Remainig ND tickets debate platforms

Schmidt-Weber and Burdick-Sanchez prepare for Thursday's run-off election

By MADELINE BUCKLEY

The Grant Schmidt-Cynthia Weber ticket emphasized its experience and platform research while the Laura Burdick-Derek Sanchez ticket accused their opponents of recycling ideas from old campaigns in the run-off debate for student body president and vice president Wednesday night in Fatmrune.

Schmidt, a junior, and Weber, a sophomore, along with juniors Burdick and Sanchez, advanced to compete in the run-off election after neither ticket won 50 percent of the vote in the general election Monday. The debate, moderated by George Chamberlain, president of the Judicial Council, featured questions from the Council and the audience with a chance for the candidates to give a rebuttal.

Schmidt and Weber said they presented a comprehensive and well-researched platform with feasible ideas.

"I think a lot of people have questioned our taxi reform," Schmidt said. "But these are things I have been looking at for a really long time. We need to accomplish these big initiatives."

Vice presidential candidate Derek Sanchez, with running mate Laura Burdick, speaks during the runoff debate on Wednesday.

Knights raise money for several charities

Organization collects $48,325 from selling steak sandwiches at home football games

By KAITLYNN RIELY

There's a lot of money in steak sandwiches, at least when you sell them prior to Notre Dame home football games.

The Notre Dame chapter of the Knights of Columbus made a profit of $48,325 during the 2008 football season. The Knights, a fraternal service organization, are currently in the process of distributing these funds to several charities, as they do every year.

Grand Knight Jim Redden said the 2008 profit was good considering there was one fewer home game than recent years, and that the weather was rainy the day of the Michigan game.

On a football weekend with good weather, they sell about 3,000 steaks, said Redden, a junior at Notre Dame.

"People buy them faster than we can make them, so there's always more of a demand than we can get them cooked," he said. "So one of the challenges is to get started early enough that you can make enough of a

Exhibit features poet's works

Ingeborg Bachmann's life and literary achievements on display at library

By LIZ LEFFEYRE

The prominent exhibit "Writing Against War," featuring the life and works of renowned Austrian-born poet Ingeborg Bachmann will open on the second floor of the Hesburgh Library Thursday at 5 p.m. The multi-media display focuses specifically on the theme of war throughout Bachmann's life and literary achievements.

The ceremony will feature a presentation and reading by poet and Bachmann translator Peter Filkins of Bard College. A reception will follow the event.

The exhibit will be on display at Notre Dame through March 8. This is the first stop on the exhibit's United States tour, though it has been traveling throughout Europe since 2003. The Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs provided the exhibit and it has already appeared at 57 different locations and been translated into seven languages.

Bachmann, a famous writer of poems, radio plays, short stories, novels and literary theory essays, became one of the leading voices in post-war German literature. Her works represent a large body of anti-war writing, as she used language to challenge the chronic state of war in the world. Each year a prestigious award is given out in her name and memory to an outstanding work of Germanophone literature.

German professor and Nanovic Institute fellow, Anita McChesney was responsible for bringing the exhibit to Notre Dame.

"Ingeborg Bachmann's works present singular vision of literary protests against wars that touched her life, and they reflect both a criticism of war's atrocities as well as the continued hope for peace," McChesney said. "This exhibit will give students all the information they need to accomplish these big initiatives."

By SARAH MERVOSH

Improving relationships between Notre Dame students and South Bend residents and concerns with off-campus housing were two issues discussed Wednesday at the Community Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC) meeting, held at the County-City Building in South Bend.

Student and faculty representatives from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross met with South Bend Police Department (SBPD) officers and leaders from the community for the third time this year to talk about community and student-related issues.

Council chairman Al Kirsch said one issue of concern between community members and students is parties and alcohol-related matters. But overall, the number of parties and incidents involving drinking has been down this year, he said.

Kirsch said the best way to handle alcohol-related issues is continued education.

The coalition would like to set up a booth on alcohol awareness at a spring event on campus and look into educating students by having them drive golf carts while wearing DUI goggles. The goggles distort the wearer's vision as if they were intoxicated.

Campuses, community seek better relationship

By MADELINE BUCKLEY

Web site discussed in informal meeting

By SARAH MERVOSH

Student Senate held an informal meeting Wednesday to discuss the creation of a Web site with information about South Bend geared towards students.

The meeting was informal because the group lacked enough members for quorum and could not call the meeting to order.

Community Relations committee chair Gus Gari said the off-campus Web site will be broken up into tabs routing students to different categories, such as entertainment, off-campus living, safety and security and more.

"The bottom line is this is useful to the entire student body," he said.

For example, Gari said the site will have information about different off-campus housing options and how to sign a lease for students who are contemplating moving.

The housing options tab would give students all the information they need to accomplish these big initiatives.
INSIDE COLUMN

Diamonds on Feb. 14

Laura Myers
Sports Production Editor

The temperature has been above freezing for almost a week now. On Tuesday, I saw the sun. I've been wearing flip-flops since Saturday. Yesterday, it started raining. Indeed, signs of South Bend spring are everywhere. And with Feb. 14 drawing near, I've got diamonds on the brain.

No. I'm not talking about getting engaged. Seeing as how I'm a sophomore and single, it would be a pretty big shock if someone were to take me down to the grotto and pop the question. If it did happen, I'm pretty sure I would decline. (Exception: Michael Floyd.)

I'm talking about a different type of diamond. A kind that is less expensive to enjoy — not counting in New York — and a much better best friend than a jewel is.

That's right. Cubs fans, start your engines (hear that distinctive whine?), because it's baseball season again.

