Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Student Government 2005-2006
Leaders fix faults of predecessors
Baron, Shappell work with University, lessen animosity

By MADDIE HANNA
In Focus Writer

Student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell have made significant headway with the University administration and experienced considerable success in their initiatives this year, but it hasn't always been that way for Notre Dame's student body leaders.

Last year, student body president Adam Istvan and vice president Karla Bell struggled to produce on their platform initiatives. Within a few months of taking office, the pair set up a DVD rental system in LaFortune and secured Fair Trade coffee in the dining halls and HuddleMart, quickly meeting two of their original goals.

But they couldn't deliver their biggest promise — the return of SYRs to the dorms — and began to sidestep the topic in discussion.

Istvan, who once said the return of SYRs would be "the Holy Grail" of campus policy, shrugged off the failure by saying there were other ways to restore dorm pride.

"I'd love to say that we could have SYRs back the way they used to be, but I think it's more realistic to say that we could work with resident advisors and Student Affairs to find a suitable replacement for them," Istvan told The Observer in February 2004. "They boosted dorm pride, and we want to restore that."

While the idea was implausible, Istvan and Bell had run and won after convincing students they could achieve the unachievable.

Not fame the Safefuls fiasco, where harsh criticism of the fall 2004 proposal from the Board of Trustees left Istvan, Bell and then-chief executive assistant Baron with another strike through a main goal of their administration.

This year has been a study in contrasts, where Baron and Shappell have initiated cooperative conversation with University administrators and received an across the board positive response.

"I'm thrilled with the level of communication ... the willingness to meet with students," Shappell said.

Baron said Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves' upcoming January visit to the Student Senate represented a new openness on the part of University President Father John Jenkins' administration.

"That kind of interaction is exciting and unprecedented," he said.

Quite a change from Istvan, who told The Observer in February 2004 that he heard rumors he was vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman's "No. 1 hated student."

In a farewell address at his last Student Senate meeting, Istvan revealed an underlying resentment toward the administration.

"When I was trying to figure out what to say at my last officer report at the last Senate meeting, first I was going to write a scathing report about how the administration treats us like children," Istvan said on March 30. "But we've already been there, so I'm not going to do that."

Baron's been there too, and from the looks of things, he's not going back.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT?

Claire Sloss
freshman
McGlinn

"I've heard about the new free cups in the dining halls."

Chris Castellan
junior
Keough

"Jason Laws was the greatest freshman class president the Class of 2007 ever had."

Heidi Storer
sophomore
Pangborn

"Re-elect Jason Laws!"

Leonard Edokpolo
junior
O'Neill

"What's that?"

Bobby Seus
senior
Alumni

"It seems like we have just to have it."

Shane Calendar
junior
Alumni

"I have a giant raging man-crush on Dave Baron."

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 to provide an illuminating, unbiased assessment of the state of the student union.
OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Professionalism, progress help leaders succeed

Baron, Shappell establish partnership with administrators in first semester

By MADDIE HANNA

In Focus

While progress, partnership and professionalism still hold key to come by in student government-administrations, student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell have achieved all three.

"We feel it's our responsibility," Shappell said, "to put our position out there in the most formal and professional way possible.

That professional attitude has helped Baron and Shappell dur ing the Student Commons Council's July 25 passage of the amend ment to the dis trict heating system's ordi nance—a change that took site in the spring of 2005. The proposal to alter the thermostats of the Student Commons and convinced the observers in our ability to make an argument...we figured that and we'd be early on.

Shappell said dealing with the Student Commons Council was an "opera tors believe to be unfair aspects of the system where the University has the necessary to make progress in a way that will not inconvenience the residents."

"In seven years, no administration has hit the ground running as well as David and Lizzi."

Father Mark Poorman

"It's a valid argument, but it's also the end result of overusing the system. The fact that an issue so integral to the campaign dis appeared from the record for this long suggests that it may not have been a priority, or that its implementation was not fully considered.

I don't mean to say that Baron and Shappell, like responsible student leaders, were just too busy to deal with the issue. It's been a really difficult problem to solve, and sometimes it seems like new waves of problems broke one another. Besides the or dinance and student evictions, Baron and Shappell were confronted with a response to Hurricane Katrina as well as the messy issue of pep rallies and the dilemma in find ing a balance between meeting student demand and dealing with angry students.

Shappell and other members of the Student government worked with the Student Activities Office and Athletics and Facilities administrators to restore the system. It still isn't perfect — and it's full effects won't be seen until fall — but Shappell and the others involved did what they could.

Another pillar of the Baron-Shappell campaign, a speaker series bringing prominent Catholics and non-Catholics to campus to discuss Notre Dame's "role as a Catholic Think Tank of America," hasn't yet occurred. While the event series is scheduled to begin next semester — at Student Senate meetings, chief executive officer of the TicketShare system consistently assures the process is underway — Baron and Shappell have yet to have the first presentation in the series at Notre Dame before the end of the year.

Regardless of their currently promised coursework, Baron and Shappell's work ethic, as Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman pointed out in an Aug. 21 column, "These people have not been sleeping. I want you to know."

Poorman's words of praise were echoed in Baron and Shappell's development of the Gender Resources Center, the acquisition of NDDay, the inauguration plans for University of Notre Dame Magazine, and the deal with TRANSO — one of the administration's first most concrete accomplishments, allowing students, faculty and staff to access the University's routes in between campus and South Bend for free.

"I think every interested student was able to get tickets this season," Shappell said. "It's a work in progress as all ticketing things are... baby steps."

The recent developments with the Board of Trustees are also baby steps toward a bigger goal of getting a student to actually sit on the Board, Baron and Shappell said.

This year, the Board of Trustees has extended invitations to the pair to meet student groups on topics pertaining to students and Board social functions, a change Baron described as "excellent" and "reflective of the continually improving relationship between student government and the administration."

The format of student government's traditional triannual presentations to the Board has changed as well. Under the new changes, the Board will hear reports from a student group, a winter State of the Student Union address from student government and a spring report from student government, unless student government designates another group to give the presentation.

This year, Baron, Shappell and Kozlow's full presentation on the ever-present topic of community relations garnered very positive feedback from the Board, a good indicator that student government is taking advantage of newly presented opportunities and working to develop a closer relationship with the Board, as well as the Jenkins administration.

"It's important for the first student administration [under University President Father John Jenkins] to build a connection, a good tone," Baron said. "They're committed to setting this tone, but Baron and Shappell have been enjoying themselves in the process."

"It's got to be fun," Baron said. "We don't take ourselves too seriously or we're going to lose our heads."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mnhanna@nd.edu

GRADE A-
BARON AND SHAPPELL HAVE USED EXPERIENCE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE WITH ADMINISTRATORS AND IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO BENEFIT STUDENT LIFE.

Campaign Promises In Review

Campaign Promises In Review

CAMPAIGN PROMISES IN REVIEW

DELIVERED
• Better alternative transportation
• More printers in residence halls
• Improved dining halls
• More outdoor seating
• Off-campus safety seminar
• Moonlight Madness

PENDING
• Catholic Think Tank Speaker Series
• South Bend Opportunities Guide
• A more official recognition of Gay-Straight Alliance
• Wish list for new Student Center

SUCCESSFUL
• Build a concert endowed
• Expand TicketShare
• Student discount at the Bookstore
• Weekly updates to student government Web site

IN FOCUS

Student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell talk at a Student Senate meeting this fall.

By MADDIE HANNA

Monday, December 12, 2005
The Observer • IN FOCUS

FRANCESCO SANTA/THF Observer

IN FOCUS

IN FOCUS

IN FOCUS

IN FOCUS
**Academic Affairs**

By MADDIE HANNA

This year’s Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements. While it’s easy to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success. The University Affairs committee, chaired by Chad Harris, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSP and FedEx Kinkos. The explanation was complicated, but Academic and Academic Affairs committee chair Chad Harris put an extensive amount of work into the proposal with the eventual goal of implementing the College Readership Program and the advertisement’s impact on admissions. Although he did not find a recipient for the Senate, he did develop an extensive agreement with TicketShare to provide a resource for their efforts in promoting diversity at Notre Dame. The Senate spent several meetings discussing the University’s new institutional spot “Candle,” which first aired Sept. 10 and included debate about the face of the University and the advertisement’s impact on admissions. While no policy change came out of the discussion, the faculty’s passion responses demonstrated the Senate’s belief that its conclusion on the situation by saying they’d rather have a quality program tomorrow than a passable program today. When restrictions regarding basketball ticketing have been overturned since last season, however, pushing an improved TicketShare system to next year doesn’t seem logical. The University Affairs committee’s passion about keeping the system in the pursuit of larger initiatives, like GameShare and TicketShare agreements and research regarding a new student center. Some projects appear to be on the horizon, however.

