

THE OBSERVER

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in focus
STUDENT
GOVERNMENT



NOTRE DAME AND SAINT MARY'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT 2005-2006



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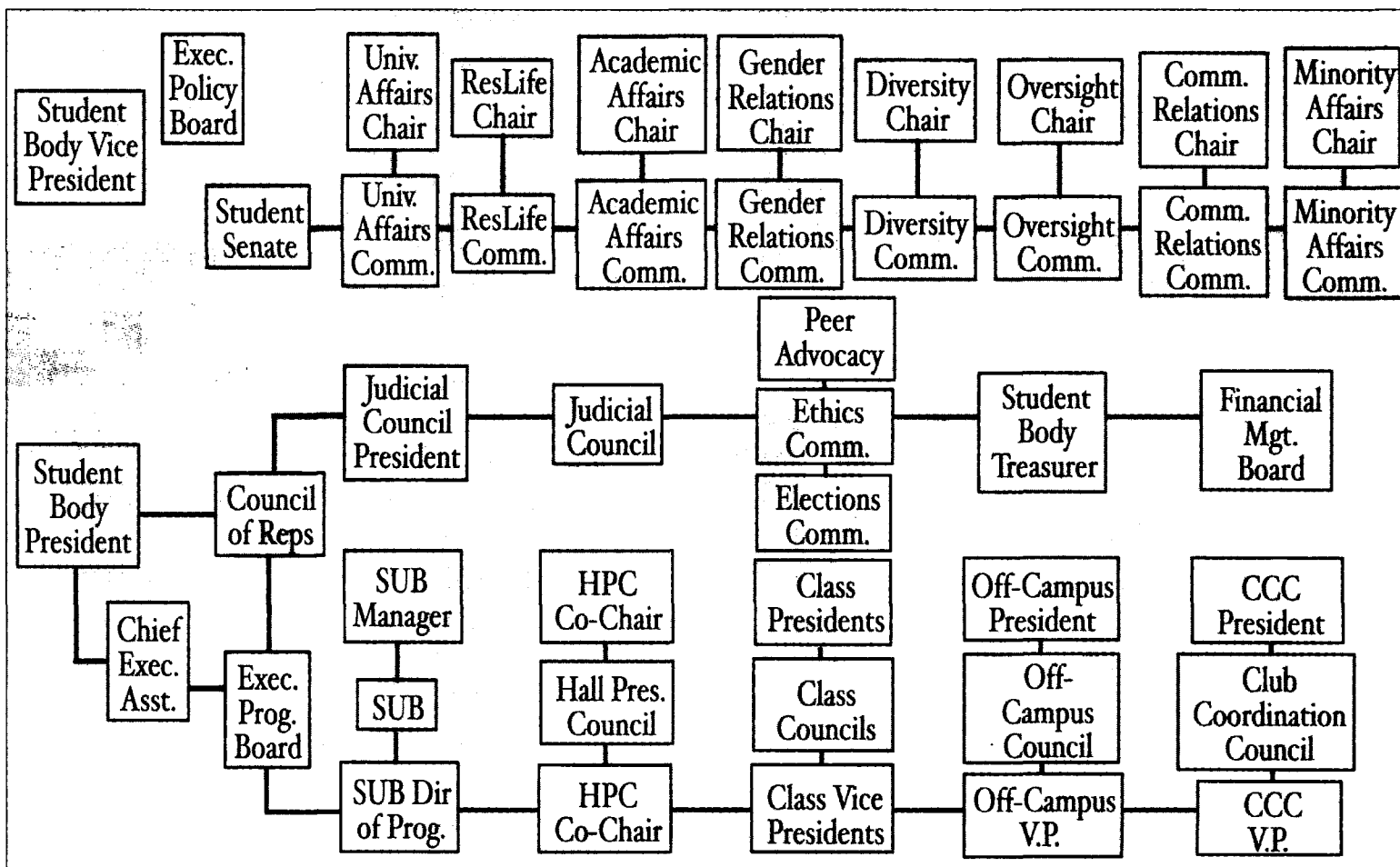
GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

IN FOCUS STAFF

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Matt Hudson

Leaders fix faults of predecessors

Baron, Shappell work with University, lessen animosity



MATT HUDSON/Observer Graphic

By MADDIE HANNA
In Focus Writer

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

Last year, student body president Adam Istvan and vice president Karla Bell struggled to produce on their platform initiatives.

Within a few months of taking office, the pair set up a DVD rental system in LaFortune and secured Fair Trade coffee in the dining halls and HuddleMart, quickly meeting two of their original goals.

But they couldn't deliver

their biggest promise — the return of SYRs to the dorms — and began to sidestep the topic in discussion.

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

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

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

Next came the SafeBus fiasco, where harsh criticism of

the fall 2004 proposal from the Board of Trustees left Istvan, Bell and then-chief executive assistant Baron with another strike through a main goal of their administration.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT?



Claire Sloss
freshman
McGlinn

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



Chris Castellan
junior
Keough

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



Heidi Storer
sophomore
Pangborn

"Re-elect Jason Laws!"



Leonard Edokpolo
junior
O'Neill

"What's that?"



Bobby Seus
senior
Alumni

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



Shane Calendar
junior
Alumni

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

Editor's note: The Observer is publishing a comprehensive review of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's student governments. This issue is intended to illustrate for students what elected officials are doing in their name, so they can enter the election season fully informed. Its intent is to provide an illuminating, unbiased assessment of the state of the student union.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Professionalism, progress help leaders succeed

Baron, Shappell establish partnership with administrators in first semester

By MADDIE HANNA

In Focus Writer

While progress, partnership and professionalism can be hard to come by in student government administrations, student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell have achieved all three.

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

That professional attitude has helped Baron and Shappell during the first half of their tenure to form close ties with University administrators — a partnership necessary to make progress in a system where the University has the final say.

"We are limited in a lot of what we can do," Baron said. "We're not a governing body. We're not in a position to demand changes or choices. Our power lies in our ability to make an argument ... we figured that out pretty early on."

Shappell said dealing with the South Bend Common Council's July 25 passage of the amendment to the disorderly house ordinance — a change that has since resulted in six students' evictions and several more notices to abate — has been one of the biggest challenges for her and Baron.

"It kind of just made our community relations piece a little more interesting," she said. "I'm happy with the way we've addressed it so far."

During the summer, Baron rallied a few other student government representatives in the South Bend area to attend South Bend Common Council meetings on behalf of the student body.

This year, Baron and Shappell established a Community Relations committee on Student Senate, which recently passed a resolution highlighting what senators believe to be unfair aspects of the amendment. The resolution will be presented at an upcoming Common Council meeting.

But would the same amount of attention be devoted to this issue if the amendment had never been proposed?

One of Baron and Shappell's primary platform goals was to improve community relations, so there was certainly an element of foresight — and the ambition to tackle an issue other student government administrations have avoided.

However, other platform goals have not materialized.

A programming endowment was a hot topic during last

spring's election season, and candidates were forced to take a stand. Baron and Shappell promised to build an endowment by seeking alumni donors.

"Until this endowment becomes a reality," the platform read, "we will increase the SUB concert budget, and contact other regional schools like Purdue and Northwestern to coordinate week-long tours that will attract quality performers."

But the issue of the endowment was seemingly reintroduced only as a result of recent discussion on Student Union fiscal policy and the student government's carry forward account, which currently contains an unused \$180,000. Baron and Shappell recently met with vice president of University Relations Lou Nanni to discuss the possibility of creating such an endowment.

Why the delay?

"With the announcement of cable coming to dorms, the University has been putting out quite a bit of money to student life," Baron said. "[A proposal for an endowment] wouldn't have been received as well ... there's still plenty of time."

It's a valid argument, but it's also the end of the semester. The fact that an issue so integral to the election campaign disappeared from the radar for this long suggests that it may not have been a priority, or that its feasibility was

not fully considered. Or it could mean that Baron and Shappell, like responsible student leaders, were just too busy dealing with issues that arose.

At times, it seemed like new waves of problems broke one after another. Besides the ordinance and student evictions, Baron and Shappell were confronted with coordinating a response to Hurricane Katrina as well as the messy issue of pep rallies and the dilemma in finding a balance between meeting total student demand and dealing with empty seats.

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

Another pillar of the Baron-Shappell campaign, a speaker series bringing prominent Catholics and non-Catholics to campus to discuss Notre Dame's "role as a Catholic Think Tank of America," has not yet occurred. While the event series is sched-

uled to begin next semester — at Student Senate meetings, chief executive assistant Liz Kozlow consistently assures senators the process is underway — Baron told The Observer last February he planned to have the first speaker in the series at Notre Dame before the end of the year.

Regardless of their currently unfulfilled promises, there's no denying Baron and Shappell's work ethic, as Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman pointed out in an Aug. 31 address to the Senate.

"These people have not been sleeping, I want you to know," Poorman said. "In seven years, no administration has hit the ground running as well as David and Lizzi."

Poorman's words of praise were directed toward Baron and Shappell's development of the Gender Resource Center, the acquisition of NDBay, the inauguration plans for University President Father John Jenkins and the deal with TRANSCO — one of the administration's first and most concrete accomplishments, allowing students, faculty and staff to ride TRANSCO routes in between campus and South Bend for free.

What Baron and Shappell have accomplished has been primarily through small, carefully executed movements. A good example of this is the \$15 increase in the student activities fee, the tentative sum result of two resolutions passed by Senate this semester — one to simply increase the fee, the other to modify the fixed allocation percentages of the Student Union constitution to allow for the implementation of the College Readership Program.

And while the University has not yet officially approved the proposal, Baron is almost positive it will go through. He's already checked it out with Poorman.

"I feel like we're not going to get as much done if we enter in a combative role," Baron said. "It's been a step-by-step process. That's how it's got to work."

The approach makes sense given the pair's seasoned student government background. Baron, a senior, served as freshman class president and chief executive assistant for last year's Istvan administration, while Shappell, a junior, was last year's Senate Gender Issues committee chair.

The Baron-Shappell response to problems surrounding the basketball ticketing system is also indicative of the pair's overall philosophy. The perpetually frustrating issue has been stalled in student government for years now, and part of the pair's platform was to improve the system, suggesting the expansion of TicketShare to a Web site and half season ticket packages.

True to the platform, the issue came up at one of the first



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

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

Senate meetings of the new administration. Senators weren't receptive to the idea of half season tickets, but the University Affairs committee scooped up the online TicketShare idea.

That never came through, but progress was made in establishing a "Moonlight Madness" event — the content of which was not decided by student government — and other modifications to the system, after extensive meetings with Director of Ticketing Operations Josh Berlo and other administrators.

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

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

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

The format of student government's traditional triannual pre-

sentations to the Board has changed as well.

Under the new changes, the Board will hear a fall report from a student group, a winter State of the Student Union address from student government and a spring report from student government, unless student government designates another group to give the presentation.

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

"It's important for the first student administration [under University President Father John Jenkins] to build a connection, set a good tone," Baron said.

They're committed to setting this tone, but Baron and Shappell have been enjoying themselves in the process.

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

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

GRADE:

A-

BARON AND SHAPPELL HAVE USED EXPERIENCE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE TO WORK WITH ADMINISTRATORS AND IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO BENEFIT STUDENT LIFE. THIS

EXPERIENCE ALSO GIVES THEM CREDIBILITY IN DEALING WITH INHERENTLY COMPLEX ISSUES. LIKE COMMUNITY RELATIONS, A TOPIC WHICH HAS BECOME THE ADMINISTRATION'S HALLMARK. TO LEAVE A MORE COMPLETE LEGACY, HOWEVER, THE PAIR NEEDS TO FIND A WAY TO FOCUS SOME OF ITS EFFORTS ON CAMPAIGN PROMISES AND RESOLVE ISSUES PRESENTED EARLY IN ITS TERM.

Campaign Promises In Review

DELIVERED

- ♦ Better alternative transportation
- ♦ More printers in residence halls
- ♦ To-go cups in dining halls
- ♦ Off-campus safety seminar
- ♦ Moonlight Madness

PENDING

- ♦ Catholic Think Tank Speaker Series
- ♦ South Bend Opportunities Guide
- ♦ Support official recognition of Gay-Straight Alliance
- ♦ Wish list for new Student Center

UNSUCCESSFUL

- ♦ Build a concert endowment
- ♦ Expand TicketShare
- ♦ Student discount at the Bookstore
- ♦ Weekly updates to student government Web site

STUDENT SENATE

Members tackle responsibility with effort

Academic Affairs

Grade: A- This committee was responsible for the set of resolutions to increase the student activities fee, a necessary measure to implement the College Readership Program carried over from last year's Senate committee. But the rest of its efforts — "quiet leg work," according to chair Chris Harris — have yet to materialize.

Community Relations

Grade: B+ One of two new Senate committees this year, this group has grappled with ways to build the relationship between Notre Dame and South Bend. Little has been produced, apart from a letter to the student body and a resolution that will be presented to the South Bend Common Council. But if chair Nick Guzman can carry through on his seven-point plan next semester, the results will be impressive.

Diversity Affairs

Grade: B Since last year's awareness weeks had a tired feel, this year's committee decided to take a different approach: emphasize 24-7 awareness. However, the group's accomplishments — a multicultural dorm commissioner workshop, "Stand against Hate" poster campaign and International Awareness Week — did not have the impact chair Sarah Liu seems to be after.

Gender Issues

Grade: A Chair Ali Wishon is a veteran of last year's committee, and that expertise has helped her execute laudable initiatives, such as revamping the "From Football to Finals" program and Eating Disorders Awareness Week. In the works is Sexual Assault Awareness Week as well as research into getting a gynecologist on campus, gender-specific needs at the Health Center and a GLBTQ report.

Minority Affairs

Grade: A This year's second new committee, Minority Affairs, has worked to find its niche in University structure, searching for institutional holes and proposing ways to fill them. Its recent resolution recommends the creation of a committee to evaluate "cultural competency" at Notre Dame. While the resolution is stalled in Faculty Senate, the effort — and chair Rhea Boyd's work ethic — are admirable.

