FIGHTIN' WORDS

CHRIS CHOCOLA, JOE DONNELLY AND THE BATTLE FOR INDIANA'S SECOND DISTRICT
Although the dire political and social situation of Uganda is often unspoken, many at Notre Dame are taking action.
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David Poell
Scholastic dissects the insults, income and Irish involvement in the heated Indiana congressional race.

Sarah Barrett
Amid controversy over “The Vagina Monologues,” Notre Dame students have written a play expressing their own experiences with sexuality on campus.

Mike Laskey and Kate Dresser
WVFI and Chicago. Could there be a better combination?

Christopher Meskill
Planned renovations for the JACC may hamper the day-to-day activities of Notre Dame’s students and athletes.

Mike Healy
Scholastic’s humor editor waxes nostalgic about his favorite parts of the college scene.
PLAYING THE POLITICAL GAME:

Politics is a nasty business. It may get your name in the paper, make you wealthy and perhaps even result in schoolchildren being forced to read your name in history books for centuries to come. But unless you're willing to expose your professional and yes, even your personal life to the scrutiny of millions of people — some of whom hate your guts — you won't go very far. In addition to this, you better be equally prepared to pay other people to dig up nasty secrets about your opponent, associate him or her with other politicians with less-than-favorable reputations, and use misleading locations to twist their quotations. And at the end of the day, you still need enough chutzpah left over to be able to sleep each night.

The 2006 midterm election season has turned into one of the most high-stakes elections in recent memory. With political experts predicting an historic change in Congressional leadership this year, Democrats and Republicans alike have been forced to resort to drastic measures in order to gain political leverage. It seems that there has been no smear too extreme nor any tactic too despicable to come out of candidates' war rooms. Restrain is a dirty word; and as any politician will tell you, it won't win you elections.

In case you missed the nauseatingly high volume of political advertisements gracing the evening news, the local Congressional district (Indiana's fightin' second) is currently up for grabs. The two candidates, Democrat Joe Donnelly and Republican Chris Chocola, have each waged a no-holds-barred campaign to highlight their opponent's negative attributes. At press time, the candidates remain locked in a virtual dead heat, and it is anybody's best guess as to what factor will tip the scales on Tuesday.

With this in mind, Scholastic looked into the matter for itself to find out what has made these two men and their allies tick in the midst of a hyper-polarized political environment. During the past few weeks, David Poell, Scholastic's co-editor in chief, discussed several dynamics of the campaign with political observers, activists and the candidates themselves. Whether you are voting on Nov. 7th or not, we at Scholastic hope that you will find the piece informative.

Also, we at Scholastic would like to wish everyone an early happy Thanksgiving. In the meantime, enjoy the autumn foliage, brave the cold weather and pray for good fortune for the Fightin' Irish on Nov. 25th.
Lifetime service opportunities with multinational organization for graduating seniors.

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JUDGMENT CALLS

Lack of Campus Controversy
Scholastic looks back fondly on the days when Irish students would wax poetic on the artistic merit of vaginas.

USC Loses
Yeah, we understand that it's a bad thing for the Irish's strength of schedule. But we really hate that bouncy little troll Pete Carroll.

"Borat"
We like men in yellow thong bathing suits. So what?

"60 Minutes"
Any program that devotes an entire segment to the fact that Charlie Weis curses is definitely okay.

Notre Dame Halloween Costumes
Let's think twice before we wear spandex next time, okay? I'm glad we had this talk.

"Ugly Betty"
An entire hour devoted to shallow characters and fat jokes?! Yessssss!

A Changed Opinion
Notre Dame students take measures to address the world health crisis

In the September 21st issue of Scholastic, an editorial ran that criticized the university following the second annual Notre Dame Forum, which focused on the global health crisis. Scholastic predicted that little would be done apart from the formality of an academic discussion, thus rendering the forum's lofty goals as something beyond the scope of this university. A little more than a month later, Scholastic would like to rescind that statement. On behalf of the entire staff, we can officially state that we are impressed with the measures taken by Our Lady's University to alleviate the global health crisis.

Last week, three poignant and well received medical ethics lectures were delivered by highly acclaimed health professionals, addressing issues that are crucial to the crisis. After the forum and the lectures, a number of student leaders have taken the initiative of unifying the student body in opposing this problem. The two purveyors of this effort—seniors Amanda Golbabai and Brian Hambley—have asked for the help of all student organization leaders to unite and determine the best course of action this university's student body can take to solve this global health crisis.

As of now, Golbabai and Hambley have drawn up a plan of action that combines the rigor and character of this university to combat this terrible reality. They are issuing five initiatives to approach the problem: fundraising, political activism, academic inquiry, formal educational opportunity and faith.

This university is blessed to have so many eager young minds with such diverse skills. It is time to stand by our convictions as a Catholic institution and put our abilities to use in order to benefit others. We all have something to contribute to this effort; we simply need to identify it. As for Scholastic, we will support this cause through increased awareness. To start, we have outlined the problems in Uganda and the efforts of the Millennium Village on pages 6-7 of this issue.

Golbabai and Hambley will be discussing this issue on November 8th in the Notre Dame Room in the LaFortune Student Center. They ask that any student leader or highly interested student attend to offer their insights. We all can contribute to the betterment of this world, and this is a good place to start.

3 NOV 2006
Don’t Worry, Be Happy

A new interdisciplinary field makes its debut at Notre Dame

• Eric Gomez

There’s a new faith in town. Anyone who’s ever smiled believes in it, and practically all of Notre Dame’s student body is pursuing it. As Professor Darrin McMahon of Florida State University states, its popularity has risen to the point where it has begun “to occupy the space formerly occupied by religion.” McMahon was just one of 20 scheduled guest speakers offering opinions on the world’s most enigmatic emotion at “New Directions in the Study of Happiness: United States and International Perspectives,” a conference held from October 22–24 in McKenna Hall at Notre Dame.

But what is happiness? This is the central question behind Happiness Studies, a relatively new discipline that did not appear as a legitimate area of research in academia until the 1950s. No longer do we live in that state of nature the philosopher Thomas Hobbes described as “nasty, brutish and short.” Happiness has come to be an expected part of life in the modern Western world. Interest in Happiness Studies itself has grown exponentially with this expectation, and happiness has now been attributed to influencing everything in society from mortality rates to the economy.

The normalization of the pursuit of happiness is reflected in McMahon’s own definition of happiness as “the natural human state, the way men and women ought to be.” Speakers from a variety of disciplines including psychology, history and economics offered insights on happiness from their diverse perspectives. Professor Anthony Ong of Cornell University approached the subject from his field of human development by focusing on happiness as a small part of the multidimensional concept of well-being. “The question of ‘What is happiness?’ should be broadened to ‘What does it mean to be well?’” Ong says.

The struggle to grasp and define happiness was only one facet pursued at the conference. The presentations were divided into six categories, examining happiness’ role in everything from politics to the justice system. Some of the questions raised included whether democratic regimes make citizens happier, the effect of a strong welfare system on overall national happiness, and the relationship between happiness and obesity.

Pursuing happiness may be popular, but it might not be completely sound. Though Happiness Studies generally concerns itself with making people’s lives happier, whether that is missing the point is still up for debate. As Ong reflected, “It is only in the context of adversity and tragedy that the true meaning of life’s purpose can be expressed.”

Don’t Worry, Be Happy
3 NOV 2006
While poverty and war undeniably are life-destroying forces for billions of people, nothing could be further distanced from life at Notre Dame. Sheltered by our prosperity, many here are never forced to seriously discuss these issues, let alone take action.

But despite the insulation, many here are tackling these critical issues. Notre Dame is getting serious about fighting global suffering. During the Notre Dame Forum on September 14, 2006, the Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., announced the creation of the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative. The initiative will focus its resources in Uganda, an African nation with which the university has a strong relationship via the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Meeting Goals

The Millennium Project is an international effort to halve extreme poverty worldwide by 2015. Started by the United Nations in 2000, the project has set a number of specific goals to improve the human condition. These goals include eradicating extreme hunger, combatting diseases like malaria and HIV/AIDS, and reducing child mortality rates. The project is directed by economist Jeffrey Sachs, who also participated in the Notre Dame Forum where Fr. Jenkins announced Notre Dame’s involvement in the project.

In a letter to the university on September 26th, Fr. Jenkins explained Notre Dame’s commitment to the Millennium Village Project, an effort to achieve the Millennium Project’s goals in sub-Saharan Africa. According to Fr. Jenkins, Notre Dame’s involvement has two goals: “to assist villagers in implementing the interventions central to the Millennium Village Project and to provide faculty and students, both graduate and undergraduate, with research opportunities that contribute to human development.”

The Notre Dame Millennium Village Initiative will be lead by the Rev. Robert Fr. Dowd, C.S.C. Fr. Dowd, an assistant professor of political science at the university, specializes in African politics and has spent years conducting research across the continent. This October, Fr. Dowd travelled to Uganda with Initiative Assistant Director Tim Lyden and will remain there until late November. He explained in an editorial to be published in The Observer that for the project to succeed, it is necessary “that we begin with a great deal of listening.” Fr. Dowd says that by hearing the thoughts of Notre Dame community members, developmental experts and the people of Uganda, Notre Dame can find the best way to help “empower people to lift themselves out of poverty.”

A Wounded Nation

“It is as horrible as it is prevalent,” Lyden says of the poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. The region is the most impoverished on Earth and the most undernourished. More than 313 million people in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than $1 a day, and more than a third of the population faces starvation. In addition, the region struggles with geographic isolation, rampant disease, lack of drinkable water and an underdeveloped infrastructure. As such, the people of the area have the most to gain from the Millennium Project and face the most difficult road to achieve its goals.

Centered in sub-Saharan Africa is Uganda, a nation with a population of nearly 28 million people. Uganda struggles not only with the deep crises shared by its neighbors but also with an ongoing and deadly internal struggle. After achieving independence from the United Kingdom in the 1960s, Uganda underwent a series of military coups and bloody conflicts for control of the country. The current president, Yoweri Museveni, came to power in 1986 and remains a democratically elected leader, despite involvement in military conflicts and government corruption. Yet while Museveni has ruled for the last 20 years, rebellion in Northern Uganda has claimed thousands of lives and produced a terrifying humanitarian crisis.

The Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), a cult militia started by the extremist revolutionary Joseph Kony, has terrorized the region in its crusade against the Ugandan government. The LRA has been held responsible for many incidences of murder, kidnapping, torture and mutilation. The militia has also been known to abduct children and use them as soldiers, forcing the children to kill members of their own family. As the conflict has raged on, over two million people have been displaced from their homes and forced to live in
Hero, drew over 150 walkers from Notre Dame and the local community. In the spring, the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative will begin to offer more student activities and chances for participation. Fr. Jenkins intends to visit with other members of the Notre Dame community in January, and another group from the university will make the journey this summer, according to Fr. Dowd. The initiative is quickly gaining momentum. As Fr. Dowd says, “This project is not only an opportunity but our responsibility.”

