sons.

Doyle is the other is a recovering alcoholic who is attempting to make amends for his愧疚. His attempts to do so fail, leading to a fender-bender on the F.D.R. highway with his wife and two young sons.

Despite these performances, "Changing Lanes" adds nothing new to the thriller/drama genre that is so popular these days, attempting to seek higher ground by intellectually engaging the audience with its focus on issues of morality. In this, it succeeds to an extent and offers a fairly entertaining two hours.

By BRIAN BIRCHER
Scene Movie Critic

Have you ever wondered if you had done one thing differently could your day, or even your life, have turned out better? This is one of the questions that "Murder by Numbers" asks. It's a by-the-numbers movie that has little conflict that will potentially produce three-dimensional characters, but the conservative approach always leads to a formidable showing and avoids the potential humiliation in being drastically different.

Contact Brian Birch at bircher.l@nd.edu.

Personal trials featured in ‘Lanes’

By BRIAN BIRCHER
Scene Movie Critic

"Changing Lanes" follows the story of Gavin and Doyle, two desperate men who have to make the other's life worse in order to get what they want: for Gavin it's the time in which he lost his sons; for Doyle it's the time in which he lost his job.

"Murder by Numbers" is less suspenseful than the ending to Hitchcock's "Strangers on a Train" or "Dial M for Murder." "Murder by Numbers" follows the status quo and order is restored to a society that virtually begs for stability — at least from their movies. In the end, "Murder by Numbers" is like the guy in the college basketball tournament pool who picks all the favorites; the strategy is dreadfully unoriginal, but the conservative approach always leads to a formidable showing and avoids the potential humiliation in being drastically different.

Contact Jude Seymour at seymour.70@nd.edu.
Mel (MR) and Paul (PC) bought their last "Two Tickets" of the semester, expecting to simply receive the "new suspense thriller "Frailty" starring Bill Paxton in his directorial debut. They received the unexpedted bonus of an opportunity to rekindle one of cinema's greatest debates: Paxton or Pullman? You be the judge.

PC: Just before the lights went down on the opening of "Frailty," I said to Mel how I had no idea what the movie was about. Not the plot, the cast, not the director. I was in the dark before the theater was. She giggled with glee, having read all about the production on one of her obscure Hollywood Web sites.

MR: You lie. The first time I heard about this movie was at the "Beecher last weekend when fellow Scene critic and Delroy Lindo-lover Tom O'Connell came up to me and asked if we wanted to "go see a wacko Bill Paxton movie." With this brief but juicy description, how can we not want to go for "Kissing Jessica Stein" based on a recommendation of the divine Ms. Anne rabbit in particular.

PC: Of "Hello Gorgeous" fame?

MR: The same. But we live in South Bend where the choices were Sandra Bullock, The Rock or Mr. Paxton. I think we made the right decision.

PC: Sure Paxton had that great vomit scene in "Apollo 13," but that doesn't mean he should be starring in and directing his own full-length feature. Apparently, the producers didn't seem to mind. In "Frailty," Paxton plays Papa Meiks, the father in Matthew McConaughey's flashback of his twisted Thurman, Texas childhood. It's "The Apostle" with all suspense thriller and "Apollo 13" twists and turns along the way. While I predicted a few, there were definitely still some surprises I didn't see coming.

The plot walks a fine line between gruesome tension and horror film nonsense and all because of Paxton's vague persona. There's a chipperness about him that never completely disappears, so that even at his angriest of moments Paxton never really flares his nostrils or instills the fear that maybe he should. This self-consciousness strikes me more as his normal acting style than as an achievement he made in this particular film, but it did serve to obscure, if not conceal, the development of the plot. There's just something about his performance, though, something missing...

MR: Go ahead.

PC: Go ahead, what?

MR: I know what you're thinking.

PC: What?

MR: That Ray Liotta would have done a much better job in the role.

PC: Well if you're twisting my arm, Liotta does have the old "Ray-Liotta look-in-his-eye." But movie audiences know they have to take the lukewarm performances with the scintillating ones.

MR: While it's true Paxton bears that stigma of goofiness or, perhaps, bad acting, I think it works for him in "Frailty" because you have to figure out whether his character is completely nuts or fulfilling his mission from God. Some people probably thought the Blues Brothers were crazy too. As for the rest of the cast, the young boys playing the Meiks brothers in the flashback both perform well in their reactions to the horror surrounding them. Matt O'Leary, who gets the special "Introducing Matt O'Leary" honor in the opening credits, especially stands out as older brother Fenton, the skeptic who sees his father as a deranged killer rather than righteous hero.