**University Affairs**

By MADDIE HANNA

This year’s Senate has the greatest responsibility of Notre Dame’s student government organizations as a policymaking body, and for the most part, this year’s group has taken that responsibility seriously. Senate leaders are some of the student body’s hardest workers and have pushed through a number of important resolutions after intelligent discussion. The Senate’s eight committees — Academic Affairs, Community Relations, Diversity Affairs, Gender Issues, Minority Affairs, Oversight, Residence Life and University Affairs — each have their own agendas and periodically present resolutions to the full Senate. But after long, debated debates, the Senate sometimes runs into problems producing what it promises. It should be noted that student government, even a relatively powerful body like Senate, is and will always be unable to pass any measure past an unwilling administration. The Senate’s passed resolutions are essentially recommendations that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It’s the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.

**Tangibles**

This year’s Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements. While it’s easy to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success. The University Affairs committee, chaired by Chad Harris, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSP and FedEx Kinkos. Now, partly due to the committee’s insistence that student input be considered in the negotiations, students can ride TRANSP buses throughout the community for free and take advantage of alternative service options. Gender Affairs committee chair Ali Winston has devoted herself to her group’s tasks, and her dedication is apparent. Over the summer, she worked extensively with University Affairs to revamp the Freshman Orientation sexual assault program. “From Football to Finals.” This change has contributed to an increased awareness — in the form of a report documenting something student body president Dave Baron said indicates that more students have found the courage to report incidents. Winston’s committee also ran a smoothly coordinated Eating Disorders Awareness Week and is planning a Sexual Assault Awareness Week for next semester.

Other concrete Senate accomplishments include the Residence Life committee’s go-cups in the dining halls and last fall’s cancellation of free walks, as well as a “Stand against Hate” poster campaign spearheaded by Rhea Boyd. The Education Task Force chaired by Nick Guzman has continued to build.

Larger goals

The Senate’s most commendable quality is arguably its willingness to devote serious attention to weighty matters. Since taking office, senate members have not essentially recommended that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It’s the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.

**Tangibles**

This year’s Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements. While it’s easy to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success. The University Affairs committee, chaired by Chad Harris, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSP and FedEx Kinkos. Now, partly due to the committee's insistence that student input be considered in the negotiations, students can ride TRANSP buses throughout the community for free and take advantage of alternative service options. Gender Affairs committee chair Ali Winston has devoted herself to her group's tasks, and her dedication is apparent. Over the summer, she worked extensively with University Affairs to revamp the Freshman Orientation sexual assault program. "From Football to Finals." This change has contributed to an increased awareness — in the form of a report documenting something student body president Dave Baron said indicates that more students have found the courage to report incidents. Winston's committee also ran a smoothly coordinated Eating Disorders Awareness Week and is planning a Sexual Assault Awareness Week for next semester.

Other concrete Senate accomplishments include the Residence Life committee's go-cups in the dining halls and last fall's cancellation of free walks, as well as a "Stand against Hate" poster campaign spearheaded by Rhea Boyd. The Education Task Force chaired by Nick Guzman has continued to build.

Larger goals

The Senate's most commendable quality is arguably its willingness to devote serious attention to weighty matters. Since taking office, senate members have not essentially recommended that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It's the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.

**Tangibles**

This year’s Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements. While it’s easy to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success. The University Affairs committee, chaired by Chad Harris, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSP and FedEx Kinkos. Now, partly due to the committee's insistence that student input be considered in the negotiations, students can ride TRANSP buses throughout the community for free and take advantage of alternative service options. Gender Affairs committee chair Ali Winston has devoted herself to her group's tasks, and her dedication is apparent. Over the summer, she worked extensively with University Affairs to revamp the Freshman Orientation sexual assault program. "From Football to Finals." This change has contributed to an increased awareness — in the form of a report documenting something student body president Dave Baron said indicates that more students have found the courage to report incidents. Winston's committee also ran a smoothly coordinated Eating Disorders Awareness Week and is planning a Sexual Assault Awareness Week for next semester.

Other concrete Senate accomplishments include the Residence Life committee's go-cups in the dining halls and last fall's cancellation of free walks, as well as a "Stand against Hate" poster campaign spearheaded by Rhea Boyd. The Education Task Force chaired by Nick Guzman has continued to build.

Larger goals

The Senate's most commendable quality is arguably its willingness to devote serious attention to weighty matters. Since taking office, senate members have not essentially recommended that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It's the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.

**Tangibles**

This year’s Senate has a greater responsibility of Notre Dame’s student government organizations as a policymaking body, and for the most part, this year’s group has taken that responsibility seriously. Senate leaders are some of the student body’s hardest workers and have pushed through a number of important resolutions after intelligent discussion. The Senate’s eight committees — Academic Affairs, Community Relations, Diversity Affairs, Gender Issues, Minority Affairs, Oversight, Residence Life and University Affairs — each have their own agendas and periodically present resolutions to the full Senate. But after long, debated debates, the Senate sometimes runs into problems producing what it promises. It should be noted that student government, even a relatively powerful body like Senate, is and will always be unable to pass any measure past an unwilling administration. The Senate’s passed resolutions are essentially recommendations that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It’s the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.

**Tangibles**

This year’s Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements. While it’s easy to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success. The University Affairs committee, chaired by Chad Harris, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSP and FedEx Kinkos. Now, partly due to the committee's insistence that student input be considered in the negotiations, students can ride TRANSP buses throughout the community for free and take advantage of alternative service options. Gender Affairs committee chair Ali Winston has devoted herself to her group's tasks, and her dedication is apparent. Over the summer, she worked extensively with University Affairs to revamp the Freshman Orientation sexual assault program. "From Football to Finals." This change has contributed to an increased awareness — in the form of a report documenting something student body president Dave Baron said indicates that more students have found the courage to report incidents. Winston's committee also ran a smoothly coordinated Eating Disorders Awareness Week and is planning a Sexual Assault Awareness Week for next semester.

Other concrete Senate accomplishments include the Residence Life committee's go-cups in the dining halls and last fall's cancellation of free walks, as well as a "Stand against Hate" poster campaign spearheaded by Rhea Boyd. The Education Task Force chaired by Nick Guzman has continued to build.

Larger goals

The Senate's most commendable quality is arguably its willingness to devote serious attention to weighty matters. Since taking office, senate members have not essentially recommended that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It's the way the system works.

The difference is that year, senators seem to be learning to work with the system rather than against it.
COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group has moderate success as advisory body
Members must build upon their role as sounding board to Baron and Shappell

By KAREN LANEY
In Focus

This semester, the Council of Representatives (COR) has primarily focused on moving its organization and its members’ roles to a more professional level — but its members must fully embrace their role as a sounding board in order for COR to realize its potential as the sole body uniting the policy and programming divisions of student government.

As described in the student union constitution, COR meetings are held to provide a "venue for leaders of the various student organizations to meet and advise the Student Body President on all matters concerning the Student Union as a whole." The group is also in charge of approving numerous appointments to appointed offices, approving the Student Union's annual budget and controlling the areas of the Collaboration Fund.

The group has made progress in achieving each of these goals, yet it remains challenged by some reluctance of its members to engage in lengthy and candid discussion about each meeting's business.

Members of COR represent a diverse cross-section of the student body — all four classes, off-campus students, the Club Coordinating Council, the Student Union Board, the Judicial Council, Hall Presidents and the Council, the Management Board and the Student Senate — and are therefore expected to bring their respective views to each issue.

"Members have a duty," Secretary Dave Baron said before he entered the meeting, "to express that view responsibly, bringing forth concerns as they see them to represent all student views.

Topics such as the student activity fees increase and the budget reallocations from student organizations' "appropriations," as most speakers voiced opinions consistent with their constituencies' best interests. Representative sits on COR to interact with various campus organizations, but as a group they are somewhat reluctant to participate in any rigorous discussions. They have little of the direction to the task, who is supposed to be gathering knowledge about students' perspectives from the meetings. Questions are asked and comments are made, but more of each is needed to make COR the truly dynamic body it should be under its constitutional mandate.