Oversight

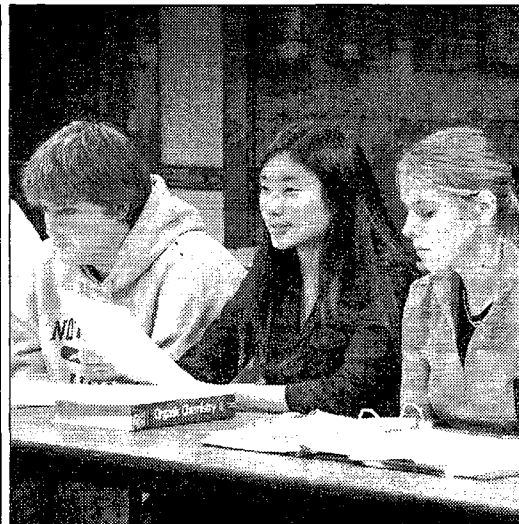
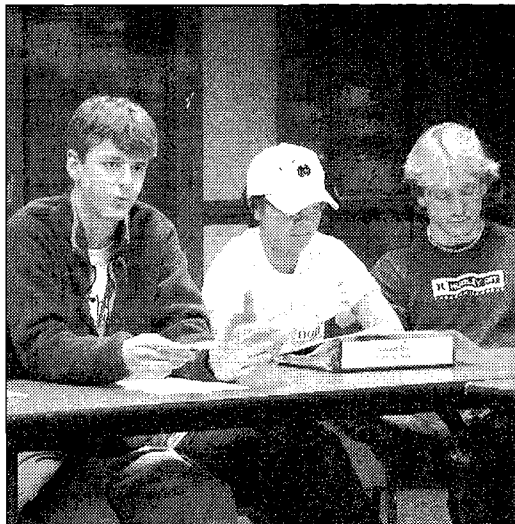
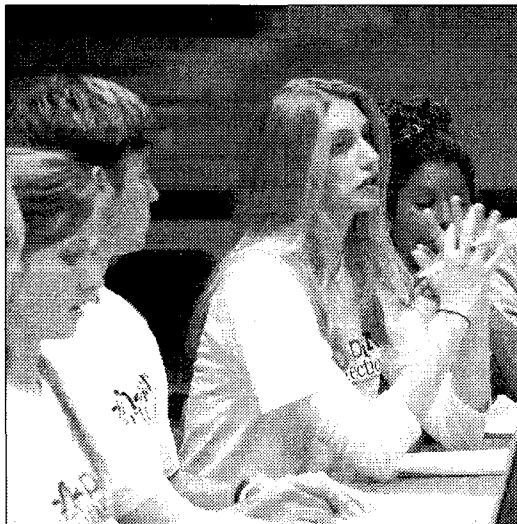
Grade: B Charged with amending the Student Union constitution and monitoring student government departments, this committee deals more with theory than action, making evaluation difficult. While it produced several resolutions, many times the committee's reports were stagnant, week after week.

Residence Life

Grade: A- This committee boasts smaller successes, like to-go cups in the dining halls, as well as the pursuit of larger initiatives, like campus technological improvements and research regarding a new student center. Some projects appear to be stalled, however.

University Affairs

Grade: A- Starting productively, the committee brought a new agreement with TRANSPRO back to Senate after a summer of work. But although much effort was put into improving basketball ticketing, the talked-up online TicketShare program has yet to happen.



PAMELA LOCK/The Observer

Left, Student Senate members discuss Eating Disorders Awareness Week during an October meeting. Middle and right, senators meet during the fall. Senate members have passed thoughtful and important resolutions over the course of the semester.

By MADDIE HANNA
In Focus Writer

The Student Senate has the greatest responsibility of Notre Dame's student government organizations as a policymaking body, and for the most part, this year's group has taken that responsibility seriously. Senate leaders are some of the student body's hardest workers and have pushed through a number of important resolutions after intelligent discussion.

The Senate's eight committees — Academic Affairs, Community Relations, Diversity Affairs, Gender Issues, Minority Affairs, Oversight, Residence Life and University Affairs — each have their own agendas and periodically present resolutions to the full Senate.

But after long, heated debates, the Senate sometimes runs into problems producing what it promises.

It should be noted that student government, even a relatively powerful body like Senate, is and will always be unable to push any measure past an unwilling administration. The Senate's passed resolutions are essentially recommendations that members of the administration can choose to pursue or disregard. It's the way the system works.

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

Tangibles

This year's Senate has struck a balance between sweeping goals and tangible achievements.

While it's easier to evaluate the second category, both paths have led to success.

The University Affairs committee, chaired by Matt Walsh, was in constant communication over the summer with the Office of Business Operations while the University was negotiating agreements with TRANSPRO and FedEx Kinkos.

Now, partly due to the commit-

tee's insistence that student input be considered in the negotiations, students can ride TRANSPRO buses throughout the community for free and take advantage of improved copy service options.

Gender Affairs committee chair Ali Wishon has devoted herself to her group's tasks, and her dedication is apparent. Over the summer, she worked extensively with the University to revamp the Freshman Orientation sexual assault program, "From Football to Finals." The change has contributed to an increased number of sexual assault reports, something student body president Dave Baron said indicates that more students have found the courage to report incidents.

Wishon's committee also ran a smoothly coordinated Eating Disorders Awareness Week and is planning a Sexual Assault Awareness Week for next semester.

Other concrete Senate accomplishments include the Residence Life committee's to-go cups in the dining halls and Carroll and D6 parking lot crosswalks, as well as a "Stand against Hate" poster campaign and International Education Week coordinated by the Diversity Committee.

Larger goals

The Senate's most commendable quality is arguably its willingness to devote serious attention to weighty matters. Since taking office, senators have not shied away from complexity.

Senators passed a resolution on Oct. 12 to increase the student activities fee by \$15, a two-part proposal contingent on the group's later passage of a resolution to modify the fixed allocation percentages in the Student Union constitution.

The explanation was complicated — Baron and Academic Affairs committee chair Chris Harris put an extensive amount of work into the proposal with the eventual goal of implementing the College Readership Program — and the debate was back-and-forth.

But after careful consideration of the alternatives, the Senate passed the resolution, presenting a good example of how government should work.

Mark Seiler's Residence Life committee has worked alongside the University on getting printers in the dorms — a pilot program started last year by the Office of Information Technology — and informing the student body of procedures surrounding the upcoming installation of cable

and wireless in the residence halls.

These projects are indicative of the more open and cooperative conversation between the University and student government, a conversation initiated by Baron and Shappell that Senate has continued to build.

Senators have also confronted intangible and controversial topics that encompass the entire Notre Dame community.

The newly established Community Relations committee, chaired by Nick Guzman, has an ambitious list of seemingly feasible projects — incorporating a community element to the freshman orientation program and publishing a South Bend opportunities guide, for example — designed to build the relationship between Notre Dame students and members of the South Bend community.

This year's other new committee, Minority Affairs, is chaired by Rhea Boyd and recently presented a resolution urging the creation of a University committee to examine "cultural competency" at Notre Dame, a modification of last year's proposal for a diversity course requirement.

While the resolution is currently stalled in Faculty Senate until February, Boyd said her committee has been in continual dialogue with high-level administrators who support the committee's goals and have used Boyd as a resource for their efforts in promoting diversity at Notre Dame.

The Senate spent several meetings discussing the University's new institutional spot "Candle," which first aired Sept. 10 and incited debate about the face of the University and the advertisement's impact on admissions.

While no policy change came of the discussion, the range of passionate responses demonstrated the group's belief that its decision to send or not to send a letter to administrators mattered.

There is a clear difference between discussion for the sake of discussion and discussion with the eventual intent of implementation. While the Senate has certainly approached topics of this magnitude in past years, they were not always considered with an actual end in mind — something that sets this Senate apart.

Next semester, the University Affairs and Gender Issues committees will present a comprehensive report assessing existing resources for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (GLBTQ) students to determine what needs are currently

not being met.

Drawbacks

Even though many positive changes have emerged from Senate this year, the group still shoulders its fair share of shortcomings.

It became evident early in the new term that a few senators have a tendency to speak without a clear point, repeating comments with the type of nuanced wording that can only belong to an elected official. There are only so many ways to say the same thing, and senators who like the sound of their own voices should be careful not to wear them out.

The problem of repetition extends to committees who report the same news week after week. When a committee chair's main news is that "the process is underway" for a particular project, a statement that becomes the only news reported to the Senate over the next few weeks, it appears that no progress has been made.

At other times, it appeared that a project's feasibility was not fully considered or that the goal was inadequately pursued. An example is the proposal to put the TicketShare basketball ticket distribution program online, an idea that had been floating around Senate for months. But when the week of ticket distribution arrived, TicketShare was nowhere near the Web.

Senate members justified the situation by saying they'd rather have a quality program tomorrow than a passable program today. When frustrations regarding basketball tickets have been mounting since last season, however, pushing an improved TicketShare system to next year doesn't seem logical.

Less glaring is the truth that not everyone is a leader. This isn't a characteristic unique to Student Senate or even this year's group of senators, but it is nonetheless a weakness. This year's committee chairs are exceptionally motivated, and their participation in the Senate's affairs can easily overshadow that of the senators.

In order for the Senate to reach its potential for success, all members must take an active role and remember why they were elected — to serve as advocates for their dorm constituents and strive to improve campus life.

Halfway through the year, they're well on their way.

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GRADE: A-

SENATORS HAVE CHOSEN TO PURSUE IMPORTANT INITIATIVES. TO IMPROVE, THEY MUST KEEP PRODUCTIVITY AT THE FOREFRONT AND REMEMBER THAT TIME ISN'T A LUXURY.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group has moderate success as advisory body

Members must build upon their role as sounding board to Baron and Shappell

By KAREN LANGLEY
In Focus Writer

This semester, the Council of Representatives (COR) has processed nominations and approvals efficiently while showing moderate success as an advisory body to the student body president — but its members must fully embrace their role as a sounding board in order for COR to realize its potential as the sole body uniting the policy and programming divisions of student government.

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

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

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

Student body president Dave Baron said before he entered office, he “expected that each representative would bring forth concerns as they see them to represent their constituencies.”

Topics such as the student activity fee increases and the budget reallocations brought out representatives’ loyalties, as most

speakers voiced opinions consistent with their constituencies’ best interests.

Representatives sit on COR to interact with various campus organizations, but as a group they are somewhat reluctant to participate in any rigorous discussions. They leave much of the direction to Baron, who is supposed to be gleaned knowledge about students’ perspectives from the meetings. Questions are asked and comments are made, but more of each is needed to make COR the truly dynamic body it should be under its constitutional mandate.

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

COR must be praised for professional treatment of a potentially volatile situation, the group’s Sept. 19 meeting with city officials to discuss the summer amendment to South Bend’s disorderly house ordinance. South Bend assistant city attorney Ann-Carol Nash and District 4 Common Council member Ann Puzello forcefully defended the city’s actions to a group which generally spoke with respect, but whose care prevented them from accomplishing much — if any accomplishment was possible in an exchange between two such diametrically opposed sides.

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

While drier than its debates over the South Bend party policy or the Shirt Project’s objectives, the

recent debates over changes to fiscal policy may prove to be among this term’s most significant COR discussions in terms of future implications.

“I’m excited about the possibility of creating an endowment for future classes,” Shappell said.

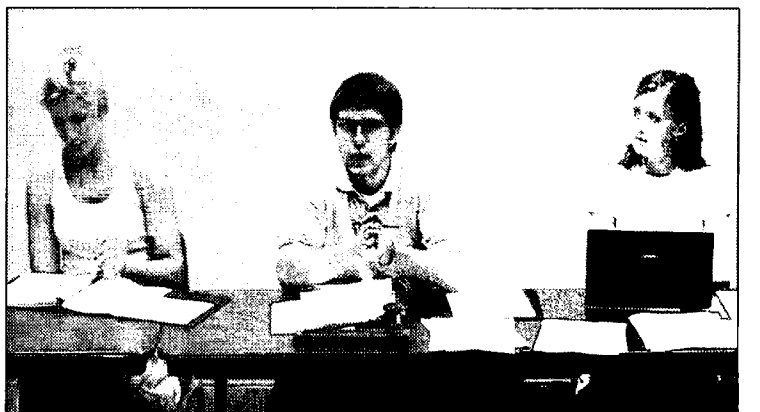
Like the increase in student activities fees discussed Oct. 3, the tweaking of the student union’s fiscal policy will directly affect future student bodies in ways most COR discussions may not. But the activities fee raise is a predictable increase modeled after the increases approved in years past. The fiscal policy work is a particularly significant because it demonstrates an act of initiative on the part of COR to tackle a fresh but much-needed issue that will impact future students, as well as all the members’ constituencies.

COR has shown it can fulfill its mission in a satisfactory manner, but it has the potential to make a stronger contribution to student government if it can find the balance between increasing debate among members and maintaining the efficiency which has marked this administration’s leadership of the group.

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ANN KELLY/The Observer
Student body vice president Lizzi Shappell and president Dave Baron lead Council discussions at weekly meetings.



PAMELA LOCK/The Observer
Student body vice president Lizzi Shappell, left, president Dave Baron and student union secretary Aly Baumgartner meet this fall.

GRADE: B

AS AN ADVISORY GROUP TO THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT, COR HAS SUFFICIENTLY MET ITS MAIN

OBJECTIVES BY PROVIDING SOUND RECOMMENDATIONS TO STUDENT LEADERSHIP.

THE GROUP’S EFFICIENCY IS LAUDABLE, BUT KEY DISCUSSIONS OFTEN LACK WHOLEHEARTED

PARTICIPATION OF ALL MEMBERS.

THE GROUP SUCCEEDED IN INITIATING LONG-TERM CHANGES TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT FISCAL POLICIES AND

CONDUCTING ITSELF RESPECTFULLY IN AN EMOTIONAL SESSION WITH SOUTH BEND OFFICIALS OVER THE RECENT AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTH BEND DISORDERLY HOUSE ORDINANCE.

STUDENT UNION BOARD

Organization successful in response to student request

By KATIE PERRY
In Focus Writer

Notre Dame’s Student Union Board (SUB) charged into the fall semester by delivering big-name acts such as comedian Vince Vaughn and rock group Better than Ezra as part of its mission to satisfy student demand.

SUB director Jimmy Flaherty said one of the group’s main goals this year was to target its weaknesses and maintain its strengths.

“I feel we came a long way with the little things last year, and we were successful, but this year we wanted to crank it up a notch with bigger events while still continuing to excel at the other events,” he said.

Some of the “best student leaders on campus” as well as a focused objective contributed to SUB’s success in the fall semester, Flaherty said, citing such events as Welcome Week, hypnotist Dale K, AcoustiCafe and comedians at Legends.

Flaherty said selection of the fall semester’s two centerpiece shows — Vince Vaughn’s “Wild West” comedy show in October and a Better than Ezra concert in November — was based directly on surveys of student opinion.

SUB receives feedback about events through its dorm representatives. Flaherty said this communication between the group and campus residence halls is essential, as they are “at the heart of campus life.”

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

“We work on behalf of [the students], and at the end of last year we heard what they would really like is for big-name entertainers to come to Notre Dame,” SUB programmer Chris Lund said in a Nov. 22 Observer article.

