Saint Mary's announces presidential tickets

Two pairs of candidates appear on ballot; third denied under BOG constitution

By ANGELA SAOUED
Saint Mary's Editor

For the second year in a row, Saint Mary's students will have multiple tickets to pick from when choosing a new student body president and vice president— but whether it should be two tickets or three has been a topic of contention.

Junior Kelly Mitrosh and sophomore Susan Melchiorf were the earliest pair to enter the election for president and vice president, respectively. Junior presidential candidate Michelle Fitzgerald and junior running mate Lauren Siegel announced their candidacies on Wednesday and were listed on the ballot as the second ticket when campaigning officially started on Wednesday.

But on Thursday, the ticket of junior Katherine Kelly and freshman Lauren McCallister approached the elections committee to see if they could still sign up to run. According to a statement released to the student body this morning by the elections committee—including Elections Commissioner Anna Bauer—members of the committee based their decision on constitutional rules.

"We unanimously voted that a ticket comprised of Katherine Kelly, a junior, and Lauren McCallister, a first-year student, will not be allowed to enter this year's election because the deadline for ticket entry has passed," members wrote. "As was stated previously, the March 1 deadline will be the only deadline for ticket entry because it is the only time students are allowed to change their presidential ticket for this year." The elections committee is currently accepting presidential tickets for the March 24 elections.

Resolution-makers flood gyms

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

It is 4 p.m. at Rolfs Sports Recreation Center, and the building is buzzing with activity. On a cold January afternoon, it seems nearly half the student body has descended upon the cardio room, filling sign-up sheets for hours in advance. "January and February are always our busiest time of the year," said Sally Derenowski, director of Athletics at RecSports. "Since nearly half of the people that come into the building head into the fitness room, it gets extremely crowded during peak hours."

Response to speech is varied

Bush's inaugural address sparks debate

By K. AARON VAN COTTENHOUT
News Writer

During his inaugural address Thursday, President Bush spoke of "an unyielding fire of freedom" that "warms those who feel its power." While some members of the Notre Dame community found his words inspiring, others were chagrined by his foreign policy rhetoric.

"I didn't think it was his best speech," said Nadia Runick, co-president of the College Democrats of Notre Dame. "It was very philosophical in a place that wasn't very appropriate. It was pretty vague.

At noon, President Bush took the oath of office and then delivered his address to a nation that has given him the lowest approval rating of any president entering his second term in the last 50 years, according to the Gallup Poll. In such an environment, his speech would be written in a way so as not to rile the opposing viewpoint, Assistant Professor of Political Science Dan Lindley said.

"It's easy to talk about standing with the oppressed, and to stand for freedom Lindley said in an e-mail to The Observer. "Who could disagree?"

David Campbell, assistant professor of political science, could not.

Students evaluate their leaders

ND government is often overlooked

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame students, as they have shown through allegiance to College Democrats or Republicans, protest and passionate letters to the editor, care about politics. When it comes to their classmates governing this campus, however, students are overwhelmingly uninformed and apathetic.

"I don't even know what student government does or doesn't do," said St. Edward's Hall resident assistant Karla Bell.

College's groups make headway

By ANGELA SAOUED
Saint Mary's Editor

With a big event like the inauguration of Carol Mooney behind them, and other big events like the All School Formal and a new election looming in front of them, many students at Saint Mary's are proud of the work accomplished by the Board of Governance and other governmental boards throughout the fall and early spring semesters. BOG has worked hard to institute new campus programs, continue favorite annual activities and make student feel welcome at all BOG-related events.

Senior Cassie Gerstner said she has attended many BOG-sponsored events and "loves all of them." She was even surprised by the turnout at the Student Senate debate, which "was really engaging." She said the debate allowed her to "put on the student's hat" and become "more invested in the things that are being said and done on campus."

Flex 10' option faces obstacles to approval

By JENNIFER BOWLING
News Writer

While Notre Dame Food Services acknowledges and appreciates students' suggestions for creating a Flex 10 meal plan option, there remain some concerns to be addressed, food service officials said.

"Food Services and the University administration are not necessarily opposed to offering a 10-meals-per-week meal plan option for resident students," said Dave Prentkowski, director of Notre Dame Food Services. "Although, there is a definite interest in protecting the traditional culture of the dining hall experience, which encourages community gathering and interaction." The Student Senate and Campus Life Council have recently discussed the merits of adding a Flex 10 meal plan option, which would allot each student 10 meals per week in the dining halls and increase Flex Points proportionately. While the senate pointed out that Food Services' current Flex 14 option already ensures that students eat only 10 meals a week, food service officials said the excess dollars are used to

'Flex 10' option faces obstacles to approval

Change could hurt quality in dining halls

By JENNIFER BOWLING
News Writer

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Students take advantage of the variety of equipment at the Rock, including stationary bikes, treadmills and elliptical machines.
Pleased to meet you

I expected college senioritis to closely resemble high school senioritis. But lately, I have noticed that while basically similar — both are characterized by a lack of energy for going to class, a want to go out and party all the time, and a desire to just finish — major differences exist that I had not expected coming into my senior year.

I had imagined that my four years at college would be similar to my four years of high school. Freshman year everyone is new, a little anxious, not sure what to expect. But by senior year, everything is just gristy.

Senior year — by far my best year of high school (partially because the legal age to enter Louisiana has been 18 there 18 years). My senior year, everyone was friendly. This is because people are so tired of meeting new people, and are completely satisfied with knowing only people they came with, and we pretend we don’t know each other. Casual acquaintances seem almost nonexistent. It is so unlike being in southern Louisiana, where the most casual of acquaintances gives you a big hug upon greeting and enthusiastically asks, “How are you? How is everything?” Here, there are people you know and people you don’t know.

If you are with a friend introductions will take place, but there is little chance of you ever talking to that person again in the absence of the friend who introduced you. Introductions are a casual courtesy but completely insincere. Though they are polite, people who you are introduced to are rarely ever truly friendly. This is because people are so content in their little groups that they have no desire to branch out and meet new people by senior year. People are tired of meeting new people, and are completely satisfied with knowing only the people in their own social groups.

I generally like meeting new people — or I used to at least, but I have lost interest, where people are nice but not friendly. And with only a few months till graduation, I have articulated yet another reason why I cannot wait to leave the shadow of the Golden Dome, a dome that looks friendly and warm, but in reality is nice and cool to the touch.

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jeannine Privat at Jeannine Privat at jeanprivat@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism in all its forms. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

INSIDE COLUMN

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION?

Samuel Monotink 
freshman

Stanford

I thought it was a good inauguration. I saw John McCain - anticipation seemed intense. Bush was every professional.

Daniele Nunez

sophomore

Corunnaugh

"It was a day of mourning — not of celebration."

Kathryn Schuessler

sophomore

Irish

"Bush said 'freedom' and 'liberty' a whole lot."

Elizabeth Roach

senior

off-campus

"Instead of raising my glass to the inauguration, I'd drink tonight to the hope for impeachment. Cheers!"

Jane Mitsch

senior

Louisiana

"Hell has frozen over and the devil is living among us."

Timo Chin

sophomore

Stiefneid

"The President deserved his day. Luckily it wasn't initiated by any protesters."

In Brief

The Welsh Family dance show will take place tonight from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Washington Hall.

BioSports will sponsor its 19th annual Late Night Olympics. The all-night fundraiser, starting Saturday at 6 p.m. and lasting until Sunday at 4 a.m., will benefit the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place tonight and Saturday. Each showing, one from 7 to 9 p.m. and one from 10 p.m. to midnight, includes student features and takes place at the Browning Family Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

The Notre Dame men’s and women’s track teams will host their home opener today from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Loftus Sports Center.

The Harlem Globetrotters will play at the Joyce Center Arena tonight from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available through the Joyce Center ticket office.

Campus Ministry group Four? will present Christian group Solid Underground with Joe Nava and Sean Dudley in concert tonight from 9 to 11 p.m. in the Coleman Morse Lounge.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information on an event to obnews@nd.edu.

Offbeat

"Furries" meet in San Jose

SAN JOSE — The city is hosting a convention this weekend of about 1,700 "furries" — people who love animals so much that they take on their identities as puppetry, costume making, writing about mythical creatures and "furry" anatomy.

Many of those attending participate in a pet chat rooms for "furries."

But just because it's weird, it's still perfectly normal to the people involved in it," said raccoon-costumed Lee Stroem, 36, of San Leandro, one of the event's founders.

Drug dealer leaves loot in show

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — A crack cocaine dealer who forgot a backpack containing $74,000 in a Winnipeg mall was arrested after he tried to reclaim the bag at the mall's lost-and-found desk.

The dealer, Shu Thomas Wong, 32, received a five-year prison sentence this week, the Winnipeg Sun reported on Wednesday. The newspaper quoted the judge in the case as saying the penalty was at the "low end of the scale," but noted Wong, who agreed to the sentence, did not have a previous criminal record.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Notre Dame faculty and students march next to Stonehenge Thursday in protest of the Iraq War. The demonstration, held on the same day as the presidential inauguration, was sponsored by the Progressive Faculty Alliance and the Progressive Student Alliance.

Daily Weather

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Competitors anticipate Late Night Olympics

By KATHERINE O'HARA
New Writer

Recreation Sports expects 1,200 students to give their Saturday night to a good cause at Late Night Olympics, an annual sporting event designed to raise money for St. Joseph County's Special Olympics.

"This is the first time we've had it on a Saturday," said assistant director of recreation sports and director of Late Night Olympics Bill Hegan.

"We thought students would be stressed out Friday night and looking for something to do on Saturday. There will be lousy weather, but it will be warm and energized in the Joyce Center.

Events start at 6 p.m. and will continue through early Sunday.

"Students like the marathon nature. They are like, 'This is nuts, I start at 6 and may not be done until 3.'" Hegan said.

"It is a real challenge physically." Students agreed the competitive nature of the event attracted them.

"This campus really likes their athletics. This is obvious if we will give up a Saturday night to go to the JMC," said sophomore Tony Cralh, who signed up to participate.

Hegan urged students who did not sign up to participate to go, observe and support their dorm and sister/brother dorm as they compete against the rest of campus.

"I couldn't do it last year, but I went and watched and had so much fun," sophomore Katy Marvin said. "Go see it. It is hysterical. People have no idea what they are doing but they get into it. So you get into it too."

While there are familiar favorites such as volleyball and 3-on-3 basketball, some events are not as standard -- such as woothball, Nerf football and inner tube water polo.

"It is amusing competition. When you think of the Olympics, you don't think of broomball," sophomore Matt Novak said.

Novak also said he plans to go and support his friends.

Last year Late Night Olympics raised $8,000 for Special Olympics. This year, they plan to raise funds through entry fees, a raffle and donations at the door, a $3 open-skee charge and penny wars.

"It is fundamentally a good cause," sophomore Emme Calland said.

Calland is registered for three events including the obstacle course, which her team won last year.

"And it is one of the only chances you get to compete in sports for one night with no commitment." Emme Calland

Students of the group were concerned about the ongoing war in Iraq, however, saying the event is "boring" and "not doing anything." Though students compete for fun, some -- like sophomore Joe O'Connell -- have other motivations.

"I want to win," he said.

Contact Katherine O'Hara at kohara@nd.edu

Group protests inauguration

By ERICA RANGEL
New Writer

As the nation marked the beginning of its leader's second term Thursday, some Saint Mary's faculty members, staff and students used the day as an opportunity to bring political issues to light.

The Saint Mary's Peace Not War group gathered Thursday afternoon at D'Allaway's Clubhouse on campus for an Anti-Bush Inauguration demonstration. The event took place at the exact time Bush was being inaugurated.

"The Peace Not War group was formed just before Christmas by SMC faculty members who were concerned about the ongoing war in Iraq," Sister Elena Maltsi said.

The group currently has 74 faculty, staff and student members.

"We are a single-issue group with many different values and beliefs feeding into it. We agree that we are against the war and that the troops should be sent home," said Professor Sue Munn, a Peace Not War member.

The demonstration lasted just over an hour as faculty members shared their thoughts, poems, stories and experiences with the group.

"I believe that instead of being inaugurated, Bush should go before the tribunals for the slaughter of thousands and thousands of innocent victims," philosophy professor Ann Clark said in her speech.

Psychology professor Joseph Miller talked about and blamed "highly informative" media such as Fox and Clear Channel, for falsifying and putting spins on stories.

Munn shared her experience of protesting on street corners with her "I wonk for Peace" sign around her neck. "Lots of people do honk, and it's a wonderful thing," she said.

Each individual present at the demonstration wore a white ribbon to symbolize those who have died in the war. They then performed the Dies Irae, which consisted of everyone simultaneously reading sheets of names of those who have died. There were over 6,000 Iraqi and American names.

"It's hard to be anti­Bush and mobilize on this campus because we are the minority," said Lyndsey Bergen, Saint Mary's College Democrats acting president. "I think it was really great to have this, especially with all the faculty members."

Contact Erica Rangel at rang4716@saintmarys.edu
Bush
continued from page 1

"Like most inaugural speeches, President Bush was very broad and general," said the language was high on the majority of the language, said Campbell. "The speech is scattered; it's going to redefine the political landscape."

The President also used religious l

Overall, however, Campbell said he had "a hard time believing that anyone who is anti-Bush in the 2004 campaign will change their minds about him because of this speech."

Teresa Ghilarducci, assistant professor of economics and policy studies, agreed. "I think it'll move anybody," she said, "and it's too bad."

Unlike Campbell, who thought the President's speech was a fizzle and a "disappointment to a small percentage of the citizenry," Ghilarducci felt the speech signaled a new, broad and general direction of President Bush. "The President's broad, non-specific oratory signaled something sinister."