The group scores points for efficiency, which is a necessary quality of effective government. COR must continue to be governed so that an increased representation of views in debate is valued while some focus still remains on expediency.

COR must be praised for professional treatment of a potentially volatile situation, the group's Sept. 19 meeting with city officials to discuss the summer amendment to South Bend's disorderly house ordinance.

South Bend assistant city attorney Anne Carol Napp and District 4 Common Council member Ann Puzello forcefully defended the city's actions to a group which generally spoke with respect, but whose case prevented them from accomplishing much — if any accomplishment was possible in an exchange between two such diametrically opposed sides.

Two meetings were also spent examining The Shirt Project, whose mission and structure were examined and discussed after a football season in which the student section was garbed in many different colored and designed shirts. While two meetings were a relatively large investment to lend to the topic, The Shirt Project's spirit-raising means and charitable end merit this attention.

While drier than its debates over changes to fiscal policy, the group's Sept. 19 meeting with city officials to discuss the summer amendment to South Bend's disorderly house ordinance.

As described in the student union constitution, COR seeks to "succeed in communicating with the student body each year."

We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said in a Nov. 22 Observer article.

Like Vaughn's comedy show, the concert was held in the South Bend Center — a venue which 1,000 students reportedly called a "nice location" for big events.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator.

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance.

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

"I feel we came a long way this semester," said Vincent Vaughn, "Wild West" comedian. "We were successful, but this year we wanted to crank it up a notch with live events while still continuing to excel at the other events," he said.

As stated in the group's constitution, SUB seeks to "enhance undergraduate student life by providing social, intellectual and cultural opportunities that correlate with the needs and wants of the student body each year."

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

LAUDABLE, BUT KEY DISCUSSIONS

Like Vaughn's comedy show, the concert was held in the South Bend Center — a venue which 1,000 students reportedly called a "nice location" for big events.

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.

Some of the "best student leaders on campus" as well as a focused objective committed to Student Body President Lizz Shappell's success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell, the club coordinator. Flaherty said he is "proud" of South Bend's "disorderly house ordinance."

"We work on behalf of the students, and at the end of last year we heard what they really like is big name entertainers to come to Notre Dame," SUB program director Chris Lund said.
CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Members prove more active, prolific in past years

Baron targets division within group as an issue, strives to increase cooperation between factions

By MARY KATE MALONE
To Focus Writer

The Campus Life Council has passed an impressive five resolutions so far this semester. CLC has been efficient and focused under Dave Baron's leadership; however, the varied interests of the Council members have at times hurt discussion and stalled resolutions.

Although some Council task forces have shown significant progress, Baron needs to lay a heavier hand on them in order to ensure that their initiatives are carried out.

New computers in the Hesburgh Library, progress on graduate student parking and collaboration with the Student Affairs task force to evaluate graduate student life are among the accomplishments of the Graduate Student Union (GSU) this semester.

"We try to meet the needs of grad students, whether they are medical, social, academic, or professional," GSU president Misty Schieberle said. "Our goal is to develop or supplement past programs and initiatives and also to get something more.

One of the newest and most significant accomplishments of the Union has been the installation of the Medical Separation policy, which allows students to have an up to six week leave from academic duties under the case of a "serious medical condition.

The new policy is an alternative to the Graduate Student Leave of Absence policy, which only offers a leave for an extended amount of time.

The GSU also helped devise a graduate student life survey that will assess the quality and issues of graduate student life. Schieberle hopes this survey will generate results useful to the GSU's mission.

The administration and Student Affairs committee have organized a task force that will survey the current status of graduate student life with the goal of finding future development. "We've been working very much together with the task force on the survey and we think it will produce results we can use in the years to come," Schieberle said.

The GSU consists of 39 departmental representatives, 12 committee chairs and elected officers. It represents graduate students in the College of Science, the College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Letters. These representatives bring matters of concern from their respective colleges to the GSU to weigh and determine the best way to address it.

"The chain of communication strives for representation from every department," Schieberle said.

Next semester, the GSU is planning to host the regional National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS) conference in the spring.

"With respect to NAGPS, we have a task force with the Representatives and participate in a day of lobbying for legislation for those continuing in the future," Schieberle said.

The GSU has also been pursuing three long-term goals: student parking, student debt and water drainage in the D6 parking lot.

"One of the biggest issues of student life is parking," Schieberle said. "It's year-round parking and we want to make sure that the University and the student body are working together on those issues."
Junior Irish quarterback Brady Quinn has translated his coach's philosophy into an on-field reality that has earned Notre Dame more wins, more points and national recognition of his individual talent.
History books will add fifth chapter in ND-OSU drama

Heisman winners, Four Horsemen members of sports storied contests

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

It's just about a five-hour drive halfway across the country from Ind. and Columbus, Ohio and the two programs have played each other in some of the most celebrated programs in college football history. But the fact that the two programs could have a future dates indicate the Irish and Buckeyes could be meeting any time soon after their Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl matchup in Tempe, Ariz.

"How are we going to beat Ohio State?" Irish coach Charlie Weis asked Saturday when asked about the possibility of playing Ohio State in the future.

"You don't even know somebody who's on your schedule seven years, eight years from now. I don’t know. I'm sure of it. They're playing each other, they're meeting each other in the near future. We just don't know.

"The buckeyes free safety Nate Saltley said.

"If a few things turned out differently this could be the national championship game."

Nate Saltley
Buckeyes free safety

A national championship-caliber Irish team has been unusual when the two programs have met. The 1935 game was hyped as "The Game of the Century" by the sports editors and Notre Dame rallied from a 13-0 fourth quarter deficit to win 18-13 before more than 80,000 fans in Ohio Stadium.

The next season the schools met again, with Elmer Layden of Four Horsemen fame coaching the Irish to a 7-2 win.

The squads did not meet again until 1995, when the No. 7 Buckeyes stomped the No. 5 Irish 45-26 in Ohio Stadium.

Ohio State running back Eddie George, who would go on to win that season's Heisman Trophy, ran over the Notre Dame defense for 207 yards and two touchdowns.

The most recent meeting was a matchup of No. 5 Notre Dame against No. 4 Ohio State in 1996, with the Buckeyes winning 29-16.

The last regular-season game was in Lou Holtz's final season as coach at Notre Dame, with the former Ohio State assistant coach finishing his career 0-2 against the Buckeyes.

The teams' fifth contest could be the last between the two in a while, leaving Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith, a 1977 Notre Dame graduate, eager for the game.

"The Irish are a team like The Ohio State University with history, tradition and success," Smith said. "Let's rock and roll and get it done."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

"I have a lot of respect for their defense. They're really good — those stats don't lie!"

Charles Weis
Irish head coach

"We just want to control the right way for the seniors and let them leave here with a win."" -IRISH INSIDER

Bradyn Quinn Irish quarterback

"They are a classy team and a tough team. We can't wait to get out there to (Tempe)."

Jim Tressel Buckeyes head coach

Pick a reason the Irish want to win this game — from ending the seven-game bowl losing streak, to putting the Irish back at the top of college football; to rewarding the seniors who have endured a tumultuous five years — there is no doubt this game is critical.

"There is no doubt this game is critical. There is no telling what a win over Ohio State would do for this team and this program," Weis said.

"This game will be mentioned," Weis said. "It will be mentioned. Every day.

"It will be mentioned. Every day.

"Some games are gone, there's this one. We can make any type of run next season, their coach is likely to run him out in the next three weeks of practice.

"I think it gives you a great opportunity to humiliate them," Weis said of the losing streak. "I think I'm really looking forward to doing that. Those games are gone, there's nothing you can do about them. I like the Buckeyes going into practice everyday, (and) they will be beating that drum and ramming it home for the next several weeks.

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

Contact Heather Van Hoogen at hvhoogen@nd.edu
**Tough enough to handle**

**Why Brady Quinn is who he is and how he's evolved up to his stellar junior season**

By PAT LEONARD  
Sports Writer

Brady Quinn knows Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis places heavy responsibilities on his quarterbacks, so she figured her son Brady would have welcomed the two years to prepare for such a disciplined and demanding offense.

"I said: 'Alright, glad you got Coach Weis your junior year?'" Quinn's mother recalled asking him.

"Because I was thinking to myself, "he had been a freshman, just getting the starting position, that would have been overwhelming for him."

"Brady, yes. "No, that probably would have been easy as a freshman because that's all you know."

"The junior quarterback's comment could make Irish fans daydream about what could have been, or it could explain why Weis' offense developed so quickly and efficiently in less than a year with 36- to 21-year-old college kids."

