Campus groups petition for academic freedom

United for Free Speech and AllianceND seek signatures during opening day of film event

By MADDE HANNA
Associate News Editor

Members of United for Free Speech and AllianceND took their campaign for academic freedom to the next level Thursday — the first day of "Gay and Lesbian Film: Filmmakers, Narratives and Spectacle" — by staging two larger-scale events to collect petition signatures and heighten awareness of their cause.

The petitions, addressed to University President Father John Jenkins in support of academic freedom, were presented to students Thursday by 9:30 a.m. in classes in DeBartolo Hall and spectators entering the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on the opening night of the third annual event formerly known as the Queer Film Festival.

"The freedom to read, study, perform, write and speak on issues of controversy, insofar as such action is carried on peacefully and without libel, is a crucial component in the intellectual and spiritual mission of the University of Notre Dame," reads the petition to Jenkins. "We most strongly encourage you to respect freedom of speech by allowing pursuits such as "The Vagina Monologues" and the Queer Film Festival to be performed in an unrestricted fashion."

Senior Kaillyn Bedfield, one of the leaders of United for Free Speech and an organizer of the "Monologues," said the group has been circulating petitions for two weeks, starting immediately after Jenkins delivered his Spring Campus Address on academic freedom and Catholic character.

They have close to 2,000 signatures during opening day of film event.

Candidates clash in general debate

Student body tickets face off at LaFortune

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The five pairs of candidates for Notre Dame student body president and vice president squared off in debates Thursday night in the LaFortune Student Center, focusing on student life, academic freedom and community relations as well as fielding student-generated questions.

Freshmen Ryan Black and sophomore Cassie Quaglia are running for RHA president and vice president, respectively. Junior Amy Dardinger and senior Curtis Leighton outside DeBartolo Hall Thursday.

Event combines the silly with the serious

Student government elections: an array of fake smiles, mud-slinging and sarcasm during this sickeningly sweet time of year I always look forward to, if only for the entertainment.

Amanda Michaels
Assistant News Editor

"I think diversity is important," said Hodges. "It's a shame everyone didn't watch the debate, because how they carry themselves and present their ideas there is indicative of what kind of leaders they will be, and people often look forward to them, if I could do."

"...I guess you reach a point in your life when you feel you have something different to contribute and I've always thought that if I went into academia, Notre Dame was the place I'd want to go to."

Wycliff selected for post

Renowned editor named spokesman

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Writer

Chicago Tribune public editor and Notre Dame graduate Don Wycliff has been appointed associate vice president for news and information at Notre Dame, becoming the second consecutive University spokesman to take the post following a high-profile journalistic career.

Wycliff will succeed former Boston Globe editor Mat Mearns, who left the administrative post in January to focus on teaching journalism at Notre Dame. Wycliff will serve as Notre Dame's chief spokesman to the news media, as a consultant to the University administration on issues of public image and work alongside Vice President for Public Affairs and Communication Hilary Cravokaich in shaping Notre Dame's message, University officials said Thursday.

"I think diversity is important because it's an asset to any campus or organization," Wycliff said. "And I want to foster that at Saint Mary's by bringing back the powerful women of color to speak as examples."

Marketing SDB to the Saint

By CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

TICKETS/Page 6

Unopposed SMC pairs detail plans for auxiliary roles

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

Board of Governance (BOG) Elections Commissioner Danielle Lerner directed pre-formatted questions to presidential and vice presidential candidates for the Residence Hall Association (RHA) and Student Diversity Board at "Meet the Candidates" Thursday night in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Room.

Senior Ryan Reed, left, signs an academic freedom petition offered by senior Curtis Loight outside the DeBartolo Hall Thursday.

Claire Kelley/The Observer

Junior Angeline Johnson and sophomore Kimberly Hodges are running for SDB president and vice president, respectively. Junior Amy Darlinge and sophomore Cassie Quaglia are running for RHA president and vice president, respectively. Both tickets are unopposed.

The Saint Mary's Student Government Constitution says the SDB president is "responsible for fostering diversity of every woman on Saint Mary's campus by upholding the mission of [SDB], as well as chairing the [SDB] meetings and all operations and presenting regular reports to BOG. The vice president is charged with similar duties but does not report to [BOG]."

Johnson and Hodges said they plan to continue the diversity improvements made by SDB this year at Saint Mary's.

"I think we can further develop projects that have begun this year," Johnson said.

Johnson cited the example of the Diversity Student Leadership Conference as an event that the two hope to improve and strengthen if they are elected. Hodges felt she and her running mate's experiences this year as members of SDB would benefit their productivity as president and vice president.

Johnson and Hodges' platform includes plans to create a program that would invite prospective Saint Mary's African-American alumni to campus to speak to students.

"I think diversity is important because it's an asset to any campus or organization," Johnson said. "And I want to foster that at Saint Mary's by bringing back the powerful women of color to speak as examples."

Marketing SDB to the Saint

see TICKETS/Page 3
INSIDE COLUMN

Where's the eight ounce yogurt?

With all the campaign promises and reforms and controversies swirling around the school, one major University problem has been blatantly overlooked.

The yogurt cup.

In the past few weeks, the Grab-'n-Go on campus have cut back, replacing the 8 oz. yogurt cups that had become a staple in my on-the-run lunches with a 6 oz. variety, while still registering them as two items. Why is this a problem?

Cynics may say I'm upset because I love food, that, given the choice between going to a movie with fetch Hal McAdams or eating a free delicious steak, I'd red light foods to get to Outback. Fair enough.

But what it comes down to is a question of principle. What would happen if we had 25 percent of all aspects of our student life taken away?

What if the University sent lumberjacks to each dorm, armed with a chainsaw and instructed to log off exactly 22 inches from the 88-inch twin extra-long? What if, realizing that rooms didn't have to be so big and accommodating the various student arrangements, the powers-that-be moved each wall forward three feet and created storage alleys for each residence hall?

I, for one, my legs dangling night after night from the top of my loft, would write mean things in the slowly drying concrete and walk around saying worse, the growing night from the top of my loft, would write mean things in the slowly drying concrete and walk around saying worse, the growing

I get a little grouchy when my stomach's empty.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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QUESTION OF THE DAY: DO YOU THINK THE "GRAY FINE BY ME" FSHEETS ARE STILL EFFECTIVE ON CAMPUS?

I think they've become common and don't inspire discussion anymore.

I think they're still effective, it needed to be, but they're still noticed.

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in the fall semester.

The Inside Stein Project: Redefining Feminism, a two-day conference on violence against women, will take place from 12 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday in McKenna Hall.

The Notre Dame Symphony will present its winter concert at 8 p.m. Saturday in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. It will feature two student soloists — winners of the ND Concerto Competition on the Beethoven Violin Concerto and Schumann Piano concerto. Tickets are $3 online. They can also be purchased through the box office at 1-2800.

The Notre Dame men's tennis team will take on Wake Forest University at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Handbell and Celebration Choirs are presenting their annual joint concert of sacred music at 8 p.m. Sunday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Admission is free.

The Notre Dame men's basketball team will take on University South Florida at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Joyce Center Arena.

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

OFFBEAT

Olympic team still waiting for luggage

MADRID — The Spanish Winter Olympic team have got off to an unfortunate start to the Games with several members of the 31-strong squad still waiting for their luggage to turn up after arriving in Turin Monday.

Competitors were left without skiis, snowboards and cases after their luggage was lost on departure from the newly opened terminal at Madrid's Barajas airport, Spanish media reported on Thursday.

"Things haven't started well for reasons that have nothing to do with the competition," the head of the Spanish Olympic Committee, Alejandro Blanco was quoted as saying by sports daily Marca.

"It's said that we are arguing about something like this before the Games ... They are looking for the luggage in Madrid.

Ban rock concerts and football games

DES MOINES, Iowa — An Iowa sheriff's department has decided to ban rock concerts, football games and any large public gathering in order to maintain "order." The department was reporting on Thursday.

"The guy that's carrying 50 bales of marijuana ... that's a different animal," Pulkrabek said, adding he favored rounding up intoxicated people in a locked "detox center" in lieu of the crowd-sed jail.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Freshmen Ryan McCune, left, and Tim Szewczyk provided musical entertainment as they engaged in the student government debate Monday in LaFortune. McCune and Szewczyk are running for student body president and vice president, respectively.

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Some business students must complete 150 credit hours to meet CPA test requirement

By KATHY MCDONNELL
New Waverly
Notre Dame accounting majors might only be required 126 credit hours to graduate, but many business students are packing their schedules to meet the 150 hours necessary to attain CPA (Certified Public Accountant) test eligibility.

With bachelor's and masters programs ranked third and fourth nationally according to the recent U.S. News and World Report — Notre Dame has one of the most accounting programs in the nation. It's currently the sixth most popular major on campus. "There are many students who are aware of the benefits of a degree from such a prestigious school," Professor O'Brien said.

But while discerning options in business, undergraduate must keep in mind legislature requiring 150 hours of class time before attaining CPA test eligibility in most states. Seniors are especially concerned with squeezing in the class time to meet this tough requirement.

"The professors do a great job of making you see all aspects of the worksheet, from the minute calculations to the broad concepts," said Jordan Bongiovanni. "I think we just take it for granted because it is with the caliber of Notre Dame, but when you listen to accounting majors at other universities and their requirements, you are in for a very tough deal with our program."

Some accounting majors who have had to pack tough schedules choose to stay at Notre Dame and enroll in the one-year MBA program. Those students both complete all 150 hours and enter the workforce with a master's degree.

"As for the option of a fifth year, O'Brien said some of these seniors certainly helps prepare for as a student, but it's not a good deal for our program," he said.

"An extra year of studies will expose the student to additional coursework. It's a good investment for students, and at least at Notre Dame, one more year of college football," he said.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonnell@nd.edu.

Tickets continued from page 1
Mary's student body is another campaign goal. Johnson and Hodges want more students to be involved on the Board so that more voices can be heard.

"The vice-president is the only person who is going to be a leader in the student body," said Cassie Quaglia, RHA vice presidential candidate.

During their last semester at school, seniors must pass the national CPA (Certified Public Accountant) test to graduate. The CPA test is required for all accounting majors, from the minute they learn the first accounting course.

"It is very important to find a balance between a teacher and being a college student," Van Meter said.

"Despite the fact that these seniors may work so many hours, and are living out their final college year, they are the typical class room setting, they are organizing the professional work, it is still hard sometimes to hear classmates talk about exciting nights and whatnot," she said. "It is very easy for me to make sure that I get enough sleep. So I leave going out for the weekends."
Wycliff continued from page 1

University's offer Jan. 27 after a series of meetings last fall with Notre Dame officials — including University President Father John Jenkins — during which Wycliff emerged as "the clear front-runner" for the post, Crnkovich said.

