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Campus groups petition for academic freedom

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

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

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

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

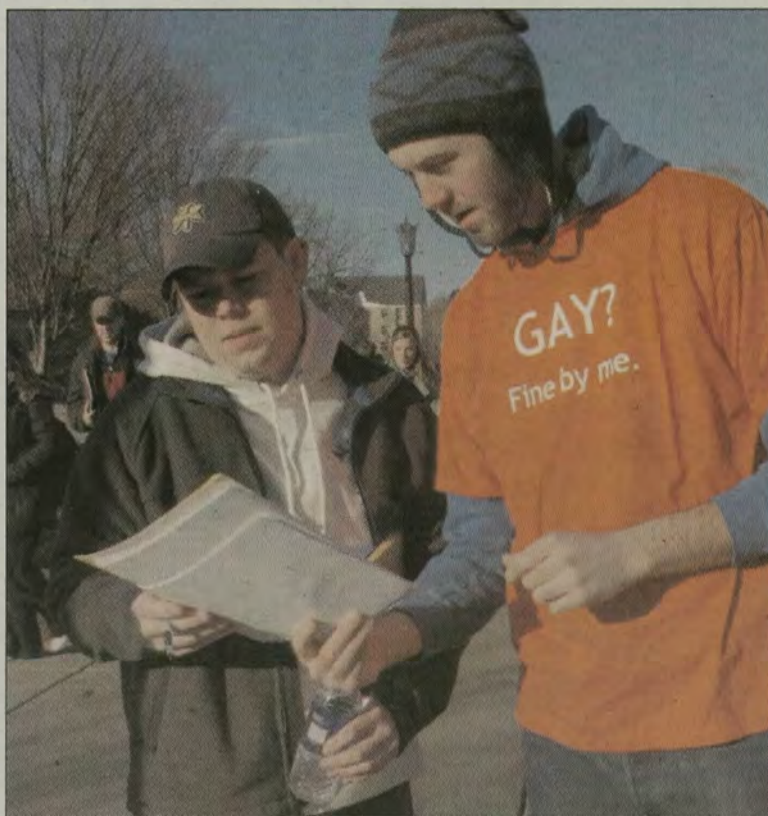
"The freedom to read, study,

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

Senior Kaitlyn Redfield, one of the leaders of United for Free Speech and an organizer of the "Monologues," said the group has been circulating petitions for two weeks, starting immediately after Jenkins delivered his address to students on academic freedom and Catholic character.

They have close to 2,000 sig-

see PETITIONS/page 6



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

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

Wycliff selected for post

Renowned editor named spokesman

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Writer

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

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

"Everything I've been able to do in my life is because 40 years ago, Notre Dame plucked me up and gave me an education and changed my life, and there's a debt to be paid there," said Wycliff, whose appointment takes effect March 13. "I had reached a point where as public editor, I had been doing it for almost five years here, and there really wasn't much else I could do."

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

Wycliff accepted the

see WYCLIFF/page 4

Candidates clash in general debate

Student body tickets face off at LaFortune

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The five pairs of candidates for Notre Dame student body president and vice president squared off in debates

Thursday night in LaFortune Student Center, focusing on student life, academic freedom and community relations as well as fielding student-generated questions.

Freshmen Ryan Black and Catherine Martinez, junior Jason Laws and sophomore Bob Costa,

see TICKETS/page 6



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Student body presidential candidate Lizzi Shappell, left, and running mate Bill Andrichik participate in the debate Thursday.

Event combines the silly with the serious

Student government elections: an oasis of fake smiles, mudslinging and sarcasm during this sickeningly sweet time of year. I always look forward to them, if only for the entertainment value, and last night's debate didn't let me down. It was like getting to see the episode of the O.C. I missed — complete with car wrecks (or make that "train wrecks"), lofty promises and wild punches.

It's a shame everyone didn't watch the debate, because how they carry themselves and present their ideas there is indicative of what kind of leaders they will

Amanda Michaels

Assistant News Editor

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Unopposed SMC pairs detail plans for auxiliary roles

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

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

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

The Saint Mary's Student Government Constitution says the SDB president is "responsible for fostering diversity of every woman on Saint Mary's campus by upholding the mis-

sion of [SDB], as well as chairing the [SDB] meetings and all operations and presenting regular reports to BOG. The vice president is charged with similar duties but does not report to [BOG]."

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

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

said.

Johnson cited the example of the Diversity Student Leadership Conference as an event that the two hope to improve and strengthen if they are elected.

Hodges felt she and her running mate's experiences this year as members of SDB would benefit their productivity as president and vice president.

Johnson and Hodges' platform includes plans to create

a program that would invite successful Saint Mary's African-American alumnae to campus to speak to students.

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

Marketing SDB to the Saint

see TICKETS/page 3

INSIDE COLUMN

Where's the eight ounce yogurt?

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

The yogurt.

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

Why is this a problem?

Cynics may say I'm upset because I love food, that, given the choice between going to a movie with Rachel McAdams or eating a free, delicious steak, I'd run red lights to get to Outback.

Fair enough.

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

What if the University sent lumberjacks to each dorm, armed with a chainsaw and instructed to lop off exactly 22 inches from the 88-inch twin extra-longs?

What if, realizing that rooms didn't have to be so big and accommodate such luxurious sleeping arrangements, the powers-that-be moved each wall forward three feet and created storage alleys for each residence hall?

I, for one, my legs dangling night after night from the top of my loft, would write mean things in the slowly drying concrete and walk around saying worse, the growing bags under my eyes providing me with all the justification I needed.

In all honesty, 25 percent is a lot. For instance, if a grown man can hit a baseball 25 percent of the time consistently, he makes millions.

Given, these examples might be a little unrealistic, but the point is, percentage-wise, we're giving up a lot.

Maybe if weekend parietals were moved back to 9:45 p.m. for a night, everyone would realize the value of 25 percent.

In the end, I'm a realistic man, and I realize that not everything can go my way. Maybe the dining hall is undergoing budget problems, or maybe their suppliers just aren't nice people and cut the sizes. Whatever it is, I think we could work out a solution, creating a Grab'n'Go that could make everybody happy.

Maybe I'm just venting; maybe I'm the only person who cares. Who knows, maybe I offended someone, and if I did, I apologize.

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

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: DO YOU THINK THE "GAY FINE BY ME" T-SHIRTS ARE STILL EFFECTIVE ON CAMPUS?



Joel Steiner
sophomore
Stanford

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



Steve Schwall
senior
off-campus

"Not as effective as they used to be, but they're still noticed."



Mike Randolph
sophomore
Fisher

"I think they're very effective; it should be required for everyone to wear one."



Cory Ingle
sophomore
Fisher

"We could have a whole army of orange."



Kevin Rabil
sophomore
Fisher

"Brokeback, fine by me ... that would be fine by me."



Megan Ericson
freshman
McGlinn

"The momentum doesn't seem as strong as it was in the fall semester."



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

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

OFFBEAT

Olympic team still waiting for luggage

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

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

"Things haven't started well for reasons that have nothing to do with the

competition," the head of the Spanish Olympic Committee Alejandro Blanco was quoted as saying by sports daily Marca.

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

Ban rock concerts and football games?

DES MOINES, Iowa — An Iowa sheriff's decision to hand out tickets instead of arrests for small amounts of marijuana invited a lawmaker's slap that it would be simpler to ban rock concerts and football games.

Johnson County Sheriff

Lonny Pulkrabek, who oversees the University of Iowa in Iowa City, told a legislative committee he would treat possession of small amounts of marijuana like a traffic violation, allowing hundreds of students arrested each year to graduate without a criminal record.

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

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Pasquerilla East Musical Co. will present Footloose at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday at Washington Hall. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults and can be purchased at the LaFortune Box Office.

The Edith Stein Project: Redefining Feminism, a two-day conference on violence against women, will take place from 12 to 7 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday in McKenna Hall.

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

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

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

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

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 35 LOW 30	HIGH 28 LOW 25	HIGH 25 LOW 20	HIGH 25 LOW 15	HIGH 22 LOW 12	HIGH 33 LOW 20

Atlanta 61 / 44 Boston 47 / 37 Chicago 37 / 20 Denver 45 / 20 Houston 72 / 48 Los Angeles 73 / 50 Minneapolis 30 / 15 New York 51 / 38 Philadelphia 50 / 40 Phoenix 78 / 51 Seattle 50 / 42 St. Louis 48 / 29 Tampa 78 / 61 Washington 54 / 39

SMC seniors enrolled, employed

Nursing, education and social work majors required to hold jobs

By KELLY MEEHAN
Assistant News Editor

While many college seniors mark the countdown to graduation with memories of late nights with friends, spring break trips and parties, some Saint Mary's students are already busy exercising their education and expertise in a professional setting.

Students who major in nursing, education and social work are required to work several hours each week in their field prior to receiving their degree.

Senior social work major Kimberly Smith, who works approximately 32 hours per week at the St. Joseph Health Center's Chapin Street Clinic in South Bend, said she does not find her full-time internship more stressful than being a full time student.

"It is just like a real job, and it requires just as much effort," Smith said. "I do not have homework, so I do not have to be in the field everyday and then come home and do [work]."

The College's Social Work Web site calls the fieldwork experience an opportunity "for students to learn more about their professional interests as they plan their careers."

All seniors are required to complete a supervised internship during their senior year and can be placed in a local or national position.

Social Work students typically complete their fieldwork through two semesters while simultaneously taking a two-credit practicum seminar class, according to the SMC Web site.

During their last semester at the College, Saint Mary's education majors must manage their own classroom for 15 weeks at local elementary, middle and high schools.

Director of Student Teaching and Field Study Karen Van Meter said although they are under the guidance of a veteran teacher, they are responsible for the planning and execution of all classroom activities.

"Teaching is so complex, and they need that real life experi-

ence before they have their own classroom," she said. "They need to understand how a classroom works and what they need to do as a teacher."

Senior education major Jessica Landgraf said the high expectations placed upon her as a student teacher at Ballard Elementary School in Niles, Mich., far surpasses any challenge she has faced in a college classroom.

"[I am] not just working for [my] grade anymore," Landgraf said. "I have a responsibility to myself, my cooperating teacher, and to my students to do my best and be prepared. There are no more extensions or re-dos."

Van Meter said senior education majors are required to observe in classrooms during their sophomore and junior years. They must also pass the national praxis exam and have a minimum G.P.A. prior to student teaching.

Nursing majors are also required to attend class while gaining practical experience through working and observing at regional hospitals.

"I think it is nice only having class twice a week after the [general education requirements] are done," senior nursing major Alicia Heimann said.

Heimann said that like the stress of student teaching, working in the health field demands students' full attention and can prove stressful at times.

"We talk about topics and procedures that involve people and their health," she said. "The stuff we learn are responsible for remembering from year to year and need to know in order to pass the class, tests, and to make it on our own in the nursing profession."

The high demands of being both a young professional and college student often prevents seniors in this position from slipping into the sometimes comatosely lazy self-described state of 'senioritis'.

"Because I have to get up early each morning to be to school by 7:30 a.m. ... I have to make sure that I get enough sleep," Landgraf said. "It is hard to give the students that I teach

the attention and enthusiasm that I feel they deserve if I am working with only a few hours sleep. So I leave going out for the weekends."

Smith's fieldwork requires her to wake up early, as well.

"I do not usually go out during the week because I am usually tired," she said. "It is not like a class where you get away with being hung-over, it is a responsibility and I have to be there everyday. There are people counting on me."

Senior education major Monica Beil must wake up at 5:30 a.m. in order to arrive on time at her classroom at Prairie Vista Elementary. So she says going out with friends during the week "just isn't a reality."

"Although student teaching has been an amazing experience, it is still hard sometimes to hear classmates talk about exciting nights and whatnot," she said. "It is very hard to find a balance between being a teacher and being a college student."

Despite the fact that these seniors, like so many others, are not living out their final college semester in the typical classroom setting, they are optimistic the professional work is worth the sacrifices they must make.

"Without a doubt student teaching has been a beneficial experience," senior education major Jessica Eaton said. "It's only the fourth week [teaching at Darden school], but already I can see how much I have grown, especially in areas like classroom management. You can only learn those sorts of things by being in the classroom full-time."

Van Meter said training for a career, especially teaching, is not solely based on course work. There is a practical side and the only way to fulfill that is through training.

"[Saint Mary's education majors] are kind of lucky because they get to practice what they are going to do next year," Van Meter said, "where other majors don't get that."

Contact Kelly Meehan at
kmecha01@saintmarys.edu

Accounting majors pack tough schedules

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

By KATHLEEN McDONNELL
News Writer

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

With bachelors and masters programs ranked third and fourth nationally — according to the 2004 Public Accounting Report — Notre Dame has one of the top accounting programs in the nation. It's currently the sixth most popular major on campus. Undergrads seem aware of the benefits of a degree from such a prestigious department.

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

Kathleen Singer is one such student. Even after attaining 15 hours from Advanced Placement (AP) exams, Singer had to take 22 credits last fall. She even took a one-credit pass/fail medical ethics class to scrounge up an extra hour. But she feels the end result is well worth the extra effort.

"As of August, I'll be making money instead of spending \$40,000 more of it," she said.

Amy Leonard also had to pack her schedule with extra hours. The typical business student may take only 15 hours, but most semesters she carried 16 or 17, with 18.5 this spring — a time when most other seniors are carrying their lightest load.

Other accounting majors were not forced to overload, because studying abroad for a summer or entering Notre Dame with more than 30 hours accounted for the credits.

Professor Jamie O'Brien, who

advises accounting majors on the CPA exam and its requirements, said each year about a dozen Notre Dame seniors meet the 150-hour requirement. Since this minimum is not applicable in all states, some accounting majors do not have to complete the 150 hours.

