Saint Mary's announces presidential tickets
Two pairs of candidates appear on ballot; third denied under BOG constitution

By ANGELA SAOUD
Saint Mary's Editor

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

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

But on Thursday, the ticket of junior Katheryn Kelly and freshman Lauren McCalister approached the elections committee to see if they could still sign up to run.

According to a statement released to the student body this morning by the elections committee — including Elections Commissioner Anna Bauer — members of the committee based their decision on constitutional rules.

"We unanimously voted that a ticket comprised of Katherine Kelly, a junior, and Lauren McCalister, a first-year student, will not be allowed to enter this year's election because the deadline for ticket entry has passed," members wrote. "As was stated

College's groups make headway

By ANGELA SAOUD
Saint Mary's Editor

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

Senior Cassie Gerstner said she has attended many BOG-related events.

"I don't even know what student government does or doesn't do," said St. Edward's Hall Senate Commissioner Anna Bauer — including Elections Commissioner Anna Bauer — members of the committee.

ND government is often overlooked

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

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

"I don't even know what student government does or doesn't do," said St. Edward's Hall Senate Commissioner Anna Bauer — including Elections Commissioner Anna Bauer — members of the committee.

'Flex 10' option faces obstacles to approval

Change could hurt quality in dining halls

By JENNIFER ROWLING
New Writer

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

"Food Services and the University administration are not necessarily opposed to offering a 10-meals-per-week meal plan option for resident students," said Dave Pennkowski, director of Notre Dame Food Services. "Although, there is a definite interest in protecting

Resolution-makers flood gyms

It is 4 p.m. at Bolio's Sports Recreation Center, and the building is buzzing with activity. On a cold January afternoon, it seems nearly half the student body has descended upon the cardio room, filling sign-up sheets for hours in advance.

"January and February are always our busiest time of the year," said Sally Derenski, Director of Athletics at RecSports. "Since nearly half of the people that come into the building head into the fitness room, it gets extremely crowded during peak hours."
INSIDE COLUMN

Pleased to meet you

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

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

Senior year — by far my best year of high school (partially because the legal age to enter Louisiana bars is a mere 18 years). My senior year, everyone was friends with everyone — social barriers practically melted away. It did not matter anymore what group one had belonged to previously, everyone became pretty much just part of one big group. Everyone was pretty relaxed.

This is what I had expected of Notre Dame. But I failed to calculate into my formula one vital factor. No one is interested in meeting anyone new by senior year. I expected senior year to be a blur of hazing freshmen, getting into the bars, meeting people, a general atmosphere of fun. And for the most part, it has been — except for the meeting people part.

Being at home made me realize the completely different social atmosphere I exist in at Notre Dame. Walking into a bar at home, I will run into at least one person I know who will be more than happy to talk to me, no matter how long it has been since we last talked. They will immediately introduce me to the people they came with, and I will become part of that group for the time being. But at Notre Dame, I see people that I once knew, people from freshman or sophomore year, people who I had class with or did a project with, and we pretend we don’t know each other.

Casual acquaintances seem almost non-existent. It is so unlike being in southern Louisiana, where the most casual of acquaintances gives you a big hug upon seeing and enthusiastically asks, “How are you? How is everything?” Here, there are people you know and people you don’t know.

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

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

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

CORRECTIONS

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

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

Samuel Monotnik
freshman
Stanford

I thought it was a good inauguration. I saw John McCain — anticipation seemed intense. Bus was very professional.

Danielle Nunez
sophomore
Norwalk

"I was a day of mourning — not of celebration. " Bush said of "freedom" and "liberty" a whole lot.

Kathryn Schuessler
sophomore
Washington

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

Elizabeth Roach
senior
off-campus

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

Jane Mitzel
senior
South Bend

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

Tim Chion
sophomore
Steinmetz

In Brief

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

RecSports will sponsor its 19th annual Late Night Olympics The all-night furries competition begins tonight at 6 p.m. and lasting until Sunday at 4 a.m. will benefit the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place tonight and Saturday. Each showing, one from 7 to 9 p.m. and one from 10 p.m. to midnight, includes 18 student features and takes place at the Browning Family Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

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

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

Campus Ministry group Four7 will present Christian group Solid Underground with Joe Nava and Sean Dudley in concert tonight from 9 to 11 p.m. in the Coleman Morse Lounge.

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

OFFBEAT

"Furries" meet in San Jose

SAN JOSE — The city is hosting a convention this weekend of about 1,700 "furries" — people who love animals so much that they take on their identities. "Furries" meet in San Jose every week of about 1,700 host a convention this weekend. The convention is sponsored by the Progressive Faculty Alliance and the Progressive Student Alliance.

Many of those attending have participated in Internet chat rooms for "furries."

"But just because it's weird, it's still perfectly normal to the people involved in it," said racism, one of the event's founders.

Drug dealer leaves loot in shopping mall

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — A crack cocaine dealer who forgot a backpack containing $70,000 in a Winnipeg mall was arrested after he tried to reclaim the bag at the mall's lost-and-found desk.

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

Information compiled from the Associated Press.
Competitors anticipate Late Night Olympics

By KATHERINE O'HARA
News Writer

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

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

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

Events start at 6 p.m. and will continue throughout the day.

"Students like the competitive nature of the event," said sophomore Tony Oza. "The campus really likes their athletes. This is a day they can give up a Saturday to go to the JACC, " said sophomore Matt Novak. "We have plans to go and support his friends.

"It is a day of uniting," said sophomore Emmie Calland. Calland is a Peace Not War member. "We're concerned about the war in Iraq, " she said. "We are a single-issue group and will continue to support the group with many different values and beliefs feeding into it. We agree that we are against the war and that the troops should be sent home," explained Professor Ann Clark in her speech.

Psychology professor Joseph Miller talked about and blamed "highly informative" media such as Fox and Clear Channel. For falsifying and putting spins on stories. Munn shared her experience of protesting on street corners with her "Jitask for Peace" sign around her neck. "Lots of people do honk, and it's a wonderful thing," she said.

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

"It's hard to be anti-Bush and mobilize on this campus because we are the minority," said Lindsey Bergen, Saint Mary's College Democrats acting president. "I think it was really great to have this, especially with all the faculty members."
continued from page 1

"Like most inaugural speeches, President Bush was very broad and general," said Campbell. "It's too bad, I think, for the policy community, because it does not seem to alienate a small percentage of the population, which is the hope the President was very broad and general, according to the majority of U.S. citizens, said Campbell. "The speech contained a lot of religious language, and he has a tendency to alienate a small percentage of the population," he said, "but, actually, it probably works with the majority of the population.

Overall, however, Campbell said he heard "a hard time believing that anyone can think anti-Bush in the 2004 campaign would change their minds about him because of this speech.

Teresa Ghiarducci, assistant professor of economics and policy studies, agreed. "President Bush's speak didn't mean anything," she said, "and it's too bad.

Unlike Campbell, who thought the President's broad, non-specific oratory signaled something sinister, Dan Patterson, operations manager, South Dining Hall, said he thought the speech didn't mean anything, either. "It's just not a very well written speech," he said. "Bush's speech wasn't referring to any of the issues we are facing today," he said. "It just didn't mean anything to me.

"Bush's speech wasn't referring to any of the issues we are facing today," said Campbell. "It's just not well written.

"Bush's speech wasn't referring to any of the issues we are facing today," said Teresa Ghiarducci, assistant professor of economics and policy studies.

"Bush's speech wasn't referring to any of the issues we are facing today," said George W. Bush, president.

"We go forward with complete confidence in the eventual triumph of freedom."
Six prison workers shot and killed

Police sealed off approaches to the prison late Thursday, telling a grasping crowd that caused gridlock and left 3,000 students stranded in classrooms overnight.

While a TV weatherman hung his head in shame — telling viewers his forecast of a mere dusting was "embarrassing" — the mayor vented at meteorologists for leaving the city unprepared for Wednesday's storm. He also criticized the response to the storm that caused gridlock and left 3,000 students stranded in classrooms overnight.

It was the first inauguration since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and the capital was emblazoned with a blanket of thousands of police and miles of metal barricades and rooftops, while bomb-sniffing dogs roamed down the streets.

Bush spoke before a shivering throng at the West Front of the Capitol, the monuments of American government — Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln — stretched before him in a snow landscape.

Sen. John Kerry, who had battled Bush for the presidency, watched along with other lawmakers.

The nation's 55th inauguration celebration stretched from a 40-minute morning prayer service at St. John's Church to late-night revelry at nine fancy balls. The festivities cost $40 million in private donations and tens of millions in related costs.

Bush rode in an armored limousine, behind police on motorcycles in a V formation, to lead the inaugural parade. The license plate read USA1.

Hundreds of anti-war protesters, some carrying coffin-like cardboard boxes to signify the deaths of U.S. troops in Iraq, stood along the parade route. They jeered and shook their fists as Bush rode past. "Worst president ever, impeachbush.org" one sign said. Another read: "Guilty of war crimes."

Bush posed for pictures with military leaders and was showered with confetti before delivering his inaugural address.

Yushchenko set to be next president

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Viktor Yushchenko will be sworn in Sunday as president of Ukraine, completing his "Orange Revolution" after weeks of political turmoil which he described as a Kremlin-backed candidate at the polls and survived a mystifying presidential election.

Lawmakers on Thursday hurriedly scheduled the inauguration in a decision that came hours after Yushchenko cleared the last of a series of legal obstacles that had held up the run-off. Since the Dec. 26 election, including an appeal filed in the Supreme Court by losing Viktor Yankovych.

Yankovych, the former prime minister, had been supported by Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has castigated the West for helping Yushchenko win.

On state television, Yankovych predicted Yushchenko would be unable to maintain good relations with Russia and he declared he would stay in politics to lead the opposition.

"I'll do everything I can to restore justice," he said. "The orange nights will not last long."
Apathy

continued from page 1

Junior Avery Mortimer — along with the vast majority of students called. Students were randomly chosen from the phone book to gain an accurate perspective of students' views of campus government. Many declined to be interviewed due to a lack of knowledge about Student Union Board, the Office of the Student Body President (run by Adam Ista and Karla Bell) and Student Senate.