Building on the foundation

To start working on the goals of the Millennium Village Project, Notre Dame hopes to build upon the relationship the university already has with the vailing country. Through the presence of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Notre Dame has established programs for teaching and research within Uganda. In addition, efforts led by the university and by students have helped to raise awareness and involvement on campus and across the country. In 2005, alumni Michael Poffenberger ’05 and Peter Quaranto ’06 started the Uganda Conflict Action Network: (Uganda-CAN) “to build a political constituency in the U.S. that could push for more responsible policy in Northern Uganda,” according to Quaranto.

Uganda-CAN helped to organize the October Gulu Walks that started last year and met expanded success this year. The walks gather attention for the plight of children in Northern Uganda. This year’s local walk, organized by senior Lindsay
Food Services aims to remove trans fat from dining halls

8 Doug Schlarman

You may notice something different about the food you're eating in the university dining halls. You might even feel a little healthier at the end of the day.

Notre Dame is currently taking steps to address one of the most deadly — yet least understood — substances found in an assortment of everyday foods: trans fats. This action coincides with a campaign to create a healthier dining hall environment, including posters and nutritional stickers scattered about both the North and South Dining Halls. Despite these changes in the food that many university students eat daily, Notre Dame Food Services is taking steps to ensure an improved nutritional profile and consistent taste in the food it serves.

Food Services Nutritional and Safety Manager Jocie Antonelli is involved with this campaign to improve the nutritional profile of dining hall food, which is centered around the removal of trans fats from the dining halls. "We really felt this was something we had to do," Antonelli says. "There was no reason not to make the switch."

Trans fats are a type of unsaturated fat that occurs naturally in animals like cows and sheep, and can be found in products taken from these animals, like milk and butter. However, most trans fats are produced artificially, through a process called hydrogenation. Hydrogen is added to vegetable oil, creating fats that have a variety of practical purposes. They aid in the refrigeration process, give a more defined shape and structure to baked goods, and provide a cheap alternative to vegetable frying oils. For this reason, trans fats are present in shortenings like Crisco, non-stick sprays, margarines and most common frying oils.

Despite their versatility, there is a health risk inherent in trans fats. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recognizes that some level of fat is necessary to maintain an active body. According to the FDA Web site, however, trans fats "provide considerable risk to the human body with no potential benefits." While a certain amount of unsaturated fat assists in stabilizing cholesterol levels, trans fats increase bad cholesterol levels.
which causes blockage of arteries and strains the heart muscle. This stress is associated with Type-2 diabetes, heart disease and certain kinds of cancers. The risk of death from a heart attack also increases. "[Trans fats] are a very real threat to our health," Antonelli says.

"The dining halls are always going through a balancing act: balancing the amount of space we have with the popularity of the food and how healthy it is."

—Jocie Antonelli, Food Services Nutritional and Safety Manager

The real danger of trans fat is that small amounts can have drastic effects on health. A recent study in The New England Journal of Medicine found that "a two-percent increase in [...] trans fatty acids was associated with a 23-percent increase in the incidence of coronary heart disease." Numbers such as these prompted the United States government to strengthen recommendations against trans fats, but many in the country remain unaware of their danger.

Because of the hazardous complications resulting from trans fat consumption, Notre Dame Food Services has chosen to take active steps to remove trans fats from the dining halls. "We are currently switching all of our fry oils and vegetable sprays [the non-stick sprays used on the waffle irons and panini grills] from trans fatty oils to oils without trans fat," Antonelli says. There is no specific date for this changeover, as each facet of Food Services is using the last of their stock containing trans fat before they can switch to healthier options. "We were waiting for our suppliers to make this switch," Antonelli says. "We like to be ahead of the trends."

In fact, the switch from products containing trans fat to those without has become a political trend recently. On September 26, 2006, the New York City Health Department presented a plan that essentially would ban trans fat from all New York City restaurants. The proposal is pending a series of public hearings and would go into effect on March 1, 2007. The Chicago City Council will discuss a similar bill within the year. "The recent media coverage definitely played into Notre Dame's decision," Antonelli says.

However, Notre Dame's decision to rid the dining halls of trans fat was not simple. There were many steps taken to ensure that the quality of the food would not suffer. "The dining halls are always going through a balancing act: balancing the amount of space we have with the popularity of the food and how healthy it is," Antonelli says. "We had to do a lot of testing of flavor profiles to ensure that our food would be just as good, if not better, after we removed the trans fat." Dining hall managers attended presentations about the new products they would be encountering to ensure they were prepared for the switch. Only after Food Services ensured the quality of the food did they decide to make the change.

Money was not a factor in Notre Dame's resolution. Although the switch will cost the university more money, Food Services believes that the quality of the trans fat-free oil it is buying will result in a longer shelf-life and a better product. In this manner, buying trans fat-free products may be financially beneficial for Notre Dame.

However, Notre Dame is still not completely without trans fats. They remain present in the icings used in Food Services' desserts, in addition to many of the frozen foods found in the dining hall or Grab 'n' Go. Antonelli ensures that steps are being taken to switch these products out for healthier options. "We are currently doing testing right now to see if we could improve the nutritional profile of these items," she says. "It is something we're still investigating."

Despite the continued presence of trans fats in the dining hall, Food Services is attempting to provide the kind of healthy, appealing food that landed the university in the top 20 of The Princeton Review's rankings for "Best Campus Food." "We have to do our best to balance what people should be eating and what they want to eat," Antonelli says.
TWO YEARS AFTER BEING DEFEATED, DOES JOE DONNELLY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN A REMATCH AGAINST INCUMBENT CHRIS CHOCOLA?

• DAVID POELL

Former President Lyndon Johnson didn’t like to mince words. Legend has it that during one of Johnson’s heated political campaign he told an aide to accuse his opponent of being a “pig f---er,” for no other reason than to have the satisfaction of hearing the alleged deviant deny it. Like Johnson, today’s politicians are the heirs to a tradition of mudslinging and partisan bickering that has been perfected into an art form, especially in races where the margin of victory is predicted to be razor-thin. The battle for control of Indiana’s 2nd District in the House of Representatives between Democratic candidate Joe Donnelly and Republican incumbent Chris Chocola has been no exception. RealClearPolitics.com has ranked Indiana’s 2nd as the 12th most likely House seat to switch parties, and the Cook Political Report describes the race as a virtual toss-up. As the race enters its final weekend, it remains to be seen if Donnelly has what it takes to unseat an extremely well financed opponent who defeated Donnelly by nine percentage points in 2004. Yet, regardless of whether Donnelly emerges from Election Day victorious, the race is sure to be remembered for producing one of the most contentious political environments of the 2006 Midterm Election season.

The Rejuvenated Challenger

On a cool autumn evening in October just a few weeks ago, Ted and Michele Beatty threw a party at their South Bend suburban home. At first glance, the gathering had all the attributes of a rather mundane, albeit festive, affair comprised of upper middle class families from around the area. One could tell that everybody in the house was enjoying the general sense of community that the party was designed to inspire. Yet a closer sampling of the conversations percolating in the room made one realize that the purpose of the Beatty’s party transcended...
the banality of the setting. There was revolution in the air that night, and it was all because of the Beatty’s guest of honor, a local lawyer and businessman named Joe Donnelly.

Donnelly arrived at the party that night to a hero’s welcome. One of the first people to greet the candidate was an elderly woman by the name of Jo Lake, who enthusiastically called him “Congressman Donnelly,” only to concede that she knew such a title was premature. Making sure to shake the hands of everybody present — teenagers and small children included — Donnelly manages to exude the aura of a confident, natural politician who knows what he’s doing. It is clear that he has emerged from his nine-percentage point loss to Chocola in 2004 relatively unscathed and ready for a rematch. After he had introduced himself to everyone, Ted Beatty formally welcomed the candidate to his home and described what he, and everybody else in the room, viewed as an historic time in American politics. “You need hope if you're in politics,” Beatty said, “and Joe represents the hope that this country could switch direction.”

Speaking in front of the family’s fireplace, Donnelly delivered his stump speech to wave after wave of applause. In defining himself as a candidate, Donnelly has tried to portray himself as a moderate Democrat with a working class image who will provide an independent voice for his constituents. “There’s a real feeling that the people of Indiana, the people from here in our town, that everyday folks and working families are going to be the ones who change this country. We will win this seat, and when we win this seat we will win the Congress, and when we win the Congress we’re going there for one reason: to make this country a better place,” Donnelly said. Like many Democratic candidates this election cycle, Donnelly is trying to capitalize on extremely low approval ratings for both the Republican-controlled Congress and an embattled President George W. Bush, whose administration is plagued by the quagmire in Iraq.

As the speech progressed, Donnelly painted his opponent, Chris Chocola, as an out-of-touch patrician who is beholden to the interests of pharmaceutical lobbyists and an overall culture of corruption in Washington. “We look at our congressman for the last four years and we deserve better than a rubber stamp for this president and this Congress. It’s time for an independent voice. And when I win, I’m going there to represent you, not the special interests of this country,” Donnelly said.

Donnelly’s supporters at the Beatty’s that night held the fervent belief that they were all at the center of a momentous grass-roots effort that could help sweep a Democratic majority into government once again. “You really wonder if this is the best use of his time,” said Ted Beatty in reference to Donnelly’s attendance at his residence that night. “But this is real democracy! This is the epicenter of the grass-roots movement,” he says.

Mobilizing the Democratic Base

Ever since losing their majority in the House of Representatives to the Republicans in 1994, the Democrats have failed to secure any sizeable political momentum, save for Bill Clinton’s presidential win over Republican Bob Dole in 1996. A byproduct of these electoral failures has been an increased level of hostility toward the Republican majority on the part of the Democrats, which has resulted in the latter’s desire to be politically relevant again. Recent polling data shows that such a time may well be at hand. According to a recent Associated Press-Pew Research Poll conducted in late September, the interest of American voters in politics is at its highest level since 1994, with 70 percent of those polled saying they are discussing the issues with family and friends.

Donnelly’s campaign manager Katie Nee identifies this revitalized interest in the public’s political motivations, combined with a general sense of mistrust toward a powerful Republican majority, as the main reason for Donnelly’s relative success against Chocola in polls so far. Throughout the summer and early fall, several polls have shown Donnelly with a steady lead over Chocola. In the most recent Research 2000 Poll, conducted from Oct. 16-17th, a sample of 400 likely voters favored Donnelly 50 percent to 45 percent over Chocola, with five percent still undecided.

Nee and I met at her office at the Donnelly campaign headquarters, located in downtown South Bend. The headquarters was occupied by several volunteers calling Donnelly supporters and was littered with partisan-labeled placards, chief among them a black and white slogan that simply said “Had enough?” — a reference to what most Democrats view as the Republicans’ sheer mismanagement of government. When asked why she thought Donnelly was faring better now than he did in 2004, Nee focused on the shortcomings of Chocola. “I think the reason that we’re winning is that he cares about people who were willing to give Chocola and the Republican Congress a shot. And in the two years that they gave him he just got cozy with the special interests," Nee says.