Flaherty said he is “proud” the two larger events were near sellouts. Vaughn’s comedy show sold out almost immediately, as nearly 1,900 students handed over \$30 to see the “Wedding Crashers” and “Dodgeball” star live on campus. Flaherty said more than 900 tickets were sold in

the first three hours of sales.

Approximately 1,000 tickets were sold for the Dec. 2 Better than Ezra concert. Like Vaughn’s comedy show, the concert was held in the Stepan Center — a venue Lund called a “nice location” for big events.

Flaherty said upcoming SUB events include the Collegiate Jazz Festival and the ND Literary Festival in February, which will feature “Friday Night Lights” author H.G. Bissinger.

“There are really no big events on campus minus The Show, and we’ve already had two in one semester,” he said. “We’re already getting to work on a big show for next semester.”

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GRADE: A-

SUB EFFECTIVELY BROUGHT TWO PROMINENT AND WELL-RECEIVED ACTS TO CAMPUS IN THE FIRST SEMESTER ALONE, AND IS CURRENTLY WORKING TOWARD REPEATING THIS SUCCESS IN THE SPRING TERM — BUT THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

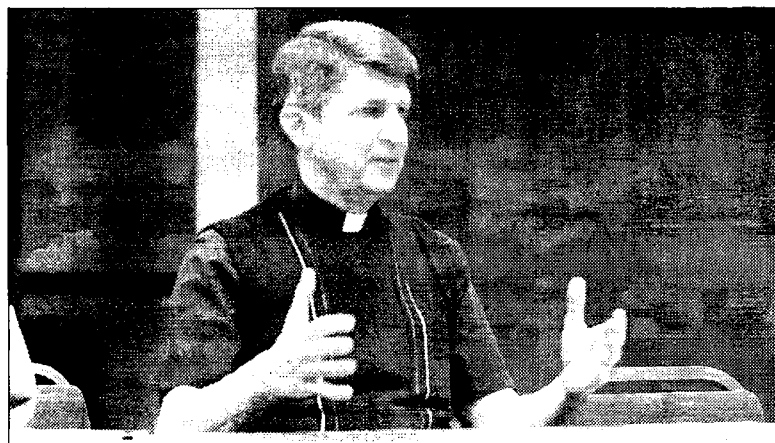
CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Members prove more active, prolific than in past years

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



Student body president Dave Baron encouraged faculty, students and rectors to disperse themselves evenly at meetings this fall.



Dillon Hall rector Father Paul Doyle speaks at a fall CLC meeting. The group fuses faculty, rector and student members.

By MARY KATE MALONE
In Focus Writer

The Campus Life Council has passed five resolutions during the fall semester — a significant improvement from the zero passed under last year's Council.

Though division among members has not disappeared, student body president Dave Baron has breathed new life into a body that is student government's best attempt at merging the voices of faculty, rectors and students.

At the start of the semester Baron said he would not tolerate division among Council members. Historically, rectors and faculty have gathered on one side of the discussion table and students on the other, but Baron encouraged members to disperse themselves evenly.

However, halfway into the school year, there continues to be a stubborn rift — not only physically, but ideologically — at times affecting the quality and effectiveness of its discussions.

"We each represent different constituencies," Baron said. "It's a curse and a benefit. This is a great benefit, but it can also hurt discussion when participants are only thinking about their own constituents."

Most recently, a religious faith resolution was stalled in the Council after rectors and students failed to agree on the best way to provide faith information to non-Catholic students.

The Council has managed to unite on some issues. Members provided solid feedback for Hall Presidents Council co-chair Dan Zenker as he worked to address

football pep rally admittance procedures with Joyce Center officials. The Council also smoothly passed the student activities fee increase resolution with a vote of 12-1.

The Council's greatest strength is in its three task forces, which Baron created at the start of the semester. Each with a clearly defined purpose, the task forces are the fuel of the CLC. Without their initiatives, the Council would lack direction.

The social concerns task force has topped the other three task forces and positioned itself as the backbone of the Council. It has delivered two resolutions to the CLC and consistently demonstrated progress from meeting to meeting.

Chaired by Jacques Nguyen, the task force has focused on its chief goals to address dorm dance themes and improve opportunities for non-Catholic students. It crafted and presented a resolution on Nov. 7 to amend the Dorm Dance Manual to include regulations for appropriate themes and advertising for dances. It passed unanimously and received high praise from Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman.

The task force's second resolution — calling for workshops to help hall staff address non-Catholic student needs — failed to pass in the Council and was sent back to the task force for further revision. The task force swiftly responded to concerns and revised a resolution that the Council passed two weeks later.

The campus grounds and structures task force has shown scant visible progress. Though Baron hails this task force as a

testament to the CLC's ability to unite with different campus organizations, its purpose and progress have been foggy throughout the semester. Still, the task force has been doing much of its work behind the scenes, and if it manages to follow through on its initiatives soon, its work has the potential to fulfill a significant void on campus.

Campus ground and structures has been pursuing three main initiatives: improving outdoor recreational facilities in conjunction with Student Senate, beautifying grounds around dorms and other campus buildings in conjunction with the Rectors and addressing water drainage in the D6 parking lot.

Task force chair James Leito frequently reports to the Council about meetings with campus groups. But 16 weeks into the school year, Leito's task force needs to start stop discussing and start delivering.

The student voice and input task force has not delivered a resolution but its goal is too long-term to warrant such a measure. The force spent the majority of the semester conducting extensive research on University groups and committees. It has now narrowed that list to a few key committees that are lacking student input. If it manages to create student seats on these committees in the coming months, CLC's visibility will grow among students — who are vastly unaware of its existence.

The Campus Life Council has benefited greatly from goal-oriented task forces, but Baron must continue to unite the highly varied interests of the CLC's members in order to facilitate more progressive discussion. The Council has the potential for a productive spring if task forces like Leito's campus grounds and structures can start to provide visible results for Council members and students alike.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

GRADE: B

THE CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL HAS PASSED AN IMPRESSIVE FIVE RESOLUTIONS SO FAR THIS SEMESTER. CLC HAS BEEN EFFICIENT AND FOCUSED UNDER DAVE BARON'S LEADERSHIP; HOWEVER, THE VARIED INTERESTS OF

THE COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE AT TIMES HURT DISCUSSION AND STALLED RESOLUTIONS. THOUGH SOME COUNCIL TASK FORCES HAVE SHOWN SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS, BARON NEEDS TO LAY A HEAVIER HAND ON THEM IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THEIR INITIATIVES ARE CARRIED OUT.

Graduate Student Union works on new library computers, other goals

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

The organization, which was founded in 1969, bears the majority of responsibilities and duties concerning graduate student life.

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

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

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

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

"The administration and Student Affairs committee have organized a task force that will

survey the current status of graduate student life with the goal of funding future development," Schieberle said. "We've been working very much together with the task force on the survey and we think it will produce results we can use in the years to come."

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

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

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

Notre Dame will also send several graduate students to the national NAGPS conference in February, where they will meet with U.S. Representatives and participate in a day of lobbying for legislation for those continuing in higher education, Schieberle said. The proposed legislation would make graduate student stipends tax exempt, thus lessening post-college debt.

-Maggie Hyde

Hall Presidents Council encourages events

Notre Dame's dorm rivalries may be heated, but the presidents of the 27 dorms convene through Hall Presidents Council to discuss hall-specific events and simultaneously help each other with these events.

HPC allocates money to these signature dorm events, such as the traditional Keough Chariot Race as well as the newer Welsh Family Block Party.

The HPC is charged with planning the student component of pep rallies, but HPC Co-Chair Dan Zenker and HPC Athletics Commissioners Justin Doyle and Jack Lascowitz took on another related task this semester — dealing with the pep rally ticket distribution system, which the University changed in response to growing student demand and reports that some fans were turned away from the Michigan State pep rally.

This semester, HPC Treasurers Catherine Mulhern and T.R. Eckler revamped HPC's financial system to make the process more efficient and fair for all the dorms.

Presidents receive help in coordinating events from the HPC cabinet, a group composed of former hall presidents, chaired this year by Lindsey Ney and Zenker, both seniors.

The cabinet's goal this year is "to increase the level of awareness of each hall president regarding valuable policies and opportunities around campus and within the Hall Presidents Council," Zenker said.

This includes improving communication regarding campus events, funding opportunities, dorm events and dances, charity efforts and University guidelines. To do this, a new resource manual was created with useful information and guidelines for the presidents.

HPC's goal for next semester, and what it hopes to continue in the future, is to find ways to improve the amount of knowledge that the presidents are given regarding their duties.

HPC also hopes to create more unity between the dorms in order to foster more joint efforts.

-Ryan Sydlik

IRISH INSIDER

Monday, December 12, 2005

THE
OBSERVER

Growing up Brady

Junior Irish quarterback Brady Quinn has translated his coach's philosophy into an on-field reality that has earned Notre Dame more wins, more points and national recognition of his individual talent

BCS win would end streak, criticism

Fiesta, Orange, Independence, Gator, Fiesta, Gator, Insight.

Colorado, Florida State, LSU, Georgia Tech, Oregon State, North Carolina State, Oregon State.

With that list, one that dates back to the 1994

Fiesta Bowl when Notre Dame was dominated by Colorado 41-24, Irish coach Charlie Weis will not be short on ammunition when motivating his team between now and its Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl matchup with Ohio State.

"It will be mentioned," Weis said, grabbing his chest and jerking back with a smile when asked Saturday about Notre Dame's seven-game bowl losing streak. "It won't be history. It will be mentioned. Every day. Multiple times. It will be emphasized."

As the Irish try to end the skid at the bowl that started it, Weis's players find themselves fully aware of the streak but doing their best to put it behind them.

"We're in a BCS game, we want to win a BCS game," safety Tom Zbikowski said. "We don't want to win because other teams couldn't accom-

plish that in the past. We want to win because we want to win."

Notre Dame (9-2) faces a team that had a very similar season in Ohio State (9-2). Both teams could easily be 11-0, with the Irish a 4th-and-9 stop and overtime loss away, and a 72-yard drive and a close loss separating the Buckeyes from a perfect record.

But they're still playing a BCS game — Notre Dame's first in five years and Ohio State's third Fiesta Bowl in four years. For the Irish, who have come a long way since last year's 6-6 finish, this is the game they need to win — not only to end this season on a positive note and reward its graduating seniors, but to make a statement for the future as well.

If Notre Dame can find a way to contain Buckeye quarterback Troy Smith and minimize the damage linebacker A.J. Hawk does on the defensive end, it will validate the 2005 season.

The stamp of approval from the entire country rests on this game. Notre Dame doubters will have no choice but to admit the Irish are back if they win.

No more blowout losses, no

more bowl game losing streak — just one win against a top-five team to end a season in which a 10-2 record sounds much better than 9-3.

"You had a great year, now this is the game," Weis said. "This is the game that everyone is going to remember. You lose this game to Ohio State ... Everyone remembers that you lost the bowl game."

And so the Irish must make a lasting impression. For all those critics who said Notre Dame played an easy schedule, or for those who say the television-friendly Irish do not deserve to be in the BCS,

despite earning an automatic at-large berth, beating Ohio State is the way to prove them wrong.

For fifth-year seniors like Brandon Hoyte, Mark LeVoi, Dan Stevenson and Corey Mays — who have seen Boh Davie fail, George O'Leary come and go, Tyrone Willingham get the controversial axe and now Charlie Weis succeed — this bowl game will put the final stamp on their tenure at Notre Dame. When it was announced Dec. 4 that the Irish were going to the Fiesta Bowl, Hoyte said he wants "to go out on top and feel as if we have left a mark on the Notre Dame program."

There is no doubt this game is critical. And there is no telling what a win over Ohio State would do for this team and this program.

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

And there is no telling what a win over Ohio State would do for this team and this program.

"[This game] is huge," defensive lineman Trevor Laws said. "We're in the BCS bowls and to get a big win over one of the best teams in the country, it just sets us up for the run that we're going to make next year."

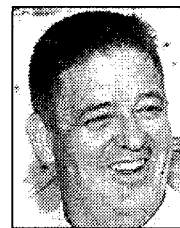
But before the Irish players can make any type of run next season, their coach is likely to run his mouth in the next three weeks of practice.

"I think it gives you a great opportunity to humiliate them," Weis said of the losing streak. "I think I'm really looking forward to doing that. Those games are gone, there's nothing you can do about them. But I like that firepower going into practice everyday, [and] they will be hearing that on a regular basis for the next several weeks."

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

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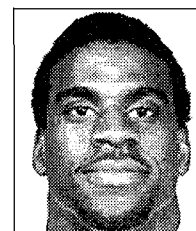
game hype



Charlie Weis
Irish head coach

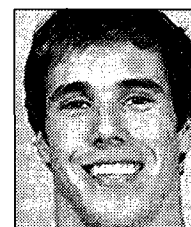
"We just want to do it the right way for the seniors and let them leave here with a win."

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



Victor Abiamiri
Irish defensive end

"You couldn't have scripted a better bowl game for me personally but also for our team."



Brady Quinn
Irish quarterback

"They are a classy team and a tough team."

We can't wait to get out there to [Tempe]."



Jim Tressel
Buckeyes head coach

History books will add fifth chapter in ND-OSU drama

Heisman winners, Four Horsemen members of series' storied contests

By **MIKE GILLOON**
Sports Editor

It's just about a five-hour drive between South Bend, Ind. and Columbus, Ohio and the campuses housing two of the most celebrated programs in college football history.

But only four times have Notre Dame and Ohio State met on the football field. And future schedules indicate the Irish and Buckeyes will not be meeting any time soon after their Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl matchup in Tempe, Ariz.

"How are we going to fit it in?" Irish coach Charlie Weis said Saturday when asked about the possibility of playing Ohio State in the future. "You don't even know somebody who's on your schedule seven years, eight years from now whether or not they're going to be good or not good, or whether you're going to be good or not good. That's why, instead of worrying about scheduling, I leave that to the powers that be, and I worry about playing."

But the fact that the two teams will likely meet only in bowl games in the near future seems to make the game more

highly anticipated by players on both sides.

It's a dream scenario for Irish quarterback Brady Quinn who grew up "about a 10-minute drive" from the Ohio State campus and whose older sister Laura dates Buckeyes middle linebacker A.J. Hawk.

Ohio State center Nick Mangold also feels privileged to play in just the fifth matchup between the two schools since their first game over 70 seasons ago.

"Notre Dame is a great program and playing in this game will be something special," Mangold said. "It will be another memory added to the list of the great things that have happened this season."