"When people are vague, it usually means they are hiding something," she said. "The lack of specifics makes him harder to judge."

Ian Ronderos, co-president of the Student Recreation Center, said the speech "lacked that the current meal plan was implemented, allowing for debit payments. Thus the Flex 14 meal plan was born, accompanied by 200 flex points. As a result, that year Notre Dame's campus welcomed a renovated South Dining Hall, Reckers and Burger King. Students then regularly used all 14 Flex points a week, according to Prentkowski. The intent of the program was to complement the dining hall service menu by allowing students a limited amount of funds for the occasional meal outside the dining halls and for late night snacks," he said.

Since 1998, the dining hall patterns have changed, but students' habits have been reasonably stable for the past three to four years. With students generally consuming only 10 flex points a week, funds have been available to add value and quality to the dining program. Flex users now receive 260 Flex points. Food service hours have expanded, as well as Grab N Go, on campus. Subway, Starbucks, Sharro and Buen Provecho have opened amid the sea of exurbs.

Food services has met with a great deal of enthusiasm, according to Prentkowski. "I can't do enough to tell people how much we appreciate the support of our student customers. They also encourage students to use the computer instead of the teller and to go to the Rock rather than Rolfs, which is typically the least crowded.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at malmalone@nd.edu
U.S. troops to leave tsunami relief

WASHINGTON — George W. Bush embarked on his second term as president Thursday, telling a world anxious about war and terrorism that the United States would not shrink from new confrontations in pursuit of its objective of ending tyranny.

Four minutes before noon, Bush placed his left hand on a Bible and recited words that every president since George Washington has uttered.

Bush celebrated election at inaugural ball

Bush celebrates election at inaugural ball for second time as president.
Apathy
continued from page 1
junior Avery Mortimer — along with the vast majority of stu-
dents called.
Students were randomly chos-
en from the phone book to gain an accurate perspective of stu-
dents' view of campus gov-
ernment. Many declined to be
interviewed due to a lack of
knowledge about Student
Union Board, the Office of
the Student Body President (run by
Adam I t a m and Karla Bell) and
Student Senate. 
Even when presented with a
list of student government's
accomplishments — including Student Union Board's weekly
movies, the new DVD rental in-
itiated by Student Activities Board — many students remained apathetic.
"I have no opinion," Mortimer said, as did many others. "I don't feel affected at
all by student government." 
Of the students who respond-
ved, most agreed the DVD rental was a good idea, but some kinks remain to be
worked out.
"The new DVD rental is cool," junior David Ebner of Marysville Hall said.
"Unfortunately, (in order to rent a
DVD) you have to register ahead of
time, which I didn't know about —
luckily my friend had already regis-
tered." 
Sophomore Katie Podkowa of Ben-Phillips Hall seemed dis-
appointed with the new rental.
"Every time I have looked at the movies, they are both of the one I want," she said. "Also,
the one-day rental is kind of short. My friend was charged a
bunch of late fees." 
Student government has announced the one-night rental policy will be extended to ten
nights for the second semester. Students were more pleased with S UB's weekly movie show-
ing than the new rental policy.
"(I thought) S UB put on a lot of cool events this term, (like) the movies on the
quad and the movies in D e B a t t i o l e,"
Howard sophomore Julie Hynes said. "Old School" was especially fun to watch on the
quad.
"(I like the new) S UB movie time (at Saturday matinee at 4:30 p.m.)." Brook-
Phillips sophomore Joanna Mangeney said, "(I) think a lot more people will go." 
Ebner commented that every
S UB movie he had attended
had been less than satisfying.
"Any S UB movie I've ever been to,
the sound cuts out halfway through. It's pretty unprofessional,"
David Ebner
junior

BOG
continued from page 1
throughout the year.
"I have heard a lot of S AB events that were sponsored by BOG such as movies, tag- 
aileys and concerts." 
Cassie Gerstner senior

FRANCE

Holocaust memorial to honor 76,000 Jews

Associated Press

PARIS — With name after name after name on a white stone
wall, a new monument in Paris' Jewish quarter pays tribute to
the 76,000 Jews rounded up in Paris during the Holocaust and
sent to Nazi death camps.
France marks the 60th anniver-
sary of the liberation of the
Auschwitz death camp in Pol-
and, with memories, a monu-
ment — and a call to do more.
right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen's
remark that the Nazi occupation was "not particularly inhuman." The
"Wall of Names," shown to
students at an early moment,
was part of a renovated Holocaust mem-
orial that has been transformed from an admin center and
expanded.
A simple plaque is the monu-
ment's heart-wrenching compo-
nent piece. From the sea of 76,000 names, it is likely 2,500 people
survived, it says.
Ten experts spent 2 1/2 years gathering information from Gestapo documents and research
from French families to come up with the list.

Under columns for each year of the deportations, the engravings list the victims alphabetically and
indicate their date of birth. Among the unidentified victims are referred to simply as "a child."
The wall is meant to remind visitors of the millions of individ-
ual tragedies in the Holocaust, officials said.
"In the list of all 76,000 names, there is no one who is given a name plus a
name," director Jacques Frepid said.
The memorial also is a reminder of a dark period of
France's wartime collaboration with the Nazis.
In 1995, Chirac became the first president to acknowledge France's responsibility for
systematically persecuting Jews during the war. In one case, 13,150 Jews were rounded
in a bicycle stadium in Paris in July 1942 and sent to death camps. 
Frepid mentioned Chirac's acknowledgment — and the work of a committee to help compen-
sate Jews for assets seized during the war — as a sign that France was coming to terms with its
past. The memorial's renovation was funded partly by the govern-
ment.

BOG would make it easier for stu-
dents to give their opinions," she
said. 
Junior Laura Durazo said she
was impressed with the level of
commitment the SAB boards such as Student Diversity Board and
Student Activities Board have had in recent years.
"They were very informative [to stu-
dents]," Durazo said. "It seemed like there was something going on every week. They are
very enthusiastic, and I'm glad the boards are so open to stu-
dents.
Contact Angela Saud at
saud0303@saintmarys.edu

 JPW Lector Auditions

JPW Lector auditions will take place in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on each of the following dates:

Monday, January 24th at 5:00pm
Tuesday, January 25th at 5:00pm

Please attend one of the two auditions.

For further information, please contact Harv Humphrey at
271-7289 or by email at hhumphre@nd.edu

Campus Ministry

The Observer  NEWS
Friday, January 21, 2005

not likely that student
government is going to be able
to create monumental changes every year.

"It's not likely that student
government is going to be able
to create monumental changes every year," McCabe said.
"But I do think that student government definitely has a lot of potential to make a significant
difference on campus."
"Overall," Ebner said, "(I) think they're doing a decent job.

Contact Eileen Duffy at
coldfly1@ud.edu

JPW Mass
Lector Auditions

JPW Lector auditions will take place in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on each of the following dates:

Monday, January 24th at 5:00pm
Tuesday, January 25th at 5:00pm

Please attend one of the two auditions.

For further information, please contact Harv Humphrey at
271-7289 or by email at hhumphre@nd.edu

Campus Ministry
**Airlines face extreme deficits, losses**

**Continental, Delta cite high fuel costs and low fares for financial predicament**

**Associated Press**

**ATLANTA** — Delta Air Lines lost $13.5 billion last year on high fuel prices, low fares and hefty charges as it reported the worst annual financial performance in the industry. In its annual report, the Atlanta-based carrier, losing $5.51 a share, said it was summering its in-flight experience for its passengers, including refurbishing its planes to make them brighter, adding leather seats and revamping employee uniforms. For the three months ending Dec. 31, Delta said its net loss was $2.21 billion, or $16.58 a share, compared with a loss of $1.02 billion, or $2.69 a share, in the same period a year ago. Excluding one-time items — $4.1 billion in non-cash charges — Delta said it lost $7.40 billion, or $5.88 a share. On that basis, analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call were expecting a net loss of $5.51 a share. Delta ended the quarter with $1.8 billion in unrestricted cash. Revenue in the October-December period was $3.64 billion, an increase of 0.9 percent from $3.61 billion a year ago. The bulk of the charges Delta reported in the fourth quarter relate to reductions in the fair value estimates of two of its feeder carriers. 

**NEW YORK** — Nervous investors overheard earnings from Citigroup Inc. and a possible merger of two department store giants, and pushed stock prices substantially lower Thursday on disappointing earnings from the technology sector. Investors were also buffeted as perennial market favorite eBay Inc. missed its earnings estimates for the fourth quarter and said its outlook for the current quarter was lower than expected. These brokerage firms lowered their ratings on the online auction site. Cell phone maker Qualcomm Inc. likewise issued a disappointing profit forecast.

The pressure from tech shares diphoned momentum from Citigroup's strong earnings, and investors also reassessed the outlook for the fourth quarter of major department store and discounters. After Federal Reserve Bank of New York President Gordon Shirar's quarterly report appeared to push the market higher Thursday, the index of leading economic indicators rose 0.3 percent, or $33 million. The soaring cost of jet fuel was dwarfing the industry in 2004, undermining the growth in passenger traffic as well as carriers' efforts to reduce labor expenses. While Delta shares plunged 58 cents, or 9.8 percent, to close at $5.37 in Thursday trading on the New York Stock Exchange, where Continental shares fell 7 cents to close at $9.37. Analysts said Delta, Continental, and other struggling airlines must find a way to alter the path they're on. "Loses can't be sustained forever," said Bill Warlick, an airline analyst at Fitch Ratings in Chicago. Delta's results, which missed Wall Street's expectations, pushed the Atlanta-based carrier's annual loss to $5.51 a share for all of 2004, dwarfing the previous record loss of $3.5 billion reported in 2002 by AMR Corp. While 2005 is likely to be another tough year, Delta executives said their efforts to cut costs and increase labor productivity would succeed. "If Delta is to survive, we must develop a fundamentally different way of doing business, which is what we're doing," chief executive Gerald Griffin said during a Web-based conference with investors. Griffin told analysts that the airline's results are not clearly disappointing. But, he said, he believes the carrier is making progress on its transformation plan. The plan includes job cuts, pilot wage reductions, restructured financing and fare overhaul that has lowered Delta's most expensive fares by up to 50 percent on routes nationwide. Delta also is improving the in-flight experience for its passengers, including refurbishing its planes to make the interiors brighter, adding leather seats and revamping employee uniforms. A Continental Airlines plane passes the Capitol Oct. 3, 2001. The nation's fifth biggest carrier reported a $206 million loss for the fourth quarter Thursday.
American Idol has strong debut

‘American Idol’ judges, from left, Paula Abdul, Simon Cowell and Randy Jackson speak to media during the Television Critics Association winter press tour in Los Angeles Monday.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — TV viewers couldn’t wait for their “American Idol” fix, turning out 33.5 million strong for the show’s debut.

No other show this season has attracted so large an audience, and it represented the third-highest ratings night of entertainment programming in the history of the Fox network’s history, Nielsen Media Research said Wednesday. The 33.5 million was a preliminary estimate.

“The show has struck as anybody body,” Fox entertainment President Gary Berman said. “We thought we would do well, but nothing like this. Realtors and the show’s producers were busy earlier this week trying to dampen expecta- tions, saying they anticipated the talent contest to lose some of its popularity in its fourth season.

Last year’s season debut was watched by 32.8 million viewers, Nielsen said. The season opener was also the last of last May’s finale 31.4 million people saw Fantasia Barrino crowned the third- place winner.

The two-hour debut Tuesday featured audition-taped performances of new contestants in Washington, D.C., with the heart-warming story of Jegina, who who was given a chance to get on the show and was rewarded with a trip to Hollywood.

“In the end, this may sound like something positive it is,” Berman said. “People just love this show. They feel a part of it, because they’re the folks who made it happen.”

Anticipation may also play a part in its appeal, she said. Fox has had to hold back some of the show’s talents and audience from eager to see how it plays out. The show has kept its viewers guessing as to who will win.

“I think we’re on to something,” Berman said. “It’s always been a hard,”

Megan O’Neil contributed to this report.

Contact Angela Souss at a@smu.edu

Gambling laws and poker craze collide

State legislators to combat competitive ‘Texas Hold ’em’ poker tournaments

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — David Bischoff thinks he got a raw deal last week. The executive director of Minnesota’s gambling regulators raised his bowie alleyway opened up this week Texas Hold ’em poker tournament and confiscated his cards an instant.

For months afterward, the threat of criminal charges hung over Bischoff — and his card tables sat vacant — until prosecutors concluded that Minnesota’s laws against poker were too vague to enforce.

“Minnesota is now one of several states where legislatures are looking to rewrite their laws to strengthen their hand against poker players when poker is becoming an all-out craze. These are just people who have been watching poker on TV and don’t want the legal system to come into the picture,” said David Werning, executive director of the Minnesota Senate Research Society.

It’s not different than cribbage, 300, or bridge. Those are played all over the state whether it be in nursing homes, restaurants or bars, they need the nursing home for playing cribbage and bridge?”

Dave Kleis

Minnesota senator

In Iowa, a couple of American Legion posts heard warnings and halted their regular tournaments, saying they would not jeopardize their charitable gaming licenses. A similar concern led a firehouse outside of Pittsburgh to call off its tournaments.

Police in Wyoming started breaking up Texas Hold ’em tournaments in bars, and a state’s attorney general advised that the events were probably illegal. In Texas itself, a couple of the game showed up in smoky back rooms before becoming a smash hit on cable television. The question is, what are regulating bodies doing to profit from tournaments.

“The popularity of the poker craze has created a whole new beast for us as far as reg- ulations,” said David Werning of Iowa’s Department of Inspections and Appeals.

Inquiries about poker became so common that the agency recently compiled a fact sheet on poker laws.