Nee characterizes the Donnelly campaign strategy as one that has been defined by the intensity of its supporters, an element that is common among a sizeable portion of Democrats this year. According to a New York Times/CBS News Poll conducted in early October, 46 percent of Democrats consider themselves more enthusiastic about voting this year than in previous
elections, compared with only 33 percent of Republicans. "Really our strategy has just been to work hard and to go from one end of the district to the other in order to have Joe in as many places as we can," she says. Nee has been especially pleased with the increased level of Donnelly's television exposure in the form of advertisements, which has highlighted various elements of Chocola's tenure in Congress so far. "Really the focus is just to compare and contrast," she says. "I think that there is so much riding on this election and so much at stake in our country that we have a responsibility to make sure voters know his voting record."

In an interview with Donnelly, the candidate summed up his strategy down the stretch in hyperbolic fashion. "Sleep is not an option," Donnelly says. "Sleep is not an option," Donnelly says.

Helen Adeosun, co-president of Notre Dame's chapter of the College Democrats, generally agrees with Nee on the importance of tying Chocola to the Republican Party's negative national image, but she insists that local issues must also play a part in Donnelly's electoral success. "In going door-to-door and talking to people, I come from the mindset politically that all politics is local. In these midterms, that could not be more true," Adeosun says.

In attempting to frame the election in terms of Indiana politics, Adeosun points out the low approval ratings of northern Indiana residents toward the Republican Governor Mitch Daniels as a factor that has damaged Chocola's political stock. During his first two years in office, Daniels leased the Indiana toll road to a foreign company for 75 years and brought daylight savings time to Indiana, two decisions that have resulted in dissatisfaction.

Professor John Roos of the political science department believes that Chocola has not done enough to distance himself from the governor. "If the northern part of the state [Daniels] is enormously unpopular on those two issues. So Donnelly has criticized Chocola for not standing up and speaking to Daniels or taking a position. Chocola says it's a local matter, but there's no question that it's hurting Chocola," Roos says.

Throughout the election season, the College Democrats have worked with the Donnelly campaign in an effort to generate enough local support to sweep Donnelly into office. In the course of phone-banking and canvassing local communities on behalf of their candidate, Adeosun hopes she and her allies can help fill the gap in voter turnout that existed between Donnelly and Chocola in 2004. "Conveniently enough, South Bend is a heavily Democratic area. The problem I saw with the 2004 election was that South Bend should have been better represented in the nine-point deficit between Donnelly and Chocola. That's what we're trying to do this year," Adeosun says.

Yet for all the talk about 2006 being a watershed year for Donnelly and the Democrats thanks to an increasingly mobilized voting base, there is another element for Donnelly that has been extremely instrumental in his increased chances of victory this time around: an infusion of money. In contrast to 2004, Donnelly has garnered attention from the Democratic national leadership and has received substantial contributions from labor unions and law firms. According to his finance reports covering the first 18 days of October that were filed with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) last week, Donnelly raised $187,206 for the period, and his receipts for the election so far total over $1.3 million. At the time of filing, Donnelly still had $242,324 cash on hand to spend for the remainder of the campaign.

Perhaps one of the most influential assets to the Donnelly campaign this election cycle has been his positive relationship with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), a national committee that did not endorse Donnelly in 2004. Despite differing with the DCCC on certain social issues (Donnelly is pro-life while the Democratic leadership is predominantly pro-choice), Donnelly praises his relationship with the organization. "I have a great relationship with the DCCC, and there is no litmus
test on any issue. They strongly support that. My job is to represent the people of this district, not this party,” Donnelly says.

The most significant infusion of money from the DCCC has come in the form of television advertisements courtesy of the DCCC’s independent expenditure wing. Independent expenditures operate under the domain of certain political action committees, but by law there can be no coordination between the independent expenditures and the party’s leadership or an individual candidate. According to Adrienne Elrod, a spokeswoman for the DCCC, the DCCC has so far put about $725,000 toward television advertisements. When asked if the DCCC could continue to support Donnelly down the stretch, Elrod assured me that they would, saying, “We’re still going to be doing a television buy. We will be on TV for him.”

Chris Chocola and the GOP Machine

Despite trailing in various polls, two-term incumbent Chris Chocola does not act like a man who is currently engaged in a fight for his political life. When I met with him two weeks ago at his campaign headquarters in South Bend, Chocola was in good spirits about his chances for victory and was eager to discuss the issues of the campaign. Chocola downplayed the negative national image of the Republicans and instead framed the election as a choice between two very different candidates policy wise. “There’s no question that this is a challenging election for incumbents in general and Republicans in particular,” Chocola says. “But elections are about individuals. Elections are about the choice between two people, and that’s what people will do on November 7th.”

In defending his record, Chocola talked primarily about his reputation as a defender of pro-growth tax policy and his national security credentials, two bedrock principles of the Republican majority that have been effective at mobilizing Republican voters the past two election cycles.

Given the incumbent’s clear vulnerability to a Donnelly campaign that is better financed and organized now than it was in 2004, it is becoming clear that Chocola’s chances of victory will ultimately hinge on two crucial factors: his almost 3-to-1 funding advantage over Donnelly and GOP voter turnout in the 2nd district. According to the most recent FEC finance records, Chocola’s campaign has collected over $2.9 million and still has $656,687 in cash on hand. Also, during the first 18 days of October, Chocola outspent Donnelly by a 2-to-1 margin and spent about $340,000 on television advertising, according to The South Bend Tribune. “Holding big external events constant, I do think that the most likely way for Chocola to win is to overwhelm Donnelly in the last two weeks with direct mail especially,” Roos says. “Chocola is just dropping massive amounts of direct mail just like he did in 2002 [in Chocola’s victory over Democrat Jill Long Thompson], and the question is whether he’ll have enough of an advantage there to eke out a margin.”

Luckily for Chocola, running out of money is not an issue. With an estimated worth of over $15 million, Chocola was placed No. 20 on Roll Call’s 2004 list of the 50 wealthiest Congressmen. According to Ed Patru, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), given Chocola’s strong advantage in campaign funding, the NRCC will not contribute any funds directly to his campaign during the final weeks. “With this fundraising advantage, Chocola will have all the resources he needs to win this race,” Patru says. Patru did note, however, that independent expenditures by the NRCC in Indiana’s 2nd District race have totaled $373,772, mostly in the form of advertising. According to FEC records, the majority of this money has been in the form of advertising against Donnelly.

“It’s not that they’re negative ads, it’s that it’s important for voters to know the difference between the two candidates.”

—Katie Nee, Donnelly’s campaign manager
When I asked Chocola about his campaign's general strategy for the home stretch, he gave me a sly smile and pointed to the prevalence of cell phones laid out on tables around his headquarters. "See all these phones around here?" he quipped. "Elections are a choice between two individuals. Polls can say whatever they want. But what matters is who votes on election day. And one thing the Republicans have learned how to do very well is get out the vote [...] We've had people using these phones and going to doors, and we know who the Republicans are in this district through months and months of identification," Chocola said.

This election cycle, the Indiana Republican Party is running what they call their own "Defend This House" program. A pamphlet promoting the campaign boasts that this operation is the most aggressive Get Out the Vote (GOTV) operation the Indiana GOP has ever undertaken. The program began on Oct. 27th as part of a 12-day blitz that will continue until election day. Taking advantage of their superior funding, the GOP has made the program incentive-based. Dividing each day into 3-hour shifts, the GOP will pay each volunteer $50 for every three shifts, and $200 for 12 shifts.

Jonathan Klingler, president of the Notre Dame chapter of the College Republicans, is extremely optimistic about the effectiveness of the Indiana GOTV program and believes that it will ultimately tip the scales for Chocola on election day. In describing the Republicans' fight for the House this November, Klingler cannot help but conjure up the image of the 13th century Scottish hero William Wallace. "In 'Braveheart,' William Wallace faces all these obstacles in front of him, and everything says he should lose. And we've seen that in the past and defeated the Democrats. And they throw so much money, so many volunteers against us and we've continued to win. So the greater the odds the more energized our people get because we know we have the ability to win," Klingler says.

An Independent Voice Protecting Our Values

www.donnellyforcongress.com

The Negativity Factor

Yet for all the sophisticated maneuvering of each camp, it is impossible to avoid the cutthroat negative campaigning on both sides that has shaped the high-stakes mood of this election. During the fall season, each candidate has been viciously attacked by television and radio ads, along with direct mailings that highlight negative aspects of one of the candidates. This campaign, almost everything has been fair game. Donnelly has been the subject of ads that point out his failure to pay certain property taxes on time, even alleging that he misappropriated funds from others; Chocola has been attacked continuously for his alleged coziness with big businesses.

The primary strategy in advertisements put out by Donnelly For Congress, Inc. has been to portray Chocola as a politician who is beholden to the Bush administration and an unpopular Congress while simultaneously benefiting from business relationships with various special interest groups like the oil and pharmaceutical industries. Donnelly has been aided in this strategy by several DCCC and Moveon.org ads which, though not formally endorsed by the Donnelly campaign, are filled with negative imagery and similar themes. In one DCCC ad criticizing Chocola's alleged close relationship with the oil industry, romantic music plays in the background while an archetypal oil tycoon exchanges bouquets of roses for boxes of chocolate representing tax breaks, courtesy of Chocola. The ad is entitled "A Washington Love Affair" and asks, "Don't you wish Chris Chocola cared about you this much?" In our interview, Donnelly said that he has asked Chocola to run a positive campaign, a sentiment he reiterated in the candidates' final debate last Saturday. "I intended to run a positive campaign, but his hallmark has always been running the nastiest campaign a person could possibly run, and he leaves you no alternative to respond. He set the tone on this issue," Donnelly says.

Nee asserted that judging an ad as negative or not was a matter of interpretation. "I think that we don't consider them negative," Nee said. "It's not that they're negative ads, it's that it's important for voters to know the difference between the two candidates." It was a masterful display of spin that can only be expressed by the most clever campaign strategist.
Unfortunately for Donnelly, some ads run by politically liberal organizations like the DCCC and Moveon.org have played right into Chocola's strategy of associating Donnelly with a left-leaning Democratic establishment that is allegedly out of touch with "Hoosier values." One of the most controversial ads run by the DCCC during the summer shows pictures of American soldiers' flag-draped coffins. The Republican establishment immediately lambasted the Democrats for using dead Americans for political gain, and Donnelly got caught up in the maelstrom. Failing to distance himself immediately from the advertisement — which was later pulled by networks — the Donnelly camp gave Chocola ample ammunition when Katie Nee was quoted in The Hill, a D.C.-based newspaper, as saying, "Joe's not in favor of cutting and running, but he feels it is appropriate to see what sacrifices have been made." Chocola immediately jumped on the quote and initiated a media blitz of commercials and direct mailings that mentions Nee's use of "appropriate" to describe Donnelly's stance on the issue. (Donnelly issued a statement saying he would not have supported the ad.) The most extreme ads derived from the fallout appeal to voters' emotions by using a South Bend woman who lost a son in Iraq. The final sentence of the woman's statement says, "It's inexcusable that Joe Donnelly would play politics with our troops."

