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NDSCOBSEVER.COM

University: close Juniper Road

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
News Writer

The University has proposed closing Juniper Road and redirecting traffic to a widened Ivy Road or a new road near Ivy, which would most likely be financed by the University.

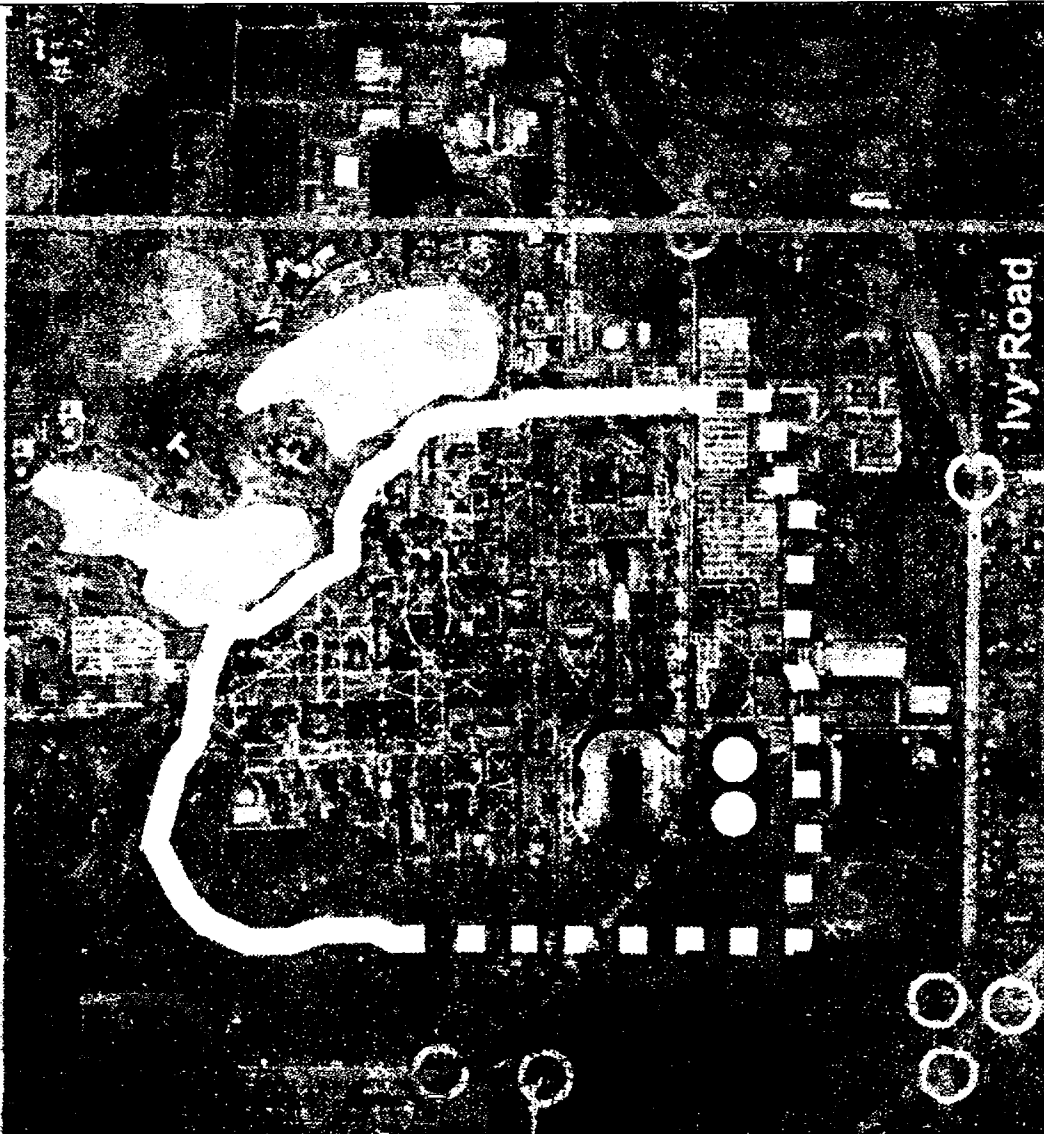
While the safety of pedestrians crossing Juniper to reach campus buildings and parking lots is one reason for closing Juniper, University officials also say they want to maintain the relatively small, pedestrian nature of the campus.