Minnesota law allows card tournaments as long as the hosts do not directly profit from the games. However, the state is unable to enforce anything with real money. Bischoff said he complied with those rules by charging no entry fees and limiting awards to hats and other such.

His situation drew the attention of State Sen. Dave Kleis, who this month introduced a legislation that would define Minnesota Hold ’em as a “social skill game and lump it with card games, checkers and Monopoly and rummy games in which payments are allowed to win prizes.

“M innesota’s bill would explicitly permit poker turna- ment as long as the total prize does not exceed $200. “It’s not different than cribbage, 500, euchre or bridge.”

Those are played all over the state, whether it be in nursing homes, restaurants or bars,” Kleis said. “Why don’t you raid the nursing home for playing cribbage and bridge?”

Even at the Amateur Poker League, a Kansas City- based business that runs more than 60 events a year, nine states, complained that regulators are zealously clamp- ing down on poker turnamen- ts.

He said regulators in some states are blurring the distinction between high-stakes card games that do not require players to put in their own money.

Now leasing quality houses, townhomes for the 2006/07 winter season.

Call Sean at Anplan Properties 574-532-1895.
SPAIN
Church remains anti-condoms
Officials reverse bishop’s advocacy of contraception to fight AIDS

Associated Press

MAHID — The Catholic Church in Spain backed away from a leading bishop’s groundbreaking statement in support of condom use to fight the spread of AIDS, saying instead the church still believes artificial contraception is immoral.

A ruling Socialist politician involved in health care issues said she was mystified by the church’s about-face in the space of 24 hours. Gay groups said they regretted the church’s return to old policy after its “attack of lucidity.” A liberal theologian said the church had quickly backpedaled after the Vatican reaffirmed its opposition to condoms.

The Vatican states that condoms, being a form of artificial birth control, cannot be used to help prevent the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

On Tuesday, Bishop Juan Antonio Martinez Camino, spokesman for the Spanish Bishops Conference, said “con-

doms have a place in the global prevention of AIDS.” He spoke after a meeting with Health Minister Elena Salgado to discuss ways of fighting the disease.

His comments were front-page news in major Spanish papers. The United Left party called the policy shift “historic.” The church had locked horns with Spain’s progres-
sive-minority government for moving to legalize gay marriage, streamline divorce proceedings and make it easier for women to have abortions.

But on Wednesday night the conference issued a statement saying the bishop’s comments “must be understood in the context of Catholic doctrine, which holds that use of con-

doms is immoral sexual con-
duct.”

PAKISTAN
Mining practices see little change, progress

Laborers continue toiling as their forefathers did in massive, centuries-old salt mine

Associated Press

KHEWRA — As Asia’s oldest salt mine, the march of technol-
genesis continues. Bare-chested laborers use hand drills and gunpowder to blast away the pink and orange-col-
ored rock crystal, slowly fusing rock into areas hit by last year’s devastating tsunami.

The mineral wealth of Pakistan’s craggy Salt Range has been exploited for thousands of years. Drilling has been hard, but living wage in Pakistan.

The world’s oldest salt mine, the march of tec-
onology stopped generations ago. They face jail terms of between five and 10 years. They are free on bail, pending the ver-
sion, due Jan. 27.

A recent report by the Interna-
tional Labor Organization, a U.N. agency, said more than 100 people die annually in the Khewra salt mine accidents. Mine officials said that last year, a worker at the mine was crushed to death by a falling chunk of rock as he climbed a ladder. Another worker was killed by a mine ceiling with an iron bar.

Yet Khewra’s methodically endangered laborers are said to be performing better than the dozens of smaller mining operations that employ thousands of unregistered workers. The state-owned mine is the 185-mile-wide Salt Range. Malik said scarcely a week passes before the government nor the private sector pay attention to safe-
ty issues.

“Instead of putting the government’s, or the private sector’s, or the miners’ safety first, they pay attention to safer-
technologies,” Qureshi said that at the dict, due Jan 27. They are facing trial.

Farooq Tariq, secretary-general of the trade-union-affiliated Labor Party of Pakistan, said the miners have advantage from tech-
nological advancement. They just use their bodies and labor.”

"The miners are living in medieval conditions. They have not evolved from technological advancement. They just use their bodies and labor.”

Farooq Tariq, secretary-general of the Labor Party

snite Museum of Art
Sunday, January 23, 2-4pm
OPENING RECEPTION FOR UP COMING EXHIBITIONS
Exhibitions:
• Art from the Inside: Drawings (Paisa) by Chicano Prisoners
• "You’re Not from Around Here": Photographs of East Tennessee by Mike Smith
• Haitian Vodou Arts

Events:
• Gallery talks by photographer Mike Smith at 2 pm, followed by Douglas E. Bradley, curator of the arts of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania, at 3 and 3:30 pm.
A progress report on Irish athletics

There is more to Notre Dame athletics than football, and this fall is no exception. Five years ago when the University hired athletic director Kevin White, Notre Dame sat in 23rd place in what was then the Big East. Today, after another fall to atop what is now the Directors’ Cup, an award based on performance in all varsity sports.

When White was hired, University President Edward F. Murphy said it clearly to the new director — compete for a top-five finish in the Directors’ Cup. Malloy wanted White to have success not just in football, but in Notre Dame’s other 23 sports as well.

And with this fall’s women’s soccer national championship and cross-country championship, White is well on his way to doing that.

In fall sports, White has both hired and retained some of the most highly-regarded coaches in the country. Every fall sport with the exception of football finished in the NCAA Top 25. Women’s cross country finished fourth in the nation, and the men finished 11th. At what is traditionally a football school, White and his staff made sure other sports weren’t forgotten about — and the athletes took it from there.

Irish athletics have had five national championships so far during the 2005 season. However, the Notre Dame athletics program isn’t there yet.

The school’s football expectations are alive and well. And White knows how important those expectations are.

Notre Dame football has not won a national championship since the 1988 season. The team hasn’t won a bowl game since the 1993 season. This year, the Irish finished 6-6, well below expectations.

This is the biggest downfall of an athletics program in which the Olympic sports are thriving.

There is more to Notre Dame and White get to where they ultimately need to be, football must return to national prominence. And that’s where we find ourselves.

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For a good time, call...

One can judge a city by its phone book. This one is replete with entries that shine through the vibrancy and diversity of an urban landscape. In my adopted home of Portland, Ore., the phone book stretches to two volumes, surely a sign of the vibrancy of the City of Roses. When days grow long and rain drives me indoors I pore through the phone book in search of the essence of a city. I recently happened upon a page for “Clowns.” I found Buttons the Clown. Giggles, Jolly Molly and Peppermint and Friends (these might include the rather hip Cool Metti). I also came across Ruben, who advertises himself as “Portland’s Happiest Clown.” Ruben’s rather large advertisement listing just inches below for “the Original Ruben, the Clown.” I sensed some bitterness in this name, as if it represented a vain attempt to dash out at the apparently far more successful Rubens who, in addition to being happier, has also aspired a chambered title.

This apparent squabble gave me cause to consider the reverence surrounding clowns. I believe there are only one Ruben, Binkly or Bingo. To assume the name of another clown is to invite the turf war of sorts. You can only step on so many giant red boots before you’re ripe for a punch in the face. Such squabbles are easy to insult and laugh at, but clown seriously. In our day clowns represent authenticity, representation and humility. Some bitterness in the name of another clown is surely a test of one’s values. I recently happened upon a couple of clowns, which was open to the attic in one test was done on her apartment, one hard to get Tycore to even secure a mold test. Perhaps you remember Ruben from the company’s family picnic.” At this point Gentle Biff emerges from a black plastic bag, new festi into the air while juggling a collection of ivory-handled letter openers. “Of course I remember Biff, he appeared at my daughter’s birthday party, but I didn’t know he did promotions.”

Well he does. And he also boasts a Magical Umbrella Fun Cart.” But this is eludes me, but it sounds like something one might find referenced in an LSD trip or a night out at club. I want to take you on a ride through the rain.” On my Magical Umbrella Fun Cart.”

If Biff doesn’t do the trick one might call “Eartha the Enchanting.” Eartha Portland is perhaps the only American city that could sustain an ecological clown. I consider myself a environmentalist but wonder how much fun an ecological clown could offer. I’m sorry I can’t name some famous sculptures, kids. Couldn’t find any bal­

a Yamato’s recent letter to Americans. He is a soldier in Iraq, and his letter will open your eyes to the real situation there. It is amazing to me how quickly people forget what has happened in the recent past. Read Prime Minister Tony Blair’s and President George W. Bush’s speeches asking for the authorization of force against Saddam, and you will find the full and complete case for war, of which weapons of mass destruction are an integral part but by no means the full justification. Search for news articles from the late 19th century predicting we would fail to secure Germany even after winning the war. Oh yes, and take a second to remember who the enemy is—brutal, inhuman terrorists who oppose any kind of democratic society in the Middle East.

If you get off your information about the war in Iraq from pro­nouncements of newspapers and the evening news, then quite frankly, you are being duped. The right thing to do, and it is currently going very well, as far as you can say that in times of war.

Michael Jenista

letter to the editor

Notre Dame students fight back against College Park owners

I was forwarded the Jan. 12 article by The Observer regarding the College Park Apartments flooding. The information that Patty Russworm, the College Park Apartments representative for the owner, Tycore Limited of Chicago, gave to The Observer was false. These Notre Dame students in the 10 or so damaged units were (and still are) homeless purely for Paramount’s poor and nearly criminal management. I am a father of one of those students. My daughter is still without a clean and suitable apartment and without a bed. Her bed was raised by Paramount contractors, along with all of her furniture. The apartments did not flood because of heat being off as Russworm told The Observer. My daughter hired a professional inspec­
tor, a master plumber, to inspect her apartment and do major repairs. They found the damaged apartments before Tycore and Paramount could do anything themselves.

The inspector has provided his statement that all of the pipes which burst were upstairs units because of contractor and owner negligence. These units have a heater building materials and nothing to do with the boiler heat, which was on, not off, in the downstairs units. He also said he is aware this has happened multiple times at the college for years at the same apartment complex and will likely happen again at College Park. Russworm decided to notify the tenants, all Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students, of College Park’s problem many days after Russworm knew about the flooding apartments. Elizabeth Cain, Notre Dame senior accounting major, was not notified of her apartment flooding until Jan. 2, and Paramount knew of the flooding by Dec. 29 or 30. Tycore told me it was holiday time, and Russworm was busy during that week, thus the tardy call about the flooding. The flood on the first-floor apartments occurred from the pipes freezing in the wall chase above the second-floor apartments, which was open to the attic in all cases. The flood occurred on Dec. 29. Kristin Boyd, homeless tenant and Notre Dame senior class officer, said she had to fight hard to get Tycore to even secure a mold and bacteria test. She has now been told one test was done on her apartment, one of the 10 damaged, yet College Park Apartments will not give Boyd, or any tenant, a copy of the mold report.

All these students were told to find their own housing, and they must pay for their own housing, and damages on clothing, bedding, computers, etc., from the con­

tractions. They are billed for the second-floor apartments down to the first-floor apartments which sustained all the big damage.

This situation is far from over. The human resources director, who just know what they are doing, have shown no regard for their tenants and possessions. Now NNO is threatening to sue all Notre Dame students, the students are unified, are together and will fight back.

Greg Boyd
.iteritems
Ring in new year again

Do you ever wish you could spend New Year's Eve with your Notre Dame friends? Well, even though you probably missed your chance to ring in the traditional New Year, you're not too late to throw a Chinese New Year Party. February 9 marks the beginning of the year of the Rooster, the 4707th year in the Chinese calendar. This important day in Chinese culture commences with a 15-day festival ending on the full moon. While Times Square and Dick Clark may not be part of your soiree, you can incorporate Chinese traditions such as brightly colored lights, homemade paper lanterns, small gift exchanges and delicious food in your festivities. After you try making some of these traditional recipes, break out your chopsticks and pop the "Joy Luck Club" in your VCR while ringing in another new year.

CHINESE CHICKEN SALAD
3/2 headless chicken breast halves, cooked and diced
1 head lettuce, torn into small pieces
4 green onions, sliced
4 stalks celery, sliced thin
1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
2 tablespoons sesame seeds, toasted
6 ounces Chinese noodles, heated briefly to crisp
4 tablespoons rice vinegar
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup peanut oil
In a large salad bowl combine the chicken, lettuce, green onion, celery, nuts, seeds and noodles. Mix all together. Set aside. To Make Dressing: Put vinegar in a small bowl. Dissolve sugar and salt in vinegar before adding oil. Shake/Beat well. Add dressing to salad and toss to coat. Serve and enjoy!

Chinese Spareribs
1/2 cup hoisin sauce
2 tablespoons soy sauce
1/2 cup water
2 tablespoons honey
Put ribs in the mixture. Continue to whip until the meringue is stiff but not dry. Fold the meringue into the almond paste mixture and add the heavy cream at the end. Mix well. Fill the prepared muffin tins half full. Bake promptly in the pre-heated oven until golden, approximately 8 to 12 minutes, depending on the size of the mold. Cool the teacakes 5 minutes before un-molding them on a wire rack. Dust with confection sugar before serving. Store the cakes in an airtight container.

Contact Maureen Malloy at mmalloyl@nd.edu

THEATRE REVIEW

When Catholicism is "Late Nite Catechism" is religion wit

By CHRIS HAMMER
Scene Writer

"Late Nite Catechism 2 Sometimes We Feel Guilty Because We Are Guilty!" transformed the Decio Mainstage Theatre into a Catholic grade school classroom and turned the clocks back for those in the audience who spent many an hour in such a classroom. From the religious and patriotic bulletin boards to the unworkable slide projector, from Sister's desk — complete with a collection bank for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith — to the slate chalkboard with "JM" (Jesus, Mary and Joseph) written at the top, the only things missing to complete the parochial school classroom were the rows of uncomfortable student desks.