On Saturday — known to some as Valentine's Day, to others as Singles Awareness Day, still to others as Jon McLaughlin Day — pitchers and catchers will begin reporting to their spring training camps all along the warm parts of the country.

Actually, the pitchers and catchers of one team will start reporting on Friday the 13th. Interesting that the Yankees think of themselves as above average. I guess they're hoping that if they perform better than expected, they could decline.

Baseball season is my favorite part of the year. I'm a happier person when I have sports to ease my stress, andbasketball just doesn't cut it. Granted, sometimes it adds to my stress, but that's what you get for being a Notre Dame student from Cleveland.

The new season is already brimming with storylines, including yet another steroid scandal, C.C. Sabathia in those oh-so-slimming pinstripes, and my personal favorite, Manny Being-Unemployed.

In my mind, though, the new season is still a blank slate. Anything can happen over the course of five months and 162 baseball games. Every year, experts make predictions, and every year, they're proved completely wrong.

Remember the beginning of 2008's season, when Tigers pitcher Ben Sheets posed to score 1000 runs and easily won the World Series? Remember the end of the 2008 season, when the Tigers finished last, behind the Kansas City Royals?

I feel the urge to make fun of the Yankees and Cubs more, but it's not fair because I've already targeted them. Plus, it's just too easy.

There's a lot of that, but as it sounds, every team is undefeated right now.

There's a point in every season where the general attitude among Indians fans switches from "It's Tribe Time Now!" to "There's always next year."


The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

What's the nicest thing you've done today?

Gus Garli
Junior Keenan

"I'm not a nice person."

Seung-Joe Oh
Freshman St. Edward's

"I let myself get some sleep."

Elizabeth Flood
Freshman Lewis

"I complimented a girl on her ugly sweater. Does that like count as community service or something?"

Jonas Gray
Freshman Keenan

"I did the Heimlich maneuver on a guy choking on a Pop-Tart."

Matt Ong
Freshman Keenan

"I generally don't believe in kindness, but today I was warm to everyone since the skies were grey. I also adopted an orphaned turtle and named it Rocka."

IN BRIEF

Valentine's Day Candy Heartgrams will be sold in LaFortune today. The hearts cost $1 per package and will be delivered on Friday.

Fair Trade Coffeehouse in the CoMo Lounge, today from 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Learn about the Fair Trade movement and enjoy coffee, baked goods, and live entertainment from popular campus acts. Sponsored by the Department of Sociology. Proceeds help fund SOC 25334's cross-cultural trip to Guatemala.

The Glass Club is having a sale of some of their products - etched glassware, jewelry, stained glass and fused glass, in the Sorin Room of LaFortune. It will take place today from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Freshman Class Council is hosting Lovefest on Friday at 9 p.m. The event will take place in Casey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library and will include free candy from the South Bend Chocolate Factory and musical performers from the Freshman class. Tickets are $5 and will benefit the American Heart Association.

The annual Edith Stein Project will take place throughout the day this Friday. The conference will address women's issues which will include speakers, a Mass, meals. Saint Mary's and Notre Dame students are invited free of charge, but must register at https://marketplace.nd.edu/rr/e/index.cfm.

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalistic integrity at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have noted a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct it at once.

OFFBEAT

Man arrested for letting 8-year-old child drive

BRADENTON, Fla. — Police arrested a 34-year-old man they said let his 8-year-old son drive a van just before midnight Sunday. A Bradenton police report said the boy hit a two trees and nearly hit two pedestrians in a park lot when his father let him drive.

"I'm not a nice person."

The father told police that he had taken Xanax, used to treat anxiety and panic attacks, and was "feeling woozy and didn't want to drive." He said he thought letting his son drive would be a "bonding moment."

The boy told police his father took "liquid medicine in order to feel better," pointing to an empty whiskey bottle in the vehicle.

The man faces charges of child abuse and permitting an unlicensed driver to drive. He remained in jail Wednesday on a $10,120 bond.

Robber runs out of gas after robbing gas station

CAPE HAZE, Fla. — Authorities said they arrested a man who apparently forgot to fill up when he was robbing a gas station.

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office said a 23-year-old man used a Bowie knife to rob a Cape Haze gas station early Sunday. Deputies said the man pulled the 12-inch blade out of his pocket and demanded money. But when he left, a customer followed him and called 911.

While deputies were looking for signs of the robber, a newspaper carrier told them that a man in a car matching the one from the robbery had run out of gas nearby.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Peter Campbell, a graduate assistant in the College of Arts and Letters, takes notes during a presentation by David Cortright and George A. Lopez entitled "The Impact of Counterterrorism on Civil Society" in O'Shaughnessy Hall on Wednesday.

LOCAL WEATHER

 TODAY  TONIGHT  FRIDAY  SATURDAY  SUNDAY  MONDAY

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Ambassador Guido Lenzi addresses country's history and origins

By BECKY HOGAN

In the Gallery of Bond Hall, adorned by Roman casts and sculptures, Italian ambassador Guido Lenzi described Italy's complicated character to a packed room on Wednesday.

"Italy is a country of contradictions. It's a land of improvisation — things are made up at the spur of the moment, and inventiveness is part of the life of everybody," Lenzi said.

Lenzi described Italy as a "grown-up teenager" because it "is full of life, inventive and smiling but totally irresponsible."

He explained the nation's history and origins.

"Italy is a very young country — younger than the United States. It is a young country that has had a hard time holding itself together," according to Lenzi. Italy's fragmented nature can be attributed to the city-states, which preceded Italy's unification.

"The city-states account for the fact that local allegiances are much stronger nowadays. People are First-Florentine and Tuscan, and only eventu­ally Italian," Lenzi added.