At this time last season, Quinn (6-foot-4, 231 pounds) was not thinking Heisman.

And he's not longer is this year, or ever.

But following a career season in which he set numerous Irish program records, the confident junior quarterback has gained national attention for being the arm of Notre Dame's resurgence to IRS Bowl.

First-year coach Weis has been the face.

Weis brought an offense that already had credibility from his three Super Bowl wins with the New England Patriots. But for many doubters, Quinn has proven the offense can work at more than one level of football, and that he has everything to do with why it does.

"One kid was probably more of an extension of [Weis] out there on the field."

"Brady was always a good-sized kid for his age, but not like these kids," his mother said. "One kid was probably 6-feet tall, 200 pounds."

Quinn took a vicious hit that sent him off to the sidelines. His uncle David, a coach at the time, made a comment that stuck with Quinn's mother as one of the most significant developments in her son's athletic career.

"He said, 'Brady, look. This is totally your decision, but there comes a point in your life when you play sports where there's a difference between playing hurt and playing hurt,' " his mother said. "'If you're hurt or your pride's hurt, and you think you can get back out there, do it. But if you feel like you've really got an injury, you should do something.'"

Quinn shook his head, shook off the hit and finished the game.

Fast forward to 2005, his first start as a college quarterback on the road at Purdue — 29 passing attempts, four interceptions, only one touchdown, one sack and an average of 68 yards per game.

"The raw talent showed, but the beating was brutal."

"I don't like to hear that word "sack,"" he'll say every time I think of that as a mom," his mother said.

Quinn would have to live by his mistakes.

Quinn always has been a perfectionist.

"He's more vocal in the huddle, taking charge and being more aggressive," said wide receiver Maurice Simmler, who has caught 40 passes and 11 touchdowns from Quinn this season. "He's more of a vocal leader, the quarterback."

"Brady Quinn's spirits have raised along with his play in 2005. The Irish say he is more vocal as a leader this season, a characteristic reflected in his confident, focused demeanor on the field."

"One of the things that stuck with me was his maturity and confidence have contributed to nothing short of a Notre Dame offensive revival."

In 2004, the Irish averaged 218 yards passing, 15 games and 15 touchdowns from Quinn this season. "His mental aspect of the game as far as watching film and reading defensive coverages has improved, abd."

Quinn's statistics improved as he gained more game experience, but he won just nine of 21 games as a starter in his first two years under former coach Tyrone Willingham.

Though his numbers were improving through his sophomore season, the team was not.

"Coming from a competitive and athletic family — Brady played baseball, basketball and football into high school at Dublin Coffman, his father Ty played baseball and wrestled; his younger sister Kelly plays soccer at Virginia; his older sister Laura played field hockey and softball and even modeled; Quinn always has been a perfectionist."

"When we were younger and we had catches, he would throw it — and obviously he has a really hard throw — and I could never catch it," Kelly Quinn said. "'He'd get so frustrated and say, 'Catch the ball, Kelly.'"

Notre Dame's 31-point losses to archrivals, then, did not sit well with a kid who had the most organized desk in his first grade class.

"He was always a very intense child always a perfectionist — in what he did with his room, with his outfits," his mother said. "Maybe he role-modeled me a little bit too much because Weis has taught him a lot about praise."

And every perfectionist desires control over assigned tasks. Enter Charlie Weis, and a system that gave Quinn the freedom he wanted, the discipline he needed and his first close look (9-2) at second level to undrafted USC at what perfection in college football means.

**Grown up**

Quinn controls most of Notre Dame's offense at the line of scrimmage — at least he has the freedom to. Weis has mandates like any Trojans' top passer by voters. Three years later, Weis had him capture the Sammy Baugh Award — presented to college football's top passer by the Touchdown Club of Columbus, Ohio — and be nominated for a host of others.

"Brady is more vocal in the huddle, taking charge and being more aggressive," said wide receiver Maurice Simmler, who has caught 60 passes and 11 touchdowns from Quinn this season. "His mental aspect of the game as far as watching film and reading defensive coverages has improved, abd."

Quinn's statistics have accumulated, the quarterback said, in part because Weis has taught him a lot about avoiding short-term memory and not dwelling on mistakes. And Quinn has been able to receive that advice and apply it — no how harshly the coach instructs at times — because of his mature attitude.

"I think that Brady was mature enough to realize regardless of the personality or if there had ever been a personality conflict — which it sounds like [Brady and Weis] get along perfectly fine — that Brady knew he was going to respect and appreciate what Coach Weis had to add and bring to the table," his mother said.

Quinn has endless and acute observations about how he has learned from Weis beginning in spring practice and continuing into his IRISH bowl preparation.

"This offered places a lot of responsibility on the quarterback, and it deals with a lot more mental things coming up to the line of scrimmage and playing in the game," Quinn said. "I learned that there was a lot more to playing quarterback in different systems and in our particular offense than I had realized before."

But while Weis believes quarterback recruits should be lining up for the chance to play for an NFL offensive mind like his, he understands Quinn's value as more than just a good passer.

In the case of Quinn's development, it's not only what the offense has done for him. Quinn consistently says Notre Dame's success is just as much about what Quinn does for the offense.

"Whether or not the Heisman Trophy votes recognize Quinn as being worthy of a New York City visit, the junior knows his place — short of the ultimate goal.

"Everyone who is there for the Heisman announcement is unequaled and playing in the national championship," Quinn said. "So it's hard to argue that you should be there when you're 9-2 and playing in the Fiesta Bowl, instead of the Rose Bowl."

Even Weis, who coaches with a demeanor of rationality and steadiness, had problems with Quinn not receiving the invite. But his quarterback has come even further, to the point at which he is so realistic and poised and prepared for decisions thrown his way — and about recognizing the improvements still required of him — that he can handle anything.

And if that doesn't work, he can always audible.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

---

Notre Dame quarterback Brady Quinn leads the Irish in distance before the Oct. 15 game against No. 3 USC. Quinn passed for one touchdown and threw for another in the 34-31 loss to the Trojans.

---

**BRADY QUINN QUOTE**

Brady Quinn's spirits have raised along with his play in 2005. The Irish say he is more vocal as a leader this season, a characteristic reflected in his confident, focused demeanor on the field.
The Observer  IRISH INSIDER

Monday, December 12, 2005

Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 9-2
AP: 5
Coaches: 6

Charlie Weis first season at Notre Dame
career record: 9-2

at Notre Dame: 9-2

against Ohio State: 0-0

Notre Dame 2005 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>at Pittsburgh - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>at Michigan - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>MICHIGAN ST. - L</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>at Washington - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>at Purdue - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>USC - L</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>BYU - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>TENNESSEE - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>NAVY - W</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>SYRACUSE - W</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>at Stanford - W</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COACHING

Charlie Weis has managed the Irish offense, which this season has averaged 489.1 yards per game, an improvement of 143.6 yards over last season. He is 9-2 in his first Notre Dame season. Weis has coached in five Super Bowls with the Patriots and Guardians as well as the Liberty Bowl and Lavino Bowl with South Carolina.

ODHIO STATE

Jim Tressel captured the national title in 2002, his second season at Ohio State after leading Youngstown State to four Division 1-AAA national crowns in 15 seasons. This is the third time in four seasons he has led the Buckeyes to the Fiesta Bowl.

ANALYSIS

Weis has surprised many this season by putting the Irish in a BCS bowl game sooner than most expected. But there has been one constant for Weis in his five seasons as a college head coach. Tressel's fine mind and ability to account for the (opponent's) strength and weakness are integral to his success and play-calling.

CHARLES NUNN

Irish experts

Pat Leonard
Managing Editor

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 34
Ohio State 24

Who was the last team to hold Notre Dame under 34 points? Difficult question to answer at this juncture. But the team on defense is as good as any in the nation. And Weis is not expected to be too coy about it when he presents his strategy to the Buckeyes.

Heather Van Hoangarden

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 21
Ohio State 20

Twelve seasons ago, the Irish won their last bowl game. On Jan. 2 they will do it again. Notre Dame finds a way to score and Brady Quinn has one of his best games against the team that wishes it was on its sideline. The Irish manage to contain Troy Smith and silence their critics in Tampa while finishing the season in the top 10 for the first time since 1993, the same year as their last bowl win.

Charlie Weis

Brady Quinn finished fourth in the Heisman balloting after throwing for 3,633 yards, 32 touchdowns and only seven interceptions. He has hit 64 percent of his passes and led Notre Dame in a 9-2 season in 2005 after the Irish turned to records of 5-7 and 6-6 in his first two seasons as a starter.