Looking back on the season, Mangold and his teammates could be preparing to play the Irish not in the Fiesta Bowl, but in the Rose Bowl for the national championship. Both schools enter the contest at 9-2 and each came

within seconds of toppling the two national title contenders, Southern California and Texas.

The Buckeyes fell at home to the Longhorns 25-22 on Sept. 10 and Notre Dame lost by a similarly slim margin, 34-31 against the Trojans in Notre Dame Stadium on Oct. 15.

"If a few things turned out different[ly] this could be the national championship game," Buckeyes free safety Nate Salley said.

"If a few things turned out different[ly] this could be the national championship game."

Nate Salley
Buckeyes free safety

A national championship-caliber game has not been unusual when the two programs have met.

The 1935 game was hyped as "The Game of the Century" by the press and saw Notre Dame rally from a 13-0 fourth quarter deficit to win 18-13 before more than 80,000 fans in Ohio Stadium.

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

The squads did not meet again until 1995, when the No. 7 Buckeyes stomped the No. 15 Irish 45-26 in Ohio Stadium.

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

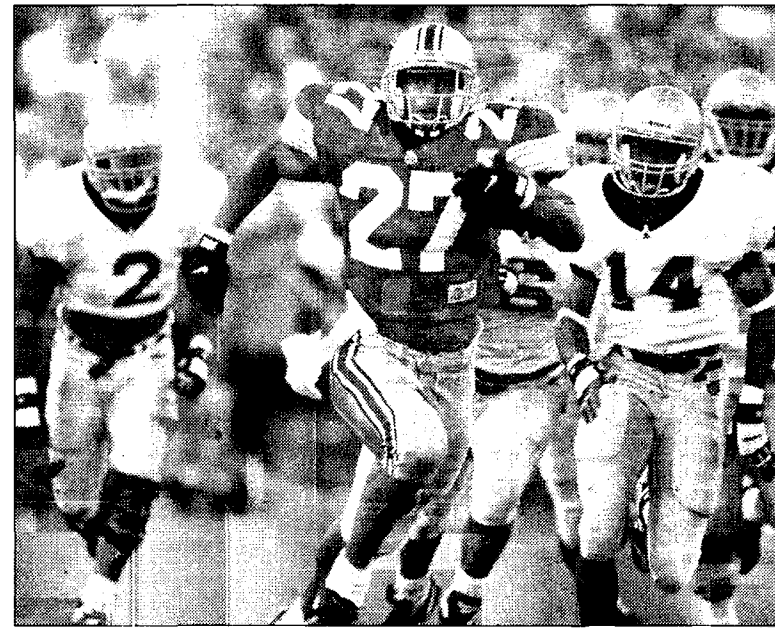
The most recent meeting was a matchup of No. 5 Notre Dame against No. 4 Ohio State in 1996, with the Buckeyes winning 29-16.

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

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

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

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu



Ohio State running back and 1995 Heisman Trophy winner Eddie George sprints past Notre Dame during the Buckeyes' 45-26 victory over the Irish on Sept. 30, 1995 in Ohio Stadium.

NOTRE DAME VS. OHIO STATE		
18	NOVEMBER 2, 1935	13
COACH: ELMER LAYDEN		COACH: FRANCIS SCHMIDT
7	OCTOBER 31, 1936	2
COACH: ELMER LAYDEN		COACH: FRANCIS SCHMIDT
26	SEPTEMBER 30, 1995	45
COACH: LOU HOLTZ		COACH: JOHN COOPER
16	SEPTEMBER 28, 1996	29
COACH: LOU HOLTZ		COACH: JOHN COOPER

GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

Tough enough to handle

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

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

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

"I said, 'Aren't you glad you got Coach Weis your junior year?'" Quinn's mother recalled asking her son. "Because I was thinking to myself had he been a freshman, just 18, getting the starting position, that would have been overwhelming for him."

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

The junior quarterback's comment could make Irish fans daydream about what could have been, or it could explain why Weis' offense developed so quickly and efficiently in less than a year with 18- to 21-year-old college kids.

At this time last season, Quinn (6-foot-4, 231 pounds) was not thinking Heisman. And he no longer is this year, or so he says. But following a career season in which he set numerous Irish program records, the confident junior quarterback has gained national attention for being the arm of Notre Dame's resurgence to a BCS bowl.

First-year coach Weis has been the face.

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

He garnered seven first-place votes in Saturday's Heisman Trophy balloting after throwing for 3,633 yards and 32 touchdowns and shattering almost every Notre Dame passing record in 2005.

Former Irish coach Lou Holtz said Quinn "never flinched" in his game-winning drive at Stanford Nov. 26 in a 38-31 win.

"[It was] just ho-hum, another day at work," Holtz said prior to the Notre Dame football banquet on Dec. 2.

And though Quinn did not even receive an invitation to the Heisman

ceremony in New York City, his name's appearance on the ballot made the statement — while Weis has been the mastermind behind the success, Quinn has been its catalyst.

"I think that the success of our offense can definitely be pinpointed to the progress of Brady," Weis said.

Quinn's path to prominence has been rocky at times, but always deliberate.

The big boys

The Dublin, Ohio native has been able to deal with adversity at Notre Dame because he experienced similar athletic obstacles at a young age.

When Quinn's Dublin Football League (DFL) travel team played Gehanna in sixth grade, the opposition included some seventh-, eighth- and even ninth-graders — players who were more physically developed.

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

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

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

Quinn shook his head, shook off the hit and finished the game. Fast forward to 2003, his first start as a college quarterback on the road at Purdue — 59 passing attempts, four interceptions, only one touchdown, one sack and a slew of hurries, knockdowns and hits.

The raw talent showed, but the beating was brutal.

"I don't like to hear that word [Purdue], every time I think of that as a mom," his mother said. Quinn would have to live by his uncle's words for a while. The losses hurt.

Quinn's statistics improved as he gained more game experience, but he won just nine of 21 games as a starter in his first two years under former coach Tyrone Willingham. Though his numbers were improving, through his sophomore season, the team was not.

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

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

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

"He was always a very intense child ... always a perfectionist — in any sports he did, with his room, with his outfits," his mother said. "Maybe he role-modeled me a little bit."

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

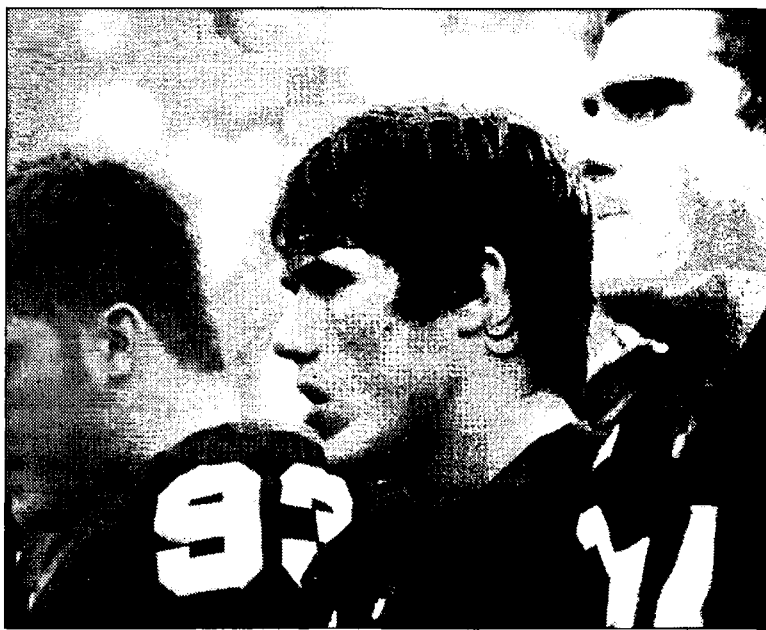
Grown up

Quinn controls most of Notre Dame's offense at the line of scrimmage — at least he has the freedom to. Weis has mandates like any coach, but his major demand calls for someone not wearing a headset on the sidelines, Quinn, to take control.

"The quarterback has to be an extension of [Weis] out there on the field, and while it's tough, I've got to be somewhat of an extension of what he wants in terms of leadership and making decisions as the quarterback," Quinn said.

His maturity and confidence have contributed to nothing short of a Notre Dame offensive revival.

In 2004, the Irish averaged 218 yards per game passing. Quinn had 17 touchdowns to 10 interceptions, and the offensive line gave up 25 sacks. Now, as the 2005 season concludes, Notre Dame averages



Photos by CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

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

334 yards passing and has given up only 16 sacks. Quinn's 32 touchdowns-to-seven interceptions ratio already has helped him capture the Sammy Baugh Award — presented to college football's top passer by The Touchdown Club of Columbus, Ohio — and be nominated for a host of others.

"He's more vocal in the huddle, taking charge and being more aggressive," said wide receiver Maurice Stoval, who has caught 60 passes and 11 touchdowns from Quinn this season. "His mental aspect of the game as far as watching film and reading defensive coverages [has improved, also]."

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

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

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

"[This offense] places a lot of responsibility on the quarterback, and it deals with a lot more mental things coming up to the line of

scrimmage and playing in the game," Quinn said. "I learned that there was a lot more to playing quarterback in different systems and in our particular offense than I had realized before."

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

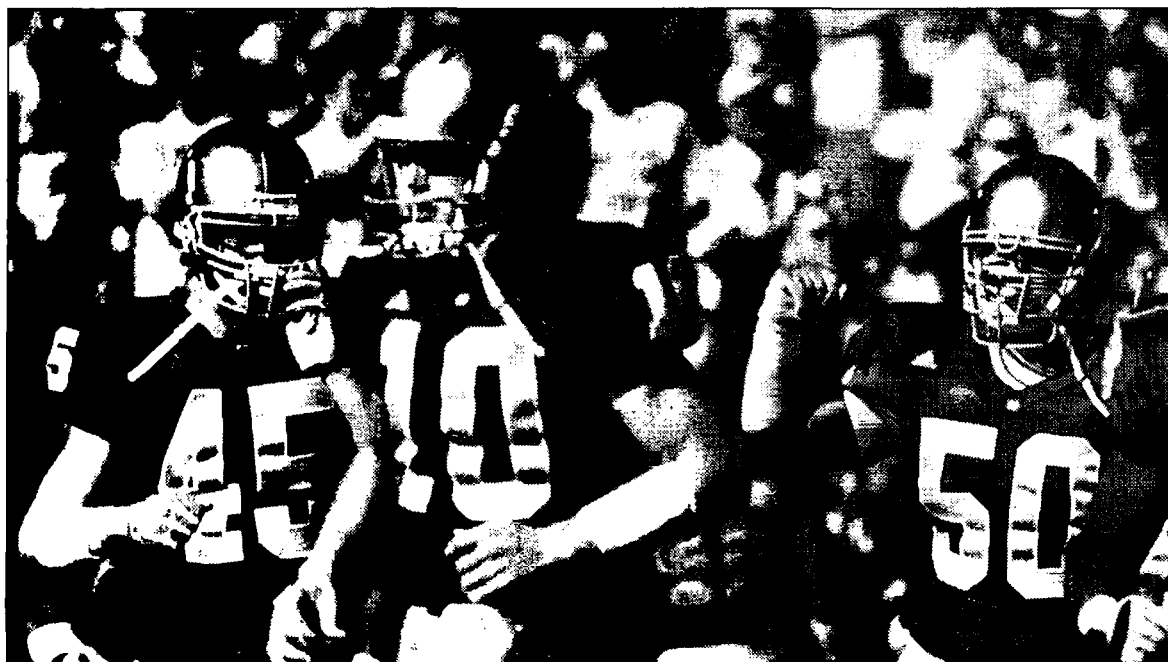
In the case of Quinn's development, it's not only what the offense has done for him, Weis consistently says. Notre Dame's success is just as much about what Quinn does for the offense.

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

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

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

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



MATTHEW SMEDBERG/The Observer

Notre Dame quarterback Brady Quinn leads the Irish out of the tunnel before their Oct. 15 game against No. 1 USC. Quinn passed for one touchdown and threw for another in the 34-31 loss to the Trojans.

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**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 21
Ohio State 20**

O HEAD

Ohio State Buckeyes

Ohio State Buckeyes

Record: 9-2

AP: 7

Coaches: 7

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



Jim Tressel
head coach

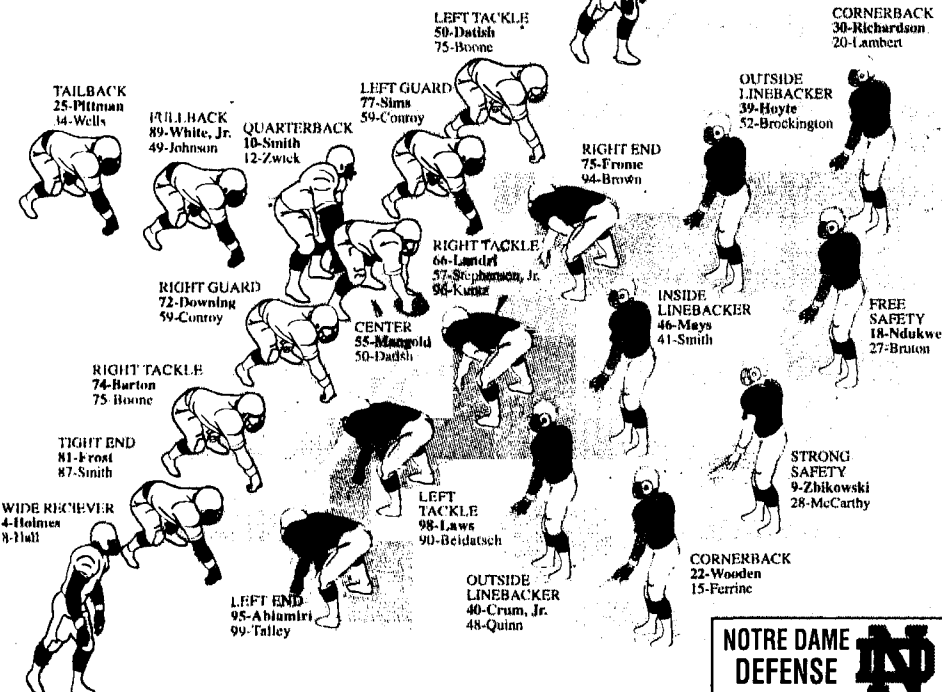
OHIO STATE 2005 Schedule

Sept. 3	MIAMI (OH) - W
Sept. 10	TEXAS - L
Sept. 17	SAN DIEGO ST. - W
Sept. 24	IOWA - W
Oct. 8	at Penn State - L
Oct. 15	MICHIGAN STATE - W
Oct. 22	at Indiana - W
Oct. 29	at Minnesota - W
Nov. 5	ILLINOIS - W
Nov. 12	NORTHWESTERN - W
Nov. 19	at Michigan - W

