Students encouraged to cast votes
Judicial Council, Kozlow hopeful that e-mail will remind community to participate

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

The four tickets running for student body president and vice president will spend this weekend drumming up support, but for Judicial Council President Liz Kozlow, the goal on Monday is just to get students to place their votes.

And her council hopes to increase the turnout for this election from last year's 52 percent.

"Ideally, we would like everyone to vote because it's very simple to do," Kozlow said. "I would like to see 60-65 percent turnout this year.

Over the past few years, turnout has hovered around 50 percent.

At Activities Night this fall, Kozlow encouraged people to sign up for her election committee to boost turnout and to increase student participation in the voting process and to implement these ideas on the day of and leading up to election day.

see VOTING/page 6

University considers new minor
Native American studies program proposed by students

By KATHLEEN MCDONNELL
News Writer

As the University explores adding Native American Studies — the first fully student-initiated minor at Notre Dame — to its curriculum, the idea may become a reality in just a few years, said Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Letters Stuart Greene.

A resolution to enhance student life for Native Americans passed through both the Student Senate and the Campus Life Council this year.

The resolution included a plan for the new minor and also proposed providing additional advising resources for Native American students and encouraged collaboration to present the history of Notre Dame with sensitivity to its former inhabitants.

Student interest can produce or at least initiate — minors or majors, Greene said. The Education, Schooling and Society minor grew from persistent interest and faculty member's independent studies. And Korean should be offered in two years due to student interest.

The proposition for a Native American Studies minor, however, "is really the first time that students directly have come to the College [of Arts and Letters] and requested that at least a dean explore the idea may become a reality in two years," Greene said.

As the University explores adding Native American Studies, the goal on Monday is just to get students to place their votes.

see MINOR/page 6

Israel threatened by nuclear Iran, Inbar says

By JOHN-Paul WITT
News Writer

Israel is more secure than it's ever been, but the country still faces major threats, professor Efraim Inbar said in a lecture Thursday night at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

Inbar, director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, outlined Israel's position in terms of its immediate surroundings, the Middle East and the world.

"The resilience of the peace process is striking, the reluctant acceptance of Israel by other Middle Eastern countries," he said.

The peace process has only succeeded, he said, because Israel is able to present a "credible military threat" to its neighbors and deter them from taking action.

"Israel has been successful in fighting wars because they are understood as wars of no choice," Inbar said. "Israel is only 50 miles wide and is vulnerable from all sides."

The greatest threat to Israel today is a nuclear Iran, Inbar said. Nuclear weapons would give Iran the capability to destroy Israel before Israel could defend itself.

"I am amazed at [the] lack of response in [the] free world," he said.

see INBAR/page 8

'Fragtime' explores race issues

By EMILY KEEBLER
News Writer

Members of the Paquerrilla East Musical Company (PEMCo.) — joined by faculty members and a graduate student — facilitated exploration into the emotionally charged issues of race, class and the American dream Wednesday night in their production of Ragtime, the Musical.

Director and senior Jack Carr of the College of Arts and Letters said this year's production is to "watch, reflect on it and learn from it." The leaders of PEMCo. decided to hold an academic panel to facilitate this discussion on the Wednesday between the two shows.

see RAGTIME/page 8

Israel threatened by nuclear Iran, Inbar says
Recruiting mania

Aug. 15, 2003: Grand Rapids, Mich., prospect Chris Khorey announces his top choices for college. Notre Dame is high on the list. Message board posters consider Khorey a lock to be Irish because of his legacy status.

Khorey looks to be one of the top high school players in the Midwest, but some recruiting analysts say he has the flexibility to be a political science or psychology major.

Sept. 22, 2003: Fresh off writing a cover story in his high school newspaper, Khorey trims his list to five schools — Notre Dame, Duke, Virginia, Boston College and Wake Forest.

Message board posters express confusion over the presence of Wake Forest on the list and speculate that the Little Giants may be using illegal recruiting tactics.

Recruiting analysts wonder if Notre Dame's lack of a journalism major will hurt the Irish.

Oct. 3, 2003: Khorey announces his intention to apply early action to Notre Dame. Irish fans rejoice, assuming this means he is a sure-bet to come to South Bend. So long as all admissions don't get in the way, that is.

Nov. 15, 2003: Khorey announces that he will send in regular applications to his other four top schools in time for regular admission. Irish fans start to worry that Notre Dame is losing his hold on him.

Dec. 14, 2003: News breaks that Wake Forest is offering Khorey a full scholarship, a spot on the basketball team, and an editorship at the newspaper by sophomore year. Notre Dame fans panic. The Irish cannot match those offers. But would a legacy really consider turning down Notre Dame for promises that Wake Forest might not be able to keep?

Dec. 23, 2003: Khorey is accepted into Notre Dame. Irish fans breathe a sigh of relief that Admissions let him in.

Jan. 1, 2004: Khorey sends in regular admission applications to Duke, Virginia, Wake Forest, and BC. Irish fans panic again — he's in at Notre Dame, why the other applications?

Jan. 23, 2004: Wake Forest offers Khorey an all-expenses-paid visit. While there he records that he will attend academic officials, newspaper editors and basketball coaches. Notre Dame fans assume all is lost and that Notre Dame has lost its bottom weather in South Bend despite being from Michigan. NDNation.com shuts down for three days.

Feb. 14, 2004: Khorey visits Notre Dame and stays with a freshman in Dillon Hall. During his visit, he announces that he will enroll at Notre Dame and that it was his first choice all along. There is much rejoicing among Irish fans. Message board posters declare Khorey the next Matt Stomin and J.W. Jordan rolled into one.

NDNation.com shuts down for three more days.

Feb. 21, 2004: Message board posters wonder why Khorey's sister, a high school sophomore, hasn't committed to Notre Dame yet.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer, e-mail chskorey@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-3541 or so we can correct our error.

Chris Khorey
Associate Sports Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN A STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT?

Marcus Gatto
sophomore
Dillon

"ISO-SWF: non-smoker, not afraid to commit. Must love children. No drugs or alcohol please. Are you ready to take the plunge?"

Andrew Masak
sophomore
Dillon

"Fiscal responsibility, flowing brown hair, brains, background, tennis ability and ability to attract ladies... basically Dan Kremcruk."

Susan Bigelow
sophomore
Badin

"Must possess an abiding love for the Hesburgh Library Rare Books Collection."

Missy Reidy
sophomore
Welsh Family

"I don't look for anything. They look for me."

Jason Miller
freshman
Dillon

"Looks are a plus... probably a girl."

Eddie Velazquez
freshman
O'Neill

"A candidate who is not from Zanm."

IN BRIEF

Ragtime, the Musical, will be performed by members of the Pasquerilla East Musical Company (PEMCo.) tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are $6 for students and seniors and $8 for adults. They can be purchased at the LaFortune box office.

The Student Union Board will present the movie "Flags of Our Fathers" in place of "Bobby" tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo. Admission is $3.

Notre Dame men's hockey team will play Nebraska-Omaha tonight at 7:35 and also at 7:05 p.m. on Saturday at the Joyce Center. Tickets are available by calling the Joyce Center ticket office.

The primary elections for student body president and vice president will take place Monday between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Students can vote online with their own computers or use computers set up in LaFortune, Mendoza or DeBartolo Hall.

Former U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige will speak Monday at 7:30 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall as the keynote speaker for Black History month. This event is free.

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

OFFBEAT

Bears fan changes name

Daviut, Ill. — Scott Wiese, a die-hard Chicago Bears fan, will legally change his name to that of Bears quarterback Peyton Manning after signing a pledge in front of a crowd at a Decatur bar last Friday night. He vowed to adopt Manning's name if the Bears lost Sunday's Super Bowl.

The final score was Colts 29, Bears 17. So on Tuesday, Wiese went to the Marion County Courts Facility and started the process of changing his name.

"I made the bet, and now I've got to keep it," said the 26-year-old, who lives in Forsyth, just north of Decatur.

Wiese will now have to advertise his intention in the local newspaper — the Herald & Review — for several weeks and then have a judge give him the OK to become, legally anyway, Peyton Manning.

Man saves grandson from anaconda

Sao Paulo, Brazil — A 66-year-old Brazilian saved his grandson from the grip of a 16-foot-long anaconda by beating the snake with rocks and a knife for half an hour, police said Thursday. "When I saw the snake wrapped around my grandson's neck I thought it was going to kill him," Joao Pereira told the Agencia Estado news service. "It was agonizing, I pulled it from one side, but it would come back on the other." Pereira's 8-year-old grandson, Matheus, was attacked by the anaconda near a creek on his grandfather's farm in the city of Cosmorama, about 350 miles northwest of Sao Paulo.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Students Weichler, guitarist, and Don Grewe of the band Josam Scott perform Thursday at Legends as part of the "ND Live: Artists for Africa" event.

TOM ZILLANTE/ The Observer
Professor receives NEF award

By BRIDGET KEATING

With medical school tuition steadily increasing, graduating medical school students now have the highest average debt of any professional education.

But there's a solution, army and non-commissioned officers told students Thursday — join the military.

Norine Dame alumnus Brig. Gen. Philip Volpe, the recipient of the 2005, bronze Star and the Purple Heart, delivered a lecture in DelBartolo Hall Thursday night. He was joined by Maj. Doug Muscott, 1st Lt. Bob Schluau, aide de camp to Volpe, Sgt. 1st Class Bill Hill and Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Vanover.

All the officers encouraged students to pursue a medical profession while serving in the military, citing the advantages of full-tuition payments, world-class training, camaraderie and intangibles such as the pride of serving one's country.

"At some people should explore such options, Hill said. "Eliminating this major financial burden is something I personally highly recommend.

Muscott discussed the perks of life as an Army medical student. In addition to free tuition, students receive full pay with benefits and are promised no deployments while in school or residency, he said.

Military doctors also escape the insurance, business operation and administrative costs involved in operating a private practice, he said.

Muscott said that while a military income might seem comparable to a civilian practice, the military pay includes comprehensive benefits, discounts and tax opportunities — making the two figures very different indeed.

Volpe, who graduated from the University in 1977, incorporated his experience at Notre Dame memories into his talk. While he was an undergraduate, Volpe coached Flanner Hall to a victory in the Interhall football championship and had enough foresight to hire a student named Charlie Weis as his assistant coach. He also recalled visits to legendary coach Ara Parseghian.

"The Grotto works," he said. "I passed all my exams.

Another former Flanner resident, Al Rucci, listened to the lecture and called Volpe "as great an American hero and Notre Dame man as he is a solid citizen and doctor with the values of Notre Dame."

Contact Bridget Keating at bkeating@nd.edu

Pursue medicine in army, alumnus urges

Free tuition, full pay with benefits among perks

Special to The Observer

Debdeep Jena, assistant professor of electrical engineering at Notre Dame, has been named the recipient of a 2007 National Science Foundation (NSF) Early Career (CAREER) Award. The CAREER program, which was established by NSF in 1994, recognizes and supports junior faculty who exhibit a commitment to conducting research and providing educational opportunities for students. It is the highest honor given by the U.S. government to young faculty in engineering and science. Awards are distributed based on a detailed description of the applicant's planned research and educational activities for a five-year period. The competition is highly competitive, with a success rate between 15 and 20 percent. Jena will receive a total of $580,000 over the next five years to implement his plans.