"It's not just about safety; we want to keep campus small," said University architect Doug Marsh.

Officials say closing Juniper would allow a campus development boundary to be created, so that new buildings are constructed within the current footprint, rather than expanding the campus, which officials say they have no desire

Alternatives to Juniper Road

- Parts of Juniper Road to be removed
- Improvements to Ivy Road (Alternative 7)
- Improvements to Ivy Road (Alternative 6)



MIKE HARKINS AND PAUL RONCAL/Observer graphic

see JUNIPER/page 4

ND starts dialogue program

By MATTHEW SMEDBERG
News Writer

The signs began to go up in September: "Had enough talk? Engage in sustained dialogue." Others asked "What do Princeton and UVA have that Notre Dame doesn't?" Sustained Dialogue. Students wondered what they might mean. Thursday night, in the Coleman-Morse lounge, they found out.

In the course of the town hall meeting commemorating Martin Luther King Jr., Tessa Garcia, student government's diversity chairperson, stood up to announce the inception of a new initiative called Sustained Dialogue meant to help break down diversity barriers on campus.

The program involves small groups of eight to 12 individuals, each of whose background is different. These people will meet twice a month over the course of a semester or year. After agreeing to confidentiality, they will discuss issues surrounding their own experiences with diversity; if all goes according to plan, they will be able to share very personal information so that others can learn to value them and what they stand for.

Sustained Dialogue developed out of work done by Harold Saunders, a U.S.

see DIALOGUE/page 6

Gay marriage rulings may affect ND housing

By DOLORES DIAZ
News Writer

The University Office of Residence Life and Housing could face allowing same-sex marriage partners to reside in campus marriage housing residents if Massachusetts' ruling allowing same-sex marriages becomes a national trend.

The University also could change its graduate family housing contracts, which limit lodging to degree-seeking students and their spouses pending proof of

marriage, but does not specify that the couples must be male and female, which would create a loophole if Indiana acknowledged gay civil unions.

However Mary Gude, assistant vice president of student affairs and standing committee chair for gay and lesbian student needs, said she was not concerned about the Massachusetts ruling having any immediate effect on the Indiana marriage law, nor did she consider the contract inflexible.

"Indiana would be at the end of the line on [changing the marriage law]," Gude said. "If and

when the day ever came ... [the contract] would probably change to specify that the marriage must be between a heterosexual couple."

As a Catholic institution, the University is required to uphold the teaching of the Catholic Church that does not grant or acknowledge gay marriage. This extends to University housing, as well.

"The official doctrine of the Church is that marriage is between a man and a woman," said Gude. "The wording [of the contract] would have to be

changed."

According to the mission statement of the Office of Resident Life and Housing, "The University encourages a way of living consonant with a Christian community and manifest in prayer, liturgy and service. Residential life endeavors to develop that sense of community that is at once more human and more divine."

Because homosexual couples could potentially live off campus together and keep their sexuality a secret from the University quite

see HOUSING/page 4

OIT completes massive network upgrade over break



Photo courtesy of OIT

Tom Marentette and Pete Shaw, network engineers for the OIT, rewired Morissey Hall's switch closet over winter break.

By WILL PUCKETT
News Writer

While students were vacationing over winter break, the Office of Information Technology was hard at work on the largest network upgrade ever at the University. A team of engineers visited each residence hall and replaced the approximately 220 switches that connect students to the network, in addition to other improvements.

The upgrade was implemented not only to quicken the speed of the network, but to improve the reliability and manageability of the network, as well, officials said.

While the network received approximately a tenfold improvement in raw speed, from 10 megabits to 100 megabits for each student's computer, Dewitt Latimer, Notre Dame's chief tech-

nology officer, emphasized other advantages.