PC: And let's not forget actor Powers Booth, the poor man's Tammy Lee Jones, as the FBI agent to whom McConaughey relates the story. McConaughey himself departs from his more typical role as the heartthrob, adding a veil of darkness and uncertainty from the first scene in which he appears in Booth's Dallas office. It's a solid demonstration of his range, though he does have the luxury of amplifying his natural Texan accent in order to create ambiguity about his character's character. Not that it gives me any more insight into the ultimate aspiration for this film. When the lights came on at the end, I was still in the dark.

MR: Sure, the movie's not going to change your life, but it manages to raise some interesting questions while it entertains. While Daddy Meiks appears off his rocker from the get-go, one still wonders about the moral implications of becoming a killer in order to be a savior. You know, like Buffy.

PC: Buffy who?

MR: The Vampire Slayer.

PC: Abh, and here I thought we were going to finish our final column without you ever espousing the virtue of that [expletive] show. No such luck. "Frailty" creates a realistic framework in which to probe such questions because it relies only on human tension and action to make its effect rather than straying too far into a supernatural world of magical realism. How much it actually contributes to such a debate is questionable, not to mention that I'm not sure what the film's title is supposed to mean.

MR: I can't comment on your first observation without giving away the ending and as for the title, I think it has something to do with the weakness of the human mind, how well it can handle such disturbing messages before going off the deep end. All I know is: "Frailty," thy name is Paxton.

PC: Pullman.

MR: Paxton.

PC: Lotta.

Though their final review includes shout-outs that are irrelevant to 99 percent of the Notre Dame community, Mel and Paul would nonetheless like to thank their readers. Though their original headshot photo developed quite a cult following, they assure you it will never be seen again. Plus, it's really small potatoes compared to that Gocke-Driver yearbook candid. They can be contacted at mrauch@nd.edu and pcomarati@nd.edu. Until then, let go and let weather.
Academics

percent and with that increase in expenditure comes an increased need for revenue. So in order to sustain, many revenue, colleges may start taking shortcuts — including cutting academic rigor on the right.
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Griffey feels Bonds' pain

Associated Press

CINCINNATI
Ken Griffey Jr. winces when he sees Barry Bonds hobble across home plate or slide over in the outfield to compensate for his sore hamstring.

Bonds and the Giants are due in town for a three-game series this weekend. While he rehabilitates his knee, Griffey has paid enough attention to baseball to know what Bonds is going through.

"It's hard to take certain players out of a lineup," Griffey said Wednesday. "It's hard for certain guys to be out of a lineup. I fit in both categories. I can't watch baseball when I'm not playing." Griffey showed up at Cinergy Field to take batting practice Wednesday, keeping his swing in sync while he recovers from a torn patella tendon in his right knee. Griffey injured it during a rundown on April 7 and went on the disabled list.

He's doing several hours of therapy each day to strengthen muscles around the knee. Many of the exercises are the same ones he did last season while he recovered from a torn left hamstring that limited him to 92 starts.

Griffey can empathize. He's had the same thing happen to Bonds after being hit by a hockey puck sued the Chicago Blackhawks, the NFL, and the United Center on Wednesday.

The lawsuit filed on behalf of season-ticket holders Elizabeth and Steven Hahn of LaGrange Park alleges known for years that flying pucks were dangerous but did not increase safety measures.

"They consciously and recklessly disregarded the fact that this was happening," attorney Tim Whiting said.

Officials from the Blackhawks did not immediately return phone calls seeking comment. The NHL declined to comment Thursday.

Last month, a 13-year-old fan attending an NHL game in Columbus, Ohio, was killed after a deflected shot struck her. It was the first such fatality in league history.

Elizabeth Hahn was hit by the frozen puck while picking up a napkin Jan. 6 at a game between the Blackhawks and the Pittsburgh Penguins. She was taken to Rush Presbyterian Medical Center, where she was diagnosed with a blood clot on her brain and a severed right ear lobe, according to the lawsuit.

Whiting said he believes the defendants "wantonly and willfully" disregarded the safety of spectators and should be exempt from a state law granting hockey stadiums immunity from injury liabilities.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported Wednesday that the lawsuit cites a study by two emergency-room doctors showing that during 127 NHL games at the United Center in Washington, 122 fans suffered puck injuries.