Jena's proposal, "Dielectric Engineering of Quantum-Wire Solids: Fundamentals to Applications," addresses the fundamental properties of tiny semiconductor nanowires and includes research activities and curriculum encompassing undergraduates, graduate students and high school outreach.

A Notre Dame faculty member since 2003, Jena's research focuses on two topics: the growth and properties of III-V semiconductors, which are complex electronic materials capable of operating faster than silicon, the traditional workhorse for the semiconductor industry, and their application to solid-state devices such as high-speed electronic devices and photovoltaics (solar cells); and the investigation and development of nanoscale devices based on quantum wires. Jena's work on quantum wires is part of a collaboration with Masaru Kuno, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry. In its initial stages, the interdisciplinary team is seeking to better understand the charge transport properties of single and networked nanowires so that they may apply the knowledge to the development of devices such as wearable transistors, photo detectors, sensors and photovoltaics.

In addition to the CAREER award, Jena's research has attracted funding from the Office of Naval Research, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and the Army Research Office.

Jena earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, with a minor in physics, from the Indian Institute of Technology in Nsurat in 1998 and his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2003.

Indonesian politician to speak

Special to The Observer

Amien Rais, a prominent Indonesian politician who led Indonesia's constitutional reforms that resulted in the formation of the People's Consultative Assembly of Indonesia from 2000 and is free and open to the public, such as high-speed electronic devices and photovoltaics (solar cells); and the investigation and development of nanoscale devices based on quantum wires. Jena's work on quantum wires is part of a collaboration with Masaru Kuno, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry. In its initial stages, the interdisciplinary team is seeking to better understand the charge transport properties of single and networked nanowires so that they may apply the knowledge to the development of devices such as wearable transistors, photo detectors, sensors and photovoltaics.

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If you love the '80s and you love to party, come hang out with Art & the Artichokes!

Saturday @ 10PM
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

North Korea nuclear talks resume

BEIJING - Talks on North Korea's nuclear programs resumed on a positive note Thursday, with the Chinese hosts distributing a draft agreement to the North, saying that preliminary steps to disarmament were set for Tuesday. The agreement principle set for Tuesday. The agreement principle to initial steps to disarm.

As six countries are trying to agree on steps to implement a September 2005 deal in which North Korea pledged to disarm in exchange for aid and security guarantees, the 2005 deal - the only one to emerge since negotiations began in 2002 - set a broad statement of principles that did not outline any concrete steps for dismantling the North's nuclear programs.

The talks are the most advanced since negotiations began in 2002 - a broad statement of principles that did not outline any concrete steps for dismantling the North's nuclear programs.

Iraqi official linked to Shiite militia

BAGHDAD, Iraq - U.S.-backed Iraqi forces stormed the Health Ministry and arrested the No. 2 official Thursday, accusing him of diverting millions of dollars to the biggest Shiite militia and allowing death squads such as the memorial health insurance programs to carry out kidnappings and killings.

Shiite politicians allied with anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr denounced the arrest of Deputy Health Minister Salim al-Saadi, who is suspected of supporting the militia and demanding that the prime minister intervene to win his release.

NATIONAL NEWS

Georgia curbs kids' health coverage

ATLANTA — Georgia will stop enrolling new children in its health insurance program for low-income families because federal funds are running out, officials said Thursday.

It was unclear how many children might be affected by the freeze, which takes effect March 11. Rhonda Medows, head of the Department of Community Health, said the PeachCare program, which currently insures 270,000 children, will continue to operate as long as possible.

Pentagon intelligence examined

WASHINGTON — Some of the Pentagon's prewar intelligence work, including a concern that the CIA underestimated the likeli­hood of al-Qaida connections to Saddam Hussein, was inappropriate but not illegal, a Defense Department investigation has concluded.

In a report to be presented to Congress on Friday, the department's inspector general said former Pentagon policy chief Douglas J. Feith had not engaged in illegal activities through the creation of special offices to review intelligence. Some Democrats also have contended that the Feith­led Congress about the basis of the adminstration's assertions on the threat posed by Iraq, but the Pentagon investiga­tion did not support that.

LOCAL NEWS

BorgWarner to close Muncie plant

MUNCIE, Ind. — Auto parts maker BorgWarner announced Thursday it would close its plant in the city, costing 4,400 people in the years after World War II. It is the fourth major Indiana auto parts plant to announce closings this year that will cost the state thousands of jobs.

The move had long been feared by workers at the plant, which had employed as many as 5,500 people in the years after World War II. It is the fourth major Indiana auto parts plant to announce closings this year that will cost the state thousands of jobs.

The bill enjoys bipartisan support over its coverage of the millions of poor people.

Senate bill to clean up budget mess

WASHINGTON — Democrats controlled Congress last week by passing a huge spending bill fund­ ing 13 Cabinet agencies as they wrap up the unfinished budget mess inherited from Republicans.

The $463.5 billion measure debate­ d for about eight of the budget, combining nine spending bills that failed to pass Congress last year under GOP control.

The bill enjoys bipartisan support — it passed the House last week by a 2-1 margin — but Republicans are angry that Democrats are pushing it through without giving them a chance to amend the bill.

While protesting hardball tactics by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., Republicans admit he has them boxed in because any attempt to filibuster the bill would invite charges that Republicans were shutting down the government when a stopgap measure expires next week.

A vote to close debate is slated for Tuesday, and Democrats are confi­ dent they will prevail.

The budgeting work was sup­ posed to have been completed months ago, but Republicans didn't want to make any tough choices before the election and so put off the votes until now and the pressure on the two sides to compromise.

Much of the negotiations centered on a single word. Bill signed by Bush to accept the stronger stance of "committing to" past peace accords with Israel.

The final agreement was announced at a ceremony aired live on Arab televi­ sion Thursday night, in which Saudi King Abdullah sat with Abbas on his right and Hamas leader Khaled Meshal on his left.
College to explore diversity
Renowned scholar to speak at Diverse Student Leadership Conference

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Students interested in the importance of increasing diversity at the University should know that they will probably have an opportunity to explore the subject at the upcoming Diverse Student Leadership Conference.

According to its mission statement, the DSLC aims to inform students about the adversities and benefits within various academic, social, and professional settings. The conference was created last year when the current conference chair Kim Hodges, Student Diversity Board (SDB) president, and current member Angelaathing, and class of 2006 alum Sarah Landry fell upon a need for an event that combined every­thing SDB — a student group that represents diversity and tries to foster it through educative programs and events — discusses as well as subjects not normally encountered on either campus.

“We were in need of a vehi­cle or mode to educate main­stream Saint Mary’s about what each person encompass­es (adversity-wise),” Hodges said.

For three days, a series of workshops will examine reli­gious, ethnic, cultural, sexual orientation and gender issues related to diversity.

“We try to celebrate all kinds of diversity,” Hodges said. “We are attempting to educate par­ticipants about various modes of diversity not generalized in a societal norm.”

College President Carol Ann Mooney will open the confer­ence Mar. 1 by speaking about the diversity initiative, as well as her views on how to better prepare the campus for experi­ences of cultural competency.

Many of the workshops will take place Mar. 2, including one directed by keynote speaker Peggy McIntosh.

McIntosh, a professor at Wellesley College, and former professor at Harvard, Trinity College in Washington D.C. and Durham College in Canada, is a major figure in the recogni­tion of white privilege in the United States. She exemplifies what the conference is about in every way, Hodges said.

“She is a catalyst in shaping society to a culturally compre­hensive environment,” she said.

McIntosh will present her keynote speech, “How I Came to See I Had White Privilege and What I’m Learning I Can Do With It” before the closing banquet Mar. 3 in Carroll Auditorium.

“If you want to vote in­between classes, it will be much easier,” Kozlow said. “You don’t have to go all the way back to your dorm room.”

The election committee members will be at the com­mittee’s stations giving out incentives — like a donut or a cookie — if students voted.

At the Student Senate meet­ing Wednesday night, Kozlow informed Senators of the plan to increase voter turnout by providing students with easy access to computers.

“This is a new initiative, and we are going to see how it works,” she said.

To vote, students need to log on to their Webmail account and open an e-mail from Judicial Council, which will contain a link to the voting site. Kozlow said the site will also be accessible from the Judicial Council’s Web site.

“ideally we’d like everyone to vote because it’s very simple to do,” Kozlow, president Judicial Council

In the 2005 election, that number included 1,124 freshmen, 1,291 sophomores, 1,058 juniors, 756 seniors and eight-fifth-year seniors.

In 2005, 4,186 students voted. In 2004, 3,496 voters were tallied. The undergraduate popula­tion is approxi­mately 8,300.

This year, four tickets are running for student body president and vice president. The results of the primary voting will be announced Monday at 9 p.m. in LaFortune.

The Judicial Council has planned for the possi­bility of a runoff election and has reserved the computers for that day as well.

“We are hoping to have the same impact,” Kozlow said.

The runoff debate, if it occurs, will take place Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. in the Main Lounge of LaFortune and the run-off election will be held Feb. 15.

Contact Kaitlynn Rieley at kriely@smu.edu

Minor continued from page 1

possibility of a minor,” he said.

Destinee DeLemos, chair of the Senate Multicultural Affairs committee, recently met with Greene, and was told that no courses currently exist on Native American culture. Greene thinks faculty in spirit agree that we need to offer more courses that have a Native American component, if not actual courses on Native American history.

But the College is not able to immediately create a Native American Studies minor due to a lack of resources, Greene said.

The University has lost fac­ulty members over the last five years whose expertise was in Native American cul­ture and history, he said. But when departments hire new faculty with this focus, Arts and Letters can consider cre­ating a minor.

The University hires new professors every year, he said, and each department makes a case for its greatest needs. Now that student interest is widely known, professors who specialize in Native American studies could possibly be hired within the next few years, he said.

“Now we know that students are interested, and that this interest is growing. It’s pos­sible that chairs of departments will begin to make [hiring fac­ulty with an interest in Native American Studies] a priority,” Greene said. “It could take two to three years before beginning to get new faculty, or it could take five or more.”

DeLemos and her committee are already at work to speed up the process to make the minor a reality.

“We are working on increas­ing student awareness for minority studies in every gen­eral and also specifically for Native American recruit­ment,” she said.

Along with Arthur Taylor, the assistant director of the Multicultural Student Programs and Services, DeLemos is working on a letter to the Office of the Provost to present student concerns and continue the ongoing efforts of the Multicultural faculty.

“I think students need to tell our administration that we really do want them to recruit Native American professors,” DeLemos said. “We can’t recruit Native American stu­dents to the University if we don’t have a strong program or classes for that matter that relate to their culture and his­tory.”

If new faculty members with Native American specialties are hired, the proposed minor will be of an interdisciplinary fashion, similar to the existing Irish studies minor, Greene said. Anthropological, literary and artistic perspectives could all be included in the minor.

Despite the obstacles ahead, Greene remains optimistic about the prospective minor’s future.

“I think it’s important to meet the needs of students and I remain hopeful that we’ll be able to do so and at the very least be able to offer students a minor in the future,” Greene said.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdon3@nd.edu

Voting continued from page 1

The committee’s duties include putting up posters throughout dorms to encour­age students to vote Monday. They will also man several computer stations the Judicial Council will set up for voting between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday. The Judicial Council has rented computers to set up in the elevator lobby on the first floor of DeBartolo and in Mendoza College of Business.