When asked about the high level of negativity coming from his campaign, Chocola described the ads as a natural byproduct of humanity's fascination with and attraction to the morbidity of nature. "The unfortunate thing is, when you turn on the six o'clock news [...] it's rarely something positive that is the lead story. It's somebody got in a car wreck on the toll road, some house burned down or somebody killed somebody last night. It's not positive stuff and so the reality is, whether we like to admit it or not, the negative ads appeal to human nature and people watch them and remember them. They don't want to admit that to themselves, but they do. I wish it was different. I really do," Chocola says.

"There are great inconsistencies in Democratic candidates saying what they believe and what they do when they get there."

— Chris Chocola

Lately, one of Chocola and the GOP's favorite jeremiads has been raising the specter of a House led by California congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, a self-proclaimed liberal who would presumably become Speaker of the House in the event of a Democratic majority in the House. Nothing captures this Republican sense of dread more than a satirical newspaper in the Chocola phone bank called America Weakly (pun intended) in which the Republican National Committee (RNC) prophesizes about the supposed road to ruin that lies ahead if the Democrats win.

In Chocola's opinion, Donnelly's whole premise of running as an independent voice for Indiana falls apart if he cannot distance himself from Pelosi and other Democratic icons like Hillary Clinton and Ted Kennedy, both of whom grace the cover of America Weakly. At the end of our conversation, Chocola professed that he would not vote for any Republican leader whose views differed from his own and challenged Donnelly's ability to hold to such a standard as well.

"There are great inconsistencies in Democratic candidates saying what they believe and what they do when they get there [...] And it's hypocritical to say I'm for all this stuff, but I'm going to vote for people who aren't. That's not independence; that's hypocrisy," Chocola says.

As a longtime observer of American politics, Roos has developed a perspective on the implications of negative campaigning and what it currently means for the state of the nation. Given the closeness of the race, Roos does not fault Chocola for running a predominantly negative campaign, noting that it's natural for an embattled incumbent to define his or her opponent negatively before the opponent constructs a positive image. Roos calls this "preemptive negativity." Yet he worried more about some of the long-reaching effects of the bitter partisanship on the American voting population. "I think it's especially problematic in America," Roos says. He describes the problem mostly as a disconnect between what people claim to be important and what they really believe to be important. "Even though we think [elections] are important and we say it's especially important, the average person is less engaged and less connected than many European democracies. If they're relatively less attentive and have less information, in that environment negativity works best."

As entertaining as political spectacle may be, perhaps it is best that it is only every couple years that politicians, who are supposed to represent the interests of the people, have to resort to such debased forms of discourse to get their messages across. The war of attrition between Chris Chocola and Joe Donnelly is finally near the end, and one man will emerge from the struggle victorious next Tuesday. Hopefully the winner can put aside any lingering qualms and travel to Washington a better man for having put himself through the grueling process that is the American political campaign. Perhaps the French political thinker Alexis de Tocqueville put it best: "There are many men of both parties in America, but there is no party of principle."
Mozart, Brahms, Schumann and Ravel, working on a vocal solo or performing among others. Both vocal and instrument approaches by the music department and Bach's Lunch has recently featured Notre Dame musicians performing works by music through informal gatherings, performance majors are featured in the preparing for more formal concerts. People that they know are working on Notre Dame music majors and faculty. Students are warming up for the afternoon's experience in front of an audience. Concerts, allowing students to gain valuable encouragement to practice pieces they are on an instrument, student musicians are department is small enough that they ask given the opportunity to perform. Exceptionally talented students are students moving musicians with an intimate yet professional setting. "The Penote provides students to highlight other "The Penote is a good space for Though the Penote is a good space for "Bach's Lunch is free and open to the public, though tickets need to be reserved because people are right there in front of friends. Because Bach's Lunch is scheduled for them, you're not nervous," Shaneyfelt says. Shaneyfelt agrees that the double entendre title of the series is so informal; you're supposed to bring your lunch and just have a good time. There were no tickets left for this recitals go, people tend to stay away unnecessary formality associated with the more you get to perform in the setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial. "You're going to become more comfortable with an intimate yet professional setting proves beneficial."
Midday Music

Campus musicians perform in the DPAC’s Bach’s Lunch program

Regina Gesicki

A
fter class ends at 11:30 a.m. on
Friday, most students begin
focusing their energy on the
night’s plans or the next day’s football game. But in the Penote Performers’ Assembly of
the Marie P. Debartolo Performing Arts
Center, the peers of these preoccupied
students are warming up for the afternoon’s
Bach’s Lunch, an informal concert featuring
Notre Dame music majors and faculty.

Started in early 2005 to highlight
student artists and promote student and
community appreciation for classical
music through informal gatherings,
Bach’s Lunch has recently featured Notre
Dame musicians performing works by
Mozart, Brahms, Schumann and Ravel,
among others. Both vocal and instrument
performance majors are featured in the
concerts, allowing students to gain valuable
experience in front of an audience.

Exceptionally talented students are
approached by the music department and
given the opportunity to perform. Whether
working on a vocal solo or performing
on an instrument, student musicians are
encouraged to practice pieces they are
preparing for more formal concerts. “The
department is small enough that they ask
people that they know are working on
a piece,” says junior Nicholas
Shaneyfelt, a computer science and
piano performance double major.

The Penote provides students
with an intimate yet professional
setting. “The Penote was chosen
because it is one of the smaller
performance spaces with good
acoustics, especially for voice, and
it is [a performance space] in which
food is acceptable,” says Jennifer
Marley, coordinator of office services for
publicity and outreach in the Department
of Music.

The double entendre title of the series
aims to encourage the audience to bring
lunch to the 12:10 p.m. performances on
Friday, hopefully removing some of the
unnecessary formality associated with
classical music. “I think as far as classical
recitals go, people tend to stay away
from them because they’re not sure of
the etiquette,” Shaneyfelt says. “Bach’s
Lunch is so informal; you’re supposed
to bring your lunch and just have a good
time. There were no tickets left for this
performance. And it just showed that
people were willing to have a good time in
an informal setting.”

Though the Penote is a good space for
students moving from practice
rooms in Crowley Hall to other
contents at larger
venues, it provides
a challenge for
the artists. “It’s a
really small space
so it’s kind of hard for a singer
because people are
right there in front of you,”
says senior Erin
Smith, a political
science and vocal
performance
double major who performed on September
29th.

Still, the initial obstacle of the intimate
setting proves beneficial. “It was good
because if you can perform in that setting,
it’s a lot easier to perform on a stage when
you’re separated from your audience,”
Smith says. Shaneyfelt agrees that the
somewhat daunting intimacy of the Penote
hones performance skills by creating a
close rapport between audience and artist.
“You’re going to become more comfortable
the more you get to perform in front of
people, especially in this kind of setting,”
he says.

Bach’s Lunch is free and open to the
public, though tickets need to be reserved
through the DPAC box office. Scheduled
in the early afternoon, the concerts draw
crowds from the university as well as the
greater community. “I know there are
some regulars from South Bend that
come,” Shaneyfelt says. Both he and Smith
emphasized the benefit of performing in
front of friends. “When you’re surrounded
by your friends and you’re performing
for them, you’re not nervous,” Shaneyfelt
says. Because Bach’s Lunch is scheduled
on a weekday afternoon, students are
comfortable dropping in to support their
friends. “There were probably 60 to 70
people there, which is pretty good for
an afternoon concert, when people have
class,” Smith says. “It’s almost like you’re
sitting in your living room playing.”
Students Explore a New Concentration in the Music Department

Michael O'Connor

The Notre Dame Department of Music is unfamiliar to many undergraduate students. It is a common misconception that music majors only study music history or take lessons in their specific instrument or in voice. The major, however, is actually broken up into three different concentrations: history and theory, performance and the newest concentration, music and culture, which was introduced this fall.

The idea to form the concentration was developed under the guidance of Donald Crafton, the interim chair of the music department. Other universities around the country have similar programs that focus on ethnomusicology, or the study of the music of a specific culture, but Notre Dame's goal has been to make its program distinct from these other courses of study.

Karen Buranskas, director of undergraduate teaching and learning in the music department, had a central role in this process by leading the committee to form the new curriculum. "We wanted to diversify the offerings in the music department," Buranskas says. "We plan to integrate the concentration with our traditional Western musical theory and courses so that majors can have a more comprehensive and rewarding learning experience."

One professor teaching new courses in the concentration is Stefan Fiol, a Ph.D. student at the University of Illinois currently working on his dissertation and teaching two courses at Notre Dame during the fall semester. With a research interest in popular and religious music in Northern India, Fiol is able to capitalize on his ethnomusicology knowledge and background by teaching courses like “Understanding World Music” and “Music, Religion, and Media in South Asia.” The courses are also designed to expose students to live musical performances with instruments that are studied, such as the sitar and mbira.

"This concentration is very timely," Fiol says. "Everyone recognizes the need for it, both within the major and for other undergraduate students looking to broaden their horizons while fulfilling their fine arts requirement." Fiol hopes that his courses break musical stereotypes, showing the difference between traditional, commercial and religious music in places like India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. "I try to show the students indigenous music that they would never see anywhere else," Fiol says. "I want to give them a respect for the cultures and the music that influences them."

The promising concentration seems to be affecting students in a way that Fiol and Buranskas hope for. Alex Woller, a sophomore music major and a student in Fiol’s “Understanding World Music” class, sees the music and culture concentration as a launching point for a more long-term research interest. "I want to go to graduate school for ethnomusicology, so it’s great having readings and musical recordings from around the world."

But the courses are not just for those thinking of pursuing graduate work in ethnomusicology. Kaitlin Shorrock, a senior political science major, are taking the course for other purposes. Fiol’s South Asia course cross-lists with anthropology, allowing Shorrock to take it as a major elective. Rojas is taking Fiol’s class as his fine arts requirement. "The course is particularly interesting because of the opportunity to become exposed to new styles of music, while asking questions about the relations between music and culture, how it is formed, who performs the music and how it penetrates society," Shorrock says. Rojas agrees, commenting that he particularly enjoys learning about world music when "so little access to global music exists in the United States." Through music majors and non-majors alike, the new concentration in music and culture will certainly help introduce Notre Dame students to this growing area of study.
The Notre Dame Department of Music hopes to offer a new concentration in music and culture. In an attempt to bring more undergraduate students to ethnomusicology, the department is working with the concentration. Alex Woller, a senior majoring in music and culture, agrees, commenting that he particularly enjoys learning about world music and how it is formed, recognizing the need for it, both culturally and musically.

The concentration is very promising, and Buranskas says it will be affecting students in a way that Fiol says, "We want to make music that they would never see to show the students indigenous music in places like India, Nepal and Bangladesh." Stefan Fiol, a Ph.D. working on his dissertation and background by teaching courses in ethnomusicology knowledge that majors can have a more comprehensive experience. The concentration is very promising, and Buranskas says it will be affecting students in a way that Fiol says, "We want to make music that they would never see to show the students indigenous music in places like India, Nepal and Bangladesh." Stefan Fiol, a Ph.D. working on his dissertation and background by teaching courses in ethnomusicology knowledge that majors can have a more comprehensive experience.

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My trip to the Jinmao Tower...

