

**Notre Dame College**  
**Academic Support Center**  
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Cleveland, Ohio 44121  
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Carla Raguz  
George Raguz  
Mike Schultz  
Joe Szwejkowski  
Bernice Van Tyne  
Meg Wilson

**Administrative Assistants**  
Meg Barrett  
Carol Sisson  
Julia Szwejkowski

### **Dates to Remember**

**August 25**  
First Day of Classes

**August 29**  
Last Day to Drop/Add Classes

**September 1**  
Labor Day - No Classes

**September 10**  
Transfer to Action Support Group

**September 18**  
Pizza Party With Mary Jo/ASC

**September 23**  
Career Workshop  
3:30 p.m./Smart Classroom

**September 24**  
Transfer to Action Support Group

**October 8**  
Transfer to Action Support Group

**October 10**  
Read & Write Gold Workshop  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Smart Classroom

**October 9 & 10**  
Fall Break

**October 22**  
Transfer to Action Support Group

**October 31**  
Last day to withdraw from  
courses with a "W"

## **From The Desk of Gretchen Walsh**

Welcome to Notre Dame College and welcome to the "first day of the rest of your life." This is especially true of those of you who are freshmen; but it is also true for our returning students.

This semester is a fresh clean slate and you are totally in control. In high school, you may have had your parents or teachers reminding you what to do. When you enter the work world, you will have bosses or spouses reminding you of obligations, but for these four years in college, you will be managing your own time. Here are a few suggestions to help you make strong managerial decisions:

- **Attend all classes**
- **Buy the books**
- **Become an active learner—take notes, write, and recite**
- **Participate in class**
- **Get to know your instructors**
- **Ask for help—be a regular at the ASC**
- **Use a semester assignment calendar**
- **Above all stay positive—you can do the work!**

## **The College Student's Creed**

By Dorothy Power

Believe in yourself, be positive, and appreciate each day.

Be sure to read carefully each of your syllabi and more importantly be sure you understand what is expected of you. Highlight assignment and test dates.

Ask questions if you are unsure of anything. Instructors, counselors, and advisors in the Academic Support Center are available.

Remember your peers may have the answers you search.

The ASC Team is excited to welcome in the 2008-2009 school year at Notre Dame College. Our space in the library is more than doubling, our adaptive equipment has expanded, and six new professionals are joining our staff. This type of growth is exciting for it is a reflection of our success as a program and of the success of our students. Remember the Academic Support Center is here to help you the student! On that note, please remember to come to the ASC and meet with me the first week of classes to pick up your accommodation letters, which you will then present to your professors. Together, let us work to make this the most successful academic year of your life!

**Attitude is a little thing  
that makes a big difference.**

**Winston Churchill**

Be aware of your physical, mental, and emotional needs.

1. Get enough sleep each night.
2. Eat a healthy diet.
3. Drink 6-8 glasses of water daily.
4. Schedule time for some form of exercise - swimming, walking, etc.
5. Allow time for recreational activities.
6. Do one good deed a day, say please and thank you often and be a good listener.

*"Have the faith to believe you are in exactly the place you are meant to be today."*

## Did You Know?

- Dyslexia represents the most common and prevalent of all known learning disabilities.
- Dyslexia is the leading cause of reading failure and school dropouts in our nation.

## Transfer-To-Action

The Winners of the Transfer to Action Support Group for the Spring 2008 semester are:

**Attendance**—Char C., Mike L., and Kevin S.

**Quiz**—Jenna S., Sarah D. and James. W.

Congratulations!

## Why Do We Use $m$ for Slope?

Historical Tidbits from Dave Kullman, Miami University

This is a frequently asked question, but the short answer is: We don't know! Sometimes you will hear that  $m$  comes from the French *monter*, meaning to go up-hill, but there is no historical evidence to support this claim. It sounds plausible because analytic geometry stems from the work of two French mathematicians, Rene Descartes and Pierre de Fermat, in 1637. However, neither one used the letter  $m$  nor the concept of slope when describing lines. Even today the letter  $m$  is not universally used- I'm told that Swedish textbooks often used  $k$  to denote the slope of a line.