He said that bureaucracy does not work as smoothly as it should because Italian cities have not asked for the state to work properly. Italians know how to make do and obtain what they want without the state, he said.

"Italians subtract and pros­sibly add things to the state. We have learned to cope with the fact of needing the state," he explained.

Additionally, Lenzi said Italy's disorganiza­tion and incoherency must change in the future.

"New Italy, after having survived and prospered in this very special, different way, now needs to organize itself and make itself recognizable. Italy needs to make itself more accessible to the international community, he said. Forged Italy for the Europeans, for the European Union, the Mediterranean, for the Baltic states. All of this has to be made coherent," Lenzi said.

"Italian parliamentary democracy includes a strong party and a weak president, which explores the prevalence of plagiarism among American college students and why it exists.

Blum is a cultural and ling­uistic anthropologist who has been researching deception, truth, lying and cheating for several years, mostly in the context of China but also cross-culturally.

In "My World," she examines in depth the specific area of plagiarism, in which those accusations are made.

"My goal simply is understanding," she said. "The book examines the complexity of student behavior using standard anthropological tools for holistic approach to a prob­lem. I see my role as a trans­lator of students' culture to non-students through analysis of the perspectives of faculty, administrators and students. I neither excuse nor blame stu­dents for the transgression, but lump together as 'plagiarism.'"

"I'm complaining about how 'naive' or 'distracted' they are, I decided to investigate all the claims on their time, and I offer suggestions to help facul­ty and administrators better communicate with them."

Blum, who served for five years as direc­tor of Notre Dame's Center for Asian Studies, is also the author of "Lies That Bind: Chinese Truth, Other Truths," which explores the ideology of truth and deception in China and elsewhere, as well as "Making Sense of Language: Readings in Culture and Communication," and "Portraits of 'Primitives': The Ideology of Anthropology in the Chinese Nation."

She is co-editor of "China Off Center: Mapping the Margins of the Middle Kingdom." Blum is a member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2000. Blum was graduated from Stanford University. She earned her doctorate degree in anthropology and Chinese language and literature and her doctoral degree in anthropology from the University of Michigan.

New this year: Graduate support now available in Arts & Letters

For details and application forms, go to:
http://www.nd.edu/~sumlang/

Or pick up applications from the Office of International Studies: 154 Hurley Building - Ph 1-5203

Application DEADLINE: FRIDAY MARCH 6, 2009

Sponsored by the Office of International Studies, the College of Arts and Letters, the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, the Mendoza College of Business
Senate continued from page 1

"I think people get confused because it's called the off-campus Web site," Reish said. Continuing the discussion of off-campus living, Reish said he has been approached several times about the University's lack of a list of off-campus student addresses. The University only requires an address from students, and many students give their home address, he said.

"We asked the senators if they believe the University should require the address of off-campus students," Reish said. "I think that's private information." Duncan Hall senator Ben Linskey said.

COR members also suggested tracking the parts of the site that receive the most hits and then making those tabs more accessible to students, Gari said.

Student body president Bob Reish said the site is for on-campus students as well as students living off campus.

Knights continued from page 1

...in order to feed the lunchtime crowd. One of the big selling points that we advertise is that 100 percent of the profits go to charity.

The four largest charities that receive money from the Notre Dame council are Corvilla, the James Karaffa Business Academy for Women in Nairobi, Kenya, a mini-business school that teaches women to make a living for themselves and their family; Cincinnati Homes for Mentally and Physically Handicapped Adults; Bubba, a school founded by the Indiana Knights of Columbus for troubled teens; and Andean Health Development, a healthcare society founded in Ecuador by Theodore M. Hesburgh; and the James Karaffa Business Academy for Women in Nairobi, Kenya, a mini-business school that teaches women to make a living for themselves and their family.

"There will be resources available to students who have gotten kicked out of their houses because they were wronged," Bob Reish said.

"I know of students who have gotten kicked out of their houses because they were wronged," said student body president Bob Reish.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Election brings no peace to Israel
JERUSALEM — Inconclusive election results sent Israel into political limbo Wednesday with both Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and hard-line leader Benjamin Netanyahu claiming victory and leaving the kingmaker role to a rising political hawk with his hand in both elections, reports sent Israel into political limbo Wednesday.

Livni's Kadima Party won 28 seats, just one more than Netanyahu's Likud, in Tuesday's election for the 120-member parliament, according to nearly complete results. With neither party winning a clear majority, neither can govern alone. Gains by right-wing parties give Netanyahu a better chance of forming a coalition next time.

The results set the stage for what could be weeks of coalition negotiations. Israeli media reported the first meetings were scheduled for Wednesday.

Australia to install fire alert system
KINGAKI, Australia — The federal government announced Tuesday that it will deliver 300 bushfires that have staked a nationwide fire alert system, aimed thousands of people were caught in the blaze.

The Australian newspaper reported Thursday.

But there is a new urgency after the weekend.

The results set the stage for what could be weeks of coalition negotiations. Israeli media reported the first meetings were scheduled for Wednesday.

NORTH KOREA

N. Korea preps long-range missile test

Country scraps peace agreements, seeks to provoke neighbor and win Obama's attention

North Korea is preparing to test fire a long-range missile, a South Korean government official said Wednesday night celebrating the $25 million renovation of Ford's Theatre.

Obama honors Lincoln at gala
WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama praised Abraham Lincoln for his conviction that a divided nation could be made whole at a gala Wednesday night celebrating the $25 million renovation of Ford's Theatre.