"He [is] such an enlightened man, so passionate in his understanding and his love of this University and its mission, and so articulate in his ability to help capture and convey the story that Notre Dame asks him to say," Crnkovich said Thursday. "Once I had an opportunity to spend time with him in thoughtful ways, I recognized, across so many different levels, I would say, that we then moved on to a discussion of where the University was headed, and what we wanted to achieve, and how we would add value to that equation.

"It's very important that our leadership is compatible with his leadership," Wycliff informed Tribune editor Ann Marie Lipinski about these discussions in early December so the newspaper would not be blindsided," he said Thursday.

"She was very sympathetic and open-minded, as the impulse is coming from," Wycliff said, adding that while Lipinski indicated the Tribune would hire another public editor in his place, "the Tribune is in a different place so and any potential candidates are unclear at this point.

"I hope someone comes in to take the place I leave," said Wycliff, who is returning to other duties at several other top national newspapers, including the New York Times — did not have a contracted expiration date for his term as public editor. He has served in that post for the Tribune since 2001, after being editor-page editor from 1991 to 2000.

An October phone call from Steve Sack first alerted Wycliff to the news and information position, Wycliff said. Notre Dame was one step ahead of him.

"Don has been on the University's radar as just an extraordinary fit as an individual, in my opinion," said Shappell. Crnkovich said. "I consulted with a number of different people as to who could fill Matt Storin's shoes ... and when I sought advice and counsel, [Wycliff]'s name was the one that was reiterated over and over again.

Wycliff has remained engaged with Notre Dame throughout his journalism career, serving on advisory committees for both the College of Arts and Letters and the Gallivan Program for Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. Wycliff has also been a Gallivan Media Criticisms course during the spring semes-

"It's certainly been an active alum, so the time it will take to ramp up (to the Notre Dame position) will be fairly short," Storin said Thursday. "I think in addition to being smarter, more congenial and handsomer than I am, he brings some of the same things to the office, including a knowledge of Notre Dame ... I jokingly say, 'I may be able to play a nice guy on TV, but he's really a nice guy.'"

Staying loyal to the demands of the public editor — the Tribune's reader representative, responsible for responding to their inquiries and often fiery comments — served as a kind of arcanum for fielding questions as University spokesman, Wycliff said.

"People saw an investment in Notre Dame, and that's very different in a newspaper — people feel entitled to have, as well as the rest of our community, improved diversity services — stay the same year after year, and a good idea gets attention no matter what," Brown said.

The candidates themselves and the style of diplomacy they bring to office are what determines how much gets accomplished. Campaign promises get handed down from administration to administration until one of them is strong enough to actually make a dent in the student government's to do list. I give no mud to the newer wells of Wells-Chamberlain and Black-Martinez and send them on their way. It takes a lot of guts for "GUTS," if you're the McTume-Szewczak joke ticket to put yourself out there and run for election, but the leader of the student body should have more than a semester or three under his or her belt.

On the subject of maturity, the Loynez-Crnlshak ticket might want to be careful about how they present themselves, for their actions should reflect their ideas. In the end, their platform is empty and meaningless withoutately the University's student government and slang a few handfuls of most directly at fel-

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Contact Claire Heininger at
cheining@nd.edu

Debate continued from page 1

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Deadly violence occurs on holy day

HANGU — They were slapping their headdresses, walling and whipping their backs with chains when the religious ceremony for Shiite Muslims came to a bloody, chaotic end in northern Pakistan.

A suicide bomb tore through the crowd of hundreds as they walked through a bazaar Thursday in the town of Hangu, killing worshippers and sparking a riot that resulted in more deaths. Twenty-seven people died and more than 50 were wounded, authorities said.

After the bombing, which appeared to be a sectarian attack, security forces battled enraged worshippers who torched shops and cars and took up positions on hills overlooking the town, where the sound of gunfire echoed through the smoky streets.

Sudan and Chad sign peace deal

TRIBUNE — The leaders of Sudan and Chad have signed a peace agreement to end increasing tension over Sudan's Darfur region, pledging to normalize diplomatic relations and deny refuge to each other's rebel groups.

Sudanese President Omar el-Bashir and Chad's President Idriss Deby signed late Wednesday, after a day of talks hosted by Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, "to immediately commit themselves to work to prevent the presence of rebels on each other territory," Libya's Al-hamriya news agency reported.

The agreement was welcomed by the African Union and Washington. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said the deal "is essential to the war on terrorism." It was signed in Tripoli the same day the Bush administration announced plans to extend the Patriot Act.

WASHINGTON — Under pressure from spying-­worried Americans, President Bush said Thursday that spy work strengthened by the U.S. led attacks on Asia helped thwart terrorist plots to use shoe bombs to hijack an airliner and crash it into the tallest skyscrapers on the West Coast.

"To break the combined efforts of several countries to break up this plot," Bush said later Thursday, "we stopped a catastrophic attack on our homeland..."

Some information about the failed attack was disclosed last year, but Bush offered more details. He did not say whether information about the West Coast plot was collected by his administration's program to monitor — without court warrants — some calls to the U.S. from terrorist suspects overseas.

The U.S. White House said that issue was not the point of the speech, but the president and his adviser have been discreetly defending the legality of the program, which has been questioned by both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

After weeks of insisting that divulging details of the monitoring program would hinder intelligence gathering, the White House relented Wednesday and began briefing some additional lawmakers.

The president's month-­long campaign to convince Americans the government's eavesdropping program is essential to the war on terrorism appears to be making an impact.

In a recent poll, 48 percent now support wire-­tapping, according to USA Today-­Pew poll, up from 42 percent last month. Half say the administration should have gotten a warrant, down from 56 percent. Men in particular have come around to Bush's view over the last month, the poll suggested.

And on Capitol Hill Thursday, four Senate Republican holdouts reached agreement on similar changes in the Patriot Act, hoping to clear the way for its renewal of anti-­terror legislation that Bush says is essential in the fight against terrorists.

In his speech, at the National Guard Memorial Building, Bush said Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the reputed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, began planning the West Coast operation in October 2001. He said Mohammed's key planners was a man known as Hamabi, the alleged operations chief of the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah, which is affiliated with al-Qaida.

"Rather than use Arab hijackers as he had on Sept. 11, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed sought out young men from Southeast Asia, whom he believed would not arouse as much suspicion," Bush said.

As the plot was described, the hijackers were to use shoe bombs to blow open the cockpit door of a commercial jetliner, take control of the plane and crash it into the Library Tower in Los Angeles, a 73-story building since renamed the U.S. Bank Tower. In his remarks, Bush inadvertent-­ly referred to the site as "Liberty Tower."

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IRAQ

Hostage journalist pleads for help

BAGHDAD — Kidnapped American journalist Jill Carroll appeared in a video aired Thursday on a private Islamic TV station, appealing for her supporter­s to do whatever it takes to win her release, saying "as quickly as possible."

"Jill, talk­ing in a calm, com­posed voice and wearing traditional Arab attire, said the date was Feb. 2. Shortly after she was seized in Baghdad by armed men who killed her Iraqi translator, she was shown sitting in a chair in front of a wall with a large floral design."

The 28-year-old freelance reporter for The Christian Science Monitor said she had sent one letter and was sending another to "prove I am with the mujahedeen." "I sent you a letter written by my hand, but you wanted more evi­dence," she said. "I am here. I am fine. Please do just whatever they want, give them whatever they want as quickly as possible. There is very short time. Please do it fast. That's all."

The U.S. Bank Tower is shown Thursday after President Bush said the U.S.-led global war on terror foiled purported terrorist plans.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Under Fire for wiretapping Americans, President Bush said Thursday that spy work strengthened by the U.S. led attacks on Asia helped thwart terrorist plots to use shoe bombs to hijack an airliner and crash it into the tallest skyscrapers on the West Coast.

"To break the combined efforts of several countries to break up this plot," Bush said later Thursday, "we stopped a catastrophic attack on our homeland..."

Some information about the failed attack was disclosed last year, but Bush offered more details. He did not say whether information about the West Coast plot was collected by his administration's program to monitor — without court warrants — some calls to the U.S. from terrorist suspects overseas.

The U.S. White House said that issue was not the point of the speech, but the president and his adviser have been discreetly defending the legality of the program, which has been questioned by both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

After weeks of insisting that divulging details of the monitoring program would hinder intelligence gathering, the White House relented Wednesday and began briefing some additional lawmakers.

The president's month-long campaign to convince Americans the government's eavesdropping program is essential to the war on terrorism appears to be making an impact.

In a recent poll, 48 percent now support wire-tapping, according to USA Today-Pew poll, up from 42 percent last month. Half say the administration should have gotten a warrant, down from 56 percent. Men in particular have come around to Bush's view over the last month, the poll suggested.

And on Capitol Hill Thursday, four Senate Republican holdouts reached agreement on similar changes in the Patriot Act, hoping to clear the way for its renewal of anti-terror legislation that Bush says is essential in the fight against terrorists.

In his speech, at the National Guard Memorial Building, Bush said Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the reputed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, began planning the West Coast operation in October 2001. He said Mohammed's key planners was a man known as Hamabi, the alleged operations chief of the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah, which is affiliated with al-Qaida.

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Petitions
continued from page 1
should have the right to define students' rights to academic freedom everywhere, the impor-

tance of students taking a lead role, and that our uni-

versity is required to value both sides of the debate.

"The majority of students took the handout and kept it. Some of the students have disagreed with the infor-
mation in the literature, so they have not been collected in this project," Redfield said. "We cannot sustain our academic repu-
tation by allowing students to violate our mission.
Instead, we will only sustain it by critically engaging every intellectual, spiritual and ideological viewpoint in the Notre Dame family.
"Intolerance is not a problem at Notre Dame," Anna Gomberg, a third-year student and graduate coordinator of the Notre Dame Gay and Lesbian Film series, said her group had come together with United for Free Speech in support of the Gay and Lesbian Film series - a unity that is "absolutely essential to furthering our cause.

"I am really, really inspired by the way United for Free Speech and everybody around us has put together this real community of people in this academic freedom debate. "We think that it's a pretty visible way of saying that if we have one place on the first day of the Gay and Lesbian Film series, who are the people that are going to support this because we have a "right" to see them.

"I don't think really controversial
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"I think there should be compromise," Spencer said. "It is really, really important, after all, a Catholic university.