Even when presented with a list of student government's accomplishments — including Student Union Board's weekly movies, the new DVD rental in the Student Center, and some student debate — many students remained apathetic. "I have no opinion," Mortimer said, as did many others. "I don't feel affected at all by student government."

Of the students who responded, most agreed the DVD rental has a good idea, but some kinds remain to be worked out. "The new DVD rental is cool," junior David Ebner of Merivales Hall said. "Unfortunately, in order to rent a DVD you have to register ahead of time, which I didn't know about — luckily my friend had already registered."

Sophomore Katie Podkowa of Breene-Philips Hall seemed di-disinterested with the DVD rental. "Every time I have looked at the movies, they are out of the one I want," she said. "Also, the one-day rental is kind of short. My friend was charged a bunch of late fees."

Student government has announced the one-night rental policy will be extended to two nights for the second semester. Students were more pleased with SUB's weekly movie showings than the new rental policy. "I thought SUB put on a lot of cool events (this term), like the movies on the quad and the movies in D egret," Howard sophomore Julie Hynes said. "Old School" was especially fun to watch on the quad.

"I like the new SUB movie time. It's Saturday matinee at 4:30 p.m.!” Breene-Philips sophomore Joanna Maganegoey said. "I think a lot more people will go to that."

Ebner commented that every SUB movie he had attended had been less than satisfying. "Any SUB movie I've ever been to, the sound cuts out halfway through. It's pretty unprofessional."

David Ebner
Junior

BOG

continued from page 1

throughout the year. "I have been to lots of SAB events that were sponsored by BOG such as movies, tailgates and concerts," she said. However, Gerster said she feels that BOG is not as visible or well-known as its students, and she has not been aware of any BOG changes in the past year. "I am disappointed about the closing of the tunnels," Gerster said. "Granted, they don't play a direct role for these changes, but BOG is supposed to represent the students and I don't know if they would make it easier for students to give their opinions," she said.

And while some believe BOG did not represent them regarding big campus changes, others say they have worked themselves more than accessible to the student body.

Senior Teresa Healy said she thinks this year's president and vice president especially took time to meet with people from all walks of campus life in order to serve a balanced term. "Sarah Catherine [White] and Mary Margaret Garbaldi were really great in making themselves available to the students," Healy said. "I think they're going to be a tough act to follow because they've been so personable."

Gerster, who said she was happy with the way SDB became more prominent on campus, said, "I am impressed with SDB, which I feel has made themselves very present this year by sponsoring many events that promote diversity and women in leadership roles," she said.

And while SAB faced controversy this year for problems with the Saint Mary's Pride Week shirt, Healy said she thinks they handled the situation with class. "SAB made a point to say they were sorry, and they sponsored a series of forums for students to attend in order to discuss what being a Saint Mary's woman meant," Healy said. "They also have a lot of events coming up that I think students will look forward to going to."

"I have been to lots of SAB events that were sponsored by BOG such as movies, tailgates and concerts."

Cassio Gerster
Senior

FRANCE

Holocaust memorial to honor 76,000 Jews

Associated Press

PARIS — With a name engraved on pale stone walls, a new monument to Paris' Jewish quarter pays tribute to the 76,000 Jews rounded up in France during World War II and sent to Nazi death camps. France marks the 60th anniversary of the liberation of France during World War II as a sign that France was responsible for war-time collaboration with the Nazis.

In 1995, Chirac became the first president to acknowledge France's wartime collaboration with the Nazis. In one case, 315 Jews were rounded up in a bicycle stadium in Paris in July 1942 and sent to death camps.

Freddy mentioned Chirac's acknowledgment — and the work of a French team to help compensate Jews for assets seized during the war — as a sign that France was coming to terms with its past. The memorial's renovation was funded partly by the government.
**Airlines face extreme deficits, losses**

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

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Delta Air Lines lost more than $2 billion in fuel prices, low fares and hefty charges as it reported the worst annual financial performance in the industry's history, announcing with a $2.2 billion fourth-quarter loss.

Continental Airlines cited similar difficulties and posted a smaller-than-expected $206 million loss, bringing cumulative fourth-quarter losses reported so far by five large U.S. airlines to $3.17 billion.

A year earlier the same five carriers, which include American, Northwest and Southwest, reported a combined fourth-quarter profit of $330 million. The soaring cost of jet fuel was a huge drain on the industry in 2004, undermining the growth in passenger traffic as well as efforts to reduce labor expenses.

Delta shares plunged 58 cents, or 9.8 percent, to close at $5.37 in Thursday trading on the New York Stock Exchange, where Continental shares fell 8 cents to close at $9.37.

Analysts said Delta, Continental and other struggling airlines must find a way to alter the path they've set.

"Losses can't be sustained forever," said Bill Warlick, an airline analyst at Fitch Ratings in Chicago.

Delta's results, which missed expectations, pushed the Atlanta-based carrier's annual loss to $2.21 billion for all of 2004, dwarfing the previous year's $2.6 billion reported in 2002 by AMR Corp.

While 2005 is likely to be another tough year, Delta executives said their efforts to cut costs and find more flexibility in the right long-term strategy for the nation's third-largest carrier.

"If Delta is to survive, we must develop a fundamentally different way of doing business, which is what we're doing," chief executive Gerald Grinstein said during a Web-based conference with investors.

Grinstein told analysts that the airline's results are clearly disappointing. But, he said, he believes the carrier is making progress on its transformation plan.

The plan includes job cuts, pilot wage reductions, restructured financing and a fare overhaul that has lowered Delta's most expensive fares by up to 50 percent on routes nationwide.

Delta also is improving the inflight experience for its passengers, including refurbishing its planes to make the interiors brighter, adding leather seats and revamping employee uniforms.

For the three months ending Dec. 31, Delta said its net loss was $2.21 billion, or $16.58 a share, compared with a loss of $3.12 billion, or $2.69 a share, in the same period a year ago.

Excluding one-time items — $1.4 billion in non-cash charges — Delta said it lost $750 million, or $5.88 a share. On that basis, analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call were expecting a net loss of $5.11 a share.

Delta ended the quarter with $1.8 billion in unrestricted cash and cash equivalents for the October-December period, compared with $3.64 billion, an increase of 0.9 percent from $3.61 billion a year ago.

The bulk of the charges Delta reported in the fourth quarter relate to reductions in the fair value estimates of two of its feeder carriers — Atlantic Southeast Airlines Inc. and Comair Inc. Delta said this resulted from increased fuel prices, low fares and costs associated with its turnaround plan.

On Christmas, Comair had to cancel all 1,100 of its flights because of a computer glitch and chief financial officer Michael Palumbo estimated Thursday that the incident cost the airline $20 million in lost revenue and added operating expenses.

Delta nearly fell into bankruptcy 2 1/2 months ago before winning deep concessions from pilots and fresh financing from creditors.
American Idol has strong debut

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — TV viewers couldn't wait for their "American Idol" fix, turning out 33.5 million strong on Wednesday.

No other show this season has attracted such a large audience, and it represented the third-highest ratings night of entertainment on television, behind the Fox network's history, Nielsen Media Research said Wednesday. The 33.5 million was a preliminary estimate.

"It doesn't look as though we've been knocked off by anybody," Fox entertainment President Gary Berman said. "We thought we would do well, but nothing like this.

Both the help, and the show's producers were busy earlier this week trying to dampen expectations, saying they anticipated the talent contest to lose some of its popularity in its fourth season. Last year's season debut was watched by 35.6 million.

Wednesday's top-rated show was "NYPD Blue," which drew 18.7 million viewers, according to Nielsen Media Research. The two-hour "L.A. Law" special on NBC was watched by 13.0 million.

The two-hour debut Tuesday night featured auditions in Washington, D.C., with the heart-warming story of Iregina, who travels from her childhood home to make a chance to get on the show and was rewarded with a trip to Hollywood.

"In the end, this may sound a lot like our old rules-of-thumb program," Berman said. "People just love this show. They feel a part of it, because they're the folks who make the choice who wins.

Anticipation may also play a part in its appeal, she said. Fox and NBC executives have been playing up their shows in an effort to avoid the early success of "American Idol" and to hold onto some of its popularity.

St. Paul, Minn. — David Bischoff thinks he got a raw deal last year when the Minnesota Gambling Control Board turned his bowling alley into a weekly Texas Hold 'em poker tournament and confiscated hand cards and chips.

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

Minnesota is now one of several states with legislation re-categorizing their laws to strengthen their hands against someone deciding when poker is becoming an all-out game.

"We can't make exceptions to the present constitution," Fox entertainment issued a statement Monday. "We cannot make exceptions to the way things have been done up until now.

"We will have had a lot to do with student government, so we know the system," said McCalister. "We have seen things we've liked and things we haven't so we'd like to try and change some things while still highlighting the history of the College." McCalister echoed her running mate's sentiments.

"Being Sarah Catherine White's chief of staff, I know what works and what doesn't. I think we could make the transition fairly easy.

"But while the two platforms gear up to campaign over the weekend, some students are still in the dark about who they are as a candidate." Fitzgerald believes she and Siegel will allow students to feel as though they have been heard.

"We want to include freeholders, the truth of the College, represent the best interest of our fellow students, and to help lead the institution in its new direction would be an honor." Fitzgerald believes she and Siegel will allow students to feel as though they have been heard.

"We take that central message of 'You have been very seriously,'" said. "The chance to give back to a college that has provided us with a liberal arts education and an education to a childhood, this student body is something we do not want to miss."" Moran and McElhenny allow students to feel as though they have been heard.

"It seems extremely early for elections," junior Staci Vanlue said. "I don't even know who is running. I don't even know their platforms.

"We like to be the only survivors in the world," junior Staci Vanlue said. "I don't even know who is running. I don't even know their platforms.

"It was pretty impressive," said. "I think it's really important to know about the person who is going to represent you."

"I don't know about anyone campaigning, except I think I've seen a couple of posters — but not as many as last year," said. "I think it's really important to know about the person who is going to represent you.

"The game at the center of the poker world is Texas Hold 'em, in which players deal two cards each and can use five cards to make the best hand. Players can risk everything on a single turn of the card.

"As the popularity of the game has grown, so have problems for gambling regulators. In Iowa, a couple of American Legion posts were allowed to operate tournaments as long as the hosts do not directly profit from the gambling activities.