The president and first lady Michelle Obama joined a crowd of hundreds of moviegoers for the celebration on the eve of Lincoln's 200th birthday. The theater has been closed since 1968 for renovations, reopening after an 18-month facelift that included new, more comfortable seats, a modern lobby and new dressing rooms.

Calling the theater "hallowed space" where Lincoln's legacy thrives, Obama praised him for his "unflagging commitment to freedom and justice."

Van drains body through NYC
NEW YORK — A van traveled for nearly an hour over busy New York City roads before its driver discovered the horrific cargo it had dragged almost 20 miles: the partially scraped-away body of a man who was plowed over by a SUV just before he got caught under the van.

Police said the gruesome episode was accidental and that they have no plans to charge the drivers at this time.

But the incident may have diminished the shock of seeing a dead man hooked under a van that had just traversed some of the busiest roads in the city. Police said the driver,Manual Lituma Sanchez, had no idea he hit the victim until the end of his drive.

Local News

Hospital has water supply again

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — The water is running again at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

The hospital was without its principal water supply Wednesday after a break to a city water main. Service was restored about 4 p.m., some 15 hours after the water shutoff.
Debate continued from page 1

In response to a question from the audience at the end of the forum, Schmidt's tax reform plan, he said, "For the sake of the cab companies in South Bend have agreed to use his program, which would allow students to pay the cab fare with a coupon." They have been "very efficient standards," he said. It has been "a matter that my father lived in the same house more than 60 years within walking distance of the Catholic University Library."

Laura Burdick presidential candidate

"Derek and I feel that since we have been a part of all these student groups, we get a lot better feedback."

Sanchez attacked this idea, stating that the current fee is "unfair" and that more than half the drivers in hammes Notre Dame are off-campus and "are not recognized by the University."

"There are a lot of things that will get carried over, and there are a lot of things that still need to get done." Grant Schmidt presidential candidate

However, Schmidt said that while they take the job seriously, they are regular college students. "We are normal students," he said. "I'm from Dallas, Texas, and I like baseball and I like being a college student."

"We want to resurrect old events." Burdick said. "The bookstore has exclusive rights, but instead of being able to see the ISBN numbers, we would contact professors (for the numbers) and put them on a Web site," Weber said. "Creating competition does not subvert a monopoly."
**MARKET RECAP**

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**Commodities**

| Light Crude (WTI) | +1.51 | 32.94 |
| Gold (Net/oz.) | +39.30 | 944.50 |
| Forex Bellies (cents/lb.) | 0.00 | 65.98 |

**Commodity Exchange**

| YEN | 90.2600 |
| EURO | 1.2959 |
| CANADIAN DOLLAR | 1.2416 |
| BRITISH POUND | 1.4391 |

**In Brief**

Madoff wife withdraws $15 million

**Associated Press**

WASHINGTON — Moving with lightning speed, the Democratic-controlled Congress and White House agreed Tuesday on a compromise $790 billion economic stimulus bill designed to create millions of jobs in a nation reeling from recession. President Barack Obama could sign the measure within days.

"More than one-third of this bill is dedicated to providing tax relief for middle-class families, cutting taxes for 95 percent of American workers," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid at a Capitol news conference where he was joined by moderates from both parties whose support is essential for the legislation's final passage.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Reid's partner in negotiations, said it was more than 24 intense hours, initially withheld her approval in a lingering disagreement over federal funding for school construction. "We had to make sure the investment in education was in," she said.

Obama, who has campaigned energetically for the legislation, welcomed the agreement in a written statement that said it would "save or create more than two million jobs and get our economy back on track." The emerging legislation is at the core of Obama's economic recovery program.

The president's signature tax cut would preserve a break for millions of lower- and middle-income taxpay- ers of $400 per individual and $800 per couple. That's less than the $500 and $1,000 the White House initially sought, although officials said it would mean an estimated $13 per week extra paycheck.

Wage-earners who don't earn enough to pay income taxes would get a reduction in the Social Security and Medicare taxes they pay. The bill also includes help for victims of the recession in the form of expanded unemployment benefits, food stamps, health coverage and more, as well as billions for states that face the prospect of making deep cuts in school aid and other programs.

Another provision will mean a one-time payment of $250 for millions of beneficiaries who receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and veterans pension, and disability, according to officials. They added that the measure will include $46 billion for transportation projects such as highway, bridge, and mass transit construction.

The president also won money for two other administration priorities — information technology in health care, and "green jobs" to make buildings more energy-efficient and reduce the nation's reliance on foreign oil. The bill "will be the beginning of the turnaround for the American economy," predicted Sen. Joe Lieberman, the independent from Connecticut.

Democrats work quickly to clear the way for $790 billion to help economy

Republican's couldn't have disagreed more.

"It appears that Democrats have made a bad bill worse by reducing the tax relief for working families in order to pay for more wasteful government spending," said Rep. John Boehner of Ohio.

But some prominent Republicans straddled the issue.

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, last year's Republican running mate and a potential White House contender in 2012, said her state was ready to accept a projected $1 billion in federal funds if they make sense for the state.

Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin is followed by reporters as he returns to the Senate floor during deliberations on the economic stimulus bill at the Capitol in Washington on Friday.

Oil prices fall to $36 in Asia, rise in US

SINGAPORE — Oil prices lingered near $36 a barrel Thursday in Asia, following a steep fall overnight, as supply concerns in the U.S. and rising crude inventories in the U.S. stoked investor concern that consumer demand will continue to fall and send the prices lower.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery rose 10 cents to $36.04 a barrel by midday in London on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rallied $1.61 overnight to settle at $35.94.

U.S. crude oil inventories have jumped 16 percent in the past two weeks and rising unemployment erodes spending on gasoline.