Our first stop in Shanghai was the Jinmao Tower. At 88 stories, it is the tallest building in Shanghai. It was the tallest building in the world in 2003, but there have been about three buildings that have surpassed it since then. You can see almost all of Shanghai from the tower. You'd be able to see everything, but after about two miles, the city begins to blend into a cloud of smog.

The second place we visited was the City God Temple. The only working temple in Shanghai, it is dedicated to the god of the city (as the title might suggest). The caretakers gave us incense to light and instructed us to make a wish. Then, we placed the incense on the altar. More interesting, though, was the ritual that was going on inside the temple when we arrived. During one of the daily prayers, we saw about eight temple authorities playing their instruments and reciting prayers. In addition to the prayers and ceremonies, we walked through some really interesting gardens that were like mazes that just kept going.

Visiting Nanjing...

During a trip to Nanjing, we dropped off our bags at the hotel and headed for the Rape of Nanjing Memorial. This was a sobering experience. It is dedicated to the over 300,000 citizens who were systematically killed, raped and pillaged in the city when the Japanese invaded. The memorial is one of a series of mass graves all over the city. Not only did it display pictures of the massacred, but the memorial left bones of the excavated grave open for public viewing, as well as the iron nails hammered into the people to save ammunition. The memorial was moving and opened my eyes to how brutal the Japanese invasion was. After the memorial, we left and had time for one more trip, so we decided to see the kilometer-long bridge that crosses the Yangtze River. We went to a giant pagoda structure to see the impressive view of the bridge.

Climbing the Mountain...

A week had passed since the Nanjing trip and we were off to Taishan, the most-often climbed mountain in the world. I did not want to go on this trip because it was supposed to be freezing cold (the high was 24 degrees Fahrenheit), not to mention it involved climbing a mountain. After my travelling, I wasn't in the mood to get back on a train. I finally decided to deal with it.

After arriving at the hotel and having breakfast, the group began the expedition to scale Taishan. We knew many dangers awaited us, but the group had a firm resolve to climb it successfully as we made our way to the base of the climb. The behemoth is almost a mile tall. Instead of using trails to scale the mountain, climbers use stairs - six thousand and six hundred of them! It was a balmy 65 degrees outside, over 40 degrees higher than had been predicted. Daoist and Buddhist temples are situated at various spots along the climb. I bought some incense to set on the altar. Apparently I bought more than what I needed. After bowing and putting it in the giant incense holder, the man I bought it from dragged me inside the temple, had me bow three times in front of three statues and then had me sign my name in the ledger. My name is now in a ledger in a Daoist temple, halfway up the climb of Taishan.

THE TAISHAN MOUNTAIN

The last part of the climb was 100 meters of vertical staircases with no spots to rest. My lungs were fine, surprisingly, but my knees were dead. On the very last stretch, I had to rest on every step to make it up. People were cheering us on at the top, and finally, we made it. There is a saying that if you climb to the top of Taishan, you will live to be 100. That means I have 79 years left ahead of me.

Thanks, mountain.

Dave Hartung is an off-campus senior who studied in Shanghai, China.

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WSRF 88.9fm

The Sound
CITIES AND PEAKS: EXPLORING CHINA

- Dave Hartung

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Dave Hartung is an off-campus senior who studied in Shanghai, China.
LOYAL DAUGHTERS
Sexuality and Sexual Assault as told by Notre Dame students

- Sarah Barrett

A revolutionary event is about to take place on the Notre Dame campus. Last spring, the university's debate over academic freedom and Catholic character attracted national media coverage. The primary cause of this deeply politicized discussion was Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues," a production performed across the globe aiming to end sexual violence against women and girls.

While recognizing the need to discuss the issues of sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame, antagonism solidified in the production's opposition to Catholic teaching. Inspired by this discussion, senior Emily Weisbecker responded constructively, advancing the goals of the monologues while heeding the Catholic character of the university. Her initiative, a production entitled "Loyal Daughters," will do just that. Written specifically for Notre Dame, about Notre Dame students and by a Notre Dame student, "Loyal Daughters" exposes sexuality and sexual assault as a reality experienced by both men and women regardless of political or religious affiliation. By incorporating the theological perspective absent in the monologues, "Loyal Daughters" provides an avenue in which these important issues can be discussed at a Catholic institution.

With the backing of an undergraduate research opportunity grant from the Institute for Scholarship in Liberal Arts, Weisbecker began to work. Collecting a small number of written submissions and conducting over 50 interviews of Notre Dame students, faculty and staff last spring, Weisbecker hit the ground running. Her goal was to explore sexuality and sexual assault as it is experienced by Notre Dame students, thus incorporating perspectives from members on both sides of "The Vagina Monologues" debate. "I am presenting a show that exposes what happens on our campus in a way that allows the audience to make their own decisions and judgments," she says. "I want to attract the picketers who stand outside 'The Vagina Monologues' just as much as the supporters seated inside. People will be shocked by the truth."
“Loyal Daughters” incorporates the perspectives of Catholics and non-Catholics, conservatives and liberals, and males and females, as both perpetrators and survivors. “I actually have accounts of male survivors and male perpetrators, as well as female perpetrators,” Weisbecker notes. Voicing such diverse opinions, the production opens up the dialogue of sexuality and sexual assault to a much larger audience. The motivation behind “Loyal Daughters” was to avoid alienating any portion of the population, driven by the reality that these issues affect everyone. Contextualizing the stories of Notre Dame students, the messages in the play become much more effective. “These stories are not stories about strangers; these are stories about actual Notre Dame students. Your roommates, classmates and peers could be depicted in these stories,” cast member Mackay Gunn says. “It hits close to home, and it needs to. We need to realize that sexual identity and sexual assault are issues that must be discussed on this campus, and ‘Loyal Daughters’ is a great way to begin these conversations.”

Director Madison Liddy, a senior Film, Television, and Theatre major, voices the challenging yet irreplaceable experience she has had directing “Loyal Daughters.” “Seeing some of these pieces performed day after day is emotionally draining. I have literally come home after rehearsal and cried. The reality that these things have happened on our campus to our students hits home, and it scares me. I have grown not only as a director, but this play has opened my eyes as a student, a woman and a human being,” she says. It is this effect that “Loyal Daughters” aims for. By evoking a sense of realism, the play ensures that these issues are not overlooked.

Central to the debate last spring was the argument on the importance of academic freedom — Notre Dame’s responsibility as a university to support unrestricted academic inquiry — countered by a second argument concerning Notre Dame’s responsibility as a Catholic university to uphold the values of the Church. In his “Closing Statement on Academic Freedom and Catholic Character” issued last April, the Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., expressed the university’s need to “affirm the highest principles and practices of a university — ensuring the academic freedom to explore the full range of ideas and expressions produced by human thought and creativity — and, at the same time, to affirm our Catholic character.”

While Fr. Jenkins is not sponsoring the production of “Loyal Daughters” in any way, he has participated in related dialogue over the past year and also developed an ad hoc committee designed to encourage this discussion. The university has tentatively decided to allow “Loyal Daughters” to be performed in the Patricia George Decio Theatre in the Marie P. DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, a stark contrast to how “The Vagina Monologues” was prevented from being performed in the DPAC last spring.

As seniors, Liddy and Weisbecker hope that “Loyal Daughters” becomes a production that will propagate discussion of sexual assault here at Notre Dame even after their graduation this spring. “It is a show meant to bring healing, awareness and inspiration for positive change,” Weisbecker says.

For other Catholic universities, where opposition has banned the production of the monologues from campus, there exists a need for a production like “Loyal Daughters.” In response to this need, Weisbecker and Liddy are presently in search of funding that would allow them to bring the play to these campuses next year. “By developing the script to make it more universally applicable, we could take it to other Catholic campuses, especially those who do not allow ‘The Vagina Monologues,’ allowing them a way to talk about the issues of sexual assault and sexuality,” Weisbecker says.

In 2005, the production of “The Vagina Monologues” at Notre Dame raised over $15,000 for local women’s shelters. But amidst the controversy last spring, Fr. Jenkins prevented the production’s organizers from fundraising. Angered by the decision, the play’s organizers wrote that Fr. Jenkins “effectively den[ied] critical funds to local organizations working to end violence against women and girls.” As an academic event, Notre Dame prohibited Weisbecker from fundraising with the production of “Loyal Daughters” as well. Because of this limitation, Liddy and Weisbecker are hosting a party at the Beiger Mansion following the show’s final performance on Thursday, November 16th. They will be collecting a small fee at the door to donate to the SOS Rape Crisis Center and the local YWCA, both organizations that work to end violence against women.

Concluding his “Closing Statement,” Fr. Jenkins wrote, “The deep reflection on our ideals and actions inspired by this discussion should not end here. We must channel the energy awakened by this debate to serve the causes that animate the debate — the need for open, unrestricted academic inquiry; the need to foster a constructive engagement with the Catholic intellectual tradition; and the pressing need for the University of Our Lady to be a rising force for defending and advancing the rights and dignity of all women, everywhere. May God bless our efforts.” “Loyal Daughters” takes on Fr. Jenkins’ important challenge.

“It is a show meant to bring healing, awareness and inspiration for positive change.”

—Emily Weisbecker
Fusion Dept.
The Chicago Sound

At marching band practice on the Monday after the UCLA game, it was clear that something was up.

New music and marching directions for the next home game against North Carolina were distributed as per the Monday routine, but trumpeter player Dom Tassoni noticed some peculiarities as he walked from the band building to practice at the indoor football field in Loftus. For one thing, the music was in strange keys for marching band, with two or three more sharps in the key signature than usual. Even stranger was the notation of a “guitar solo” at two points in the music, since none of the 380 members of the Band of the Fighting Irish had ever played or seen a guitar on the field. Also, the band had already played one of the songs — Chicago’s 1970 hit “25 or 6 to 4” — during halftime two years ago, and save their near-annual performance of the immensely popular “Livin’ on a Prayer,” the band doesn’t usually repeat music within such a short span of time. With their groundbreaking use of trumpets, trombones and saxophones, Chicago’s music is perfect for marching bands, but the upperclassmen were surprised to see them back in the program so soon.

Not only were there some questions about the music, but the marching drill was abnormal, too. All of the formations left the bulk of the front half of the field open, a space that is usually filled with marchers. Tassoni flipped quizzically through the papers. “Something’s gotta be going on,” he said.

The band congregated in Loftus to start rehearsal, standing in a huge block to go over the new music. Along with “25 or 6 to 4,” the program featured two other Chicago tunes, including the “Chicago Opener” (a selection from the band’s song “Make Me Smile”) and “Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?” Dr. Kenneth Dye, the band’s director, led the group through the music, remaining noticeably quieter about the odd aspects of the music that Tassoni and others had noticed and were murmuring about.

After running through the music, the band started to learn the marching drill, a process that with its many starts and stops allows band members to chat with each other. “I heard a rumor that Dr. Dye went to the DPAC to get a huge sound system for the field,” trumpet player Nick Schott said. Another band member could be overhead saying, “Yeah, and Chicago is playing in South Bend right after the game, so that makes sense.”