[Continued from page 1]

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MARKET Recap

B Z E S T R A T E G Y

Dow Jones

10,883.35 +24.73

Upp: Same: Down: Composite Volume: Average: 
1,091 1,386 1,670 2,422,920,200

AMEX
1,831.05 +14.64

NASDAQ
3,107.99 -5.72

NYSE
7,008.17 +28.26

S&P 500
1,263.78 -1.87

NIKKEI(Tokyo)
16,430.94 -8.73

FTSE 100(London)
5,808.70 +83.60

COMPANY IS | CHANGE | SHARE PRICE |
CISCO SY S (CSCO) | +0.77 | +0.15 | 19.55 |
ORACLE CORP (ORCL) | +0.95 | +0.12 | 12.69 |
INTL OP (INTC) | +1.60 | +0.33 | 31.00 |
NASAQ (10 7, QQQ) | +0.75 | -0.09 | 40.71 |
SIKU SATELLITE R (SR) | +0.80 | -0.18 | 5.80 |

Treasures

10-YEAR NOTE
-1.10 -0.54 45.41
13-WEEK BILL
-0.11 -0.05 43.97
30-YEAR BOND
-0.81 -0.38 46.43
5-YEAR NOTE
-0.22 -0.10 45.41

Commodities

FLAT CRUDE (B/JM) | +0.07 | 42.62 |
GOLD ($/troy oz.) | +14.30 | 568.10 |
POW R BILLS (emp) | +0.13 | 77.55 |

IN BRIEF

Average for jobless claims decreases
WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits was up by just 4,000 last week, putting the weekly average over the past month at the lowest level in nearly six years.
Analysts said the big improvement in claims in recent weeks was apparently not a fluke but an indication that the labor market has improved significantly.
The Labor Department reported Thursday that 277,000 persons went to state unemployment offices last week to make applications for jobless benefits, down by 1,600 from the previous week.
That was below the gain of 12,000 that economists had been expecting and provided further evidence that the labor market has strengthened significantly in recent weeks.
Companies demonstrate how to cope
PHOENIX — Despite powerful search engines, the vast and rising sea of information on the Internet often makes users feel like they're stuck alone in a rowboat when it comes to fishing out exactly what they need.
Even after someone finds an answer, the next person with the same question must start all over again. Sometimes, information is locked away inside a photo or other media file that's largely inaccessible to search engines that scour the Internet for text.
The problem with corollary results from today's search engines was a major theme at this week's DEMO tech conference, where nearly all the companies were given six minutes each to show off their up-and-coming products.
There's a belief that whatever it is I'm looking for is out there, but I have a really different time finding it," said Chris Shipley, executive producer of the elite show. "Search algorithms alone are falling short in being able to provide real context around information."

FRANK DI GIACOMO, a transmission technician at General Motors, is shown working after GM announced plans that will cause pay cuts for workers.

GM's plans lack magnitude
Autoliner struggles to cope with expensive employee benefits, Asian competition

NEW YORK — General Motors Corp. made some tough decisions this week. Unfortunately, the automaker's mess requires tougher moves and a jot of imagination.
The numbers speak for themselves. The future cash savings from a dividend cut, a reduction in white-collar benefits and a cut in executive pay — totaling less than $800 million a year — merely skirt the problems facing a company that reported a net loss of $8.6 billion in 2005.
The issues, like two invisible monster trucks in the room, are more than a quarter million workers with hugely expensive benefits and a management team that hasn't figured out how to design and build cars as well as those from Asian rivals that consumers are buying. You can't fix problems like these with financial nips and tucks.
It's logical to expect investors and the small fraction of GM workers affected by the company's last plans to share the pain. But in all fairness to the union workers who ultimately will be forced to endure the worst, the reductions in the dividend, executive pay and white-collar benefits for white collar employees don't go far enough, particularly if management hoped to make a point.
Since GM is looking to shed a 51 percent stake in its highly profitable financing arm, General Motors Acceptance Corp., it's easy to argue that the dividend should have been eliminated rather than halved. GMAC contributed $2.5 billion in cash to GM last year, and GM's potential dividends would cut future cash flow in half, while GM dividend cut totaled just $565 million.
Likewise, since the intent is so obviously symbolic, management could have made a far stronger statement by giving up all salary and agreeing to a bonus arrangement that only rewards a successful turn-around.
Instead, the plan includes an assortment of pay cuts at odd-sounding increments: a 50 percent reduction for the chief executive and board members, 30 percent for vice chairmen and 10 percent for the general counsel. To their credit, there will be no bonuses for last year's dismal performance, and no pledges were made on that score for 2006.
The United Auto Workers union dismissed GM's moves as unworthy of new concessions, suggesting the upcoming contract brawl will be even more venomous. That's troubling, given that GM lost nearly $1,000 per vehicle in a year when it sold more than over the previous year. With Toyota Motor Corp. making roughly $1,500 per car, GM obviously is spending too much to make a less exciting product.
The unavoidable fact is that GM's unionized workers enjoy a level of pay, health insurance and pension benefits that can't be sustained. And then there's the jobs bank, a singularly unique entitlement program that pays laid-off workers most of their salaries for an extended period.
Peter Morici, an economist at the University of Maryland, estimates that to make money, GM's hourly cost per employee needs to be nearly halved to about $40 — a number he derives from the steel industry, a business that's been dragged kicking and screaming into a new era of profitability. Some may dispute his math, but it's clear that more than incremental change is required.
The union argues that such a reduction would amount to a huge broken promise that would leave many of its members in dire straits. True enough, GM hasn't lived up to its word, but the union also bears responsibility for playing hard-enough ball to extract such extravagant promises.
Random thoughts on a winter's day

Why can't people be more like our feathered friends? As I sit here writing this article it is about 19 degrees outside and my knee hurts due to a recent incident involving me and a rodent (a type of ice). I am wondering if I don't deserve to be South Bend Central. I think the birds are more accomplished at this thing — we should all head south during the winters. I am not just talking about a six day jaunt in March. Several months of this kind of weather would be ideal; besides, who doesn't look better with a little tan?

Currently in the Chicago Arch Diocese there are several priests being tried for alleged pedophilia. One of these men, Fr. Daniel McCormack, decided to wear his Notre Dame sweatshirt to court. That's really great press. Exactly the kind of image Notre Dame should be showing the world — maybe someone should think about sending Saddam one for his trial too.

The opening ceremony for the Olympics is tonight. This is probably exciting because I actually prefer the Winter Olympics to the Summer. With the exception of figure skating and ice dancing, it seems to me that most of the athletes in the winter games are more rugged and tough than the dunes and gymnasts. That said, any event where you can listen to your iPod while competing or where a bunion is an essential part of your equipment is not a real sport in my book.

I bet John Wayne is rolling over in his grave. The Duke would be mortified to hear that people are flocking to theaters to see a movie about two fighting cowboys. Honestly, in spite of some John Wayne's movies he didn't even have time for romancing women, let alone men. If he were alive today to see this he would be about 98 and so there isn't a lot he would be able to do, but I bet he would be happy seeing the Norris to go roundhouse kick the ice in the face (can someone explain this recent phenomenon to me?).

A new project for local government officials. Now that this whole time zone fiasco has been taken care of, I have a new idea that can keep them busy — I think smoking should be banned from South Bend bars. We all know the obvious reason which is the dangers of second hand tobacco smoke, but also the person who is otherwise healthy and does not smoke.

I hate the fact that you cannot go out and have a drink with friends without coming back smelling like ashtray.

Why can't my fellow classmates just take a joke sometimes?

Molly Acker

Observer Poll

Are you planning to attend the Queer Film Festival? 

a. Yes
b. No

c. I don't know

As the president and vice president of the Western Massachusetts Notre Dame Club, my wife and I received an e-mail today from a student representing a group called United for Free Speech (UFS). The email informed us that the UFS group formed "to protest Father Jenkins, recent censurship of student film productions," and directed us to the group's website. I took the opportunity to visit that site today. Putting aside arguments over whether Jenkins, position really constitutes censorship and whether or not the productions in question are immoral, it occurred to me that perhaps the strongest argument in support of Jenkins is the argument that his position promotes true diversity of thought. If not on a campus-wide level, but on a national and even international level.

In UFS's zest to enhance the diversity of thought at Notre Dame by removing all limits on what can be said within the University's facilities, what they actually advocating is that Notre Dame become just like nearly every other academic institution in America. If UFS succeeds, it will have succeeded only in diminishing the diversity of choices available to high school seniors as they decide which environment would be most conducive to their pursuit of the truth. If a student wanted to attend a university where production is allowed, as in "The Vagina Monologues" and student film productions, he would have to attend a Catholic university but not Notre Dame. What is being advocated is that Notre Dame stop exposing its students to a viewpoint or perspective which is nearly extinct in academia and start doing things the way Boston College, Penn State, Indiana University South Bend and countless other institutions are already doing them. That would be a shame, not so much for the alumni and current students of Notre Dame, but for the high school students of America, who would see the diversity of choices available to them significantly narrowed as Notre Dame stopped standing for something and fell in line with the rest.

Emeritt Day

The Observer Poll was taken online through a SampleMirror survey. A total of 688 responses were received.

Sir William Osler
British physician
Contesting academic equivalence: Live your position

Open letter to Father Jenkins

I am exasperated with the recent Viewpoint letters — mainly because I see two sides passionate about an important issue, but, because of the interjective strife on campus, neither side is achieving anything. I would like to propose an alternative. Taking into account the fact that the "Vagina Monologues" have been performed for the past few years and that violence against women persists at a shocking rate, it seems that we must engage in a more effective means of preventing this violence.

For those who want to denounce the ‘typical’ offenses of the Monologues (the stereotypically male, conserva­tive, religious types), consider this: These young men are just the ones violating women. As contrarily, there are probably some of the most chaste men on campus. So, supporters of the "Monologues," lay off these folks and view them as your partners.

And to you, opponents of the "Monologues," consider the group supporting the "Monologues": it is dedicated to demolishing all violence against women.

Dear Father John Jenkins,

In the weeks since your speech on Academic Freedom and Catholic Culture, the campus has been embroiled in debate. Many have offered eloquent and passionate arguments in support of events such as the Queer Film Festival and "The Vagina Monologues." I have been impressed by their articulate responses in The Observer, in dorm discussions and personal talks with friends. I have even started to come to an understanding of what they are arguing against.

I do not think even they entirely understand, however, what it is they’re arguing for.

You see, nobody is arguing that Notre Dame must embrace every academic event, conference or performance that comes its way. I also have not heard anyone argue that "The Vagina Monologues," for example, are not egregiously opposed to Catholic teachings.