"This upgrade replaced 5 year-old equipment that was costing us a lot of money to maintain and repair," Latimer said. "The switches we put in are easier to maintain, can be managed remotely, and overall will cost us less money to run."

The switch closets — 75 of them in 62 buildings — were upgraded, as well. Many air conditioning units were not adequate, and some buildings had no air conditioning, potentially allowing equipment to overheat and suffer damage. Where necessary, those systems were replaced or new ones were installed, Latimer said.

Uninterruptible power supplies, or battery backups, were also installed in each switch closet, allowing the campus network to continue to function for some time should the power go out. Dust and dirt were cleaned out of the

closets that had accumulated over the years as well, reducing the possibility of it causing problems.

This is not the only thing OIT has been doing, Latimer said. During the fall semester, network equipment was upgraded in DeBartolo, Grace and Flanner halls, and the wireless network continues to be expanded, Latimer said.

"We obviously have more desires than we have dollars, and we're trying to pick the most cost-effective improvements to the network. This major upgrade to ResNet kept coming up, and so we did that over break — but that's not all we're doing," he said. "We're hoping to make more upgrades to the campus network, including offering more bandwidth and more flexibility for everyone who uses the network."

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INSIDE COLUMN

'Til death
do us part

"Father of the Bride" it wasn't.
But the worst part about Britney

Spears' double-dare shotgun Las Vegas wedding last week wasn't that the bride wore the now infamous "jeans and a baseball cap," nor that only one of the above was white.

It wasn't the media frenzy that followed, which rocketed even groom Jason Alexander's spotlight-craving high school ex-girlfriend onto prime time entertainment news.

The worst part was what the 55-hour debacle inadvertently pointed out: While Britney's celebrity was enough to merit a legal annulment, her heterosexuality was enough to merit an equally legal marriage.

The debate over whether Britney's or any other marriage should be labeled "holy matrimony," "civil union" or something in between reached its boiling point over the holidays, when the release of a New York Times/CBS News poll showed 55 percent of Americans to be in favor of a proposed constitutional amendment to restrict marriage to a union between a man and a woman.

While most supporters acknowledge that an amendment won't automatically make the "straight lightbulb" go off in homosexuals' heads, the promise that the gay lifestyle will remain in the shadows instead of on the altars is enough to win their support. Most of the 55 percent likely feel guilty about outright intolerance but have no qualms telling gays to keep their "confused" hands off a "sacred institution" and thus their commitment out of sight.

President Bush has publicly endorsed the idea of an amendment and plans to stress it as a major issue of the 2004 election campaign, most likely under the exploitative assumption that his Democratic opponent would refuse to sign it into law. As the party lines become entrenched and the shouts on each side get louder, it becomes easy to overlook the question at the root of the debate — whose job is it to decide?

Is it the President, Congress, the Supreme Court? Or is it the two people who are enough in love that they are willing face the daily disapproval of announcing that love for all to hear? Is the sanctity of marriage truly more threatened by homosexual couples' perceived lack of "normalcy" than it is by the lack a seriousness and loyalty — a problem undeniably rampant in the traditional man-and-wife match?

If amendment supporters truly believe that it is up to the government to prevent homosexuals from marrying, they have every right to propose it. But it would serve them well to find a better disguise for their discomfort with gays — tellingly the poll found the strongest support for gay marriage among those who actually know gays personally — than to blame them for tarnishing a "sacred institution." Britney, her baseball cap, and her limo driver escort just trampled that bit of wishful thinking for good.

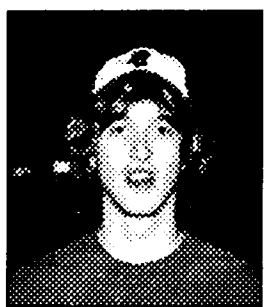
Contact Claire Heininger at chein@nd.edu. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Claire Heininger

Production
Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT KIND OF PLANT WOULD YOU BE?



Seth Erwin

Senior
Off-campus

"I would be a
tomacco plant."