But that omission was intentional — the classroom was the entire theatre, not just the stage, making the audience Sister's pupils. Yes, that means audience participation — and if you think you can hide from Sister's attention, you will be as successful as you were in grade school. Sister, played by Kimberly Richards, called the class to order promptly at starting time, a warning to those who may be habitually tardy, and started her catechism lesson.

Richards had spot-on mannerism; her deadpan style was enhanced with her reactions to the members of the audience at our expense, both figuratively and literally. If she noticed someone chewing gum, she would make him spit the gum out. If two members of the audience were particularly close, she implied them to "make room for the Holy Spirit."

Throughout these ad-lib, Richards gave a grade-school lesson on sin and punishment, creating her own Catholic "Chin action brought people closer to heaven or damned them to hell. But more than that, "Late Nite Catechism" highlighted a Catholic mocked by — so many in the audience confessed once wrote, "It is the test o about it. "Late Nite Catechism" passes it funny even when dealing with such. serious matters, does not detract from boj. Catholicism is rich with a sense a particularly thinks of Chesterton himself, Walker Percy. "Late Nite Catechism" said and uses it to attain noble ends. At the cr. New Year's Eve performances on both Saturday and Monday December 28, 2004 at 8 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Decio Mainstage Theatre. The show remains at the Decio Mainstage Theatre for performances through January 15. Contact Chris Hammer at chammer@nd.edu

Dancers preview Welsh Family Hall's Second Annual Welsh Family dance show.

By MARIA S
Scene Editor

Mary Dubon coming to New Hampshire, a new resident and a new resident on her mind. "I started out with the annual Welsh Family dance show. "Late Nite Catechism." It was a wonderful experience."

Dubon bough the bread for her first show, "I Love My Welsh Family dance show. "Late Nite Catechism.""

This year, Dubon is directing the show, "Late Nite Catechism." The show is a variety of Irish, English, and American dance styles. "It's nice to be able to dance to music of different cultures."

Contact Chris Hammer at chammer@nd.edu

When Catholicism is "Late Nite Catechism" is religion wit
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Roddick wins in four sets, advances to third round

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — It takes one to know one. The leading man-to-man showdown between the two biggest servers in tennis, Andy Roddick anticipates, will be with his long-time nemesis Greg Rusedski.

And Roddick pounded out a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 today to reach the third round of the Australian Open.

"I felt like I was seeing the ball from early on," Roddick said, "and I think Roddick did not second-guess it.

The second-seeded Roddick owns the record for fastest serve, 145 mph, and led the men's circuit in ace aces the last two sea­

sions. He slammed 11 aces as they had coming off early in the match.

"I don't at all," said Roddick, who shared the record for the fastest serve with Rusedski until breaking two the mark last sea­

son. "My returns normally aren't there," he said, "but I enjoyed a couple of one backhand.

"You always want to return like that. It was just clicking for me."

Curtis Canas played 25th-seed­ed Lisa Raymond, who last year upset Williams in the third round en route to the Australian Open

quarterfinals.

Roddick, meanwhile, will face a third straight left-hander, Austria's Jurgen Melzer.

Rusedski the second set against Rusedski, the runner-up at the 1997 U.S. Open. He started and ended the eighth game with double­

faults. Before that, Roddick had a point at serves in the second set.

Rusedski served out at love next game, leveling at one set apiece with an ace. That as was close as he got.

Rusedski lost 10 of 11 of his first set, approaches, but finished at just over 50 percent — 43 of 83 attempts. He figured he wouldn't beat the young American from the baseline.

"I tried to stick in there any which way I could," Rusedski said. "At one set, all I had, there was just not enough. I just wasn't good enough."

He held it in the third set, at 7-6, 7-6 (8), 6-2. Roddick and Melzer reached the third round.

The second-seeded Roddick

The Observer • ClassifedS

australian open

Roddick practices for the Australian Open last week in Melbourne Park. Roddick defeated Greg Rusedski on Thursday.

Andy Roddick practices for the Australian Open last week in Melbourne Park. Roddick defeated Greg Rusedski on Thursday.

Carlos Ferrero also advanced in straight sets.

A host sent one point from a two-set lead over Hewitt before he

He slumped to open the third set, starting a six-game winning streak.

There was a lot of momentum swings out there," Hewitt said. "Things fell my way towards the end."

BLAINE HUMMEL/STAFF

NFL

Steelers confident against Belichick and Pats

Pittsburgh ready to adjust to challenge of facing New England

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Maybe his 5-9 record against them allows the Pittsburgh Steelers to talk somewhat less reverently about New England Patriots defensive mastermind Bill Belichick than many NFL teams do.

Certainly, they admired his imaginative schemes that reduced NFL MVP Peyton Manning into a frustrated, head-shaking shell of his normal touchdown-making self during New England's 20-3 divisional-round victory.

They are impressed that Belichick and defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel consist­

But they are set to face a different Belichick. The Brown receiver and kick returner, is the nickel back.

But while Belichick is consid­

The Western Journal • Classifieds

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Good luck with the jumble Dave

One more day until Friday

I would rather be watching the OC

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Newport Office, 242 South Drying Hall. Deadline for every classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

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**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

**NC State's Yow diets to recovery**

Respected women's coach treating cancer with new food plan

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina State coach Kay Yow decided she needed a new approach to treat her recurrence of breast cancer, the latest in a variety of ailments to hit her in the past year.

The Hall of Fame women's basketball coach decided to follow a new dietary plan — no meat, no dairy products, no sugar and all organic food. So far, that is the treatment after having the tumor removed two months ago.

"For a Southern gal like me, it's a complete overhaul," Yow said Thursday before returning from a two-game absence to lead the Wolfpack against Miami. "Nothing I'm used to doing."

Her players were pink laces in their right shoes — pink is the symbol for breast cancer awareness for the third straight game, and Yow received a rousing ovation when she was introduced before the matchup with the Hurricanes.

While she missed those games to start her new program, (13-4, 2-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) went 1-1 under coach Kevin Keatts, losing to the 76-75 overtime victory over No. 23 Virginia Tech. The loss was by two points to ninth-ranked North Carolina.

"I'm just so proud of my team and my staff," the 62-year-old Yow said. "They embodied everything I believe in and the history of my program."

Yow first was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1987, and her oncologist, Dr. Mark Graham, said it was a recurrence. Yow had treatment for skin cancer last year and also had a bout with pneumonia.

"My immune system is just not working like it ought to do, and this is what he's doing," Yow said. "Having the cancer come back after 17 years is not rare, something Graham had to tell to another patient earlier Thursday. She has been healthy for the past five years after beating the identical type of cancer that Yow has.

"She wanted me to tell her that she was cured of breast cancer," Graham said. "I had to tell her she was not totally out of the woods."

But the prognosis remains positive for Yow, who was the main at the treatment in progress performed by Graham. If it returns, Graham said Yow probably will undergo traditional treatment such as radiation or chemotherapy.

"As she's sitting here, she is disease-free and we have to keep her that way," Graham said. "All cancer is not created equal, and Yow has an excellent chance to do well with this cancer. The people that have a recurrence like this have a long life."

Yow has no plans to miss any more games, saying she hopes her new diet will give her even more energy. She is the career record in 34 seasons, including a 609-285 mark in 30 years at State.

She was inducted into the North Carolina Basketball Hall of Fame in 2002 and coached the 1988 U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal. In 1998, she led the Wolfpack to their only Final Four appearance.

**NFL**

**Vinatieri is reliable in playoffs**

Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — Adam Vinatieri approached the ball, drove it toward the uprights and had a perfect sight when the field goal missed.

And that was just during a winter storm.

"There's no one out here except for us two," said Josh Miller, who had just signed as the New England Patriots new holder/punter. "We were also at 58 yards. So I said, 'OK, that's what I'm part of and it's pretty cool."

Vinatieri takes every kick seriously — whether it's an extra point in a regular-season blowout or a field goal that wins the Super Bowl, whether he's in a dome or driving snow.

His foot may be the difference again in the AFC championship game between two strong defenses on Sunday in Pittsburgh in which snow showers are in the forecast, something he grew up with in Yankton, S.D. "I didn't take every kick exactly and not think about it, this is the playoffs," Vinatieri said.

"You don't know if a kick in the first quarter or the kick at the end of the game is going to make the difference."

The Patriots' biggest field goals of his career came in heavy snow on the way to the Patriots' first championship. His 45-yarder with 34 seconds left forced overtime and his 23-yarder beat Oakland 16-13 on Jan. 19, 2004.

As usual, the pressure didn't affect him.

"I'm thinking more about trying to make sure I get good footing and get the ball up in the air than any of the other things that that kick means," Vinatieri said.

Two weeks later inside the Superdome in New Orleans, his 45-yard field goal on the last play gave the Patriots their first Super Bowl win, 20-17 over St. Louis.

He also won last year's Super Bowl indoors in Houston with a 41-yard kick with four seconds left in a 32-29 win over Carolina.

"But he leaves those memories on the sidelines."

"You have to go out and re-establish yourself every single day," Vinatieri said Thursday. "Sure, three years ago we had a fun day in the snow and the outcome worked out well [but] sometimes in the past isn't going to guarantee anything in the future.

Plenty has worked out well in his nine seasons since joining the Patriots as a free agent in 1996.

This season he led the NFL in scoring and made 24 of his last 25 field goal attempts. He's kicked 17 game-winning field goals in the regular season and playoffs and, from inside the 40-yard line, he's missed just 21 of 203 kicks.

"It's as good at what he does as [Michael] Jordan at what he does," Miller said. "He's as good as his trade and used it somewhere else, he'd change the world. But he's a kicker and he has to just settle for being the best kicker."

Heinz Field in Pittsburgh is known as a tough place to kick. Last weekend, Doug Brien of the New York Jets missed two field-goal attempts in the fourth quarter and overtime, and the Steelers won.

**NCAA FOOTBALL**

Six Gamecocks charged with stealing team equipment

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Six current and former South Carolina football players were charged Wednesday with stealing $18,000 worth of equipment from Williams-Brice Stadium last November.

Offensive lineman Woody Telford is charged with grand larceny, a felony. He admitted to investigators he took a $4,000 laptop, according to an arrest warrant. Quarterbacks Syvelle Newton and Dondrial Pinkins have been charged with a misdemeanor, petit larceny, along with defensive lineman Freddy Saint-Preux and safety Rodrigues Wilson.

Arrest warrants say all four players took computer and video equipment of themselves from the South Carolina locker room area of the stadium and have confessed to the theft.

A warrant is pending for a few of our friends, the Gamecocks opener in 2004, will be facing a state investigation, the school said.

"We are going to look into pending for a sixth player the school did not identify."

A total of $18,000 worth of computer and video equipment and framed photographs were taken from the stadium on Nov. 22, shortly after the Gamecocks were defeated by No. 1 Georgia. They would not go to a bowl as punishment for an on-field brawl with Clemson.

Regrettably, a few of our student-athletes made a very poor decision during the course of a frustrating situation, and they must now face the consequences," athletic director Mike McGee said.

Newton is a rising junior and started several games for South Carolina last year. Saint-Preux, who was injured much of this season and Telford, who saw extensive play as a reserve in 2004, will be seniors next year and have already been suspended for the Gamecocks opener Sept. 1 against Central Florida because of their involvement in the brawl with Clemson. None of them will now be suspended at least until the charges are resolved, McGee said.
All-Star closer Gagne agrees to new contract

Dodgers’ pitcher signs a two-year deal at $19 million

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Even Eric Gagne was worried about the Dodgers’ offer.

Now he sounds happy with it after agreeing to a $19-million, two-year contract and seeing how the team shapes up.

"I was scared, too, like all the fans, about all the moves, where are we going, what are we trying to do?" Gagne said Thursday. "When we signed Derek Lowe, I thought, OK, that’s where we’re going."

"Talk about team chemistry, talk about Derek Lowe, he’s a world champion. Talk about Jeff Kepp, he’s an MVP, J.D. Drew, he’s just getting started, and bringing back Odalis Perez."

Gagne shook his head and said, "I think it’s just amazing what we did with the team." Speaking at a Dodger Stadium news conference after signing his new contract, Gagne obviously was pleased with the deal he struck with the Dodgers. After winning the 2003 NL Cy Young Award while earning $550,000, he was not happy when he had to go to arbitration last year. He asked for $8 million, but arbitrators ruled in favor of the club’s offer of $5 million.

The Dodgers’ new regime of owner Frank McCourt and general manager Paul DePodesta didn’t have much time to avoid sending Gagne to arbitration last February. They took control of the team less than a week before his hearing.

"Eric’s contractual situation was really the first issue I dealt with as general manager," DePodesta said. "I came on board and within the first week, his arbitration case had been settled and it was something that was really the primary issue of the day."

"At that point, we made some statements and I had conversations with both Eric and Scott (agent Scott Boras) that we didn’t want to go through that process again."

The Dodgers have parted company with some of the team’s best — and most popular — players since McCourt took over 11 months ago, including Paul Lo Duca, Adrian Beltre, Shawn Green, Steve Finley and Jose Lima.

McCourt was determined to keep Gagne, who converted a major league-record $4 consecutive saves from Aug. 28, to July 5, 2004.

"Needless to say, we made a lot of decisions this offseason, none more important than the decision to sign Eric," the owner said. "I don’t think we just signed a closer, I think we signed someone who brings the attitude that you need, in addition to the talent, to win year in and year out."

"If we were to pick one player in all of baseball that personifies the attitude of the team I own and operate, it’s this gentleman."

Los Angeles has a $12 million option for 2007 with a $1 million buyout, but Gagne has the right to void the option and become a free agent.