What I have heard are many arguments that such events are irreplacable. Again, using "The Vagina Monologues" as an example, sup­porters have argued that performances help heal women, educate the campus about women’s issues and stop domestic violence.

By claiming that "The Vagina Monologues" are the only vehicles through which such heal­ing can take place, its supporters are demand­ing that Notre Dame take a position which has clear theological implications. Let me sketch out the ramifications of their argument as follows:

1) Assuming that the Vagina Monologues are indeed egregiously opposed to Catholic teach­ings, 2) and accepting its supporters’ position that no comparable production, which would include the Catholic perspective, could accomplish the same goals, 3) it follows that Catholic teachings must be ignored for the said goals to be fulfilled. 4) If Catholic teachings must be ignored, this must mean that Catholic beliefs about sexuality are not only insufficient (in which case a performance which united both secular and Catholic viewpoints would suffer), but completely wrong. Still, if the University agrees that "The Vagina Monologues" do indeed have an irreplaceable impact on campus, and therefore allows them to be performed, the implication is that the University believes statement 4 is true.

Can the supporters of "The Vagina Monologues" really ask Notre Dame to make this statement and in doing so, contradict our Catholic Identity? Knowledgeably or not, that is what they are currently asking.

Surely, what Jenkins really means is that on his view academic freedom at Notre Dame protects some but not all of the same things protected at other uni­versities. He mentions the right in pub­lish research and the right to think what we want to think. But to leap from these facts to the claim that academic freedom at Notre Dame is the same as at other universities is a move that will not stand up to the truth, as the simple fact-check­ ing exercise suggested above will reveal.

Fritz Warfield
Sorin House
department of philosophy
Feb. 8

Cable regretted

I lament the University’s decision to install cable in individual dorm rooms. Among other things, I worry what it will do to Notre Dame’s proud residential tradition in the time to come.

Lounges and lobbies, the exclu­sive domain of the campus’ cable television, become places for social bonding. Speaking from experience living in a men’s dorm, any television sports event has the power to draw half a hallway into the lounge for an evening. Even private common rooms where roommates set up satellite­become open­door congregations.

Once all those channels are available in every room, I wonder if that camaraderie will go the way of the Dumont Network (i.e., dis­appear). It’s been too long before my time, but I get the feeling that since the unfathomable age before every room had internet connections, the social atmosphere at Notre Dame has been affected negative­ly. This seems to be another inevitable, albeit convenient, step in that direction.

The news that installation is now expected to go on for as long as six weeks is troublesome for students, like myself, who refuse to own a cell phone — six weeks without my dependable, reliable, above­all audible land­line phone. At least if I want to call home, I have an excuse to drop in on a friend who still has service.

More importantly, what do I do in my own room if I have an emergency? Jenkins’ remarks indicate that he apparently wants to have it both ways: He wants to say that academic freedom at Notre Dame is the same as academic freedom at, for example, Michigan, but he wants the freedom that Michigan aca­dem­ic departments have to sponsor events as they see fit to not attach to Notre Dame academic departments.

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Fritz Warfield
Sorin House
department of philosophy
Feb. 8

Want to be a columnist, copy editor or illustrator for Viewpoint?

E-mail Sarah at Viewpoint.l@nd.edu
SUB PREVIEW

Talented authors highlight festival

Saul Williams, a renowned slam poet, will perform as part of the Notre Dame Literary Festival Tuesday at 7 p.m. Williams was on HBO’s Def Poetry Jam and is the author of four poetry collections.

By GRACE MYERS
Scene Writer

The highly anticipated Notre Dame Literary Festival will occur this upcoming week, starting Feb. 13, bringing together diverse and highly acclaimed writers, novelists, journalists, poets and our most promising student writers.

Laura Fox, the Student Union Board (SUB) Chair for the Literary Festival, worked diligently to gather respected writers that will appeal to everyone on campus. She worked to continue and improve the Festival’s tradition of promoting scholarly and creative study of contemporary literature.

Fox said her main goal is to make this week “about a celebration and love of literature.” This Festival is created for and run by students, offering a unique opportunity for the entire student body to better connect with itself with the literature of this generation.

The 2006 Literary Festival includes readings, discussions and workshops given by authors of very different backgrounds and genres, and is open to all students and faculty members. Fox organized the workshops to be “intimate discussions with the author,” where one can speak with the author about how he or she developed their style and their work.

The opening author will be James Salter, a novelist, short story and prose writer. The Bloombury Review called him, “one of the best writers in this country,” and Publishers Weekly praised his work as “some of the most esteemed fiction of the past three decades.” Salter’s lecture and workshop are co-sponsored by the University of Notre Dame’s English Department and the Creative Writing Program. His writing focuses on human desire in its different forms, with an admirable style noted for its brevity and impressionistic tones.

Salter will be followed by Tasha Alexander, a South Bend native and Notre Dame graduate. She wrote her first work of historical fiction, “And Only To Deceive,” and is now working on a second novel.

The Literary Festival’s Student Night will take place on Feb. 14. One of the highlights of the Festival will be host Kevin Guilfoyle, a Notre Dame graduate published in short humor collec-

A great deal of effort has been put into this year’s Literary Festival, not only by the Student Union Board, but also by the English Department, the Creative Writing Program and the Institute for Latino Studies. Interest in improving literary opportunities seems to be growing around campus with the creation of organizations such as Mustard, an undergraduate creative-writing club, and Notre Dame’s new slam poetry team.

This year’s annual Literary Festival is sure to be a great experience for all. For the complete listing of all activities, times, locations and available workshop sign-ups, visit www.nd.edu/~sub/ndlf.html.

Contact Grace Myers at gmyersl@nd.edu

CACHES

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Election 2006

Friday, February 10, 2006 — THE OBSERVER
Ryan Black

Who They Are
Black is a freshman in Knot Hall who intends to major in English. Martinez is a freshman in Cavanaugh Hall who intends to major in Political Science.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: Their top priority is to improve Notre Dame's community relations with South Bend. They said they can resolve this issue over the next three years they will be at Notre Dame.
- First Priority: Black and Martinez want to implement an athletic mentoring program with the children of the community. They said they have already spoken with athletes who would be willing to start this program.

In Our Words
- Best Idea: Getting more children from the South Bend community involved in a mentoring program with athletes. Although programs are in place, centralizing program is a good idea.
- Worst Idea: Diminishing dances. From their website: "Dances tend to not be a good idea to better Gender Relations. People invite friends of the opposite sex to dances, thus making it difficult to meet other students of the opposite sex."
- Most Feasible Idea: Natural Disaster Relief Committee
- Least Feasible Idea: Tie between After-Parties Lock-In and "Students would be able to redeem unused dining hall meals for friends visiting from out of town."
- Fun Fact: Black is dyslexic and has short term memory disorder, something he said makes him unique at Notre Dame. Martinez went to Japan in eighth grade for two weeks, despite the fact she is not Japanese.
- Notable Quote: "We're trying to attack the greatest issues of the University in a logical way." — Ryan Black

Bottom Line
This freshman duo is inexperienced and unprepared. They have good intentions, and Martinez is a strong leader; however, they are not ready to take the role of representing the Notre Dame student body. Their platform is incomplete, especially in the important realm of community relations. Black and Martinez’s plans for dining hall reform are not feasible, as are some of their plans to improve gender relations. These two do not seem to have a true idea of what they would be getting into if elected, and should use their sophomore years to get more involved in student government.

Jason Laws

Who They Are
Laws is a junior political science and Spanish major who lives in Fisher Hall. Costa is a sophomore in Zahm Hall who is an American Studies major.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: Laws and Costa said they want to join groups on both sides of the debate on academic freedom. They said they want students to have a voice while the issue is resolved.
- First Priority: The first project for the Laws/Costa ticket would be to provide town hall forums around campus to allow students to voice their opinions and to work toward a compromise.

In Our Words
- Best Idea: Town Hall-style meetings around campus in which students would be given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the issue of academic freedom and Catholic character.
- Worst Idea: "Stick it to Jenkins," which would consist of life-size cutouts of the University president sitting around campus that students would stick Post-It notes on to express their concerns.
- Most Feasible Idea: Create an Off-Campus Housing Guidebook
- Least Feasible Idea: Student-only pep rallies on Thursday nights
- Fun Fact: Laws was on the National Champion fencing team and was on MTV's "Next." Costa hosts a show on NDTV called "Office Hours."
- Notable Quote: "This isn't about meet-and-greet or networking — we have a responsibility to represent the students." — Jason Laws

Bottom Line
Both Laws and Costa have strong personalities, and both know how to lead, with Laws serving as his class president for two years and Costa as a program director for Student Union Board. This ticket has run its campaign admirably. Both Laws and Costa have talked to numerous administrators about their proposals and talked to students from all dorms and all athletic teams to get input and help engage students in student government. Their efforts to reduce student apathy should be commended. The resulting platform is polished and ambitious, but not as achievable as Shappell and Andrichik’s platform. Ultimately, the downside of Laws and Costa’s commendable passion is an antagonistic attitude toward administrators that should not be chosen to represent the student body.

BOB COSTA
LIZZI SHAPPELL  president

vice president  BILL ANDRICHIK

Who They Are
Shappell, the current student body vice president, is a Badin Hall resident majoring in political science and peace studies. Andrichik is a junior in Stanford Hall majoring in political science and English.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: Shappell and Andrichik have outlined a comprehensive and realistic agenda to help students not only adjust to off-campus living but also to improve community relations with the city of South Bend.
- First Priority: Shappell and Andrichik want to survey students to determine which items will be added to Grab 'n Go, perhaps including hot food items.
- Least Feasible Idea: College Readership Program
- Best Idea: Community Relations plan. Shappell and Andrichik have outlined a comprehensive and realistic agenda to help students not only adjust to off-campus living but also to improve community relations with the city of South Bend.
- Worst Idea: None
- Most Feasible Idea: Establishing a cafe in the Hesburgh Library
- Fun Fact: Shappell can detect types of mint by smell. Andrichik, although a long-time Wisconsin resident, hates the NFL's Green Bay Packers.

In Our Words
- Fun Facts:
  - Worst Idea:
  - Least Feasible Idea:
  - Best Idea:
  - First Priority:
  - Top Priority:

ERIC WELLS  president

vice president  GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN

Who They Are
Wells is a sophomore psychology major who lives in Pangborn Hall. Chamberlain, a freshman, lives in Seton College and intends to major in political science and psychology.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: To improve multicultural and gender relations by working with the Gender Relations Council and the MSPS in addition to finding a way to educate freshmen about such issues.
- First Priority: To put student government back in the hands of students by creating open forums and giving students more chances to be heard.
- Least Feasible Idea: Soliciting student opinion on academic freedom and Catholic character through straightforward accessible surveys and e-mails.
- Best Idea: Community bikes — bikes around campus designated for general student use.
- Most Feasible Idea: Bringing student government to students by periodically meeting student government meetings to residence halls and by meeting informally with students.
- Fun Fact: If she could, Wells said she would go skydiving everyday for the rest of her life — she's done it twice and has plans to do it again. Chamberlain can drink a gallon of milk in under half-an-hour without immediately throwing up.