Professor O'Brien said it is difficult — but not impossible — to complete the requirement in four years. Notre Dame grads are well prepared, he said, because of the challenging and comprehensive curriculum.

"The professors are top-notch and the students themselves are among the finest students in the country," he said.

Students who chose to leave Notre Dame after four years seem to agree with O'Brien in his lauding of the department.

"The professors do a great job of making you see all aspects of accounting, from the minute calculations to the broad concepts," senior Jordan Bongiovanni said. "I think we just take it for granted because it fits with the caliber of Notre Dame, but when you listen to accounting majors at other universities and their required courses and content, you can tell we get a great deal with our program."

Some accounting majors who do not obtain 150 credits choose to stay at Notre Dame and enroll in the one-year MBA program. Those students both complete all 150 hours and enter the workforce with a master's degree.

As for the option of a fifth year, O'Brien said another year of studies certainly helps prepare a student for a professional career, be it accountancy or any other discipline.

"An extra year of studies will expose the student to additional course work, new and different students, and at least at Notre Dame, one more year of college football," he said.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell
at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

Tickets

continued from page 1

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

Like Johnson and Hodges, RHA candidates Dardinger and Quaglia also want to maintain and improve upon many events that RHA started this year.

The Student Government Constitution says the RHA

president is "responsible for all areas affecting student residence hall life as well

as [leading RHA] meetings, all operations, and presenting regular reports to [BOG]. The vice president has similar responsibilities but does not sit on [BOG]."

Dardinger and Quaglia said

they would like to see a greater concern in hall councils for improve-

ments in the physical condition of the residence halls.

"One big concern is in different hall councils a lot of service work and other activities are being done, which is great,

"In different hall councils, a lot of service work and other activities are being done ... but not a lot is being done to improve the hall itself."

Cassie Quaglia
RHA vice presidential candidate

but not a lot is being done to improve the hall itself," Quaglia said. "So, we want to focus the hall councils more on that because that is why they are there."

But Dardinger said the most important goal is to include RHA members in new student orientation activities.

"I think the most important idea from our platform would be our plan to create some type of RHA activity in orientation," Dardinger said. "A lot of people complain that halls have no unity and we think this could improve that prob-

lem and we hope to work with student activities to establish it."

Both Dardinger and Quaglia are current members of RHA. They plan to continue the new dance marathon benefit for Children's Hospital.

While both SDB and RHA tickets are unopposed, elections will be held on Prism throughout today, and results will be announced sometime Saturday.

Contact Laura Baumgartner at
lbaumg01@saintmarys.edu

IRISH HOCKEY

Friday, Feb. 10
vs. Ferris State
at 7:30pm

Early arriving fans
receive a Notre Dame
Hockey notebook
sponsored by CENTENNIAL

ND, HC,
& SMC
students receive
free pizza!
(while supplies last)
courtesy of
PAPA JOHN'S

Wycliff

continued from page 1

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

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

“... It's very important that our leadership is comfortable with his leadership.”

Wycliff informed Tribune editor Ann Marie Lipinski about these discussions in early December so the newspaper wouldn't “be blindsided,” he said Thursday.

“She was very sympathetic and understood where my impulse is coming from,” Wycliff said, adding that while Lipinski indicated the Tribune will hire another public editor in his place, the timeframe for doing so and any potential candidates are unclear at this point.

“I hope someone is in place by the time I leave,” said Wycliff, who — unlike ombudsmen at several other top national newspapers, including the New York Times — did not have a contracted expiration date for his term as public editor. He has served in that post for the Tribune since 2000, after being editorial page editor from 1991 to 2000.

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

“Don has been on the University's radar as just an extraordinary fit as an individual and as a professional,” Crnkovich said. “I consulted with a number of different people as to who could fill Matt Storin's shoes ... and when I sought advice and counsel, [Wycliff's]

name was the one that was reiterated over and over again.”

Wycliff has remained engaged with Notre Dame throughout his journalism career, serving on advisory committees for both the College of Arts and Letters and the Gullivan Program for Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, as well as teaching a Gullivan “Media Criticism” course during the spring semester.

“He's certainly been an active alum, so the time it will take to ramp up [to the Notre Dame position] will be fairly short,” Storin said Thursday. “I think in addition to being smarter, more congenial and handsomer than I am, he brings some of the same things to the office, including a knowledge of Notre Dame.”

“... I joked to my staff, ‘I may be able to play a nice guy on TV, but he's really a nice guy.’”

Staying congenial in the demanding role of public editor — the Tribune's reader representative, responsible for responding to their inquiries and often fiery complaints — served as a kind of preparation for fielding questions as University spokesman, Wycliff said.

“People feel an investment in Notre Dame, and that's very much the way it is with a newspaper — people feel entitled to have a say about it,” he said. “If I was going to send someone to a training school to be a university spokesman, I might tell them to be a public editor.”

Heading the news and information department with Wycliff will be Dennis Brown, whose promotion from associate director to assistant vice president was also announced Thursday.

“Dennis will run the newsroom,” Crnkovich said, by overseeing the department's staff and operations and prioritizing its treatment of campus news on a daily basis, while Wycliff will “concentrate a bit more on the big picture,” Brown said.

“[Crnkovich] and I talked on several occasions about what models might work best [for structuring the department's leadership] ... and came to a place that seemed good for the University, from her perspective and also for the experiences and the skill sets that Don and I have, as well as the rest of our staff,” Brown said Thursday. “From our perspective, the transition from [associate vice president the late] Denny [Moore] to Matt and now on to Don couldn't be any better, because we're

dealing with people who love the University, who are just genuinely good people and who are extremely talented.”

Brown joined the news and information staff in 1991 after a 15-year career as a writer and editor for newspapers including the Phoenix Gazette and San Diego Union-Tribune. Wycliff's newspaper background is also extensive, including stints at the New York Times, Chicago Daily News, Chicago Sun-Times, Seattle Post-Intelligencer and others in addition to the Tribune. An active member of the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE), Wycliff also has earned many professional honors, including winning the ASNE Distinguished Writing Award for Editorials in 1997, becoming a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in editorial writing in 1996 and being inducted into the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame in 1996.

Having spent his entire professional career in journalism — aside from one year as a Notre Dame admissions counselor — Wycliff said many aspects of newsroom life will be hard for him to leave behind.

“I'm going to miss walking in the [Tribune] doors every morning and being greeted by the security guards, who are nice guys, and the little lady who cleans the offices,” said Wycliff, who has made arrangements to move to South Bend. “Sitting in on newsroom meetings, talking to people about stories, the feeling — even if it isn't true — that you know something not everybody else knows. I'll miss writing, too, I love to write.”

“... [At Notre Dame] I think most of my energies will be directed into other things, trying to interest people in some of the really special things about that wonderful university.”

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

Debate

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be. And from the point of view of someone who has covered Notre Dame's student government for three years, the finer points of the platforms just don't matter in the long run. The basic principles — more accessible government, better community relations, improved diversity services — stay the same year after year, and a good idea gets attention no matter who wins.

The candidates themselves and the style of diplomacy they bring to office are what determines how much gets accomplished. Campaign promises get handed down from administration to administration until one of them is strong enough to actually make a dent in the student government “to do” list.

I give a nod to the younger tickets of Wells-Chamberlain and Black-Martinez and send them on their way. It takes a lot of guts (or “GUTS”, if you're the McCune-Szewczyk joke ticket) to put yourself out there and run for election, but the leader of the student body should have more than a semester or three under his or her belt.

On the subject of maturity, the Laws-Costa ticket might want to be careful about how they present themselves, for their actions at the debate last night were nothing short of petulant.

Overly aggressive, they broadly attacked the current student government and slung a few handfuls of mud directly at fellow candidate Lizzi Shappell. By harping on relatively minor details like eight-ounce “To Go” cups, repeatedly labeling the Baron-Shappell leadership “mediocre” and calling Shappell out for not attending a communications department meeting, Laws and Costa unnecessarily took the low road.

Their focus should be on larger policy solutions — the president's responsibility lies there, not in a few more gulps of dining hall coffee — and on how they will expand upon the advances of this year's student administration, which happened to be one of the most influential and successful in recent history.

Laws and Costa were bull-headed and hostile — not exactly the people you want dealing with the University administration at such a delicate and crucial time. “Stick-it-to-Jenkins”? Why not just put up a dartboard with his picture on it; it gives the same impression. Laws and Costa need to take a few lessons in diplomacy before they are ready for office.

Shappell and Andrichik shined in the debate. Their answers were detailed and strong, and they didn't sink to exchanging blows with their fellow candidates to gain ground. The experience Shappell has as vice president is absolutely invaluable. New presidents often spend half their term cultivating working relationships with University higher-ups; she already has them.

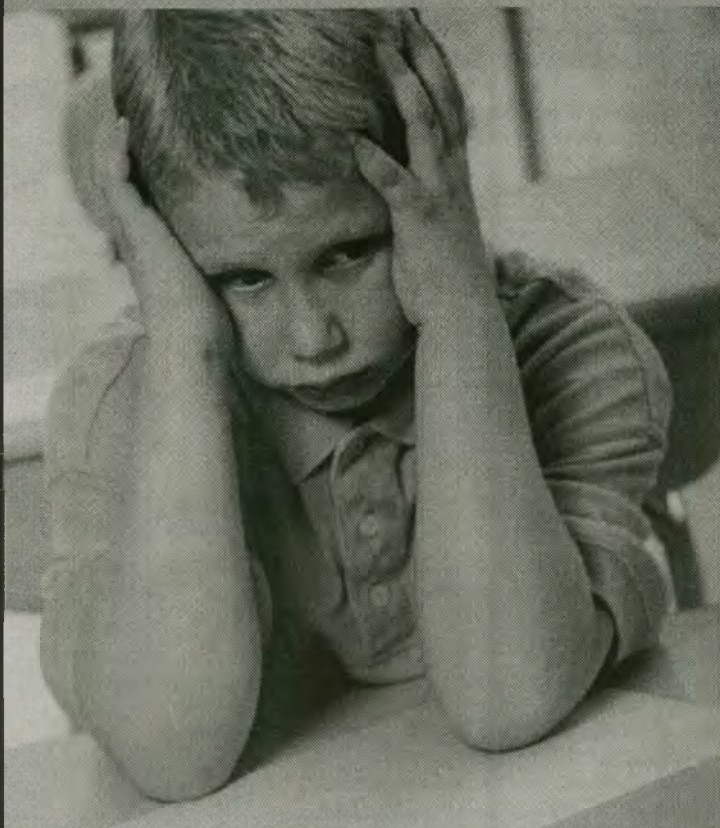
But there is a danger in this, as Shappell and Andrichik must distinguish themselves. A concerning amount of their platform consists of projects or policies already in the works — they should indicate what makes them unique.

With any luck, Laws-Costa and Shappell-Andrichik will have another shot at a debate after Monday's general election — one that will be a little deeper than an eight-ounce coffee cup, and more genuine than a cardboard cut-out.

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

Please contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

HAPPY WITH THE DIRECTION YOUR RETIREMENT DOLLARS ARE HEADED?



IF NOT, CONTACT OUR INVESTMENT AND TRUST SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR YOUR FREE INVESTMENT CONSULTATION.

Investment Services Center located at:



**NOTRE DAME
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

111 West Edison Road
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574/254-4400 • www.ndfcu.org

Securities are offered through Financial Network Investment Corporation, a registered broker/dealer and member of the SIPC. Financial Network is not an affiliate of Notre Dame Federal Credit Union.

Independent of the University

“God is love, and all who abide in love abide in God” (John 4:16)

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, an international Catholic organization dedicated to Charity through Personal, Loving Service, invites you to an Organizational Meeting:

**Monday, February 13
@
The Center for Social
Concerns
7:30 – 8:30 pm**



****Pizza and Drinks Provided**

Featured Speaker: Professor Larry Cunningham, Theology Department, who will speak on Charity as a Way of Life.

WORLD & NATION

Friday, February 10, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Deadly violence occurs on holy day

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

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

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

Sudan and Chad sign peace deal

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

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

A communique issued by Sudan, Chad and Libya, as well as Burkino Faso, Congo and the Central African Republic, whose leaders attended the talks, said a committee of African countries overseen by Libya would monitor the implementation of the deal.

NATIONAL NEWS

Agreement reached on Patriot Act

WASHINGTON — A band of Senate Republican holdouts reached agreement Thursday with the White House on minor changes in the Patriot Act, hoping to clear the way for passage of anti-terror legislation stalled in a dispute over protection of civil liberties.

Sen. John Sununu, R-N.H., and three other GOP lawmakers — all of whom joined with Democrats last year to block a long-term extension of the law — were to announce the accord later Thursday.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan pre-empted them, saying the changes "continue to build upon the civil liberties protections that are in place but do so in a way that doesn't compromise our national security priorities."

Judge speaks on domestic spying

COLUMBUS — A federal judge gave the government two months to respond to an Ohio trucker's request that his terrorism conviction be thrown out on grounds that the government illegally spied on him.

U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema cited "the potentially weighty issues raised in the defendant's motion" in an order Wednesday that set a 60-day timetable for the government to respond to lyman Faris' arguments.

Faris' challenge is among the first to seek evidence of warrantless electronic eavesdropping by the National Security Agency, a practice that began after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

LOCAL NEWS

Drug robbery leads to killing, arrest

Indianapolis police arrested a 15-year-old boy they say killed a man while trying to rob him during a marijuana deal.

The boy was arrested Wednesday and faces initial charges of murder and a handgun violation in the death of Paul Abron, 22, of the 2400 block of Beckwith Street.

Abron was shot near a liquor store in the 2900 block of Dr. Andrew J. Brown Avenue shortly after midnight Tuesday, police said.