At the end of the 90-minute practice, the band gathered around the drum major’s ladder, and Dye addressed the marchers on his microphone. “We’re going to have a few guests with us during halftime,” he said, confirming the rumor that had shot through the band and drawing a cheer from the 380 members. Adding to the excitement was the announcement that each band member would receive a free ticket to see Chicago at South Bend’s Morris Performing Arts Center after the North Carolina game. “We’ve always had a great relationship with Chicago,” Dye said, “and we’ve wanted to do this for a long time.”

Dye then mentioned the interesting history that links the rock band with Notre Dame, which dates to before the band’s creation in 1967. Before the Rev. George Wiskirchen, C.S.C., started his 30-year tenure as Notre Dame’s band director in 1972, he taught music at Notre Dame High School in Niles, Ill. One of his most talented students was trombonist James Pankow, who went on to become a founding member of Chicago and is often credited as the primary creative force behind the band’s unique “Chicago sound.” Pankow’s relationship with Fr.
Wiskirchen continued long after high school, as he often brought other Chicago band members to Notre Dame to visit his former teacher, who passed away in 2005.

Pankow will take the field at Notre Dame Stadium for the first time on Saturday, along with the rest of Chicago's current lineup. Plugged into a giant speaker on the 45 yard line, guitarist Keith Howland will save the marching band from having to figure out just how to simulate a guitar solo with a bunch of trumpets, clarinets and piccolos.

— Mike Laskey

Dept. of Records

WVFI on the Air

Last Monday, I waited at the top of the stairs by Starbucks in LaFortune for Christine Nguyen, DJ extraordinaire at WVFI radio, the Voice of the Fighting Irish. She sprinted up the steps and whipped into action — grabbing CDs from the Vault, saying hello to the previous DJs (the men of the "Three Idiots" show), and deciding what songs will make up her playlist tonight.

The short, narrow entrance hallway of WVFI's studio contains the station's identification letters spelled out in five-foot letters made of pushpinned CDs. Straight ahead there was a room filled to the ceiling with music. Shelves lined every wall, all filled with vinyl records and CDs. Along the adjoining hallway, there is a huge chart made of ripped pieces of computer paper listing whose radio show occupies which block of airtime each week. In this hallway, directly across from a water cooler with a sign requesting DJs to bring their own cups, is where the on-air magic happens — the broadcasting room. Inside, the air is blistering from the heater and the walls are pasted with decrepit, slate-colored soundproofing foam material. I instantly was intimidated by the amount of electronic equipment, but Nguyen moved in like an old pro.

Nguyen pulled up the computer screen that logs the songs she plays; she typed her show's name (Christine is Dancing) into the appropriate box and adjusted the microphone. I sat down in the chair next to hers, unsure of how quiet to be. The "ON AIR" sign lit up as "Hi, this is ... uh, you're listening to WVFI" started the show. She gave a short introduction to each song, constantly adjusting volumes on the massive control board. As the special guest of the night, I requested a Ryan Adams song, so Nguyen inserted the CD and pressed play to start his cover of Oasis' "Wonderwall."

The rhythm of the show was apparent immediately. Nguyen worked the two CD players and inserted her songs into the log with finesse as we chatted about recent events in the pop culture world. She showed me the rotation: a group of brand-new albums specially sent to WVFI and categorized by type. They are labeled with such names as "Soft as Pillowtalk" and "Hard as Childbirth," indicating the intensity level of the choices, but the DJs aren't required to only play rotation. Nguyen leans more toward the indie and folk music scene, with a little hip-hop — such as Lupe Fiasco's "I Gotcha" — thrown in for good measure. She said that there is a surprising variety of listeners during any given show: Nuns have been known to listen, in addition to the parents and friends who are loyal listeners to the talk, sports and specialty shows that play live online during the school year.

We made it through 12 songs and a public service announcement about cranberry juice on Monday night. There was some singing involved, although none into a microphone. I planned on just taking notes about the show, but somehow ended up adding my two-cents' worth about the gender of Britney Spears' latest spawn to Notre Dame's own radio broadcast. One student sent an instant message to the station's AIM screenname, "WVFI Radio," asking if we knew the score of the MNF game. Nguyen's reply asking him what "MNF" was might have been a clue that he was listening to the wrong show.

— Kate Dresser
After Notre Dame slipped in the polls following a victory against UCLA, Weis spoke out. Was his anger justified?

**Brittany Lash**

After almost two years with Head Coach Charlie Weis, the Irish faithful know one thing about his personality: He doesn't pull any punches.

Weis isn't afraid to express his opinion in press conferences, but he typically steers clear of the overblown, embarrassing histrionics of some of his coaching peers. That's exactly what makes Weis' recent rant over Notre Dame's slipping poll rankings so unexpected.

At his weekly Tuesday press conference on October 24th, reporters elicited a harsh response from Weis when they brought up Notre Dame's new rankings. After a last-minute comeback against UCLA, the Irish fell one spot in the AP Poll from No. 10 to No. 11, two spots in the Coaches' Poll from No. 8 to No. 10 and one in the BCS standings from No. 8 to No. 9. It wasn't the numbers that concerned Weis, but rather the teams who vaulted ahead of the Irish.

"We go into a game with 27 seconds to go, come from behind, win a thrilling game, and because we win a thrilling game, let's move [the Irish] down because [Florida] is not playing and [Tennessee] had the exact same game [...] Maybe I'm just stupid. Just tell me how that works," Weis said concerning Tennessee's 16-13 victory over unranked Alabama in the final four minutes. Tennessee fell from No. 7 to No. 8 in the AP Poll.

Weis then berated voters for not dropping No. 5 Texas after their last-minute 22-19 victory against then No. 17 Nebraska, and questioned Florida's unsubstantiated bye-week rise. "Another team that jumped us [Florida] wasn't even playing. They're sitting at home eating cheeseburgers, and they ended up jumping us. So that befuddles me," he said.

Should it befuddle the Irish too? At a glance, it appeared as though Texas and Tennessee struggled and lost nothing, and Florida benefited while doing nothing.

The answer, unfortunately, is no. Like Notre Dame, the previously mentioned teams all had one loss. The voters' moves, though debatable, are fairly logical. While Texas' opponent, Nebraska, is now unranked after a loss to Oklahoma State, Nebraska's No. 17 ranking at the time made the comeback seem like a higher quality win. Tennessee was punished with a one-spot drop, but two good wins — a 51-33 thrashing of Georgia in the previous week and a marquee win against then-No. 9 California — kept them ahead of the Irish in both polls. No. 13 Georgia Tech lost to No. 12 Clemson in the same weekend, sending GT's stock plummeting. LSU and Tennessee, Florida's key wins, consequently appeared stronger in rank than Irish opponents and led to the Gators' bye-week bypass of the Irish after their loss to Auburn.

The week 10 polls produced similar headaches: As the Irish beat Navy, Cal passed ND to No. 10 in the AP in a bye week. USC fell six spots to No. 9 after their first loss, not nearly as far as the ten-spot Irish fall post-Michigan. Cal's leap wasn't as significant as it looked — the Irish trail Cal by only three AP votes — and USC had lingering voter goodwill. The loss was their first in 38 regular season contests.

While Weis' overreaction may not have hurt the Irish in this week's polls — they held steady at No. 11 in the AP after their win at Navy — he does not want to hold the team back with any more inflammatory remarks. In his press conference on Sunday, October 29th, he interrupted a reporter who tried to provoke further poll comments: "I'm not going there," Weis chuckled. "Next thing you know I'm a nationwide whiner."
Regional Singles Title, defeating freshman teammate Cosmina Ciobanu in the final. Junior Brook Buck and sophomore Kelly Telef combined to win the doubles final, and all four earned berths to the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships in February ... 

Notre Dame's comeback over UCLA on October 21st marked the third time in Irish football history that a game was won on a touchdown in the last 30 seconds. The only other touchdown victories were against Penn State in 1992 and Houston in the 1978 Cotton Bowl. Quinn's touchdown pass to Samardzija earned a nomination for the Pontiac Game-Changing Performance of the week and kept BCS bowl hopes alive.

While Notre Dame attempts to jump back into the BCS top 8, North Carolina is stuck at the other end of the rankings. The Tar Heels (#7) have graced ESPN.com's "Bottom 10" list two weeks in a row and they won't be moving up anytime soon. Head Coach John Beilein will finish the season at North Carolina, despite being fired two weeks ago after a loss to Virginia. The Tar Heels also lost their leading scorer, forward Tarra Edwards, with a broken collarbone. A victory over UCLA would be North Carolina's only win of the season, and their second win will not come this weekend. Another strong performance from Brady Quinn will anchor a decisive 35-14 Irish victory.

How hard is it to continue playing after a head coach has been fired? Just ask the 2004 Irish, who struggled with the departure of Tyrone Willingham while preparing for that year's eventual Insight Bowl loss. Mixed feelings contribute to mixed results on the field, and drama in the Tar Heels' locker room couldn't come at a worse time. UNC had a fighting chance to beat centralized Wake Forest (17-21) last week, leading 17-14 at the end of the third quarter, but collapsed late, allowing 10 unanswered Demon Deacons points in the fourth quarter. That lack of foundation will be the ultimate undoing for UNC, as the Irish offense shakes them up from the start.

Brittany Lash
Assistant Sports Editor

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**IRISH EYES ON...**

**Adrianna Stasiuk**

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**Grant Schmidt**

Junior accounting major Adrianna Stasiuk, co-captain of the Irish women's volleyball team, leads the team this season in several categories, including kills (231), total points (299.5) and points per game (4.66). Stasiuk was recently named Big East Player of the Week for the second time. Last season, she was named an AVCA honorable mention All-American and became the ninth Irish player to be recognized as the Big East Championship's Most Outstanding Player.

**As a co-captain, what leadership role do you fill on the team?**

Even though I'm not a senior, as an upperclassman, I've had the experience of being on the court and in pressure-filled situations for two years. I lead by example and help the freshmen, who are in a totally new experience.

**You recently received your second Big East Player of the Week award. What effect does that recognition have on your performance?**

It's kind of a motivational thing. Once you are recognized, you don't want it to go to your head. You want to prove that you deserve it. I play harder and I'm more competitive (because of the award).

**How was the team's recent tournament in Hawaii in light of the earthquake that occurred while you were there?**

Surfing the first day was awesome. Then, first thing the next morning, we were on the eighth floor of the hotel, and it starts shaking. We didn't know what to do, and the power was out. Hawaii was not the paradise we thought it would be. But the power came back on the morning before our first match. The gym was packed during the tournament which made it really fun.

**Who is your role model?**

Maria Sharapova. I love tennis, and I like her enthusiasm and work effort. I try to have that same energy and competitive spirit.

**What qualities describe a leader on the volleyball court?**

Volleyball is a game of momentum. A leader will help start that momentum, bring a spark and bring a lot of energy. And that's what I'm trying to do right now.

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Notre Dame's 38-14 victory over Navy on Saturday kicked off a four-game stretch in which the Irish face all three Division I-A service academies — Navy, Air Force and Army — for just the fourth time in 25 years. It also extended the Notre Dame-Navy series to 80 straight games and gave the Irish their 43rd consecutive win over the Midshipmen. College football's longest-standing non-conference rivalry is also its most lopsided and the series against Army and Air Force are not far behind. Notre Dame has dominated Army 36-8-4 and are 21-5 against the Air Force Academy.