Paul Critser

Junior
Off-campus

"A burning bush
so people will
follow my
commandments."



B.J. Duebrea

Fifth year
O'Neill

"I'd be a chia
pet."



Adam Kaufmann

Junior
Off-campus

"The kind with
legs that eats
meat."



Brianna Carter

Freshman
Farley

"Grass, but not
the pokey kind."



ANDY KENNA/The Observer

A Notre Dame Fire Rescue vehicle is parked in front of Fisher Hall on Thursday evening. Members of the Fire Department were called to the South Quad residence hall when the fire alarm sounded and they quickly inspected the dorm before giving the all-clear.

OFFBEAT

Brain sandwiches still on
some menus

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Fear of mad cow disease hasn't kept Cecelia Coan from eating her beloved deep-fried cow brain sandwiches.

She's more concerned about what the cholesterol will do to her heart than suffering the brain-wasting disease found in a cow in Washington state.

"I think I'll have hardening of the arteries before I have mad cow disease," said Cecelia Coan, 40, picking up a brain sandwich to go at the Hilltop Inn during her lunch hour.

The brains, battered with

egg, seasoning and flour, puff up when cooked. They are served hot, heaping outside the bun.

They are traced back to a time when southern Indiana newcomers from Germany and Holland wasted little. Some families have their own recipes passed down over the generations.

Streakers watch as their
car is stolen

SPOKANE, Wash. — Three men who went streaking through a Denny's restaurant were chilled and chagrined when they spotted a thief drive off in their getaway car, their clothes inside.

Naked in the 20-degree weather, the three young men huddled behind cars in a parking lot until police arrived.

The three entered the restaurant before daybreak Wednesday, wearing only shoes and hats. They left their car running so they could make a quick escape.

But the streakers watched through the windows as a man who had been eating inside the restaurant drove off in their car.

No charges were brought against the streakers.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Career Center will sponsor a workshop on Friday at 3 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom in preparation for the Winter Career and Internship Fair. The workshop will address writing a cover letter, interviewing, job strategies and more.

RecSports will host an open skate Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Joyce Ice Rink. Skates are available to rent for \$3.

Enjoy night club dancing at Legends on Friday. The fun starts at midnight and continues until 4 a.m.

Student Activities will sponsor open billiards at ND Express from 9 p.m. to midnight on Friday.

Enjoy bowling at Beacon Bowl on Friday. Transportation will be provided from Library Circle at 9:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by Flipside.

Kennedy's Kitchen, a seven piece Irish band, will perform at Legends at 10 p.m. on Friday.

RecSports will sponsor a cross country ski clinic and open house for the ski shop at the Rockne Memorial Pro Shop on Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. Those interested in the clinic are asked to preregister through RecSports.

Popular Genus, a five piece Nashville-based band, will perform at Legends on Saturday. Doors open at 9:30 p.m.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 15 LOW 8	HIGH 20 LOW 19	HIGH 33 LOW 21	HIGH 21 LOW 13	HIGH 19 LOW 10	HIGH 28 LOW 20

Atlanta 51 / 35 Boston 14 / 12 Chicago 29 / 26 Denver 47 / 27 Houston 69 / 62 Los Angeles 70 / 49 Minneapolis 26 / 18
New York 20 / 14 Philadelphia 23 / 12 Phoenix 72 / 48 Seattle 49 / 42 St. Louis 45 / 37 Tampa 67 / 47 Washington 29 / 18

CORRECTIONS

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

Judges reivew Shirt designs

By MERYL GUYER
News Writer

The Shirt selection process continued this week with final design submissions sent to Katie Crossin, president of the project. The winner will be notified in the upcoming weeks, at which point he or she will receive a \$200 award and assist Crossin and the rest of The Shirt production staff with the project.

The winner's design will be used for the 2004-05 Shirt, although there will be some necessary alterations made to accommodate moving the design from paper to fabric.

And the color of the 2004-05 shirt?

"[That's] the thousand dollar question," Crossin said.

While participants were requested to submit at least one design in the familiar kelly green color, the committee has not definitively chosen that color for the new shirts.