West Coast terror plot disclosed

Bush says that U.S. surveillance helped stop a terrorist attack on L.A. skyscraper

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Under fire for eavesdropping on Americans, President Bush said Thursday that spy work stretching from the U.S. to Asia helped thwart terrorists plotting to use shoe bombs to hijack an airliner and crash it into the tallest skyscraper on the West Coast.

"It took the combined efforts of several countries to break up this plot," Bush said. "By working together we stopped a catastrophic attack on our homeland."

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

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

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

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

In a new AP-Ipsos poll, 48 percent now support wiretapping without a warrant in cases of suspected communications with terrorists, up from 42 percent last month. Half say the administration should have to get a warrant, down from 56 percent. Men in particular have come around to Bush's view over the last month, the poll suggested.

And on Capitol Hill



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

Thursday, four Senate Republican holdouts reached agreement with the White House on minor changes in the Patriot Act, hoping to clear the way for renewal of anti-terror legislation that Bush says is essential in the fight against terrorists.

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

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

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

The president said the plot was derailed when a Southeast Asian nation arrested a key al-Qaida

operative. Bush did not name the country or the operative.

Frances Fragos Townsend, assistant to the president for homeland security and counterterrorism, said Mohammed, working with Hambali in Asia, recruited four members of the terrorist cell and trained its leader in how to use shoe bombs.

Townsend said it was not clear whether there was any connection between the West Coast plot and shoe bomber Richard Reid, who tried to blow up a trans-Atlantic flight in December 2001. After that, the Transportation Security Administration began asking passengers to take off their shoes for inspection.

IRAQ

Hostage journalist pleads for help

Associated Press

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

Carroll, talking in a calm, composed voice and wearing traditional Arab attire, said the date was Feb. 2, nearly a month after she was seized in Baghdad by armed men who killed her Iraqi transla-

tor. She was shown sitting on a chair in front of a wall with a large floral design.

The 28-year-old freelance reporter for The Christian Science Monitor said she had sent one letter and was sending another to "prove I am with the mujahedeen."

"I sent you a letter written by my hand, but you wanted more evidence," she said. "I am here. I am fine. Please just do whatever they want, give them whatever they want as quickly as possible. There is very short time. Please do it fast. That's all."

The 22-second video was carried by Alrai TV, a private Kuwaiti channel, and included audio, unlike two previous videos of Carroll that were broadcast by Al-Jazeera television. A producer at Al-Jazeera said the station did not receive any letters with the videos it aired.

After Thursday's broadcast, Carroll's family issued a brief statement through The Christian Science Monitor, saying only that "the family is hopeful and grateful to all those working on Jill's behalf."

Petitions

continued from page 1

natures now but want to collect "several thousand" before presenting the petitions to Jenkins during the middle of next week, Redfield said.

"I think students are beginning to realize just how critical unrestricted academic freedom is to the mission of this Catholic university," Redfield said. "We can sustain our academic reputation and our Catholic character only by critically engaging every intellectual, spiritual and ideological viewpoint of the Notre Dame family. Intolerance is not a Catholic value."

Anna Gomberg, a third-year graduate student and co-coordinator of the unrecognized gay/straight student group AllianceND, said her group had come together with United for Free Speech in support of the Gay and Lesbian Film series — a unity that is "absolutely" essential to furthering their cause.

"I am really, really inspired by the way United for Free Speech and everybody around us has pulled together, made this a real conversation," Gomberg said. "We think that it's a pretty visible [sign] of all of us being in one place on the first day of the Gay and Lesbian Film [series]."

She said the event's name change — an agreement reached between the University, the Film, Television and Theatre department and student organizers — was a sign of the relevancy of the film series and that many students would be "outraged" if the showings were banned from campus.

"I think that it would be quite the blow to academic freedom," Gomberg said. "I think it would be taking the University away from being an academic institution and it would bring it more into the realm of the Church."

"We are hoping the petition will show the administration just how committed the students are to academic freedom."

The majority of people entering the Performing Arts Center Thursday night stopped to sign the academic freedom petition.

Curtis Leighton, a senior collecting signatures at the Center, said awareness was an important goal of the night's campaign.

"The Queer Film Festival is really a huge part of this academic freedom [discussion], and it is important that we are here," Leighton said.

Students on their way to class Thursday morning were handed a copy of the Open Speaker Policy outlined in duLac, a statement that United for Free Speech members believe fully supports the presence of controversial events like "The Vagina Monologues" on campus.

"Notre Dame students may invite and hear any person of their own choosing," duLac reads. "Sponsorship of guest speakers does not imply approval or endorsement of the views expressed, either by the sponsorship group or the University."

United for Free Speech believes there is nothing in duLac to suggest students are not considered "open speakers" under University policy.

"Until duLac changes, no one

should have the right to define students' rights to academic freedom of every sort on campus," the group's statement reads.

The majority of students took the handout and kept it. Some paused to sign the group's petition — Redfield estimated between 300 and 400 signatures were collected this morning — while others, rushed or uninterested, ignored the requests.

Freshman Michael Spencer, who stopped to sign the petition, said he better understood the issue after writing a First Year Composition paper on Jenkins' recent addresses.

"The main issue comes down to respect, respect of Father Jenkins and for the Catholic views of the University," Spencer said.

He said he didn't think controversial events like "The Vagina Monologues" should be banned, because students have a "right to see" them.

"But I think there should be compromise," Spencer said. "Notre Dame is, after all, a Catholic university."

Other students passing by were less knowledgeable on the academic freedom debate.

After being handed the Open Speaker Policy, sophomore Jake O'Neill said he "didn't know much about it."

"I'm for [academic freedom], I guess," O'Neill said. "I don't know really, though."

Sophomore Kristy Schlueter said she needed to do more research on the discussion before committing herself to one side or another.

"I'm all for free speech, but I don't really know exactly what I'm signing, so I kind of want to figure ... out where I stand on the whole thing," Schlueter said.

A transfer student from the University of Arizona, junior Ben Fredlake said he didn't have all the background on the controversy on campus.

"[But] I don't really have a problem with what Father Jenkins said," he said.

Other students stressed the magnitude of the issue and firmly articulated their stance.

"The fact that Father Jenkins is even letting us comment like this, I think, is really important, and it's important that both sides are presented," senior Stefanie Dittert said. "I think we've seen a lot of the other side, like 'Oh, I agree with Father Jenkins' ... like stop. I'm in 'The Vagina Monologues,' I think it's really important that they go on."

"I think these are issues that everyone at a Catholic university needs to be aware of, and there needs to be open debate on both sides."

And it seems debate will continue to escalate, Redfield said. She has been contacted by numerous national and international news organizations — including the New York Times, National Public Radio and the Associated Press — and hasn't seen any decrease in activity among students.

"This is not an issue that will die easily," she said.

Heather Van Hoegarden and Megan O'Neil contributed to this report.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

Tickets

continued from page 1

freshmen Ryan McCune and Tim Szewczyk, juniors Lizzi Shappell and Bill Andrichik and sophomore Erica Wells and freshman George Chamberlain all participated in the debates.

As in previous years, the ideas presented by candidates were similar — especially since a large chunk of the debates was based on pre-chosen topics. But the manner of presentation varied greatly, something evidenced in the opening statements.

Wells and Chamberlain focused on their enthusiasm and commitment to Notre Dame.

"I'm so passionate about this school, I have a Notre Dame tattoo," Wells said. "This is such an amazing school, but it's not ideal. What's the best way to make an impact? Why not go for it all?"

She stressed the importance of hosting open forums, something she and Chamberlain said sets their campaign apart.

"Our campaign is really about a democracy," Chamberlain said. "[Student government] is a republic right now."

Szewczyk — the only candidate not dressed professionally — sported a bandanna wrapped around his head and strummed a guitar next to McCune, who said there were "some good things about Notre Dame, and some things that are awful."

"Hopefully, we can keep [the awful things] up," McCune said.

Laws and Costa, who used a more aggressive debating style, criticized several aspects of the current administration headed by student body president Dave Baron and Shappell.

"Some of these main points ... aren't getting done," Laws said.

"An eight-ounce To-Go cup? A[n updated] Web site? A Catholic Think Tank [series] with only one speaker?"

"... Bob Costa and I are running not for resume, not to network. Our platform is based on your ideas, based on what you came and told us, what athletes came and told us, grievances of dorms that came and told us."

Black told a story about famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who received a call that a roof was leaking and told workers to "rise above it."

"To those who would point to lack of experience," he said, a reference to his and Martinez's comparatively young age, "the leaders have had their chance ... The roof is leaking. Let's rise above it."

Shappell and Andrichik delivered their remarks and ideas through the lens of experience, pledging to bring students every idea outlined on their platform.

"We've proven ourselves in that experience — we brought you to-go cups, we brought you community relations, we have an ambitious platform," Shappell said. "We believe with current relationships [and] current projects, we have the ability to bring you results."

Ideas on how to improve student life ranged from promoting better gender relations — a primary Black-Martinez goal — to infusing the campus with Nickelodeon-style "Global Guts" and "Legends of the Hidden Temple" competitions, proposed by McCune and Szewczyk, who vowed to "bring back slime."

Shappell and Andrichik said they would focus on increasing student contact with University administration and getting more students to sit on University committees, while Laws and Costa said they would push for weekly town hall forums for students to voice their concerns.

No candidate had a concrete plan to approach the issue of

academic freedom, but most came to the consensus that it was an important concern worthy of significant consideration. Laws and Costa took a negative approach — on par with their heavily critical tone of the night — to say the current student government isn't doing enough.

Shappell said student government is taking a "proactive role," encouraging senators to collect opinions from their dorm communities and bring them back to meetings for discussion.

"That is the most essential role for us to fulfill," she said.

Candidates addressed the topic of community relations third.

Wells said it was "not a new problem" and that she would like to see students have "more of a voice in South Bend, more community service projects [to] see that we're not just weekend partiers."

Costa proposed a "student discount fair" to inform students of opportunities available in South Bend.

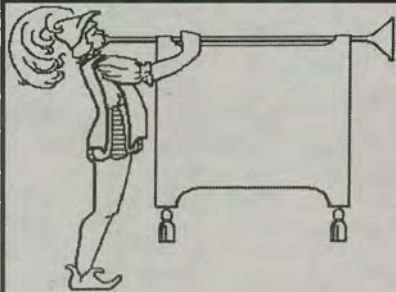
"This is a community, a town we can embrace, a city we can embrace," he said.

Defying convention, McCune said he and Szewczyk were not focusing on the relationship with the community.

"Boycott the Bend!" said McCune, who made a spin on the Laws-Costa "Stick-it-to-Jenkins" cardboard cutout idea, proposing a "revealing cardboard cutout of yours truly, like from Major League, for the South Bend residents."

The candidates also answered questions on plans for Student Senate interaction, ways to improve Grab-and-Go, approaches to better gender relations, their relationships with members of University administration and their ideas for improving the bowl game ticketing system.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu



Announcing the Year 2006 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2006 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
- 5) the names of two references.

Application Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2006
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

MARKET RECAP

Stocks
Dow Jones 10,883.35 +24.73

Up: 1,691 Same: 151 Down: 1,586 Composite Volume: 2,442,958,200

AMEX	1,831.05	+14.64
NASDAQ	3,102.99	-5.72
NYSE	7,980.17	+5.26
S&P 500	1,263.78	-1.87
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	16,430.94	-8.73
FTSE 100(London)	5,808.70	+83.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	+0.77	+0.15	19.55
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	+0.95	+0.12	12.69
INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.60	+0.33	21.00
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	-0.95	-0.39	40.71
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	-3.01	-0.18	5.80

Treasuries		
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.18	45.41
13-WEEK BILL	+0.11	43.97
30-YEAR BOND	-0.81	46.43
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.22	45.41

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	+0.07	62.62
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+14.30	568.10
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.13	77.55

Exchange Rates		
YEN		118.6800
EURO		0.8348
POUND		0.5739

IN BRIEF

Average for jobless claims decreases

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits was up by just 4,000 last week, putting the weekly average over the past month at the lowest level in nearly six years.

Analysts said the big improvement in claims in recent weeks was apparently not a fluke but an actual sign that the labor market has improved significantly.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that 277,000 persons went to state unemployment offices last week to make applications for jobless benefits, compared to an increase of 4,000 from the previous week.

That was below the gain of 12,000 that economists had been expecting and provided further evidence that the labor market has strengthened significantly in recent weeks.

The four-week moving average for claims, which smooths out weekly volatility, fell again last week to 276,500, the lowest level since April 2000. Jobless claims have been below the 300,000-mark for five of the past six weeks.

Companies demonstrate how to cope

PHOENIX — Despite powerful search engines, the vast and rising sea of information on the Internet often makes users feel like they're stuck alone in a rowboat when it comes to fishing out exactly what they need.

Even after someone finds an answer, the next person with the same question must start all over again. Sometimes, information is locked away inside a photo or other media file that's largely inaccessible to search engines that scour the Internet for text.

The problem with corraling results from today's search engines was a major theme at this week's DEMO tech conference, where nearly 70 companies were given six minutes each to show off their up-and-coming products.

"There's a belief that whatever it is I'm looking for is out there, but I have a really difficult time finding it," said Chris Shipley, executive producer of the elite show. "Search algorithms alone are falling short in being able to provide real context around information."

GM's plans lack magnitude

Automaker struggles to cope with expensive employee benefits, Asian competition

Associated Press

NEW YORK — General Motors Corp. made some tough decisions this week. Unfortunately, the automaker's mess requires tougher moves and a jolt of imagination.

The numbers speak for themselves. The future cash savings from a dividend cut, a reduction in white-collar benefits and a cut in executive pay — totaling less than \$800 million a year overall — merely skirt the problems facing a company that reported a net loss of \$8.6 billion in 2005.