The outcome against Navy was no surprise, and the Irish are heavily favored against both Air Force (3-4) and Army (3-6). Analysts have been quick to point out that these games do nothing to help Notre Dame's strength of schedule, and the likely sweep of the academies won't boost the Irish much in the polls. Army and Navy were football powerhouses in the early 20th century, but post-graduation military requirements now deter many of the nation's top recruits, who often have NFL aspirations. This inherent disadvantage makes it difficult for the academies to be competitive against schools like Notre Dame.

So why continue the series?
For Navy, the monetary gains compensate for the competitive losses. This year's game brought in around $6 million in television revenues and ticket sales, and Navy will keep most of that profit. "The national exposure and the visibility [are] invaluable for us, and we don't want to lose a multimillion-dollar game," Navy Athletic Director Chet Gladchuk said in an interview with the Baltimore Sun.

But the relationship reaches far beyond finances. Notre Dame's history, both on and off the field, features close ties with the academies, especially Army and Navy.

"There's a huge amount of history and tradition there," Senior Associate Athletic Director John Heisler says. "Going back to the '40s, '50s, '60s, those schools were as highly ranked as any team in the country."

Going back even farther, it was Notre Dame's 1913 game against a powerhouse Army team that, Heisler says, "did as much as anything to put Notre Dame football on the map." The Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C., Notre Dame's President Emeritus, colorfully summarizes the game. "The 'Rambiers,' as they were known then, showed up in New York with about 16 players, and everybody thought they would be murdered," Hesburgh says. But quarterback Gus Dorais and senior end Knute Rockne stunned the Army defense when they introduced the forward pass, and Notre Dame won, 35-13. "They murdered Army, despite the fact that everyone thought the shoe would be on the other foot," Hesburgh says.

Games against Army have produced some of the most famous Notre Dame football lore. "The Four Horsemen" rode to fame in a 13-7 victory over Army during the team's 1924-25 National Championship season. In 1928, Rockne, then the Irish head coach, inspired his team to a 12-6 comeback win with his famous "Win One for the Gipper" speech.

Notre Dame has Army to thank for its long-standing rivalry with Navy as well. The Irish lost just one game in 1926, to Carnegie Tech. Coach Rockne wasn't there for the loss; he was in Chicago, watching Navy tie Army to take the
Irish wide receiver Rhema McKnight eludes a Navy defender for his first of two touchdown catches against Navy.

national championship. Notre Dame and Navy met for the first time the following year.

World War II cemented relations with Navy, when the Naval Academy established training bases on campus. Between 1942 and 1946, as many as 12,000 officers completed their training at Notre Dame. “Navy had a lot to do, just on a day-to-day basis, with keeping the university going,” Heisler says.

Since then, common ties between the academies and Notre Dame have fostered an exceptional mutual respect. Notre Dame boasts ROTC programs in all three services which, Hesburgh says, “are considered by them [the academies] to be among the best in the nation in preparing officers for commission.” The games, he says, are “a great occasion for our getting together, having some memorable games and deepening the relationships over the years.”

All three ROTC programs are taking advantage of this season’s meetings. About 38 members of Notre Dame’s Air Force ROTC will travel to Colorado Springs for the Nov. 11th game against the Air Force Academy. They will visit several bases in the area before attending the game. “Basically the base visit is an excuse to go to the game,” Senior Cadet Captain Kim Dueffert says. “The base trip is the main objective, but [seeing the game] is definitely a great perk.”

When Army comes to Notre Dame the following week, many Army ROTC students will host West Point cadets in their dorm rooms. Senior Cadet Major Peter DeMoss is looking forward to the game. “Of course we have to cheer for our teams, so there will be a lot of good-natured ribbing — especially since we’ll win,” DeMoss says. “But I think everyone realizes that we are all really on the same team, and respect each other, in the same way the stadium went silent for the Navy alma mater last year.”

Notre Dame is one of only a few schools that can claim a national fan base. Army and Navy, like Notre Dame, are independents, but Head Coach Charlie Weis is quick to point out that the service academies are on a level of their own.

“They’re different in the fact that Navy is a national school, and to me a national school means this: Navy has a connotation of representing our country, not just an opponent,” Weis said at last week’s press conference. “In the next month we have three teams that all fit this same criteria, and I think that our team better look out every time you play an academy because they’ve got a lot bigger picture in mind than sometimes we do.”

Despite Navy’s 43-game losing streak against the Irish, junior Midshipman Josh Priebe has no desire to see the series end. “This is our biggest game of the year,” he says. “We don’t play a lot of really good teams, so ND is always a big game. We have a little bit of what you might call a losing streak, but […] every year we come out hoping for the best.”

Whatever the effects of Notre Dame’s dominance against Air Force, Army and Navy, it is clear that all three series extend far beyond the football field.
Renovation Complications

Unanswered questions remain about the future of the JACC overhaul

• Christopher Meskill

J ust as former Notre Dame President, the Rev. Edward “Monk” Malloy, C.S.C., was formulating his 10-year plan for the university, Athletic Director Kevin White was quietly reculpting the landscape of Fighting Irish athletics. Football, softball, golf — one by one, White rejuvenated Notre Dame programs and has now turned his attention to basketball and volleyball.

On October 5, 2006, White called a press conference to announce the anticipated $24.7 million renovation of the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center (JACC), the second most recognizable athletic facility on campus. The construction is expected to take a little over a year, and to finish in time for the JACC's 40th anniversary.

White spoke of the future of the JACC at the October press conference. “The Joyce Center has been our home since 1968, and these upgrades and additions will give it a completely new identity, as a showcase facility for our athletes and teams for the decades to come,” he said. “Our plan is to create a state-of-the-art facility for both the student-athletes and the fans who watch them.”

Senior Associate Athletic Director John Heisler notes that the renovation was in the works for longer than most suspected. “All of this dates back to when Kevin White first came on board about six years ago,” Heisler says. “One of the first things he did was put together this facilities’ master plan.” Bringing the master plan to fruition, the university has overseen the construction or improvement of multiple facilities, including the Guglielmino Athletics Complex, Ivy Field for the softball program and the Robert and Marilyn Rolfs Golf Facility on Notre Dame's Warren Golf Course.

The start date for construction has yet to be announced, primarily because of a university policy concerning funding. “It is the university's philosophy that you need to have 100 percent of the money committed and 75 percent of it in hand before you can put a shovel in the ground,” Heisler says.

Fortunately, funding shouldn’t be a problem because of donations by Notre Dame graduates Phil Purcell and Vince Naomili. Purcell, a former CEO at Morgan Stanley and a member of the Board of Trustees, donated $12.5 million to renovate the basketball facility that will soon bear his name. Additionally, Naomili, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays chairman, gave $5 million to aid the cause. With all current donations accounted for, the university is only $3 million short of breaking ground.

White said that these two major donations built momentum for the fundraising. With stories floating around the Internet on Notre Dame fan sites such as NDNation.com and BlueandGold.com, affluent alumni are expected to bring the fundraising campaign to an end within a month or two. It is at this point that the story becomes all the more interesting.

“Once we have all of the $25 million in hand, then we will sit down with the architect and figure out exactly what the plans are,” Heisler says. While not definite, some ideas are already circulating. The university plans to replace the bleachers with full, hard-backed seats, dropping the capacity from 11,418 to 9,800, while adding a clubhouse luxury box that will accommodate about 800. Other improvements include better concession stands, more accessible handicapped seating and more women's restrooms.

Although the facility has some direction, a number of questions still go unanswered. Timing is the most major issue. Since construction will take over a year to complete, the basketball and volleyball teams are going to be inconvenienced at some point in time. “[During construction], we are going to need to find a way to play basketball in there,” Heisler says, “because there isn’t any
real option to go elsewhere.”

This space crunch poses a number of problems. Considering the facility has enough difficulty accommodating the large number of students and the thousands of local fans who seek tickets for individual games, having to play a season with sections of seats removed will exacerbate an already strained situation on campus. Even when construction is completed, a 2,000-seat reduction in capacity will leave many students short a ticket for the popular winter sport.

Basketball is not the university’s only worry though. “Part of what we are doing is trying to make sure that we have a complete understanding of all of the different events that happen in [the Joyce Center],” Heisler says. Since the Joyce Center is a year-round complex, alternate plans are in the works for many other campus events. These other events, which add up to 325 academic, athletic, administrative and social gatherings a year, will have to be relocated, further inconveniencing students. Some of the more notable potential relocations will be Junior Parents’ Weekend, Graduation Commencement, The Show, next year’s pep rallies, the Fall and Winter Career Fairs, and any academic convocation sponsored by the university. Since the Joyce Center is the largest cold-weather facility at Notre Dame, the solutions to these problems are far from obvious.

Heisler admits that the situation isn’t “perfect,” considering the JACC’s scope of usage, but the future benefits outweigh the short-term nuisances. He notes that the best thing about gutting the current seating is that “it gives us an opportunity to start from scratch in that area.” Student seating is being reevaluated, with multiple options on the table. Among the leading ideas is a return
The renovation hopes to bring the student section closer to the action on the court. to the traditional student section in one corner, as well as a plan to mirror Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium with the student section filling the first few rows around the entire court.

Meanwhile, an improved arena would help basketball recruiting. "Prospective student-athletes these days are big-time consumers," Heisler says. "They are looking at what you've got by comparison to what other schools have got [...] I'm not sure if we are going to sit here and say that we have to have the best of everything at Notre Dame, but you want to be competitive."

The renovation couldn't come at a better time for the men's basketball team, which has not reached the NCAA Tournament since 2003. Basketball Head Coach Mike Brey has been under scrutiny as of late, especially after a 15-13 finish last year. With the restructuring of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Big East emerged as the most elite conference in basketball, adding high-quality programs like Louisville, DePaul, Marquette and Cincinnati. In order to recruit competitively from within the elite Big East conference, a major change, like this renovation of the basketball facility, may be necessary.

In addition, the clubhouse seating will add another social space to the university's repertoire. Similar to the 5th floor of the press box at Notre Dame Stadium, the luxury box will be a site of future university functions. Heisler said that its usage will not be limited to game time.

While there is much excitement and concern surrounding this latest addition to the Notre Dame athletic community, one thing is for certain — it will be coming soon. As the money continues to roll in from donors, the plans continue to grow in complexity. "Part of the reason for having the press conference a couple weeks back was to let people know that this was on the horizon," Heisler says.

"Our plan is to create a state-of-the-art facility for both the student-athletes and the fans who watch them."

—Kevin White, athletic director
the best part of cable in the dorms
is on NDtv channel 53
Fifty-Six Years Ago

Sometimes you've just got to dance — make awkward, rhythmless snapping motions, thrust your pelvis out awkwardly, lean back and shimmy as much as your little heart desires. However, as I discovered last week during my philosophy professor's office hours, you can't just dance whenever you want. That's why it's important to know the *Rules of the Dance*. Examine, if you will, the November 3, 1950 issue of *Scholastic*.