In the meantime, the 28-year-old reliever is glad he doesn’t have to be concerned with the business side of the game for a while.

"I’m just happy it worked out. Instead of talking about contracts and all that stuff, we can talk about baseball," Gagne said. "We made the playoffs last year and that was great, but this year we’ve got to take it to the next level and win the World Series."

Gagne had a 7-3 record with a 2.19 ERA last season. He had 45 saves in 47 chances while appearing in 70 games, striking out 114 and walking only 22. He pitched three times in the two games of the NL division series, which the Dodgers lost to St. Louis. It was the team’s first postseason appearance since 1996.

Longhorns’ Tucker ruled academically ineligible

AUSTIN — Sophomore forward P.J. Tucker, the leading scorer and rebounder for No. 15 Texas, is academically ineligible and will not play the rest of the season, the school announced Thursday.

Tucker, averaging 13.7 points and eight rebounds a game, will stay in school and be allowed to practice but is not eligible for competition. Texas (14-3) plays at No. 18 Oklahoma (14-2) on Saturday.

"I’m really disappointed that I’m going to have to miss the remainder of the season," Tucker said.

"I feel like I’ve let a lot of people down, including myself. I’ll spend the spring and summer focusing on my academics so that I can return to the team next fall." A team spokesman also said starting freshman center LaMarcus Aldridge remains out indefinitely with a hip injury.

He missed Texas’ win over No. 5 Oklahoma State on Monday night.

University officials also refused to comment on details of Tucker’s academic problems, citing federal privacy laws that protect student records. Tucker acknowledged that he did not earn enough credit hours to stay eligible.

"I feel for P.J. right now," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "We hope he can learn a huge lesson from this and come back as a stronger and more mature person. There’s no question that his loss will affect our team."

"He feels responsible for it. A prized possession has been taken away from him," Barnes said.

"Tucker’s loss is a huge blow for the Longhorns. Tucker has been the team’s floor leader this season, bringing an innate toughness and a desire to win to the squad infused with freshmen.

"It’s hard to understand something like that," senior guard Brad Buckman said. "You don’t know what goes through some people’s minds. I love the guy so much, it’s hard to get down on someone who I feel so strong for. People make mistakes. It’s just tough when you have to deal with them. You know he never meant for that to happen."

Barnes said the Longhorns would continue to fight hard through the rest of the schedule. The absence of Tucker and Aldridge should open up more playing time for forward Danny Neaville and Mike Williams, two members of the Longhorns’ heralded freshman class.

"Somebody will emerge," Barnes said. "We’re not going to feel sorry for ourselves and nobody else is either. I’m sure there are some people who are licking their chops."
**AROUND THE NATION**

**Men's NCAA Ice Hockey Top 15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>20-3-1</td>
<td>650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston College</td>
<td>19-3-2</td>
<td>546</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>14-6-1</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
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<td>Notre Dame</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
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**Men's College Basketball Big East Conference**

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<th>Big East</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<td>18-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. John's</td>
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<td>6-10</td>
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<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>0-4</td>
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**Colts receiver Reggie Wayne scores a touchdown against Denver during Indianapolis' first-round playoff victory in the RCA Dome. The city's proposal for a new stadium was rejected by the State House Speaker on Thursday.**

*Plans for a new Colts dome put on hold*

**Associated Press**

INDIANAPOLIS — House Speaker Brian Bosma said Thursday there is no chance the Legislature will approve Mayor Bart Peterson's proposal to expand gambling to help finance a new Indianapolis Colts stadium.

The mayor challenged Bosma to come up with a better plan.

"If somebody has a better idea, I'm willing to listen to it," Peterson said. "What we need is $46 million a year to be able to pay the debt service on this new stadium." Peterson last month unveiled a one-page proposal for a new stadium that would have a retractable roof and could be expanded to 70,000 seats to host a Super Bowl. The facility is projected to cost between $550 million and $700 million and is seen as the key to keeping the Colts in Indianapolis once their lease with the RCA Dome, the NFL's smallest stadium, expires after the 2013 season.

Under Peterson's plan, Colts owner Jim Irsay and the NFL would contribute $100 million in loans. The city also would ask the Legislature to approve pull-tab machines, which resemble slot machines, for horse racing tracks in Anderson and Shelbyville and an off-track betting parlor in Indianapolis. The latter was the apparent deal-killer for Bosma.

"As far as I'm concerned, that proposal's dead," said Bosma, an Indianapolis Republican. "He ought to find another (funding) mechanism." Peterson, however, said he's convinced his proposal is still the best option.

**In Brief**

French probe Armstrong doping allegations

ANNEMES, France — French authorities have opened a preliminary inquiry into doping allegations made against six-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong in a book published last summer.

Judicial officials confirmed the probe Thursday but declined to give details, describing the case as confidential.

Philippe Treyer, commissioner of the judicial police in Annecy, said Thursday that the investigation had been compromised by revelations in the media, and added that it would likely soon be dropped.

The investigation centers on an interview with Armstrong's former British assistant, Emma O'Reilly.

Shortly before last year's Tour de France, O'Reilly made allegations in a book "LA Confidential, The Secrets of Lance Armstrong." She claimed that Armstrong sent her on long road trips to pick up pills and dispose of used syringes.

According to Thursday's edition of Le Parisien newspaper, O'Reilly flew from Liverpool, England, in July to confirm to French magistrates what she'd told authors David Walsh and Pierre Salinger in the book.

"I've spent the last two years thinking through this very difficult issue and thinking through all the alternatives," he said. "For the speaker to suggest that I have to come up with an alternative isn't going to help get this stadium built. And if we don't get the stadium built, we're going to lose the Colts." Peterson said his plan, developed after lengthy discussions with the Colts, would guarantee the team would remain in Indianapolis for the next 30 years. It also would allow expansion of the convention center adjoining the RCA Dome. He said the plan does not rely on an increase in income, property or sales taxes.

Bosma said creating what he called a "casino" downtown in one of the most family friendly cities in the Midwest would not work.

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Bosma said creating what he called a "casino" downtown in one of the most family friendly cities in the Midwest would not work.
Belmont set to host lone swim meet of winter

Saint Mary's will take on Kalamazoo at the Rolfs Center

By ANNA FRICANO

Sports Writer

The Belles host their only home swim meet of the season today as they take on confer­ence opponent Kalamazoo College at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on the Notre Dame campus. The all-women's event marks the first of a pair of con­ference meets for Saint Mary's that will help to determine the team's standings before the MIAA Swimming and Diving Championships in mid-February.

The current MIAA standings put Kalamazoo College in third place, behind Calvin and Hope, respectively. Saint Mary's is currently stands in sixth place. A victory over Kalamazoo College would give the Belles as many conference wins as Albion, who now holds the fifth-place spot.

The Belles will be faced with a difficult challenge competing against a strong Kalamazoo team. In their last conference meet, the Hornets defeated Alma College by a score of 148-90. However, the Belles have a more recent victory, albeit not as large, over Alma defeating them last week. Saint Mary's has yet to compete against the Hornets this season.

Sophomore Nicole Korte as well as junior Kelly Noll and Sarah Nowak, all of whom have been consistent performers for Saint Mary's in the freestyle events, will be essential to compete with a strong Hornet freestyle swimmer. Sophomore Elizabeth Garlow of Kalamazoo College holds top spots in three of the MIAA's rankings of the best swimming and diving per­formances of the 2004-05 sea­son, all of which are in freestyle events.

Tonight will also mark an especially significant night for the only two fourth-year swimmers on the team. Senior night will honor seniors and co-captains Michelle Stonfort and Ashley Dyer. Dyer will gradu­ate in the spring with a degree in Women's Studies and Biology. Halving from Clive, Iowa, she has earned three varsity letters during her career with the team. Dyer was named the 2004-05 MAC pres­ident, and has been honored as the AH-MIAA honor roll Stanley, from Kokomo, Indiana has also achieved three varsity letters with the team. A mathematics major, Stanley has been named a Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Navy ROTC Battalion Commanding Officer.

The Belles will take to the water at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Anna Fricano at

SQAED@stmarys.edu

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 1 ranked Illinois survives in overtime

Luther Head scored 25 points in team's win over Hawkeyes

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. - Illinois started the game intent on giving James Augustine and Roger Powell Jr. a chance to attack Iowa inside. When the big guys couldn't put it in the basket, Luther Head took over.

Head scored 25 points and his driving layup with 40 seconds remaining in overtime sealed No. 1 Illinois' 73-68 win over Iowa on Thursday night.

"I'm really tired. I can't wait to go home," Head said. He certain­ly earned some rest.

Head scored 12 straight points during one stretch and had six steals and six rebounds as Illinois' 19-0, 5-0 Big Ten winning streak and 12 straight wins in the season and a late come­back by No. 23 Iowa.

The Hawkeyes (13-4, 1-3) hot­ted back from a 13-point deficit early in the second half and outscored Illinois 71-1 in the final 1:16 to force the extra period. Illinois managed just six free throws and Head's layup in overtime.

"I thought our defense was outstanding, but in the overtime they made six free throws and we made one," Iowa coach Steve Alford said. "It really came down to the foul line.

"Illinois was 23-23 from the free-throw line while Iowa was just 6-of-12, and the Illini won the battle of the boards, espe­cially on the offensive end where they held an 18-9 advan­tage.

"They killed us on the boards tonight," said Pierre Pierce, who played all 45 minutes and led the Hawkeyes with 22 points. "We had a lot of tip-ins at cru­cial points in the game and we couldn't finish at the free­throw line."

Greg Brunner's drive to the hoop tied the score at 65-65 with 3:8 remaining and came after free Brown missed out on a free throw in the closing seconds of the first half. Brunner finished with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

With Deron Williams in foul trouble, Head also drew the defensive assignment on Brunner, finishing with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

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G
Irish ready to compete in NY Duals Sunday

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

After more than two months of individual competition, including prestigious international tournaments such as the World Cup in November and the North American Cup in both December and January, Notre Dame finally takes to the strips as a team when the Irish travel to the Big Apple to compete in the New York University Duals Sunday morning at 8 a.m. in Madison Square Garden.

Heading to the New York Duals, the Irish are a very experienced team, topping Notre Dame No. 34, and relatively untested, entering the top of the Big Ten season ranked at No. 34, and the Notre Dame men’s team has a chance to finish at or near the top of the Big Ten Conference.

The loss halted the Irish winning streak at 90 regular season matches and snapped the third longest streak in the program’s storied history—Notre Dame won 122 consecutive matches from 1975-80 and 98 straight from 1984-88. The women dominated competition last January in their most recent New York Duals appearance, trouncing Yale (21-6), St. John’s (18-9), New York (24-3) and Stanford (24-3) before escaping with a 14-13 nail-biter against Columbia.

The Irish return home to host the Notre Dame Duals Jan. 29-30 at the Joyce Center before traveling south to Columbus, Ohio the following weekend to compete in the Ohio State Duals Feb. 5 to kick off a brutal schedule.

In addition to fencing the nation’s top squads — many of them on multiple occasions — the Irish won’t have a chance to stop and catch their breath once team competition begins Sunday — Notre Dame will take the strips every week through the beginning of March.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

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FENCING

Irish ready to compete in NY Duals Sunday

Young squad welcomes Big Ten power Indiana to the Eck

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

It might be muffled by the steady thwack of racquets, but the Eck Tennis Pavilion is starting to make some noise in the national tennis arena.

At 2:40, the young Irish squad is relatively untested, entering the season ranked at No. 34, and could get a test from Saturday’s opponent, No. 62 Indiana who has a chance to finish at or near the top of the Big Ten Conference.

"I know we’ll really be challenged because they have one of the better teams in the Big 10 this year," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "They return pretty much the whole team, and they’ve added a really strong freshman— I expect a very, very tough match."

Last year, the Irish opened the season with a 6-1 win at Indiana. However, the match was closer than the final score appears.

"I know that they’re very strong in the doubles [this year]," Bayliss said. "We eked out the doubles point last year—that match was really in the balance last year."

Five of the six doubles matches went into a third set, with Notre Dame taking victories in four of those.

"We won all the close match-es," Bayliss said. "I’ll settle for that again, but I know it’ll be a very tight match."

Last weekend, the Irish improved to 2-0 with wins over Toledo and Illinois State. The Irish dominated competition in both matches as Bayliss has worked the lineup in a variety of forms.

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Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

MEN’S TENNIS

Young squad welcomes Big Ten power Indiana to the Eck

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

In addition to host New York State .are all slated to challenge because they have one of the conference’s three dominant programs — Alabama, California, and Illinois — until the second round of the MIAA tournament.

Standing in the way of the Belles’ goals on Saturday will be an offensiveensively-explosive Tri-State squad. The Thunder top the conference in scoring, putting up an impressive 79.6 points per game. Senior center Nicki Bergman leads the Tri-State attack, averaging 12.9 points per contest.

"They are a very up-tempo team," Kessler said. "They like to push the ball and shoot a lot of three’s."

The Thunder defense has not been quite as effective. Tri-State full court press forces its opponent the entire game, but racks last in the conference in team defense. The Thunder surrender 87.3 points per game.

"We just want to break their press and get easy shots — get some layups," Kessler said. "We want to match their tempo and try to slow them down as much as possible."

The Belles did an excellent job of this the last time these two teams clashed. On Dec. 11, Saint Mary’s defeated Ohio State 83 at the Angola Athletic Center. Emily Creachbaum led the way for the Belles, scoring 23 points in a 13-point win.

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Badgers

continued from page 24

give you a thrill, like we did in late January last year to help us get into the NCAA tournament. We didn't respond very well at all Tuesday night to that opportunity."

The Irish allowed three power play goals to the huskies in Tuesday's game, a performance very similar to several others throughout the season. Notre Dame's 80.4 percent penalty killing rate is currently the worst in the CCHA -- and a far cry from last season's conference-leading 87.3 percent.