The issues, like two invisible monster trucks in the room, are more than a quarter million workers with hugely expensive benefits and a management team that hasn't figured out how to design and build cars as well as those from Asian rivals that consumers are buying. You can't fix problems like these with financial nips and tucks.

It's logical to expect investors and the small fraction of GM workers affected by the company's latest plans to share the pain. But in all fairness to the union workers who ultimately will be forced to endure the worst, the reductions in the dividend, executive pay and health care benefits for white collar employees don't go far enough, particularly if management hoped to make a point.

Since GM is looking to shed a 51 percent stake in its highly profitable financing arm, General Motors Acceptance Corp., it's easy to argue that the dividend should have been eliminated rather than halved. GMAC contributed \$2.5 billion in cash to GM last year, and the potential divestiture would cut future cash flow in half, while GM's dividend cut will save just \$565 million.

Likewise, since the intent is so obviously symbolic, management could have made a far stronger state-



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

ment by giving up all salary and agreeing to a bonus arrangement that only rewards a successful turnaround.

Instead, the plan includes an assortment of pay cuts at odd-sounding increments: a 50 percent reduction for the chief executive and board members, 30 percent for three vice chairmen and 10 percent for the general counsel. To their credit, there will be no bonuses for last year's dismal performance, but no pledges were made on that score for 2006.

The United Auto Workers union dismissed GM's moves as unworthy of new concessions, suggesting the upcoming contract brawl

will be even more venomous. That's troubling, given that GM lost nearly \$1,000 per vehicle in a year when it sold more than ever before. And with Toyota Motor Corp. making roughly \$1,500 per car, GM obviously is spending too much to make a less exciting product.

The unavoidable fact is that GM's unionized workers enjoy a level of pay, health insurance and pension benefits that can't be sustained. And then there's the jobs bank, a singularly unique entitlement program that pays laid-off workers most of their salaries for an extended period.

Peter Morici, an economist at the University of

Maryland, estimates that to make money, GM's hourly cost per employee needs to be nearly halved to about \$40 — a number he derives from the steel industry, a business that's been dragged kicking and screaming into a new era of profitability. Some may dispute his math, but it's clear that more than incremental change is required.

The union argues that such a reduction would amount to a huge broken promise that would leave many of its members in dire straits. True enough, GM hasn't lived up to its word, but the union also bears responsibility for playing hard-enough ball to extract such extravagant promises.

Stocks lag at close despite earnings

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street's momentum sagged Thursday, leaving the major indexes mixed after investors' enthusiasm over a six-year low in unemployment claims and strong corporate earnings waned in the face of longer-term economic worries.

With lingering questions remaining about the health of the economy, interest rates, oil prices and geopolitics, investors took profits in late trading, focusing on the energy and technology sectors that led the most recent rallies.

"Most companies have already reported their earnings, and I think we're getting to a quiet period where

it can be tough to keep anything positive going," said Hans Olsen, managing director and chief investment officer at Bingham Legg Advisers. "There's still a lot out there to deal with."

While weekly first-time jobless claims rose slightly, Wall Street was initially encouraged after the Labor Department said the four-week moving average of claims, a strong indicator of the labor market's health, fell to its lowest level since April 2000. Positive earnings reports from Best Buy Co. Inc. and Aetna Inc. also cheered would-be buyers for much of the session.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 24.73, or 0.23 percent, to

10,883.35 after gaining 108.86 points Wednesday.

Broader stock indicators were lower, however. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 1.87, or 0.15 percent, to 1,263.78, and the tech-focused Nasdaq composite index dropped 11.11, or 0.49 percent, to 2,255.87.

Bonds reversed direction from the previous session and climbed higher as the first auction of 30-year Treasury bonds since 2001 was generally well received. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 4.54 percent from 4.59 percent late Wednesday. The dollar was mixed against most major currencies, while gold prices edged lower.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 8

Friday, February 10, 2006

THE OBSERVER

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P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Claire Heininger

MANAGING EDITOR: Pat Leonard
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WEB ADMINISTRATOR: Damian Althoff

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO
(574) 631-7471

FAX

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4324

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S DESK

smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK

(574) 631-8767 obsphoto@nd.edu

SYSTEMS & WEB ADMINISTRATORS

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Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

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Random thoughts on a winter's day

Why can't people be more like our feathered friends?

As I sit here writing this article it is about 19 degrees outside and my knee hurts due to a recent incident involving me and a patch of ice. I am wondering why I decided on a college that is in this snow globe also commonly referred to as South Bend. I think the birds are really on to something — we should all head south during the winters. I am not just talking about a six day jaunt in March. Several months in the sun would be ideal; besides, who doesn't look better with a little tan?

The Bookstore ought to screen people before allowing them to buy apparel.

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

The opening ceremony for the Olympics is tonight.

This is pretty exciting because I actually prefer the Winter Olympics to the Summer. With the exception of fig-

ure skating and ice dancing, it seems to me that most of the athletes in the winter games are more rugged and tough than the divers and gymnasts. That said, any event where you can listen to your iPod while competing or where a broom is in an essential part of your equipment is not a real sport in my book.

I bet John Wayne is rolling over in his grave.

The Duke would be mortified to hear that people are flocking to theaters to see a movie about two kissing cowboys. Honestly, in some of John Wayne's movies he didn't even have time for romancing women, let alone men. If he were alive today to see this he would be about 98 and so there isn't a lot he would be able to do, but he'd probably send Chuck Norris to go roundhouse kick the boys on Brokeback in the face (can someone explain this recent phenomenon to me?).

A new project for local government officials.

Now that this whole time zone fiasco has been taken care of, I have a new idea that can keep them busy — I think smoking should be banned from South Bend bars. We all know the obvious reason which is the dangers of smoking for the actual smokers and those who are exposed to it second-handedly. Additionally, I hate the fact that you cannot go grab a drink with friends without coming back smelling like an ash tray.

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

I don't mean to over-generalize, but I often hear my fellow Saint Mary's students complaining about jokes about them. While I can understand why one would take offense when a school they are proud to attend is being attacked, you have got to have a sense of humor too. A Saint Mary's joke in South Bend is an easy laugh as a blonde joke. They are funny because they are so absurd. Just as fair-haired people are no less intelligent than brunettes and red heads, students at Saint Mary's are not inferior so simply take it in stride and have a good laugh.

Spring Training is just about two weeks away.

I am already nervous about this coming baseball season. I thought with the White Sox sweeping the Series in 2005 I would enter this season feeling confident and at ease. Now that I have had a taste of the glory, I want more. I guess the fact that it has recently come out that our Coach of the Year, Ozzie Guillen, was hungover when he applied for his job doesn't help all that much. Let's save the cocktails and hangovers for celebration after the games, rather than before!

So that is what's on my mind right now — it's been a long week and I can honestly say that I am glad it's Friday!

Molly Acker is a senior communication studies and humanistic studies double major at Saint Mary's. She can be contacted at acke6758@nd.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Unique atmosphere must be preserved

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

In UFS's zest to enhance the diversity of thought at Notre Dame by removing all limits on what can be said within the University's facilities, what they are actually advocating is that Notre Dame become just like nearly every other academic institution in America. If UFS succeeds, it will have succeeded only in diminish-

ing the diversity of choices available to high school seniors as they decide which environment would be most conducive to their pursuit of the truth.

If a student wanted to attend a university where productions such as "The Vagina Monologues" and the Queer Film Festival are welcomed and encouraged, she would certainly have a long list of institutions from which to choose. Likewise, if a student wanted to attend a Catholic institution where the Catholic faith is treated as little more than a relic of the school's past and where religion is not important enough to be allowed to stray beyond the walls of the campus chapel, again, she would have many choices. But if a student wished to study in an environment where the teachings of the Catholic Church play a central role in all aspects of campus life and where religious faith and the search for truth are seen as mutually beneficial, not mutually exclusive, that student would have precious few choices.

If UFS sees itself as advocating that Notre Dame expose its students to a viewpoint or perspective to which

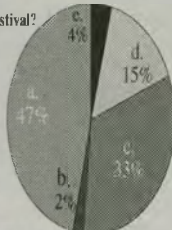
they would otherwise have no access, it gives itself too much credit. "The Vagina Monologues" and productions providing the homosexual perspective are both thoroughly commonplace in American academia today, as is the general concept that academic freedom means that nothing is off-limits (as long as it is politically correct, of course). What UFS is actually advocating is that Notre Dame stop exposing its students to a viewpoint and perspective which is nearly extinct in academia and start doing things the way Boston College, Penn State, Indiana University South Bend and countless other institutions are already doing them. That would be a shame, not so much for the alumni and current students of Notre Dame, but for the high school students of America, who would see the diversity of choices available to them significantly narrowed as Notre Dame stopped standing for something and fell in line with the rest.

Emmet Day
alumnus
Class of 2002
Feb. 9

OBSERVER POLL

Are you planning to attend the Queer Film Festival?

- a. Yes, because I think it's important to support the gay and lesbian community.
- b. Yes, because of all the controversy makes me interested.
- c. No, I'm opposed to its presence on campus
- d. No, I don't support it.
- e. Maybe, I haven't made up my mind yet.



*Poll appears courtesy of
www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 688 responses

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Look wise, say nothing, and grunt.
Speech was given to conceal thought."

Sir William Osler
British physician

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Contesting academic equivalence

As quoted in a Catholic News Service release of Feb. 3, Notre Dame President Father John Jenkins said that academic freedom at Notre Dame is "the same academic freedom that is enjoyed anywhere else."

The article reports that in the reported interview, Jenkins also rehearsed reasons delivered in his address to the faculty for thinking that permitting academic departments to sponsor "The Vagina Monologues" may not be acceptable at Notre Dame.

I have previously discussed Jenkins' reasoning about this issue. Now I call attention to Jenkins' claim that academic freedom at Notre Dame is, on his understanding, "the same academic freedom that is enjoyed everywhere."

Here's a take home assignment for Jenkins, his staff and for any reporter interested in investigating his claims about academic freedom. Ask presidents and department chairs at major universities whether academic freedom at their institutions permits academic departments to sponsor events as they see fit. The answer one can expect to get is an unambiguous "yes."

Clearly some members of the University community believe that

because of our Catholic character, academic freedom at Notre Dame should work differently than it does at major universities. I and others disagree and the debate continues.

Jenkins' remarks indicate that he apparently wants to have it both ways: He wants to say that academic freedom at Notre Dame is the same as academic freedom at, for example, Michigan, but he wants the freedom that Michigan academic departments have to sponsor events as they see fit not to attach to Notre Dame academic departments.

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

Fritz Warfield
Associate Professor
department of philosophy
Feb. 8

Live your position

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

For those who want to denounce the typical opponents of the "Monologues" (the stereotypically male, conservative, religious types), consider this: These young men are not the ones violating women. Au contraire, they are probably some of the most chaste men on campus. So, supporters of the "Monologues," lay off these folks and view them as your partners.

And to you, opponents of the "Monologues," consider the group supporting the "Monologues": it is dedicated to demolishing all violence against women. So, work together with this group in establishing a campus more dedicated to Christian ideals

of non-violence.

Both groups must come together and impose immense pressure on the one group that is the enemy of all of us: The self-centered young men at this University who rape, abuse, take advantage of and hook up with the women of Notre Dame. These jerks use tools like alcohol and vulnerability in working toward their end. While we sit and argue about the "Monologues," our discussion does not thwart the weekend plans these men have.

I propose we choose our friends with more care, decide which social gatherings are responsible and which aren't, limit the amount that we drink, care for our friends and refuse to enter into vulnerable situations. These are some concrete steps we can take to end violence against women. Please embrace these steps with sincerity and thoughtfulness, rather than arguing about this play — the health of our University's students is at stake.

Daniel DiMassa
senior
Knott Hall
Feb. 9

Cable regretted

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

Lounges and lobbies, the exclusive domain of the campus' cable television, become places for social bonding. Speaking from experience living in a men's dorm, any televised sports event has the power to draw half a hallway into the lounge for an evening. Even private common rooms where roommates set up satellites become open-door congregations. Once all those channels are available in every room, I wonder if that camaraderie will go the way of the Dumont Network (i.e., disappear). It's long before my time, but I get the feeling that since the unfathomable age before every room had internet connections, the social atmosphere at Notre Dame has been affected negatively. This seems to be another inevitable, albeit convenient, step in that direction.

The news that installation is now expected to go on for as long as six weeks is troublesome for students, like myself, who refuse

to own a cell phone — six weeks without my dependable, reliable, above-all audible land-line phone. At least if I want to call home, I have an excuse to drop in on a friend who still has service. More importantly, what do I do in my own room if I have an emergency? What about the \$144 I've paid for phone service this semester? Will I receive a refund for these six weeks, Office of Student Accounts? Or will I have to give in and join the ranks of the cellular, publicly announcing my whereabouts with every next-minute ring?

While my hopes are that these aren't the halcyon days for the sense of community I've found, one nice thing about the project is the quiet time it's brought for contemplation. When the dark ages are finally over, I may just leave my connection unhooked and enjoy the prolonged solace (and the letters, like this one, that I've been able to write without distraction).

Will Seath
senior
Morrissey Manor
Feb. 5

Open letter to Father Jenkins

"For as of late there has been an active campaign, carried on in the name of the social function of propaganda for special views which are dogmatically asserted to be socially necessary."

John Dewey, Freedom and Culture, 1939

Dear Father John Jenkins,

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

I don't think even they entirely understand, however, what it is they're arguing for.

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

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

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

1) Assuming that the Vagina Monologues are indeed egregiously opposed to Catholic teachings, 2) and accepting its supporters, position that no comparable production, which would include the Catholic perspective, could accomplish the same goals, 3) it follows that Catholic teachings must be ignored for the said goals to

be fulfilled. 4) If Catholic teachings must be ignored, this must mean that Catholic beliefs about sexuality are not only insufficient (in which case a performance which united both secular and Catholic viewpoints would suffice), but completely wrong. 5) If the University agrees that "The Vagina Monologues" do indeed have an irreplaceable impact on campus, and therefore allow them to be performed, the implication is that the University believes statement 4 is true.