"This week's junior dance in the Navy barn [...] emphasizes the fact that a great many of our readers need advice on the problem of going to, being at, or recovering from ND dances. The first rule is very simple. Get a girl [...] Get some girl who can't dance. This rule will do more for your evening's entertainment than anything else. Then, all you have to do is close your eyes, get a tight, but not too tight, grip on your partner and go twirling and stamping around like a frenzied dinosaur, bumping into as many other couples as you can.

So that's what I was doing wrong with the ladies for all these years. I wasn't taking them and forcibly shoving them into people.

—Doug Schlarman
So kiddies, the Gipp is tired this time around. He spent all of Halloween dressed in only lingerie and a pair of wings — the Gipp went as a Victoria's Secret angel, of course — and his feet kill. Someone should remind him not to wear those shoes next time, especially if he's going to pick up the hot chicks. But regardless, you children aren't reading this to hear about the Gipp's Halloween (although it did end with some baby oil and a lot of explaining to do); you want to hear about your fellow students and all of their bad, bad decisions. So crowd around, boys and girls. We're in for a bumpy ride...

The Gipp knows that good jobs on campus — you know, the ones that pay you to do your homework — are hard to come by. But not even the Gipp would stoop as low as our next subject just to make a couple of bucks. Our tipster tells us that his friend had been driving down a nearby campus street to pick up his car from Finnegan's the night before. As they were cruising down the street toward the bar, undoubtedly chatting about rousing, intelligent college-worthy subjects such as "kinds of juice" and "what color things are," they spotted an attractive female friend making the joyous Walk of Shame back home. They stopped to pick her up, noticing that this babe was wearing the same clothes she donned the eve before. Surely she just happened to have an extra copy of the same outfit. We can't imagine that a respectable Notre Dame girl would engage in any sort of shady behavior. Gipp hopes she changed her underwear though; we all know that could lead to an... infection. But Ol' Gipper digresses.

The Good Samaritans picked up their repetitively clad acquaintance and were met with the wail of a police siren. A lovable representative of the SBPD sauntered up to their vehicle, asking how the men knew their young lady friend. The police just wanted to make sure that the Notre Dame student wasn't making her living as a professional lady of the night. In a related story, the same officer arrested over 500 girls at Corby's on Halloween.

Our second tale comes from last Friday night at Finnegan's, where a tipster claims his friend "lain down on the dance floor, went over to some chairs, passed out," then awoke to a pair of wet slacks. Surprisingly, they were his. Taking his anger out on his bladder, the subject determined it best to let fly on a sidewalk in front of the bar, in plain view of everyone entering and exiting. When his friends looked for him, he was nowhere to be found. He disappeared faster than a townie's panties in a Club Fever bathroom. The friends were so concerned they even called the police to search for him. (Don't these guys realize the police have other problems, like Notre Dame girls hooking up?) According to our tipster, the subject found himself in the driver's seat of a parked car at 6:30 the next morning. He didn't recognize the car, didn't know where he was, couldn't find the keys, and decided to walk home. What was he doing in a stranger's car all night? Making a crystal meth lab? Praying the rosary? Crying in the fetal position about the emptiness of his life? Gippies, we may never know.

That's all for this week, Gippmen and women. Keep the tips coming and keep the tips humming like a real showstopper. The Gipp will be here waiting, dipping it low and picking it up slow.
From Dorm Rooms to Board Rooms

Mike Healy

Some of you reading this might not know what big shots we are here at Scholastic. Sure, you swoon over us at parties, let us cram you in lockers, and probably want to go to prom with us, but at the end of the day, you still think we're just a sleepy campus magazine that's only been publishing since a feisty little man named Andrew Johnson was president. Well, naysayers, do I have a shock for you: Very recently, a reputable publishing institution (Crendall & Rose) has sent one of our editors (no, it wasn't me, it was Michael O'Connor, but I stole it from him) a complimentary copy of a book for review. You see, when you are a famous and influential writer (or at least good at stealing from one), people want you to review and talk about their books, since it will make followers such as yourselves think, "Wow! That guy thinks this book is good! I've gotta buy it!" Silly as it may seem, it works. Just ask Oprah. Or me.

So, that being said, I happen to have come into possession of a copy of Dr. Victoria Pilate's "Dorm Rooms to Board Rooms," a work the good folks over at Crendall & Rose were hoping Scholastic would give the final push it needed to become the next "Goosebumps." As I'm sure you've gathered, this book is basically a compendium of quotes, statistics and apocrypha meant to aid today's young adult in the arduous transition from college life to the real world. When I first looked at "Dorm Rooms to Board Rooms," I assumed it was going to be a laughably naive textbook containing worthless and obvious information that anyone should be able to figure out and would thus be rife with opportunities for pithy comments and sharp zings.

As such, this column was intended to be a satirical masterpiece, incisively cutting through Pilate's words and lessons like a hungry goblin through a maternity ward. Unfortunately, that brilliant idea never came to fruition. Pilate's work is nowhere near stupid enough to deserve such ridicule and I am nowhere near smart enough to execute it. In honesty, the thing is pretty all right. The only two segments that had any real comedic value were an unintentionally humorous section about when and how it's appropriate to swear in the workplace (complete with examples), and a potentially hilarious section on STDS that the author really screwed up on by not including a single joke ("I took a nice girl to a lobster dinner, but the only leftovers were these lousy crabs!"). On the whole though, "From the Dorm Room to the Board Room" is a pretty decent book. I wouldn't personally recommend it, since the world has approximately six billion better things to read (This column included. Please?), but it's not bad by any means.

In any case, even if "Dorm Rooms to Board Rooms" (who lives in the board room anyways? Especially in their first year?) didn't catapult me into a future on The New York Times Book Review, it did kind of get me thinking about next year, and the things I'm going to miss about college. Not the stupid things like friends and memories and all that. If I ever get nostalgic for that I can just rent "The Big Chill." I mean the little things you don't even think about.

For example, I'm going to miss my school email address. Admit it, you like having that little "@nd.edu" at the end of your name. I know I do. It's a little piece of armor, one that says "I'm not just an idiot signing up for a credit card so I can get a free thermos; I'm an idiot signing up for a credit card so I can get a free thermos with a future." Also, I think I should point out that ND's Webmail service is second to none. Last year, they put in a [SPAM] blocker that has absolutely changed my life. It filters out all the junk! It's so much easier to have machines determine what's important and what's not. For instance, last week I found out that the [SPAM] blocker had intercepted a September 25th email from a potential employer requesting a second interview but had allowed through an unsolicited message from a nice gentleman named Dario Weiss entitled "Horny wife in action." Not only do I want to thank Webmail for saving me from a job that it knew just wasn't for me, but I want to thank Mr. Dario Weiss for alerting me to the fact that somewhere out there, there is a wife; she is horny; and she is in action. I checked and it wasn't my wife (thank God), but, like my good friend Dario
Weiss says, better safe than sorry. He also says “Sexy chick taking pee,” but I think that might be more of an inside joke.

Another thing I'm going to miss about college is the abundance of girls. There are cool girls everywhere, and they all want to talk to you. Try to screw it up. You can't—don't shower, don't cut your hair, pick your nose (I push this one to the limit)—it doesn't matter, there's still great girls everywhere ready to party. It's like playing basketball against a bunch of 11-year olds—you can take stupid shots, try dumb dribbling tricks you're not really good enough to do, and you're still going to tear through them like a hungry goblin through a maternity ward. (And so concludes yet another paragraph in which I start out talking about something normal and end up talking about 11-year-old boys, goblins and dead babies. It won't happen next column, I swear.)

I'm definitely going to miss daytime drinking. At least, I hope I miss daytime drinking. If at this time next year, I don't miss drinking during the day, then this whole "go to college and get a job" thing won't have worked out for me very well.

Probably my favorite thing about college, well, school in general, is “Saved by the Bell.” No, not the TV show starring Tiffani-Amber Theissen in a rousing, almost Shakespearean turn as Kelly Kapowski. I mean the actual phenomenon. When in the real world will there be an occasion in which you're totally unprepared for a meeting, but if you pretend like you're doddling for 75 minutes everything will be roses? It doesn't work in presentations for your job; it doesn't work when your landlord wants to know where the rent is; and believe me it certainly doesn't work when you're going through the drive-thru at Wendy's.

As much as I complain about it or poke fun, I'm also going to miss stupid fake feuds like dorm rivalries. Sure, they do kind of have a day camp feel, and I've never really participated in them, but I do have an appreciation for the sense of identity and tradition they can add to the local universe. As I write about it, I'm almost getting a little nostalgic for that kind of irrational attachment to something with no real basis. I'm idealizing brainwashing. I think I'm going to join a militia next year.

One of the biggest things I'm going to miss is that after this year, when I watch college sports on TV, I'm going to be older than everyone playing (yes, that's right, I'm going to miss something that's in the future). I mean, as stupid as it is, while I'm still in college I can always cling to that little glimmer of hope that somehow I'm going to be spotted by Charlie Weis playing football on the quad and he'll put me on the team and I'll do something glorious. When I'm a grown-up next year, that possibility isn't going to exist, and I hate that. Actually, thinking about it, graduating from college means a lot of those embarrassing secret fantasies aren't going to happen. I'll never be a secret agent (though if I were, like I'd be stupid enough to write about it in here), I'm never going to be known as "the wildest man on campus" (well heavens, I hope not), and I'm never going to be able to get people to start calling me "Hollywood." Yes, sadly, it looks like part of growing up means that if I have a secret fantasy, the only chance I'm going to have of realizing it lies with a man named Dario Weiss.
Hey Kids!
Color your Favorite Candidates from Indiana's 2nd District

Joe
1. Slings mud
2. Made poor decisions in college
3. Loves global warming
4. Wants to raise gas prices
5. Supports the troops
6. Doesn't support the troops enough
7. Lets anyone into the country
8. Builds a wall around America

Chris
9. Uses Just For Men Brown
10. Is a pretty boy
11. Loves freedom
12. Is probably friends with Saddam
13. Has no soul
14. Hates babies
15. Kicks the elderly

What are you doing tonight?
May we make a suggestion?

Jen Chapin
DBR
YCE MISSION TOMMY MAKEM AND KENNEDY'S KITCHEN
EL GRAN COMBO
PAUL YAYLOR DANCE COMPANY BAYANIHAN PHILOPPINE NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY
THE CAPITOL STEPS
ITZEl PERLMAN IVO POGORELICH ROYAL DRUMMERS OF SURUNDB
MARt O'CONNOR'S FIDDLE CELEI'3RATBON ACUSTIC AFRICA
CARLOS FUENTES/SAN ANTONIO VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE
SAVION GLOVER: CLASSICAL SAVION
THE VIENNA CHOIR BOYS LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CHRIS THILl: AND EDGAR MEYER NEW ORLEANS JAZZ ORCHESTRA HUNGARIAN STATE ENSEMBLE JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET
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WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT?
MAY WE MAKE A SUGGESTION?

JEN CHAPIN DBR & THE MISSION TOMMY MAKEM AND KENNEDY'S KITCHEN EL GRAN COMBO
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SFJAZZ COLLECTIVE TIEMPO LIBRE RAVI SHANKAR PARSONS DANCE COMPANY

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