"It's always been hard," Berman said. "It would have been great to have it in November. Perhaps I wouldn't have sunk to a distant fourth in the election.

"It's not different than cribbage, 500, euchre or bridge."

"Those are played all over the state, whether it be in nursing homes, restaurants or bars. We're asking you to allow poker to be played in a nursing home for playing cribbage and bridge?"

Megan O'Neil contributed to this report.

Contact Angela Seuol at Seuol3093@alshsmary.edu
SPANISH

Church remains anti-contraceptives
Officials reverse bishop's advocacy of contraception to fight AIDS

Associated Press

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

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

The Vatican states that condoms, being a form of artificial birth control, cannot be used, in part, to help prevent the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. On Tuesday, Bishop Juan Antonio Martinez Camino, spokesman for the Spanish Bishops Conference, said "condoms have a place in the global prevention of AIDS." He spoke after a meeting with Health Minister Elena Salgado to discuss ways of fighting the disease.

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

But on Wednesday night the conference issued a statement saying the bishop's comments "must be understood in the context of Catholic doctrine, which holds that use of condoms is immoral sexual conduct."

VIRUS SPREAD

Avian flu could evolve into global pandemic

Outbreaks among poultry have been reported nationwide in Vietnam, and health experts have expressed concern that the virus mutates and human-to-human transmission occurs. There is, however, no evidence of that having occurred yet.

The health agency has also cautioned against transporting poultry from places affected by bird flu into areas hit by last month's tsunami that killed many as 220,000 people — although numbers have varied from as many as 220,000 people — although numbers have varied drastically and left thousands homeless. It stressed that infected poultry must be "kept off the food chain, including emergency food relief activities."

VIETNAM

WHO warns of bird flu outbreak

Associated Press

HANOI — Health experts fear that the bird flu, or avian influenza, could evolve into a pandemic as the virus mutates and human-to-human transmission occurs. There is, however, no evidence of that having occurred yet.

Outbreaks among poultry have been reported nationwide in Vietnam, and health experts have expressed concern that the virus mutates and human-to-human transmission occurs. There is, however, no evidence of that having occurred yet. The health agency has also cautioned against transporting poultry from places affected by bird flu into areas hit by last month's tsunami that killed as many as 220,000 people — although numbers have varied drastically and left thousands homeless. It stressed that infected poultry must be "kept off the food chain, including emergency food relief activities."

"The mines are living in medieval conditions. They have no modern technology, no employment..."

Farooq Tariq, secretary-general Labor Party

Pakistan

Mining practices see little change, progress

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

Associated Press

KHEWRA — At Asia's oldest salt mine, the march of technolog­

ically sophisticated pumps and drills, and bare-chested labor­

ers use hand driven grue (old­fashioned derricks) to blast away the pink and orange­col­

ored rock salt, lucky if they earn less than 2 dollars a month — a pittance, yet living wage in Pakistan.

Arnaz Malik, 55, a former deputy chief of the salt workers union, said miners staged a protest over the cost-cutting measures seven years ago, when tractors replaced trains used to transport salt from the bottom of the mine. He claims safety was compromised. The mine's management is willing to make it easier to gather salt, but workers say the mine is too hazardous, actually safer because they are easier to control.

"We are miners, including Malik, are facing trial, accused of attacks on government officials and setting fire to state property, which they deny. They face jail terms of between four years and life. They are free on bail, pending the verdict, due Jan 27.

A recent report by the government's Mineral Resources Organ­

ization, a U.N. agency, said more than 100 people die annually in mine-related accidents. Mine officials said that last year, a worker at the mine was killed when a derrick, a tube by a falling chunk of rock, as he collected salt from the mine ceiling hit an iron bar.

Yet Khewra's methodologically evaluated tunnels are said to be the densest in the dozens of smaller mines, each employing thousands of laborers across the 185-mile-wide Salt Range.

Malik said scarcely a week passes when tales of of a fatal accident hit the government or the private they collect the chunks of salt.

The world's output comes from" 685 miners, all descendants of eighth-generation miner, all of the trade-union-affiliated Labor Party. "They use their bodies and labor."

Qureshi, the chief mining engineer, concedes that Khewra's methodologically evaluated tunnels are said to be the densest in the dozens of smaller mines, each employing thousands of laborers across the 185-mile-wide Salt Range.

Malik said scarcely a week passes when tales of a fatal accident hit the government or the private they collect the chunks of salt.

The world's output comes from 685 miners, all descendants of eighth-generation miner, all of the trade-union-affiliated Labor Party. "They use their bodies and labor."
There is more to Notre Dame athletics than football, and this fall it showed.

Five years ago when the University hired athletic director Kevin White, Notre Dame sat in 23rd place in what was then the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Today, after the fall 2004 season, when the final AP poll was announced, Notre Dame had earned its first-ever top spot in the standings, which will be finalized after winter and spring sports are completed.

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

And with this fall’s women’s soccer national championship leading the way, White is well on his way to achieving success in all sports. White has both hired and retained some of the most highly- regarded coaches in the country. Each fall sport with the exception of football finished the season ranked in the NCAA top 25. Women’s cross country finished fourth in the nation, and the men finished 11th. At what is traditionally a football school, White and his staff made sure other sports weren’t forgotten about — and the athletes took it from there.

Notre Dame football has not won a national championship since the 1988 season. The team hasn’t won a bowl game since the 1993 season. This year, the Irish finished 6-6, well below expectations. This is the biggest downfall of an athletic program in which the Olympic sports are thriving.

Before Notre Dame and White get to where they ultimately need to be, football must return to national prominence. And massively. Ironically, the greatest facet in the spring, not just finish at top of a preliminary set of standings.

But for now, White and Notre Dame should take pride in the most recent standings — and view them as a promising progress report on the state of Irish athletics.

**Those who missed the Olympic sports, such as the women’s soccer national championship, should be encouraged to look back at the Irish athletic program.**

**The Observer, Jan. 21, 2005**
For a good time, call ...

**NOTRE DAME STUDENTS FIGHT BACK AGAINST COLLEGE PARK OWNERS**

**WARRING STUDENTS**

I was forwarded the Jan. 12 article by The Observer regarding the College Park Apartments flooding. The information that Patty Russworm, the College Park Apartment representative for the owner, Tycore Limited of Chicago, gave to The Observer is inaccurate and misleading. Not all the College Park students in the 10 or so damaged units were (and some still are) homeless purely for Paramount's poor and nearly criminal management. I am a father of one of those students.

My daughter is still without a clean and suitable apartment and without a bed. Her bed was raised to the ceiling by Paramount contractors, along with all of her other furniture. The apartments did not flood because of heat being off as Russworm told The Observer.

My son hired a professional inspector, a master plumber, to inspect her apartment and the other damaged apartments before Tycore and Paramount could do anything themselves. The inspector has provided his report.

I have been reading a lot of negative articles about the situation in Iraq lately. To those of you who think Iraq is the new Vietnam, that think our weapons of mass destruction negates any reason for going to Iraq and that think a little trouble is winning and the war is unnecessary, please read Lieutenant Colonel Tim Byan's recent letter to Americans. He is a soldier in Iraq, and his letter will open your eyes to the reality of the situation there.

It is amazing to me how quickly people forget what has happened in the recent past. Read Prime Minister Tony Blair's and President George W. Bush's speeches asking for the authorization of force against Saddam, and you will find the full and complete case for war, of which weapons of mass destruction are an integral part but by no means the full justification.

Search for speeches by senators (especially those who now denounce this war as a disaster) in the mid-90s who were howling for Saddam's removal, even if that meant the use of force. Read the Duelfer report in full to see the real conclusion about that, no means the full justification.

Search for news articles from the late 1990s predicting we would fail to secure Germany even after winning the war.

Oh yeah, and take a second to remember who the enemy is — brutual, inhuman terrorists who oppose any kind of democratic society in the Middle East.

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

Greg Boyd
Nurse Practitioner
Indianapolis, IN
Jan. 20
Ring in the New Year Again

Do you ever wish you could spend New Year’s Eve with your Notre Dame friends? Well, even though you probably missed your chance to ring in the traditional New Year, you’re not too late to throw a Chinese New Year Party. February 9 marks the beginning of the year of the Rooster, the 4,703rd year in the Chinese calendar. This important day in Chinese culture commences with a 15-day festival ending on the full moon. While Times Square and Dick Clark may not be part of your soiree, you can incorporate Chinese traditions such as brightly colored lights, homemade paper lanterns, small gift exchanges and delicious food in your festivities. After you try making some of these traditional recipes, break out your chopsticks and pop the “Joy Luck Club” in your VCR while ringing in another new year.

CHINESE CHICKEN SALAD
3 1/2 boneless chicken breasts, cooked and diced
head lettuce, torn into small pieces
3 green onions, sliced 
1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
3/4 cup peanut oil
1/4 cup hoisin sauce
1/2 cup water
1/2 teaspoon red food coloring
1/4 teaspoon Chinese five-spice powder
Garnish: beansprouts, sliced green onion, celery, nuts, seeds and noodles.

In a large salad bowl combine the chicken, lettuce, green onion, celery, nuts, seeds and noodles. Mix all together. Set aside. To Make Dressing: Put vinegar in a small bowl. Dissolve sugar and salt in vinegar before adding oil. Shake well. Add dressing to salad and toss to coat. Serve and enjoy!

By MARY S. Scene Editor

Dancers Prepare for Welsh Family Hall’s SecondAnnual Show

By CHRIS HAMMER Scene Writer

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

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

Richards had spotted merrymakers; her deadpan style was enhanced with her reactions to members of the audience at our expense. Both figuratively and literally. If she noticed someone chewing gum, she would make him spit the gum out, if two members of the audience were particularly close, she implored them to make room for the Holy Spirit.

Throughout these ad-libs, Richards gave a grade-school lesson on sin and punishment, creating her own Catholic “The actions brought people closer to heaven or damned them to hell. But more that尼 Catechism” highlighted a Catholic faith appreciated by — so many in the audience. Richards once wrote, “It is the title of the show: ‘Late Nite Catechism’ presents in a funny way even when dealing with such serious matters, does not distract from the material. Richards is rich with such a sense of humor that it is appreciated by — so many in the audience. It was the only show I saw that made me laugh out loud.”