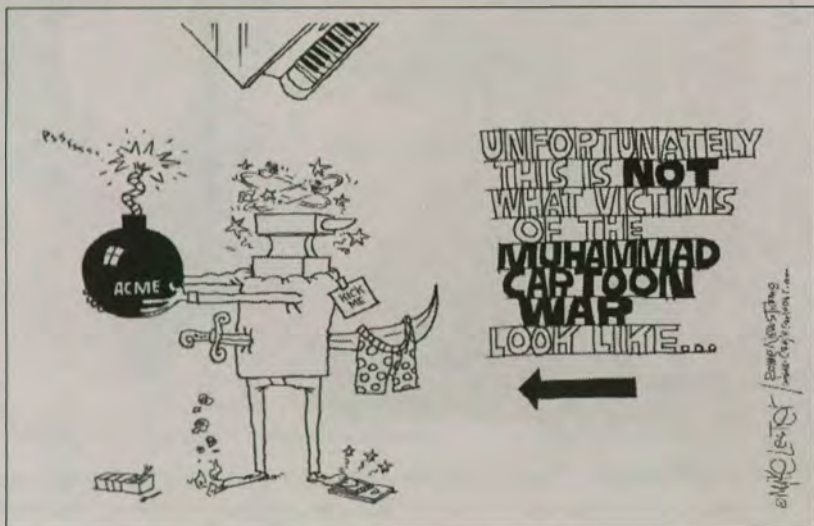
Can the supporters of "The Vagina Monologues" really ask Notre Dame to make this statement and in doing so, contradict our Catholic identity? Knowingly or not, that is what they are doing. The supporters must either agree that "The Vagina Monologues" could be amended so as not to completely oppose Catholic teaching, or acknowledge that in supporting this performance, Notre Dame would be denying part of its Catholic identity by denying part of the Church's claim to truth.

The same logical proposition holds true for all similar events. Notre Dame could conceivably sponsor an event which was non-Catholic, but any production which is specifically anti-Catholic and refuses to address relevant Catholic perspectives leads to the same conundrum as "The Vagina Monologues."

I am not encouraging Notre Dame to withdraw from the secular world. Rather, as a leading Catholic University, we need to engage it. But if we — with our immense intellectual, financial and spiritual resources conform with modern culture to the extent that we begin to believe that only through anti-Catholic measures can certain topics be addressed, I fear we will have settled for a position which will end up nullifying our great Catholic intellectual heritage.

Jessica Nelson
sophomore
Breen-Phillips
Feb. 8

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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

E-mail Sarah at Viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SUB PREVIEW

Talented authors highlight festival



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

By GRACE MYERS

Scene Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

lections and author of the thriller novel "Cast of Shadows" — one of the Chicago Tribune's "Best Books of 2005." The Student Night will also feature Saul Williams, the renowned slam poet and former Grand Slam Champion. He appeared on HBO's Def Poetry Jam and is the author of four unique poetry collections. The Student Night will include 15 student performances. These highly dedicated student writers range from freshmen to graduate students and will perform poetry, slam poetry, prose and short stories.

Rane Arroyo will be giving a lecture on Feb. 15 on his poetry, experimental short stories and playwriting. His lecture and workshop are co-sponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies. He is the author of five well-respected poetry books, his newest work, "The Portable Famine," focuses on his personal struggles of being a homosexual Puerto Rican and a Midwestern writer. It won the 2004 John Ciardi Poetry Prize. He has also won the 1997 Pushcart for "Breathing Lessons" and the 2004 Gwendolyn Books Prize.

Buzz Bissinger is the final author of the Literary Festival. He is most recognized for being awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his work at the Philadelphia Inquirer on the Philadelphia Court System, his writing for Sports Illustrated and as being the author of the acclaimed "Friday Night Lights." Undoubtedly one of the most distinguished and multi-talented writers of our time, he has received numerous prestigious awards for his work as a reporter, magazine writer, sports writer, non-fiction and television writer.

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

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

Contact Grace Myers at gmyers1@nd.edu



By CASSIE BELEK

Scene Writer

With recent campus debates over University President Father John Jenkin's comments on academic freedom still fresh in students' minds, the Gay and Lesbian Film: Filmmakers, Narratives and Spectatorships series is in full swing at the Browning Cinema. The series kicked off yesterday with two screenings of Academy Award nominated "Brokeback Mountain," directed by Ang Lee. "Brokeback Mountain" is one of four already sold-out films, with its second screening selling out in only two hours.

The aim of the series, which formerly went by the name of the Queer Film Festival, is to present films that make students question what a gay and lesbian film is, or even if it can be categorized in a "gay and lesbian" genre. The student organizers for this year's film series are graduate students Harry Karahalios and Martin Laina.

"We feel as student organizers that this is an important event for Notre Dame students because it gives students the opportunity to look at contemporary culture and see these great films," Laina said. "The films present students with the opportunity to ask academic questions and raise questions about our contemporary culture."

The six films being screened are "Brokeback Mountain," "Breakfast on Pluto," "Happy Endings," "Saving Face," "Gay Republicans" and "Cachorro (Bear Cub)." The first three films explore the complex genre of a gay and lesbian film.

"Brokeback Mountain," starring Oscar nominees Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal, follows the love story

SCHED
THURSDAY
7:00 & 10:30 SCREENING: BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (SOLD OUT)
DIRECTOR: ANG LEE
OPENING REMARKS: PROF. PAM
FRIDAY
11:00 PANEL: "MAKING GAY"
2:00 PANEL: "ALEXANDER M. GAY & LESBIAN FILM, QUEER FI"
ACADEMY
OPENING REMARKS: PROF. PAM
4:00 SCREENING: GAY REPU
OPENING REMARKS: PROF. JIM G

of a ranch-hand and a rodeo who fall in love herding sheep in summer only to keep their secret over the years as they married, have children and cope with their feelings for one another.

"Breakfast on Pluto," with Globe nominated Cillian Murphy, is about a young man in the 19th century who leaves Ireland to look for his brother in London and becomes a transvestite cabaret singer.

Director Don Roos will be on hand for Saturday's screening of "Happy Endings," a film inte-



In "Brokeback Mountain," Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal play two men who must cope with their love for one another in order to be accepted.

★ ★ ★ in focus ★ ★ ★

ELECTION 2006



Friday, February 10, 2006

THE
OBSERVER

RYAN BLACK *president*

vice president CATHERINE MARTINEZ

Who They Are

Black is a freshman in Knott Hall who intends to major in English. Martinez is a freshman in Cavanaugh Hall who intends to major in Political Science.

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Their top priority is to improve Notre Dame's community relations with South Bend. They said they can resolve this issue over the next three years they will be at Notre Dame.

♦ **First Priority:** Black and Martinez want to implement an athletic mentoring program with the children of the community. They said they have already spoken with athletes who would be willing to start this program.



In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Getting more children from the South Bend community involved in a mentoring program with athletes. Although programs are in place, a centralized program is a good idea.

♦ **Worst Idea:** Diminishing dances. from their Web site: "Dances tend to not be a good idea to better Gender Relations. People invite friends of the opposite sex to dances, thus making it difficult to meet other students of the opposite sex."

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Natural Disaster Relief Committee

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Tie between After-Parietals Lock-In and 'Students would be able to redeem unused dining hall meals for friends visiting from out of town.' They call this "friend meals."

♦ **Fun Fact:** Black is dyslexic and has short term memory disorder, something he said makes him

unique at Notre Dame. Martinez went to Japan in eighth grade for two weeks, despite the fact she is not Japanese.

♦ **Notable Quote:** We're trying to attack the greatest issues of the University in a logical way." — Ryan Black

Bottom Line

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

JASON LAWS *president*

vice president BOB COSTA

Who They Are

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

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Laws and Costa said they want to join groups on both sides of the debate on academic freedom. They said they want students to have a voice while the issue is resolved.

♦ **First Priority:** The first project for the Laws/Costa ticket would be to provide town hall forums around campus to allow students to voice their opinions and to work toward a compromise.



In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Town Hall-style meetings around campus in which students would be given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the issue of academic freedom and Catholic character.

♦ **Worst Idea:** "Stick it to Jenkins," which would consist of life-size cutouts of the University president stationed around campus that students would stick Post-It notes on to express their concerns.

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Create an Off-Campus Housing Guidebook

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Student-only pep rallies on Thursday nights

♦ **Fun Fact:** Laws was on the National Champion fencing team and was on MTV's "Next." Costa hosts a show on NDTV called "Office Hours."

♦ **Notable Quote:** "This isn't about meet-and-greet or networking — we have a responsibility to represent the students." — Jason Laws.

Bottom Line

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

Notre Student President and Candidate Election: Feb

RYAN McCUNE

vice president

Who They Are

McCune and Szewczyk are both freshmen from Zahm Hall. McCune intends to major in electrical engineering, while Szewczyk is an intended biology major.

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Construction of an Aggro Crag at the Rockne Memorial

♦ **First Priority:** To get their hair cut

In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Rebuilding the Nickelodeon game show GUTS at the Rockne Memorial, including the Aggro Crag

♦ **Worst Idea:** Trying to bring back Legends of the Hidden Temple, a much less popular Nick show

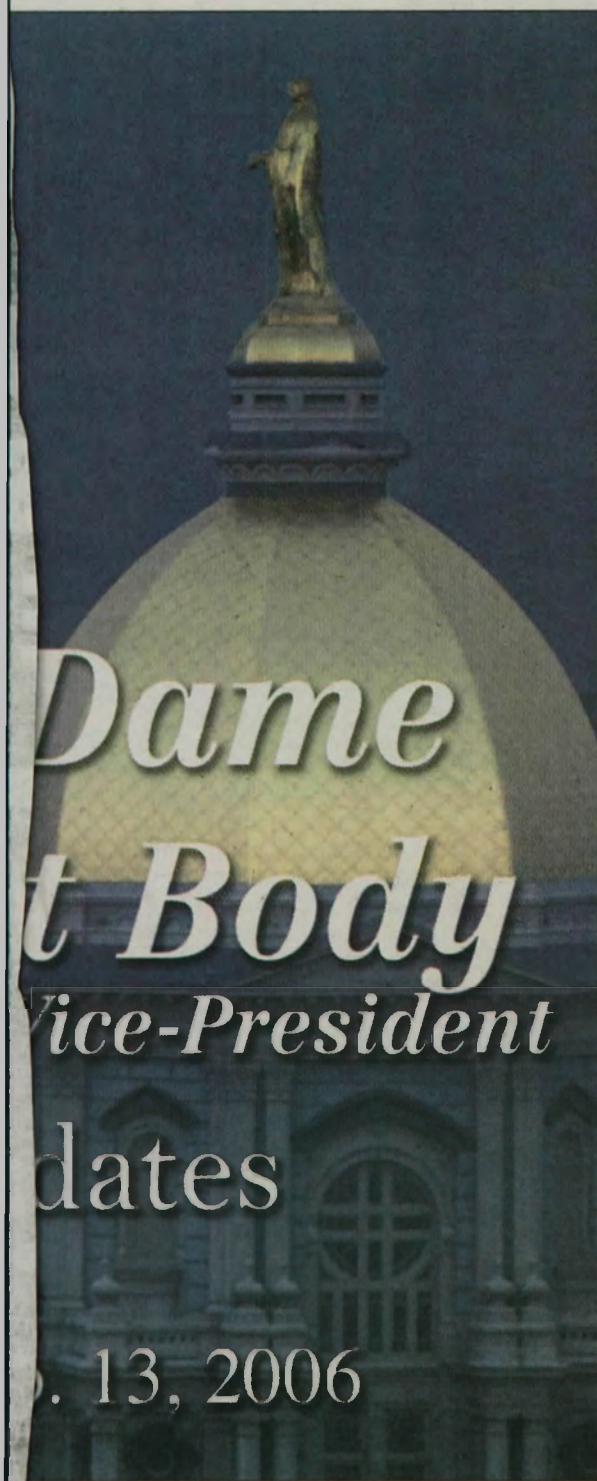
♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Using slime at student government meetings to slime different members upon speaking the secret word

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Hosting performances of the "Penis Soliloquies" on campus to balance out the Vagina Monologues

♦ **Fun Fact:** McCune was the cross country deep throat champion in high school and can spin almost anything on his finger. Szewczyk cannot throw up on command.

♦ **Notable Quote:** In response to a question about their relationship with University administrators, McCune said, "I haven't gone to ResLife yet."





president

TIM SZEWCZYK



Bottom Line

McCune and Szewczyk are just two more Zahm freshmen running for this office. Although their Nickelodeon-based ideas are entertaining and sound like fun, this ticket has no real plans for student government. The Aggro Crag is innovative, and they claim they have talked to a donator in Biloxi, Miss., who is ready to give "just under five figures." They also proposed, instead of "Stick it to Jenkins," a "Stick it to Ryan," as to avoid problems with the administration. These freshmen have creative ideas, many of which relate to Nickelodeon and its former television shows for children, but their interests might be better served in another arena than as the leaders of the Notre Dame student body.

LIZZI SHAPPELL *president*

vice president **BILL ANDRICHIK**

Who They Are

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

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** Shappell and Andrichik plan to address the issue of community relations by working with already established connections in the Law School to help students understand the ordinance that was passed this summer. They also plan to help students adjust to moving off campus by providing information sessions.

♦ **First Priority:** "Student Choice at Grab 'n' Go" Shappell and Andrichik want to survey students to determine which items will be added to Grab 'n' Go, perhaps including hot food items.