Bottom Line
Shappell's experience as the current student body vice president is impossible to top, and Andrichik is an articulate and complementary pickup as her running mate. Their administration could hit the ground running even more quickly than last year's and continue to build on the success Shappell has achieved this year with student body president Dave Baron. The only question mark here is whether Shappell can emerge as the leader of the student body after a year in Baron's shadow, and whether Andrichik, currently the junior class president, can transition smoothly to a higher position. But the pair's experience and professionalism are unmatched.

Notable Quote:
"We're not out there to just be politicians. I think being a leader is different from being a politician." — Erica Wells.

Bottom Line
These two say they aren't politicians and it is obvious why. Wells has never been involved in student government, and despite her involvement in the Gender Relations Center, she is not ready to assume such a leadership role. Chamberlain is impressive for a freshman; however, he too has much to learn. This ticket has some good ideas, including the use of the GRC, however, they haven't investigated the feasibility of a lot of their proposals. This ticket said they only have a few proposals because that is what they think they can accomplish, but the limits they set for themselves are not ones students should want their leaders to impose on their potential.
The Observer endorses Shappell-Andrichik

One year ago at this time, when Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell were running for and winning the positions of Notre Dame's new student body president and vice president, The Observer didn't think they were the best candidates for the job. While Baron was a strong, experienced leader, Shappell lacked his polish and stayed too silent in his shadow. But that changed quickly and dramatically over the last 12 months, as the pair ran a professional, productive administration that led to singular praise from Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman and other administrators who are typically wary of student government — a respectful rapport that allowed Baron and Shappell to strongly represent students at the highest level of the University.

Far from remaining in the background of these relationships, Shappell equally earned their respect as a leader while also emerging as a leader in her own right. Her presidential campaign this year has reinforced this image, showing that, joined by junior class president Bill Andrichik, Shappell can lead the student body.

The Shappell-Andrichik platform addresses the biggest issues facing Notre Dame today — community relations, academic freedom and diversity — proposing necessary and realistic plans of action for each. However, Shappell and Andrichik are not the only qualified, driven candidates in the race.

Jason Laws and Bob Costa form a personal ticket with strong personalities and a unique passion for student government. Stressing they wanted to run for office "the right way," Laws and Costa developed their platform only after seeking input from a multitude of student groups, dorms and athletic teams. This was the right way to go about developing a campaign-getting student opinion before developing ideas that are supposed to benefit students, rather than brainstorming in isolation.

The ticket's desire for transparency in student government is why they plan to paved the way for future student leaders. Laws' honesty is also refreshing — from acknowledging he did a lot of soul-searching before deciding whether to seek to the presidency of saying to run with "I didn't want to be this kid last year when he ran," when he says his campaign is "the agency of this student," he believes. But Laws and Costa lack the relationships they're trying to get.

With — and arguably respect — the key administrators with whom, and through whom, student leaders must work to accomplish their goals, "Stick It to Jenkins," the Law-Costa ticket's plan to convey student opinion on academic freedom, appears to the University president, is an immature approach the student body cannot afford on such a pivotal issue. At a time when students are fighting for their voices to be heard in a crucial debate about Notre Dame's identity, the ticket must be able to trust their president and vice president to convey those voices firmly, also professionally and respectfully, in order to be taken seriously.

Laws and Costa would not be, and students would suffer for it. After the Shappell and Laws ticket, the ticket's significant drop in the quality of experience of candidates. While it is encouraging that an unusually high number of underclassmen demonstrated interest this year in taking leadership roles and improving student life, they lack the background knowledge to succeed in the student body's highest office.

"Stick it to Jenkins" is a disrespectful way to address the student body. Ryan Black and Catherine Martinez, both freshmen, don't know what they're getting themselves into just yet. Martinez showed poise and should certainly become more involved in student government, perhaps to take a top position in a few years, but she is not ready yet. Erica Wells and George Chamberlain prepared to take office either. Their proposals are few and they have not researched their platform thoroughly. Chamberlain, another unusually polished freshman, has potential to do good things for student government, but he needs more experience.

Freshmen Ryan McCune and Tim Szewczyk are mildly entertaining but offer few realistic ideas.

Unlike last year — when there were three standards — the best ticket is obvious. Shappell and Andrichik are familiar with each other's leadership styles and complement each other's strengths.

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Their ticket knows its stand on academic freedom and Catholic character — believing events expressing alternative viewpoints belong at Notre Dame because they challenge and strengthen students' faith — but is willing to listen to the student body's voices to come to the most appropriate resolution to present to the administration.

And the rest of their platform, particularly their plans for community relations, is not only achievable but窒息。But most importantly, because Shappell is already in office, this ticket will be able to start implementing its ideas on students' behalf with virtually no institutional roadblocks. At what could become a turning point for the University, there is not a minute to lose.

Make no mistake — Shappell would not be taking office by default. She has earned it by working extremely hard over the past year to establish productive, respectful relationships with administrators, by defining her own leadership style and by developing a results-oriented platform that she and Andrichik will accomplish.

The student body deserves the best possible student body president and vice president to take the decisive and important step forward. The Observer endorses Lizzi Shappell and Bill Andrichik for the 2006-07 student body president and vice president.
A cowboy deep one day in the 1970s who travels to London in search of his mother and becomes a transvestite.

falling in love with a ballet dancer and scandalizing her Chinese community. The director of "Cachorro," Miguel Albaladejo, will also be in attendance for his film's screening and will be hosting a question and answer session as well. The film tells the story of Pedro, a gay man who unexpectedly must care for his young nephew as the two forge a close bond.

The last film in the festival, "Gay Republicans," follows Log Cabin, the Gay Republican Club, in the intense time leading up to President George W. Bush's election, and reveals the extremely difficult choice gay Republicans were forced to make.

In addition to the screenings and the question and answer sessions, the series is hosting a number of panels featuring prominent professors from Notre Dame. Panel topics include "Making Gay & Lesbian Film" and "Gay & Lesbian Film, Queer Theory & the Academy."

The goal of the panels is to encourage discussion among the Notre Dame community and to provide students and faculty with a forum to express their thoughts and opinions about contemporary gay and lesbian films.

"These films are important because they are very much within the tradition of film scholarship and within the spirit of inclusion at this University, which we feel to be a strong spirit," Laina said.

By looking to these films, students can gain awareness of the diversity in the world and have the opportunity to view films they might not otherwise see. The film series takes a close look at gay and lesbian films and encourages scholarly debate, redefining the perceptions which are associated with this film genre.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

Gay Republicans
Follows Log Cabin, a Gay Republican Club in the time leading up to President George W. Bush’s election and provides an insight into the difficult choices Gay Republicans had to make. The film stars Maurice Bonambo and Terry Hamilton.

Happy Endings follows the tale of 10 different characters who are immersed in a complicated story of love, lust and deceit. The film stars Lisa Kudrow as Maggie Thrall and Bobby Cannavale as Javier.
MODIN SCORES TWO GOALS AS THE LIGHTNING COME FROM BEHIND TO WIN AGAINST DIVISIONAL FOES, THE CAROLINA HURRICANES

BOSTON — Brian Gionta scored his second goal in over-time and Martin Brodeur made 37 saves to lift the New Jersey Devils to a 2-1 victory over the Boston Bruins on Thursday night.

New Jersey snapped a three-game road losing streak when Sergei Brylin circled around the net and connected with a streaking Gionta, who knocked the puck past goalie Tim Thomas while falling to the ice at 2:10 of overtime.

Gionta put the Devils ahead 2-1 with a short-handed goal with 12:04 remaining in the third period, but Wayne Primeau tied the game at 2 for Boston 4:13 later.

Just before Gionta’s goal, P.J. Axelsson missed an opportunity for the Bruins when he fanned on a shot attempt in the crease. The Devils have beaten Boston all three times they’ve played this season and all by one goal.

Glen Murray gave the Bruins a 1-0 lead when he converted a pass from Brad Boyes and scored through the legs of Brodeur at 11:01 of the first period.

Patrick Elias tied the game at 1 after the Devils successfully executed a 3-on-2. Elias one-timed a pass from Scott Gomez into the gam at 4:13 of the second period.

Elias has four points in the last two games and has 21 points in 17 games since returning to the Devils lineup.

Thomas made 31 saves and fell to 9-2-4 for the Bruins. He has allowed two goals or less in 11 of his 14 starts.

The Bruins have allowed ten goals over the last six games.

Montreal 3, Buffalo 2 (OT)

Alex Kovalev scored twice, including the winner 39 seconds into overtime, lifting the Montreal Canadiens to a win over Buffalo on Thursday night.

Radek Bonk had a short-handed goal for the Canadiens, who appeared unfazed by news that goaltender Jose Theodore tested positive for a banned substance. The Canadiens improved to 3-0-3 in their last four while snapping the legs of Brodeur at 11-0-1 of the first period.

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The Bruins have allowed ten goals over the last six games.

The Sabres have given up 12 short-handed goals this season, tied with Washington in the league for the most.

Cristobal Huet stopped 26 shots, improving to 3-1-1 in his last five starts.

Theodore, who wasn’t scheduled to start, watched the game from the bench. Theodore was the center of attention after Canadiens doctor David Mulder announced in Montreal that the goalie tested positive for a banned substance in pre-Olympic testing. Mulder said the test was the result of Theodore taking Propecia, a hair-loss stimulant, which is also considered a masking agent for a performance-enhancing steroid.

Theodore wasn’t chosen to represent Canada at the Olympics but was on the team’s 81-man eligibility list. The test done will affect Theodore’s NHL status.

Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 3

John Grahame came off the bench early in the second period to make 28 saves, and Fredrik Modin had two goals as the Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Carolina Hurricanes on Friday night.

Grahame replaced starter Sean Burke, who allowed three goals on eight shots, after Erik Cole’s goal put the Hurricanes ahead 3-2-4 of the second. Modin grabbed 14 shots in the second, including Cole on a penalty shot at 11:28 of the second.

Modin gave Tampa Bay its first lead, at 4-3, on a rebound goal from the low slot that appeared to hit Carolina defensesmen Aaron Ward with 9:48 left. Ruslan Fedotenko added an empty-net goal in the final minute.