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“The committee’s duties include putting up posters throughout dorms to encour­age students to vote Monday. They will also man several computer stations the Judicial Council will set up for voting between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday. The Judicial Council has rented computers to set up in the elevator lobby on the first floor of DeBartolo and in Mendoza College of Business. It has also rented out half the 175 computers in DeBartolo Hall for voting.

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Contact Kaitlynn Rieley at kriely@smu.edu
Dell founder wants turnaround

Recent reinstatement of CEO Michael Dell shows company's desperation

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Michael Dell offered up some harsh advice a decade ago on how to fix struggling Apple Computer, words that now provide an ironic sting for the newly minted CEO of his own struggling chip maker.

"What would I do? I'd shut it down and give the money back to the shareholders," he said at a technology conference in the fall of 1997.

Of course, Apple's investors and CEO Steve Jobs have gotten the last laugh. But then Jobs had just reined in to lead the company he had founded, beginning what would become an extended digital transformation. Dell Inc., on the other hand, has watched its business go the other way, and Mr. Dell has been recalled to the helm, backing the truck.

When founders give up operational control of companies, they often leave on a positive note. They've watched their baby flourish, and it then becomes time for someone with fresh ideas or skills to lead the next wave of growth.

But when those same founders retake the helm, warning signs abound. Their return to the executive suite generally means the company has hit a serious rough patch and is desperate for help.

Founders can offer things outsiders cannot. They know the business, so there isn't a big learning curve. It also signals a sense that the company can get things fixed fast since they typically have large financial stakes in the company.

All those factors surely played into the reinstatement of Mr. Dell, who founded the Round Rock, Texas-based company in 1984 and was just named in a federal accounting probe last year.

Dell also faces an ongoing federal accounting probe and was just named in a class-action lawsuit that alleges its profits were inflated by secret payments of about $1 billion a year from chip maker Intel Corp.

His successor — and now predecessor — Kevin Rollins had a tough run. Under his tenure, the Round Rock, Texas-based company faced a string of disappointing earnings, while its market share slipped — it lost its No. 1 position in the PC industry to rival Hewlett-Packard Co. last year.

Dell faces an ongoing federal accounting probe and was just named in a class-action lawsuit that alleges its profits were inflated by secret payments of about $1 billion a year from chip maker Intel Corp.

"We have a tough couple of quarters ahead," Mr. Dell wrote. "We didn't get here overnight and we won't fix things overnight either."

Investors initially cheered Mr. Dell's return, but that enthusiasm has waned in recent days despite some support from Wall Street analysts. Among those lauding the shake-up and upgrading the stock was Credit Suisse analyst Bob Seipple, who said Dell "is in the need of a strategic visionary to assess the current direction of the business."

Michael Dell, founder of Dell Inc., was reinstated as CEO Wednesday. He hopes to make a comeback in company profits after significant losses under former CEO Kevin Rollins.

NY to sue Exxon over slow cleanup

Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York's attorney general said Friday he would sue Exxon Mobil and two other oil companies Thursday that he intends to sue for the upcoming decades to clean up a giant underground ground of petroleum left by the refineries that once lined Brooklyn's waterfront.

In a statement, Andrew Cuomo accused Exxon Mobil of leaving a "toxic footprint" in New York City, then doing "as little as possible to address the dangerous situation.

The subterranean slick, hidden beneath homes and businesses, is believed to have been floating on Brooklyn's waterfront for decades to clean up a giant underground ground of petroleum left by the refineries.

Exxon accepted responsibility for much of the spill in 1990 and constructed a pumping system that has helped to gradually extract 9.1 million gallons of oil from the ground. It has said the recovery's delicate nature makes it difficult to extract any faster.

"We take our environmental responsibility very seriously, and we are very committed to cleaning up the site," company spokeswoman Perny Nair said. Other defendants will include the oil companies Chevron and BP, which own facilities believed to have contributed to the pollution. Spokesmen for the companies objected to being named as defendants and said they also had been actively participating in the cleanup.

The environmentalist group Riverkeeper has campaigned for years for tougher state action against the companies. The organization's president, Alex Matthiessen, said Exxon Mobil's days of treating Brooklyn "like a dumping ground are numbered."

When the Coast Guard first noticed the spill in 1978, some experts estimated that it totaled 17 million gallons — about 6 million more than the tanker Exxon Valdez is believed to have spilled.

Exactly how the oil got in the ground is a matter of debate. One theory is that it is from a 1950 explosion, while Exxon says it was probably from a series of leaks from now-closed refineries and terminals in the area.

The state also gave notice Thursday of its intent to sue two other companies for unrelated contamination in the creek. KeySpan, which is responsible for a defunct gas plant, and Phelps Dodge, which operated a now-dismantled copper smelting plant.

KeySpan said it would cooperate in any cleanup. A spokesman for Phoenix-based Phelps Dodge said the company has spent $20 million cleaning up its site.
**Disorders**

continued from page 1

encourages the student to bring her friend to the Counseling Center.

When a student comes in who admits to having an eating disorder, the process is more complex. The initial action is creating an environment where the student feels safe and strong enough to trust the coun-

-selor with all of her problems. The counselor then works to help the student find ways to overcome her problems, both physical and emotional.

The options can range from traditional counseling to in or outpatient rehabilitation, Bryant said.

The Center also works with Health and Wellness, nutritionists, the student’s family, physician and other sources to help the student overcome her disorder. The Center’s waiting room houses a mini-library of books and pamphlets, including 22 books on eating disorders.

The Freedom Revolution can be reached at freedom@saintmarys.edu. The Counseling Center, located in 166 LeMans Hall (in the main lobby by the fireplace), can be reached at (574) 284-4565.

Contact Mandi Sirocco at astro1@ saintmarys.edu.

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**Inbar**

continued from page 1

world to Iran’s hostility toward Israel,” Inbar said. “Israel cannot tolerate a nuclear Iran.”

Students pressed Inbar to elaborate.

“Diplomacy and economic sanctions will probably fail,” he said. “Israel is consider-

-ing. Shutting down Iran’s nuclear program by force if the Americans and the international community cannot convince Iran to stop its weapons program through negotiation.”

Inbar said Israel understands it is not the Iranian people who are its enemies, but the regime.

“The elite in power are determined to continue to build their nuclear pro-

-gram,” he said. “Iranians will have to give up their cars and use donkeys, fine, as long as the regime stays in power.”

For Israeli security, peace with Egypt and Jordan are the most important local factors, Inbar said. He also credited a “United States, being ‘Israel’s strongest ally.’

“There is close military cooperation between the U.S. and Israel,” Inbar said. “After Sept. 11, Americans began to understand the violence the Israelis confront every day.”

Inbar warned against a “low-level conflict” with the Palestinian people and their elected government, the group Hamas, Inbar said.

“Hamas has a clear agenda — gain strength and remove Israel from the map,” he said. “It was a mistake on our part to allow [Hamas to partici-

-pate in Palestinian elections].”

The war between Israel and Lebanon last summer also drew questions from students, especially because of the large number of civili-

-ans killed by the Israeli offensive.

“There was no excessive use of force in Lebanon,” Inbar said. “If Israel has to choose between Israeli lives and bad publicity, Israel’s choice is clear.”

Inbar said the ultimate hope for security in the Middle East cannot come from outsiders, although U.S. intervention is sometimes necessary to keep the peace.

“When it comes to the Middle East, outsiders can do little,” he said. “They have good intentions, but we will continue to conduct our business in our way — the ability of outsiders to do good is very limited.”

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwint1@nd.edu.

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**Ragtime**

continued from page 1

weekends of shows. The last two performances of Ragtime will take place today and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Panelists included Donald Pope-Davis, dean of the gradu-

-ate school, Dr. David M. Blount, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and advisor to the black men’s group Wabruda, Martin Wolfson, associate professor of econom-

-ic and policy studies, graduate student Crystal Blount and Christy Fleming Greene, advisor for Shades of Ebony and assistant pro-

-fessional specialist in the First Year of Studies.

The panelists reflected on the show, which is called “an ambitious pro-

-duction.” Blount agreed that Ragtime is a thematically good show to put on and to watch.

“It did seem to be a difficult performance — not only for the cast, but for the audience as well — because of the emotional issues involved,” Blount said.

Blount conducts research on the impact of psychological factors from incidents the calls “micro-aggressions” — daily insults that result from racial or ethnic discrimination.

Black and multi-racial panelists and audience members acknowledged such discrimina-

-tion and its far-reaching effects.

“The racial tension that was here when I was at Notre Dame — that still exists,” Fleming Greene said.

She and other panelists urged students, regardless of nation-

-ality, to speak out against racism and promote equality.

Another topic discussed at the forum was the concept of the American dream, especially as it relates to race, class and country of origin.

“I Ragtime” raised very important questions about the show’s content, panelists said ultimately, the debate has continued from page 1.

While controversy persists about the show’s content, panelists said ultimately, the debate has continued from page 1.

“I Ragtime” raised very important questions about the show’s content, panelists said ultimately, the debate has continued from page 1.

“We need to know that this is at the core of the show,” Calcutt said.

Another topic discussed at the forum was the concept of the American dream, especially as it relates to race, class and country of origin.

“I Ragtime” raised very important questions about the show’s content, panelists said ultimately, the debate has continued from page 1.

Wolfson cited unemployment, poverty and income statistics that, despite civil rights grant-

-ed to blacks, demonstrate the existence of the American dream.

But the ultimate message of “Ragtime” should be one of hope, Calcutt said.

“If we have courage, as is evidenced in this production, we can achieve the American dream,” he said.

Contact Emily Keebler at ekebler@nd.edu

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**The Observer**

Friday, February 9, 2007

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**This Week in Music**

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Department of Music

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**DE BARTOLO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**
Anna Nicole Smith dies at 39
Centerfold collapses in Florida hotel room

Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — Anna Nicole Smith, the pneumatic blonde whose life played out as an extraordinary tabloid centerpiece, collapsed centerfold as an extraordinary tabloid.

Her 39-year-old mother, Nicole Smith, 39, was found dead Wednesday afternoon in a laundry basket in her mother's room at the South Beach Club in Miami Beach, according to police and family members.

Smith had been shopping with friends in a nearby mall when she collapsed, police said.

Smith, a former model and reality TV star, whose 1992 appearance on the cover of Playboy magazine made her a household name, had been living in the Miami area for the past several years.

She rose to fame in the 1990s after appearing in a series of adult film scenes.

Unfortunately, it will be found at the end of the day that drugs featured in her death as they did in the death of poor Daniel.

Michael Scott

Smith's former attorney

'Heroic' image puts pressure on astronauts

Adjustment difficult for Nowak, others

WASHINGTON — From the dawn of the space program, America's astronauts have been treated like stars, saluted as red-white-and-blue heroes, and indoctrinated in NASA's can-do, failure-is-not-an-option ethos.

Could that explain the downfall of Lisa Nowak, the astronaut accused of attempted murder? Were the expectations too high? The pressures too great?

No one may ever know exactly why Nowak drove 130 miles to confront a woman who was reporting to her for the affections of a space shuttle pilot, but experts say the same traits that make astronauts such high achievers can combine to aggravate emotional problems and foster high-risk behavior.

I really believe that NASA goes overboard in promoting how heroic and super all these people are," said Dr. Patricia Santos, a former NASA psychiatry consultant and author of the book "Choosing The Right Stuff.