In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Community Relations plan. Shappell and Andrichik have outlined a comprehensive and realistic agenda to help students not only adjust to off-campus living but also to improve community relations with the city of South Bend.

♦ **Worst Idea:** None

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** College Readership Program

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Establishing a café in the Hesburgh Library

♦ **Fun Fact:** Shappell can detect types of mint by smell. Andrichik, although a long-time Wisconsin resident, hates the NFL's Green Bay Packers.



♦ **Notable Quote:** "Our huge selling point is that we expect to achieve everything on this platform." — Lizzi Shappell.

Bottom Line

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

ERICA WELLS *president*

vice president **GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN**

Who They Are

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

In Their Words

♦ **Top Priority:** To improve Multicultural and Gender relations by working with the Gender Relations Council and the MSPS in addition to finding a way to educate freshman about such issues.

♦ **First Priority:** To put student government back in the hands of students by creating open forums and giving students more chances to be heard.

In Our Words

♦ **Best Idea:** Soliciting student opinion on academic freedom and Catholic character through straightforward, accessible surveys and e-mails.

♦ **Worst Idea:** Community bikes — bikes around campus designated for general student use.

♦ **Most Feasible Idea:** Bringing student government to students by periodically moving student government meetings to residence halls and by meeting informally with students.

♦ **Least Feasible Idea:** Open forums with rectors to give them student feedback on their performances — rector evaluations are already in place through the Office of Residence Life and Housing

♦ **Fun Facts:** If she could, Wells said she would go skydiving everyday for the rest of her life — she's done it twice and has plans to do it again. Chamberlain can drink a gallon of milk in under half-an-hour without immediately throwing up.



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

Bottom Line

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

The Observer endorses Shappell-Andrichik

One year ago at this time, when Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell were running for and winning the positions of Notre Dame's new student body president and vice president, The Observer didn't think they were the best candidates for the job.

While Baron was a strong, experienced leader, Shappell lacked his polish and stayed too silent in his shadow. But that changed quickly and dramatically over the last 12 months, as the pair ran a professional, productive administration that led to singular praise from Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman and other administrators who are typically wary of student government — a respectful rapport that allowed Baron and Shappell to strongly represent students at the highest level of the University.

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

The Shappell-Andrichik platform addresses the biggest issues facing Notre Dame today — community relations, aca-

demic freedom and diversity — presenting necessary and realistic plans of action for each. However, Shappell and Andrichik are not the only qualified, driven candidates in the race.

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

The ticket's desire for transparency in student government to pave the way for future student leaders are commendable. Laws' honesty is also refreshing — from acknowledging he did a lot of soul-searching before deciding whether to seek to the presidency to saying of his running mate, "I didn't even like this kid last year when he ran." When he says his campaign is from the heart, voters should believe him. But Laws and Costa lack the relationships

with — and arguably respect for — the key administrators with whom, and through whom, student leaders must work to accomplish their goals. "Stick it to Jenkins," the Laws-Costa ticket's plan to convey student opinion on academic freedom and Catholic character to the University president, is an immature approach the student body cannot afford on such a pivotal issue. At a time when students are fighting for their voices to be heard in a crucial debate about Notre Dame's identity, they should be able to trust their president and vice president to convey those voices firmly, but also professionally and respectfully, in order to be taken seriously. Laws and Costa would not be, and students would suffer for it. After the Shappell and Laws tickets, there is a significant dropoff in the quality and experience of candidates. While it is encouraging that an unusually high number of underclassmen demonstrated interest this year in taking leadership roles and improving student life, they lack the background and knowledge to succeed in the student body's highest office.

Ryan Black and Catherine Martinez, both freshmen, don't know what they're getting

themselves into just yet. Martinez showed poise and should certainly become more involved in student government, perhaps to take a top position in a few years, but she is not ready yet.

Erica Wells and George Chamberlain are not prepared to take office either. Their proposals are few and they have not researched their platform thoroughly. Chamberlain, another unusually polished freshman, has potential to do good things for student government, but he needs more experience.

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

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

Shappell already has a good relationship with the new University administration — even joining Baron as student government's first ex officio members of the Board of Trustees — at a time when it is crucial to have a trusted liaison for the voice of the student body.

This ticket knows its stand on academic freedom and Catholic character — believing events

expressing alternative viewpoints belong at Notre Dame because they challenge and strengthen students' faith — but is willing to listen to the student body's voices to come to the most appropriate resolution to present to the administration.

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

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

The student body deserves the best possible student body president and vice president to represent them at this important juncture. The Observer endorses Lizzi Shappell and Bill Andrichik for Notre Dame's 2006-07 student body president and vice president.

The Observer Editorial



THE OBSERVER'S TAKE ON THE ISSUES OF THE 2006 ELECTION		COMMUNITY RELATIONS	ACADEMIC FREEDOM	STUDENT APATHY	GENDER RELATIONS	DIVERSITY
 Black & Martinez		Black and Martinez say they can address this issue during their three years at Notre Dame, but it needs to be handled now. Getting students to volunteer is not a solution.	Although they don't have a specific part of their platform devoted to academic freedom, they say Student Government should act as a go-between for both sides.	Black and Martinez said they will go dorm-to-dorm to talk to students. They also said they will have special meetings in dorms, making Student Government accessible.	They claim dances are not a good idea for gender relations and suggest a day for students to sit at different lunch tables.	Their platform does not address this issue.
 Laws & Costa		Their ideas to improve relations with South Bend include community BBQs, concerts and environmental awareness. The off-campus housing guidebook is feasible.	They want to seek student opinion on this issue through Town Hall-style meetings around campus. This is a feasible way to allow students to have a voice.	"Stick it to Jenkins" is a disrespectful way for students to voice their opinions. However, Laws and Costa developed their campaign after seeking student opinion.	Their platform does not address gender relations.	They have outlined plans to start a Black Student Union and hope to make the Minority Affairs Committee permanent, two solid steps for diversity at Notre Dame.
 McCune & Szewczyk		They have no plans for community relations.	To supplement the Vagina Monologues, they suggest that Notre Dame perform the "Penis Soliloquies" on campus.	Instead of "Stick it to Jenkins," they plan to have a "Stick it to Ryan," so students can voice their concerns.	They have no plans for gender relations.	The most diverse item on their platform is the Aggro Crag at the Rockne Memorial.
 Shappell & Andrichik		Shappell has already tackled this problem as the current student body vice president and knows her stuff. They plan to work with the law school to help students off-campus.	They have their personal stances on the issue of academic freedom, but at the same time want to make sure they represent the student body as a whole.	Shappell and Andrichik say they will bring Student Government to different locations to discuss issues relevant at that particular location.	They proposed having a male and a female co-chair the Gender Issues Committee.	Like Laws and Costa, they want to make the Minority Affairs Committee permanent as well. Also, they want to work with the Office of the Provost to enhance curriculum in terms of diversity.
 Wells & Chamberlain		They don't address this issue in their platform.	They have their personal opinions on the issue and plan to send e-mails to the student body to get its take on the situation. Soliciting student opinion here is essential.	They said they feel like Student Government is run as a "republic," not a democracy, right now. They plan to engage students by bringing meetings to the dorms.	Wells works closely with the Gender Relations Center (GRC). She and Chamberlain want to utilize it even more to improve Gender Relations.	They plan to use the Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS) to increase awareness and attendance at diversity-related events.

AND LESBIAN FESTIVAL SET TO PERCEPTIONS

ULE OF EVENTS

7:00 SCREENING: CACHORRO (BEAR CUB)
DIR. MIGUEL ALBALADEJO (SOLD OUT)
[OPENING REMARKS: PROF. SAM AMAGO]
[Q&A AFTER FILM: MIGUEL ALBALADEJO]

9:00 SCREENING: SAVING FACE, DIR. ALICE WU

SATURDAY

4:00 PANEL: "GLOBAL CINEMAS /
GLOBAL CULTURES"
[MODERATOR: PROF. GLENN HENDER]

5:00 SCREENING: BREAKFAST ON PLUTO
(SOLD OUT)
[OPENING REMARKS: PROF. LUKE GIBBONS]

7:00 SCREENING: HAPPY ENDINGS,
DIR. DON ROOS (SOLD OUT)
[OPENING REMARKS: PROF. CHRIS SHEVING]
[Q&A AFTER FILM: DON ROOS]

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Cassie Belek at
cbeleka@nd.edu



BASED ON THE STORY BY E. ANNIE PROULX, "BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN" STARS HEATH LEDGER AND JAKE GYLLENHAAL AND FOLLOWS THE LOVE STORY OF A RANCH-HAND AND A RODEO COWBOY WHO FALL IN LOVE HERDING SHEEP ONE SUMMER.



THE FILM "BREAKFAST ON PLUTO" WAS DIRECTED BY NEIL JORDAN AND STARS CILLIAN MURPHY, WHO PLAYS A YOUNG MAN IN THE 1970S WHO LEAVES IRELAND TO LOOK FOR HIS MOTHER IN LONDON AND BECOMES A TRANSVESTITE CABARET SINGER.



"GAY REPUBLICANS" FOLLOWS LOG CABIN, A GAY REPUBLICAN CLUB, IN THE TIME LEADING UP TO PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH'S ELECTION AND PROVIDES AN INSIGHT INTO THE DIFFICULT CHOICES GAY REPUBLICANS HAD TO MAKE. THE FILM STARS MAURICE BONAMIGO AND TERRY HAMILTON.



"HAPPY ENDINGS" FOLLOWS THE TALE OF 10 DIFFERENT CHARACTERS WHO ARE IMMERSED IN A COMPLICATED STORY OF LOVE, LUST AND DECEIT. THE FILM STARS LISA KUDROW AS MAMIE TOLA AND BOBBY CANNAVALE AS JAVIER.

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the lives of characters of 10 different stories. After the screening, Roos, who also directed "The Opposite of Sex" and "Bounce" and who is a writer in the upcoming movie "The Devil Wears Prada," will be leading a question and answer session in this rare opportunity.

Two of the screenings will show international films. "[These films] represent gay and lesbian people in a multicultural and international context," Laina said. "Saving Face" follows the life of a young Chinese-American surgeon whose single, pregnant mother moves in with her as she grapples with



Photo courtesy of allmoviephoto.com

In "Breakfast On Pluto," Cillian Murphy, left, plays Patrick, who in the 1970s travels to London in search of his mother and becomes a transvestite.

NHL

Brodeur makes 37 saves in comeback victory

Modin scores two goals as the Lightning come from behind to win against divisional foes, the Carolina Hurricanes

Associated Press

BOSTON — Brian Gionta scored his second goal in overtime and Martin Brodeur made 37 saves to lift the New Jersey Devils to a 3-2 victory over the Boston Bruins on Thursday night.

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

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

Just before Gionta's goal, P.J. Axelsson missed an opportunity for the Bruins when he fanned on a shot attempt in the crease.

The Devils have beaten Boston all three times they've played this season and all by one goal.

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

Patrick Elias tied the game at 1 after the Devils successfully executed a 3-on-2. Elias one-timed a pass from Scott Gomez and beat Thomas at 5:52 into the second period.

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

Thomas made 31 saves and fell to 8-2-4 for the Bruins. He has allowed two goals or less in 11 of his 14 starts.

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

Montreal 3, Buffalo 2(OT)

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

Radek Bonk had a short-handed goal for the Canadiens, who appeared unfazed by news that goaltender Jose Theodore tested positive for a banned substance. The Canadiens improved to 3-0-1 in their last four while snapping the Sabres' six-game win streak.

Jason Pominville, who scored with 27 seconds left to force overtime, and Jochen Hecht scored for the Sabres. Buffalo, which led 1-0 after 20 minutes, squandered a first-period lead for the third time this season.

Andrei Markov smartly set up the winner. Taking the puck inside the blue line, Markov drew Sabres defenders to the left circle before sending a nifty pass across to a wide open Kovalev.

Waiting for goalie Ryan Miller to come across, Kovalev snapped a shot inside the far post.

The goal quieted a crowd that was still cheering Pominville's tying goal, coming when he deflected Ales Kotalik's point shot. Pominville's goal made up for a miscue when his turnover led to Bonk's short-handed goal,

which gave Montreal a 2-1 lead late in the second period.

It was the second straight game in which the Canadiens scored a short-handed goal against Buffalo after Chris Higgins scored Tuesday. The Sabres have given up 12 short-handed goals this season, tied with Washington for the most in the league.

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

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

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

Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 3

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

Grahame replaced starter Sean Burke, who allowed three goals on eight shots, after Erik



Martin Brodeur makes one of his 37 saves against the Bruins' Pat Leahy in Boston. The Devils won the game in overtime.

Cole's goal put the Hurricanes ahead 3-2 at 4:08 of the second. Grahame stopped 14 shots in the second, including Cole on a penalty shot at 11:39.

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

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

Ward, Anton Babchuk and Cole scored for Carolina, which lost for the third time in the last 18 games. The Hurricanes fell to 26-2-0 when scoring first.

Ward put Carolina up 1-0 from the top of the right circle 23 seconds into the game. Babchuk made it 2-0 on a power-play goal at 4 minutes.

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

The Hurricanes regained the lead at 3-2 on Cole's goal at 4:08 of the second. He raced down the left wing boards, picked up a loose puck and beat Burke from in close.

Atlanta 2, Ottawa 1

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

Ottawa Senators on Thursday night.

Kovalchuk tied the game late in the second with his 37th goal, which moved him ahead of the New York Rangers' Jaromir Jagr for the league lead. Sutton put Atlanta ahead midway through the third with his third of the season.

Marc Savard and Niclas Havelid combined to set up both power-play goals for Atlanta, which won for the second time in three games following a season-high seven-game losing streak.