In *La Geometrie* Descartes introduced modern exponential notation and began the custom of using  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  as variables. ( He did not use our equal sign however, and his  $x$ -axis was usually vertical.) The closet Descartes came to what we would recognize as an equation of line is the expression: BL is equal to  $b/c y-b$ .

## NEOEA Day Event Announcement Should you Pull that All-Nighter?

### Steps to Self-Advocacy Getting on the College Track

Notre Dame College  
NEOEA Day 2008  
October 17, 2008

**8:00 - 9:00**  
Registration and Continental Breakfast

**9:00—10:00**  
**Karen Dakin, M.Ed.**  
Hathaway Brown School, IDA  
*Is High School Too Late to Diagnose Dyslexia?*

**10:00—11:00**  
**Ellen S. Fishman, M.Ed.**  
Learning Disabilities Association  
*The Law and Learning Disabilities*

**11: 00—12:00**  
**Denise Brown-Triolo, Ph.D.,**  
Dr. Senders & Associates  
*Building on Your Strengths—Using the MFE to your advantage*

**12:00 - 1:00**  
Lunch - catered, boxed lunch  
Adaptive equipment demonstration

**1:00 - 2:00**  
**Kristina Shiever, M.Ed., PCC,**  
The Cleveland Clinic  
*ADHD and the Classroom/College Environment*

Each session will include a question and answer segment or a panel discussion.

**Fee:** \$50 per person.  
**Please call 216.373.5185 to register**

### Math Puzzle

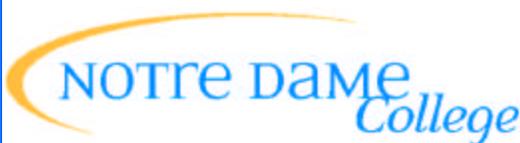
Submitted by Judy Curran  
*From the Ohio Council of Teachers of Math*

Level 1  
How many positive fractions in simplest form have denominator 12?

Level 2  
One stamp is selected at random from an 8 by 8 sheet of 64 stamps. Find the probability that the stamp was NOT one of the sheet's border stamps.

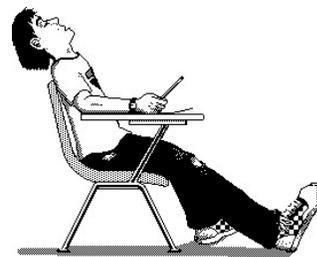
Level 3  
Solve for all real values of  $x$ :  
 $(x+2007)(20)=2009-2047x+ (2^*0)$

**See Judy for the Answers!!!!**



By: Bernice Van Tyne

Adequate sleep is directly linked to creativity and problem solving ability. The studies have found that sleep deprived students can memorize facts but will be unable or have difficulty using the information to answer complex questions. Researchers have also found that students who slept for eight hours before taking a math test were three times more able to solve problems than those who stayed up all night studying.



### Meet Shwy



**Joe "Shwy" Szwejkowski** graduated from John Carroll University in 1970 with a BS in biology. He enrolled in the graduate school at JCU that fall to pursue a comprehensive science high school teaching certificate and did his student teaching in biology at Benedictine High School.

From 1971 through 1974, Shwy taught biology and algebra at Holy Name High School. In June 1974, he took a position with The Illuminating Company where he has been employed for the past 34 years.

In 1990, he was appointed by Governor Celeste to a three-year term on Ohio's Zebra Mussel Task Force to study and control zebra mussels in Lake Erie. In 1997, he was the recipient of the company's Plain Speaking award for the numerous presentations he made at area schools on the importance of electrical safety.

For the past eight years, Shwy has been stationed at the Lake Shore Power Plant in Cleveland where he serves as the facility's Environmentalist and Safety representative.

Shwy resides in Lyndhurst with his wife Julie and their two sons. He also has three grown daughters. He is a bicycling enthusiast and avid racquetball player.