A weekly report Wednesday from the Energy Information Administration showed that crude inventories jumped by 4.7 million barrels for the week ended Feb. 6, more than an increase of 3.4 million barrels expected by analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. Including last week's build up, crude inventories have swelled by more than 30 million barrels in the past six weeks.

"Conditions in the West and global economy remain quite weak," said Gerald Burg, minerals and energy economist with NatWest Capital Markets in London. "Given the economic outlook, there's little to drive prices higher."

Forecasters continue to lower their expectations for crude demand. The Paris-based International Energy Agency said Wednesday that global oil demand in 2009 will likely be 8.47 million barrels per day, 570,000 barrels less than the previous estimate.

"It's still a market that's really focused on demand," Burg said. "I think there's potential for conditions to weaken further."

Investors are also skeptical that a Treasury Department plan announced earlier this week to spend more than $1 trillion to help remove banks' sour assets from their books and unplug the credit markets will work.

"It bank plan lacked specifics, and the market is quite concerned that it won't kick the economy," said Christoffer Molke-Leht, head of sales trading for Saxo Capital Markets in Singapore.

Falling prices may eventually trigger a recovery in the medium-term,
more information please

Last week the Notre Dame Office of International Studies (OIS) posted its decisions for the current sophomore class regarding their junior year study abroad aspirations. As some of my friends excitedly tore open letters, I began to think back to the application process myself.

By any standard, the OIS is an overwhelming success. They successfully enrolled nearly 40 percent of the student population into study abroad programs, and feature a wide range of programs across quite a few countries. U.S. News and World Report has given the Notre Dame OIS top marks for its study abroad. They have programs for students of every school, both undergraduate and graduate.

However, there are a few issues with the process of applying for sophomore undergrads that are overly complicated, confusing and hazy. First, the application process has come to resemble the arduous task that applying to college was in the first place. I have been known to “get in” and “have an edge” used far more frequently than I think is healthy. While the need to evaluate the appropriateness of candidates for a program is necessary for the reputation of the department and even just for space considerations, the confusion and stress inherent in the current process is not.

If OIS wants the process to be competitive in this way, however, then it should take steps to level the information playing field for applicants. In thinking back to my experiences in applying to prospective applicants through anecdotal situations and hearsay. This sort of information can be highly misleading, and for some students, fatal to their study abroad chances.

While I unfortunately cannot document this, I have heard that the popular Dublin, Ireland program is quite competitive. In one case, I heard that a 3.7 was the bare minimum to “get in.” In another, I heard it was a 3.2. Regardless, I was able to figure out, generally speaking, that Dublin was tough. A borderline student not prissy to any of this information at all, may lead their application with Dublin or even put all of his eggs in just one basket. In my own case, I based my own evaluation of my chances of acceptance on the only student I could even find who had applied to the same program.

Eleven students who are generally more aware of the gossip surrounding each location’s competitiveness maneuver differently, however, and exhibit a sort of flight to safety. With only one application and one chance to any of this information at all, may lead their application with Dublin or even put all of his eggs in just one basket. In my own case, I based my own evaluation of my chances of acceptance on the only student I could even find who had applied to the same program.

To its credit, OIS has attempted to eliminate some of these problems by allowing students to apply to multiple programs and then ranking them in order of preference. The issue, again, is lack of information concerning the consequences of these decisions. At the first big meeting of my sophomore year, someone asked how a program’s rank affects its chances of being accepted. The answer we were given was unclear and we came away with only a vague idea of what the best strategy for applying was.

Posing some measurements and statistics similar to those in a Fiske guide would eliminate many of these problems. Even just a GPA range and acceptance rate would help considerably. With this information, Notre Dame students already savvy in competitive application processes would be more self-selecting in their choices.

Borderline students would know which programs offer their best chance of acceptance, and the most qualified applicants would be confident in their decision to compete in one of the tougher programs. This could also expedite the process by eliminating a number of applications for students who are not confident enough to apply to only one or two places, but instead work on five or six applications.

Ultimately, OIS does its best to try and sort everybody out into a predetermined number of spots. The department would help itself immeasurably if it set clear goals for each location that arise from the scarcity of spots more openly, and provided more of the information necessary about the process and competition itself in addition to the great information already provided about the benefits and experiences offered from each program.

This would enable students to be more self-sorting and cognizant of their chances of acceptance. This February...

Jason Coleman is a junior accounting major. He can be contacted at coleman.70@nd.edu.

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

Observer Poll
What are you doing for Valentine’s Day?

Going out with my significant other

Going out with friends

Staying in

Crying myself to sleep

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com
Will Jesus show for the Louisville game tonight?

On Feb. 4, Louisville Ladies' Coach Jeff Walz talked about his team's performance. He said, "We need to get better, and we need to play with more intensity. We need to work on our defense, and we need to improve our offensive game."

The Manti cometh

Students of Notre Dame, I have seen the light, the beacon of eternal hope that M. Michael Fiorino lit for me and my peers at the Inside Column "Fashion at ND. Or Not" (Feb. 10). For so many years I have been marching around this dark cold world got that I am the center of everyone's attention. How could I have it with this student body. In terms of immaturity and alcohol (just a little), about going on panty raids to Saint Mary's, amazing dorm events and sneaking their cars on the memory lane they are not talking about studying for tests but about their very lives. In terms of society, Notre Dame separates itself from the schools like Michigan, Penn State and USC, whose week ends start on Wednesday nights. We are a different type of student body.