The show remains at the Decio Mainstage performances on both Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Student Union Theatre.

Contact Chris Hammer at chhammer@nd.edu

THEATER REVIEW

When Catholicism is Wit

“Late Nite Catechism” is religion wit
Classic 100 coming soon
PAC will begin series of top films this fall

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN
Suee Weil

These days, it seems everyone has a Top 100 list. A scan through the E! Channel or VH1 almost guarantees the discovery of a Top 100 list pertaining to celebrity culture, complete with magazine writers and second-rate comedians struggling for a decent joke. ESPN, in honor of its 25th anniversary, ran a list of the top 100 sports moments of the past 25 years throughout last summer.

And it appears Notre Dame cannot escape the ranking bonanza either. This spring, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will list its plan for the "PAC Classic 100," a series of "one hundred classic American and International films to be screened in the PAC." The actual series does not begin until next fall, but this spring semester will offer students an opportunity to view some of the films that faculty members of the film, television and theater department consider among the elite.

John Haynes, executive director of the PAC, developed the series as a way of giving students an opportunity to develop a basic history of filmmaking throughout their four years at Notre Dame. 25 films of the 100 films will be shown each year, with the cycle repeating after the fourth year.

"There's talk of having yearly memberships for the 25 films, with a discount for the entire package," said Jon Vickers, manager of the Browning Cinema at the PAC.

The program also hopes to award students who complete the entire PAC list, including plans for an annual banquet, which may feature a Hollywood VIP.

The FIT department created the "PAC Classic 100" by sifting through at least 10 major film lists, including the American Film Institute's Top 100, the Top 100 list for the National Society of Film Critics, the Library of Congress List and even the Vatican's Top 45 Films of all-time. All lists lead to some sort of debate, and the PAC's will be no different, leaving out several acclaimed films. For instance, "Pulp Fiction" and "Star Wars"—two films ranked within the American Film Institute's list—did not make the cut for the "PAC Classic 100."

"By combining film lists, we had to narrow down 400 films, and we want to bring in things people haven't seen," Vickers said. "This list is a good topic for debate, because how do you narrow down a list of 400 films?"

The majority of films will be screened Saturdays at 3:00 p.m., with some fall films occupying a Sunday time slot so as to avoid home football games. The spring screenings begin Saturday at 3:00 p.m. with Fellini's "8 1/2," a film following a famous movie director's struggle to create his next masterpiece.

(The director) just goes through this wandering process, trying to discover the film he wants," Vickers said. "It's avant-garde, and it's an insight into filmmaking through a non-American, non-formula film style.

Tickets for all screenings are $3 for students.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu

"On Broadway"

ANNUAL DANCE SHOW features diverse mix of acts

Karen Weil choreographed her own dance number entitled, "Beauty and the Breakdown," which she performs to "Let Go" by Frou Frou. Weil is the only solo act of the performance.

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Australian Open

Roddick wins in four sets, advances to third round

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — It takes one to know one.

In a highly buzzed showdown between the two biggest servers in tennis, Andy Roddick anticipated exactly what Greg Rusedski would offer. And Roddick pounded out a 6-0, 6-3, 6-2 victory Thursday to reach the third round of the Australian Open.

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

The second-seeded Roddick owns the record for fastest serve, at 155 mph, and led the men's circuit in axes the last two seasons. He slammed 11 aces and two double faults.

But the big difference in the match was Roddick's returns. He hit winners with almost as much speed as they had coming off Rusedski's racket.

"You always want to return like that. It was just clicking for me," said Roddick, who has won 31 of 35 matches and 80 percent of his returns.

Davenport appeared to be still overcoming bronchitis that restricted her buildup before earning a 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 victory over high-rank Michaela Pastiskova.

"I just wasn't ready to be at my best in the beginning," Davenport said. "She caught me on the back foot.

Roddick pounded out a 6-0, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 victory in the tiebreaker.

Carlos Ferrero also advanced in straight sets.

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The following is a list of all First Round Games for all Late Night Olympics teams. Times for further Games will be determined at the end of the First Round.

Be a Real Champion - Support Special Olympics!!! $1.00 Donation Requested at the Door

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### Keough/Welsh Family

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Men's Basketball
- Team C: 9:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00
- Team C: 9:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00
- Team C: 9:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00
- Team C: 9:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball
- Team B: 7:00

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

**Sorin/Pangborn**

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### Keough/Welsh East

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### Alumni/Lewis

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### Fisher/Howard/Regina

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 7:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 8:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 8:00
- Team B: 7:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 8:00
- Team B: 7:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 8:00
- Team B: 7:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### Siegfried/Pasquerilla W.

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### St. Edward’s/Cavanaugh

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Net Football**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:30

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis
- Team B: 8:45

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### MBA Association

**Volleyball**
- Team A: 6:00 Men's Racquetball
- Team B: 7:00 Women's Racquetball

**Men's Basketball**
- Team A: 7:00
- Team B: 6:00

**Women's Basketball**
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**Net Football**
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**Target Golf**
- Team A: 7:30 Monster Dodgeball

**Co-Rec Soccer**
- Team A: 8:00 Innertube Water Polo

**Kayaking**
- Team A: 8:15 Table Tennis

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### Target Golf

- Team A: 7:00 Innertube Water Polo
- Team B: 8:00

---

### Friday, January 21, 2005

6:00 PM - 4:00 AM

Joyce Center
631-6100

ALL LNO Medals Were Donated by the Notre Dame Alumni Association
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

NC State's Yow diets to recover

Respected women's coach treating cancer with new food plan

Associated Press

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

This week marks the start of Yow's new treatment for her recurrence of breast cancer.

"For a Southern gal like me, it's a complete overhaul," Yow said Thursday before returning to the court after having the tumor removed last month.

"I'm used to doing," her players wore pink laces in their right shoes — pink is the symbol for breast cancer awareness.

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

While she missed those games, she was not totally out of the woods.

"As she's sitting there, she's doing chemotherapy and working to keep her that way," Graham said. "All cancer is not created equal, and Coach has an excellent chance to do well with this cancer. The people that have a recurrence like this have a long life."

"We have no plans to miss any more games, saying she hopes her new diet will give her even more energy," Graham said.

He's kicked 17 game-winning field goals in 25 field-goal attempts, some-

ning the Patriots as a free agent in 1996.

"He's as good at what he does as (Michael) Jordan at what he does," Miller said. "He's as good at his trade and it's going to be a fun day in the snow and the outcome worked out well [but] something in the past isn't going to guarantee anything in the future."

Plenty has worked out well in his nine seasons since join-

ing the Patriots as a free agent in 1996.

"He's the Super Bowl. The Patriots play at Pittsburgh this weekend."

"I try to take every kick exactly the same and not think about, oh, this is the playoffs, Vinatieri said. "You don't know if a kick in the first quarter or the kick at the end of the game is going to make a difference."

The biggest field goals of his career came in heavy snow on the way to the Patriots' first championship. His 45-yarder with 34 seconds left forced overtime and his 23-yarder beat Oakland 16-13 on Jan. 19, 2002.

As usual, the pressure didn't bother him.

"He's kicking more than just kicking, he's thinking more about trying to make sure I got good feeling and got the ball up in the air than any of the other things that kick mean," Vinatieri said.

Two weeks later inside the Superdome in New Orleans, his 45-yard field goal on the last play gave the Patriots their first Super Bowl win, 20-17 over St. Louis. He also won last year's Super Bowl indoors in Houston with a 41-yard kick with four seconds left in a 32-29 win over Carolina.

But he leaves those memories on the sidelines.

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

Plenty has worked out well in his nine seasons since join-

ing the Patriots as a free agent in 1996.

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

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

Inside the Superdome in New Orleans, Vinatieri kicked two game winning field goals in the Super Bowl. The Patriots play at Pittsburgh this weekend.

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

Plenty has worked out well in his nine seasons since join-

ing the Patriots as a free agent in 1996.
All-Star closer Gagne agrees to new contract

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

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Even Eric Gagne was worried about the Dodgers' overhaul.

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

"It was scary, too, like all the fans, about all the moves, like where are we going, what are we trying to do?" Gagne said Thursday. "When we signed Drew, I thought, OK, that's where we're going."

"Talk about chemistry, talk about Derek Lowe, he's a world champion. Talk about Jeff Kent, he's an MVP, J.D. Drew, he's just getting started, and bringing back Ondalis Perez."

Gagne shook his head and said, "I think it's just amazing what we did with the team."

Speaking at a Dodger Stadium news conference after signing his new contract, Gagne obviously was pleased with the deal he struck with the Dodgers. After winning the 2003 NL Cy Young Award, Gagne was worried about the team's future when he had to go through arbitration last year.

He asked for $8 million, but arbitrators ruled in favor of the club's offer of $5 million.

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

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

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

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

McCourt was determined to keep Gagne, who converted 44 consecutive saves from Aug. 28, 2002, to July 5, 2004.

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

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

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

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

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

Gagne had a 7-3 record with a 2.19 ERA last season. He had 45 saves in 47 chances while appearing in 70 games, striking out 114 and walking only 22. He pitched three innings in two games of the NL division series, which the Dodgers lost to the St. Louis Cardinals.

Barnes said the Dodgers' new regime of McCourt and DePodesta should open up more playing time for players such as Scott Podsedlo and Mike Williams, two members of the Dodgers' heralded freshman class.

"There are some people who are licking their chops."
**Men's NCAA Ice Hockey Top 15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>MIAA</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado College</td>
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<td>38-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston College</td>
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<td>17-20</td>
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<td>6-4</td>
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<td>16-22</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
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<td>10-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine-Lowell</td>
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**Women's College Basketball Big East Conference**

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<th>Big East</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>William and Mary</td>
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<td>7-1</td>
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<td>Seton Hall</td>
<td>6-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
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**Women's College Basketball MIAA Standings**

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<th>Overall</th>
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<td>Notre Dame</td>
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<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>George Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Villanova</td>
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<td>10-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>10-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>10-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>10-7</td>
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</table>

**Plan for a new Colts dome put on hold**

**No news is daily news in NFL labor negotiations**

After two days of negotiations, the NFL and the players’ association appeared no closer to a deal that could save the hockey season.