'They themselves have forgotten these are ordinary people and in that kind of celebrity culture, there's a sense of entitlement," she said.

Sants said the astronaut corps is "a family, but it's almost like a dysfunctional family when it comes to understanding emotional issues and interpersonal problems have profound impact.

Former astronaut Jerry Linenger said astronauts take pride in their self-discipline, "and you set a goal and it's just going, going, going and you let nothing get in your way.

That single-minded pursuit reminds Linenger of Nowak's drive from Houston to Orlando, Fla., to confront an Air Force captain from Florida who she allegedly believed was involved with the same space shuttle pilot she loved.

However, Linenger said, that's not quite the midcourse correction it's scary. It's just off her mission.

We know what's coming in Nowak, like many of her colleagues, pursued a career in spaceflight since childhood. Then, after her shuttle trip last summer, her goal had been achieved, and the prospects for another mission were dim, said Linenger.

As the space shuttle program draws to a close, people wonder what happens next for astronauts like Nowak.

Other astronauts have struggled with similar doubts about their future.

'The biggest problem that astronauts face once they've obtained their goal is What do I do next, what do I do then," said Jay Barbree, a long-time NBC correspondent who has covered every launch and is the author of the upcoming book "Live From Cape Canaveral.

'It was more commonplace training and wresting your fear because overachievers had no major goals in front of them," he said.

Among earlier astronauts, "most every one of them came back had adjustment issues," he said.

NASA flight crew operations officer Col. Cheryl Ochoa said the agency is considering whether to do more to look after astronauts once they've left space. "Individuals may wonder where they fit in," she said.

'That's a puzzle," Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon, who is an astronaut, said, "but it's a difficult problem."

Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon, who is an astronaut, said, "but it's a difficult problem."

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Conference appreciated, jokes aren't

The Notre Dame Student Senate's "Eating Disorders and the College Culture" conference began Thursday. This conference marks a monumental achievement for women and men, in particular college students, who suffer, have suffered, or know someone suffering from an eating disorder. It is a significant event for someone who feels the constant pressure to lose a few pounds, eat less, or work out more. In fact, it probably has affected, even in a small way, anyone who has found him or herself looking in the mirror that one extra time and feeling concerned before they go out on a Friday night.

As a college woman, I can honestly say that the pressure to think about my weight and try to perfect my body is omnipresent in my life. As a member of a dorm community, I can say that I have seen the stress and worry on my friends' faces as they decide what to eat in the dining hall. As a friend, I can say that I have watched someone I love starve herself in an attempt to find self-confidence and self-assurance. As a sister, I can say that I have watched someone overeat in an attempt to feel loved and accepted. I am just one person, one of many at this University, and I have been affected by eating disorders in almost every sphere of my life: my dorm community, my closest friends, my family, and even in myself. I do not feel that I am alone in this predicament. It is for these reasons that I am so appreciative of the conference this weekend, and it is for these reasons that I fully support our current Student Senate.

Unfortunately, it is for these same reasons that I was shocked by Thursday's Kaleidoscope McNichols comic strip. In case anyone missed this comic, allow me to recap it. The comic depicted two exaggeratedly overweight men discussing the upcoming eating disorder conference. The first man initially mistakes the conference for an eating disorder contest. The second then states that "I think women need to be aware...you know...of their bodies...and stuff...on their bodies". Then the first man comments that he hopes the conference will not impact the availability of fr yo-on campus. I have several reactions to this comic.

My immediate reaction to the column was one of extreme concern. An eating disorder is classified as a disease. It worries me to think that anyone would demean or mock something as serious as a conference related to disease prevention. What precedent does this comic set? Will we soon have to endure comics mocking the runs to raise money for breast cancer or conferences supporting autism research?

Secondly, I question the actual content of the comic. Eating disorders are clearly a female-dominated issue, however the number of men suffering from eating disorders is growing. It puzzles me then that a male student would write a column featuring male characters in response to this conference. The use of only male characters in a comic such as this one gives the impression that the conference is strictly for women, and that men are merely spectators in the fight against this growing problem. This may cause male students who suffer from eating disorders to feel as though they are out of place, or that the conference is not intended for them.

My final reaction, and the reason for this letter, is one of concern for the conference itself. Dealing with an issue as sensitive and private as an eating disorder is a difficult task. By nature, sufferers of eating disorders may feel apprehensive about attending a conference that may expose their conditions. So a comic such as this one, that mocks the conference, discourages attendance — threatening the entire cause. This comic has the potential to discourage many people, or even just one, from attending this conference. That person may have been the one person who really needed this conference.

And so I conclude with this thought: students of Notre Dame, do not let the ignorance of some hinder you from seeking the education or assistance that you need or desire.

Eleanor Bradley
Saint's House, Hall
Feb. 6

The Observer
THE NOTRE DAME STUDENT PUBLICATION

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"Early morning cheerfulness can be extremely obnoxious."
Iraq and the crisis of American ideals

Hegel observed, in his most oft quoted metaphor, that wisdom comes to us only when it is past the prime of its use. A philosopher would think such a thing, because a philosopher constantly faces the disappointment of realizing the ideas in his head do not spring forth from it intact and vital. The wisdom of speculation therefore seems sealed off from the life of practice, and practical wisdom seems always to come to life too late.

The truth is more painful. Ideas have consequences, but most of the time human beings carry out their lives cheerfully numb to the best ideas and in unenlightened thrust to the worst ones. Moments of violent historical crisis, however, tend to provoke changes one would not have thought possible a few years, sometimes a few days, earlier. Though one hopes otherwise, for instance, it is presumable that significant change to environmental policy will only come after some further, unmistakable natural disaster. World War II, in contrast, snuffed out those beautiful ideas becoming actualized and, at times, saved lives.

The difficulties of economic autarky and natural resources. And, of course, we seem lest costly than those of an ever-increasing stockpile of nuclear weapons.

The path of cowardice and authoritarianism lies in continuing military adventures abroad and that of courage and charity lies in a turning inward, a return home, an acceptance of the bountiful, the possible, the right.

James Matthew Wilson is a Sorin Research Fellow. He proudly admits that the only revolution in which he truly interested is that of his daughter, Livia, who, rolled over for the first time while we were writing it, from afar.

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student government not 'impotent'

May I be as enlightened as Amanda Michaels? I realize that you are aware of how the campus really operates. But even if this is the case, I would hate to think that the student government is as meaningless and 'impotent' as it is defined to be.

After reading Michaels's article "Lack of Realistic Goals Shock, Disappoints," Feb. 8, I began to think that she and I saw two very different student governments. The debates last night were a demonstration of that. We saw four tickets proposing ideas, putting forth platforms, and engaging in a lively discussion of what they would do to resolve the issues on our campus. Michaels apparently saw eight people who have no idea what student government means, if they are "clueless," or who, at the best, hope that they can trick and cajole the student body into voting for them. I saw candidates who really seemed to care about improving Notre Dame, including the somewhat radically minded Padberg and Coggon. Michaels saw presidential and vice presidential hopefuls deluding themselves, that they can make a difference in a University system controlled by the bureaucracy.

Student government is, granted, not as powerful as many constitutionally modifiable features of our school. But it certainly is not as ineffective as Michaels's editorial would lead one to believe. The student government president and vice president, along with the other student government bodies, work to promote a cause hacks assume is tirelessly to fully represent the majority of student opinion. It may take awhile for their resolutions to amount to anything, but they at least start the dialogue. Michaels claims that she has had "enough dialogue over the past year," but she has not become as weary of such discussion as she claims, because the dialogue is the essential entrance point for change.

Individual students do not have the ability to discuss with the University higher-ups their concerns. The student government speaks to those concerns and takes upon itself the voice of the universal student. Each of the tickets last night mentioned the need for better communication between students and their representatives. The plan for making this communication better than it already is to improve the system of representation that millions of voices give the student government starting dialogues, no progress would ever be made. Such weapons would con- tinue to view the students as apathetic and unin- volved, a reputation some view the student body to have that is in desperate need of change. My own conviction remains, however, that the path of cowardice and authori- tarianism lies in continuing military adventures abroad and that of courage and charity lies in a turning inward, a return home, an acceptance of the bountiful, the possible, the right.

Andrew Miller sophomore
Dillon Hall
Feb. 8
Directed by Notre Dame Film, Television and Theatre professor Jill Godmilow, "Transamerica" will introduce the screening. "Transamerica" (dir. Duncan Tucker, 2005) 10 p.m.

"Transamerica" stars the talented Felicity Huffman of "Desperate Housewives" as Bree, a California native about to undergo sexual reassignment surgery when she discovers that her son is living in New York.

After Bree takes an impromptu flight to meet her son Toby (Kevin Zegers) for the first time, the two begin a cross-country road trip from the East Coast back to Los Angeles.

During their voyage, they encounter numerous people and experiences that force them to examine the preconceptions that each held regarding the other. Her performance in "Transamerica" garnered Huffman both an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globe win for Best Actress.

The screening will be introduced by Indiana University South Bend sociology professor Betsy Loyal.

Each film selected in the "Qlassics" series allows viewers to see the complexity of the issues and perspectives unique to the LGBT community. "Transamerica," for example, brings public attention to the difficulties that transgendered men and women face in a society that often seeks clear-cut definitions of gender identity and sexual orientation.

The films will be shown sequentially in the DPAC Browning Cinema on Saturday. All of the screenings are free, but do require tickets for admittance. Tickets can be reserved online at the DPAC's Web site, performin-garis.nd.edu, by calling the ticket office at 574-631-2800 or for purchase at the ticket window.

Contact Erin McGinn at cmg@nd.edu.
in focus
ELECTION 2007
THE OBSERVER
Friday, February 9, 2007
LIZ BROWN  president  MARIS BRAUN  vice president

Who They Are
Brown, student government's current chief executive assistant, is a junior in Cavanaugh Hall majoring in political science and peace studies. Braun is a sophomore in Breen-Phillips Hall majoring in finance.

In Their Words
Top Priority: Brown and Braun plan to further address the issue of community relations by integrating students into the off-campus community and increasing consumerism at local businesses. Some ideas include a “Taste of South Bend” event, a community-based curriculum and off-campus Dumer Dollars.
First Priority: “Guest Meal Exchange Program.”

In Our Words
Best Idea: A South Bend Regional Airport shuttle, a convenient way to lower costs for students and to encourage use of South Bend transportation.
Worst Idea: None.
Most Feasible Idea: Putting suggestion forums and student government applications online.
Least Feasible Idea: Getting Notre Dame to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a University holiday.
Fun Fact: Brown got a pencil in her eye when she was three and had to have surgery to get it removed. Braun skied into a tree and is now forever indebted to the friend who saved her.
Notable Quote: “If you don’t love what you do, you’re not going to do it well.”

Bottom Line
Brown and Braun balance each other well and their experience in student government is unmatched by any of the other candidates. They are articulate and complementary of one another—and both seem genuinely interested in leading the student body. They have many reasonable ideas that they plan to pursue immediately upon taking office. No one can predict how smoothly the women would transition into the highest positions in student government. But the pair’s experience and professionalism are tops in this election.

GARRETT COGGON  president  MIKE PADBERG  vice president

Who They Are
Coggon is a freshman pre-professional studies major living in Zahm Hall. Padberg is a freshman engineering major living in Zahm Hall.

In Their Words
Top Priority: Havoc. Their campaign revolves around “wreaking havoc” on campus. This is not clearly defined.
First Priority: To begin the five-year process of making Notre Dame an all-male institution again.