Eight designers were chosen to be finalists from a first round of submissions turned in Nov. 26. This preliminary design was very general, left up to the creativity of the applicant. Some submissions were just concepts or ideas rather than full designs, Crossin said.

The competition attracted a variety of individuals from different majors, although contestants were not asked their majors when applying, and roughly 50

percent of the designs exhibited some previous graphic design experience, Crossin said.

This is the 14th year of The Shirt tradition at Notre Dame, which began as an independent student project initiated by Brennan Harvath to cover medical costs for a graduate student injured in a hit-and-run accident. The Shirt's purpose was to unify students as well as raise funds for the unexpected costs.

The 1990 home opener football game versus Michigan featured 85 percent of the student body in The Shirt and 9,500 shirts were sold that season.

After its first two years of production, the Hammes Bookstore, along with other campus stores, picked up The Shirt, which contributed to increased sales.

This year's Shirt continues in its tradition with a student-run focus said Crossin, and much of the decision-making is left to students, although The Shirt project is now joined by members of the Alumni Association, the Student Senate, the Hammes Bookstore and the Financial Management Board.

Proceeds from shirt sales are divided in two. Half of the money supports student clubs and organizations, and the other half fulfills the original purpose of covering unforeseen medical costs for students, Crossin said. Within the latter half there is also a "rector fund," which is given to the care of rectors to dispense to students in financial



ANDY KENNA/The Observer

Katie Crossin, president of The Shirt project, poses with an '03 Shirt in the bookstore.

need in order to purchase items like dance tickets and other extras that help them participate in more campus life events.

With The Shirt's continued success, there has been discussion about increasing compensation for the selected designer, which is now \$200. However, with the history of the project as a social service and the fact that positions within the project, including that of the President, are completely voluntary, no decision to increase the prize amount has been made, Crossin said.

Contact Meryl Guyer at mguyer@nd.edu.

OIT warns students of more 'phishing'

Warning follows increase in complaints

By WILL PUCKETT
News Writer

Prompted by a severe increase in fraudulent phone calls and e-mails to Notre Dame students, the Office of Information Technology will be sending out a security alert via e-mail in the near future.

According to Gary Dobbins, director of information security for the University, this is a problem that students should take very seriously.

"We've seen a dramatic rise in 'phishing' type exploits, where someone contacts students on the telephone or via e-mail and sounds a heck of a lot like Visa or Mastercard, asking for personal information such as credit card numbers," Dobbins said. "We're just trying to make people aware that they're going to be hit with this."

Dobbins said OIT tries very hard to keep on top of new

threats, but the threats are simply too numerous to completely stop them. Hence, students must guard themselves against would-be thieves.

"A good rule of thumb might be to never give out private information over the phone to anyone unless you made the call," Dobbins said.

"A good rule of thumb might be to never give out private information to anyone unless you made the call."

Gary Dobbins
director
Information Security

"If someone contacts you wanting personal information, offer to call them back at the number listed on the credit card company's website, or whatever it is." So-called "phishing" has become an increasing problem