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	Marcus Freeman	LB	6-2	230	FR
2	Erik Haw	RB	6-1	212	FR
3	Malcolm Jenkins	CB	6-1	180	FR
4	Antonio Holmes	SE	5-11	190	JR
5	Mike D'Andrea	LB	6-3	248	SR
6	Albert Dukes	WR	6-1	190	FR
7	Tyler Everett	CB	5-11	202	SR
8	Ted Ginn Jr.	FL	6-0	175	SO
9	Roy Hall	SE	6-3	240	JR
10	Donte Whitner	SS	5-11	205	JR
11	Brent Ullery	WR	6-0	203	SO
12	Troy Smith	QB	6-1	215	JR
13	Anthony Gonzalez	FL	6-0	195	SO
14	Justin Zwick	QB	6-4	225	JR
15	Andre Amos	CB	6-1	180	FR
16	Ben Kacsandi	QB	6-1	210	FR
17	Brian Hartline	WR	6-3	180	FR
18	Antonio Smith	FS	5-9	195	JR
19	A.J. Trapasso	P	6-1	220	FR
20	Kyle Ruhl	WR	6-1	154	FR
21	Trey Robinson	LB	6-0	220	SO
22	Rob Schenck	QB	6-6	225	FR
23	Todd Boeckman	QB	6-5	235	FR
24	David Lisko	WR	6-1	220	FR
25	Devon Lyons	WR	6-4	214	SO
26	Derek Harden	WR	6-1	215	SO
27	Brandon Underwood	CB	6-2	170	FR
28	Donald Washington	DB	6-1	185	FR
29	Aaron Pettrey	K	6-1	184	FR
30	Nate Salley	PK	6-2	195	SR
31	Josh Huston	PK	6-1	195	SR
32	Tyson Gentry	P	6-2	165	FR
33	Mike Roberts	CB	5-11	185	JR
34	Antonio Pittman	TB	5-11	195	SO
35	Ashton Youboty	CB	6-1	188	JR
36	Shaun Lane	TB	5-10	180	FR
37	Sirio Welch	FS	6-0	185	SO
38	Brandon Mitchell	FS	6-3	205	JR
39	James Laurinaitis	LB	6-3	231	FR
40	Joe Gantz	RB	6-0	205	FR
41	Rob Harley	SS	5-2	202	SR
42	Maurice Wells	TB	5-10	190	FR
43	Ryan Franzinger	FB	6-1	250	SO
44	Nick Patterson	DB	6-2	210	FR
45	Matt Daniels	FB	5-7	205	FR
46	Curt Lukens	SS	6-3	215	SO
47	Anderson Russell	DB	6-0	190	FR
48	Austin Spittler	LB	6-3	228	FR
49	Michael Dougherty	DB	5-11	200	FR
50	De'Angelo Haslam	DB	5-9	170	SO
51	Michael Mattiace	PK	5-11	156	FR
52	Bobby Carpenter	LB	6-3	255	SR
53	Brandon Schnitker	FB	6-2	250	SR
54	Curtis Terry	LB	6-2	220	SO
55	Chad Hoobler	LB	6-3	240	SO
56	A.J. Hawk	LB	6-1	240	SR
57	John Thoma	P	6-1	270	FR
58	Dionte Johnson	FB	6-0	250	SO
59	Ryan Lukens	LB	6-0	230	FR
60	Doug Datish	OG	6-5	295	FR
61	Vernon Gholston	DL	6-4	260	SO
62	Anthony Schlegel	LB	6-1	251	SR
63	John Kerr	OL	6-1	246	JR
64	Tyler Whaley	OL	6-1	270	FR
65	Nick Mangold	C	6-4	290	SR
66	Dimitrios Makridis	LS	6-1	225	SO
67	Mike Kudla	DE	6-3	265	SR
68	Drew Norman	LS	6-0	230	JR
69	John Conroy	OG	6-3	295	SR
70	Matt Drummelsmith	LS	6-4	205	FR
71	Harrison Till	OL	6-3	230	FR
72	Ben Person	OG	6-4	315	FR
73	Jim Cordle	OL	6-5	275	FR
74	Doug Ebner	OL	6-4	285	FR
75	Andrew Moses	OL	6-3	267	FR
76	Kyle Mitchum	OG	6-6	295	FR
77	Tim Schafer	OT	6-5	290	FR
78	Andrew Tyree	OG	6-6	290	FR
79	Steve Rehling	OT	6-8	329	SO
80	T.J. Downing	OG	6-5	305	JR
81	Steve Winner	C	6-6	300	SR
82	Kirk Barton	OT	6-7	329	SO
83	Alex Boone	OT	6-8	315	FR
84	Drew Parry	OL	6-2	295	FR
85	Rob Sims	OT	6-4	310	SR
86	Alex Barrow	DE	6-4	255	FR
87	Daniel Dye	OL	6-3	271	SO
88	Jon Skinner	OT	6-5	300	FR
89	Ryan Hamby	TE	6-5	255	SR
90	R.J. Coleman	TE	6-5	285	JR
91	Marcel Frost	TE	6-5	255	SO
92	Devon Jordan	SE	6-2	205	SO
93	Will Crall	TE	6-3	263	FR
94	Doug Worthington	DE	6-7	250	FR
95	Evan Jablonka	P	6-0	195	FR
96	Ryan Pretorius	K	5-10	190	FR
97	Brian Robiskie	WR	6-3	190	FR
98	Dan Potokar	WR	6-0	170	FR
99	Lawrence Wilson	DE	6-6	225	FR
100	Brandon Smith	TE	6-6	240	FR
101	Rory Nicol	TE	6-5	260	SO
102	Stan White Jr.	FB	6-3	242	JR
103	Quinn Pitcock	DT	6-3	295	FR
104	Ryan Williams	DE	6-6	245	FR
105	Brett Daly	DL	6-7	225	FR
106	Todd Denlinger	DL	6-3	265	FR
107	Nader Abdallah	DT	6-5	300	FR
108	Marcus Green	DT	6-3	305	SR
109	Sian Cotton	DT	6-4	315	SO
110	Jordan Hoewischer	TE	6-4	250	SO
111	Juan Garner	DL	6-4	330	SO
112	David Patterson	DL	6-3	285	FR
113	Joel Penton	DL	6-5	290	FR
114	Jay Richardson	DE	6-6	276	JR

OHIO STATE OFFENSE



NOTRE DAME DEFENSE



BUCKEYES RUSHING

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

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

A mobile quarterback to go along with a solid 1,000-yard running back will be difficult for the Irish to contend with, even though they have been impressive against the run this season. If Notre Dame can make Ohio State one-dimensional, it will be an easier game.

BUCKEYES PASSING

The Irish secondary is the least experienced of any unit on the team and is surrendering 257.5 yards passing per game this season. Strong safety Tom Zbikowski might be the hardest hitter on the team and leads Notre Dame with five interceptions.

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

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

SPECIAL TEAMS

Irish kicker D.J. Fitzpatrick struggled in Notre Dame's final regular season game at Stanford. The senior missed a field goal and an extra point against the Cardinal, and is 11-of-17 on the season with a long of 48 yards. Zbikowski has returned two punts for touchdowns.

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

Zbikowski is a fearless punt returner, but Fitzpatrick's struggles at Stanford are of concern. If he is healthy, the Irish will be in much better shape. Ginn's punt returns should give Ohio State decent field position and the Irish need to prevent him from making big plays.

INTANGIBLES

Notre Dame has all the reasons to be fired up for this game. The Irish have not won a bowl game since the 1993 season. Weis has exceeded all expectations this season in his first year with the Irish, and there would be no better ending to it than a BCS bowl win.

Ohio State has been to the Fiesta Bowl three times in the last four years. Like the Irish, the Buckeyes are a two-loss team — falling to Texas and Penn State. The Buckeyes know that a convincing win would be the best way to silence the Irish faithful.

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

NOTRE DAME

OHIO STATE

ANALYSIS

Irish
experts



Mike Gilloon
Sports Editor

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

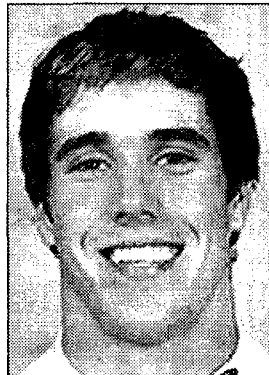
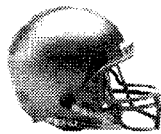
FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 37
Ohio State 30

Irish
experts

Sizing up the Irish and the Bucks

AVERAGE PER GAME	NOTRE DAME'S OFFENSE VS OHIO STATE'S DEFENSE	OHIO STATE'S OFFENSE VS NOTRE DAME'S DEFENSE
total yards gained	489.1	404.6
total yards allowed	275.3	376.9
rushing yards gained	154.8	189.5
rushing yards allowed	74.5	119.4
passing yards gained	334.3	215.1
passing yards allowed	200.8	257.5
kick return yards gained	19.5	23.9
kick return yards allowed	20.1	21.4
punt return yards gained	14.7	11.2
punt return yards allowed	5.7	6.2
yards per punt	39.5	40.4
punts blocked (total)	1	3
turnovers lost (total)	14	19
turnovers recovered (total)	12	22
total points scored	38.2	32.5
total points allowed	14.8	23.6
Notre Dame yards penalized	56.3	
Tennessee yards penalized	47.7	

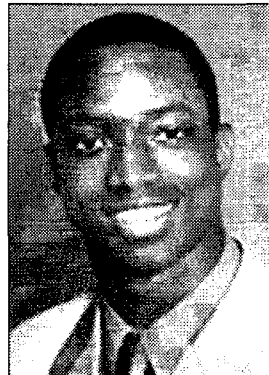
KEY MATCHUP



NOTRE DAME
PASS OFFENSE

Notre Dame's pass offense is No. 4 in the country behind Texas Tech, Hawaii and Arizona State. Quarterback Brady Quinn is one big game (377 yards) away from a 4,000-yard season, and he has already thrown for 32 touchdowns compared to seven interceptions. Receivers Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall are tough to defend.

The Irish will be challenged by an extremely tough Buckeyes defense led by Lombardi award winner A.J. Hawk. Quinn will need to get it going, especially if the Irish struggle running the football.



OHIO STATE
SECONDARY

6-foot-1 junior corner back Ashton Youboty anchors a secondary that will be a tough test for Notre Dame. Ohio State is giving up 200.8 yards a game through the air and has allowed just eight touchdowns this season.

Three of four members of the All-Big Ten secondary are from Ohio State — Youboty, Donte Whitner and Brandon Mitchell.

The Buckeyes have seen top quarterbacks already this season. They picked off Texas' Vince Young twice in September and held Penn State's Michael Robinson to 78 yards passing in October.

Buckeyes will be tough nut to crack for Irish

Ohio State surrenders fewer than 15 points a game this season

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

With finals week nearing fast, Irish defensive end Victor Abiamiri hadn't had time to study tape of Ohio State before Saturday's bowl media day. But the few chances he had this season to see the Buckeyes play on TV were enough to let him know Notre Dame will be tested in next month's Fiesta Bowl.

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

The Buckeyes have impressed Abiamiri and the Irish this season with an offense led by multi-skilled quarterback Troy Smith and a defense featuring Lombardi Award-winning linebacker A.J. Hawk.

Giving up just 14.8 points per game, Hawk headlines a group of linebackers regarded by many as one of the best in the nation. Anthony Schlegel is second on the team with 75 tackles to Hawk's 109. Bobby Carpenter occupies the third linebacker spot and has 49 tackles as well as a team-leading eight sacks.

"Their linebackers jump out at me. I think," Notre Dame running back Darius Walker said. "Players like A.J. Hawk, players who have had incredible seasons and even had incredible careers ... at that position. We haven't had a whole bunch of time to look at them on tape ... but just

from watching them on TV ... you can definitely see they really have a dominant defense that's keying in on stopping the run."

Walker and the Irish rushing attack are averaging 3.7 yards per carry this season. But the Buckeyes have held opponents to 2.4 yards per carry, nine total rushing touchdowns and a stifling 74.5 yards per game. The play of the defense has been solid enough for Ohio State to place five defenders on the all-Big Ten first team, as conference defensive player of the year Hawk is joined by defensive end Mike Kudla, free safety Nate Salley, strong safety Donte Whitner and cornerback Ashton Youboty. Carpenter was selected to the second team along with defensive lineman Quinn Pitcock.

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

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

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

One striking feature of Ohio

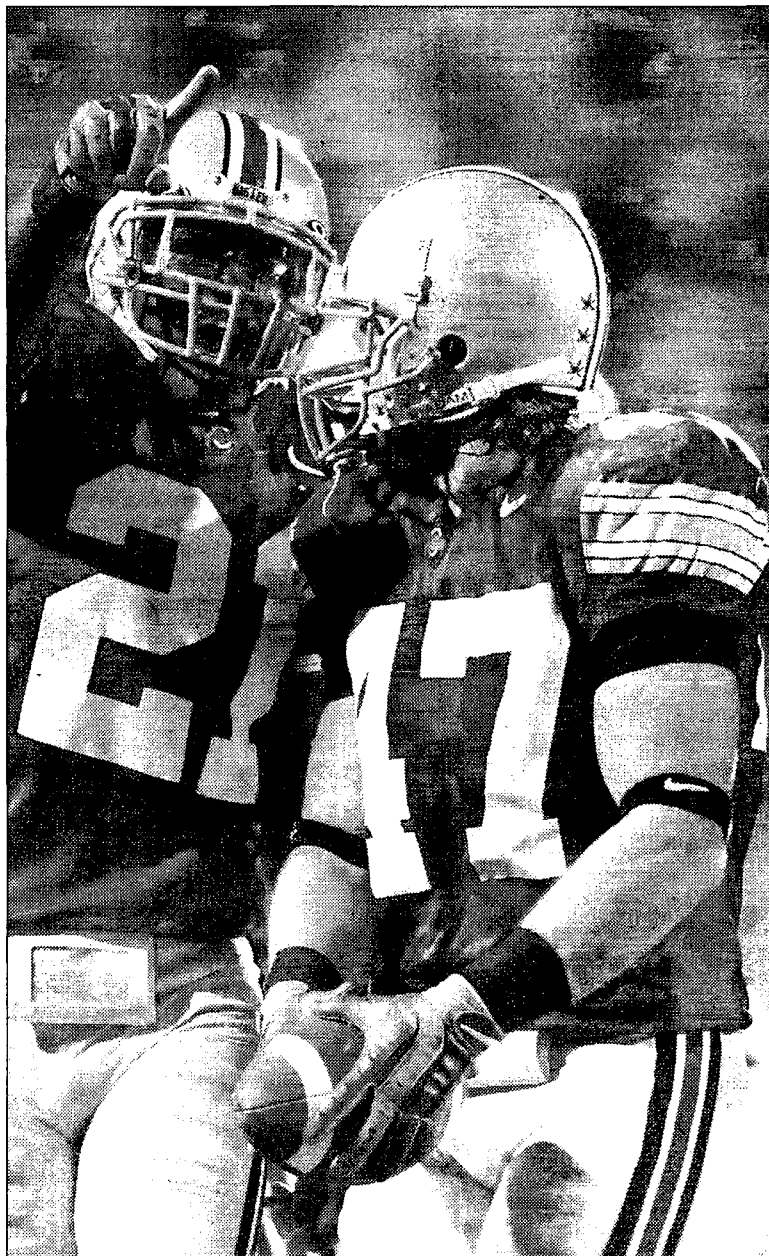
State's secondary is its height. The three first-team all-conference honorees — Salley, Whitner and Youboty — are listed at 6-foot-3, 5-foot-11 and 6-foot-1 respectively. The other starter, freshman cornerback Michael Jenkins, is 6-foot-1. Meanwhile, Notre Dame's two leading receivers — Jeff Samardzija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

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

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

While the Ohio State defense gets much of the media attention for its outstanding play, Smith and the offense have played their way to a No. 29 ranking in passing offense. Santonio Holmes and Ted Ginn, Jr. lead the Buckeyes with 853 and 636 yards receiving respectively. Ginn especially worries the Irish, as the 6-foot sophomore averages 14.8 yards per reception and has scored a touchdown returning both a punt and a kick.