Ottawa rookie Andre Meszaros scored an unassisted goal 14:50 into the second to open the scoring, but that was all the Senators could muster despite outshooting the Thrashers 35-22.

The low-scoring game featured five of the NHL's top 10 scorers, including Kovalchuk, Savard and Marian Hossa, who failed to register a point in his first game in Ottawa since he and defenseman Greg de Vries were sent to Atlanta in the Aug. 23 trade that brought Dany Heatley to the Senators.

The Thrashers beat the Senators 8-3 on Jan. 2 in Heatley's first game in Atlanta.

Heatley, who hit the left post 1:09 in, and Ottawa captain Daniel Alfredsson are also among the league's top 10 scorers.

Thrashers right winger Jean-Pierre Vigier suffered a knee injury when he collided with Senators defenseman Zdeno Chara in an open-ice collision in the second period.



Frederick Modin is congratulated by his teammates Brad Richards, left, and Vachlav Prospal after scoring the go ahead goal in last night's 5-3 win over the Hurricanes.

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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, February 10, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pts.	L10
NY Rangers	33-15-8	74	8-1-1
Philadelphia	32-15-9	73	4-5-1
New Jersey	29-21-6	64	6-3-1
NY Islanders	24-27-4	52	4-4-2
Pittsburgh	12-34-11	35	1-7-2
		.326	

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	pts.	L10
Ottawa	36-13-5	77	5-3-2
Buffalo	35-15-3	73	8-2-0
Toronto	27-23-5	59	3-5-2
Montreal	25-22-7	57	4-5-1
Boston	24-23-9	57	6-2-2
		.860	

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pts.	L10
Carolina	38-12-4	80	8-2-0
Tampa Bay	30-22-4	64	7-2-1
Atlanta	24-26-6	54	2-8-0
Florida	22-26-8	52	4-4-2
Washington	19-30-5	43	4-6-0
		.239	

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	pts.	L10
Detroit	37-13-5	79	7-1-2
Nashville	33-17-6	72	5-5-0
Columbus	23-31-2	48	7-3-0
Chicago	18-30-7	43	3-5-2
St. Louis	15-31-8	38	5-2-3
		.532	

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pts.	L10
Calgary	32-17-7	71	5-3-2
Vancouver	32-20-5	69	5-5-0
Edmonton	30-19-7	67	6-2-2
Colorado	30-20-6	66	4-3-3
Minnesota	28-24-4	60	7-3-0
		.422	

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pts.	L10
Dallas	37-15-3	77	7-2-1
Los Angeles	30-23-5	65	2-5-3
Anaheim	25-19-11	61	5-3-2
San Jose	25-21-8	58	4-4-2
Phoenix	27-27-3	57	4-5-1
		.341	

MIAA

team	conference	overall
Hope	13-0	21-1
Calvin	12-1	19-2
Olivet	8-5	12-10
Saint Mary's	8-5	10-12
Albion	7-7	15-8
Alma	6-7	11-9
Adrian	3-11	7-14
Kalamazoo	2-11	5-15
Tri-State	1-13	2-21

NHL



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

Wiretaps indicate Gretzky tried to cover up

Associated Press

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

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

person said, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing.

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

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

Authorities say from Dec. 29 through Feb. 5 — the day of the Super Bowl — bettors placed a total of \$1.7 million in wagers with the ring run by a New Jersey state trooper,

Tocchet and a South Jersey man.

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

The Star-Ledger of Newark, citing unidentified law enforcement sources, first reported of a wiretap involving Gretzky in

Thursday's newspapers. The newspaper also reported that Jones bet \$500,000 during the investigation, including \$75,000 on the Super Bowl.

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

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

IN BRIEF

Skiers suspended for excessive hemoglobin levels

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

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

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

The American athletes are Kikkan Randall, 23, from Anchorage, Alaska, and Leif Zimmermann, 22, of Bozeman, Mont. The others are: Sean Crooks of Canada, Sergey Dalidovich of Belarus, Jean Marc Gaillard of France, Aleksandr Latzukin of Belarus, Natalia

Matveeva of Russia, and Evi Sachenbacher of Germany.

Theodore tests positive for banned substance

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

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

Theodore was not picked for Canada's Olympic team, but was on the preliminary 81-player eligibility list. He is appealing the result and his case has yet to be heard by an arbitrator.

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

U.S. begins Davis Cup play

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

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

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

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

"We have a good chance to go deep in the event. I think we've got as good a chance as anyone to win it."

That doesn't mean McEnroe is taking the opening matches for granted, saying Romania will be very tough to beat.

around the dial

NBA

San Antonio at New Jersey 8 p.m., ESPN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Rutgers at West Virginia 7 p.m., ESPNU

PGA TOUR

AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-AM
3:00 p.m., USA

NBA

Coaches reward Pistons with four All-Stars

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

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Detroit was rewarded Thursday night for one of the best starts in NBA history when four Pistons made the All-Star team as reserves.

Chauncey Billups, Richard Hamilton, Ben Wallace and Rasheed Wallace all were picked for the Eastern Conference team that will be led by Detroit coach Flip Saunders. Tayshaun Prince was the lone Pistons starter not chosen in voting by East head coaches.

"I would just like to thank the coaches in the league for recognizing our players," Pistons president of basketball operations Joe Dumars told The Associated Press on Thursday night. "What the coaches are saying by voting our guys on is that they appreciate unselfishness, great attitudes and team basketball."

The Pistons (40-8) became the first team with four players in an All-Star game since the Los Angeles Lakers sent Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant, Eddie Jones and Nick Van Exel

to the 1998 game in New York.

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

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

Billups and Hamilton are among the five first-time selections, joining Bosh, Parker and Gasol.

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

The only other teams with four All-Stars were the Celtics (1953, '62 and '75); Lakers ('62) and 76ers ('83). This is

the first time four players from one team have been picked as reserves by the coaches.

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

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

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

The toughest omissions in the East seemed to be guards Gilbert Arenas of Washington, the league's No. 4 scorer at 28.2 points per game, and Milwaukee's Michael Redd. Denver's Carmelo Anthony and Hornets rookie Chris Paul were among those left out in the West.



Rasheed Wallace looks to score in a game last Saturday. He will join three of his teammates at the All-Star game this year.

Coaches were required to select two guards, two forwards, one center and two other players regardless of position. They could not vote for their own players.

There will be six foreign-

born players for the fourth straight year: Yao Ming (China), Dirk Nowitzki (Germany), Pau Gasol (Spain), Tony Parker (France), Steve Nash (Canada) and Tim Duncan (U.S. Virgin Islands).

PGA

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

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

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Luke Donald was in the group ahead when Phil Mickelson blistered Spyglass Hill last year for a course-record 62. He remembers being amazed at the score, and hearing how it would be a long time before anyone else could do that at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

"It only took 365 days," Donald said Thursday. "I'm glad it was me."

Taking advantage of weather that approached perfection, Donald holed out for eagle from 96 yards, strung together birdies and wound up matching Mickelson's record with a 10-under 62 to take a one-shot lead over Mike Weir.

Not many could recall conditions so pure at Pebble Beach, where there was no trace of a cloud or a breeze and temperatures were pushing 80 degrees.

No one remembered Spyglass being such a pushover, either.

Traditionally the toughest among the three courses at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, it yielded the lowest scoring as the first round headed for a conclusion.

It still required good golf, and Donald delivered. After missing a 10-foot birdie putt on his opening hole, No. 10, he ran off three straight birdies, one of those a 45-foot putt on the par-3 12th. Then came his sand wedge from 96 yards to a hole location on the front shelf of the green that dropped for eagle, and another birdie on the 15th.

"Not much was going wrong," Donald said. "I didn't really threaten to make bogey today and kept it in play."

His round went so well that when he hit 6-iron into 12 feet on the ninth hole, it was the same putt he had on Wednesday during a practice round, so he knew the break. And he knew what it meant.

"I knew that was for 62," he said.

And he remembers what happened last year. Mickelson followed that 62 by going wire-to-wire at Pebble Beach, taking a seven-shot lead into the final round.

But Mickelson already had a three-shot lead after the first round. Donald was only one ahead of Weir, who recovered from a sloppy start to make five straight birdies along Stillwater Cove. He missed only one fairway and two greens, and the only thing he didn't get with a 63 was the lead.

"I knew there was going to be some low scores today," Weir said. "But 10 under at Spyglass? I thought of the lower scores, there might be

more on this golf course than the other two. But Luke obviously played a great round over at Spyglass to do that."

The low score at Poppy Hills, usually the easiest of the three courses because it has five par 5s, came from Arron Oberholser. He responded to back-to-back bogeys with laughter, then ran off four birdies over his next five holes and finished with a 7-under 65.

He was joined by Michael Allen (Spyglass) and Nick Watney (Pebble Beach).

Mickelson, meanwhile, looks like he will end a dubious streak at this tournament — the last four defending champions at Pebble Beach have missed the cut. Lefty was headed that direction with a double bogey on his third hole at Poppy Hills, making the turn in 37. But he finished with a flourish — birdie-birdie-eagle — for a 67 and was tied for 10th.

One week after J.B. Holmes hammered his way to victory in

Phoenix with a driver and a wedge, Donald showed there is still room for someone who tidily navigates his way around the golf course. Clearly, Spyglass or any of the other courses at Pebble require more than just bashing the ball.

He fit his drives through the tree-lined fairways, kept his middle irons on the greens and made a bunch of putts to break his career-low round on the PGA Tour by two shots. Donald played behind Bubba Watson, another basher, who shot 1-

over 73.

"You see some of his drives ... if I could hit it that far, this game would be easy," Donald said. "But you still have to get the ball in the hole."

He twice holed putts longer than 30 feet, which always helps. And the biggest help of all was Mother Nature, who allowed the peninsula to shine like never before. More than 100 players in the 180-man field broke par, meaning Donald had plenty of work left the rest of the week.

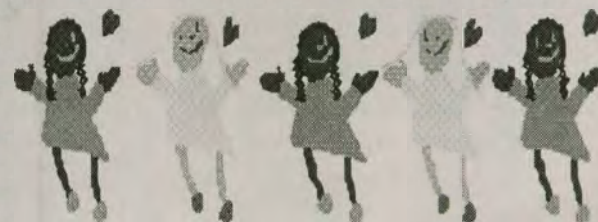
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NCAA FOOTBALL

New challenge rules established

NCAA makes plans to nationalize video replay in football

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA will give college football coaches at least one replay challenge per game next season and require conferences to use a universal review format if Thursday's recommended changes by the rules committee are approved in March.

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

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

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

"That may not sound like a lot, but if you have five plays that could change the game if not corrected, that is a pretty strong percentage," said Charles Broyles, chairman of the committee and coach at Pittsburg State University. "We thought that providing a coach's challenge would act as an additional safety net and give the coaches more involve-

ment in the process."

Coaches would call timeout to make a challenge. If the call was overturned, the team would keep its timeout and retain its challenge until they lost one. If the call were upheld, the team would be charged a timeout and the coach couldn't challenge again.

"There could be as many challenges as they are right about," said Ty Halpin, associate director of the playing rules oversight panel. "The committee felt they should be rewarded as long as they got the challenge correct."

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

The playing rules oversight panel must still approve the recommendations.

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

Halpin also said that the committee discussed contingency plans if there are techni-

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

Although conferences are trying to devise backup plans, Halpin said the committee would not mandate those changes.

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

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

He did concede the coach's challenge was "probably a good idea."

"If you're willing to risk a timeout for it, it's probably worth it," he said. "Having instant replay in any form is better than not having it. Let's make a good thing the best we can make it."

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

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

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

Greg Schiano
Rutgers coach

MLB

World Champs enjoy rewarding off-season

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

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ozzie Guillen's off-season was short and frenetic, a time to share the World Series championship with a variety of people in a lot of different places.

For a man who likes to talk, the manager of the Chicago White Sox had plenty of stories to tell and opinions to express to a wide variety of listeners.

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

The frequent flier miles piled up for Guillen, who is as big a hero in Venezuela as he is to fans of a team that had waited

88 years for a trophy. The AL Manager of the Year also found time to become a U.S. citizen.

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

But one thing Guillen wants to make very clear — he'd gladly do it again.

"Hopefully, I'll have the same offseason this year I had last," he said.

The White Sox return to Tucson, Ariz., next week for spring training, which starts Feb. 17. It was just 3 1/2 months ago that they completed a World Series sweep of the Astros with a 1-0 victory in Houston.

General manager Ken Williams made some changes in

the offseason, bringing in Jim Thome, Javier Vazquez and Rob Mackowiak.

First baseman Paul Konerko waded through the free agent market before taking a \$60 million, five-year deal to return. At home, he also got to know his son, born during the playoffs.

Center fielder Scott Podsednik was busy, too. He had hernia surgery and helped plan his wedding. Third baseman Joe Crede, an avid outdoorsman, got in some hunting and fishing but spent most of his time with his daughters.

World Series MVP Jermaine Dye played a little golf and relaxed. Catcher A.J. Pierzynski, in the middle of so many edgy plays during the postseason, spent a lot of time with his new daughter but also got to pal around with friend Johnny Damon in Florida.

The busiest component of the Chicago's first World Series winner since 1917? Maybe the trophy itself. It accompanied Guillen to Venezuela and made more than

100 stops in 50 cities as fans reached out to touch some history.

Dye made sure he spent time with his family and then got out and hit another white ball — this one a big smaller.

"I like to play golf, so I had a lot of golf tournaments. I tried to get away from all the hoopla and relax a little bit and enjoy my short offseason," Dye said. "It hasn't changed my life. I go around and I am more recognized, but I'm the same old person."

Konerko, who became the face of the team and was the choice of Guillen to be the team captain in 2006 — a role he has been reluctant to take — didn't venture from his Scottsdale, Ariz. home, except to make an appearance at the team's winter convention last month.