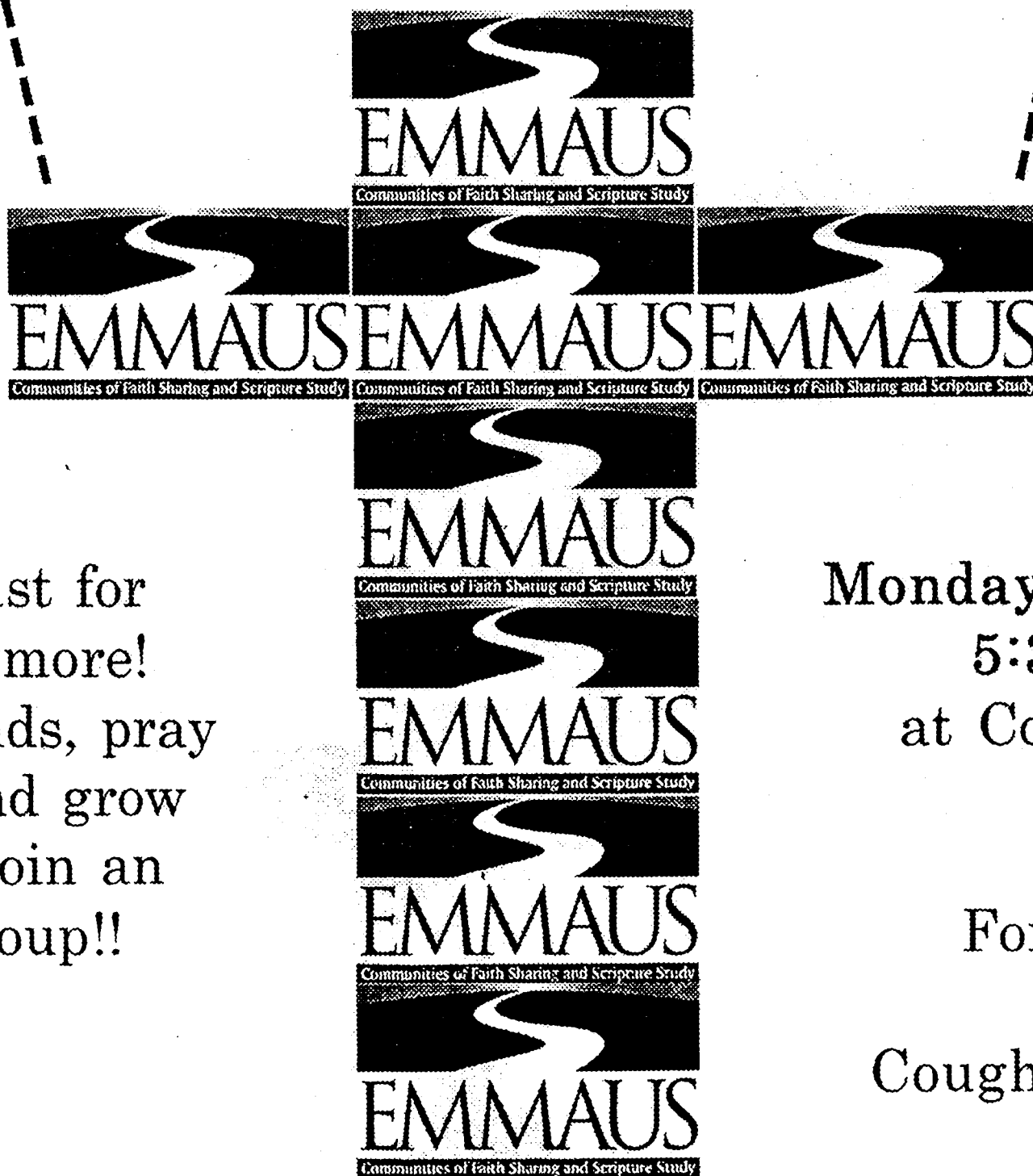
nationwide.

The full extent of the swindles is unknown, but several major Internet service providers and universities have reported problems, and increasing media attention is being directed at the topic.

Contact Will Puckett at wpuckett@nd.edu.

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Juniper

continued from page 1

to do. The campus master plan calls for two new residence halls to be constructed on the area where Juniper currently passes between Knott and Pasquerilla East Halls and the B2 and D2 parking lots.

Improving the traffic flow around campus is also a reason to close Juniper and improve other roads, officials say. The University says that 8,100 vehicles pass through part of Juniper each day, but estimates that less than 2,000 of them are through trips. Estimates show that an average trip on Juniper from Cleveland Road to the Five Points intersection currently takes 15 minutes. But estimates show that if no changes were made, in 2025 there would be 12,900 vehicles traveling on Juniper each day and an average trip would take 19.3 minutes.

Director of Community Relations Jackie Rucker said that the University has made it a priority to share its plans for Juniper with the community, which has helped to alleviate fears and eliminate rumors.