In Our Words
Best Idea: Expand the sidewalks so there are lanes for fast and slow walkers.
Worst Idea: Squirrel-hunting activities. The freshmen want to organize hunting activities and propose squirrels “be taken for consumption by slingshots.”
Most Feasible Idea: None.
Least Feasible Idea: To eliminate women at Notre Dame (possibly combine the existing women with Saint Mary’s — creating something like “Notre Mary’s”). They would keep female professors, though they would only teach introductory classes.
Fun Fact: Coggon’s nickname is Juice. Padberg can wreak havoc with his pinky finger — and Coggon said he can, unfortunately, attest to that.
Notable Quote: “We aren’t, to say, ‘in bed’ with any of the University administrators like some of the other candidates.”

Bottom Line
Coggon and Padberg are just two more Zahm freshmen running for this office. Although the havoc-based ideas are entertaining, this ticket has no real plans for student government. These freshmen have creative ideas, many of which relate to eliminating women at the University, but their interests might be better served in another arena than as leaders of the Notre Dame student body.
CIPRIANO RIVERA  president
CATHERINE KANE  vice president

Who They Are
Rivera, formerly a Marine, is a freshman living in St. Edward’s Hall majoring in accounting and Arabic. Kane is a sophomore in Welsh Family Hall majoring in history and pre-professional studies.

In Their Words
◆ Top Priority: Rivera and Kane want to improve the quality of life for students and will focus on goals like having ID cards work at all doors in dorms and expanding Domer Dollars usage options.
◆ First Priority: To arrange for roll-over meals in the dining hall so unused meals are not just wasted.

In Our Words
◆ Best Idea: Free tutoring for all students. They want to build on the First Year of Studies tutoring programs and offer sessions for upper-classmen as well.
◆ Most Feasible Idea: Peer advising groups.
◆ Least Feasible Idea: To get rid of Burger King in LaFortune and replace it with Chipotle. They have not researched such a change or been in contact with the University.
◆ Fun Fact: Rivera is saving money to climb Mt. Everest. Kane helped deliver her mother’s 11th child this summer.

Bottom Line
The candidates, though they have good intentions, are inexperienced and their ideas are not well researched. The duo is unprepared and not ready to take on the role of representing the Notre Dame student body. Their platform is incomplete, especially in the important realm of community relations. Rivera and Kane’s plans for dining hall and meal plan reform are not feasible. The two do not seem to have a true idea of what they would be getting into if elected, and they should use next year to get more involved in student government.

DANNY SMITH  president
ASHLEY WEISS  vice president

Who They Are
Smith is a junior political science and philosophy major who lives in Alumni Hall. Weiss is a junior English and art history major who lives in Breen-Phillips Hall.

In Their Words
◆ Top Priority: The majority of Smith and Weiss’ plans revolve around using technology — whether to download music, spread Domer Dollars off campus or implement electronic football ticketing — to benefit students.
◆ First Priority: “Ruckus music downloading.” Ruckus Network, Inc. provides students access to legal downloadable music and video files to all persons with an “edu” email address — and Smith and Weiss want to make sure Notre Dame students have access to it too.
◆ Fun Fact: Smith can whistle five different ways. At age 12, Weiss was a chess champion and she said she never admits that to anyone.

In Our Words
◆ Best Idea: Multiple Domer Dollar initiatives.
◆ Worst Idea: Creating more payment options for on-campus prescriptions and health care. Smith and Weiss offered to help students pay their insurance co-pay if they are unable — a nice thought, but unrealistic.
◆ Most Feasible Idea: Student government blog.
◆ Least Feasible Idea: Lower tuition.
◆ Fun Fact: Smith can whistle five different ways. At age 12, Weiss was a chess champion and she said she never admits that to anyone.
◆ Notable Quote: “If USC can do it, why can’t we?” Said in reference to a football ticket system based on student IDs, not paper tickets.

Bottom Line
Both Smith and Weiss have intense, strong personalities. Both have learned how to lead, with Smith serving as Alumni Hall senator and Weiss serving as chair of the Senate Gender Relations committee. This ticket has run its campaign admirably and has talked to numerous administrators about its proposals. The two have visited all dorms to get input and to engage the student body in student government. The resulting platform is ambitious, but not as achievable as Brown and Braun’s. Ultimately, the downside of Smith and Weiss’ commendable passion is the less-than-realistic nature — and importance — of some of their ideas.
The Observer endorses Brown-Braun ticket

Every year, candidates for student body president and vice president promise a slew of supposedly feasible initiatives to improve the campus community — and every year, it's a toss-up as to who can actually deliver. Platforms get stacked with every possible upgrade to student life in a desperate attempt to win votes, and this year is no exception.

With their extensive student government experience, Liz Brown and Maris Braun have the best shot at executing their promises. They're poised and prepared, and while it's almost certain they won't be able to accomplish every platform plan — at least in its original form — the demonstration of solid understanding of what channels they'll have to work through.

Since last spring, Brown has served as current student body president Lizzi Shappell's chief executive assistant, the No. 3 position in student government. But just as importantly, she's been through the spectrum of related positions: Campus Life Council task force chair, Cavanaugh senator and Sexual Assault Advisory Committee member, to name a few. Braun has also put in the time. Between the two of them, they've sat on seven of the nine Student Senate committees.

In taking over the helm of student government for just a one-year term, that kind of background is essential. Brown and Braun also boast the broadest platform. A shuttle to the South Bend airport seems realistic, since Transpo is always looking to attract college-age riders. Organizing a "Taste of South Bend" event would also be achievable, and getting Dollar Domers in the Stadium — something also found on the Danny Smith-Ashley Weiss platform — should be popular among students.

Brown and Braun have also tried to update the tired theme of community relations, although whether their approach will actually do anything to strengthen town-gown interaction is doubtful. However, broad is a relative term in this election, where each ticket has a hatful of heavy, hard-to-approach subjects: like academic freedom and diversity. The Brown-Braun platform isn't especially innovative or unique. As mentioned earlier, extending the reach of Dollar Domers is a common theme this campaign season and central to both the Smith-Weiss and Cipriano Rivera-Catherine Kane platforms.

Smith and Weiss come across as natural, genuine leaders with lots of ideas. But they don't seem as practiced as they're the presentation is a little rough around the edges. What's more, their ideas — however well intentioned — are too expansive, or simply confusing. Can two students revolutionize the Health Services prescription system? What about the tuition plan? And does free television show downloading from a service that already offers free music to college students really constitute a legitimate main platform goal?

Cipriano Rivera and Catherine Kane also mean well — but don't know how to even begin. Getting Chippewa in Lafayette requires more research than calling the company and asking if it has any campus locations.

Freshmen Garrett Coggan and Mike Padberg are clearly in it for the attention. While returning to a more "traditional" all-male Notre Dame isn't going to happen, if elected, the pair could probably deliver on its promise to wreak havoc.

Brown and Braun may not be creative, but they aren't to blame. As most upperclassmen understand, student government is inherently limited in what it can do. If Notre Dame doesn't want to create a guest meal exchange program or make Martin Luther King, Jr. Day a University-recognized holiday — two Brown-Braun ideas likely to face major administrative stumbling blocks — it won't. That's why working within the system is a necessity.

That's also why having leaders who are articulate and professional is important. Of the four pairs running, Brown and Braun are the most polished. The two make the best partnership — when they talk, it's clear that their strengths are complementary. Neither dominates the other.

The Observer endorses Liz Brown and Maris Braun for Notre Dame's 2007-08 student body president and vice president.

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**The Observer's Take on the Issues of the 2007 Election**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Relations</th>
<th>Student Life</th>
<th>Student Apathy</th>
<th>Gender Relations</th>
<th>Athletics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Their campaigns revolve around community relations. Related plans include off-campus Dollar Domers and a &quot;Taste of South Bend&quot; fair.</td>
<td>They want to organize a regular shuttle to and from South Bend airport.</td>
<td>They want online applications for student government so it is not a intimidating process.</td>
<td>They want to promote greater sexual assault awareness.</td>
<td>They want to bring Dollar Domers to the Stadium and the Joyce Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown &amp; Braun</td>
<td>They want Notre Dame women to be moved to Saint Joseph's High School.</td>
<td>They have no plans relating to student apathy.</td>
<td>They want to get rid of women at Notre Dame.</td>
<td>They want to start a souvenir-hunting program and eat the squirrels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coggon &amp; Padberg</td>
<td>They want students to get involved in South Bend through community service at local organizations.</td>
<td>They want to change the meal plan system and allow for &quot;rollover meals.&quot;</td>
<td>They want to place suggestion boxes in the dining halls so students can anonymously submit feedback.</td>
<td>They have no plans related to gender relations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivera &amp; Kane</td>
<td>Their ideas to improve relations with South Bend focus on getting more off-campus students involved in student government.</td>
<td>They want free music, movie and television shows download for all students.</td>
<td>They want to make the student government office more welcoming and will utilize the office's website.</td>
<td>They want to expand the Student Senate Gender Relations committee and advocate for more &quot;gender-neutral&quot; activities during Freshman Orientation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith &amp; Weiss</td>
<td>They don't address this issue in their platform.</td>
<td>They have no plans relating to student apathy.</td>
<td>They have no plans relating to gender relations.</td>
<td>In addition to Dollar Domers at the Stadium, they want to institute a new football ticket system where everything is on a student's ID card.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Vote for student body president and vice president on Monday.
Celebrities capture attention on Valentine’s Day

Given the current holiday climate of love, romance and downright commercial sentimentality, I feared I'd factor one of my favorite subjects, celebrities, into the Valentine’s Day equation. How so? By way of their unique or misguided celebrity crush.

You know, you've got one. Whether we'd like to admit it or not, all of us are infatuated to some extent with a given celebrity. Or two.

In my case, five and counting.

But what is it about celebrities that captivates our emotions? What makes us do crazy things like send marriage proposals in nanosecond-long glimpses of Matt Damon? Or, to look remotely acceptable to the public.

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

Russell Crowe, right, stars opposite Renée Zellweger in 2005’s “Cinderella Man.” Crowe is one among many Hollywood leading men followed closely by female fans.

Analysis Lipari
Assistant Scene Editor

Happy Valentine’s Day, kids — from your boys to yours.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu.

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

R.E.M. collection includes best of early work

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

It's easy to forget, in the wake of their downhill slide throughout the '90s and beyond, that R.E.M. was once one of the best and most popular bands in the world. Yet most people forget that R.E.M. were once the godfathers of alternative, with an appealing sound that blended garage rock, folk music and mumbled lyrics. Essentially, R.E.M.'s career has two distinct eras — the independent days (with IRS) and their time with a major label (Warner). Their first (and arguably best) album was on IRS, and those works formed the bulk of “And I Feel Fine... The Best of the I.R.S. Years,” a new compilation chronicling their early work.

The band originally consisted of Michael Stipe (vocals), Bill Berry (drums), Mike Mills (bass) and Peter Buck (guitar). R.E.M. is now a trio, with Berry having departed following an on-stage aneurysm.

The band first formed in the late 70s, with their best work appearing in the early 80s.

It's hard to believe all the mess that was the post-“Automatic For The People” days, but R.E.M. were one of the great American bands for a brief moment in time, forging the way for a myriad of alternative groups. The band's first five albums form the core of early American independent music, striking at the moment in which post-punk was evolving into alternative.