"I think if we go out and play well, it will probably much be up in the air against Vanderbilt." said the Buckeyes currently connecting at a 24.3 percent clip -- third-best in the nation.

Wisconsin continued this weekend's games after sweeping Alaska Anchorage in Madison last weekend, and scored 18 wins last spring. Ohio State, however, is 2-0 this season. Ohio State's only win came against Wisconsin coach Mikel Eaves when he was an assistant coach with the Philadelphia Flyers, and was performance watching for a while about getting the series going again.

"You can benefit a great deal from playing a good team at this point in the year."

In its games against Wisconsin last season, both at Madison, the Irish came away with a 2-2 tie and a 3-1 win over the fourth-ranked Buckeyes. This season, the story is much different as Wisconsin comes into the Joyce Center as one of the top teams in the country, while Notre Dame sits in last place in the CCHA.

"Our 1-0 loss to the Buckeyes, our 2-0 loss to the Buckeyes, our 2-0 loss to the Buckeyes -- our 0-2 loss to the Buckeyes, our 2-2 tie to the Buckeyes. We're still going to be a force down the stretch -- don't write us off.

"There's still 10 conference games to play down the stretch, and we're going to go out and play hard in every one of them.

"The Irish travel to Allstate Arena Saturday to face the Badgers, making it the second game Notre Dame has played in the home of the American Hockey League's Chicago Wolves. In its last game in Rosemont, Notre Dame dropped a 3-1 decision to Yale.

Men's Track

Competition kicks off on Friday

By NATHAN DYER

Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's track and field team kicks off its home season tonight as it welcomes DePaul, Loyola University Michigan, Hillsdale College and Michigan State to the Loftus Sports Center.

This weekend is the first of three consecutive weekends of home meets.

After last week's away meet at Central Michigan, of which only a limited contingent of runners attended, Friday's meet will be the first meet for many of the younger team members. Likewise, this will be the first meet of the season for all of the distance runners, as none participated at Central Michigan.

"This meet will be used as a measuring stick to determine our progress up to this point in the season," assistant coach Tim Connolly said. "This will be the first competition for a lot of people [and] we have a lot of runners experimenting with running different events."

This is not to say the meet will not be competitive as many look to run qualifying times for the Big East indoor championships. Defending Big East champion Selim Nurudeen ran like the defending champion at last week's meet, and looks to improve this week.

Running out of Friendswood, Texas, Nurudeen has won three consecutive Big East titles in the 110-meter hurdles and last year won the 60-meter hurdles. This year Nurudeen is looking to defend his 60-meter hurdles and take a shot at Nationals, where he finished in the top 10 at the 2004 NCAA Outdoor Championship.

As for the distance runners, senior Ryan Johnson looks to lead a talented group as they enter their first meet of the season.

Notre Dame opens its outdoor season tomorrow at the Big East championships. The meet starts at 5:30 p.m. tonight with the opening face-off scheduled for 8:05 p.m. The two teams square off Saturday at the Allstate Arena at 7:05 p.m. Central Time.

Contact Nathan Dyer at sdyer@nd.edu
Hoyas continued from page 24

"I just remember that my feet were black and blue and purple after the game. I just remember I would have loved to play 20 more minutes," Thomas said. "It was a great game, full of talented players."

"We almost play better there than anywhere else. We go in there with a huge amount of confidence." - Chris Thomas, Irish guard

The Scarlet Knights have knocked out the likes of then-No. 1 LSU, then-No. 8 Tennessee and then-No. 4 Texas, all in just one week. Rutgers is 4-0 in Big East play, but they have played St. John's, Pittsburgh, Georgetown and Providence, four of the weaker teams in the league.

The Scarlet Knights have benefitted from the return of senior guard Cappie Pondexter, who has played in seven games after missing the last semester of play. She was a third-team All-American as a junior, and a unanimous selection to the All-Big East first team.

However, the point guard is not the only weapon the Scarlet Knights have this season. Junior forward Michelle Campbell is averaging 13.1 points per game to go along with 6.1 rebounds a game. Campbell played for the Irish tough. Last season, the Scarlet Knights upset the Irish 69-55 at the Louis Brown Athletic Center, known as the house of pain and despair.

Rutgers beat Notre Dame later in the season as well, upsetting the No. 2-seeded Irish in the second round of the Big East tournament. 53-45, despite playing with just eight players.

Irish hope to put winter practice to good use

By ANN LOUGHERY Sporst Writer

Rutgers continued from page 24
top-15 teams.

"Think of the possibility of getting the win on the road. We're coming into another really tough stretch with a couple more ranked teams in our path." - Chris Thomas, Irish guard

"This stretch begins with Rutgers, who is coming off a 74-46 drubbing of Providence. Led by freshman Matee Atene's 13 points per game, the Scarlet Knights have knocked off top-15 teams." - Matt Zeches, Irish forward

Men's Swimming

Irish hope to put winter practice to good use

By ANN LOUGHERY Sports Writer

After the team's competition during break in Ireland was cancelled, the No. 21 Irish admit they were a little bummed. "It was a pretty big letdown," captain Matt Berlike said. "We're always looking forward to competition, but we understand the circumstances.

The host Ireland National Team was forced to call off the Jan. 8 competition after the team's training consisted of some racing up and down the coast of Ireland. Although the Wildcats fell to the Bulls, they still have a lot of superstars. Also, although the Wildcats fell to the Bulls, they still have a lot of superstars. Also, although the Wildcats fell to the Bulls, they still have a lot of superstars.

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Rutgers beat Notre Dame later in the season as well, upsetting the No. 2-seeded Irish in the second round of the Big East tournament. 53-45, despite playing with just eight players.

The Irish hope to end this stretch Sunday afternoon, as they try to extend their two-game winning streak.

Notre Dame was led Wednesday night by Courtney LaVore, who played for the first time without a knee brace since her arthroscopic knee surgery in December. LaVore recorded 13 points, all in the first half, and 10 rebounds, for her second double-double of the season.

All-American Jacqueline Batastead has led the Irish all season, putting up 19 points on 7-10 shooting Wednesday. Batastead has had scoring help from point guard Megan Duffy, who scored 17 points Wednesday night. Freshman Cheryl Allen added a career-high 17 points off the bench as well. The Irish offense has been very balanced all season.

"I think we're starting to get a little more comfortable." - McGraw said. "I think different people are stepping up and playing well, we're having a lot more options." — Tip-off is Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

The Observer • SPORTS

Notre Dame guard Chris Quinn defends DePaul's Drake Deiner in a 84-73 Blue Demons victory at the Joyce Center Dec. 11.

Notre Dame Hockey vs. #5 Wisconsin

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Follow the Irish to the Windy City of Chicago!

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Big name in among U.N. leaders
16 ABC reality show
17 Eyewash account
18 Spring arrival
19 Salvaging aid
20 They're picked in grass skirts
21 Hold off refuse
23 Alienated
24 Operates synopses heading
26 Editor Brown
27 Taking off
28 Charging need
30 Mr. person, e.g.
31 Redoubles appear
32 Goldbrick
36 First name among U.N. leaders
39 Not fully respected
43 Family, which includes the citrus trees
44 Sphynx
45 Opera synopsis heading
46 Restaurant refuse
49 First woman in the House of Commons
52 Begins to appear
53 They're inseparable, sang Sinatra
54 A fight
57 Recognition in flight,
58 Days of yore
59 Romeo or Juliet
60 It may precede a light

DOWN
1 Guilty
2 Goldbrick
3 First group in a product
4 Is stuck on something
5 Alley tally
6 First person in Berlin
7 Recognition response
8 High end of many scales
9 Days of, in days of your
10 L'Age (class: T900 dim)
11 Firm head: Abbr.
12 Move, as a plant
13 Shelley was one
14 Funny
15 Fee
19 1990's
20 Baja dog, to an alpha dog
21 1990's
22 Channeling states
23 Postplaywright Brecht
24 Extant
25 Big name in among U.N. leaders
26 A fight
28 They're picked in grass skirts
29 Sport (Ford Explorer)
30 Show disrespect to
31 Mostly level
32 Spray unit
33 Charity (former Kenyan)
34 Enjoy paycheck
35 Mostly level
36 Find you ahead of your game plan this year. The balance you have will raise your confidence and give you a positive outlook. Someone may be challenge you.
37 Corona
38 Enjoy paycheck
39 A fight
40 First name among U.N. leaders
41 (Former Kenyan)
42 Straight
43 Morse code tap
44 Best Actor of March target:
45 Period: (former Kenyan)
46 Famous Bandleader
47 Vegetables: (former Kenyan)
48 Fashionable
49 Have a great eye, and maybe you could end up becoming your significant other.
50 (former Kenyan)
51 Cram
52 Morse code tap
53 They're inseparable, sang Sinatra
54 A fight
55 Best Actor of March target:
56 Century-ending event
57 Recognition in flight,
58 Days of yore
59 Romeo or Juliet
60 It may precede a light

HOROSCOPE

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rob Boudon, 26; Gary Barlow, 34; Bill Miller, 49; Stacey Dash, 39

Happy Birthday: You have plenty on your to-do agenda this year. Your expansive way of looking at things coupled with your very conservative approach should find you ahead of your game plan this year. The money you have available to you put things into perspective. This is a great year to try your skills and present your talents. Your numbers are 9, 13, 22, 27, 36, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Optimism must be taken advantage of even if you don't feel much like doing anything. Don't let personal issues stand in your way if you think you'll learn from a good deal. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a leaf out of your diary and you'll see a high among your peers. You have a good eye, and when you pay your Spoils of war to work, good things happen. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will be off on the races, trying to do everything at once. Slow down, or you might miss someone who is watching you with intensity. This is a great day for love. Take time to do this. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The more you do at home, the more detail you'll get. You can do the housekeeping or check out real estate. The bonus is that there is a good chance you'll make money. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Progress is a must and have fun. Love is in a high cycle, so don't miss a beat if there is someone you like to spend time with. Your contributions will pay off in sexual ways.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take time out to focus on yourself. A little change will take your confidence and give you a positive outlook. Someone may be confronting you – dump this person's actions. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll ask others around anyone who wants to challenge you. You have an expansive view of what's going on, and although it may not be in your favor, you will know how to handle it. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Money matters will escalate, but if you keep close tabs on what's going on, you'll end up making financial gains today. Lock it with you if you play to win. Property deals look good.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are a go-getter who is determined to go the distance and you have an expansive view of what's going on. and although it may not be in your favor, you will know how to handle it. *****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have some unique ideas that will take everyone by storm. Make sure they do this at the right place, in the right work before you present your plans. Now is not the time to withhold in self-pity. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have everything going for you, especially if you get out and have fun with your partner. If single, mingle with people who could end up becoming your significant other. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Feel good about who you are. Don't put too much emphasis on someone who ridicules you. Follow your own path out instead of being a chameleon. Learn to say no and you'll feel better. *****

Birthday Baby: You have presence, hold in a radar and a dynamic way of getting your point across. You are a go-getter who is determined to go the distance regardless of the odds you face.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Friday, January 21, 2005

The Observer • TODAY

Making a move to a healthy, well-balanced diet is not something we do just to lose weight. Eating whole grains, lots of fruits and vegetables and cutting down on sugar and saturated fats is a must. But the key word here is "balance." You can have a little bit of what you like, but you should be conscious of your food choices, and make sure you are getting all the nutrients your body needs. *****

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The Observer
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MEN’S BASKETBALL

Home away from home
Irish look to extend five-game win streak in the MCI Center

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

In the middle of their three-game road trip, the Irish travel to their second home. Riding a two-game road Big East winning streak, the Irish (12-3, 4-1 Big East) face the Hoyas (13-5, 3-2) in the MCI Center Sunday, a building where Notre Dame has won its last five games.

And there have been some memorable ones. In the 2002 BB&T Classic, Notre Dame beat No. 9 Maryland and No. 2 Texas during a week where the Irish defeated three top-10 teams and jumped from unranked to No. 10 in the AP poll.

The season before, Notre Dame and Georgetown played the longest game in school history — a four-OT thriller where the Irish prevailed 116-111.

"How can you forget? It feels like we played an entire day there," Irish senior Jordan Cornette said. "Georgetown loves to give us games and we love to give them some."

Chris Thomas — then a freshman — played all 90 minutes and his feet reminded him in the locker room afterwards.

Irish guard Chris Thomas drives to the right against Syracuse in Notre Dame’s 70-61 loss to the Orange Jan. 10 at the Joyce Center. The Irish visit Georgetown Sunday.

see HOYAS/page 22

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Red-hot Rutgers set to visit

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Entering one of the season’s toughest stretches, the Irish start with one of the hottest teams in women’s basketball.

No. 6 Rutgers (13-3, 4-0 Big East) comes to town to face the No. 11 Irish (14-3, 2-2 Big East, who are fresh off a 74-61 win on the road against Syracuse.

Notre Dame faces St. John’s, No. 13 Connecticut and No. 14 Boston College after they face the Scarlet Knights. That makes three of the next four games against the top-10 teams.

Irish guard Megan Duffy dribbles between her legs in Notre Dame’s 67-50 loss to Connecticut Jan. 12 at the Joyce Center.

see RUTGERS/page 22

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish welcome No. 6 Vanderbilt to the Eck

Team also faces first test of young season against Ohio State

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Talent and confidence make for a potent combination. Fortunately, these commodities are coming in bulk this season for the talent-laden Notre Dame team.

Although the Irish graduated Alicia Salas, ranked No. 22 nationally last season, the team has proven itself capable of great success already this year.

“Everyone has been playing so well lately in practices,” sophomore Christian Thompson said. “We have so much talent on our team. I think everyone is excited to see how far we can go this season.”