Elizabeth Hahn, who was not present at the news conference, is recovering and "doing better," Whiting said. She has returned to work but suffers from headaches, has a hard time with her hearing and difficulty maintaining her balance, he added.

Steven Hahn is named as a plaintiff because he suffered from his wife's injuries by losing her companionship for a time and becoming liable for her medical expenses, according to the lawsuit.

The couple is seeking an undisclosed amount of compensatory and punitive damages.

Are you in need of a study day?

SGA needs your input!

Reply to e-mail titled "Study Day" issued by SAC

Fill out the survey available in the Dining Hall Wednesday, April 24 or Thursday, April 25 at the SMC Tostal.
NCAA debates athlete status

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS

The future of the NCAA is up for debate this week in Indianapolis.

On Thursday, the Board of Directors will discuss a series of proposals that could redefine the term "amateur" athletics. Then on Friday, the executive committee will begin its search to find a replacement for retiring president Cedric Dempsey.

It's a 48-hour period that could dramatically change the governing body's business.

"We're asking the NCAA to move away from one of its founding principals," said Ohio State president Brit Kirwan, chairman of the NCAA's board of directors. "Given that fact, it's made it a really difficult issue."

At the top of the agenda is allowing "elite" student-athletes to take one-time loans of up to $20,000, based on potential earnings. Another proposal would allow high school athletes to enter a draft and go to college without losing eligibility if they do not sign a contract or with an agent.

And that's only the beginning. The executive committee will also debate a measure that permits student-athletes to compete professionally for one year, then sit out a year and enter college. The athlete would then have three years of eligibility remaining.

Other proposals would let the NCAA pay for the disability insurance of "elite" student-athletes and permit the acceptance of a few additional expenses to high schools or prep schools without losing eligibility if the money is distributed by the school.

An "elite" student-athlete is determined by where they are projected to go in the draft, although the standards are different for the five sports included — football, men's basketball, ice hockey and baseball.

The catalyst for the changes, Kirwan said, has been the increase in college athletics leaving school early for the pros and high school athletes who skip college and enter the draft.

But solutions have been difficult to find unanimously.

"The most divisive elements are those... allowing athletes who have ever been paid for playing on professional teams much more so than the loans," Kirwan said. "I think we've already accepted the idea that athletes could borrow money for disability insurance, so I don't think loans are as big an issue.

If the proposals are approved, they could change the face of college athletics as early as next season.

Still, Kirwan is uncertain what the board will do. He called the debate "intense" at times, and acknowledged that some items may not even be voted on Thursday.

The other big issue is finding a new president, who the executive committee must approve.

Tulsa president Bob Lawless has said he will not run for re-election in April, leaving the presidency vacant.

The search committee consists of Lawless, Kirwan, Longwood president John Landman of Beaver College in Pennsylvania, and chairwoman of the Division III Presidents Council, Netta Longwood.

Lawless said two or three finalists are expected to be determined in September and that those finalists would interview with the 12-member executive committee at a special meeting Oct. 10. He anticipates a final vote Oct. 11.

"I think we are looking for leadership more than we were the last time," said Lawless, who also is chairman of the executive committee. "In changing from an executive director to a CEO, we're looking more for leadership than we were the last time, and I think we got good leadership from Cedric."

Lawless expects the executive committee to approve Friday the choice of Baker-Parker, an Atlanta-based firm, to conduct the search.

Lawless said he has not yet received any applications for Dempsey's replacement. Dempsey announced in January during the Board of Directors convention that he would be retiring when his term ends Jan. 1.

There are few doubts about the outcome of the Honors Committee vote asking for a break with tradition. The Hall of Fame is announcing its inductees in June. In the past, however, where Johnson spent his entire 13-year pro career.

In his rookie season with the Lakers, Johnson seized control of Game 6 of the 1980 NBA Finals against the Philadelphia 76ers.

Starting at center for the Injured Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and playing all five positions during the game, Johnson had 42 points, 15 rebounds and seven assists, leading the Lakers to the first of five titles during the decade.

At 21, Johnson became the first rookie to be selected Finals MVP.

The Lakers also won titles in 1982, '85, '87, '88, and Johnson was the league MVP in 1987, '89 and '90. He was MVP of the All-Star game in 1990 and '92.

"Magic's contributions to the game make him one of the most deserving ever for this exceptional acknowledgment," Bird said.

