

# Week of events addresses student diversity Tornado awareness lessens risk

By MATTHEW LOUGHRAN  
News Writer

In October of 1990, Denver youth Shaka Franklin shot himself to death. Since then, in an effort to curb teen suicide, his father Les has traveled across the United States and Canada speaking on issues of race, teen drug abuse, and suicide.

He brings his message to the Notre Dame campus today at 7:30 p.m. in a lecture at the Center for Social Concerns opening the events for Human Rights Week.

Franklin founded the Shaka Franklin Foundation shortly after his son's death to help young people deal with the problems that might lead them to consider suicide. His lecture will address issues of race and ethnicity and how they affect the youth of today.

Human Rights Week is a series of events sponsored by Keenan, Lewis, Lyons, and Pasquerilla East Halls.

"This week is meant to celebrate and learn about the diversity that exists in the Notre Dame community," said Miguel Berastain, also one of the directors of Human Rights Week.

Thursday's event will be a panel discussion of admissions standards, financial aid, and faculty hiring. This panel will include Joe Russo from the Office of Financial Aid, Kathy Biddick of the Gender Studies Program, Susan Joyce of the Admissions Office, and Martin Murphy from the Anthropology Department. It will take place in 102 DeBartolo Hall at 7:30 p.m. Friday, there will be a presentation of the Native American experience at Notre Dame.

This presentation will be given by Andrea Topash in the Lyons Hall Chapel at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by demonstrations of cultural arts such as Martial Arts and dancing at 9:00 p.m. in the basement of Keenan Hall. Directly following the demonstrations, the music group Sabor Latino will give a concert also in the Keenan basement.

Saturday, the focus shifts to religious diversity and student experience. The day starts with a panel discussion of religious diversity with Rev. David Burrell, Professor Roland Smith and some Notre Dame students at 12:30 p.m. in the basement of Lewis Hall. Later in the day, there will be video presentations on diversity in the basements of the sponsoring dorms at 6 p.m. This will be followed by a student panel discussion in

Human Rights Week and Diversity Celebration		
Wednesday, March 20		
7:30 p.m.	Discussion: "Issues of Race, Ethnicity, and Today's Youth"	Center for Social Concerns
Thursday, March 21		
7:30 p.m.	Discussion: "Affirmative Action and Notre Dame"	102 DeBartolo
Friday, March 22		
7:30 p.m.	Vespers: Notre Dame to a Native American Student	Lyons Chapel
9:00 p.m.	Entertainment: Sabor Latino	Keenan Basement
10:30 p.m.		Keenan Basement
Saturday, March 23		
12:30 p.m.	Discussion: "Religious Diversity and Ecumenical Prayer"	Lewis Basement
6:00 p.m.	Video Presentation and Discussion	Keenan, Lewis, Lyons, PE Basements
8:00 p.m.	Student Panel Discussion: "What is Diversity?"	Keenan Basement
Sunday, March 24		
4:30 p.m.	Mass and Celebration of Diversity Day	Keenan-Stanford Chapel

the basement of Keenan at 8 p.m. The week culminates in the celebration of the "Diversity Day" Mass in the Keenan-Stanford Chapel at 4:30 p.m. The Mass will feature the Coro Primavera de Nuestra Senora and the Voices of Faith Gospel Choir.

Special to The Observer

Tornado Awareness Week is March 18-22, included will be a county wide test between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Wednesday March 20. To heighten campus awareness of tornadoes and tornado emergency procedures, the Risk Management and Safety Department is providing the following information.

Tornado "weather" is an atmospheric condition typified by hot, humid days, southerly winds and darkening skies. Huge greenish-black thunderclouds usually appear an hour or two before the tornadoes form. Rain, and frequently hail, precede and follow tornadoes. The time during which most tornadoes occur is between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. When close by, tornadoes sound like the roar of jet planes at takeoff.

A tornado is recognizable by the funnel-shaped cloud which appears from the southwest and travels at about 30 miles per hour.