The No. 21 Irish will face their first test of the season at Ohio State Saturday and are set to host No. 6 Vanderbilt on Sunday at 12 p.m.

Thompson anticipates that both matches will prove to be challenging, but believes the team is more than capable of holding its own.

“I think Ohio State will be hard because it’s the first match of the season, and Vanderbilt has a great team,” Thompson said.

see VANDY/page 21

SPORTS

MEN’S SWIMMING
Wildcats at Irish Saturday, 2 p.m.
Notre Dame hosts No. 14 Northwestern at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

see page 22

ND TRACK
Notre Dame Indoor Opener Friday, 7:00 p.m.
The Irish kick off the indoor season this weekend at Loftus.

see page 21

FENCING
New York Duals Sunday, 8 a.m.
The young squad challenges Indiana at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

see page 20

MEN’S TENNIS
Hoosiers at Irish Saturday, 11 a.m.
Saint Mary’s travels to Tri-State in a must-win conference tilt.

see page 20

SMC BASKETBALL
Belles at Thunder Saturday, 1 p.m.
Saint Mary’s travels to Tri-State in a must-win conference tilt.

see page 20

SMC SWIMMING
Hornets at Belles Friday, 6 p.m.
Saint Mary’s hosts Kalamazoo at the Rolfs Aquatic Center tonight.

see page 19

HOCKEY

Icers set to battle Badgers

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Assistant Sports Editor

The Irish have one more chance to gain some positive momentum before going into the home stretch of the CHA season.

Notre Dame (5-14-5) takes on non-conference foe No. 5 Wisconsin (17-6-1) at the Joyce Center Friday, and finishes up the weekend series with a game against the Badgers at Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill., a suburb of Chicago.

The Irish come into Friday’s game having lost their most recent match, 6-2, against Michigan Tech in Green Bay, Wis. on Tuesday night. Notre Dame coach Dave Poulin said his team missed a chance to gain some positive momentum against a Michigan Tech squad that had only won two games before facing the Irish.

“We were really disappointed,” Poulin said. “The reason that you schedule non-conference games is to gain some confidence. The reason that you schedule non-conference games is to get some wins.”

see BADGERS/page 21
THE OBSERVER
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2005

in focus

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

NOTRE DAME AND SAINT MARY'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT 2004-2005
Reconstituting the constitution
Structure of government changed in the name of efficiency

Notre Dame Student Union Structure

OLD

NEW

By AMANDA MICHAELS

Only in the political arena could a duty performed in the name of efficiency turn into a drawn-out and complex process—truly at its finest, and exactly what student government leaders entered into when they took on the awesome task of restructuring the student union constitution at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year.

After months of sometimes heated, sometimes philosophical, occasionally nit-picking debate, a constitution granting a drastic reorganization to the student union was approved the night before its new leaders were to take office.

Even with flow charts to guide the way, the new system can be disorienting, including for those acquainted with the old one.

But while a confusing organization is never a plus, the restructured constitution produced a student union with more across-the-board student representation and power—an agreeable benefit to the addition of more layers of bureaucracy.

To put the new system into perspective, the old one must be clarified.

Prior to this year, the student body president was truly the head of the government. Under the president was the vice president, who chaired the Student Union Senate, which was comprised by the old one must be clarified.

Prior to this year, the student body president was truly the head of the government. Under the president was the vice president, who chaired the Student Union Senate, which was comprised by a set of standing committees.

The president was also connected to the Executive Cabinet, made up of a representative group of government bodies including the president of the president, the Student Union Board, the Hall Presidents’ Council, the Unity Coordination Council, the Class Councils, and the Off-Campus Council.

The Judicial Council presided over the president’s link to the Judicial Council, as the student union treasurer was the bridge to the Financial Management Board.

In this organization, the power to legislate was largely isolated in the Senate, while the power to implement fell to the president—with the guidance of the Executive Cabinet. Then-student body president Pat Hallahan found this division to be hurting the productivity of the student union, and led the charge for a massive overhaul.

Though the revamped constitution features many sweeping changes, one of the most noticeable is the transformation of the Executive Cabinet into the Council of the President. Members from every governing body sit on COR, and because of this complete representation, the group was originally granted both the power to approve the budget and amend the constitution. The latter power has since been transferred back to the Senate.

COR joins the two divisions of the executive branch—the policy branch and the programming branch—under a unified president. The policy branch, presided over by the student body vice president, is comprised of the Executive Policy Board and the Student Senate. The presidency is nominated by its members from the six standing committees (University Affairs, Residence Life, Academic Affairs, Diversity, Gender Relations, and Oversight) seated on the Executive Policy Board, and at least one senator must sit on every committee. This design forces the Office of the President to work more closely with the Senate’s standing committees.

The programming branch is led by the chief executive assistant — formerly the chief of staff. Previously the chief of staff was solely in charge of running the Office of the President.

The rest of its members are made up primarily of the second in-command for the bodies most concerned with programming—COR, the HPC, Class Councils and Off-Campus Councils.

Connections between bodies or between bodies and the president

Connections with board committees or board members

As current chief executive assistant Dave Baron explained, the Executive Programming Board assigns a specific role to the student leaders who once lacked a defined function.

The fusion of legislative and executive powers into the student Senate may create a relatively weaker student body president, but its ability to create more levels of bureaucracy and less immediate results, but subsequent decisions will have been made by a group of men and women representing every undergraduate at Notre Dame.

Likewise, the division of the government bodies into two different branches and their reintegration in COR may create more levels of bureaucracy and thus more debate and red tape, to drug ideas through.

Delegating specific functions to each branch, however, can lead to increased efficiency if utilized correctly, and the slower process of approval ensures that every proposal that makes it out bears the approval of the widest band of representation the student government could afford.

Though it took up the student government’s time for almost a year, the effort produced a new constitution, which may cre­ate more levels of bureaucracy and thus more debate and red tape, to drug ideas through.

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OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Istvan, Bell gain experience but lack vision

By focusing on small successes, leaders allow larger plans to stall

By AMANDA MICHAELS

When they took office in April, student body president Adam Istvan and vice president Karla Bell were enthusiastic about student government — their term was not a flaw, but an asset. They promised to bring a fresh approach to governance that would address the issues of dorm cohesion and off-campus safety;

"Istvan and Bell have a new 'pledge' system where students promise not to drink alcohol during the event. But what was once referred to by Istvan as the "Holy Grail" of campus policy has recently barely a mention since he and Bell took office in April.

When asked about the status of the SYR fight, Istvan said a talk with Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman made him realize that the only possible path to gain headway would be to make a big fuss.

"Since the campaign, though, doms and dorms are coming up with other ideas to create the kind of unity that the SYRs used to, and that I wanted to get back by bringing SYRs back to the dorms," Istvan said. "I still want SYRs in the dorms, but I don't want to risk a crackdown on these new events that are springing up by starting a fight."

"Istvan and Bell are looking at the campaign promises fulfilled in the first two out of three terms, the student body involvement in the new "Istvan-Bell campaign promise"

By focusing on small successes, leaders allow larger plans to stall

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By focusing on small successes, leaders allow larger plans to stall

By focusing on small successes, leaders allow larger plans to stall
Shaky start overcome by discussion and unity

By AMANDA MICHAELS
In Focus Writer

With the new constitution taking effect, the Senate faced several challenges in the early phases of the semester. The first six weeks were a time of finding one’s feet, as the new senators adjusted to their roles and responsibilities. The early months were not without their difficulties, however, as the Senate struggled to find its footing and establish a cohesive working relationship.

The beginning of the Senate’s term was not a promising one, as members struggled to find common ground and build rapport with each other. The new constitution, which had been the subject of much debate and discussion over the previous months, was met with mixed reactions from the senators.

The Senate was split on several issues, including the merits of off-campus housing, the feasibility of hosting Napster on the campus network, and the creation of a new plan for ticket sales. These disagreements were not limited to policy decisions, but also extended to personal matters, such as the treatment of absent senators and the use of the Runner’s Guide to the Academic Calendar.

Despite these challenges, the Senate did manage to make some progress. The Committee on Academic Affairs, for example, succeeded in drafting a resolution to address the issue of academic freedom in the arts and sciences. Similarly, the Committee on Gender Relations and the Resource Center were able to make significant strides in their respective areas.

The Senate was also able to make some progress in matters related to student life. The Committee on University Affairs was able to pass a resolution calling for the release of the Student Course Evaluation System, and the Committee on Gender Relations was able to make some progress in addressing the issue of sexual harassment.

Overall, the first six weeks of the Senate’s term were a time of transition and adjustment. While there were certainly challenges, the Senate was able to overcome them with discussion and unity. As the semester progresses, the Senate will continue to work towards building a more cohesive and effective working relationship.

Effort: A- Results: B

The senators have had a mixed term so far. While they have made progress on some issues, there are still areas where they could improve. The Senate has been able to make some progress, but there is still work to be done.

The six standing committees have been busy this semester, and the overall results of their work have been mixed. The Committee on Academic Affairs has made some progress on the issue of academic freedom, but there is still work to be done. The Committee on Gender Relations has been able to make some progress on the issue of sexual harassment, but there is still work to be done. The Committee on University Affairs has made some progress on the issue of the Student Course Evaluation System, but there is still work to be done.

The Senate has been able to make some progress on other issues as well. The Committee on Gender Relations and the Resource Center have been able to make some progress on the issue of the Resource Center, but there is still work to be done. The Committee on University Affairs has made some progress on the issue of the Student Course Evaluation System, but there is still work to be done.

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Members aim for balance of debate and impact

Constitutional restrictions force COR to focus on discussion in lieu of action

By MARY KATE MALONE
In Focus Writer

When student body president Adam Isvahn calls the Council of Representatives weekly meeting to order every Monday night, representatives are hushed. In the past, a key component of the position of COR member was a fighting spirit over the COR members as ordering the agenda, discussing, and debating in COR's weekly meetings.

So far this year, COR has promptly met at their scheduled time and carried out their weekly business in an orderly, timely fashion. Yet the business side of COR's weekly meetings is not a sure sign of success.

For a student government group to be successful, its presence must be felt on campus as it pursues ways to improve student life at Notre Dame. Communication

In integral to the success of COR is the ability of its members to effectively communicate with one another and to the rest of the student body. This year, representatives have done a fair job on both of these requirements, rising above a truly balanced forum for debate.

"I have found that there is a lack of upward flow of ideas at our weekly meetings," chief executive assistant Dave Baron said. "It seems that Adam, Karla and I use an issue and ask the representatives for their feedback. But each representative should be able to speak to COR themselves."

Discussions at COR meetings are largely dominated by the council president.

Though the council president has the capability to serve as a sounding board for members of COR, the exchange of ideas, if representatives do not understand the value of participating in their respective constituencies, then Isvahn's ability to answer to the student body's needs is hindered.

Senior class president Darrell Becker believes that the inclusion of a non-voting member to the council from the Diversity Council is an example of how members' ideas can be implemented properly, and communica-

By TERESA FRALISH

When the Student Union Board's budget week kicked off last spring, they promised to deliver a budget — consistency, accountability and enthusiasm — for the spring semester. They have achieved exactly that.

After a year in which many groups experienced cutbacks in funding, the groups have now more than they started out as positive accomplishments on the part of this group.

During the spring and fall of last year, the student groups chose to program a wide variety of small-scale events — from the new Firefly concert series, Outsidor Week, and Open Sesame to the Best of A crosstalk television program.

SuB also deserves a nod for planning well-run student activities, such as the annual lottery. After last year's lottery debacle that many students termed unfair and poorly run, the council implemented a lottery with fair and easily understood procedures. Each student was given six tickets by the University with the possibility of winning a variety of prizes, including six DS by lottery and organizing events that help prove to help promote long lines.

The board has also worked to host a variety of large-scale entertainment events, such as the recent jazz concert, to help promote the board's efforts to ensure that student funds are well spent and that events are carefully curated. The board has also maintained a set of innovative programs like the Fireflies Chat series and a revamped Battle of the Bands to be held outside in spring.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu
Given the diversity in the age, roles and interests of its members, the Campus Life Council has made admirable strides toward more productive and informed dialogue, but greater efficiency must be achieved before their ideas can be realized.

The council, which brings together student government, administration and faculty biweekly to discuss issues and propose changes to Student Affairs, often falls under fire for failing to produce visible results. This year has been no exception, as the three committees that comprise the CLC have focused on tasks deemed to be "tangible," but have yet to attain anything.

According to Adam Istrin, student body president and CLC chair, the composition of the organization often restricts its productivity. A two-thirds vote is required to make recommendations to Student Affairs, but members of the administration comprise more than one third of the group, so student-backed issues are easily stalled, he said.

"It's an interesting group in that it's such a diverse group and there's a lot of controversy through—we can't just go gung-ho and try to implement our ideas," Istrin said.

Last semester, CLC made no recommendations to Student Affairs. Istrin said he did not express concern about the slow pace, emphasizing the research and dialogue components.

"The discussion is more important than actual policy recommendations," he said, who admitted that CLC is "not the most effective way to recommend things like Fathali Purnam." Because its term begins at the start of fall semester, CLC faces a different calendar than other student groups, so it must begin their new terms in April.

We've basically robbed ourselves of two, three months of productivity—you don't have a chance to put things rolling, Istrin said.

CLC has made successful proposals in the past. In November 2003, the group had already managed to approve a widely respected resolution to investigate resident assistant training. This measure addressed an important campus issue—at the time, RA's were being fired because of scheduling conflicts—while earning credibility for itself as a group. So, a lack of action should not be pinned solely on matters of time or group composition.

CLC is comprised of three task forces—vending, security and social concerns. These committees are all currently in the research stage and are confidently pursuing what they view as achievable goals.