Voters need 16 of 24 votes from the Honors Committee for induction.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: www.nd.edu/~sao/
The Speech That Father Malloy Did Not Give

As another academic year draws to a close, it is once again my distinct pleasure to address you, the Notre Dame students who have chosen to commit four years of your lives to the defense of your country. As I understand it, the University of Notre Dame has done its job in preparing you brave men and women assembled before me, especially the seniors.

I would like to say that you have had the opportunity to diligently and thoroughly study Catholic Social Teaching, specifically moral theology. The study of moral theology is so relevant to your service that peace and war, philosophy, and politics are among the topics covered. I would like to say that you are quite familiar with Saint Augustine and Thomas Aquinas and the Christian just-war theory. I would like to say that if after four years of Notre Dame and ROTC education you have not acquired a knowledge of the papal encyclicals that deal with modern military conflict and that you know which American military campaigns, strategies, and weapons the pope and bishops have denounced for violating either Christian charity or the principles of discrimination and proportionality.

I would like to say that you have had the opportunity to study Catholic moral thought, specifically Church teaching on war and peace. Despite the task force’s findings, I have done little to improve your formation. Let me explain my position. I am not trying to make excuses; in the spirit of honesty, I want you to know why I have failed and continue to fail you. The truth is that, unlike any other department on campus, ROTC requires the presence of an external authority. Your instructors, good men and women that they may be, are not hired or paid by the University. Though the Provost approves the faculty in the ROTC program and may oversee the curriculum, your classes are formulated by military officials and your instructors draw their salaries from the US Department of Defense.

In 1988, realizing that the University might not be doing enough to fulfill its obligation to form your consciences, I appointed a special task force to review ROTC at Notre Dame. In its final report, the task force suggested that Notre Dame ROTC students should be required to take classes in Catholic moral thought, specifically Church teaching on war and peace. Despite the task force’s findings, I have done little to improve your formation.

Let me explain my position. I am not trying to make excuses; in the spirit of honesty, I want you to know why I have failed and continue to fail you. The truth is that I would like to require you to take classes in Catholic Social Teaching and just-war theory. As future leaders in America’s armed forces, you could surely benefit from such intellectual and moral training. But US law currently forbids host universities from imposing specialized course requirements solely on ROTC students. In this matter my hands are truly tied.

Aside from the unique moral and intellectual character of its students, Notre Dame’s ROTC is programmatically identical to ROTC at state colleges and universities. Let me make this point clear; Notre Dame ROTC does not require you to receive any sort of special training that you wouldn’t receive at any of more than 200 other American colleges and universities that also host ROTC.

Many will surely ask themselves why I continue to support the ROTC programs—know that I will always support you as Notre Dame students—if their educational methods so vividly contradict the internal control of curriculum and academic freedom that the University strives to embody. I offer the following reasons, knowing full well that they do not excuse the University’s failure to reform ROTC and form your consciences.

First, I recognize that many of you are only able to attend the University because of the financial aid that ROTC offers you. In the 2000-2001 academic year alone, ROTC provided more than $73 million in scholarships to Notre Dame students. To dissolve these programs without implementing a system whereby former and potential ROTC students could receive comparable financial aid would be negligent on the University’s part. Moreover, the flat removal of ROTC would prevent many deserving and able students, especially those from working-class families, from attending Notre Dame. At least one Notre Dame alumnus has suggested that the University offer peace scholarships, whose recipients would commit to working after graduation in fields related to social justice, peace building, or peacekeeping. These post-graduation commitments could involve joining Peace Corps or other similar programs. The University could even devise a program for peace scholarship recipients who choose to join the US military upon graduation; this program, like premed or honors, would require specific courses in Catholic Social Teaching and just-war theory.

To be perfectly honest, I have not taken any steps to institute a program like the one I just described, because there is another reason the University offers ROTC programs on campus. If the University were to take steps to remove ROTC from campus, it would lose a great deal of federal funding. Let me explain. In 1995 US Representative Gerald Solomon of New York introduced an amendment to the Defense Appropriations Bill that would cut Department of Defense funding to any college or university that tried to remove ROTC or stop military recruiting on its campus. This amendment passed, and in 1997 it was expanded to include funding from the Departments of Education, Energy, Transportation, and Health and Human Services. The University currently receives more than $39 million from the US government. From 1999-2000 the Radiation Laboratory received almost $4 million in federal funding. Just last month, the Departments of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences, and Electrical Engineering received almost $850,000 in federal funding. These are only a few examples.