Tampa Bay also got goals from Evgeny Artyukhin and Vicente Prospal. The defending Stanley Cup champions, 9-2-1 over the last 12 games, trail the Southeast Division-leading Hurricanes by 14 points.

Ward, Anton Babchuk and Cole scored for Carolina, which lost for the third time in the last 18 games, The Hurricanes fell to 26-20-0-0 when scoring first.

Ward put Carolina up 1-0 from the top of the right circle 23 seconds into the game, converting a rebound goal, made it 2-0 on a power-play goal at 4:42 of the second.

Artyukhin got the Lightning within 2-1 at 10:45. Tampa Bay tied it at 2 on Modin’s short-handed goal later in the first.

The Hurricanes regained the lead at 3-2 on Carolina’s power play at 6:08 of the second. He raced down the left wing boards, picked up a loose puck and beat Burke from in close.

Atlanta 2, Ottawa 3

Ilya Kovalchuk and Andy Sutton scored power-play goals and Kari Lehtonen made 34 saves, leading the Atlanta Thrashers to a win over the Ottawa Senators on Thursday night.

Kovalchuk tied the game late in the second with his 27th goal, which moved him past French village Ottawa’s Dustin Jeffrey for the NHL points lead.

Marc Savard and Niels Jarl combined to set up both power-play goals for Ottawa, which won for the second time in three game after losing for the third time in the last seven games.

The score was the third in five games between the teams.

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Wayne Gretzky poses with his wife, actress Janet Jones, in 2002. Jones allegedly bet over $100,000 on football games. Wiretaps show that Gretzky tried to keep his wife from being implicated on these charges.

Wiretaps indicate Gretzky tried to cover up

Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Wayne Gretzky was recorded on a wiretap talking to the alleged financier of a gambling ring, discussing how the hockey great's wife could avoid being implicated, a person with knowledge of the investigation told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Gretzky, coach and part-owner of the Phoenix Coyotes, can be heard on wiretaps made within the past month talking about his wife with assistant coach Rick Tocchet, the

person said, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing. Gretzky's wife, actress Janet Jones, allegedly bet at least $100,000 on football games over the course of the investigation by state authorities, the person said.

There is no evidence that Gretzky placed any bets, according to the person.

Authorities say from Dec. 29 through Feb. 5 — the day of the Super Bowl — losers plowed a total of $1.7 million in wagers with the ring run by a New Jersey state trooper, Tocchet and a South Jersey man.

Investigators say about a half-dozen current NHL players bet with the ring and are looking into whether anyone involved in the 5-year-old operation, which authorities say had a connection to organized crime in Philadelphia and southern New Jersey, wagered on NHL games, Gretzky is not the main focus of the probe, the person said.

The Star-Ledger of Newark, citing unidentified law enforcement sources, first reported of a wiretap involving Gretzky in Thursday's newspapers. The newspaper also reported that Jones bet $500,000 during the investigation, including $75,000 on the Super Bowl.

Earlier in the week, Gretzky denied any involvement in the ring.

"My love for her (Jones) is deeper than anything," the person said. "The reality is, I'm not involved. I wasn't involved and I'm not going to be involved. Am I concerned for both of them? Sure there's concern from me. I'm more worried about them than me. I'm like you guys, trying to figure it all out," Gretzky said Tuesday.

IN BRIEF

Skiers suspended for excessive hemoglobin levels

TURIN, Italy — Eight cross-country skiers competing in the Olympics, including two Americans, were suspended for five days after they were found to have excessive hemoglobin levels, the International Ski Federation announced Thursday.

None of the skiers suspended were considered serious medal contenders, and it was not immediately clear whether any would be kept from competing under the ban. It was not clear when the ban began.

Calls seeking comment from the ski federation and the International Olympic Committee were not immediately returned early Friday.

The American athletes are Kikkan Randall, 23, from Anchorage, Alaska, and Jef Zimmermann, 22, of Brooman, Mont. The others are: Sean Crooks of Canada, Sergey Dalidovich of Belarus, Jean Marc Gaillard of France, Aleksandr Lazurkin of Belarus, Natalia Malvareva of Russia, and Evi Sachenbacher of Germany.

Theodore tests positive for banned substance

MONTREAL — Montreal goalie Jose Theodore has tested positive for a banned substance in pre-Olympic screening because he was using a hair-growth drug that can be used as a masking agent, the Canadians' team doctor said Thursday.

The test wasn't part of the NHL's new testing program, so he will not be subject to league discipline.

Theodore was not picked for Canada's Olympic team, but was on the preliminary 61-player eligibility list. He is appealing the result and his case has yet to be heard by an arbitrator.

Canadian team doctor David Mulder said at a news conference that Theodore was tested Dec. 12. A month later, the Hockey Canada doctor informed Mulder about Theodore's test result.

U.S. begins Davis Cup play

SAN DIEGO — The United States will try to take the first step in ending a long dry spell in Davis Cup play, facing Romania in first-round matches beginning Friday.

The Americans have won the Cup 31 times, but not since Pete Sampras took his singles matches and teamed with Todd Martin to win doubles against Russia in the 1995 final.

Patrick McEnroe has high hopes for this year's team, which sends out Andy Roddick and James Blake in singles, and twins Bob and Mike Bryan in doubles against Romania.

"I think all the guys really feel like this year could be our year," said McEnroe, in his sixth year as U.S. captain.

"We have a good chance to go deep in the event. I think we've got as good a chance as anyone to win it." That doesn't mean McEnroe is taking the opening matches for granted, saying Romania will be very tough to beat.
Coaches reward Pistons with four All-Stars

After being snubbed by fans, four of Detroit's five starters were selected as reserves for the Eastern Conference team.

"I would just like to thank the coaches in the league for recognizing our players," Pistons president of basketball operations Joe Dumars told The Associated Press on Thursday night. "What the coaches are saying by voting our guys is that they appreciate unmatched desire, attitude and effort." The Pistons (40-8) became the first team with four players in the All-Star game since the Los Angeles Lakers sent Shaquille O'Neal, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Eddie Jones and Nick Van Exel to the 1998 game in New York.

Joining the Pistons on the reserves for the Feb. 19 game in Houston will be Toronto's Chris Bosh, Boston's Paul Pierce and Vince Carter of the New Jersey Nets.

The Western Conference reserves are guards Ray Allen of Seattle and Tony Parker of San Antonio, and forwards Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas, the Clippers' Elton Brand, Memphis' Pau Gasol, Minnesota's Kevin Garnett and the Spurs' Shawn Marion.

Despite playing in the NBA Finals the last two years, recognition had come slowly to the Pistons since joining the league in midseason in recent years. Ben Wallace was Detroit's only All-Star in each of the last three years, and the Pistons haven't had multiple selections since Grant Hill and Jerry Stackhouse in 2000.

The other only teams with four All-Stars were the Celtics (1953, '62 and '75), Lakers ('62) and 76ers ('83). This is the first time four players from one team have been picked as reserves by the coaches.

The starters were voted on by fans and were announced last Thursday. Miami's Shaquille O'Neal and Dwyane Wade were chosen in the East along with forwards LeBron James from Cleveland and Jermaine O'Neal of Indiana. Philadelphia's Allen Iverson was the other guard.

Houston's Yao Ming and Tracy McGrady were voted in, along with guards Kobe Bryant of the Lakers and Steve Nash of Phoenix, and San Antonio forward Tim Duncan. The Mavericks' Avery Johnson is the West coach.

Jermaine O'Neal is injured and his replacement will be determined by the NBA commissioner, David Stern.

Donald was the other guard.

Pebble Beach Pro-Am gets off to a record-setting start

Donald matches course record with a 62 only one year after Phil Mickelson set the seemingly unapproachable mark of 73.

Luke Donald was in the group that had to play on Thursday because of rain Wednesday. But Donald matched the course record with a 10-birdies and wound up matching Mickelson's record with a 10-birdies and wound up matching Mickelson's record with a 62 only one year after Phil Mickelson set the seemingly unapproachable mark of 73.

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New challenge rules established

NCAA makes plans to nationalize video replay in football

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA will allow instant replay of at least one replay challenge per game next season amid further conferences in use of a universal review format if the conference's recommended changes by the rules committee are approved in March.

The announcement was made Thursday at the conclusion of the committee's three-day meeting in Indianapolis.

The NCAA allowed conferences to experiment with instant replay the past two seasons, allowing it to be used to review game officials' calls on the field. Last season, nine of 11 Division I-A conferences used replay on an experimental basis for the first time. Only the Sun Belt and Western Athletic conferences did not.

But the rules varied. The Mountain West Conference, for instance, was the only league that permitted coaches' challenges. Of the 35 plays challenged, only five calls were reversed.

"That may not sound like a lot, but if you have five plays that could change the game if not corrected, that is a pretty strong percentage," said Charles Broyles, chairman of the committee and coach at Pittsburg State University. "We thought that permitted coaches' challenges. Of the 35 plays challenged, only five calls were reversed.

The committee felt they should be rewarded as long as they got the challenge correct.

But the committee did not make the broadest possible change — requiring replay to be used in games. Still, Halpin said he expected all Division I-A conferences to use replay next season, and television monitors will still not be allowed in coaching booths.

The rules would apply to all three NCAA divisions.

The playing rules oversight panel must still approve the recommendations.

Another change would not allow the visiting team to determine if replay will be used in nonconference games. Last year, Southern California opted not to have replay when it played at Notre Dame. If approved, that option would be used next season.

Halpin also said that the committee discussed contingency plans if there are technical difficulties, such as buzzers not going off or malfunctioning video feeds. He said faulty buzzers were one explanation for faulty replay was not used to look at some close calls during the Alamo Bowl between Michigan and Nebraska. Wolverines coach Lloyd Carr was forced to use timeouts in that game just to stop play and give officials a chance to review.

Although conferences are trying to devise some standard instant replays, Halpin said the committee would not mandate those changes.

The use of instant replay has generally received positive reviews from coaches.

"I really didn't have any complaints with the way it was last year," Rutgers coach Greg Schiano said in a telephone interview.

He did concede the coach's challenge was "probably a good idea." He did not want to risk a timeout for it, he said. "Having instant replay in any form is better than not having it."

The committee also made several recommendations to shorten games — such as 15 minute half times — which are more frequently going beyond four hours.

If approved, halftime would be shortened from 15 to 20 minutes and the game clock would start when the ball is kicked — not when it is touched by the receiving team.

"Instant replay in any form is better than not having it."