"[Ginn's] speed is the biggest thing you see," Notre Dame strong safety Tom Zbikowski said. "He'll just run past guys like it's nothing. He's a playmaker, kind of like [USC's] Reggie [Bush]. When he hits a gap there aren't too many people that are faster than him in the country."



Ohio State senior linebacker A.J. Hawk, right, celebrates after recovering a fumble against Texas Sept. 10.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

Can't start a fire without a spark

Jersey-born Weis and Fasano meshed well from the beginning

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New coach, new offense

It was no secret coming into this season that Fasano was one of Notre Dame's best players. Last year he was second on the team with 27 catches for 367 yards and four touchdowns, and was one of the Irish's most reliable receivers. His 6-foot-5, 255-pound frame was also a formida-

ble presence as a blocker at the line of scrimmage.

So this year, all eyes were on Fasano to see what he could do in Weis's new offense — and Fasano has responded. Through 11 games, he has 45 receptions for 564 yards and two touchdowns, third on the Irish to only wide receivers Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall. Weis called him one of Notre Dame's most consistent players this season because of not only his pass-catching abilities, but his blocking as well.

"I think that his goal every game starts with being able to dominate on the line of scrimmage as a blocker, because his No. 1 job is to be an extension of the offensive line," Weis said of the senior. "Obviously, every tight end wants to be running routes and catching balls. Every skill player wants the ball in his hands. Well, you better be able to block at least in this offense, because this offense isn't one where the tight ends detach all over the place and just run routes as a receiver. It all starts with having the run-pass threat. And I think Anthony's been one of our most consistent players this season."

Fasano said although he loves catching the ball, he gets just as much satisfaction from springing running back Darius Walker free with a block as from catching a pass.

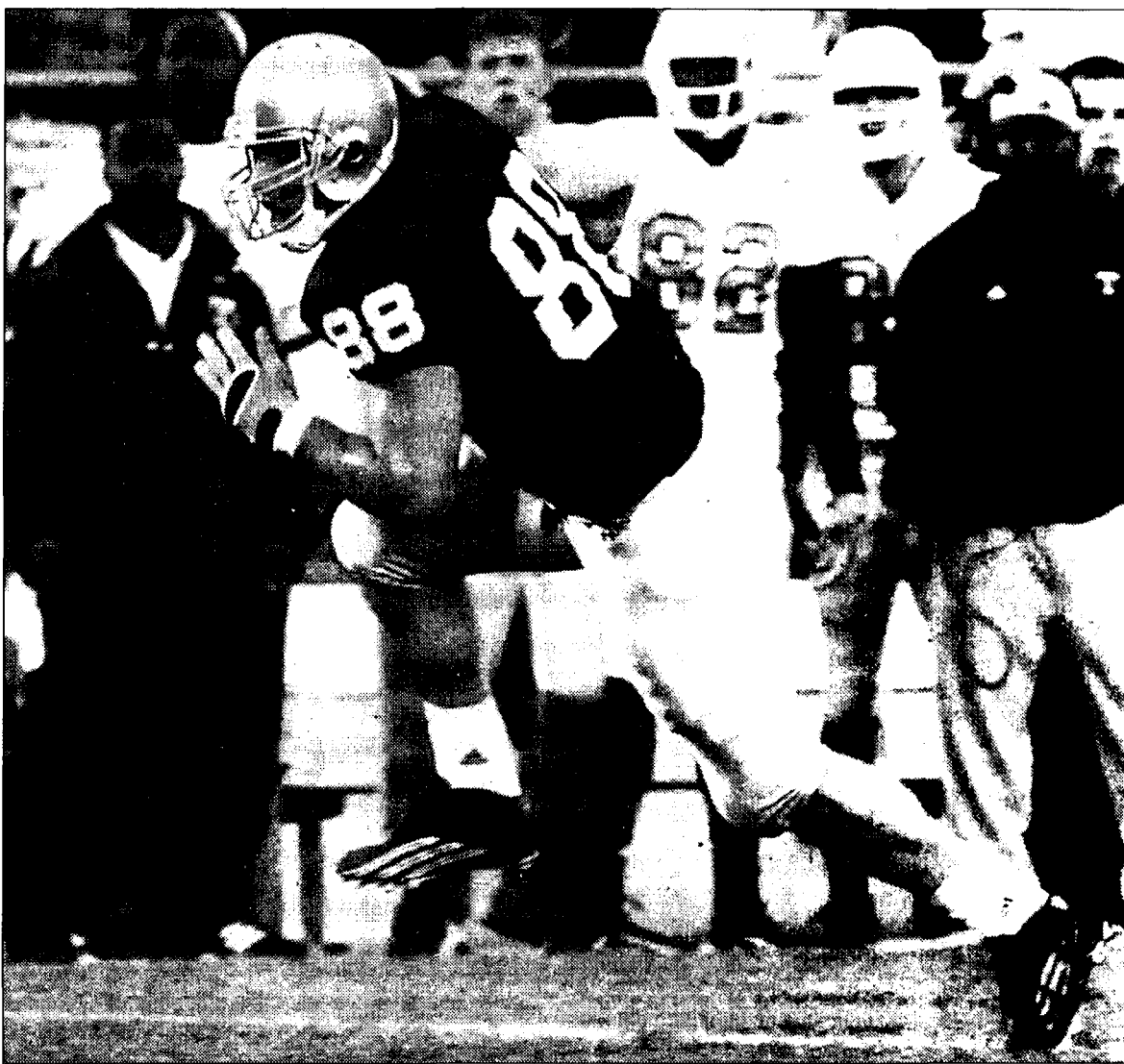
"I think because I worry about how the team views me, not so much about the media and the stats, [I don't worry about catching every pass]," Fasano said. "So I take pride in blocking. I get excited when Darius springs a long run and I was the cause of that. I think that's just as rewarding."

Pass right

But one of Fasano's most memorable plays this year came on a reception against Washington on Sept. 24. The Irish were backed up at their own 1-yard line for their first offensive play of the game, a play that Weis had promised to 10-year old Montana Mazurkiewicz would be a pass to the right. Mazurkiewicz, a huge Notre Dame fan who had an inoperable brain tumor, passed away on the Friday before the game, but Weis kept his promise.

Irish quarterback Brady Quinn ran the play-action pass and found Fasano. He leapt over a defender for a 13-yard gain, and Mazurkiewicz's play call had worked.

"We knew a couple days leading up to it what the situation was with Montana," Fasano said. "We got in the huddle and I



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish tight end Anthony Fasano sprints upfield after a catch against Tennessee on Nov. 5. Fasano had four catches, 78 yards and a touchdown as the Irish beat the Volunteers 41-21.

asked Brady if we were still going to run it, so I was pretty excited...I think it just showed the character of our coaching staff and our players."

A true competitor

It is no secret that Fasano, who won 12 letters in high school, is athletic. His leap over the Washington defender demonstrated that. But with this athleticism comes a competitive desire.

Last spring Fasano took up golf after his father started playing and telling his son he could win. It didn't take long for the son to catch up.

"My dad started playing, and being competitive, I always wanted to beat him," said Fasano, whose best round is an 88. "About the third time we went out, I was beating him already, and I haven't lost since. I know he's struggling with that, but it's just to prove a point that the young kid's still got something."

He said he bought a new set of clubs this summer and played as much as he could when he was home in New Jersey, much to the

dismay of his parents — or just their credit card.

"I caught that disease [golf] this summer," Fasano said. "My parents' credit card didn't like it too much, but I looked at it as a little loan. So I caught the golf bug."

A future of green

And if Fasano keeps playing the way he has this season, he may not have to borrow much more money from his parents. Although he has one year of eligibility remaining, the senior, who will graduate in May with a degree in marketing, may decide to declare for the NFL draft. He said he will talk to Weis, his family and players who have elected to leave with one year remaining (Justin Tuck, Jeff Faine) as well as those who decided to come back for a fifth year (Mark LeVoir, Dan Stevenson) in making his choice.

"I think those are the best resources I can use," Fasano said. "I'm just going to weigh all my options and see what decision is going to be best for me and my family and make the

decision after the bowl."

The senior is making no promises either way. He said he will do what he wants, but at a certain point, it becomes a business decision.

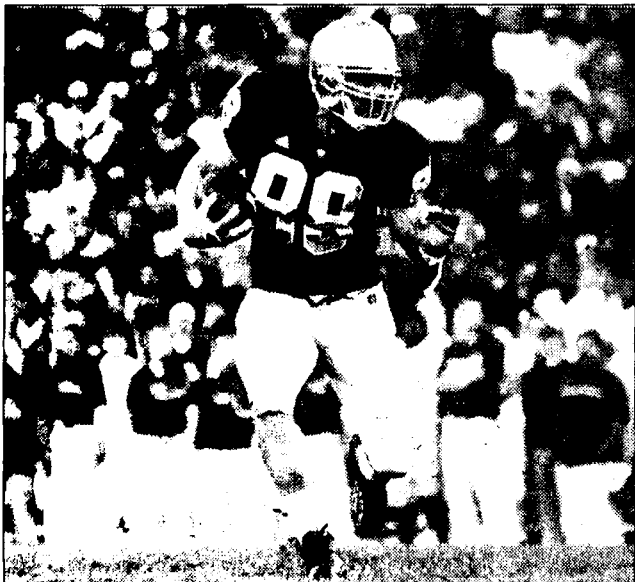
"I know that if you're anywhere from the [draft's] third or the second day then I think I'd play a lot more on what I want to do," Fasano said. "But if it's more the top part, then I think it's more of a business decision and what you have to do for yourself and your family in the future."

And as serious as Fasano is about football and golf, his roommate Quinn says he's really not how he appears.

"He's a funny guy," Quinn said. "It's funny seeing him talk to all you guys in an interview because he gets this look on his face where it's all serious. He really is a goofball. I love being around that kid. I don't know why he gets so uptight around everyone else."

Well, except around Weis.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



Photos by CLAIRE KELLEY AND TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Left, Irish tight end Anthony Fasano turns upfield against Southern California on Oct. 15. Middle, Fasano celebrates after a 17-10 win over Michigan at the Big House on Sept. 10. Right, Fasano lines up against Tennessee on Nov. 5. Fasano has 45 receptions and 564 yards to go with his two scores this season.

2005-2006 BOWL SCHEDULE



NEW ORLEANS BOWL
SOUTHERN MISS (6-5)
VS. ARKANSAS STATE (6-5)
DECEMBER 20, 8 P.M.



VITALIS SUN BOWL
NORTHWESTERN (7-4)
VS. UCLA (9-2)
DECEMBER 30, 2 P.M.

GMAC BOWL
UTEP (8-3)
VS. TOLEDO (8-3)

DECEMBER 21, 8 P.M.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL
SOUTH CAROLINA (7-4)
VS. MISSOURI (6-5)
DECEMBER 30, 3:30 P.M.



LAS VEGAS BOWL
BYU (6-5)
VS. CALIFORNIA (7-4)
DECEMBER 22, 8 P.M.



CHICK-FIL-A PEACH BOWL
MIAMI (9-2)
VS. LSU (10-2)
DECEMBER 30, 7:30 P.M.

POINSETTIA BOWL
COLORADO STATE (6-5)
VS. NAVY (7-4)
DECEMBER 22, 10:30 P.M.



MEINEKE CAR CARE BOWL
SOUTH FLORIDA (6-5)
VS. NC STATE (6-5)
DECEMBER 31, 11 A.M.



FORT WORTH BOWL
KANSAS (6-5)
VS. HOUSTON (6-5)
DECEMBER 23, 8 P.M.



AUTOZONE LIBERTY BOWL
TULSA (8-4)
VS. FRESNO STATE (8-4)
DECEMBER 31, 1 P.M.

SHERATON HAWAII BOWL
NEVADA (8-3)
VS. UCF (8-4)
DECEMBER 24, 8:30 P.M.



EVL.NET HOUSTON BOWL
TCU (10-1)
VS. IOWA STATE (7-4)
DECEMBER 31, 2:30 P.M.



MOTOR CITY BOWL
MEMPHIS (6-5)
VS. AKRON (7-5)
DECEMBER 26, 4 P.M.



AT&T COTTON BOWL
TEXAS TECH (9-2)
VS. ALABAMA (9-2)
JANUARY 2, 11 A.M.

CHAMPS SPORTS BOWL
CLEMSON (7-4)
VS. COLORADO (7-5)
DECEMBER 27, 5 P.M.



OUTBACK BOWL
IOWA (7-4)
VS. FLORIDA (8-3)
JANUARY 2, 11 A.M.



INSIGHT BOWL
ARIZONA STATE (6-5)
VS. RUTGERS (7-4)
DECEMBER 27, 8:30 P.M.



TOYOTA GATOR BOWL
LOUISVILLE (9-2)
VS. VIRGINIA TECH (10-2)
JANUARY 2, 12:30 P.M.

MPC COMPUTERS BOWL
BOISE STATE (9-3)
VS. BOSTON COLLEGE (8-3)
DECEMBER 28, 4:30 P.M.