"Hopefully I'll have the same offseason this year as I had last."

Ozzie Guillen
White Sox manager

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OLYMPICS

Olympic organizers refuse to identify who will light flame

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

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — It is always the question on everyone's mind leading up to the Olympics, long before a single medal is earned or a record shattered.

Who will light the Olympic flame?

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

Rumored torchbearers include a pair of Italian Olympic heroes: cross-country skier Stefania Belmondo and

skier Alberto "La Bomba" Tomba. Neither was shy in the run-up to the 2006 Games about their designs on the honor.

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

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

Show producers did a rough rundown of the Olympic festivi-

ties on Thursday. Executive producer Marco Balich, who has worked in the past with U2 and Pink Floyd, said the show would demonstrate the "passionate way in which the Italians live life — the way they drive, the way they dress."

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

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

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

But these Winter Games ceremonies feature no ice of any kind, not when temperatures in the 40s render outdoor surface unusable. Expect some snow — or at least white-clad dancers sporting balloon-like giant bubbles.

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

Four years ago, the members of the 1980 U.S. hockey gold medal team reunited to handle the honors. Japanese skating great Midori Ito, tears streaming down her face, ignited the flame at Nagano in 1998. The 1994 Lillehammer Games

began with ski-jumper Stein Gruben sailing through the night sky, torch held high as the world watched.

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

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

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

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

ND TRACK

Notre Dame set for Windsor meet

By JORDAN BELTZ
Sports Writer

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

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

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

Freshman pole vaulter Mary Saxer once again performed well, taking home second place in the women's pole vault with a vault of 3.95 meters.

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

Notes:

♦ Notre Dame has added another meet to the home schedule, the Alex Wilson Invitational, which it will host March 3-4. It will be designated an official last chance meet, or one of the final meets to qualify for the NCAA championships.

Contact Jordan Beltz at
jbeltz@nd.edu

MLB

Anaheim loses in contract battle

Jury decides that Angels were legally justified in changing name

Associated Press

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

Jurors rejected the city of Anaheim's argument that the baseball team violated a stadium lease and cost the city where it plays at least \$100 million in revenue by changing the name last year from Anaheim Angels to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The jury, which deliberated for a little more than four hours, also found the team did not violate a state law requiring good faith and fair dealing.

"I was trying to create something positive and more inclusive ... which we believed was our legal right to do," Angels owner Arte Moreno said. "Long term, we're going to have a healthier franchise that can compete."

Anaheim Mayor Curt Pringle

was disappointed, adding the case was about more than just a name change. It was "to make sure the identity of our community, both in Orange County and in the city of Anaheim, was preserved," Pringle said.

The city sued the Angels for breach of contract in January last year, shortly after Moreno changed the name.

City officials said the change cost Anaheim at least \$100 million in lost tourism, publicity and so-called "impressions" — buzz the city gets each time its name appears in the national media in conjunction with a major league baseball team.

City officials also claimed The Walt Disney Co., which sold the franchise to Moreno

in 2003, agreed to call the team the Anaheim Angels and signed a 1996 stadium lease agreement committing to that.

Although the lease language said only the name shall "include" the word Anaheim, the city said Disney promised to call the team the Anaheim Angels in exchange for concessions, including stadium repairs and the use of the stadium itself.

Moreno maintained that changing the name did not violate the contract because he kept Anaheim in it. He said he wanted to use Los Angeles to capitalize on the second-largest media market in the nation, adding the new name would attract more publicity, broadcasting contracts and sponsors.

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FENCING

Irish travel west to San Diego for Duals



KIRSTEN HOELMER/The Observer

Freshman Irish epee Madeleine Stephan battles during the Notre Dame Duals Jan. 28. The Irish women swept the competition, going 8-0 in the two-day event.

Team set to face Cal Fullerton, Air Force, Stanford and others

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

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

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

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

The NCAA Tournament

begins March 4.

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu

DePaul

continued from page 20

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

Notre Dame will also look to contain guard Jenna Rubino, who scored 25 points in the teams' previous match-up.

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

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

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

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

"I think there's a sense of urgency now," McGraw said. "We've kind of had our back against the wall for a while now. I think that's why we had that fierce comeback against Villanova. We know how important every game is."

The Irish's road back to .500 will go through unfriendly territory, as DePaul has been 11-1



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish guard Charel Allen watches after releasing a jump shot during Notre Dame's 69-65 overtime loss to Villanova Tuesday. Allen shot 7-of-10 from the floor in the second half.

this season in front of its home crowd.

"It's a tough place to play," McGraw said. "They get a great crowd, a really hostile environment. It's going to be very difficult, maybe the most difficult

environment we've been in this year."

The game will be broadcast on ESPN2.

Contact Eric Retter at
eretter@nd.edu

Three

continued from page 20

es in four days being in and out of airports — I'm sure it's taken a toll physically and probably emotionally on everybody."

The team will practice today before Saturday's match against Purdue and Sunday's doubleheader with Wisconsin and Bradley.

"It's been good to take a step back and get a little rest and start fresh," Bayliss said. "With matches Saturday and Sunday, we certainly didn't want to work them very hard physically any ways and I think that is the right thing to do."

Three of Notre Dame's four losses have been 4-3 heartbreakers, and two came against top-10 teams. All four were road matches.

However, the close losses once were blowouts. Bayliss said that the competitiveness of the team

is a sign of how far the team has come.

"Two years ago when we played Duke at Duke, it was a very one-sided," he said. "Just a year ago here on our courts, it was 6-1, and this year at Duke we found ourselves in position to win the match. One way to look at it is to realize the progress that's been made and feel good about it."

The Irish are young, especially at the top of the lineup, with junior Stephen Bass and sophomore Sheeva Parbhu splitting time at the No. 1 and 2 positions. Barry King, a junior, has been successful at the No. 3 spot, and Brett Helgeson, a freshman, rounds out the top-four.

Ryan Keckley has been consistent at No. 5, going 5-1 so far in the dual match season.

No. 6 has seen a number of players rotate in and out of the position, including Irackli Akhvlediani, who is still recovering from an injury sustained

over Christmas break.

The team's ability to rotate players—particularly at the bottom of the lineup — should help for the three matches this weekend, Bayliss said.

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

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

"We have to go one step further, but to feel like we're not making progress is wrong," Bayliss said. "We are."

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Team faces stiff foes this weekend

Notre Dame faces North Carolina and Wake Forest in N.C.

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to Tobacco Road this weekend to take on two ACC tennis powerhouses. The No. 22-ranked Irish will face their toughest challenge to date in the spring season against the strong opponents.

After defeating both Ohio

State and Xavier 7-0 on Jan. 28, the team remains unbeaten but also largely untested up to this point.

Despite the quality of the competition, Notre Dame made a statement in its first weekend of competition. The team dropped just 18 games in its 15 sets in the two easy wins.

The Irish first face the ITA No. 25 Demon Deacons of Wake Forest Saturday in Winston-Salem, N.C. The next day, the team makes the short trip to Chapel Hill to take on another ranked opponent, No. 10 North Carolina.

In both matches the Irish

will look for big performances from standout juniors Catrina and Christian Thompson, as well as senior Kristina Statsny, who already has racked up eight wins.

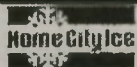
Another key will be the play of the underclassmen. Freshmen Kelcy Tefft and Katie Potts both produced comfortable wins in their debuts last weekend.

The weekend match-ups will prove crucial in shaping the team's mindset for the rest of the season.

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu



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KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

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

Belles

continued from page 20

that game, the Belles were 12-for-21 from behind the arc, setting a school record for three-pointers in a game. Senior captain Bridget Boyce had 23 points, and sophomore guard Allison Kessler added 22.

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

One major reason for the team's improvement in the second half of the season is its play when facing familiar opponents.

The Belles are now 3-2 when facing a team for the second time, their revenge made all the more sweet by passing

conference opponents in the standings.

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

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

Nevertheless, the team's positive experience with Kalamazoo this year will boost the Belles' confidence after a

tough loss to Calvin Feb. 3. Despite the loss, Saint Mary's will continue playing hard, the trademark of its second-half schedule.

"We can stay with any team in the conference," Newsom said.

And despite the pressure that the

Belles might feel in these last few games, they are confident that they can come through in the clutch against Kalamazoo.

Erin Newsom
Belles forward

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

Start

continued from page 20

ranking in the Inside Lacrosse media poll were not enough to make the 16-team field for the NCAA Championships last year, it hopes to change that this year. Gearing up for a tournament run in 2006, the Notre Dame travels to Durham, N.C., Saturday for a rare lacrosse doubleheader against Bucknell and Duke.

The preseason No. 12 Irish will open up at noon against the No. 25 Bison of Bucknell, who finished 8-5 last year as co-champions of the Patriot League. Bucknell's Patriot League Tournament semifinal loss last spring spoiled their

hopes for the second tournament appearance in school history. (Its first came in 2001 and was ended by a 12-7 Irish victory in the tournament.)

At 2 p.m. Saturday, the Irish will take on the No. 2 Blue Devils, who were national semifinalists a year ago and return three first-team, two second-team and two third-team All-Americans.

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

"They're going to expose our weaknesses."

Kevin Corrigan
Irish coach

"We're going down [to Durham] to find out about ourselves," Corrigan said. "We're going to get an appreciation for where we are."

With the Irish slated to open up the regular season with No. 13 Penn State at home on Feb. 26, Corrigan sees the Duke match up, in particular, as a test to work out any problems before official play begins.

"They're going to expose our weaknesses," he said. "If we're not solid somewhere, we'll find out with a team as good as them."

"But our focus is Penn State. This is another opportunity to

take a step forward in preparation for Penn State."

Notre Dame returns nine of 11 starters from last year's squad, led by preseason second-team All-American attacker Pat Walsh and third-teamer defenseman D.J. Driscoll.

However, Corrigan wants his team's play to speak for itself this weekend — and, more importantly, against Penn State and beyond en route to a tournament bid.

"I don't think you earn anything until the season starts," he said. "We're honored people think highly of us, but it doesn't mean a thing. The only ranking that really matters is the last one."

Contact Tim Dougherty at
tdougher@nd.edu

Ferris

continued from page 20

shooting the puck," he said. "Traffic, tips, rebounds — all the things that we talked about from day one. We just emphasize it, we continue to emphasize it. We're talking about it, and hopefully it brings up the fact that we can score. We need to score and it needs to be a priority for us."

Ferris State goaltender Mitch O'Keefe will pose a strong threat for the Irish scorers as he has posted an 11-7-5 record this year with a 2.60 goals against average and a .906 save percentage.

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

Notre Dame is taking this weekend in stride and hopes to make a statement in the stretch run of the CCHA season. And to do so the team looks to continue to play to their strengths — power plays and faceoffs — and improving their offensive weakness.

"I think our power play has been pretty good moving the puck and I think we're coming

together, our kids are working hard," Pooley said. "We want to improve everything, that's where we are at right now."

Notes:

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

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

Contact Kyle Cassily at
kcassily@nd.edu

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JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

Sophomore right wing Mark Van Guilder awaits a pass during Notre Dame's 3-2 loss to Michigan State Feb. 3.

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HOCKEY

Notre Dame has two games with fifth-place Ferris State

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

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The Irish are used to taking to the ice against some of the best teams in the country — it's unavoidable when they play in a powerhouse conference like

the CCHA. This weekend will be no exception, as Notre Dame (9-16-3, 7-12-3 CCHA) faces the No. 20 Ferris State Bulldogs (14-10-6, 9-8-5) in a home-and-home.

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

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

"I don't think we need a

sweep, we just want to keep progressing as a team," Pooley said of the team's need to get a jumpstart up the standings. "That's our main priority — going into the playoffs feeling good about ourselves."

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

To combat this, Pooley and

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

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

see FERRIS/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Chi-town showdown

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

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

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

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

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

"We're getting down too big of a hole early, and that's what

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

Senior guard Megan Duffy will head Notre Dame's lineup. She averages 15.7 points and 38.7 minutes per game. Senior Courtney LaVere also should start, averaging 14.6 points a game the past three contests.

But McGraw said the Irish will rotate their players in the first half and play the hot hands towards the end of the game.

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

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

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

see DEPAUL/page 17



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

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

SMC BASKETBALL

Team goes for second K'zoo win

By TIM KAISER
Sports Writer

The Belles once again will see familiar faces on the opposite end of the court Saturday as Saint Mary's plays Kalamazoo College at 3 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center.

This will be the teams' second meeting this season, but this time Saint Mary's is playing at home — its last home game of the regular season. The Belles hope that will be all that changes from their first matchup with Kalamazoo.

Saint Mary's turned in a convincing 10-point victory in Kalamazoo on Jan. 14, besting the Lady Hornets 83-73. In

see BELLES/page 18

MEN'S TENNIS

Squad returns to Eck for big weekend series

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

There's no place like home for the Irish.

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

The Irish are 2-4 this season — with three losses coming to

top-10 teams — but 1-0 at home after notching a 7-0 shutout of William & Mary on Jan. 29.

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

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

see THREE/page 17

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish set to kick off new season

Squad travels to Durham to face Duke and Bucknell

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

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

The team's 7-4 record and No. 16

see START/page 18



Observer File Photo

Irish midfielder Drew Peters reaches for a pass in Notre Dame's 14-13 win over Air Force April 10, 2005.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

FENCING

San Diego Duals

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

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

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

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MLB

A jury ruled the Angels did not violate their contract by calling themselves the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

page 16

NCAA FOOTBALL

An NCAA committee recommended that the body institute a coaches' challenge in all football games.

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PGA

Luke Donald set the course record at Spyglass Hill with a 62 Thursday and leads the Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

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NHL

The Associated Press reported a wiretap indicates that Wayne Gretzky knew of an illegal gambling ring.

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