Greg Schiano
Rutgers coach

MLB

World Champs enjoy rewarding off-season

White Sox celebrated last year's victory in style this winter

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ozzie Guillen's off-season was short and frenetic, a time to share the World Series championship with a variety of people in a lot of different places. For a man who likes to talk, the manager of the Chicago White Sox had plenty of stories to tell and opinions to express to a variety of listeners.

"I never thought just because we did it last year my life was going to change everywhere," Guillen said. "To go back to my country and see the people they react, walking the Chicago streets and see people and how excited they are. It was fun. But besides that it was a Rice thing.

The frequent flyer miles were piled up for Guillen, who is as big a hero in Venezuela as he is to fans of a team that had waited 88 years for a trophy. The AL Manager of the Year also found time to become a U.S. citizen.

"I was doing a lot of stuff, especially when you speak Spanish," he said. "Spanish-speaking people in four different countries in the Caribbean, and down in Venezuela there was something to do every day.

But in the end, Guillen wants to make very clear — he'd gladly do it again.

"Hopefully I'll have the same off-season this year I had last."

Ozzie Guillen
White Sox manager

Little Caesars

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Olympics

Olympic organizers refuse to identify who will light flame

Former Italian sports heroes are rumored possibilities for symbolic moment in Opening Ceremonies

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — It is always the case that everyone’s mind leading up to the Olympics, long before a single medal is carved in stone, is shattered.

Who will light the Olympic flame?

Italian organizers, an officials traditionally do at each Olympics, remained tightlipped about the identity of the final torch bearer for Friday’s opening ceremony at the Olympic Stadium. A crowd of 35,000 was expected to watch the event live, with an estimated 2 billion more tuning in worldwide.

Befuddled torchbearers include a pair of Italian Olympic heroes: cross-country skier Stefania Belmondo and skier Alberto “La Bamba” Tomba. Neither was shy in the run-up to the 2006 Games about their designs on the honor.

The ceremony promises an event filled with “Rhythm. Passion. Speed” — including a performance from the sublime Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti, and the promise of inline skaters with ridiculous helmets shooting six-foot red flames.

The official Turin Web site promises the fiery sight, dubbed the “Sparks of Passion,” will evoke “the world of myths and, at the same time, the look of cartoons, infecting the stadium public and television viewers all over the world.”

Show producers did a rough rundown of the Olympic festivities on Thursday. Executive producer Marco Balleh, who has worked in the past with U2 and Pink Floyd, said the show would demonstrate the “passionate way in which the Italians live life — the way they drive, the way they do things.”

Designer Giorgio Armani designed the costumes used for the protocol ceremony presenting the host country’s red, green and white flag. Supermodel Carla Bruni will carry the flag before it is raised above the stadium.

Other highlights: Fake cows on rollers share the stage with the dancing trees in a tribute to the Alps and their farming culture. A crowded row of benches in the middle of the stage will allow athletes to stand front and center.

Olympians will enter in the traditional parade of nations, a segment lasting more than 30 minutes in which athletes from some 80 countries parade by.

But three Winter Games ceremonies feature so little of any kind, not even when temperatures in the 40s render outdoor surface unfeasible. Expect some snow — or at least white-clad dancers sporting balloon-like giant bubbles.

The lighting of the Olympic flame, regardless of who gets involved, is always a highlight of the ceremony.

Four years ago, the members of the 1980 U.S. hockey gold medal team reunited to handle the honors. Japanese skating great Miofumi Ito, tears streaming down her face, ignited the flame at Nagano in 1994. The 1994 Lillehammer Games began with ski-jumper Steiner Gruben sailing through the night sky, torch held high as the world watched.

In Atlanta in 1996, a trembling Muhammad Ali famously lit the torch.

Whatever happens, a replay of the short Winter Olympics held in Italy — the 1956 games in Cortina — is unlikely.

The opening ceremony crowd watched in disbelief as skater Guido Caretti tripped and fell while heading to light the Olympic flame.

He managed to keep the flame burning during his spill a half-century ago, and even enjoyed a role in getting this year’s flame to Turin. Caratti accompanied skier Kristian Ghedina as he relayed the torch through Cortina in January.

ND Track

Notre Dame set for Windsor meet

By JORDAN BELTZ
Sports Writer

Notre Dame returns to action this weekend as it heads north of the border to participate in the Windsor Invitational in Windsor, Ontario. The Windsor Invitational is the final meet before NCAA regionals and the Big East Indoor Championships, which are being held in Akron, Ohio.

The Irish are coming off of a strong showing in the Meyo Invitational, a meet in which the team set three new program records. Junior Kurt Benninger came up just short in challenging reigning national champion Mike Woods, a Michigan senior, in the 3,000-meter run, but Benninger’s time set a new school record and qualified him for the NCAA Indoor Championships on March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Benninger was not the only Irish runner to turn in a strong performance. Sprinter Maryann Erigha qualified for the NCAA championships in both the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash.

MLB

Anaheim loses in contract battle

Jury decides that Angels were legally justified in changing name

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — A jury ruled Thursday that the Angels did not breach a contract with Anaheim when the baseball team changed its name.

“Your goal for the remainder of the season is to just get back to where I was last season,” Saxe said Thursday. “I want to be able to consistently clear the heights that I was clearing when I was at my peak last year.”

Notes:

Anne-Here’s to your 80s prowess, coordinating genius...and the ONLY slightly embarrassing picture of you! Huzzah!

Write Sports. Call Mike at 1-4543.
FENCING

Irish travel west to San Diego for Duals

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will finish up its regular season this weekend by traveling to the University of California at San Diego (UC San Diego) this Saturday to take on a host of top competitors.

With All-American fencers from Air Force and Stanford competing at the annual San Diego Duals, the Irish will have a good opportunity to prepare for the upcoming NCAA Tournament.

Cal State Fullerton, UC San Diego and Cal Tech are among the other teams that will challenge the Irish before the team embarks on its postseason national title defense.

The NCAA Tournament begins March 4.

The Irish have reason to be hopeful this weekend, as they have improved statistically in many categories since last year.

The men’s foil and sabre teams have seen the most dramatic leaps in winning percentage, going from .694 to .724 and .750 to .798, respectively.

The women’s epee team also has improved steadily throughout the year thanks to contributions from senior Becca Chimaibukky and junior Amy Orlando.

The men are ranked No. 2 nationally, and the women own the top spot in the polls.

After the San Diego Duals, the Irish will be back in action Feb. 25-26 for the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships. The Midwest Regionalists of the NCAA Tournament follow a week later.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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DePaul continued from page 20

said. “We did a pretty good job on her last time we played her, and we played a lot of defense, so I think that’s what we’re going to do again. The biggest thing with her is we can’t let her get good position.”

Notre Dame will also look to contain guard Jenna Rubino, who scored 25 points in the teams’ previous matchup.

“Rubino just went off on us last game,” McGraw said.

While Rubino and St. Louis attract the most pre-game attention, McGraw has emphasized her team must stop everyone on the well-rounded DePaul team.

“They’re a very good team,” she said. “We can’t focus on just one or two people.”

Sunday’s rematch comes at a point in the season when the Irish, who are currently seventh in the Big East, need to perform well to keep their NCAA Tournament hopes alive and keep from slipping out of the top-12 in the conference where they would be ineligible for the conference tournament.

“I think there’s a sense of urgency now,” McGraw said.

“We’ve kind of had our back against the wall for a while now, kind of realizing that we didn’t have that fierce comeback against Villanova. We know how important every game is.”

The Irish’s road back to .500 will go through unfriendly territory, as DePaul has been 11-1 this season in front of its home crowd.

“This is a tough place to play,” McGraw said. “They get a great crowd, a really hostile environment. It’s going to be tough — we’ve got the team ready to do it.”

Rubino just went off on us last game Tuesday.

“I think the DePaul team understands that there’s not a bad team in the league,” Bayliss said. “We are. ”

The three teams that have been most challenging are Wisconsin and Bradley.

“I think these three matches in two days, one of the key points is the ability to rotate one of the players in who haven’t been playing regularly, giving them a little more playing time to make sure no one is worn out or get injured,” Bayliss said. “I think we’re competitive enough at the bottom of our lineup so that there’s not a big drop off.”

The Irish take the courts against the Boilermakers at 1 p.m. tomorrow. Sunday will feature a doubleheader, with Wisconsin at noon and Bradley at 5 p.m.

“The games are really important to us,” said senior Amy Orlando.

“Why wouldn’t we want to win? It’s our home court.”

Team takes on ACC tennis powerhouses

The men are ranked No. 2 in the men’s ACC.

Junior Jake O’Brien is one of two Irish of the three matches this weekend.

“We’ve kind of had our back against the wall for a while now, kind of realizing that we didn’t have that fierce comeback against Villanova. We know how important every game is.”

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The Irish take the courts against the Boilermakers at 1 p.m. tomorrow. Sunday will feature a doubleheader, with Wisconsin at noon and Bradley at 5 p.m.
BELLEs guard Allison Kessler shoots a running leaner during the team's 76-64 loss to Calvin Feb. 4. Kessler scored 17 points and is the reigning MIAA player of the week. Saint Mary's faces Kalamazoo at 3 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center.

Start
continued from page 20

ranking in the Inside Lacrosse media poll were not enough to make the Irish field for the NCAA Championships last year, it hopes to change that this year. After a 2-3 start for a tournament run in 2006, the Notre Dame travels to Durham, N.C., Saturday for a rare lacrosse doubleheader against Bucknell and Duke.

The preface No. 12 Irish will open up at noon against the No. 25 Bison of Bucknell, who finished 8-5 last year as co-champions of the Patriot League. Bucknell's Patriot League Tournament semifinal loss last spring spoiled their League Tournament semifinal hopes for the second tournament appearance in school history. (The first came in 2001 and was ended by a 12-7 Irish victory by tournament.) At 2 p.m. Saturday, the Irish will take on the No. 2 Blue Devils, who were national semifinalists a year ago and return three first-team, two second-team and two third-team All-Americans.

Kevin Corrigan sees the scrimmages as an efficient and effective opportunity to measure where his team stands in the NCAA-regulated 17-workout days before the regular season starts.

"They're going to expose our weaknesses." Kevin Corrigan Irish coach

We're going down [to Durham] to find out about ourselves," Corrigan said. "We're going to get an appreciation for where we are." With the Irish slated to open up the regular season with No. 13 Penn State at home on Feb. 26, Corrigan sees the Duke match up, in particular, as a test to work out any problems before official play begins.

"They're going to expose our weaknesses," he said. "If we're not solid somewhere, we'll find out with a team as good as them. "But our focus is Penn State. This is another opportunity to take a step forward in preparation for Penn State."