CAPITOL ONE BOWL
WISCONSIN (9-3)
VS. AUBURN (9-2)
JANUARY 2, 1 P.M.



ALAMO BOWL
MICHIGAN (7-4)
VS. NEBRASKA (7-4)
DECEMBER 28, 8 P.M.



TOSTITOS FIESTA BOWL
NOTRE DAME (9-2)
VS. OHIO STATE (9-2)
JANUARY 2, 4:30 P.M.

EMERALD BOWL
GEORGIA TECH (7-4)
VS. UTAH (6-5)
DECEMBER 29, 4:30 P.M.



NOKIA SUGAR BOWL
WEST VIRGINIA (10-1)
VS. GEORGIA (10-2)
JANUARY 2, 8:30 P.M.



HOLIDAY BOWL
OREGON (10-1)
VS. OKLAHOMA (7-4)
DECEMBER 29, 8 P.M.

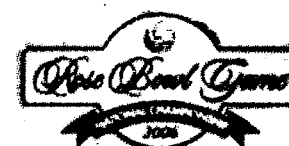


FED-EX ORANGE BOWL
PENN STATE (10-1)
VS. FLORIDA STATE (8-4)
JANUARY 3, 8 P.M.

MUSIC CITY BOWL
MINNESOTA (7-4)
VS. VIRGINIA (6-5)
DECEMBER 30, 12 P.M.



ROSE BOWL
USC (12-0)
VS. TEXAS (12-0)
JANUARY 4, 8 P.M.



FACULTY SENATE

Thorough, thoughtful agenda suggests future success

By MARY KATE MALONE
In Focus Writer

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

Rising health care costs, academic freedom issues and high University officers' election procedures have fueled intense debate at this fall's Faculty Senate meetings.

Chaired by Seth Brown, the Senate has established three key areas to explore in the second semester: academic freedom, procedures for electing high University officers and salary and benefits.

"At this point we have simply identified these as areas of concern," Brown said. "In the next semester, I hope that the Senate will conclude whether real problems exist, and how we ought to deal with them."

Discussion on the issues has been thorough and professors have added solid feedback at their meetings. Still, the problems that have been raised could prove difficult to concretely identify and even more challenging to solve.

The Senate is buoyed by competent faculty members who feed thoughtful discourse at their monthly meetings. But the hectic nature of a professor's duties at Notre Dame has kept members from stepping forward and seriously tackling the issues they have readily discussed in their meetings. Discussion must lead to action — and action will only be taken by faculty who have the time and willingness to do so.

The Senate has made a concerted effort to invite visitors to its meetings — including University Provost Thomas Burish and Human Resources director Denise Murphy. These efforts are a step in the right direction, but the Senate needs to integrate itself further with the rest of the University in order to respond to its needs

adequately.

Members of the Student Affairs committee, a subgroup within the Faculty Senate, decided early in the year that they wanted to address the use of the word "sucks" at Notre Dame basketball games, and specifically target the Leprechaun Legion for encouraging the diction. But without inviting students to their meetings, the committee will be unable to fairly and fully respond to the problem.

The Senate has kept an eye on various ad-hoc groups that have been working on year-old issues like teaching evaluation procedures for promotion and tenure at the University. It has also been exploring an initiative to provide students with teacher evaluations when choosing courses. The Senate expects reports back from these committees during the spring semester.

When Burish visited the Faculty Senate at its second meeting in October, members were not afraid to voice complaints, as they questioned the



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer
Faculty Senate chair Seth Brown, left, and student body president Dave Baron discuss minority affairs at a Dec. 6 meeting.

eager Provost about budgetary problems, the need for a more interdisciplinary academic approach and the University's commitment to undergraduate education. Members have discussed academic freedom at Notre Dame — whether or not it exists and how it might be improved.

Murphy's visit to the Faculty Senate meeting prompted probing questions from faculty that felt health care costs were stripping University employees

of their due pay.

The Faculty Senate is heavy on discussion but light on follow-through. Since it only meets once a month and is composed of often overworked faculty members, it is not fair to expect swift action from the body. Its discussions have added spark to issues like faculty benefits and academic freedom and for that it should be commended.

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CCC works with campus clubs, both in overseeing and advocating

The relationship between the Club Coordination Council (CCC) and student clubs and organizations is twofold — it oversees clubs and advocates on their behalf.

The group's main purpose is to recommend how student activities fees and The Shirt Project profits — split halfway between student clubs and organizations and charities — be allocated to clubs on campus, said Beth O'Shaughnessy, CCC president.

These recommendations are then presented to the Financial Management Board for review.

This is a yearlong task for the CCC. Next semester, the group will begin to make plans for next year's allocation process.

The Council also heard appeals for money for

club events, reviewed its bylaws and added a new position to the Council — cross-campus consultant, O'Shaughnessy said.

In early February, the CCC will hold club information meetings, which teach clubs how to get through the allocation process.

"There are a lot of forms and paperwork [new clubs] have to do."

Beth O'Shaughnessy
CCC president

"There are a lot of forms and paperwork they have to do," O'Shaughnessy said. "It's just a big info session for new club leaders."

Two more jobs of the CCC are to admit new clubs applying for official club status and to allocate concession stands

to clubs for next football season, O'Shaughnessy said.

-Alicia Conley

Financial Management Board allocates fees

The Financial Management Board (FMB) allocates student activities fees and a portion of profits from the annual The Shirt Project to various student organizations.

FMB also monitors the spending of these organizations throughout the year, said Mike Marshall, FMB president and Student Union treasurer.

All four class treasurers, the off-campus president and representatives from the Student Union Board (SUB), the Hall Presidents Council (HPC), the Club Coordination Council (CCC) and the Student Senate

join Marshall to form FMB.

The Financial Management Board had a hefty workload this semester, given the increased funds flowing from heightened sales of The Shirt 2004.

FMB met to discuss reallocation, and an additional \$40,000 was distributed among the various student organizations on campus.

Next semester, Marshall and FMB representatives will review the different organizations' finances and discuss future distribution of this year's golden shirt profits.

-Marcella Berrios

CLASS OF 2006 COUNCIL

With three years of a Notre Dame education behind it, the Senior Class Council has focused its final year on coordinating events that bring the senior class together.

"We are running the Council a little differently and keeping it small and focused," senior class president Emily Chin said.

"Each member basically can be considered an 'event chair' with ownership of the events he [or] she runs," Chin said. "[The members] were all asked to be on this council because of their talent to manage diverse situations, dedication, creativity, enthusiasm and the ability to work well in teams."

The Council has overseen several

events during the fall semester, including a class Mass with University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh, a class dinner in the stadium press box and co-sponsorship of activities surrounding World AIDS Day. Members have also been instrumental in the establishment of the "\$2 Thursdays" drink specials at Legends.

Next semester, the council will plan several events, including sponsorship of Operation Rice Bowl, a Mardi Gras-themed dinner, a service event with the Class of 2009 and Senior Week activities.

"Our goal is to unite our class at events they want to be at," Chin said. "So far, it has been a successful year."

-Steve Kerins

CLASS OF 2008 COUNCIL

Bringing enthusiasm to its work, the Sophomore Class Council plans service, spiritual and social opportunities for the Class of 2008.

This semester, the council carried out 12 projects, including a Purdue Gamewatch, the Comedy Sportz Show, Turning Over a New Leaf, a class Mass and dinner with University President Emeritus Father Edward Malloy and its biggest project this year — Late Night Karaoke.

SCC also holds class Rosaries on the last Monday of every month. The rosaries are held at 6:45 p.m. at the Grotto and led by a group of Holy Cross brothers.

The Class of 2008 Street Team is an ongoing project where members of the sopho-

more class participate in publicizing events held by the Council to promote class spirit.

A percentage of funds raised by the Council's sweatpants sale and concession stand benefited the Spinal Muscular Atrophy foundation. The Council's recent Candygram project is supporting Red Cross relief efforts for the tornados that struck southern Indiana.

Sophomore class president Erin Mulholland has been pleased with the sophomore turnout at events.

"Support and participation is especially high sophomore year," Mulholland said. "People are aware of what we are doing and event attendance has generally been high."

-Jaclynne Madden

CLASS OF 2007 COUNCIL

In deciding how to deal with the loss of juniors to study abroad programs, the Junior Class Council made a simple yet effective choice — a break into two separate Councils, one for each semester.

This change hasn't hindered the Council's progress, junior class president Bill Andrichik said. The six committees — spiritual, social, scholastic, service, study abroad and finance — have all been active in programming events for the Junior Class.

Last semester, the spiritual committee arranged a class Mass at the Grotto, the social committee organized a junior class golf scramble and the study abroad committee coordinated support to students studying abroad. Ongoing efforts are the

service committee's tutoring and bag lunch-making sessions.

The Council has raised money through fundraisers selling posters and shorts.

Works in progress include plans for a campus speaker series, the development of junior-oriented workshops and focus groups to help juniors hunt for jobs.

Andrichik said three events will be the focus for the Council next semester. The Council will co-sponsor the Battle of the Bands with the Student Union Board. Members will also help plan Junior Gladiators, an event based on American Gladiators, and the Emerald Ball, a class dance.

-Kaitlynn Riely

CLASS OF 2009 COUNCIL

While it has only been in existence a short time, the Freshman Class Council has already asserted itself as a unifying force for the freshman class.

This semester, the Council co-sponsored the Halloween Dance and the Best of AcoustiCafe, freshman class vice president Bob Reish said.

The Council's service committee is overseeing a campus-wide project to make Christmas cards for hospitals and nursing homes around South Bend, Reish said. The group is also planning a class Mass in the Basilica in January.

This year's Council is composed of 27 freshmen, one from each dorm.

"I think the idea of selecting a fresh-

man from every dorm is a perfect way to ensure each dorm's freshmen are integrated immediately into student [government]," Reish said. "It's also a great way to survey the entire freshman class' opinions."

Establishing a sense of community is one of the Council's major goals. The group's publicity committee is designing class apparel, and a new class Web site is in the works.

"So far the Council has mainly addressed the ... issue of bringing the Class of 2009 together. Our goal is to [sponsor] events that create unity among the freshmen," Reish said.

-Steve Kerins

Apathy is a constant battle for student leaders

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

By KATIE PERRY
In Focus Writer

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

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

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

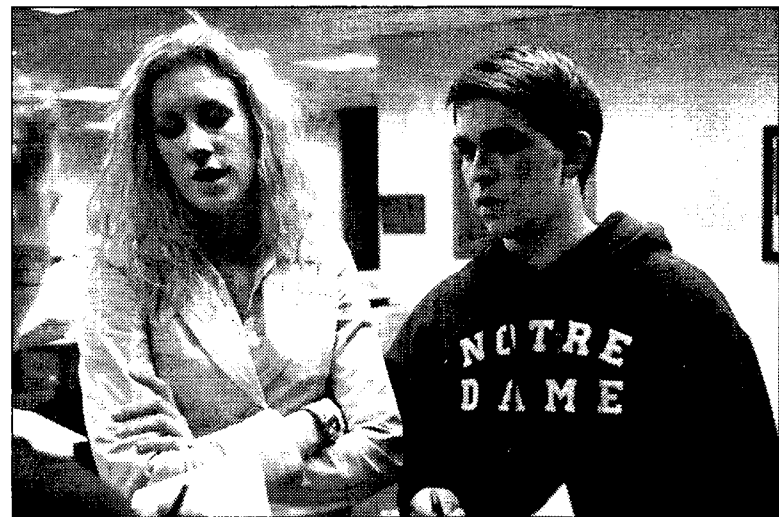
"Not only is the student section an impressive sight to behold, it's a force that can bring about a change in the outcome of a football game and also improve student life at this University," Baron and Shappell said in a letter posted on their Web site. "The ability of Student Government to do anything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

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

"We got a little over 2,100 votes, which means we're only one quarter of the way there to create one student



Students cheer at the Michigan State game on Nov. 17, left. Student body vice president Lizzi Shappell and president Dave Baron examine election results in February. The duo hopes students will unite for positive change at Notre Dame as well as for football.



TIM SULLIVAN and CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

voice that is 8,000 strong," Baron and Shappell said in a post-election Web site statement.

Less than perfect voter turnout — or governmental apathy for that matter — is nothing new. U.S. Census Bureau records said 64 percent of citizens voted in the 2004 presidential election, a number deemed as high in comparison to previous years.

Contrary to other student organizations, Student Union Board (SUB) director Jimmy Flaherty said the group's results are "action oriented," meaning students are more aware of visible successes and improvements.

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

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

"Senate and other student government [organizations] do things differently," he said. "We're able to capitalize on action."

Shappell said there has been some "improvement" and people are generally more in tune with student government than in previous

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

Dave Baron
student body president

years. "Increased coverage with [University President Father John Jenkins' September inauguration land] our involvement [gave] student government a more visible face on campus," she said. "[But] it's still a challenge bridging that gap

[between student government and the student body]. That will take time."

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

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

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

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

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



BETH WERNET/The Observer

Student body president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell deliver a speech during campaign season last year.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu

NOTRE DAME

Thumbs Up

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

Thumbs Down

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

SAINT MARY'S

Thumbs Up

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

Thumbs Down

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

SAINT MARY'S STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Mitros, McIlduff lead in time of transition

By MEGAN O'NEIL
In Focus Writer

When student body president Kellye Mitros and vice president Susan McIlduff stepped into office last spring, they came armed with the ideas and tools to lead at an institution in the midst of transition.

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

"Since [student government representatives] are present at most events held on campus, this first year class has been able to keep in contact with their orientation counselors throughout the year," Mitros and McIlduff said. "Our goal is that multiple mentor-mentee relationships will continue to be formed and retention among the Class of 2009 will be higher than in previous years."

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

The committee eventually hired Dan Meyers to fill the position, and he began at Saint Mary's in August.

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

"It is essential for student

government representatives to be involved in the admission process," McIlduff said. "Student government representatives know the College's schedule of events, since they are the ones who plan the events."

Mitros and McIlduff watched another one of their campaign goals — strong student representation to the administration — become a reality during the Board of Trustees meeting during fall break. Eleven student government representatives sat in on various subcommittee sessions, including the college relations subcommittee and the committee on enrollment management.

Three students hold a vote, including Student Trustee Jill Vlasek, public relations commissioner Alanna Chiefari and alumnae commissioner Meghan Cassidy. The previous year there were eight student representatives and one student vote.

Mitros is also playing a role in the hiring of a third new administrator in two years at the College. She currently sits with the vice president of academic affairs and dean of faculty search committee — the body that will name a successor to Pat White, who announced his retirement in August.