Many other University departments would also risk funding cuts if ROTC were eliminated.

San Jose State University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology each tried to remove ROTC from their campuses. San Jose State would have lost $18 million; MIT would have lost $336 million. Both schools reconsidered their positions. Perhaps San Jose State President Douglas Leders put it best: “I cannot in good conscience . . . jeopardize the life’s work of current professors and students whose research is financed by the affected agencies.”

These are the economic realities I face. Many would say that the Catholic institution with the largest endowment in the world, over $3 billion, has the fundraising ability to at least partially compensate for these losses. It is, after all, a matter of conscience. I reply that it is not so clear-cut as my critics would like to think.

Legally, the University is prohibited from forming you, its ROTC students, in Catholic Social Teaching and just-war theory. Financially, the University is unwilling to risk losing massive amounts of funding by dissolving ROTC. The result of these two tragic circumstances is that I and the University I represent have failed in our mission to adequately inform your consciences.

The world is an unstable place for myriad economic, social, and political reasons. For the first time since the end of the Cold War, the US faces real threats to its security. The tragedy of September 11 crystallized these threats in our minds. Now more than ever, Catholic Social Teaching and the just-war tradition must guide the decisions and actions of those Catholics who serve in the US military. I would like to say that the University of Notre Dame has done its job in preparing you brave men and women assembled before me, especially the seniors.

Unfortunately, it has not. I have failed you all. In the turbulent days ahead, may God watch over and protect you, may the peace that Christ promised and that only Christ can bring sustain you and motivate your actions, and may the Holy Spirit guide you.
WOMEN'S LACROSSE

No. 10 Irish take on 5-8 Wildcats

Special to The Observer

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team takes its shortest road trip of the season when the Irish travel to Evanston, Ill., today for a 3 p.m. game versus the Northwestern Wildcats at Lakeside Field.

The Irish, who dropped from ninth to 10th in the national rankings this week, will look to close their schedule on a strong note as they search for the program's first-ever NCAA bid. Following the Northwestern game, the Irish close out the Big East schedule at Rutgers on Sunday and then close out the regular season on May 3 at home versus Vanderbilt in a 1 p.m. game.

Notre Dame faces Northwestern for the first time on the Division I level as the Wildcats program is in its first year. The Irish come into the week with a 9-4 overall record and a 4-1 mark in Big East play. Northwestern, which had women's lacrosse from 1982-91 before disbanding the program, is 5-8 overall and 2-3 in the American Lacrosse Conference.

The Irish lost their first Big East game of the season last weekend, falling 17-8 at second-ranked Georgetown on April 20. Northwestern dropped a 13-10 decision at 15th-ranked Penn State on April 21.

Northwestern is a young team with 15 freshmen and four sophomores on the roster. The Wildcats average 7.7 goals per game while giving up 9.31 per contest. Offensively, they are led by freshman Sarah Albrecht with 25 goals and 13 assists for 38 points. Sophomore Angela McMahon is second with 21 goals and 10 assists for 31 points. In goal, freshman Ashley Gorsak has played all but 30 minutes and has a 9.52 goals against average.

The Irish will look to put the Georgetown loss behind them. After Natalie Loftus scored just 1:31 into that game, the Hoyas ran off six straight goals on the way to an 11-5 halftime lead. The lead would go to 1-5 early in the second half before the teams traded goals in the final 19 minutes. Notre Dame is ranked seventh in the nation in scoring defense, giving up 8.08 goals per game.

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Softball
continued from page 1 season.”

Defeating Nebraska 3-2 on Tuesday night gave Notre Dame the experience of defeating a nationally ranked team.

This afternoon, the Irish face the task of maintaining that high level of play against IUPUI-Fort Wayne.

“Our biggest challenge is to play at our level,” Gumpf said. “We have to not play at their level, which is something we have done this year.”

The Crusaders are 5-26 on the season and have lost five of their last six.

“Our team has already experienced a letdown and they know what it feels like,” Gumpf said.

Notre Dame’s offense has been productive in helping the Irish win 19 of their past 20 games.

Throughout those games, the offense is averaging almost 7.5 runs per contest.

“All the players have been concentrating solely on making things happen,” Gumpf said. “The last months, our hitters have been giving us support.”

Catcher Jarrah Myers leads the potent Notre Dame offense.