Note: Notre Dame returns nine of 11 starters from last year's squad, led by preseason second-team All-American attacker Pat Walsh and third-team defenseman D.J. Driscoll. However, Corrigan wants his team's play to speak for itself this weekend — and more importantly, against Penn State — before an early non-conference game sets the tone for where the team stands.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

Ferris
continued from page 20

shooting the puck," he said. "Traffic, tips, rebounds — all of that, we also emphasis it, we continue to emphasis it. We're talking about it, and hopefully it brings up the fact that we can score. We need to score and it needs to be a priority for us." Ferris State goaltender Mitch O'Keefe will pose a strong threat for the Irish scorers as he has posted an 11-7-5 record this year with a 2.60 goals against average and a .906 save percentage.

The Bulldogs are equally as dangerous on offense, coming off 7-2 and 4-2 wins over Western Michigan last weekend. The Irish must neutralize Bulldog center Greg Hall to be successful on defense. The senior has 15 goals, 17 assists on the year.

Kevin Corrigan sees this weekend as a test and hopes to make a statement in the stretch run of the CCHA season. And to do so the team looks to continue to play to their strengths — power plays and faceoffs — and improving their offensive weakness.

"If our power play has been pretty good moving the puck and I think we're coming together, our kids are working hard," Pooley said. "We want to improve everything, that's where we are at right now."

Notes:

• After this weekend, Notre Dame will have played eight games against teams currently ranked in U.S. College Hockey Online's national top-20. That elite list includes five top-10 teams — No. 2 Miami (Ohio), No. 7 Michigan, No. 8 Colorado College, No. 9 Denver and No. 10 Michigan State. The Irish also faced No. 18 Nebraska-Omaha and No. 19 Lake Superior State.

• Although eight of the 11 teams in the CCHA are ranked, Notre Dame still can earn an opening round series at home with a strong showing down the stretch.

Contact Kyle Cassilly at kcassilly@nd.edu

NOTES

BELLEs guard Allison Kessler shoots a running leaner during the team's 76-64 loss to Calvin Feb. 4. Kessler scored 17 points and is the reigning MIAA player of the week. Saint Mary's faces Kalamazoo at 3 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center.

Belles
continued from page 20

that game, the Belles were 12-11 from behind the arc, setting a school record for three-pointers in a game. Senior captain Bridgette Barrett had 23 points, and sophomore guard Alison Kessler added 22.

Saint Mary's previous game against Kalamazoo was the first win in what has been a history-making run, which has seen the Belles take five of their last seven games and surge into fourth place in the MIAA.

One major reason for the team's improvement in the second half of the season is its play when facing familiar opponents. The Belles are now 3-2 when facing a team for the second time, their revenge made all the more sweet by passing conference opponents in the standings.

The Belles attribute their success the second time around to their mental toughness.

"I don't think it makes a difference anymore," freshman forward Erin Newsom said. "How we did against a team in the past is over."

Erin Newsom Belles forward

"I don't think it makes a difference anymore. How we did against a team in the past is over." Erin Newsom Belles forward

Nevertheless, the team's positive experience with Kalamazoo this year will continue their confidence after a tough loss to Calvin Feb. 3. Despite the loss, Saint Mary's will continue playing hard, the trademark of its second-half schedule.

"We can stay with any team in the conference," Newsom said. And despite the pressure that the Belles might feel in these last few games, they are confident that they can come through in the clutch against Kalamazoo.

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Unanswerable these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ANSWERS (tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble Answers: HEDGE, ARBOR, LAVENDER, CALMLY

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THE JUMBLE

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Crossword

ACROSS
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
1. Which one might be rushed
2. Engaged in sexual practices?
3. Getting there
4. Almost even
5. Sugar and salt,
6. Elite military group
7. Legend, e.g.
8. Bank abbr.
9. Extraordinary
10. Director Demme
11. Wolf's delivery
12. Vocabulary
13. Rhetorical question
14. Record-keeping aid
15. Science
16. College
17. Sugar and salt;

DOWN
1. Ray extension
2. Stranded
3. Officer, to speak
4. Sample
5. Toy, before
6. Two to go
7. Major company, in 1997
8. Place for a houseplant
9. G,R.
10. D'Lugo
11. Cup of ice?
12. Phone
13. Show, at a carnival
14. Blind parts
15. Some game pieces
16. Lady, e.g.
17. Kind of gold
18. Condition

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Puzzle by David Llben-Nowell

Horoscope

Jacks

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: David Gallagher, 21; Mena Suvari, 27; Alice Walker, 62; J.C. Penney.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: You have a bright future ahead of you as long as you control your temper. This is not the year to fret about things you can't change or to hide from things you can't face. Strength of character will be vital traits. Patience is key to achieving anything this year. Be sure to be patient, and you will see the fruits of your labor.

Aries (March 21-April 19): You will have trouble getting used to new things. Don't overthink for help - get busy doing what you want quickly and efficiently. If you can keep a secret, you aren't likely to face much opposition.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Now would be a fine time to push your weight around, especially if there is a cause that you really believe in and want to help. Your ability to win people over could mean the difference between your success or failure. You need to focus on your goals and work hard to achieve them.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Today is all about you and your personal life. Talks of love and romance are on your mind. A change in your relationship could lead to progress and being honest about your needs will be what helps you get what you want. A good week will improve the people you are trying to please.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may want to get out and have some fun but it will probably bother someone if you do. It is too easy to hurry with other people, projects or groups. Consider other peoples' feelings and you will avoid trouble later in the day.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Travel, attending an exhibition or joining a group that interests you will be conducive to meeting new people who will give you great suggestions. Tapped your mind and you will be able to follow your dreams.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get serious about money and your financial future. If you are not making the changes, do so now. Set up a new budget. You can turn things around if you are serious about investments.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Full use of the steaks and all the 80s. It will be easier to inspire someone who is deeply in a mood to be extra. A little extra thought regarding how you can help others be entertained will be a good move.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't think about it, just do it. Think of things that need to be done and do them before you take too much time to think about it.

 Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): If there are things you want to change about yourself, now is the time to do it. You can build a much stronger base if you start from the beginning.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and a wonderful storyteller. You have compassion, empathy, a strong intuition and strong willpower.

Eugenia L. Last
**THE OBSERVER**

Friday, February 10, 2006

**SPORTS**

**Squad travels to Durham to face Duke and Bucknell**

The last time the Irish took the field, they took no prisoners in a 16-5 stomping of Ohio State. But that was nearly a year ago, and Notre Dame has two scrimmages this weekend for its first competition in nine months.

The team's 7-4 record and No. 16 ranking are tied for ninth in the league standings.


**NOTRE DAME SPORTS INFORMATION**

**Irish face DePaul in road rematch; won last meeting, 78-75**

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

The Irish are hoping their second meeting with DePaul will have the same end result as their first one.

Notre Dame (14-8, 5-6 Big East) will travel to Chicago Sunday, where they will take on No. 17 DePaul (19-5, 6-5) at 5:40 p.m. in a nationally televised rematch of their Jan. 17 game. Notre Dame won that game, 78-75, coming back from a 12-point deficit in the second half.

The Irish, who have found themselves behind more than 10 points in nine of their last 12 contests, will look to play strong from the opening whistle.

"We're getting down too big of a hole early, and that's what we need to avoid," Irish head coach Muffet McGraw said.

"That's why we've been changing the lineup, trying to find a group to get out to a good start, and we really haven't done that yet.

Senior guard Megan Duffy will head Notre Dame's lineup. She averages 15.7 points and 8.8 rebounds per game. But McGraw said the Irish will rotate their players in the first half and play the hot hands towards the end of the game.

"Everybody goes and plays in the first half, and whoever plays the best plays in the second half," McGraw said.

The Blue Demons will challenge with center Khara Smith, who is currently fourth in the Big East with 17.9 points per game.

"She's a tough matchup; she's a really good player," McGraw added.

Irish guard Megan Duffy drives to the basket Tuesday during Notre Dame's 69-65 overtime loss to Villanova.

By KATE GALEs
Associate Sports Editor

There's no place like home for the Irish.

Afer a grueling stretch of three road matches in four days, the team returns to its home turf at the Eck Tennis Pavilion for three matches this weekend.

The Irish are 2-4 this season — with three losses coming to top-10 teams — but 1-0 at home after notching a 7-0 shutout of William & Mary on Jan. 29.

The team held optional practices on Wednesday and Thursday after a 7-0 loss to Illinois on the road Tuesday night.

"I'm sure (resting at home) has helped," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Just physically, the travel and the three match-up...

**FENCING**

**San Diego Dals**

Notre Dame ends the regular season against stiff competition in California.

By TIM KAISER
Sports Writer

The Irish travel to North Carolina this weekend to take on No. 25 Wake Forest and No. 10 UNC.

The team held optional practices on Wednesday and Thursday after a 7-0 loss to Illinois on the road Tuesday night.

"I'm sure (resting at home) has helped," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Just physically, the travel and the three match-up...

**Hockey**

**Notre Dame has two games with fifth-place Ferris State**

Team lost two games to Michigan State by one goal last weekend

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The Irish are used to taking the ice against some of the best teams in the country — it's unavoidable when they play in a powerhouse conference like the CCHA. This weekend will be no exception, as Notre Dame (9-16-3, 7-12-3 CCHA) faces the No. 20 Ferris State Bulldogs (14-10-6, 9-8-5) in a home-and-home.

"We've been playing good hockey and in college hockey there's not much difference between (the two teams)," Irish associate head coach Paul Pooley said. "A power play goal here, a live on five facelift goal here and all of a sudden your winning some games."

Prior to last weekend's sweep at the hands of Michigan State, the Irish had gained points in every one of their series dating back to the last weekend of November, when they suffered a two-game sweep at the hands of Ohio State. Currently the teams are tied for ninth in the league with Bowling Green and Alaska-Fairbanks — the two teams left on Notre Dame's schedule after this weekend.

"I don't think we need a sweep, we just want to keep progressing as a team," Pooley said of the team's need to get a jumpstart up the standings.

"That's our main priority — going into the playoffs feeling good about ourselves."

An area in which the Irish have been trying to improve has been on offense. In the last four games they have lit the lamp only four times and were shut out by Ohio State two weekends ago.

To combat this, Pooley and the rest of the Irish staff held an optional skill practice to focus on scoring — a practice that a majority of the team attended. Also, the team has gone back to the chalkboard to discuss how a goal is scored according to Pooley, and he thinks the extra focus will pay off.

"I think we have some kids that can shoot it and getting to the net for rebounds and..."