This isn't the first disc to compile songs from R.E.M.'s early days, but it's easily the best, rendering 1988’s “Eponymous” obsolete. The two-disc set contains all of the band's hits from the period, such as “Radio Free Europe,” “Fall on Me,” “The One I Love” and “It's the End of the World As We Know It,” all while mixing in a good selection of album tracks and fan favorites like “Pretty Persuasion” and “Begin The Begin.” The earliest songs jangle like The Byrds and feature Stipe's pleated vocals — thankfully, low in these tracks have the keening strain that he would adopt later on.

The second disc completes this set and creates a full portrait of the band by compiling outtakes, b-sides and rarities. Among the highlights are the original version of “Bad Day” (which became a hit in a re-recorded version that appeared on “In Time”) and the classic “Gardening At Night,” one of the band's earliest songs. There are few notable songs missing, like “Superman” and “Wolves, Lower,” but on the whole it's a pretty complete set. Even lesser known fan favorites like “Life and How to Live It” and “Guyagoga” are included, adding real depth to the collection. It's these tracks that both illustrate the breadth of R.E.M.'s early catalogue as well as help explain why they were such an influential act in the 1980s.

Along with “In Time,” a previous compilation that documents the Warner years, “And I Feel Fine” summarizes R.E.M.'s career succinctly. At its height, they were a great band that released a lot of classic albums. But most importantly, R.E.M.'s early work retains a timelessness that doesn't necessarily evoke any particular era. This is a hallmark of truly great music, which is why “And I Feel Fine” is such a welcome compilation.

It's a reminder that, while R.E.M. may be best known for their hits, their greatness was born in the misfits.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtader@nd.edu.

Alternative rockers R.E.M. showcase the music of their earlier days with independent label I.R.S. on the band's latest compilation album, “And I Feel Fine.”

The Observer
PHILADELPHIA — Sidney Crosby scored the only goal in a shootout to lift the Pittsburgh Penguins over the New Jersey Devils 2-1 on Thursday night, extending the Devils' franchise-worst, home-losing streak to 13 games.

Mike Knuble's second goal of the season with 1:24 left in regulation forced overtime, and Simon Gagne had two power-play goals for Philadelphia, which has the fewest wins (13) and points (34) in the NHL. Flyers captain Peter Forsberg had three assists.

Rod Brind'Amour rallied the Flyers with a spirited performance, but the Devils were simply too strong this time.

The Devils have won the last five meetings and six of the last seven against the Flyers, who still don’t have a regulation victory since beating former coach Kevin Dineen in the opener on Oct. 6.

Philadelphia fell to 0-6-1 against Pittsburgh this season. It was just the second time in 33 games the Penguins won when Crosby didn’t have a point.

Nittymaki stopped 16 of 17 shots in the shootout, but Jeffer Carter missed the net on his chance. Evgeni Malkin and Peter Forsberg traded shots off the post.

Crosby, who has been impressive all season, has 10 points in his past five games with three goals and seven assists.

The Devils took advantage of a breakdown by Philadelphia to score the only goal of the shootout. After Antero Niittymaki stopped a shot by Mike Knuble, he went to his knees for a rebound and couldn’t stop the puck from flying in.

New Jersey Devils goalie Martin Brodeur made 10 saves in the shootout. The Devils are 1-1-3 in shootouts.

The Devils' penalty kill, which had allowed just 4 of 34 attempts, held the Flyers scoreless in three of the four previous meetings.

The Flyers, who had lost six of their past eight games, outshot the Devils 25-13.

Philadelphia forward Andy Hilbert, who has missed the last 10 games with a finger injury, had two assists.

New Devils forward Simon Gagne, who returned from a shoulder injury, had an assist on Mike Knuble's second goal of the season.
NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Conf.</th>
<th>Div.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>20-9</td>
<td>7-2</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>23-7</td>
<td>17-13</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>22-8</td>
<td>13-10</td>
<td>2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>17-13</td>
<td>11-7</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>12-36</td>
<td>8-23</td>
<td>4-4</td>
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Eastern Conference, Central Division

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<tr>
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<td>22-6</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>22-7</td>
<td>10-8</td>
<td>2-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland</td>
<td>22-9</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>4-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>26-9</td>
<td>13-3</td>
<td>3-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>18-30</td>
<td>9-20</td>
<td>1-9</td>
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Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>22-9</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>25-5</td>
<td>15-9</td>
<td>6-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>24-5</td>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>3-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>19-30</td>
<td>12-26</td>
<td>3-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>14-31</td>
<td>12-20</td>
<td>2-7</td>
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Western Conference, Northwest Division

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>29-10</td>
<td>19-3</td>
<td>6-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>L.A. Lakers</td>
<td>30-19</td>
<td>17-10</td>
<td>9-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L.A. Clippers</td>
<td>24-25</td>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>6-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden State</td>
<td>29-27</td>
<td>13-17</td>
<td>3-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>29-29</td>
<td>11-18</td>
<td>2-6</td>
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Western Conference, Southwest Division

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<th>Div.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>16-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>33-16</td>
<td>21-11</td>
<td>9-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>31-17</td>
<td>18-15</td>
<td>7-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>29-27</td>
<td>13-18</td>
<td>4-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memphis</td>
<td>12-38</td>
<td>6-24</td>
<td>0-12</td>
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NCAA Basketball

Women's Big East Standings

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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Conference Record</th>
<th>Overall Record</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Connecticut</td>
<td>11-0</td>
<td>21-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Louisville</td>
<td>10-3</td>
<td>23-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Notre Dame</td>
<td>7-3</td>
<td>16-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Marquette</td>
<td>7-3</td>
<td>16-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 USF</td>
<td>7-3</td>
<td>17-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 West Virginia</td>
<td>7-4</td>
<td>18-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 St. John's</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>15-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Houston</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>21-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Seton Hall</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>16-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 DePaul</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>15-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Cincinnati</td>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>13-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Providence</td>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>13-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 St. John's</td>
<td>3-8</td>
<td>12-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Xavier</td>
<td>2-8</td>
<td>10-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Georgetown</td>
<td>2-9</td>
<td>13-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Villanova</td>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>8-13</td>
</tr>
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In Brief

U.S. Senior Open to be played at Sahalee Country Club

Far Hills, N.J. — The U.S. Senior Open will be played at Sahalee Country Club in 2010, the first year that Seattle-native Fred Couples will be eligible for the premier event in senior golf.

Sahalee, a tree-lined course in the suburbs, hosted the 1998 PGA Championship won by Vijay Singh and a World Golf Championship in 2002 won by Craig Parry.

It was supposed to be held in 2010, but the PGA of America took it away and awarded it to Major Whistling Straits as part of a long-term deal that included a Ryder Cup.

Instead, Sahalee officials went after the U.S. Senior Open, the top event for 50-and-older players. Couples, a former Masters champion and one of the most popular players in golf, grew up in Seattle.

Miller gives up lead at world championships

Aire, Sweden — This is what happens when Bode Miller fails to finish with a flourish.

Leading after the downhill leg of the world championships combined event, Miller was on track for a medal, perhaps gold, until he inexplicably slowed down in the final gates of the slalom and finished sixth.

"I was mystified. I thought he would get the job done today. He was in such a good position," said U.S. men's head coach Phil McNichol. "He did a good job at the top, he was carrying good speed. But then it was a little uncharacteristic. It looked like he was either having a difficult time at the bottom or he backed off.

"It's a great example of what just finishing gets you. Everyone can give him a hard time for not finishing, but I'm very happy with what he's been doing so far for the win or you finish sixth."

Cowboys hire Phillips as head coach

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys hired Wade Phillips as their new coach Thursday to replace the retired Bill Parcells.

Phillips' hiring was confirmed by a person familiar with the negotiations who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the Cowboys had not introduced the coach.

The Cowboys scheduled a late afternoon news conference. While the team wouldn't give the reason for the news conference, it was following the same procedure as it has for past coaching hires, including Parcells four years ago.

The 59-year-old Phillips, the son of longtime Houston Oilers coach Bum Phillips, spent the last three seasons as San Diego's defensive coordinator. He is a former NFL head coach who has been in the league 30 of the last 33 years.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones left the Valley of the Sun that morning and met with Phillips and his agent, Gary O'Hagan, at a Friday afternoon news conference in Irving, Texas Thursday after being named as Bill Parcells' replacement.

Parcells resigned last month after a playoff loss to Seattle.

Instead, Jones made a formal announcement later Thursday.

Dallas head coach Wade Phillips addresses reporters at a news conference in Irving, Texas Thursday after being named as Bill Parcells' replacement.

Phillips head coaching record is 48-42 over three years with Buffalo, two with Denver and seconding interim stints with New Orleans and Atlanta.

That includes 3-4 as a fill-in and 0-3 in the playoffs, most notably the "Music City Miracle," when Tennessee used a trick kick return for the winning touchdown in the closing seconds.

The last candidates interviewed by Jones were Super Bowl assistants, Indianapolis assistant head coach and quarterback coach Jim Caldwell on Wednesday and Chicago Bears defensive coordinator Ron Rivera a day earlier.

Williams to play for Fed Cup team for first time

Fresh off her Australian Open title, Serena Williams has agreed to play for the U.S. Fed Cup team for the first time since 2003 — joining older sister Venus on the squad that faces Belgium in the first round in April.

"I was very happy when Serena called me and said she wanted to play, especially coming after her big win in Australia," U.S. captain Zina Garrison told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Thursday. "She had texted me a couple of times and said she was contemplating playing Fed Cup. She actually let me know last week she'll play."
Black History Month Keynote Address:

Rod Paige
Former U.S. Secretary of Education

Discussing American Education, including the No Child Left Behind Act, with Question and Answer Session for Students

Monday, February 12th
7:30 pm, 101 DeBartolo Hall
Free to all ND, St. Mary's and HCC students
Reception with light refreshments to follow

Black History Month 2007
Go Tell it on the Mountain: Voices of Black Heritage

Keynote Address Sponsored by:
Multicultural Affairs Committee of Student Senate (MAC), Student Government, SUB, Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE), Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS), Office of the President, College of Arts and Letters, and the Department of Political Science
Paul Pierce "If --- ------- for long-range jumpers eight 3-pointers in the Friday, February 9, the first half, a lonely voice seen one guy get in the zone, seen, " eye-popping display of offen­ ning!" the worst team in the NBA. The Celtics have lost 16 straight.

Boston forward Paul Pierce is learning how to act as a captain for Notre Dame, Indiana, arena records. Pierce was honored during a break in the action.

This season, dominated the overmatched Vikings (8-18, 2-11) from the opening tip. Mike Green added 14 points, Brandon Crone 13 and A.J. Graves 12 for the Bulldogs, who set season-highs in points, field goals, assists and margin of victory.

"On any given night, we're really good looks," Campbell said. "We moved the ball extremely well, that was the key to start­ ing it off well. Just like a really good any other game, and I'm just doing my best to knock them down."

Waters briefly switched from a man-to-man defense to a 2-3 zone, but that hardly slowed the Bulldogs or Campbell.

Associated Press

BOSTON — Paul Pierce didn't get 27 points and 17 rebounds, did not score a major offensive- rational book Celtics owner Wyc Grousbeck left for him. The Boston captain was in the hospi­ tal with an elbow infection that derailed his return from a bad foot, and the book remained in his locker.