COACHING

Irish Rushing

Darius Walker and Travis Thomas have both combined carries for the Irish this season and have scored for 11 Tds. Walker rushed for 1,181 yards for an average of 4.7 per carry. Rashon Powders-Neal will not play for the Irish at fullback in the Fiesta Bowl.

Irish Passing

The Irish are No. 4 in the nation in passing offense as wide receivers Maurice Stovall and Nate Valley. Whitten has two interceptions as Ohio State has allowed just 200.8 yards passing per game and only eight Tds.

COACHING

Quarterbacks

Brady Quinn finished fourth in the Heisman balloting after throwing for 3,633 yards, 32 touchdowns and only seven interceptions. He has hit 64 percent of his passes and led Notre Dame in a 9-2 season in 2005 after the Irish turned to records of 5-7 and 6-6 in his first two seasons as a starter.

Ohio State has the No. 1 rushing defense in the country, led by All-American linebacker A.J. Hawk. He has 109 tackles and two forced fumbles in 2006 as the Buckeyes are giving up just 47.5 yards per game and 2.4 yards per carry, and only nine Tds on the ground.

ANALYSIS

Smith's ability to run and pass is an asset for Ohio State and he led the Buckeyes to an unforgettable record of 8-3-1. However, Quinn is one of the top passers in the nation and his ability to lead the Irish in close games will be crucial to the potential to dominate the Irish.

Notre Dame played its last big game against Stanford as Walker ran for 195 yards against the Cardinal. But Ohio State hasn't let any team come close to the ground all season. Hawk and his teammates have the potential to dominate the Irish.

Charlie Weis has managed the Irish offense, which this season has averaged 489.1 yards per game, an improvement of 143.6 yards over last season. He is 9-2 in his first Notre Dame season. Weis has coached in five Super Bowls with the Patriots and Guardians as well as the Liberty Bowl and Lavino Bowl with South Carolina.

Ohio State after leading Youngstown State to four Division 1-AAA national crowns in 15 seasons. This is the third time in four seasons he has led the Buckeyes to the Fiesta Bowl.

Weis has surprised many this season by putting the Irish in a BCS bowl game sooner than most expected. But there has been one constant for Weis in his five seasons as a college head coach. Tressel's fine mind and ability to account for the (opponent's) strength and weakness are integral to his success and play-calling.

Who was the last team to hold Notre Dame under 34 points? Difficult question to answer at this juncture. But the team on defense is as good as any in the nation. And Weis is not expected to be too coy about it when he presents his strategy to the Buckeyes.

Twelve seasons ago, the Irish won their last bowl game. On Jan. 2 they will do it again. Notre Dame finds a way to score and Brady Quinn has one of his best games against the team that wishes it was on its sideline. The Irish manage to contain Troy Smith and silence their critics in Tampa while finishing the season in the top 10 for the first time since 1993, the same year as their last bowl win.
Ohio State Buckeyes

Ohio State Buckeyes

Ohio State Buckeyes Record: 9-2
AP: 7
Coaches: 7

Jim Tressel
Fifth season at Ohio State
career record: 49-13
at Ohio State:
49-13
against Notre Dame:
0-0

Buckeyes Rushing

Ohio State Buckeyes

Buckeyes Passing

Notre Dame’s run defense has been solid all season. The Irish are allowing 119.4 rushing yards per game and have given up 18 touchdowns on the ground. Excluding USC’s Reggie Bush, the Buckeyes held strong running backs in check, including teammate Le’Ron White.

Antonio Pittman has six 100-yard rushing games this season, giving him a total of 1,195 yards and six touchdowns. He leads the team with 108.6 yards per game average. Smith is dangerous with his legs as well, averaging 4.4 yards per carry and 54.5 yards per game.

Santonio Holmes and Ted Ginn, Jr. have caught a combined 13 TDs and their speed has helped rack up 1,489 yards for the Buckeyes. Tight end Anthony Gonzalez has 27 catches for 358 yards and three touchdowns while Pittman averages 10.3 yards per reception.

Todd Ginn, Jr. averages 28.6 yards per kick return even though he is one of the top receivers for the Buckeyes. He has returned two kicks (one kick, one punt) for scores this season. The punt team holds its opponents to under six yards per return.

Notre Dame’s defensive secondary isn’t special, but neither is Ohio State’s passing attack. Holmes and Ginn are a decent one-two punch, but the Irish have combined for only 300 more yards than Samardzija and two fewer touchdowns.

Zhikowski is a fearless punt returner, but Fitzpatrick’s struggles at Stanford are apparent. If he is healthy, the Irish will be in much better shape. Ginn’s punt return can be a big play in the Big 10 and the Irish need to prevent him from making big plays.

Notre Dame has more to gain by playing this game than Ohio State. The Buckeyes won the national championship three seasons ago and have been BCS-quality for the last few seasons. The Irish are now just taking back the national aura they once had.

Irish experts

Mike Gillon
Sports Editor

Irish experts

A.J. Hawk might date Laura Quinn, but he will get no love from her younger brother Brady Quinn. For 300-plus yards and Charlie Weis forgoes the rushing game as he uses Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall to pick apart the Ohio State secondary. The Irish prove they belong in the BCS in a higher-scoring game than most expect.
Buckeyes will be tough nut to crack for Irish

Ohio State surrenders fewer than 15 points a game this season

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

With finals week nearing fast, Irish defensive end Victor Abiamiri said it's time to study tape of Ohio State before Saturday's bowl media day. But the few chances he had this season to see the Buckeyes play on TV were enough to let him know Notre Dame will be tested in next month's Fiesta Bowl.

"They're a good team," Abiamiri said. "We'll have to save our best game for them.

The Buckeyes have impressed Abiamiri and the Irish this season with an offense led by multiskilled quarterback Troy Smith and a defense, featuring Lombardi Award-winning linebacker A.J. Hawk, giving up just 14.8 points per game. Hawk headlines a group of linebackers regarded by many as one of the best in the nation. Anthony Schlegel is second on the team with 75 tackles to Hawk's 109. Bobby Carpenter occupies the third linebacker spot and has 49 tackles as well as a team-leading eight sacks.

"Their linebackers jump out at me," Abiamiri said. "We haven't had a whole bunch of time to look at them on tape, but just from watching them on TV you can definitely see they really have a dominant defense that's keying in on stopping the run. Walker and the Irish rushing attack are averaging 3.7 yards per carry this season. But the Buckeyes have held opponents to 2.4 yards per carry, nine total rushing touchdowns and a stifling 74.5 yards per game. The play of the defense has been solid enough for Ohio State to place five defenders on the all-Big Ten first team, as conference defensive player of the year Hawk is joined by defensive end Mike Kudla, free safety Donnie(W)inter and cornerback Ashton Youboty. Carpenter was selected to the second team along with defensive lineman Quinn Pitcock.

These statistics and accolades have certainly been noticed by Irish offensive coordinator Dan Stevenson, who acknowledges Hawk as the catalyst of the nation's No. 4 total defense. (Notre Dame finished the regular season ranked No. 10 in total defense.)

"Wherever (Hawk) is on the field, or whatever you try to do, he's always there," Stevenson said. "He has a natural path to the ball. He's a great player, along with the whole defense. They all kind of feed off each other.

While the Buckeyes' rushing defense is one of the top units in America, their defensive backfield has given opposing quarterback problems all season, tallying six interceptions and giving up just 200.8 passing yards per game.

One striking feature of Ohio State's secondary is its height. The three first-team all-conference honorees — Salley, Whitten and Youboty — are listed at 6-foot-3, 5-foot-11 and 6-foot-1, respectively. The other starter, freshman cornerback Michael Jenkins, is 6-foot-1. Meanwhile, Notre Dame's two leading receivers — Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall — are both listed at 6-foot-5.

The extra few inches, especially with Salley, could be an Irish receiving corps that has tallied 334.3 yards per game and 32 total touchdown receptions this season.

But Whitten is the only Buckeye with more than one interception, racking up two this season including one for a touchdown.

While the Ohio State defense gets much of the media attention for its outstanding play, Smith and the offense have played their way to a No. 29 ranking in passing offense. Santonio Holmes and Ted Ginn, Jr. lead the Buckeyes with 553 and 636 yards receiving respectively. Ginn especially worries the Irish as the 6-foot-6 sophomore averages 14.8 yards per reception and has scored a touchdown returning both a punt and a kick.