The vending task force is investigating the recent increase in Brady and Curry Center pricing on campus, aiming to write a proposal recommending changes to improve the situation by the beginning of spring semester.

The security task force is trying to raise awareness of crime and safety issues around campus—goals related to those outlined in Brian's Board of Trustees report, and thus an avenue for increased productivity.

"I think the realistic goals that we're shooting for right now are finding a better way for students to regularly be aware of instances involving crime and security services, possibly through a section in The Observer or a Livewire email," Alex French, O'Neill senator and task force chair, said.

The social concerns task force aims to come to a better understanding of social diversity and create a means of increasing diversity awareness on Notre Dame's campus.

Campus Wide Committee and task force chair Jordan Bongiovanni explained that although the committee was initially interested in instituting a mandatory social awareness class for all Notre Dame students, it is now realizing much more research is needed.

But while the committee might not be able to enact a new policy right now, it will compile, organize and translate the information for future groups.

The nature of CLC's dialogue and the dedication of its members to researching their goals suggest that there should be more to show for their efforts. Although the group's position as an intersection of student desire and administrative action naturally makes productivity more difficult, CLC members need to reassess their approach to the problems, and find the missing link between dialogue, research and results.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhan21@nd.edu

David Moss, left, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and co-chair of the CLC social concerns committee, speaks at a meeting. The council is composed of faculty, administration and students.

By MADDIE HANNA
In Focus Writer

B

Although the Campus Life Council has little to show after a semester of meetings, most of its time has been spent building toward concrete plannings that should materialize this spring, due largely to the efforts of dedicated committee chairs who handled a great deal of legwork. The council's most beneficial job is one on an ongoing basis of using their biweekly meetings as a forum. To take the next step, the council needs to instill a sense of urgency into its conversations and focus on implementing more visible changes to the Notre Dame community.

Standing of social diversity and create a means of increasing diversity awareness on Notre Dame's campus. Campus Wide Committee and task force chair Jordan Bongiovanni explained that although the committee was initially interested in instituting a mandatory social awareness class for all Notre Dame students, it is now realizing much more research is needed.

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By ANGELA SAOUĐ
In Focus Writer

Student body president Sarah Catherine White and vice president Mary Pauline Moran were so dedi­cated to fostering communication in the Student Government that the senators decided to live next door to each other — because sharing a hallway was too close to sharing a board.

"We are connected through our office, in meetings, between classes, on the computer," White said. "We decided early that communication between the two of us, and between the two of us and the rest of our board was going to be key to our success."

And so far, their theory seems to be working.

Since taking office on April 1, the two women have carried out with school traditions, reinstated certain discontinued Saint Mary's programs and worked together as a team to help be a voice for the community.

"The platform we ran under wasfielding Change," and I think we're doing that," White said. "We're addressing a new era at Saint Mary's with a new College president, new traditions and new buildings on campus. Things are going well for us right now."

And looking at the new and revised curriculum and role that White and Moran have worked with, the cam­pus community would have to agree.

On Nov. 18, White gave the sec­ond annual State of the School Address, following in the footsteps of last year's student body presi­dent, Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl.

BOG has also teamed with the Global and Social Concerns to bring students the option of Service Sundays — an organization through which students can volunteer one day a month without making a large commitment to one commu­nity organization.

White and Moran have also rein­stated the "Big Six, Little Six" program, which used to be a part of the Saint Mary's campus.

"We team up sophomores with freshmen in their dorms and set up a sort of mentoring situation for each freshman," White said. "Dr. Mooney had this program when she attended Saint Mary's, and she still keeps in touch with her big six."

Besides adding new programs, White and Moran also have been working with issues of diversity, organizing forums and seeking stu­dent feedback about issues impor­tant to the College.

At this point in their term, White and Moran have also taken the time to invite staff members to their weekly BOG meetings in order to stay up-to-date with all events happen­ing on campus.

And for anyone who thinks White and Moran haven't been working hard, it's time to think again.

In addition to shining a spotlight on our campus, White and Moran have kept their promise to the Student Government, led by student body president Sarah Catherine White and vice president Mary Pauline Moran, has kept its promise to "ring in change" despite the con­straints of a campus-wide budget cut.

"We do not foresee the budget cut causing any difficulty in terms of our programs and govern­ment funds," Moran said. "Our treasury, Molly Welton, has been dili­gent in making sure all of the [Student Government Association's] allotted money is properly distributed to serve the entire student body.

According to Welton, the budget cut has had a positive effect on student government. It has caused BOG to be more careful with the expenditures of funds, resulting in larger events, such as the Emerson Drive and Blessed Union of Souls concerts, rather than smaller, more frequent events.

"Because student government's money comes directly from the $130 per student fee, we have restructured our goals so that we're spending our money in ways that it will reach the most students on our campus, and so far I am real­ly pleased with the results," Welton said. "BOG is composed of 10 boards dealing with the areas of admin­istration, campus clubs, off-campus stu­dents, mission, public relations, technology, women's issues and Holy Cross College."

"When White and Moran were elected last spring, they promised to properly welcome College President Carol Mooney and oversee the transition from one campus to another, and they've been working with student schedules. But, we have a duty and we were elected to take charge and lead the Board of Governance.

"It's been an adjustment," Moran said. "But, we're enthusiastic. We're a small school so we can't do everything, but we can try."

White said she also plans to make the best of the time she has left in office.

"We're realistic about what we can accomplish in one term, but we want to set goals up to when we're gone," she said. "Time is a factor. We have to be flexible and be able to work with student schedules. But, we have a duty and we were elected to take charge and lead our students and get things done, and that's what we're going to do."

Contact Angela Saoud at saoud93@saintmarys.edu

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**BOARD OF GOVERNANCE**

**Student leaders overcome budget cuts to 'ring in change'**

**Fund constraints force BOG to look to larger programs to achieve promised goals**

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance, led by student body president Sarah Catherine White and vice president Mary Pauline Moran, has kept its promise to "ring in change" despite the con­straints of a campus-wide budget cut.

"We do not foresee the budget cut causing any difficulty in terms of our programs and govern­ment funds," Moran said. "Our treasurer, Molly Welton, has been dili­gent in making sure all of the [Student Government Association's] allotted money is properly distributed to serve the entire student body.

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**During their campaign, student body president Sarah Catherine White and vice president Mary Pauline Moran claimed they were ready to take charge and lead Saint Mary's into the future with the plat­form of the Student Government to make big events and pinching pennies in between.**

But in addition to spending a good deal of time planning, working with and defending new Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney to campus community, BOG has also addressed their other campaign promises as well. They provided an approachable and well-organized environment to give all students the opportunity to lead a voice in campus community, and to bring home a sense of change and possibility.

With their goals in mind, BOG has seized on the opportunity to share a sense of change and possibility on campus community.

"We have a strong sense of change and possibility on campus community," White said. "But, we can't just sit there and watch what's going on. We have to be a part of it and lead people to help make it happen."

However, these goals were not particu­larly ambitious. Meeting expectations is only commendable when those expectations are set high in the first place, and White and Moran have mostly favored steady leadership over exceeding the status quo.

With only a few months left in their term, White and Moran are trying to keep ringing in change with the upcoming opening of the new stu­dent center, the renewal of the South Campus, which pairs each first year student with a sophomore.

As Saint Mary's students anx­iously await the tentative schedule for the spring of 2018, BOG is mak­ing plans to utilize it, as Women's Issues commissioner Katie Kelly is coordinating the opening of a Women's Center in the building.

BOG has worked diligently to ensure that the College's Campus Diversity Board to promote dis­crimination and diversity is in place at Saint Mary's woman by holding Identity Forums open to the entire student body to increase open and honest discussion.

On a successful basis, thus far, the BOG should continue to achieve its goals for the rest of its term.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeehan@saintmarys.edu

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**Student body president Sarah Catherine White, right, and vice president Mary Pauline Moran listen in on a Board of Governance meeting. Meetings have been a discussion forum for many of their ideas.**

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**Members of Board of Governance discuss the Saint Mary's Identity Forum at the group's Nov. 9 meeting.**
**Government in brief...**

**Residence Hall Association plans campus events.**

For the Saint Mary's Residence Hall Association, the phrase "your home away from home" is more than just a familiar saying — it is a mission to work by.

RHA oversees the five residence halls on campus, including Le Mans, Holy Cross, Regis, Annunciation, and Annunciation. This year, with the inaugural opening of Opus Hall, it was also responsible for planning the first on-campus events.

One of the association's biggest undertakings of the year was introducing its residents to the College's new president, Carol Monney. Each residence hall hosted a "President's Dr. Monney" evening where students met and quizzed the president in an intimate setting.

And, as in past years, RHA is in charge of organizing and putting on school-wide events, such as the All-School Formal and the Saint Mary's Homecoming bonfire. The All-School Formal is called "A Night in New Orleans" and will take place this Saturday at the Palace Royale on Feb. 5. Despite Little Sibs weekend being just a month away — it is scheduled for Feb. 15-20 — RHA has not publicized the details of the event.

Megan O'Neil

**Student Academic Council introduces majors.**

The Saint Mary's Student Academic Council is made up of student representatives from each major and minor, whose primary goal is to further the vision of the College.

The council fulfills primarily on an individual basis, with each major or minor's representative working independently on their respective areas of focus. SAC is responsible for planning the "Major of the Week" events. Each week throughout the year is dedicated to one particular major, and during that week that major's representative plans events to familiarize the Saint Mary's community with the goals and ideas of their major.

The council worked to create the College's reading day, and continues to work for the utilization of this day by the student body. SAC is also in the process of implementing a syllabus posting area prior to registration.

In March, the SAC puts on its annual "Women Honoring Women" event, which honors a woman from the faculty or administration who has proven to be a vital and noble member of the Saint Mary's community. Students are invited to nominate a woman for this award in January.

Kelsey Meehan

**Student Diversity Board promotes discussion.**

Striving to promote diversity in a largely homogeneous environment is a difficult task, and the Saint Mary's College Student Diversity Board has taken several positive steps forward by initiating critical discussions on campus.

Focusing on raising its profile on campus and working for policy changes for disabled students, SDB hosted several events throughout the year and discussed diversity issues with students.

One such event was the second annual SDB bonfire that brought together students from the Saint Mary's, Notre Dame and Holy Cross campuses and included cultural dancing and food.

SDB also worked with the Board of Governance to organize an identity forum that helped discover students' definition of the "Saint Mary's woman".

Despite recent controversy with the board, the student body initiated the biweekly SDB News, which is placed during bathroom stalls around campus to highlight specific topics or events.

Already looking forward to next semester, the board created a student survey asking for responses to past events and suggestions for future.

Megan O'Neil

**Student Trustee Brown works with Board.**

Saint Mary's Student Trustee Sara Brown has had an eventful year in which to serve on the Board of Trustees.

This semester, Sara Brown has played a role in the hiring of new President Monney and was a major contributor to the change in the Board of Governance Constituent Committee, which was announced in April and approved this fall.

Brown also oversaw elections for the first-year class and the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees met over fall break, when Brown attended several days of events including orientation for new trustees, various small meetings, and a full board meeting on Friday. The Board discussed the financial status of the College, the roles of Resident Advisors and Health and Wellness on campus and energy conservation on campus in the upcoming semester. Brown's suggestion of a task force on campus to address the news that the Board has been given.

Brown attended Monney's recent inauguration as a member of both the Board and the Class of 2002. She will also attend the next Board of Trustees meeting when they convene Feb. 24, and will continue to give feedback to the student body on what the Trustees accomplished for Saint Mary's.

-Nicole Zook

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**First Year Board**

**Sophomore Board**

**Junior Board**

**Senior Board**

This year's first year board quickly jumped into planning events for its classmates. The board has divided into committees and discusses what each of the committees has done to further their plans for particular events and fundraisers.

So far, they have hosted "The Bachelor Night" and a "Dynamic Dance Dance" on Dec. 3. Members also organized "Lessons and Carols" and the Loretto Dance on Dec. 12.

They are also currently working on a canned food drive and will give the donations to a local food pantry.

The group has also started work on fundraisers, class gear and social activities for next semester.

-Erika Rangel

The sophomore board has hosted only one event this year — performer Jesse Young at Ballyhoo's (though many more events are being organized).

Preparations for the Saint Mary's tradition, Sophomore Parents Weekend, are underway. Set for Feb. 25-27, this year's theme is "How Sweet It Is to Be Loved By You." SPF will be followed by the April 9 class formal.

Other projects throughout the year will include a dance with the Notre Dame sophomore class. Both boards discussed a possible Valentine's Day dance auction with the proceeds going to charity, and a powder-puff football between each school's women.

-Michelle Eggers

This semester the Junior class board, led by class president Emily Shadders, has coordinated many events, including the post-football game study break and helps the class dance, "Diva Las Vegas." It designed week (the Class of 2005's first event) and co-sponsored Project Warmth.

Junior Board is responsible for the annual Junior Mom's Weekend in February, and has started planning the event's wine and cheese reception as well as the annual formal dinner at the Century Center. During the spring semester, the Evans will sponsor the annual Sophomore Powder-puff Game, and Raymond the Sophomore Powder-puff football.

-Erika Rangel

This class president Jacqueline Ciminer and class president Abby Ragan have brought a new focus to the board through activities such as the Senior Kickoff at the new Opus Hall apartments, a senior tailgate, and Saint Mary's Hill and St. Mary's Day.

The board's biggest success, including father-daughter bowling, a football tailgate at the College Football Championship, a fashion show, and a Silent Auction in the museum, a mass at the Church of Loreto and a Casino Night at Heartland.

Ragan said she feels the main goal of freshman year is to have the seniors make as big an impact as possible. Erika Rangel said the senior board would be successful in the first semester.

-Nicole Zook