Wally Szczerbiak left the book behind when he went to get his ankles taped after a 91-79 loss to the Miami Heat extended Boston's franchise-record losing streak to 16 games Wednesday. And Tony Allen's copy of "The Adversity Advantage," by blind mountaineer Erik Weihenmayer, was still in his locker, too; it's probably too rough to carry a lot of stuff when you're walking in a full leg cast.

The first blind climber to sum­ mit Mount Everest, Weihenmayer was going through a difficult time in the Heat game Wednesday night as part of the Celtics' "Heroes Among Us" campaign. Grousbeck insisted the visit was long­ planned and not timed to snap the team out of its franchise- record losing streak.

"If there's an advantage in adversity, I haven't found it yet," he said.

Neither has his team.

The Celtics matched their magic number with their 16th loss in a row — one for each of the titles that one made them the pride of the NBA. The league record of 23 straight in one sea­ son was set by the Vancouver Grizzlies in 1996 and matched by the Denver Nuggets in '98.

"Every game they're close," Grousbeck said. "Every game, there are one or two shots that we didn't make. There's a lot to like about it, and you're playing hard for Doc."

"But it's time for a W."

The Celtics won 16 titles from 1957-86 to establish themselves as the NBA's most prolific dynasty. But it's been a long time since the Celtics, who named their mascot "Larry" and wear a shamrock on their uniforms, have had any good fortune.

The deaths of Reggie Lewis and Len Bias, the transparent ranking of the 1995-96 season in an attempt to obtain Tim Duncan, only to get a bad draw in the lot­tery; the disastrous tenure of Rick Pitino — all factors that set back the team's franchise record.

"I wish it's injuries that left the young team in the league without veteran leader­ ship."

Center Theo Ratliff played just two games before being sidelined with a bulging disc. Allen tore his ACL just as he was emerging with a streak of 20-point games.

Pierce missed 22 games with a stress reaction in his foot, then went back to sick bay with an infection and fever just as he was on a roll. "We've never had one," coach Doc Rivers said.

"Obviously, it's a tough hreak," Pierce said. "But we've got used to that."

The Celtics are 2-21 without Pierce, prompting one fan to hold up a poster that said: "Wanted: Paul Pierce, Reward: a win."

Pierce was released from the hospital on Thursday. Pierce has already pranced each ankle before attempting to block a shot on Wednesday night and landing on the foot of Leon Powe, who was sitting near the end of the Boston bench.

"Step on your teammate's foot on the bench? What else can go wrong?" Szczerbiak said. "It's like, gee, it's one of those things."

"It's just frustrating, right when I was starting to feel better."

Pierce should go to a seven- or eight-man rotation — "If we have seven or eight guys —" but coach would not change his approach.

"It's not that I wish we had an 18-year-old on the team," said Rivers. "I wish it's injuries that left the young team in the league without veteran leader­ ship."

"Center Theo Ratliff played just two games before being sidelined with a bulging disc. Allen tore his ACL just as he was emerging with a streak of 20-point games."

Pierce would love to have. But it would be nice to get a lit­ tle luck.
Cycle

Embattled Landis won't race in France in 2007

Floyd Landis will and
jfitzpa5@nd.edu
in order to stay sharp for next ship.
Team practice as usual this weekend in
bit sharper for the Big East.
shorter than what they are used
to racing.
no distance runners for the
runners going on the women's
ing, or tapering you might say,
ing this weekend

AFLD has agreed with his
compete Saturday at
Saint Mary's

PARIS — Floyd Landis will skip the Tour de France — and all races in France this year — as part of an agreement with French doping authorities in a case that could strip him of cycling's most prestigious title.

Last year's Tour champion had hip-replacement surgery 4 1/2 months ago and was unlikely to have competed in this year's Tour. He agreed Thursday not to race again in France until 2008, and in return the French anti-doping agency postponed its decision on whether to suspend him from competing in France for a maximum of two years because of a positive doping test.

"Floyd is pleased that the AFLD has agreed with his
counsel's request that they sus-

The Associated Press

ended this proceeding," spokesman Michael Henson said.

Earlier, AFLD president Pierre Bordry said Landis "understood perfectly that if he
didn't act today, we would start the procedure immediately.

Landis will go before the U.S.
Anti-Doping Agency on May 14 and, following that, the AFLD will deliver its verdict in June.

"We will let Landis defend himself as he wishes," Bordry said.

The American, who has
denied wrongdoing, did not
appear at Thursday's meeting of
the AFLD's nine-member panel, but sent a lawyer who
read his request for a delay.

In the letter, a copy of which
was obtained by The
Associated Press, Landis said the parallel cases in France
and the United States were complicating matters. He asked
the French agency to hold off
until after the U.S. agency rules. The USADA will hold its
hearings May 14.

"In this case, and in order to
avoid any misunderstanding, I
agree to voluntarily not partici-
pate in any professional or
amateur cycling event in
France until December 31, 2007, and in par-
ticular the Tour de France 2007," Landis said in the letter.

Bordry said Landis deserves
to be heard by the
USADA. However, Bordry
echoed Tour de France president
Christian Prudhomme's sen­
timent that the American agency
was dragging out its process.

Landis spokesman Michael Henson said Landis was happy with the AFLD's decision.

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"We will let Landis

defend himself as he wishes.

Pierre Bordry
AFLD president
No. 9 Irish take five-game win streak on road

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

The Irish have dominated the past against the Badgers — Notre Dame is 42-16 against Wisconsin in all-time series. The Badgers have struggled against the Irish in recent years, failing to produce a win in their last fifteen meetings. Notre Dame defeated Wisconsin 6-1 at home last year. Notre Dame will look to continue to dominate in doubles play, Bayliss said. The Irish took the double point in both matches against Toledo and Duke to take the 1-0 lead early. The meet will look to gain that advantage again in Madison.

It's a clear underdog situation where you feel like really you have a chance to win the match." A win against Wisconsin will give the Irish the consistency that Bayliss said the team has been looking for. Notre Dame upset Ohio State for the Buckeyes' first loss, who finished the season No. 4, last year. But the team did not see the desired double for the rest of the season. Although they won the Big East Championship and finished 19-5, losing to top-seeded Georgia in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament, just playing in the postseason was not good enough. Bayliss said that senior captain Stephen Bass along with fellow classmates Barry King and Ryan Keckley have really aided the Irish in their quest for success this year.

"I think the senior leadership has been extraordinary this year," Bayliss said.

Notre Dame will look to build-off its success as they head to Wisconsin Friday night to prepare for Sunday. Bayliss said the team would have to make an adjustment to Wisconsin's slower courts will be a trial for Notre Dame but that the practice time Saturday will help.

Bayliss expects Wisconsin to be a challenging team, and welcomes the opportunity.

"It's going to be a good opportunity for us because in the next rankings Wisconsin is going to go way up having beat a top-10 team," he said.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

Selig says MLB will recognize Bonds if he passes Aaron

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds might get a telephone call from baseball commissioner Bud Selig instead of a hand-shake if the San Francisco Giants slugger breaks Hank Aaron's home run record. Selig wouldn't say Thursday whether he would award any Giants games if and when Bonds closes in on the mark.

Selig insisted that Major League Baseball would celebrate Bonds' potential feat exactly as it does any other major milestone, such as a pitcher's 3000th win. Last year, Selig telephoned San Diego closer Trevor Hoffman when he became the career saves leader.

"I wasn't there when Roger Clemens won his 300th game. That's a matter I'll determine at some point in the future," Selig said at a baseball luncheon hosted by Fox Sports Bay Area. "Let me say it, and I'm not going to say anymore. That's it." Does he even want Bonds to pass the 753 homers of Aaron, who played his final two sea-sons in 1975 and 76 with the Selig-owned Milwaukee Brewers?

"It is a fact Hank Aaron and I have friends, close friends," Selig said. "When you're the commissioner, you just don't think about that. I have said before if and when Barry Bonds breaks that record it will be handled the same way that every other record in base-ball that's been broken was handled."

There has been wide speculation Selig would prefer that Bonds just retire now to avoid further scrutiny as the seven-time NL MVP pursues the mark of Hammerin' Hank. The 42-year-old Bonds, whose $15.8 million, one-year contract with the Giants remains unresolved less than a week before the team begins spring training, begins his 22nd major league season only 22 homers from passing Aaron and Bonds is healthier now than in recent seasons.

"There is a matter between the Giants and Barry," said Selig, who was treated to his favorite frozen custard dessert flown in from Milwaukee. "As far as I'm concerned, as long as things that are being done are in the best interest of the sport, whether it's contractual or anything else, I don't make those judgments."

Bonds and the Giants have differing views of certain language in the deal and Bonds has yet to sign a revised version that omits the promotional clause that runs aloud of baseball's new labor agreement. The version Bonds signed did contain a provision that says the Giants can terminate the contract if Bonds is indicted.

This season, there will be further speculation about whether his quest for the record was fueled by steroids. Bonds long has denied knowingly using steroids.

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ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish look to build upon No. 2 finish at ITAs

Team to face first Big East opponent of ’07

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

On the heels of their second-place finish at the ITA National Team Indoor Championships last weekend — the best in program history — the Irish resume dual meet play today against Big East rival Louisville at 2 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"It's our first Big East team we play and they are always big matches," Notre Dame coach Jay Louderback said.

Louderback said the No. 3 Irish (5-1) will use this match as a chance to key on the No. 7 Cardinals as an opportunity to sit at least one of three players who need to miss a match this spring because they played too much in the fall.

"Seniors Christian and Catrina Thompson and [sophomore] Kelcy Tefft have to sit out a match, and we may sit out one or two on Friday," Louderback said. "We won't decide who will sit until Friday morning. They've had some injury problems so we'll see where they're at Friday morning.

Louisville enters the contest after dropping its last two matches against Troy and SMU, and the team has struggled with illness and injuries to multiple team members. Meanwhile, the Irish are recovering from their 4-2 loss against No. 1 Georgia Tech in the ITA Team Indoor Finals Sunday.

"I thought we played well against Georgia Tech," Louderback said. "We definitely had a chance to win it if we could've won the doubles point. [Georgia Tech] played a lot more confidently after they got the doubles point."

Saturday's match marked the first time in 10 tournament appearances the Irish advanced to the finals of the ITAs indoors, a tournament that featured many top-ranked teams from across the country.

"How we played there gave us the confidence that we can play with anyone in the country," Louderback said. "There are 10-15 teams that could win the NCAA Tournament this year, and that's a good thing."

Freshman Cosmina Ciobanu continued her strong play at the tournament, winning each of the four singles matches she played. Ciobanu finished second to fellow freshman Colleen Bieley at the ITA Midwest Regionals in October and has a 6-0 record so far in dual match play.

"[Ciobanu is] a great competitor," Louderback said. "She volleys well, hits ground strokes well and serves well. She's got a lot of speed and covers the court. As a freshman especially, she does a great job."

So far this season, Notre Dame has posted four wins against teams in the ITA top-25 rankings, including a 4-3 win over No. 6 Northwestern in the semifinals of the ITA indoor.

Contact Chris Hine at chinne@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Kalamazoo is next test for Belles

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

The Belles will look to rebound from Monday's debacle at Calvin when they travel to Kalamazoo and face the Hornets Saturday at 3 p.m.