The views expressed in this Faithpoint are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Walking into Macri's, the very first sensation to land is the smell. It seems ludicrous to think of the combined smell of cookies, cheeses, cakes, muffins and Italian meats as appetizing, but by some unique harmony these items make up one delicious experience. One is struck by the atmosphere immediately. Despite its upmarket style, Macri's presents an affordable and approachable atmosphere, probably due to the helpful and interested staff, and the easy booths and tables. Displays of groceries not offered elsewhere, like pizza dough and raw specially pastas, are surrounded by oil-cloth murals of Italian scenes. None of the decor comes off as authentically Italian, but to the Macri family's credit, the restaurant has an undeniable Italian feel, especially when coupled with the food. The two most popular sandwiches are the Italian Grinder and the Sicilian Turkish, and for good reason. These sandwiches best suit the Macri's style: fresh ingredients paired with ideal preparation, and they are sized to fill—a half sandwich would fill most.

The Sicilian Turkish (turkey, tomato, lettuce, mozzarella, Italian dressing) is mostly standart, but the ingredients and the exceptional Italian dressing make it just different enough to be worth trying. Although the other sandwiches (ham and Swiss, vegetable, tuna and egg) offer solid fare, most outstanding is the overall favorite, the Italian Grinder (salami, coppa, mortadella, provolone, red peppers and again, Italian dressing). This gives a rich, almost spicy taste that truly is redolent of Italy. Diners who have room would be well-advised to try a side, such as one of the many pasta salads, or the excellent mozzarella balls with roasted red peppers mixed in with fresh tomatoes that even a tomato-hater can enjoy.

A visit to the deli is incomplete without a dessert from the bakery. Perhaps most popular, the Italian Grinder and maybe a side, while keeping in mind everything you smelled at the bakery. After your sandwich, take a peek into the Tuscan-decorated Carmela's restaurant as you digest (Valentine's dinners take note: the romantic Carmela's is still taking reservations for Friday night, but is all booked Saturday). Lastly, visit the bakery for your choice of a dessert or two, and know that you can't go wrong.

Contact J.J. Rees at jprees@nd.edu
Thursday: Pineapple Express at Midnight, Legends

Friday: The Godfather (1972) at 2:00 p.m., Browning Cinema

Saturday: Valentines from Hollywood and Broadway at 8:00 p.m., Morris Performing Arts Center

Sunday: Turtle Island Quartet with Special Guest Cyrus Chestnutt, 2:00 p.m., Leighton Concert Hall

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Sports Editor

Another week another dining hall dish! This week's recipes are a bit varied, but they are all pretty tasty. The microwave has been out of commission at North for about a week, so hopefully it will return soon. In the meantime, all of these dishes can be made without your favorite contraption. And as a special bonus? Look forward to the special Valentine's Day hall dish tomorrow.

This week's recipes:

**Kicked Up Macaroni and Cheese**

Macaroni and cheese is that great homey meal that only improves with experimentation. There are thousands of recipes out there putting variations on this dish and starting with the basic macaroni and cheese the dining hall offers, you can have your own fun. Fill a bowl with as much macaroni and cheese as you want. Top with red pepper flakes and some blue cheese (Be careful not to overdo either. They both pack a pretty good punch, so you don't need a ton to get lots of flavor). The hot macaroni and cheese base should melt the blue cheese.

Add in some steamed broccoli (you will have to cut it up to make it bite-sized).

Mix together. Feel free to try the same idea using different new ingredients.

**Mashed Sweet Potato**

The dining halls have baked sweet potatoes fairly often, and there is a lot you can do with them. This recipe is one of the easiest places to start. Most people think white when they think mashed potatoes, but using sweet potatoes puts a great twist on the traditional. The pepper and salt help to balance out the sweetness.

Pick up a baked sweet potato. Remove the potato skins. Add a pat of butter, a lot of pepper and some salt. If you have a sweet tooth you can add a small dab of maple syrup too. Mash it up with a fork, like you were making regular mashed potatoes. Enjoy.

**Quick Tip**

Make chilli cheese fries! Take some French fries and top them with chilli from the soup area (make sure to get a ladle with as little broth as possible) and cheese. You'll be laughing so hard, you'll cry.

**Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu**

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**By MICHELLE FORDICE**
Assistant Sports Editor

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**THE OBSERVER SCENE**

Thursday, February 12, 2009

page 11
Associated Press

NEW YORK — An ex-girlfriend of Roberto Alomar filed a $15 million lawsuit against Alomar on Tuesday, alleging the former baseball star insisted on unprotected sex for four years despite having AIDS.

The lawsuit, filed Jan. 30 in New York State Supreme Court on Wednesday, contains accusations that could not be corroborated but portrayed Alomar as someone who demanded sex without a condom despite showing obvious signs of HIV.

Alomar is seeking at least $15 million in punitive damages from the 41-year-old former infielder. Alomar, who was once engaged to tennis star Mary Pierce, spent 17 years in the majors and was one of the game's greatest second basemen.

Calls seeking comment to lawyers for Alomar and Dall were not immediately returned. Alomar's lawyer Charles Bath told the New York Daily News the allegations are "frivolous and baseless."

"News of the lawsuit was something out of the blue," Alomar's father, Sandy Alomar Sr., told El Nuevo Dia newspaper in Puerto Rico. "We've never talked about something like this before."

Dall said the two began dating in spring 2002 and had unprotected sex for the next four years. She said that on several occasions during that time, Alomar refused to get tested for HIV, despite severe fatigue, sores on his mouth and throat, a constant cough and an infection of the emphysema that is associated with AIDS.

She said Alomar finally relented and tested positive for HIV in February 2006. Dall said she was angered by the disclosure and tested herself; the result was negative. She said follow-up exams determined that Alomar had full-blown AIDS.