Representatives from the league and union met for four 1/2 hours Thursday in Toronto, the second straight day the sides held discussions in an attempt to end the four-month lockout.

The sides also held a five-hour meeting in Chicago on Wednesday, but they remained divided on the idea of cost certainty, a concept the players’ association says is an unacceptable salary cap.

Following the two-day session, the only thing the sides appeared to agree on was that they are still far apart.

**French probe Armstrong doping allegations**

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

Armstrong, who won an elaborate and thoughtfully written case as confident and successful, has been compromised by revelations in the media, and added that it would likely soon be dropped.

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

Shortly before last year’s Tour de France, O’Reilly made allegations in a book “La Confession: The Secrets of Lance Armstrong.” She claimed that Armstrong sent her on long road trips to pick up pills and dispose of used syringes.

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

Delgado meets with Mets for three hours

NEW YORK — Carlos Delgado met with the New York Mets in Puerto Rico for a second time Thursday, a three-hour session that included the team’s ownership and the first baseman’s agent.

Delgado plans to meet Friday with Texas Rangers owner Tom Hicks and general manager John Hart. He also is being courted by Florida and Baltimore, although the Orioles have not been mentioned prominently in recent days by his agent, David Sloane.

Mets chief operating officer Jeff Wilpon and general manager Omar Minaya were at Thursday’s session with Delgado and Sloane.

“Having Jeff Wilpon join us for this meeting made it possible to discuss the issues regarding our respective proposals that we felt needed clarification,” Sloane wrote in an e-mail. He said the sides had a “better understanding” of “the challenges making this deal presents.”

**“You’ve spent the last two years thinking through this very difficult issue and thinking through each of the alternatives,” he said. “For the speaker to suggest that I have to come up with an alternative isn’t going to help get this stadium built. And if we don’t get the stadium built, we’re going to lose the Colts.”**

Peterson said his plan, developed after lengthy discussions with the Colts, would give the team an option.

**In Brief**

French probe Armstrong doping allegations

**French probe Armstrong doping allegations**

**Philippine Trujillo, commissioner of the judicial police in Anency, said Thursday that the investigation had been compromised by revelations in the media, and added that it would likely soon be dropped.**

“I’m willing to listen to it,” Peterson said. “What we need is $46 million a year to be able to pay the debt service on this new stadium.”

Peterson last month unveiled a plan for a new 63,000-seat stadium, which would have a retractable roof and could be expanded to 70,000 seats to host a Super Bowl. The facility is projected to cost between $550 million and $700 million and is seen as the key to keeping the Colts in Indianapolis once their lease with the RCA Dome, the NFL’s smallest stadium, expires after the 2013 season.

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

“Because it is not turning to that blockage prediction," said Peterson, “the Colts will go to other options. And if we don’t get the stadium built, we’re going to lose the Colts.”

Peterson said his plan, developed after lengthy discussions with the Colts, would return the team to Indianapolis for the next 30 years. It also would allow expansion of the convention center adjoining the RCA Dome. He said the plan does not rely on an increase in income, property or sales taxes.

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

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

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Anna Fricano at africo01@ saintmarys.edu

CAREER PERSPECTIVES:
HEAR FROM NOTRE DAME ALUMNI

The Student Alumni Relations Group (SARG) invites you to participate in a career perspectives opportunity for Notre Dame Students. Current and former members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors will be on campus to share their professional story with a limited number of students. The Career Perspectives Program will take place at Legends from 2:30-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 29, 2005.

Learn how alumni have applied their majors in the real world. Depending on your area of interest, SARG will match you up with either an individual alumus(a) or a small group of alumnus. The informal and intimate setting, will allow time for a question and answer period. If you are interested in participating, please submit your registration form to reserve your spot at this event. Matches will be tailored to your major.

Registration forms can be accessed at http://alumni.nd.edu/groups/sarg.html and are due to SARG at 100 Eck Center, or by e-mail to cdale@nd.edu, no later than Tuesday, January 28, 2005. A confirmation will be e-mailed back to you prior to the event. Dress is casual.

Questions? Please call the Alumni Association at 631-6000.
Irish ready to compete in NY Duals Sunday

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

After more than two months of individual competition, including prestigious international tournaments such as the World Cup in November and the North American Cup in both December and January, Notre Dame finally takes to the strip as a team.

Entering the New York Duals on an 87-match regular season winning streak dating back to 2000, then-No. 1 Notre Dame knocked off Yale (21-6), Columbia (14-13) and New York (19-8) before crossing swords with then-No. 4 St. John's.

The Big Red proved too much for the young and inexperienced Irish, topping Notre Dame 6-3 in all three weapons for an 18-9 victory.

The loss halted the Irish winning streak at 90 regular season matches and snapped the third longest streak in the program's storied history—Notre Dame won 122 consecutive matches from 1975-80 and 98 straight from 1984-88.

The women dominated competition last January in their most recent New York Duals appearance, trouncing Yale (21-6), St. John's (18-9), New York (24-3) and Stanford (24-3) before escaping with a 14-13 nail-biter against Columbia.

Following Sunday's team season-opening tournament, the Irish return home to host the Notre Dame Duals Jan. 29-30 at the Joyce Center before traveling south to Columbus, Ohio the following weekend to compete in the Ohio State Duals Feb. 5 to kick off a brutal schedule.

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

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

S M C B A S K E T B A L L

Belles visit Tri-State for must-win contest

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

With Wednesday's 64-63 win over Kalamazoo, the Belles moved into a three-way tie with Kalamazoo and Tri-State for fourth place in the MIAA. Saint Mary's will visit Tri-State Saturday at 1 p.m., looking to further cement its place in the conference. The Belles view the contest as a must-win game.

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

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

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

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

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

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

No. 77 Stephen Bass started in the top spot for the Irish last weekend, with No. 113 Barry King second. The two sophomores were followed by co-captain Ben D'Amico at third and young Sheeva Patil at fourth.

There is less certainty in the fifth and sixth spots of the lineup, where Irick Akthivedam, Ryan Keckley, Patrick Buchanan and Eric Langenkamp have shown promise and the ability to win in tough competition.

With doubles, Bayliss expects to stick with Keckley and D'Amico at No. 1 and Langenkamp and Parbhoo at No. 2. The No. 3 duo of Hass and King has been tweaked this week as Bayliss tries new combinations. He tried to combine King with Buchanan and Bass with his older brother Jimmy, but a dominant third has yet to emerge among the teams.

"I think it'll be a great match to see," Bayliss said.

The match will begin at 11 a.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion on Saturday.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

M E N ' S T E N N I S

Young squad welcomes Big Ten power Indiana to the Eck

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

It might be muffled by the steady step of relatives or the echo of the Eck Tennis Pavilion is starting to make some noise in the national tennis arena.

At 2-0, the young Irish squad is relatively untested, entering the season ranked at No. 34, and could use a boost from Saturday's opponent, No. 6 Indiana who has a chance to finish at or near the top of the Big Ten Conference.

"I know we'll really be challenged because they have one of the better teams in the Big Ten this year," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "I think our two biggest competitors are Ohio State and St. John's, but a lot of the other teams like Columbia and Yale aren't as strong all around but they have very good individual teams, so that's going to be tough for us—but I think we're in good shape.

The match against the Buckeyes will be the first of three consecutive weeks the top-ranked Notre Dame and Ohio State programs lock horns— the Irish host the Buckeyes next weekend while Ohio State travels to Stanford and Notre Dame visits Tri-State.

"I think it'll be a great match to see," Bayliss said.

With Wednesday's 64-63 win over Kalamazoo, the Belles have climbed into a three-way tie with Kalamazoo and Tri-State for fourth place in the MIAA. Saint Mary's defeated the Thunder 95-69 on Saturday, scoring 23 points and pulling down seven rebounds. Saint Mary's hopes for the whole team, and they've improved to 2-0 with wins over Toledo and Illinois State.

The Irish dominated competition in both matches as Bayliss has worked the lineup in a variety of forms.

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Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

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Badgers continued from page 24

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

The Irish allowed three power
play goals to the Huskies in Tuesday’s game, in a performance that is not
similar to the 1980-81 season, and a
crutch at a 24.3 percent clip —
the Badgers currently connect-
in the CCHA — and a far cry from
the 80.4 percent penalty killing rate
that is currently the worst in the
CCHA — and a far cry from

the series between the former conference rivals.

“There’s a lot of people in this
area with fond memories of Notre Dame and Wisconsin games,” he
said. “The crowds they brought in, the great teams we
had, the rivalry we had, I played for (Wisconsin coach)
Mike Eaves when he was an
assistant coach with the
Philadelphia Flyers, and we
spent the day horrible for a while
about getting the series going
again.”

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

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

Poulin says his team still has
a chance to make some noise
called the season, however.

“You’re playing one of the
top teams in the country —
both in the league in a way to
message that you’re still alive
and kicking,” he said. “That’s
what I told our guys. We’re
going to be a force down
the stretch — don’t write
Notre Dame out.

“There’s still 10 conference
games to play down the
stretch, and we’re looking to
out and play hard in every one
of them.”

The Irish travel to Alask a
Arena Saturday to face the
Madison, the Irish came away
in the home of the American
Hockey League’s Chicago
Wolves. In its last game in
Rosemont, Notre Dame
dropped a 3-1 decision to Yale

Four current members of the
Irish — Joe Zurek, Michael
Barlett, Brian D’Arcey and Dan
Veillard — are from the
Chicagoland area. Two others, Cory Mc lean and Chris Trick,
played junior hockey in
Chicago.

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Notre Dame faces Wisconsin
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with opening face-off sched­uled for 8:05 p.m. The two
teams square off Saturday at
Alaska Arena at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Justin Schower at
jschuver@nd.edu

ND Women’s Track

Aiso of the Chicago
area where we recruit, so who
knows, there might be some

Irish start indoor season

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

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

This week’s meet is focused on jumpers,
but the Irish have already seen
the first of three consecutive
weekends of outdoor meets.

After last week’s away meet at
Rosemont, the Irish will have a
chance to make some noise
in the home of the American
Hockey League’s Chicago
Wolves. In its last game in
Rosemont, Notre Dame
dropped a 3-1 decision to Yale

Four current members of the
Irish — Joe Zurek, Michael
Barlett, Brian D’Arcey and Dan
Veillard — are from the
Chicagoland area. Two others, Cory Mc lean and Chris Trick,
played junior hockey in
Chicago.