Saint Mary's had won four straight before the 75-44 loss to Calvin. The Belles shot a dismal 21 percent from the floor in that game and committed a season-worst 17 turnovers.

The Belles — now 9-11 overall and 8-5 in conference play — will face the Hornets, who are 3-18 and 2-11 in the MIAA, for the second time this year. The Belles easily won the first meeting in a 70-52 romp.

With the conference tournament fast approaching, the Belles hope to hold on to the third spot they currently occupy in the conference standings.

Junior guard Alison Kessler will look to surpass the 1,000-point mark for her career in Saturday's game. Kessler is just 13 points shy of the milestone, which only seven players in school history have attained.

The Belles have worked on rebounds during the last few weeks of practice, and their hard work has shown come game time. Against Calvin, Saint Mary's outrebounded the Comets by a 46-42 margin.

Another Saint Mary's strength is free throw shooting. The Belles have stayed consistent from the charity stripe all year, making it to the line 99 times more than their opponents. Free throws account for 25 percent of Saint Mary's scoring output this season.

After a tough loss, the Belles are favored against Kalamazoo. The win would be crucial to building momentum for the rest of the season.

Contact Dan Cooper at dcooper1@nd.edu

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The Observer • SPORTS
Friday, February 9, 2007
Defend
continued from page 24

4

Wolverines, and have since
been holding a strong bid for
their two wins over the
team continues to make a strong bid for
its opponent's mistakes, con-
Montana (1.73 goals per
time. But the Irish penalty
The Mavericks with mononu-

They always have numbers
many pucks past [Brown].
many penalties, if you can avoid it."

not going to get
defense - in a December series,
the Mavericks power play has con-

They have a good, solid
Irish will
defend their No. 1 ranking at home against Nebraska-Omaha tonight.

The Irish surprised the
team and defense in
in a December series, allowing three goals in each of
their two wins over the
Winning the system they play, they
don't give you many options.

You're not going to get
defensive corps and just with
the system they play, they
do n't give you many options.
They always have numbers
back.”

Another key matchup will be the
battle between the
power play and Irish
penalty kill. The two teams met Nov. 24-25 in Omaha where both
tied a series that saw Notre
Dame lose 5-2 on a late power-
play goal by defender Adam Uotila in the second game.
The Mavericks power play has continued to capitalize on
its opponent's mistakes, con-
verting 21.7 percent of its chances. But the Irish penalty
kill has made a name for itself as well, successfully running
down 915 percent of its man-
disadvantage situations.

“That's part and parcel of
their whole offense,” Jackson said.

The power play — you're going to have to
defend well against it too, and the
best defense is not taking penalties, if you can avoid it.”

Notre Dame got hung up as the season progressed into
the grind of late January and
early February, losing three
players to injury and sickness.
Junior defenseman Dan
VeNard has missed over a
month due to a lower body injury. Seniors Christian
Zentgraf and Greg Sciba will be out for at least six more games due to lower
body injury. Sophomore center
Christian Hamon will continue to
sit out for the season against the
Mavericks with mononucleosis, but he began to skate
in practice this week for the
first time in several weeks.

“The injuries disrupt things because this time of the year,
you like to get your lines the
time, you want them for the rest of
the year,” Jackson said. “I
keep switching them because
we can't find good combina-
tions. When everybody was
healthy, I just had a pretty
good feeling of what our best
combinations were.”

Nebraska-Omaha has had its
own serious problems recently,
suspending two of its players
for the season this week.
The Omaha World-Herald reported Monday that the
Mavericks suspended senior
Bobby Henderson and sopho-
more Adam Bartholomay for
the remainder of the season on
violation of team rules after
they were arrested on suspi-
cion of public intoxication
Sunday.

With 10 goals, Bartholomay
was the third-leading goal
scorer for Nebraska-Omaha
and had played both offense
and defense in 30 games for
the Mavericks. Henderson had
one assist in 12 games.

“It's like I've always said,
one person's misfortune is
another person's opportunity,”
Kemp told The Observer
Thursday. “So hopefully some-
body will pick up the slack.”

Tonight's game will begin at
7:30 in the Joyce Center, while
Saturday's contest will get a
7:05 start.

Contact Kyle Cassily at
kcassily@nd.edu

Center Kevin Deeth carries the puck up the ice against Miami Jan. 26 in a 4-1 Irish win. The
Irish will defend their No. 1 ranking at home against Nebraska-Omaha tonight.

Women's Lacrosse
Irish open season at Dartmouth
ND looks for revenge against the team that ended its 2006 season

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

At the beginning of last sea-
on, Notre Dame was picking
up the pieces from a 3-12 year.
This season, the Irish are preseason No. 5 nationally.

What a difference a year
makes.
The Irish surprised the
lacrosse world last season with a 15-4 record and trip to the
NCAA semifinals. So it's easy to see why they aren't sneaking
up on anyone in 2007.

The Irish open their season
Saturday, traveling to face No.
6 Dartmouth in an exhibition
closeup. Although it is presea-
son, the game will carry a little
extra meaning.

Dartmouth, the last team
Notre Dame faced last season,
eliminated the Irish in the
NCAA semifinals 14-8.

"Facing Dartmouth again will
definitely be extra motivation for
the team," Irish coach
Tracy Coyne said. "We're really
eager to go against someone
new after weeks of scrimmag-
ging against ourselves. The
game will be a good gauge of
what is working and what
needs change."

Facing the highly ranked Big
Green squad will have the
Irish for a very difficult
season. The Big Green is ranked
in the preseason top 20. Senior Meghan Murphy said the team
is ready to face the challenge.

"We wouldn't have it any
other way," Murphy said. "We know
we need to be tested and chal-
enged. This is a good early test for us.
We need to be able to fine-tune our skills and
strategies."

The Irish will be led by a tal-
ented group of returning
starters, including three mem-
ers of the preseason All-Big
East team. Junior midfield/attack
Caillie McKinney and sophomore mid-
fielders Jillian Byers and
Jenna Fairchild were
unanimous selections to the
team, joined by senior defend-
er Meghan Fitzpatrick.

While outside expectations
for the Irish are very high this
season, the team's expectations
may be higher still.

"It's not about just getting to
the NCAA semi-finals anymore,"
senior midfielder Lena
Zentgraf said. "It's about win-
ning the next two games for
the championship."

Notre Dame's other main
goal this season will be win-
ing the inaugural Big East
tournament.

"We're tired of finishing run-
er-up - we want to win
the Big East and take our place among the other elite teams at
Notre Dame," Coyne said.

"This is absolutely the most
talented and experienced team
I've ever coached, and the Big
East and national champi-
onships are our ultimate
goals."

Contact Michael Bryan at
mbryan@nd.edu
DePaul Jr. and they've had a lot of problems. McGraw isn't concerned about the Irish defense, he said. "We have had our problems, Bednarski said. "If you're on the road and tough things happen," Brey said. "We still had some opportunities to get high-percentage shots. We had more opportunities this weekend than last week," he said. McGraw isn't concerned about the Irish defense, he said. "We have had our problems, Bednarski said. "If you're on the road and tough things happen," Brey said. "We still had some opportunities to get high-percentage shots. We had more opportunities this weekend than last week," he said. McGraw isn't concerned about the Irish defense, he said. "We have had our problems, Bednarski said. "If you're on the road and tough things happen," Brey said. "We still had some opportunities to get high-percentage shots. We had more opportunities this weekend than last week," he said.
HOCKEY

Top-ranked icers take on Nebraska-Omaha

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson stood near center ice at practice Thursday and blasted his players for poorly executing a defensive system.

“You can’t be strong in the neutral zone against this team,” he yelled. “You have to be great in the neutral zone.”

Jackson was referring to the Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks, who play the No. 1 Irish in a two-game set starting tonight at the Joyce Center. And the second-year coach had every reason to be on edge the day before the CCHA series began — the Mavericks bring one of the nation’s most potent offenses to face off against the best defense college hockey has to offer.

Nebraska-Omaha (13-12-7, 10-9-3 CCHA) has become the fifth-best offense in the country (3.81 goals per game) behind the duo of senior forwards Scott Parse and Alex Nikiforuk, and an entire offensive unit that has lifted the Mavericks to fifth place in the CCHA, more than compensating for a lackluster defense.

“You’re going to have to defend well — I don’t care who you are — against Nebraska. They’re an offensive team,” Jackson said. “You can key on Parse, then you have Nikiforuk beating you — they have several very good players and Parse is a great player, there’s no question. If you focus on one guy, someone else will burn you.”

The Irish (23-5-2, 17-3-2 CCHA) defended well against Nebraska last season, winning 3-2 at home and 6-5 on the road.

Forward Rob Kurz, center, attempts to get the game-winning shot off Thursday night at DePaul, but is blocked by Blue Demons forward Wilson Chandler, back. The Irish fell 67-66.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Last-second demons

Irish can’t score as time expires, fall at DePaul

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

CHICAGO — With Notre Dame trailing 67-66, Irish forward Rob Kurz grabbed the rebound off forward Luke Zeller’s miss with less than three seconds left.

Enter Blue Demons forward Wilson Chandler.

Chandler blocked Kurz’s shot and time expired Thursday, giving DePaul a key conference victory and dropping the Irish to 1-5 on the road against the Big East and 6-5 overall in league play.

The Demons sophomore big man, who finished with a game-high 23 points and 14 rebounds, made contact with the ball.

Forward Breona Gray, center, takes off on a fast break in a come-from-behind victory over Louisville at the Joyce Center Wednesday.

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Team looks for third straight Big East win

Irish hope to capitalize on DePaul’s road woes

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

After an impressive second-half comeback over Louisville, Notre Dame faces DePaul with a chance to capture its third victory Sunday at 5:30 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

DePaul (12-9, 5-6 Big East) has lost its last three games on the road, falling to Connecticut, St. John’s and Louisville. Irish coach Muffet McGraw appreciates the home court advantage her team will have Sunday.

"I think we’ll (still) have real confidence playing at home,” McGraw said. “I think particularly for the freshmen it’s just easier for them to play at home. And I think they enjoy the crowd. The crowd is really helping us win games right now.”

The Blue Demons defeated South Florida 72-65 Tuesday. Forward Caprice Smith led the team with 17 points and 15 rebounds, and was one of five players in double figures during the game.

Forward Rob Kurz, center, attempts to get the game-winning shot off Thursday night at DePaul, but is blocked by Blue Demons forward Wilson Chandler, back. The Irish fell 67-66.

FENCING

ND heads to match at Duke

Weather strands team at O’Hare just hours before the competition

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame’s trip to Durham, N.C. for the Duke duals got off to a bumpy start.

Sitting in O’Hare International Airport waiting for his team’s flight, Irish coach Janusz Bednarski wanted, quite literally, was for his squad to get off the ground.

By 9 p.m. Thursday, Notre Dame’s flight had been delayed four hours due to tire problems on the plane scheduled for the 750-mile flight. And the Irish were just hoping to get to North Carolina in time for the competition, which begins at 9 a.m. on Friday.

“I don’t want to be sitting here,” Bednarski said by telephone. “I would rather have us be fencing. We are sitting and waiting for information. I just hope we will make it today.”

When the Irish finally arrive at the two-day Duals, they will have a new set of problems.

The field at Duke includes Air Force, Duke, Johns Hopkins and North Carolina. The Falcons are ninth in the current USFCA poll on the men’s side while the Blue Devils received votes but are outside the top 10 in both