She currently has a team-leading 380 batting average, .300 on-base percentage, 37 runs scored, nine home runs and 32 RBIs.

Six Irish regulars have batting averages above .300.

Hartmann’s game-winning three-run homer against Nebraska gave Notre Dame its 10th different player with a home run this season, a school record.

While the Irish offense is giving the pitching staff run support, the pitchers haven’t needed it.

In the last 20 games, Steffany Stenglein, Carrie Wisen, and Jessica Sharron have allowed less than two runs per game.

During the stretch, Stenglein and Wisen combined on a no-hitter and Stenglein (17-9) pitched a perfect game.

Wisen (11-4) is scheduled to get the start today for the Irish.

The Irish could see Mastodons’ pitchers Mindy Pomeroy today. In 118 innings of work, Pomeroy has given up 78 runs, but only 39 are earned.

The Sophomore is 2-18 with a 2.97 ERA.

Scoring runs has been a big problem for the Mastodons.

In 31 games, the offense has only produced 37 runs, hit two home runs, and has a team batting average of .193.

Outfielder Christina Funk leads the Mastodons with a .299 batting average.

Shortstop Angela Grabczak has a team-high nine RBI.

This afternoon’s single game is scheduled to start at 4:00 p.m. at Ivy Field.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu.

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Bookstore continued from page 1

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We’re Hunger and the Hardcore Scorers traded baskets at the start of the game.

Neither team shot the ball well for the first 20 minutes of play.

With a 7-6 lead, however, the Hardcore Scorers finally started hitting their shots and built a 12-8 lead.

We’re Hunger improved its outside shooting late in the second half but never got closer than 17-14.

“We’re Hungover blamed its collapse against a team containing three Saint Mary’s basketball players to poor conditioning.

“Our name isn’t just a creative nickname. We’re second semester seniors and really haven’t been practicing or keeping in good shape,” Karen Goodwin said.

Notes:

- The open Bookstore tournament continues today at 8:30 p.m. at Stepan.
- There are three games scheduled at 8:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.
- The top two seeds, blackJACKS and AdWorks All-Stars play their games at 10 p.m.
- The Round of 8 in the women’s tournament continues today at 4 p.m. at Stepan.
- The men’s tournament games on Friday and Saturday are scheduled for 4:45 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Stepan.
- The championship games begin Sunday at noon with the women’s championship followed by the Hall of Fame game at 1 p.m. and the open championship at 2 p.m.

Contact Mike Connolly at connolly.28@nd.edu

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BASEBALL

Wind helps Irish blow past Falcons in 6-inning game

By BRYAN KRONK
Sports Writer

Even though the Irish won the battle, Mother Nature won the war.

In a rain-shortened game that was called in the top of the seventh inning, Notre Dame’s baseball team squeaked out a 3-2 victory over Bowling Green Wednesday night.

“I thought Ryan Kalita did a marvelous job against a really good-hitting ball club,” Irish coach Paul Mainieri said.

After the game’s start was delayed for about an hour due to rain, wind and lightning, Kalita was called in the top of the seventh inning, giving up a two-out double by the Falcons as cleanup hitter Kelly Hunt crushed a pitch that, with the help of a gusty wind, hit the top of the screen in right-center field.

But the Irish responded with two outs in the bottom of the sixth, as Billmaier hit a fly ball to right-center which, also with a lot of help from the wind, cleared the fence to give the Irish a 3-2 lead.

“Billmaier’s [home run] maybe wasn’t a legitimate home run; it probably was helped by the wind, but so was [Hunt’s], so it kind of evened out,” Mainieri said.

After a groundout by Bowling Green off Irish reliever Drew Duff to open the seventh inning, the rain and wind returned to Eck Stadium. After a strong gust of wind wreaked havoc on a throw to the infield by Stanley after a one-out double by the Falcons, the officials decided to stop play.

After about a half-hour delay, the game was officially called, giving the Irish the 3-2 victory.

With the victory, Kalita’s record is now 2-0 on the season, and the Irish improve to 29-12.

“Joe [Hunt] hit a very good hit, and I thought Kalita threw fantastic tonight,” Mainieri said.

The Irish have now won 11 straight victories - and 20 of their last 22 games - heading into a huge weekend series with Arizona State.

“We’re fired up [about this weekend’s series],” Mainieri said.

“I know the kids are excited, I know I’m excited, hopefully we’ll get some good weather and play some good baseball.”