"Ginn's speed is the biggest thing you see," Notre Dame strong safety Tom Zbikowski said. "He'll just run past guys like it's nothing. He's a playmaker, kind of like USC's Reggie Bush. When he hits a gap there aren't too many people that are faster than him in the country."
Can't start a fire without a spark

Jersey-born Weis and Fasano meshed well from the beginning

By HEATHER VAN HOGARDEN

No words were needed — New Jersey natives Charlie Weis and Anthony Fasano knew each other from day one:

"I think we were in stretching for one of the early morning workouts, and Weis said, "A bunch of these guys are in culture shock, they don't know what they're getting into with me," Fasano said of the first-year head coach. "And I said, 'Ah, I know what I'm getting into.' He's like, 'I know you do, but I think these guys are going to feel bad around each other."

The new head coach and senior tight end instantly fell comfortable with the other. Fasano, a Verona, New Jersey native, was natural for Weis to relate to.

"There are certain guys that, walking in the door, were easy to talk to," Weis said. "For me, Fasano was one of them. Dallas [Tom] Zbikowski was one of them. These guys were just easy for me to talk to because I don't even have to say anything to them and they know what I'm saying. I just give them one of my looks, I don't even have to say it, they already know what I mean.

"Some of these guys had to learn what those looks meant, but Anthony was one where I didn't have to," Weis added.

Weis, a Trenton, New Jersey native, said that to Fasano, he was just another guy from New Jersey.

"He's seen me 1,000 times," Weis said. "He knows 1,000 Charlie Weises, whereas a lot of these guys, they only know one.

And for Fasano, his new head coach was one with whom he felt an immediate connection.

"It's something that attitude, that New Jersey-type attitude, a little swagger, a little chip on your shoulder, a little carelessness," he said. "I think it's what people had to get used to, but something I could relate to."

New coach, new offense

It was no secret coming into this season that Fasano was one of Notre Dame's best players. Last year he was second on the team with 27 catches for 367 yards and four touchdowns, and was one of the Irish's most reliable receivers. His 6-foot-5, 252-pound frame was also a formula-
### 2005-2006 Bowl Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bowl Name</th>
<th>Teams</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans Bowl</td>
<td>Southern Miss (6-5) vs. Arkansas State (6-5)</td>
<td>December 20, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTEP vs. Toledo (8-3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 21, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BYU vs. California (7-4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 22, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas Bowl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado State (6-5) vs. Navy (7-4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 22, 10:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Worth Bowl</td>
<td>Kansas (6-5) vs. Houston (6-5)</td>
<td>December 23, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheraton Hawaii Bowl</td>
<td>Nevada (8-3) vs. UCF (8-4)</td>
<td>December 24, 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor City Bowl</td>
<td>Memphis (6-5) vs. Akron (7-5)</td>
<td>December 26, 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champs Sports Bowl</td>
<td>Clemson (7-4) vs. Colorado (7-5)</td>
<td>December 27, 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insight Bowl</td>
<td>Arizona State (6-5) vs. Rutgers (7-4)</td>
<td>December 27, 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPC Computers Bowl</td>
<td>Boise State (9-3) vs. Boston College (8-3)</td>
<td>December 28, 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamo Bowl</td>
<td>Michigan (7-1) vs. Nebraska (7-4)</td>
<td>December 28, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Bowl</td>
<td>Oregon (10-1) vs. Oklahoma (7-4)</td>
<td>December 29, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Bowl</td>
<td>USC (12-0) vs. Texas (12-0)</td>
<td>January 4, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitalis Sun Bowl</td>
<td>Northwestern (7-4) vs. UCLA (9-2)</td>
<td>December 30, 2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Bowl</td>
<td>South Carolina (7-4) vs. Missouri (6-5)</td>
<td>December 30, 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl</td>
<td>Miami (9-2) vs. LSU (10-2)</td>
<td>December 30, 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meineke Car Care Bowl</td>
<td>South Florida (6-5) vs. NC State (6-5)</td>
<td>December 31, 11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autozone Liberty Bowl</td>
<td>Tulsa (8-1) vs. Fresno State (8-4)</td>
<td>December 31, 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVLNET Houston Bowl</td>
<td>TCU (10-0) vs. Iowa State (7-4)</td>
<td>December 31, 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outback Bowl</td>
<td>Iowa (7-4) vs. Florida (8-3)</td>
<td>January 2, 11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A&amp;T Cotton Bowl</td>
<td>Texas Tech (9-2) vs. Alabama (9-2)</td>
<td>January 2, 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota Gator Bowl</td>
<td>Louisville (9-2) vs. Virginia Tech (10-2)</td>
<td>January 2, 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Freeze Bowl</td>
<td>Notre Dame (9-2) vs. Ohio State (9-2)</td>
<td>January 2, 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nokia Sugar Bowl</td>
<td>West Virginia (10-1) vs. Georgia (10-2)</td>
<td>January 2, 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITFEX Orange Bowl</td>
<td>Penn State (10-1) vs. Florida State (8-4)</td>
<td>January 3, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thorough, thoughtful agenda suggests future success

By MARY KATE MALONE
In Focus Writer

The Notre Dame Faculty Senate has engaged in thorough discussion on a wide variety of issues this semester, creating a lively and lengthy agenda that, if acted upon in the spring semester, could reap serious benefits for professors and students alike.

Rising health care costs, academic freedom, the University's professors' election procedures, funds for housing, off-campus residence and the University's role in international service are among the many topics that will be discussed in the coming weeks.

"Getting together 30 or 40 minutes every Monday afternoon to work on these issues is the Senate's way of engaging the entire student body and the University in ongoing discussions," Senate President Fred Andrichik said. "We are trying to maintain a balance among the different interests and the different points of view that we represent."

The Council also heard appeals for money for more class participation in publicizing events during the fall semester, including an open house on October 29.

"We are running the Council a little differently this semester because we have so many new members," Senate Secretary Mike Marshall said. "We are trying to integrate ourselves further with the students."

"It is important for the Senate to set a tone of excitement and enthusiasm throughout the campus," Senate Minority Leader Mike Beiter said.

"It is an ambitious agenda," Senate member Beth O'Shaughnessy said. "The Senate is doing all the work and there is a need for the students to participate in the planning of events."

"We are working with students, the Notre Dame solicitors and the University's solicitors to plan events," Marshall said. "We are in touch with the student affairs, the academic affairs and the University's solicitors to plan events."
Apathy is a constant battle for student leaders

Baron, Shappell aim for a unified voice to bring about significant change at the University

By KATIE PERRY

As candidates during last year's elections, student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell spearheaded a campaign that sought to lessen apathy toward student government — a goal they hoped would create "One Student Voice, Eight Thousand Strong."

But midway through their terms, Baron and Shappell have learned that apathy is hard to combat, and that 8,000 strong might be too lofty of a goal.

The official Baron-Shappell campaign Web site features a photograph of the Notre Dame student section at a home football game. With the arms of thousands raised unanimously to a blue-grey October sky, the campaign slogan is fitting.

"Not only is the student section an impressive sight to behold, it's a force that can bring about a change in the outcome of a football game and also improve student life at this University," Baron and Shappell said in a letter posted on their Web site. "The ability of Student Government to do anything meaningful is nothing more than its ability to unite the entire Student Body in one direction."

Nearly 4,300 votes were cast in the February student government elections, or 52.7 percent of the undergraduate student body. Voter turnout increased in 2005, with 763 more voters than in 2004 and 574 more voters than in the 2003 elections.

"We got a little over 2,100 votes, which means we're only one quarter of the way there to create one student voice that is 8,000 strong," Baron and Shappell said in a post-election Web site statement. "Less than perfect voter turnout — or governmental apathy for that matter — is nothing new."

U.S. Census Bureau records said 64 percent of citizens voted in the 2004 presidential election, a number deemed as high in comparison to previous years. Contrary to other student organizations, Student Union Board (SUB) director Jimmy Flaherty said the group's results are "action oriented," meaning students are more aware of visible successes and improvements.

"You can see our events. You can see us in DeBartolo Quad. You can see us at AcoustiCafe. You can see us throwing concerts," he said. "Students can see the results of what SUB does for them."

Flaherty said SUB is unique from Student Senate and other forms of student government in this regard.

"Senate and other student government organizations increased coverage with U[University President Father John J]enkins' September inauguration[and] our involvement [with] student government a more visible face on campus," she said. "[But] it's still a challenge bridging that gap between student government and the student body. That will take time."