By then, she said Alomar had purple skin, was foaming at the mouth and was too sick to walk, forcing him to need a wheelchair to get around at an airport.

Dall said the ordeal caused her severe emotional, mental distress and fear she may one day test positive for HIV herself.

"That would be a huge change, so we want to give it time to soak out there," said Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, the Rogers Redding, 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NCAA Men's Basketball
AP Top 25

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NCAA Men's Basketball
USA Today Top 25

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NFC Pre-Season Media Poll

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Jets quarterback Brett Favre informed the team Wednesday that he would retire from football after 19 seasons. Last March, Favre announced his retirement after 17 seasons with the Packers before eventually returning.

Favre informs Jets he's retiring

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brett Favre's done with football — again.

The 39-year-old quarter­back called the New York Jets on Wednesday morning to say he's retiring after 18 seasons, ending a record-setting career in which he became one of the NFL's all-time greats.

"He felt he had given us everything he had," general manager Mike Tannenbaum said, "and it was time for him to move on."

Favre, who retired last March only to return with the Jets, kept this goodbye simple — no tearful farewell or jam-packed news conference.

His decision came six weeks after his only season with the Jets ended in disappointment as New York failed to make the playoffs. In an e-mail to ESPN, Favre said he had no regrets about finishing his career in New York and praised coach Eric Mangini.

"My time with the Jets was short, but I'm honored to be given that chance," Favre wrote in the e-mail. "If this is indeed it for Favre, he leaves the game with a slew of records, including career touchdown passes (469), completions (6,729), yardage (56,263), regu­lar-season victories (169) and interceptions (318)."

"With Brett, there was always the possibility that he wouldn't play the second year," Johnson said. "We were hoping to get one good year out of Brett Favre. We picked him based on, in our opinion, his giving us the best chance to win last season. We were dis­appointed not to have made the Super Bowl, but we did some very good things with Brett."

And the team doesn't expect Favre, acquired by New York last August after a bitter breakup with Green Bay, to change his mind.

"He did not ask to be released," Tannenbaum said. "Everything he said was, he's done with football — again." Running back Thomas Jones and Kerry Rhodes were critical after the 2008 season because of their inability to get along with Favre. Both have said they're frustrated with their roles.

"Mike and Woody, as well as the entire organization, have been nothing short of out­standing," Favre said in the e-mail. "My teammates — the guys on the field, the guys on the bench — couldn't have been any better. I enjoyed playing with him for six years and I'm honored to call him a teammate."

Men's Lacrosse Pre-Season Media Poll

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In Brief

Tejada enters guilty plea on steroid perjury charges

WASHINGTON — Dressed in a defen­sant's dark suit instead of an All-Star's crisp uniform, Miguel Tejada became the first high-profile player convicted of a crime stemming from baseball's steroids era, pleading guilty Wednesday in federal court to misleading Congress about the use of performance-enhanc­ing drugs.

Under a plea agreement with the same prosecutors pursuing a perjury indictment against Roger Clemens, Tejada admitted he withheld informa­tion about an ex-teammate's use of steroids and human growth hormone — questions when posed by a House committ­ee's investigators in August 2005.

Sep 1, 2005 - TIGERSTLES VIA AP

Tejada — the 2002 American League MVP — the seven-time All-Star shortstop is looking to improve his chances of making the national team.

When Armstrong announced his comeback last year, the seven-time Tour de France winner said he wanted to prove he was clean, and was talking about the possibility of playing at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa if England qualifies. Major League Soccer set a Friday deadline for an agreement with AC Milan.

Armstrong's personal drug test plan fails through

DUNDEE — Lance Armstrong scrapped his much-publicized plan to set up an independent drug-test­ing program on Wednesday because of high costs and nearly impossible logistics.

When Armstrong announced his comeback last year, the seven-time Tour de France winner said he wanted to prove he was clean, and was teaming with anti-doping expert Don Catlin, who would test him and post the results online.

But Catlin told The Associated Press that after months of negotia­tions, both sides realized the pro­gram wasn't workable this year.

"It was going to be difficult," Catlin said. "There were so many issues in trying to get this going — legal issues, financial issues, and we sort of tried every way which, Eric could not have been any bet­ter. I enjoyed playing with him."

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball
No. 6 UCLA at No. 18 Ariziona State
9:29 p.m., ESPN

NBA
Boston, 02116
9:30 p.m., TNT
**Adrian** continued from page 20

need help from Hope in order to...
this weekend at legends

10pm
Student Stand-Up

2
THU
12

SETH ROGAN
JAMES FRANCO
PINEAPPLE EXPRESS
Free Pancakes
Breakfast and other Treats

12am

10pm

CHICAGO'S BEST
IMPROV COMEDY

BULLET LOUNGE

12pm

10pm
jon Mclaughlin

2
SAT
14

Killer Love

DJ breezy
Singles Only

12am

PARACHUTE

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eas for the opposition. While we've improved our offense and have got easier buckets," Higgins said.

"But what the Irish lack in experience, they more than make up for in work ethic and defense. Things are in flux on the offensive side, so we’ll see how it goes."

And that's certainly a sign that the Irish will look to play with the big kids on the playground.

"We're not there yet, but we're getting there," guard Tony Jackson said. "We need to keep improving.

"If a kid doesn't have the kind of physical attributes that Ryan has, that's a broken leg," Jackson said.

Thang, who has scored nine goals this season, sat out Sunday's game against Ohio State for the first time in his collegiate career. The Edina, Minnesota native said this is the first significant injury of his career.

"It's going to be weird," he said. "It's tough not being able to come back to the rink and skate, but hopefully I'll be able to get back into the lineup as soon as possible.