It spins rapidly, with whirling winds which can exceed 300 miles per hour on the perimeter, and extends toward the earth from the base of a thundercloud.

When it touches down, it is often 300 yards wide. Its destructive force results from the speed of its exterior winds and the vacuum in its interior which creates large differences in the air pressure.

A tornado watch means that conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes. A tornado warning is issued when a tornado has been sighted either visually or on radar, and Notre Dame is in its path.

The St. Joseph Emergency Management Tornado Warning system will activate the siren atop the Fire Station.

For a tornado emergency, the siren will issue a steady tone for approximately three minutes.

When a warning sounds proceed with the following action: 1) Take shelter in the nearest substantial building immediately.

Avoid windows, auditoriums, and gyms. If time does not permit lie flat in a ravine or ditch. 2) Go to the basement or to an interior corridor, or closet.

# Garvey debates internet censorship

By HEATHER COCKS  
Assistant News Editor

Opponents of the Communications Decency Act have a legitimate argument against the act's constitutionality, according to John Garvey, professor of law at Notre Dame.



Garvey

Tacked onto the Telecommunications Bill recently approved by Congress, the act prohibits the presence of indecent material on the World Wide Web.

In addition, personal e-mail may pass through censors who are responsible for scanning the text for inappropriate content.

Apple Computer, Inc. is one of many companies taking legal

action against the restrictions. Along with numerous other opponents, they cite the First Amendment as their defense, claiming that the act is a blatant violation of the right to freedom of speech and expression.

Garvey is sympathetic to the basic intentions behind the act, but he states that these same motivations are conflicting with the ideas inherent to the First Amendment. "It's hard to segregate the users of the World Wide Web," he said. "Information is available to anyone because no matter what they tell you, you can't see who is really moving the mouse."

This allows children to obtain pornographic or otherwise obscene material with relative ease. Garvey believes that "this makes it so hard to reach a feasible middle-ground. Therefore, either users of all ages must face the restrictions,

or no restrictions should be set. It's all or nothing at the moment."

A recent ruling in Philadelphia delayed the activation of the act, pending further discussion and review. Garvey notes that opponents of Internet censorship do have a valid claim, but adds that the issue will probably not be a dead one even if the act is overturned. "Society has successfully restricted the availability of certain magazines, as well as influencing the content of television and radio programs during certain hours," he said. "These precedents lead one to assume that some sort of resolution will eventually be reached without completely revoking freedom of expression on the World Wide Web."

Until such time, however, the debate rages on, especially concerning what age constitutes "too young" to gain Internet ac-

cess. "I think total censorship is a bad idea," commented one Notre Dame junior. "Parents should be the ones to decide whether they trust their kid not to abuse Internet privileges. There's no reason to treat users of all ages like they're thirteen year-olds."

"If we're old enough to vote, we're definitely old enough to be responsible for our own use of the Internet," added a Knott Hall sophomore.

Arguably a greater violation of privacy comes with the potential review of private e-mail for both language and indecent content. Garvey views this as a problem of lesser magnitude. "With person-to-person mail, you know exactly who the recipient is. It's different than publishing something on the Net for anyone to read."

A Dillon Hall freshman concurs. "It's ridiculous to censor personal mail. You know who you're writing to, and you can judge the text for yourself. That should not be categorized with adding rude stuff to a Web page which can be accessed by anyone."

For the moment, the future of the act remains in limbo; students and other users will not immediately be dealing with total censorship. "The conflict with the principles of the First Amendment is very real," says Garvey. "I imagine that this will be a prolonged debate. I certainly haven't heard of any enforcement of the act as of yet."

"So no one should be losing sleep just yet over the odd word or two in their last E-Mail," he added.

**Arts and Letters Fair**  
**Wednesday, March 20**  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Monogram Room - JACC**

All Majors, Programs, Concentrations, and Area Studies will be represented

Students in Business, Science, Engineering, and Architecture, as well as Arts and Letters, are welcome to investigate these programs

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