Note: * Due to the game being called in the top of the seventh inning, by ruling only the last full inning counts. Therefore, the game officially lasted only six innings, one more than the minimum in order to have an official game. The two at bats by Bowling Green — and the appearance by Duff — in the top of the seventh inning do not appear on the official box score.

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INFORMATION SESSION

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2002, 5:00 PM

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FIND THE ANSWER TO THE PUZZLE ON THIS PAGE

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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Visit The Observer on the web at http://observer.nd.edu/
Sports Analysis

Making the grade

Notre Dame struggles to balance academic standards with athletic excellence

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh tells a story about what the president of the University of Chicago said when the university disbanded its football team.

"He said, 'you know, it would be a lot easier if all of those schools would go out and buy four horses and then we could put our colors on the horses and the horses could race against each other. Whoever won could be the champion for that year. The beauty of it is nobody expects you to educate the horses.'"

As public distrust of the academic policies of Division I revenue athletics increases and as colleges and universities have seemingly decreasing graduation rates, racing uneducated horses may seem an apt metaphor for the future of collegiate revenue athletics.

Institutions like Notre Dame that pride themselves on strong academic policies in addition to successful athletic programs seem to be becoming obsolete.

Can a university like Notre Dame survive in a world of racing horses?

As the cultural change in American sports reduced the importance of academics in collegiate athletics, institutions such as Notre Dame, which value education in athletics, find themselves more in the minority.

The Culture of Collegiate Athletics

In the 1980s, 109 universities and colleges were sanctioned by the NCAA for violations or put on probation. Over half of the 106 Division I-A institutions playing at that time were included in that number - 57 to be exact. And out of those 106 academic institutions, 19 graduated less than 30 percent of their football players.

With numbers like these, it is hard to deny there has been a change in collegiate athletics. In its 2001 report, The Knight Commission on Collegiate Athletics found "at the heart of these problems is a profound change in the American culture of sports itself." It cited a move from the amateurism celebrated in the earlier parts of the 20th century to the professionalism rampant in collegiate athletics today.

In the last seven years, the capital expenditures for big college athletic programs has increased nearly 250 percent.

Women's Bookstore Basketball

Who's Getting Lucky stuffs Deez

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Senior Staff Writer

No. 4-seeded Who's Getting Lucky Tonight ran away from Want Some of Deez? in the second half as it cruised to a 21-9 victory.

Deez could not keep up with Lucky's transition game in the second half of its Round of 16 game of the Women's Bookstore Basketball Tournament. Deez trailed 11-5 at the half but were run off the court in the second half.

"That's the one thing we talked about after our last game. We wanted to run on people. We thought we had a quickness advantage," Lucky's Alex Callan said after the game.

When Deez slowed Lucky down enough to force it into a half-court game, Lucky's precision passing and movement without the ball led to easy lay-ups. Deez stayed in a 2-3 zone to prevent Lucky's guards from driving into the lane. Lucky countered the zone by overloading one side and cutting on the weak side.

"I didn't think so many teams would run zone against us," Callan said. "I guess they are worried about our quickness but the middle still seems really open."

Despite the lopsided defeat, Deez was satisfied just to keep the game as close as it did.

"We knew they were good. We saw them earlier in interhall, I think we did pretty well," Deez's Courtney Giel said.

Lucky is usually made up of four current and one former Welsh Hall interhall football player but for it was missing one player this game. Mary Murphy missed the game to attend the funeral of her grandmother.

Lucky expects Murphy to return for the next game today. In her place, first-year law student Anna Benjamin joined Katie Rak, Callan, Vanessa Lichon and Karli Pederson to defeat Giel, Allison Esposto, Tiffney Colon, Jeanne Trelease and Jenny Burke.

The second-seeded Hardcore Strokers got a bit of a scare early from We're Hungover but pulled away in the second half to win 21-17.

Irish prepare to extend win streak

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

After Liz Hartmann's seventh-inning three-run homer put Notre Dame ahead 3-1 over No. 4 Nebraska, the Irish knew they had their opportunity for a season-defining win was at hand.

A record of 1-7 in previous games against top 25 opponents presented the Irish with numerous chances to pull a major upset. Even through losing, Notre Dame gained the experience necessary to hang on in the bottom of the seventh, at a ranked opponent's home field.

"The girls knew what to expect since it was nothing new to them," head coach Deanna Gumpf said. "They didn't think they shouldn't win that game. We have played teams better than Nebraska already this year."