"These things are really funny," he said. "For some people you can heal fast, but for some people it can take up to eight weeks."

Time will tell."

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"And considering we've got a week off, I think it'll give 10 goals this season, sat out Sunday's game against Ohio State for the first time in his collegiate career. The Edina, Minnesota native said this is the first significant injury of his career.

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Jackson said. "Now it's just a matter of showing up even more.

"You don't replace guys like that," Jackson said. "You just make sure that guys who step in there contribute."
Park leads Irish squad to twelfth-place finish

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame finished 12th at the Northrop Grumman Regional in a field full of top-ranked teams in Palos Verdes, Calif.

No. 3 Arizona State came into the day leading the field, and combined for a 15-over par total to hold on for the win. Sun Devils golfer Juliana Murcia turned in yet another solid performance, shooting 2-over par to bring her total for the tournament to a 1-over 214, eight strokes ahead of second-place finisher Carlota Ciganda, also of Arizona State.

After Wednesday’s final round, the Irish came out in 12th place, with a 10-over par 956. Leading the Irish for the third day was sophomore All-American So-Hyun Park, who finished in a four-way tie for 20th place. She turned in a final-round 6-over 77, finishing 20-over for the three rounds.

Freshman Becca Huffer finished behind Park in a tie for 41st. Her 6-over performance was her best of the tournament and brought her stroke total to 237, 24-over par.

Rounding out the squad were the solid performances from junior Annie Brady, senior captain Lisa Maunu and sophomore Katie Conway. Brady shot a 1-over par for the day, the best performance by an Irish golfer at the tournament, and finished tied for 44th place at 240 strokes.

Maunu’s 8-over final-round score of 79 brought her to a total of 247, 34 strokes over par for all three rounds, causing her to drop seven places down to 65th in the field. Conway capped off the Irish with her own 8-over performance on the day. She finished in a four-way tie for 20th place, shooting 37-over par on a 250-stroke effort.

The Irish will now have a long break before traveling to Baton Rouge, La., for the Cleveland/LSU Classic on March 13th.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu
Weeks before the opening bell sounds this Sunday, boxers began their fight to get in shape. This week is crunch time for the fighters working to cut weight and make their final preparations. Senior Matt Posluszny, above, knows the ropes after three years in the Bouts. He said his final week is about mentally preparing, but that didn’t keep him from bundling up to break a good sweat. Knott junior Adam Steinbach, below, will make his boxing debut Sunday night. Steinbach has been training since last May and has lost over 30 pounds in the process. After two final days of pushing himself to the limit, he tipped the scales at 160 pounds Tuesday night, his lightest since junior high.
- Photos by Ian Gavlick
**ND Women’s Basketball**

**House of Cards**

Louisville picks up win at Joyce Center

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Despite giving up a 12-0 run, having two Louisville players register double-doubles, and shooting only 37.9 percent from the floor, No. 22 Notre Dame still had a chance to win at the end of Wednesday night’s game. Angel McCoughtry made sure they didn’t.

The 6-foot-1 Louisville senior forward nailed three free throws with 1:16 remaining in overtime loss to Louisville on Wednesday. Angel Hanson and Ryan Thang go down in Friday’s two of their top forwards, others must step up.

As the Irish prepare to face that same Louisville program tonight at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center, they find themselves in the midst of an arguably more brutal stretch, a stretch in which the team has lost seven consecutive games by an average of just about 14 points per contest. Those four captains know it’s up to them to prevent a sinking season from becoming a total wash.

“I think our seniors have drawn on their freshman year and have said we’re going to be really good captains through this,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “They remember as freshmen that leadership was the key.

“There’s no denying that Notre Dame needs good leadership now as the team continues to deal with issues on both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor. On the offensive end, the key term is efficiency.

“The most frustrating thing for me is we’re not playing the way we know how to play,” Hillesland said. “We’re playing against too good competition to have two good possessions then come down and take a quick shot that leads to a transition opportunity for these talented teams.

“When you get out of character and take bad shots, you try to do too much and you try to go out of your comfort zone, and teams make you pay for it.”

Those poor possessions have not only caused the Irish to shoot an uncharacteristic 41.3 percent from the field in Big East games, but also are hurting the team on their freshman year.

As the Irish look to dig themselves out of hole against Cardinals make you pay for it.”

“Tallest they’ve got, measuring at 6-foot-4. And even just watching Notre Dame next to another SMC Basketball

Hoopsters slam dunk Adrian on home floor

By ROBERT GRAHAM
Sports Writer

After losing to Hope a week and a half ago, the Belles knew the only way they would have a shot at the conference title would be if they won all of their remaining five games. After a scrappy, hard-fought win against Adrian last night at the Angela Athletic Complex, Saint Mary’s is more than halfway there in terms of accomplishing that goal.

Saint Mary’s (14-8, 12-2) pulled ahead early in the second half to defeat the visiting Bulldogs 77-71 after only being ahead 42-41 at halftime.

The game was a change of pace for the Belles, who have been on both sides of blowouts in three of their last four games, the most recent of which was a 66-39 win against Alma.

After leading by one at the half, Saint Mary’s fell behind by five to Adrian until there were about 10 minutes remaining. After a 9-0 rally, the Belles jumped ahead 63-59 and lead the rest of the way. The win extended the school record for most MIAA conference wins in a season to 12 and the team’s 14 wins overall are all the most since 1993.

Senior forward Erica Newsum recorded her sixth double-double of the season, scoring 22 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Freshman guard Paisy Mahoney also contributed 22 points and freshman forward Kelley Murphy contributed 14 points to the winning effort.

While the Belles will still see ADRIAN/page 14