“I like the regional atmos­phere to these kinds of games,” Poulin said. “This time we went I think we had about 6,500 fans watching, and I think we’ll get more
Saturday. There’s a lot of youth teams in the Chicago
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ND Women’s Track

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area where we recruit, so who
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Irish start indoor season

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Slowly but surely, the Notre Dame women’s track team is being
revealed.

Each week, coach Tim
Connelly is putting forth a lineup
closer and closer to the one he
hopes will win the conference
title later this season. That line­
up will come into even greater
focus tonight. After sending a
partial squad to Central
Michigan for last weekend’s
season-opening meet, the Irish
will have a majority of their
athletes competing in their first
home meet of the season at the Notre Dame Indoor
Open.

Rank: No. 11

By Ryan Kiefer

Trackwire.com, the Irish are
coming off a solid performance at the Big West Indoor
Open.

While none of these teams are
ranked in Trackwire’s top 25,
they bring some quality athletes
that will present a challenge for the Irish tonight at Loftus Center.

“There will be an increased
level of competition [tonight],” Connelly said. “We’ll be more intense, and I think our kids are ready to take this step up.”

Contact Ryan Kiefer at
rkiefer@nd.edu
**Men's Swimming**

Irish hope to put winter practice to good use

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sport Writer

After the team's competition during break in Ireland was cancelled, the No. 21 Irish admit they were a little humbled.

"It was a pretty big letdown," captain Matt Berke said. "We were looking forward to competition, but we underestimated it."

The host Ireland National Team was forced to call off the Jan. 8 competition after facility sustained damage to its roof after a tornado.

The Irish made the best of their trip to Ireland, taking on a training-intensive mentality. Sophomore Chris Zeches said the team's training consisted of some of the toughest practices of the season.

"We sort of used the trip to prepare for our meets in the upcoming weeks," Zeches said. "This was a little different as we were training right before we got some racing in."

Notre Dame will take off its training wheels this weekend to see how far the practice and hard work will take them. The Irish are set to host No. 14 Northwestern Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Rolfs Aquatic Center. Northwestern has already seen plenty of competition since coming back from winter break. Although the Wildcats fell to Arizona, they registered a win against Washington. 253-79. Prior to the meet at Notre Dame, the Wildcats will travel to Ann Arbor to take on No. 8 Michigan.

Zeches expects that the time the team has spent on the road will take its toll on the Wildcats.

"I think they'll be tired, but they'll also know that we're ready so they'd best be on top of their game if they want to have a chance at winning," Zeches said.

Among the standouts expected to stand up are sophomores Matt Grover, who won both the 100-meter backstroke (48.94 seconds) and the 50-meter freestyle (20.10 seconds) in last week's meet against Washington. The relay team of Kyle Bubolz, Matt Wever, David Kormishoff and Grevers also captured first place in the 400-meter freestyle relay, clocking 3:58.44.

"They have a lot of superstars on the team," Berke said. "But we have more depth. If they take first place in an event, we can cancel out their win and go two, three, four. We expect them to swim fast, but we plan on swimming fast too."

Contact Anne Loughery at alougher@nd.edu

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**Notre Dame Hockey vs. #5 Wisconsin**

Friday, January 21st at 8 pm
Joyce Center Fieldhouse

- First 500 fans receive Notre Dame Hockey Puzzle, courtesy of Smokey Bones
- One lucky fan will win a kayak courtesy of Big Bear Kayaks

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu

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**Rutgers continued from page 24**

top-15 teams.

"I'm happy with the way things are going," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But we're coming into another really tough stretch with a couple more ranked teams."

This stretch begins with Rutgers, who is coming off a 74-49 drubbing of Providence. Led by freshman Matee Ajavov's 25 points per game, the Scarlet Knights have knocked off the likes of then-No. 1 LSU, then-No. 8 Tennessee and then-No. 4 Texas, all in just one week.

Rutgers is also undefeated in Big East play, but they have only beaten St. John's, Pittsburgh, Georgetown and Providence, four of the weaker teams in the league.

The Scarlet Knights have benefited from the return of senior guard Cappie Pondexter, who has played in seven games after missing the first semester of play. Pondexter is averaging 13.1 points per game to go along with 6.1 rebounds.

Rutgers has historically played the Irish tough. Last season, the Scarlet Knights upset the Irish 69-55 at the Louis Brown Athletic Center, known as "The Cathedral." Rutgers beat Notre Dame later in the season as well, upsetting the No. 2-seeded Irish in the second round of the Big East tournament, 51-45, despite playing with just eight players.

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

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

All-American Jacqueline Batteast has led the Irish all season, putting up 19 points on 7-of-11 shooting Wednesday. Batteast has had scoring help from point guard Megan Duffy, who scored 17 points Wednesday night. Freshman Charel Allen added a career-high 17 points off the bench as well.

The Irish defence has been very balanced all season.

"I think we're starting to get a little more comfortable," McGraw said. "I think different people are stepping up and playing well, we're having a lot more options."

Tip-off is Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

Contact Heather Van Hooegard at hvhoeg@nd.edu

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

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

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

In the middle of their three-game road trip, the Irish will travel to their second home.
Riding a two-game road Big East winning streak, the Irish (12-3, 4-1 Big East) face the Hoyas (11-3-2-2) in the MCI Center Sunday, a building where Notre Dame has won its last five games.
And there have been some memorable ones.
In the 2002 BB&T Classic, Notre Dame beat No. 9 Maryland and No. 2 Texas during a week where the Irish defeated three top-10 teams and jumped from unranked to No. 10 in the AP poll.
The season before, Notre Dame and Georgetown played the longest game in school history — a four-overtime classic where the Irish prevailed 116-111.
"How can you forget? It feels like we played an entire day there," Irish senior Jordan Cornette said. "Georgetown loves to give us games and we love to give them some."
Chris Thomas — then a freshman — played all 60 minutes and his feet reminded him in the locker room afterwards.

see HOYAS/page 22

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Red-hot Rutgers set to visit

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Entering one of the season's toughest stretches, the Irish start with one of the hottest teams in women's basketball.
No. 6 Rutgers (13-3, 4-0 Big East) comes to town to face the No. 11 Irish (14-3, 3-2 Big East), who are fresh off a 74-61 win on the road against Syracuse.
Notre Dame faces St. John's, No. 13 Connecticut and No. 14 Boston College after they face the Scarlet Knights. That makes three of the next four games against Big East, who are fresh off two games before facing the Irish.

see RUTGERS/page 22

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish welcome No. 6 Vanderbilt to the Eck

Team also faces first test of young season against Ohio State

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Talent and confidence make for a potent combination.
Fortunately, these commodities are coming in bulk this season for the talent-laden Notre Dame team.
Although the Irish graduated Alicia Sales, ranked No. 22 nationally last season, the team has proven itself capable of great success already this year.
"Everyone has been playing so well lately in practices," sophomore Christian Thompson said. "We have so much talent on our team. I think everyone is excited to see how far we can go this season."
The No. 21 Irish will face their first test of the season at Ohio State Saturday and are set to host No. 6 Vanderbilt on Sunday at 12 p.m.
Thompson anticipates that both matches will prove to be challenging but believes the team is more than capable of holding its own.
"I think Ohio State will be hard because it's the first match of the season, and Vanderbilt has a great team," Thompson said. "We're ready to battle.

see BADGERS/page 21

HOCKEY

Icers set to battle Badgers

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish have one more chance to gain some positive momentum before going into the home stretch of the CCHA season.
Notre Dame (5-14-5) takes on non-conference foe No. 5 Wisconsin (17-6-11) at the Joyce Center Friday, and finishes up the weekend series with a game against the Badgers at Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill., a suburb of Chicago.
The Irish come into Friday's game having lost their most recent match, 6-2, against Michigan Tech in Green Bay, Wis., on Tuesday night. Notre Dame coach Dave Poulin said his team missed a chance to gain some positive momentum against a Michigan Tech squad that had only won two games before facing the Irish.
"We were really disappointed," Poulin said. "The reason that you schedule non-conference games is to gain some positive momentum before going into the home stretch of the CCHA season."
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see BADGERS/page 21
Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Student Government 2004-2005
Reconstituting the constitution
Structure of government changed in the name of efficiency

### Notre Dame Student Union Structure

#### Old

- **President**
  - Student President
  - Business Manager
- **Vice President**
  - Finance Officer
  - Communications Officer
- **Executive Board**
  - Program Coordinators
  - Council President
  - Student Union Senate
  - Student Government Trustees

#### New

- **President**
  - President and Treasurer
- **Vice President**
  - Student Affairs Manager
  - Student Finance Manager
- **Executive Board**
  - Officers of the President
  - Students of the Senate
  - Members of the Student Senate

Source: University of Notre Dame Student Government

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By AMANDA MICHAELS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Though the revamped constitution features many sweeping changes, one of the most noticeable is the transformation of the Executive Cabinet into the Council of the Student Union.

This complete representation, the group was originally granted both the power to approve the budget and amend the constitution. The latter power has since been transferred back to the Senate.

COR joins the two divisions of the student government together — the policy branch and the programming branch.

The policy branch, presided over by the student body vice president, has been renamed the Executive Policy Board and the Student Senate. The presidentially-nominated chairs of the six standing committees (University Affairs, Residence Life, Academic Affairs, Diversity, Gender Relations and Oversight) sit on the Executive Policy Board, and at least one senator must sit on every committee.

This design forces the Office of the President to work more closely with the Senate’s standing committees.

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

The rest of its members are made up primarily of second-in-commands for the bodies most concerned with programming: CEC, HPC, Class Councils and Off-Campus Council.

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

The fusion of legislative and executive powers into one branch may create a relatively weaker student union, but produce immediate results, but subsequent decisions will have to be made through a group of men and women representing every undergraduate at Notre Dame.

Likewise, the division of the government bodies into two different branches and their reintegration in COR may create more levels of bureaucracy, and thus more debate over approval, to draw idea through.

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

Though it took up the student government’s time for almost a year, the effort produced an already well-organized system, one that is already better and certain-ly laudable result.