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

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



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Student body vice president Susan McIlduff, left, and president Kellye Mitros listen in on a December Board of Governance meeting. The pair has brought innovation to a transitory Saint Mary's campus.

"My role is to address the the week of Jan. 23-27. A tentative calendar of events has already been set and includes presentations by College President Carol Mooney and other Saint Mary's alumnae. McIlduff said her detailed planning and Mitros's knack for promoting things has made

"As it turns out, we are the complements of each other. I often come up with an idea and Kellye markets it to the College."

Susan McIlduff
Saint Mary's student
body vice president

them a good team.

"As it turns out, we are the complements of each other," she said. "I often come up with an idea and Kellye markets it to the College. It has been a rewarding experience."

Mitros and McIlduff said they anxiously anticipate the promising future of the College, due to both the long-term goal of increased admissions and the promise of creating tradition through the upcoming Heritage Week.

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GRADE: B

WHILE SOMETIMES LACKING THE AGGRESSIVE APPROACH OF PAST SAINT MARY'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIONS, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT KELLYE MITROS AND STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT SUSAN MCILDUFF DID CRE-

ATE THREE NEW BOARD OF GOVERNANCE POSITIONS THAT HAVE PROVEN QUITE EFFECTIVE. WHILE THEY WERE NOT PART OF THE DECISION TO CANCEL PRIDE WEEK, THEY DID PROPOSE A SOLID ALTERNATIVE — HERITAGE WEEK. IF HERITAGE WEEK PROVES SUCCESSFUL, THEIR GRADE WILL JUMP TO AN A-.

Student Trustee represents SMC on College's Board

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

By JACYLNNE MADDEN
In Focus Writer

Each year, the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees chooses one Saint Mary's senior to serve as a Student Trustee. This year, the Board chose Jill Vlasek, who sits on the Board's Student Life and Mission committees.

As Student Trustee, Vlasek's primary responsibility is keeping up



Vlasek

with the latest student issues and concerns. Her biggest project thus far was preparing for the Student Life committee's meeting when the Board of Trustees convened in October.

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

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

Vlasek is also expected to complete any follow-up work after Board meetings.

Board meetings are held in June, October, February and April, meaning Vlasek will serve as the Student Trustee for two more meetings until a new Student Trustee is elected.

While Vlasek is the only student Trustee, she said she feels accepted by the Board. Vlasek said trustees treat her as another member and attentively listen to her

input about the well being of Saint Mary's students.

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

For Vlasek, the fact that many universities — Notre Dame included — do not have student trustees is an important indication of the philosophy and mission of

Saint Mary's.

Vlasek also sees her role as a personal opportunity to grow as a student and take pride in her college.

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

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BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

BOG tries to increase its presence on SMC campus

Members tactfully work with a tight budget to initiate new programs in the College community

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

The Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) has come together this semester to initiate new programs aimed to further unite the student body and address pressing issues such as diversity on campus.

"I have really noticed an increase in the presence of student government on campus this year," student body vice president Susan McIllduff said. "The committee members really go above and beyond what they are required to do."

McIllduff and student body president Kellye Mitros worked to increase student representation on BOG through the introduction of three new commissioner positions: Student Services, Admissions and Health and Wellness.

"These new positions really allow for a stronger Board connection with College administration to meet the student body's needs," McIllduff said.

Student Services commissioner Kate Wallach has worked closely with Barry Bowles, manager of Sodexo, to improve campus food services. These changes are apparent in the posting of nutrition facts in the dining hall, the introduction of a late night pasta bar at Dalloway's and an overall improvement in food selection.

McIllduff stressed the need for a Health and Wellness commissioner after acknowledging students' desire for an increased dialogue with the Health and Wellness Center.

"It will really help the students utilize the Center and allow them to make suggestions for improvements," she said.

The success of BOG has also been dependant on the Student Diversity Board's innovative new programs regarding diversity issues on campus. SDB president Amanda Shropshire began a S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks discussion series to facilitate open discussion between students about controversial issues.

SDB will also make College history when it hosts the first ever student-run "Diverse Students Leadership Conference" in March. The purpose of this conference will be to develop the necessary tools to function in an increasingly diverse society, SDB vice president Claradith Landry said.

The Student Activities Board, led by president Megan Cahill, has worked to maintain traditional College events such as Jamaica Shaka while also introducing new

ones such as Sundaes on Sunday.

"I really admire [Cahill's] simple ideas that really get the students involved," McIllduff said.

Mission commissioner Jenny Robbins has increased the opportunity for students to focus on religious issues

through the creation of Theology on Fire. The monthly event features speakers followed by open group discussion.

"The goal of this event is to facilitate religious issues awareness through open discussion," Robbins said. "It is very similar to the College's yearly Catholic Common Ground discussion."

McIllduff and Mitros said BOG

has been successful thus far primarily because members have not had to face controversy similar to last year's Pride Week T-shirt debacle, which occupied much of the Board's attention in 2004.

"We have been very sensitive to the issues of the campus," McIllduff said. "We have all learned from the past and focused on being inclusive of events that represent the student body."

An administrative decision eliminated Pride Week from the College calendar this fall. McIllduff said the Board has not received complaints about the cancellation of the Week and hopes students will enjoy the newly created Heritage Week scheduled for January.

"Heritage Week will be something new that will allow students to increase their knowledge of the College's vast history," she said.

As outlined in the Mitros-McIllduff campaign platform, the weeklong event series is intended to "promote greater understanding and appreciation of Saint Mary's history and show how it made the College what it is today." BOG has been forced to deal with a tight budget due to below average enrollment numbers in the Class of 2008. Board funding will continue to be below average until the class graduates in two and a half years.

"[BOG] treasurer Jillian Waters has done a wonderful job organizing our books and keeping on top of our meager budget," McIllduff said.

Budget troubles may become a thing of the past, however, as the College continues to increase the size of its student body. BOG Admissions commissioner Annie Davis facilitates the exchange of ideas for enrollment management between the Board and the Admissions staff.

Davis has increased the aware-



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

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

ness and popularity of the Volunteers in Support of Admission (VISA) program, McIllduff said. VISA gives current students the opportunity to share their Saint Mary's experience with prospective students.

The Board utilizes its expansive office space in the College's new student center that opened last spring. The Board previously worked in a notably smaller office located in Haggar College Center.

"The student center offices are great," McIllduff said. "People come in all the time — we work there all hours of the night and get a lot of paperwork done there."

She said the Board also uses the new building for various functions such as dances, movies and game watches.

McIllduff said BOG has several events planned for next semester including SMC Tostal, Little Sibs Weekend, Heritage Week, Diverse Students Leadership Conference and four Chicago bus trips.

"I am happy with the overall increased presence of BOG on campus," McIllduff said. "We are working hard to maintain traditions while starting several new and exciting events."

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GRADE:
A-

CERTAIN AREAS OF THE BOARD SUCH AS SDB, STUDENT SERVICES

COMMISSIONER AND MISSIONS ARE MAKING STEADY PROGRESS, BUT OTHERS HAVE FAILED TO SPARK CAMPUS CHANGE OR INCREASE STUDENT-ADMINISTRATION DIALOGUE.

SENIOR BOARD

If there really is strength in numbers, then this year's 33-member Saint Mary's Senior Board — the largest in the College's history — has more potential than ever before.

This year's Senior Board, led by senior class president Lauren Condon, has already hosted Senior Dads' Weekend, sponsored soccer and volleyball games and a choir concert and held a dance for the Naval Academy, along with many other activities and fundraisers.

Condon and the Senior Board have also introduced the "Senior Incentive," where seniors who attend one of the Board's events qualify for a free ticket to the Senior Formal.

Next semester, Condon said the Senior Board is planning on participating in two more campus-wide service programs: preparing for the Senior Formal and helping interested seniors find affordable apartments in Chicago by providing access to a real estate agent.

"I've been really impressed with our Board thus far and I think we are doing so many great things," Condon said. "My goal is to sponsor events that support our fellow classmates and interests seniors."

Other events coordinated by the Board include a baseball T-shirt sale, an etiquette dinner and a Mass reception with Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy.

-Katie Kohler

JUNIOR BOARD

The Saint Mary's Junior Board knows how to satisfy its constituents — ask them what they want.

The 23-member Board, led by junior class president Heidi Goeppinger and broken into Publicity, Social/Dance, Fundraising, Service and Junior Moms' branches, created an online survey last summer in order to get feedback from their fellow classmates before the school year began.

The survey asked questions about what types of activities would interest the rising juniors. More than 200 students responded, helping the Board decide how to organize events and fundraisers to benefit both the South Bend and Saint Mary's communities.

"From there, we had a great idea of what the class wanted to see and the events they wanted to attend," Goeppinger said.

The Junior Board also started a program called "Start Your Day Right with a Bite," where students can get a free bagel breakfast in the Angela Athletic Facility once a month along with doing a workout with their classmates.

"It basically encourages healthy living," Goeppinger said.

Last semester, the Board dedicated itself to fundraising. Its biggest profits came from selling more than 300 Saint Mary's fleeces.

The Board also sponsored a dance in October called "The Masquerade."

-Katie Kohler

SOPHOMORE BOARD

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

The 19-member Board, led by sophomore class president Colleen Ferreira, organized multiple community service projects, fundraisers and activities last semester, as well as the sophomore class formal.

During Freshman Orientation, the Board sold T-shirts emblazoned with the slogan "The Incredi-Belles" for \$10 dollars to raise money for activities like a pizza night and salsa dancing lessons. The sale went very well and the Board quickly ran out of shirts.

"One big thing we did this year was to work over the summer to get the Big

Sis/Little Sis program up and running again," Ferreira said.

This program matches up a first year student with a sophomore to give the first year someone to talk to about her first experiences at college. The program is deeply rooted in Saint Mary's tradition.

"It is a tradition from when [College President] Dr. [Carol] Mooney was a student," said Ferreira.

On Dec. 2, the Board hosted the Sophomore Formal in downtown South Bend. This was the final event in Sophomore Spirit Week.

"This was our biggest week of the year, other than Parents' Weekend," Ferreira said.

-Molly Lamping

FIRST YEAR BOARD

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

Led by freshman class president Francesca Johnson and vice president Pauline Kistka, the Board worked on several projects this semester, such as the Thanksgiving food drive and the Big Sister/Little Sister evening put on in conjunction with the Sophomore Board.

However, this biggest project thus far has been planning the Freshman Class Formal, a themed "Viva Las Vegas" dance to be held on Jan. 27 in Saint Mary's Haggar Center.

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

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

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

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

-Molly Lamping

SAB schedules events that appeal to campus

Student Activities Board facilitates numerous activities

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

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

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

The annual dance held during freshman orientation attracted a record number of students this year. Cahill said this increase in attendance was due in part to an amazing 80s cover band that SAB scheduled to perform at the event.

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

This year SAB introduced "Sundaes on Sunday," an event that invites students to watch "Desperate Housewives" in Vander

Venet Theater while enjoying a free ice cream sundae.

The Board also held the annual Twilight Tailgate this year, despite the cancellation of SMC's annual Pride Week. The Tailgate is a picnic on the library quad that was typically part of the Pride Week events.

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

Cahill said she is very dependant on her committee members to create and plan campus events.

"I am really lucky to have an energetic and hardworking board," she said.

Cahill and the Board are looking forward to activities planned for next semester, including the annual SMC Tostal.

"We are planning to completely change SMC Tostal by bringing in a big-name band," she said. "We will be sharing more about this when the event gets closer."

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SMC Student Diversity Board helps awareness

SDB hosts discussions to increase respect for differences

By MARY CONROY
In Focus Writer

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

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

SDB member Sarita Fritzler said the Board focuses on promoting religious and sexual diversity.

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

The SDB started off the year with a suc-

cessful bonfire, where many students gathered to welcome and celebrate the diverse groups present on campus. Several groups displayed a variety of ethnic performances, including Irish Dance and Salsa Dance. The SDB also offered many different ethnic foods for its guests.

One of the group's most successful events began this fall and will continue next semester. A series of S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks, led by members of the Board, have drawn a large crowd of students.

"Our most successful event this year so far was the first of our S.I.S.T.A.H. Talks," Fritzler said. "This one discussed how you approach those different from you. It was this event that has been the most successful in terms of increasing awareness."

Board members said they were satisfied with their successes so far and hope to continue to reach their goals.

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

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Saint Mary's Student Government

Board of Governance

Student
Academic
Council

Student
Activities
Board

Student
Diversity
Board

Residence
Hall
Association

First Year
Board

Sophomore
Board

Junior
Board

Senior
Board

MATT HUDSON/Observer Graphic

Hall Association meets its first semester goals

RHA walks with SMC security to assess safety

By SARAH VOSS
In Focus Writer

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

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

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

The 12 Days of Christmas Campaign is currently working to cultivate Christmas and giving spirit

throughout the College community through monetary donations, support and volunteering.

Currently, RHA is planning the SMC Formal, Little Sibs Weekend and a new project — a possible Dance Marathon sponsored by RHA and First-Year Board.

The RHA is made up of a president, vice president, eight hall council representatives, a representative from senior housing and two advisors. The president and vice president of the four residence halls are elected by the student body as well and sit on RHA as representatives of their respective halls.

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

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SAC works to narrow student-professor gap

By KELLY MEEHAN
In Focus Writer

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

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

SAC coordinator and student body vice president Susan McIlduff said representatives are required to meet with the chair of their major or minor's department on a regular basis, attend a weekly Council meeting and assist with all campus academic fairs.

The Council is also responsible for the organization of the Major of the Week program, choosing major events and the annual Women Honoring Women event in March.

The Women Honoring Women event is a black tie affair to honor a faculty member SAC feels best fits the Saint Mary's mission, McIlduff said. Prior to the event, SAC members sort through student-submitted nominations and then vote on who they believe is the best candidate.

In recent years, SAC has been responsible for some major changes on campus, including the

introduction of a reading day in December 2003 and the campus readership program in spring 2002. The readership program provides students with daily complimentary copies of the New York Times, South Bend Tribune and USA Today.

"SAC played a large role in the creation of a study day," McIlduff said. "We really gave the idea momentum."

McIlduff said the academic representatives deal with many serious unpublished issues from within their departments.

Senior English representative Jennifer Warfel said she works hard to assist communication between members of the department.

"As a member of the Council, it is my duty to represent the needs, concerns, and ideas of my department to the Council and the Council's ideas, questions and projects to the department," she said.

McIlduff said SAC's future goal is to implement a simpler registration method and allow students to know more about a particular course prior to enrollment.

"I really feel we have been doing a great job this year," McIlduff said. "We have been very active as a Council to keep up with the needs of the campus."

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Photo courtesy of Dave Baron



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Taking action



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer



Photo courtesy of Dave Baron

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