The amendment passed in July by Town's disorderly house ordinance forced students to "stick with one voice" and unify because of eviction fears, Shappell said. Six Notre Dame students received eviction notices from their Turtle Creek apartments in October, instilling both concern and anger in many students.

Although Flaherty said students are closely connected with SUB programmers and staff given the group's nature, he said at times apathy is felt through a lack of appreciation.

"If there's any apathy, it's when [students] don't realize what goes into events," said Flaherty, who lauded students who put in 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. shifts, place catering orders and make 4:30 a.m. "airport runs" to ensure concerts smooth.

Baron said the apparent apathy students have toward government organizations is not necessarily deliberate.

"People in college are busy," he said. "Student government organizations are our thing, but everybody else has their thing, too."

NOTRE DAME

Thumbs Up
♦ To Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell for building relationships with key administrators.
♦ To Baron and senators for standing up for the student body at South Bend Common Council meetings during the summer.
♦ To the Student Senate for its proactive research on a new student center.
♦ To the Student Union Board for bringing big name acts to campus.
♦ To the Campus Life Council for passing a resolution calling for more specific hall staff training sessions regarding non-Catholic ministries.
♦ To student government for its quick response to Hurricane Katrina.
♦ To Blake Jackson. Just because.

Thumbs Down
♦ To Student Government Happy Hour — an ineffective solution to a legitimate apathy problem.
♦ To senators repeating questions multiple times during meetings.
♦ To the Office of the Student Body President for failing to follow through quickly on several key platform positions, specifically a concert endorsement and the Catholic Think Tank Series.
♦ To the Council of Representatives for occasionally demonstrating a lack of interest.
♦ To the Faculty Senate for stalling Senate Minority Affairs committee chair Rhea Boyd's resolution to create a committee examining cultural competency at Notre Dame.

SAINT MARY'S

Thumbs Up
♦ To Saint Mary's student government for effective utilization of the new student center.
♦ To Missions commissioner Jenny Robbins for Theology on Fire.
♦ To Susan McIlviff for increasing commissioners to link students and faculty.
♦ To Women's commissioner Katie Kelly's work to increase sexual assault awareness and improve upon the women's center.
♦ To the Student Diversity Board's aggressive actions to increase diversity awareness.
♦ To student body treasurer Jillian Waters for managing a tight budget.

Thumbs Down
♦ To Saint Mary's student government for advertising through e-mails. The same e-mail is sent several times advertising the same event.
♦ To the Board of Governance for an unplanned cancellation of the traditional Pride Week. Although the administration took responsibility for cancelling the event, BOG failed to provide students with a timely and thorough explanation as to the reasons behind the administration's decisions.
♦ To the Residence Hall Association for failing to schedule dorm events and neglecting to build extra dorm pride.
SAINT MARY'S STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Mitros, Mccllduff lead in time of transition

By MEGAN O'NEIL
In Focus Writer

When student body presi­dent Susan Mccllduff and vice­president Jill Vlasek stepped into office last spring, they came armed with the ideas and tools to lead at an exciting time in the midst of transition.

Mitros and Mccllduff exalted the leadership early, mod­ifying freshman orientation by having Student Government officers and residence advis­ors serve as counselors. Previously, counselors were selected through an application process. Mitros and Mccllduff said the change links student government with new students.

"Since [student government representatives] are present at most events held on cam­pus, this first year has been a big step toward knowing our students and what they want," Mitros said.

Mitros and Mccllduff said. "Our goal is that multiple mentor-mentee relationships will continue to be formed and retention among the Class of 2009 will be higher than in previous years."

The students were committed to a campus-wide effort to improve recruiting nontraditional students and increasing enrollment numbers, an issue that appeared on their campaign platform in January. Last spring they appointed a student representative, Annie Davis, to the vice president for recruitment and management search committee.

The committee eventually hired four new students to fill the position, and he began at Saint Mary's last fall.

Mccllduff herself is a member of Volunteers in Support of College Admission (VISA) and conducts tours and provides overnight visits for prospective students.

It is essential for student government representatives to be involved in the admission process.

Susan Mccllduff Saint Mary's student body president

"It is essential for student government representatives to be involved in the admission process."

The Saint Mary's student government representatives to be involved in the admission process. Mitros and Mccllduff watched another one of their campaign goals - strong student representation to the administration - become reality during the Board of Trustees meetings during fall break. Eleven student government representatives sat on various subcommittees, including the college relations subcommittee and the committee on enrollment management.

Three students hold a vote, including Student Trustee Jill Vlasek, public relations com­ missioneer Alissa Chiefari and alumni commission­mistress Meghan Cassidy. The previous year there were eight student representatives and no one held a vote.

Mitros is also playing a role in the hiring of a March administrator in two years at the College. She currently sits with the vice president of academic affairs and dean of faculty search com­ mittee — the body that will eventually choose a successor to White, who announced his resignation in August.

The president and vice president are successfully utilizing and contributing to the physical changes occurring on campus. Their admin­istration office is located in the new student center, and the pair maintains extensive office hours and an open door policy to interact with stu­dents.

Additionally, Mccllduff sits on the new academic building committee, which began meet­ings this summer to pinpoint the needs of the College for a new building scheduled for completion by 2008.

"If I feel like they still really value what I bring to the table," Jill Vlasek

SMC student trustee

Jill Vlasek sits on Student Life and Mission committees, voicing student issues

By JACLYNNE MADDEN
In Focus Writer

Each year, the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees chooses a new student body representative, the vice president and the president of Saint Mary's senior to serve as a Student Trustee. This year, the students chose Jill Vlasek, who sits on the Board of Trustees, Student Life and Mission committees.

As a Student Trustee, Vlasek's primary responsibility is keeping up with the latest student issues and concerns. Her biggest project for fall was preparing for the Student Life com­ mittee's meeting when the Board of Trustees convened in October.

"The main thing collecting information about students' concerns and issues to form areas of focus for the entire year," said Vlasek, who worked closely with Vice President Kellye Mitros and Linda Timm and Student Life committee chair Karen Goodyear in preparation for the meeting.

She said she collects this information primarily through e-mails to the student body.

Vlasek is also expected to complete any follow-up work after Board meetings. Board meetings are held in June, October, February and April, meaning Vlasek will serve as the Student Trustee for two more meetings until a new student Trustee is appointed.

While Vlasek is the only student Trustee, she said she feels accepted by the Board. Vlasek said trustees treat her as another member and attentively listen to her input about the well being of Saint Mary's students.

"I feel like they still really value what I bring to the table," Vlasek said. "In gener­al, the trustees are immensely concerned with the lives of stu­dents. They care and pray very much for us.

For Vlasek, the fact that many universities — Notre Dame included — do not have student trustees is an important indication of the philosophy and mission of Saint Mary's. Vlasek also sees her role as a personal opportunity to grow as a student and take pride in her college.

"My main reason for apply­ing was that I know that this position would be a perfect way to give back and serve the Saint Mary's community. My personal goal has always been to serve Saint Mary's in the best ways I can," Vlasek said. "I am grateful for all that has been given to me here at Saint Mary's and for everything I have learned.

Contact Jaclynne Madden at jmadden@nd.edu
BOG tries to increase its presence on SMC campus

By KELLY MEEHAN
Focus Writer

The Saint Mary’s Board of Governors (BOG) has been actively working on increasing its presence on campus this year in order to better serve the student body and initiate programs that are important to the College community. The Board utilizes its expansive Board connection with College administrators to meet the student body’s needs, and has been successful thus far in this endeavor.

Saint Mary’s BOG members attend a fall meeting. The group has taken a more active role this term in campus concerns like diversity.

Susan Mcllduff has been successful thus far primarily because members have not had to make any compromises similar to last year’s Pride Week T-shirt debacle, which occupied much of the Board’s attention in 2004. She has been very sensitive to the issues of the campus, Mcllduff said. “We have all learned from the past and focused on being inclusive of events that represent the student body.”

Senior Board

If there really is strength in numbers, then the 19-member Board of Governors — the largest in the College’s history — has more potential than ever before.

This year’s Senior Board, led by senior class president Lauren Condon, has already hosted Senior Dads’ Weekend, sponsored soccer and volleyball games and a choir concert and held a dance for the Naval Academy, along with many other activities and fundraisers. Condon and the Senior Board have also introduced the “Senior Incentive,” where seniors who attend one of the Board’s events qualify for a free ticket to the Senior Formal.