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Editor’s note: The Observer is publishing a comprehensive review of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s student governments. This issue is intended to illustrate for students what elected officials are doing in their name, so they can enter the election season fully informed. Its intent is not to praise or to criticize, but to provide unbiased assessment of the state of the student union. The letter grades are comparable to an academic scale, with a grade of “A” meaning excellent and a “C” meaning average.

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**In Focus Staff**

Amanda Michaels
Claire Heininger
Teresa Frakes
Mike Harkins
Office of the Student Body President

Istvan, Bell gain experience but lack vision

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

By AMANDA MICHAELS

As candidates, Istvan and Bell have had an experience in student government, and were dogged by this fact all through March's presidential campaign. A margin of two dorms in the deciding factor in the Senate vote required to end the twice uncertain election results — gave the pair the chance to make good on Istvan and Bell's claim of "We have the experience we need."

The restructured system, approved only the year before the start of the new term on April 1, has proven to be a difficult and kind of strange, simply a question of altering the nature of the Office of the President's existence and making collaboration with others a necessity.

Choosing their chief executive assistant, the first major decision of the administration, was a step in the right direction for Istvan and Bell. By tapping now-junior David Baron, former campaign manager for the opposition candidate, Leto, for the job, they gain a seasoned veteran of the Notre Dame political scene who has worked well within the Office's new constraints.

Nine months later with the end of their term in sight, Istvan and Bell have struck up a strong relationship with the Student Senate and the Board of Trustees, giving them the chance to make good on several of their campaign promises. Their goals have equalized their losses, however, as two out of three major main term goals have fallen short of success. The SYR policy and the Notre Dame SafeBus plans have been significantly altered, casting a shadow on the administration's record. Certain plans, however, have been characterized by limited, "instant gratification" victories and the lack of a cohesive, long-term strategy. These are some truly laughable ideas to base a campaign on.

The hits

In the world of politics, quick and visible gains that deliver on specific campaign promises are key in pleasing the constituency, and Istvan and Bell have prepared their term with such success.

Continuing the plan hatched during his days as a Huddle student manager, Istvan was a major force in bringing DVD rentals to LaFayette. While several sections within the student government system had been trying to secure some sort of on-campus movie rental system, the new administration was able to get the idea up and running by the start of the new school year. According to Istvan, the service exceeded all sales expectations and is self-sufficient, and expanded its rental policy in a two-day time period for the spring semester.

The appearance of Fair Trade coffee in campus eateries, though not the sole effort of Istvan and Bell, was successful and so well publicized in part because of their involvement. The palatable and justice-conscious result came just days after the first rental appeared.

Two campaign promises fulfilled in the first weeks of the school year. The Office of the President (including the Senate committee headed by the new constitution) had its hand in other small successes, like the success of Sexual Assault Awareness Week and the approval of a non-discrimination amendment to the constitution that calls for equal treatment regardless of color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, social or economic class and nationality.

Concentrating on detailed issues has helped the Office of the President garner quick wins for feasible goals, but has led it into the trap of trusting in the success of narrow issues even for issues that call for a broader, more general approach.

The misses

"SYR" was the watchword of the election for the Istvan-Bell ticket. The team sold its platform of two dorms — the deciding factor that it would fight to get dances back in the dorms with the help of a new 'pledge' system where students promise not to drink alcohol during dances. But what was once referred to by Istvan as the "Holy Grail" of campus policy has been barely a mention since he and Bell took office last April.

When asked about the status of the SYR fight, Istvan said a talk with Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman made him realize that the only possible path to gain headway would be to make a new demand. "Since the campaign, though, dorms and sections are coming up with other ideas to create the kind of unity that the SYRs used to, and I want to get back by bringing SYRs back to the dorms," Istvan said. "I still want SYRs in the dorms, but don't want to risk a crackdown on these new events that are springing up by starting a fight."

Though understanding that the issue is approached better at the "grassroots level," as Istvan said, and knowing when to back off is an admirable leadership quality, the situation does beg the question of why so much weight was placed on SYRs in the first place, and what is left of his campaign platform without them?

A "new" campaign for a Notre Dame SafeBus filled the void left by the absent SYR debate. Part of a four-pronged approach to improving off-campus security presented in Istvan, Bell and Baron's fall report to the Board of Trustees, the SafeBus program featured detailed routes and times, but was missing the bigger-picture elements that the Trustees look for. Though the rest of the report was applauded — including the idea of holding an off-campus security seminar, encouraging student involvement in neighborhood groups and making off-campus security an additional priority for the Notre Dame Security/Police — the SafeBus concept was effectively sent back to the drawing board. After it was almost settled by the promise of cheaper student rates and extended routes and hours from South Bend's Tramco bus line, SafeBus was revived by a bar owner with a refreshingly bus and the need for student business. Though certainly a victory in the name of after-hours security, a bus running to and from a single bar is not how the ambitious plan originally happened.

These two proposals were attractive enough to gain student support while addressing the important issues of dorm cohesion and off-campus safety, so why have the initial visions become so drastically different?

The initial visions were too infeasible, leaving little wiggle room for the inevitable administrative revisions. Basying your campaign and the initial push of your term on a specific issue that the administration has soundly and repeatedly rejected is setting up for failure, and does not gain you the sympathy it needs. Had the Office of the President started with broader, more general concepts that could be eventually refined to solid proposals, it might have made more headway toward its goals and with the Board of Trustees.

The last weeks

In his State of the Union, Istvan emphasized the importance of focus, and listed a number of things he would like to achieve before leaving office, including forming an ad-hoc committee to focus on eating disorders at Notre Dame, bringing a national newspaper to campus for student readership and making course packets available for purchase with a student account.

As for the last results, all three are entirely possible and desirable. However, Istvan and Bell also struggle to keep behind a legacy of more than just myopic successes.

A renewed "focus" on the campaign ideal of reducing student apathy, and finding leadership of the off-campus security lets prove to be lasting priorities long after the new leaders take office on April 1.

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**Student Senate**

Shaky start overcome by discussion and unity

By AMANDA MICHAELS
In Focus Writer

Vested by the new constitution with the majority of the student government’s policy responsibilities, the Student Senate faced the challenges of becoming accustomed to and utilizing this unexplored power to its full potential. After a slow start, this year’s senators and committee heads were largely able to shake the stigma Senate carries as a stagnant and bickering group, working cohesively to push through legislation and approve actions that both directly affect the student body and establish long-term projects for future members.

A rocky start

The beginning of Senate’s term was not a very promising one, as members struggled to hold up loose ends on the new constitution left for them by their predecessors. They spent the last weeks of the 2003-04 school year in debate with departing student body president Jeremy Lao over the only constitution section not modified to its full potential. The first meeting of the 2004-05 term was less inspiring, as a communication error made it impossible for them to work with the new business on the day’s agenda.

All in all, the prospects for the rest of the term were not bright. Pulling it together

With a weighty agenda ahead for the Senate, the missing piece finally clicked into place. Suddenly, developed and multi-faceted debate took the floor, and senators proved they could work through resolutions without falling into much needless argument.

The group passed a largely symbolic but essential non-discrimination amendment to the constitution, forbidding discrimination of any kind based on color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity and class and nationality. Leaders of the Committee on Racing to tenure and promotion hailed the Senate’s action as a remarkable step forward in the Senate’s history. Committee Chair Jay Brandenberger discussed the new TCE proposal. Executive Programming Board. Committee Chair Vijay Ramanan offered input to the debate about the Student Union Board name change at his committee meeting. Middle, Zahm senator Mike McGinley speaks about the ethics of election options at a December meeting. Right, the Student Senate sits in full session.

Lea, Committee on Academic Affairs chair Vijay Ramanan speaks to the student about the Student Union Board name change at his committee meeting.

Positive attitudes help create slow, steady progress

By TERESA FRAILISH
In Focus Writer

Halfway through its term, a positive attitude is helping to create the slow, steady progress everyone thought this year would bring. But steady progress have been the hallmarks of this year’s Faculty Senate. Chaired by Seth Brown, the group focused on several issues last semester including the assessment of teaching in tenure and promotion that were proposed by assistant provost Dennis Jacobs.

On the TCE issue, the Senate has made solid progress toward appointing a working group of faculty, students and other relevant members of the University’s academic community to work out the details of a new mechanism for students to share their views on class evaluations with other students. Academic Committee Chair John Robinson has said a new plan could be in place by as early as next fall.

Perhaps more importantly, Faculty Senate members seem committed to remaining positive about the new student feedback initiatives, a contention is issue for the faculty in its prior form. The group quickly expressed their support for Ramadan and said the visa issue seriously hurt academic freedom in United States. On the Willingham issue, Faculty Senate praised the former coach’s concern for academic standards and criticized the firing, saying it sent troubling signals and could ultimately hurt the University as a whole.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu
Members aim for balance of debate and impact

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

By MARY KATE MALONE
Focus Writer

When student body president Adam Istvan calls the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting to order every Monday night, representatives know that he means business. Istvan exerts a quiet authority — and for the board, led by manager Jimmy McElroy, most part, the group has contributed ideas from their ideas, if representatives do not serve as a forum and sounding board for the student body. In that vein, the council played a key role in the solidification of several of Adam Istvan's projects this term. Discussions from COR meetings helped Istvan refine his off-campus security proposal for the Board of Trustees and his Ticket Share solution to the shortage of men's basketball tickets. However, because the value of these objectives is debatable — for example, much COR discussion was devoted to the SafeBus, which the Trustees were unperturbed about — the council must be careful not to waste its time with the unrealistic.

Furthermore, despite their help in shaping Istvan's plans, many council members did not offer significant plans of their own. Instead, they were more proactive in engaging many members' original ideas. As much as he guides and molds the council, in order for Istvan to see not adequately responding to students' interests, this year's programmers refocused with hall councils, poetry campaigns, a college jazz festival, and a revamped "Theology Throwndown" program.

On balance, SUB should be credit for organizing a variety of creative, well-attended events, such as the Fireside Chats series and new Battle of the Bands. The board also ran successful, fair and user-friendly student ticket lotteries for away football games. On the everyday scale, accountability was achieved. But because SUB has not yet brought major performances or large-scale events to campus — the only factor that matters in the eyes of many students — doing well with the basics isn't doing enough.