Sophomore Board

The Saint Mary’s Sophomore Class Board has quickly learned a technique for success — combining innovation with tradition in its goals and programming.

The 19-member Board, led by sophomore class president Kathy Meehan, has organized multiple community service projects, fundraisers and activities last semester, as well as this year.

During Freshman Orientation, the Board held a bake sale to create the “Incredible-Bids” for $10 dollars to raise money for activities like a pizza night and bible study classes. The sale went very well and the Board quickly ran out of bids.

“One big thing we did this year was to work over the summer to get the Big "March into Sah " program up and running again,” Ferreiras said.

This program matches up first year students with seniors who volunteer to give the new students someone to talk about their first experience at college. This program is deeply rooted in Saint Mary’s tradition.

“It is a tradition from when College President Dr. Peter Meehan was a student here,” said Ferreiras.

This year the Board hosted the Sophomore Formal in downtown South Bend. This was the final event in Sophomore Spirit Week.

“This was our biggest week of the year, other than Parents’ Weekend,” Ferreiras said.

First Year Board

It took a while for the Saint Mary’s First Year Board to get organized, but now the Board’s 15 members have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into planning events to enhance student life for the freshman class.

Led by freshman class president Francesca Johnson and vice president Kayla Rowlingson, the Board worked on several projects this semester, such as the Thanksgiving food drive and the Big Saint Mary’s Classes event put on in conjunction with the Sophomore Board.

However, this biggest project thus far has been planning the Freshman Formal, a themed “Viva Las Vegas” dance held on Jan. 27 in Saint Mary’s Haggart Center.

“The dance is very important,” Board member Lisa Anderson said. “There are going to be blackjacks and roulette tables, as well as a raffle.”

The Board’s current projects include Study Break, a week of Christmas-themed activities during finals week.

Next semester, members hope to sell class apparel, such as sweatshirts and sweatpants for the Class of 2009. Also on the Board’s agenda is an April dance marathon to benefit Riley Children’s Hospital, also sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

“The goal for next semester is pretty much to get through the dance marathon because it is a huge undertaking,” Johnson said.

Molly Lamping
SAB schedules events that appeal to campus

Student Activities Board facilitates numerous activities

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

While the task of planning activities that appeal to an entire student body can be daunting, the Student Activities Board works to overcome the challenge by organizing events to improve the quality of campus life.

Under the direction of SAB president Megan Cahill, SAB committee members work to plan campus-wide events such as the traditional SMC Tostal and Jamaica Shaka, while also introducing new events to the College community.

The annual dance held during freshman orientation attracted a record number of students this year. Cahill said this increase in attendance was due in part to an amazing billboard covering hand that SAB scheduled to perform at the event.

"Myself along with the two cochairmen of Jamaica Shaka, Lassie Callon and Noelle Whitehead, wanted to make the event as successful as possible to give first-years a fun time during this hard week," Cahill said.

This year SAB introduced "Sundays on Sunday," an event that invites students to watch "Desperate Housewives" in Vander Venet Theater while enjoying a free ice cream sundae. The Board also held the annual Twilight Tailgate this year, despite the cancellation of SMC's annual Pride Week. The Tailgate is a picnic on the library quad that was typically part of the Pride Week events.

One traditional event that did not occur this year was the College's co-sponsorship of a Notre Dame football pep rally. Cahill said she was disappointed permanently, and she hopes it will be able to occur again in the future. SMC was unable to co-sponsor a pep rally due to several unannounced reasons, including changes in the rallies' organization, she said.

Cahill said she is very dependant on her committee members to create and plan campus events. "I am really lucky to have an energetic and hardworking board," she said.

Cahill and the Board are looking forward to activities planned for next semester, including the annual SMC Tostal. "We are planning to completely change SMC's diet by bringing in a big-name band," she said. "We will be sharing more about this when the event gets closer."

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeehan01@saintmarys.edu

SMC Student Diversity Board helps awareness

SDB hosts discussions to increase respect for differences

By MARY CONROY
In Focus Writer

Continuing its sixth year with the Student Government Association, the Student Diversity Board (SDB) works to raise awareness and respect for diversity at Saint Mary's.

"The Student Diversity Board was initiated because many students on campus valued the concern that the needs of some of the underrepresented constituencies on the College were not being met," said Terri Johnson, director of Multicultural Affairs. "Those underrepresented groups included non-traditional students, historically underrepresented populations, women with different religious backgrounds, sexual orientation and with disabilities."

SDB member Sarita Fritzler said the board focuses on promoting religious and sexual diversity. "We have events to get students to be more aware of diverse issues on our campus and worldwide," Fritzler said. "The goal of our Board this year is not only to increase awareness of diversity, but also reception of it."

The SDB started off the year with a successful bonfire, where many students gathered to welcome and celebrate the diverse groups present on campus. Several groups displayed a variety of ethnic performances, including Irish Dance and Salsa Dance. The SDB also offered many different ethnic foods for its guests, and one of the group's most successful events began this fall and will continue next semester. A series of S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks, led by members of the Board, have drawn a large crowd of students.

"The most successful event this year so far was the first of our S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks," Fritzler said. "This one discussed how you approach those different from you. It was an event that has been the most successful in terms of increasing awareness. Board members said they were satisfied with their successes so far and hope to continue to reach their goals.

"The diversity conversations on campus have definitely deepened because of the Student Diversity Board," Johnson said. "The Diversity Forums have strengthened the dialogue for students, faculty and staff inside and outside of the classroom."

Contact Mary Conroy at mconroy01@saintmarys.edu

SA works to narrow student-professor gap

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

While students and professors may not always see eye to eye, the Saint Mary's Student Academic Council works to bridge that gap by increasing communication between academic departments and student representatives.

One student from each of the College's 24 academic departments is chosen through an application process to serve as a member of Council for the duration of the school year.

"The diversity conversations on campus draws a large crowd of students. Talks, led by members of the Board, have increased awareness and respect for differences."

One of the event's most successful events was the first of our S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks," Fritzler said. "This one discussed how you approach those different from you. It was an event that has been the most successful in terms of increasing awareness. Board members said they were satisfied with their successes so far and hope to continue to reach their goals."

"The diversity conversations on campus have definitely deepened because of the Student Diversity Board," Johnson said. "The Diversity Forums have strengthened the dialogue for students, faculty and staff inside and outside of the classroom."

Contact Mary Conroy at mconroy01@saintmarys.edu

Hall Association meets its first semester goals

RHA walks with SMC security to assess safety

By SARAH VOSS
In Focus Writer

The Residence Hall Association (RHA), which oversees Saint Mary's residence halls and plans school-wide events, accomplished many of its goals first semester.

Members of the Association met on walks with SMC security director Dave Chapman to address spots on campus that felt unsafe or "needed more lighting," RHA president Jackie Wright said. They also wrote thank-you cards to the security personnel on campus, such as the security director and hall directors.

Other events sponsored by RHA this year include a Breast Cancer Awareness candle lighting in the Student Center, Sundays with College President Carol Mooney in each of the residence halls, staff trick-or-treating in the residence halls, Holy Cross Hall's Haunted Tunnels and other service projects.

The 12 Days of Christmas Campaign is currently working to cultivate Christmas and giving spirit throughout the College community through monetary donations, support and volunteering.

Currently, RHA is planning the SMC Formal, Little Sihs Weekend and a new program called Dance Marathon sponsored by RHA and First-Year Board.

The RHA is made up of a president, vice president, eight hall council representatives, a representative from senior housing and two advisor representatives. All of the underrepresented constituencies on the College are represented in the council, she said.

Committee members include a secretary, treasurer, social director, National Communication Coordinator, two health awareness chairs, two residence directors, two SMC Formal chairs, two Little Sihs chairs, two Resident Advisor representatives and one RHA historian who documents RHA events throughout the year.

Contact Sarah Voss at svoss01@saintmarys.edu

IN FOCUS
Monday, December 12, 2005

In Focus Writer

The Observer
Taking action

Top left, student body president Dave Baron speaks at the inauguration of University President Father John Jenkins. Top right, Vince Vaughn performs at Stepan Center. Center left, Baron and student body vice president Lizi Shappell embrace. Center right, candidates prepare for runoff election debates. Bottom left, a SMC student dons a T-shirt from the inauguration of College President Carol Mooney. Bottom center, students participate in the Katrina Collection. Bottom right, Shappell joins Jenkins on stage.