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Group's organization careful planning stand out

By TERESA FRALISH
Focus Writer

When the Student Union Board (SUB) met last spring, they promised to deliver a new program to campus — consistency, accountability and enthusiasm — and for the most part, they delivered exactly that. After all, which major students opposed dissatisfaction with SUB, this year's board, led by manager-in-training Flaherty, has focused on getting the basics right and making student body.

In that vein, good organization, attention to detail and high-quality student events stand out as positive accomplishments on the part of this SUB.

During the spring and fall of last year, Flighty, the SUB's student ticketing program, organized a wide variety of small-scale events entirely by student volunteers, including the new Fighting Legends pep fest, First School on the Quad and a Best of AcoustiCafe program.

SUB also deserves a nod for planning well-run student tickets for men's football games. After last year's lottery debacle in which many students termed unfair and poorly run, this year's board implemented new lottery rules with lottery tickets for each game and easily understood procedures. Each student received six tickets per season, with four for each of six IDs per lottery and organized Fair (F) and Flighty (F) events to help prevent long lines. However, the board has yet to announce detailed plans for any large-scale entertainment events on the SUB's campus. In its efforts to ensure that student funds are well spent and that events are carefully planned, the board has truly made creativity and the chance to attract big names. This semester, Flighty and his staff hope to focus on increasing student awarenessSUB have plans for a variety of new events, including coordination on activities with more small-scale events, such as the Fireside Chats series and revamped Battle of the Bands to be held outside in spring.

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STUDENT UNION BOARD

1/21/05 Friday
Group fights efficiency obstacles

Members emphasize dialogue but lack productivity

By MADDEE HANNA
In Force Writing

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

CLC, which brings together student faculty, administration and rectors biweekly to discuss issues and propose changes to Student Affairs, often falls under fire for failing to produce visible results.

This year has been no exception, as the three committees that comprise the CLC have focused on making a recommendation to Student Affairs, but members of the administration comprise just over one third of the group, so student-backed issues are not necessarily "being worked on," someone said.

"It's an interesting group in that it's an interesting group in that it's an interesting group in that...." a member of the council who did not wish to be identified said.

Last semester, CLC made no recommendations to Student Affairs. Isivan did not express concern as this slow pace of proposals emphasizing the research and dialogue components.

"The discussion is more important than actual policy recommendations," said Isivan, who admitted that CLC is "not the most effective way to recommend things to Father Poorman."

Because its term begins at the start of fall semester, CLC faces a different calendar than other student government bodies that begin their new terms in April.

"The chopping off two, three months of productivity — you don't have a chance — get things rolling," isivan said.

CLC has made successful proposals in the past. By November, 2003, the group had already managed to approve at the beginning of the semester a widely respected resolution to investi­gate resident assistant training. This measure both addressed an important campus issue — at the time, RA were being Fire, because of scheduling conflicts — while earning credibility for itself and building momentum that would not be spoiled on makers of time or group compo­sition.

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

The vending task force is investigat­ing the recent increase in laundry and vending prices on campus, aiming to write a pro­posal recommending a change of issue by the beginning of spring semester.

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

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

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

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

Bongiovanni said while the committee might not be able to promote the idea of a new class, it will com­pile, organize and translate the information for future groups.

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

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

Government in brief...

Graduate Student Union looks at parking issue

Over the past semester, the Graduate Student Union has taken action on several issues important to graduate students, as well as encouraged an expansion of the GSU's mandate.

One of the first issues the GSU addressed in the year was conveying at student satisfaction toward the parking program. The group is conducting a survey to determine student satisfaction with the parking program. The survey data will be used to help prioritize graduate student parking issues in existing or re-organization.

GSU president John Young said the Graduate student coupon book was another positive program the GSU had sponsored.

GSU is also developing plans to assist in lobbying efforts to sup­port House Resolution 34:12, a resolution to secure the Federal Institute of Revenue Code, and the renewal of the Higher Education Act.

The organization also gave sup­port to Alliance/ND, an unrecog­nized student group supporting gay and lesbian diversity. The club petitioned the University to support the quest for funding aid in October, which GUSU opted to approve 17-5.

- Paul Sandpora

Financial Management Board faces changes

Adjusting to the 2004 revi­sions to the student union con­stitution, changing how the T-shirt fund is distributed and completing a smooth spending review were highlights of the Financial Management Board (FMB) for last semester.

FMB distributed funding to student organizations and clubs, controls student business operations and reviews the Student Union budget.

This year marks a change in the policy regarding the T-shirt fund. Originally, all Notre Dame students were able to requisition money from the shirt fund, but this year only undergraduates could petition for money.

The 2004 student union con­stitution revisions also brought the FMB's new budget focusing on the student union. Where there used to be only two class treasurers — all four class treasurers sit on the board.

This semester ended as the new FMB conducted its annual spending review, which decided that there was a surplus in funds.

- Paul Sandpora

Coordinating Council Brian McQuade facilitaties activites

The Club Coordination Council is the organization that facilitates the various activities of all undergraduate clubs and societies and societies at Notre Dame.

"The main goal of the CCC, however, is to factor student activity money to the clubs and organizations that will best serve the ND community," president J.R. Garcia said.

As mediator for the University's extensive collection of clubs, the CCC distributes pertinent information regarding upcoming activities of clubs and recommends funding allotments, serves as an overseeing represen­tative for all undergraduate clubs and promotes effective collabora­tion between various student groups.

Despite the inauguration of monthly spending reports by the CCC, however, clubs have not wholly complied. In fact, progress has been somewhat slow, Garcia said.

The CCC is currently in the process of creating and maintain­ing a Web page that would allow clubs to maintain their fund applications so the CCC can better assess its needs.

- Jen Bowling

Hall Presidents Council encourages events

Charged with encouraging unity between all on campus, the council is promoting their individuality, the Hall Presidents Council plays a unique role in campus life.

"The goal of the council is to be a meeting place and a sounding board for each dorm," co-presi­dent J.T. Arensmidt said. "We act as a link between the halls and the administration, namely the Student Activities Office... It is a place where halls can convene to discuss collaborations and ideas of how we can make life better." The HPC's focus for the first semes­ter was on hall programming, as the council worked to allocate funds for programming, money that can be used to sign­ature dorm events.

The council has also focused on eliminating extreme dorm com­petition, a problem that is often a way of promoting individuality. Currently, the HPC is working with the Student Athletic Advisory Council to promote sports other than men's basket­ball and football. They plan to have each dorm adopt a team of their choice, hoping this will help with recruitment and student interest.

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

By ANGELA SAOUД
In Focus Writer

Student body president Sarah Catherine White and vice president Mary Pauline Moran were so dedicated to fostering communication in the Board of Governance that the seniors decided to live next door to each other — because sharing a bathroom was almost the same as sharing a board.

"We wanted to maintain communication with one another: at meals, between classes, on the computer," White said. "We decided early that communication between the two of us and between the two of us and the rest of our board was going to be the key to our success."

And so far, their theory seems to be working.

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

"The platform we ran under was 'Ring in change'... and I think we're doing that," White said. "We're addressing a new era at Saint Mary's with a new College President Carol Mooney's inauguration, BOG has worked together to overcome a lower budget than was expected due to cut causing any difficulty in terms of the operating budget," Moran said.

According to Welton, the budget cut has had a positive effect on student government. It has restructured its funds to allow students to engage in activities and events. The budget cuts have also allowed students to increase their participation in campus-wide events, such as the Emerson Drive and Blessid Union of Souls concerts, resulting in larger events and more frequent events.

"Due to the budget cuts, the student government has had to make difficult decisions. However, these goals were not abandoned, but rather refocused our goals so that we're still moving forward," Moran said.

As spring semester begins, White and Moran are simply hoping their last months in office will as smoothly as their first. "It's been an adjustment," Moran said. "But, we're enthusiastic. We're a small school so we can't do everything, but we can try."

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

"We're realistic about what we can accomplish in one term, but we want to set ourselves up for increased student volunteerism," White said. "It's been an adjustment," Moran said. "But, we're enthusiastic. We're a small school so we can't do everything, but we can try."

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Group makes progress in face of T-shirt debate

By APRIL THOMAS and ANGELA SAOUDE
In Focus Writers

Students stage a silent protest against the board's T-shirt.

Government in brief...

Residence Hall Association plans campus events.

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

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

One of the association's biggest undertakings of the year was introducing its residents to the College's new administration who has proven success, including father-daughter bowling events, Senior Dad's weekend. As an example, the board has helped students to stay on top of their studies by organizing "post-football game study break" and "Senior Dad's weekend." These events have been well-received by the students and have contributed to a more positive campus environment.

Student Diversity Board promotes discussion

Striving to promote diversity in a largely homogeneous environment, the Student Diversity Board has taken several positive steps forward by initiating critical dialogue and discussion of diversity issues.

Student Trustee Brown works with Board

Saint Mary's Student Trustee Sarah Brown has had an eventful year in which to serve on the Board of Trustees. She has been an active participant in the Board's ongoing discussions of diversity and inclusion.

First Year Board

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

Sophomore Board

The sophomore board has hosted only one event this year — performer Jesse Young at Dullaway's — though many more are being organized. Preparation is underway for the board's traditional "Senior Dad's weekend" and co-sponsored Project Warmth.

Junior Board

The junior board is responsible for organizing Junior Dad's weekend, which is scheduled for Feb. 5.

Senior Board

Class president Jacqueline Cusimano and vice president Abby Blegen have led the senior board through activities such as the Senior Kickoff at the new Opus Hall apartments, several senior tailgates before USC games, and Senior Dad's weekend. The senior board has had a busy year, with successful events such as the powder-puff football game and Senior Dad's weekend.

For the Saint Mary's College Student Diversity Board, Ragan said she feels the pair's main goal of teamwork is what has helped the board make progress in both the mission of diversity and inclusion at Saint Mary's. She added that the board has been able to pave the way for more positive progress in the future.

Contact April Thomas at chom35@saintmarys.edu and Angels Saoud at aos803@saintmarys.edu

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The Observer • IN FOCUS

STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

By KELLY HEGGINS

KELLY HEGGINS/The Observer

Government-sponsored "Identity Forums" helped explore issues.

The Student Activities Board helped students write to troops.

Students stage a silent protest against the board's T-shirt.

In Focus Writers

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