In December, the University unveiled plans to expand Ivy Road to four lanes at two public meetings. In one plan, called 4g, the road would still run between Edison and Douglas Roads. In a second plan, called 5g, the road would run between Edison but curve after passing through Bulla Road to reconnect with Juniper Road. These proposals were not popular with residents on Ivy Road who would lose their houses as a result of construction.

Rucker said that the University is carefully considering feedback from communi-

ty members, although some suggestions, such as building tunnels for pedestrians under Juniper, are not feasible.

"Our goal is to be a good neighbor. We have to consider their feedback, but we have to be realistic, too," Rucker said.

On Wednesday night at a meeting at Darden Primary School, the University unveiled two new plans that would create a new road through property the University owns east of campus instead of taking homes, which County Commissioner Mark Dobson praised for being responsive to the concerns of community members.

"From what I've seen and heard, I'm that much more impressed," Dobson said.

In both alternatives, Ivy Road would be disconnected from Douglas Road so it would not be used as a through street. Ivy Road would likely be increased to four lanes between Edison and Vanness Roads. At Vanness, the new road would split from Ivy, either connecting to Douglas Road (alternative 6) or connecting back to Juniper (alternative 7). Any plan to close Juniper and build new roads or expand existing ones requires the approval of the county council.

While residents of Ivy Road were pleased to hear a new road would not require them to move, many other area residents still are not in favor of closing Juniper.

Indian Lakes resident Carole Morehouse said she believes closing Juniper would increase her commute to work by at least 10 minutes if she took Cleveland Road to Main Street instead of using Juniper.

"It's the only North-South roadway we have," Morehouse said.

A concern echoed by many residents at the meeting was

that students who do not obey crosswalk signals are the ones who cause safety problems on Juniper.

"One of the things people are beginning to notice about Notre Dame students is that they think they can do anything because they are Notre Dame students ... they need to be taking some responsibility," Morehouse said.

Other residents raised concerns about students crossing an improved Ivy Road from Turtle Creek to campus, saying that there are currently no crosswalks, and students dart in and out of traffic to cross the road. Marsh said a pedestrian crossing will be studied.

"I don't think we're planning on a traffic signal just for pedestrians ... We need to find a way to get a properly designated pedestrian crossover that [students] can't even screw up," Marsh said.

In the next months, the University will continue to conduct traffic modeling and develop a draft layout of road improvements. Eventually, Notre Dame will bring its plans before the county council for approval, but Marsh said the University does not have a timeline in which it hopes to close Juniper.

The University is also studying two other changes, in conjunction with county officials:

♦ Straightening Edison south of campus so the road would curve through the tailgating fields rather than in front of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, allowing for a more attractive campus entry to be constructed

♦ Connecting Ivy Road to Twyckenham Road, so that drivers would not have to turn onto Edison from Ivy, then SR 23, then Twyckenham

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Housing

continued from page 1

easily, the matter boils down to principle. Gay rights advocates seek to foster a community where homosexuals are free to be open with their lifestyle.

But if such changes to the residence contract became necessary, the task would fall to General Counsel upon word from the University administration. Associate Vice President and Counsel Jill Bodensteiner said that, if the contract were to be changed, it wouldn't necessarily take very long to complete.

"The process [of changing a contract] could take a day or a year depending on its importance," said Bodensteiner.

Bodensteiner said that, as a private institution, the University is not bound by normal constitutional law. The anti-discrimination clause of the University, stated on the graduate policy contract, does not include a section on sexual orientation or lend itself to gay rights.

"[As a private institution the University] cuts away on a lot of indirect freedoms," said Cory Irwin, Notre Dame student and member on the Standing Committee for Gay and Lesbian Student Needs.

Even if the contract loophole remained, gay advocates would have to seek an amendment to the non-discrimination clause which does not apply to homosexuals. However, the clause has been challenged before and was last rejected by the Board of Trustees in 1998.

For Irwin, a change in the near future seems doubtful.

"We basically haven't been able to move on it. Even now, it would get shot down," said Irwin. "A lot of that also has to do with publicity. Boston [College] is a Catholic school that

did it and took a lot of criticism for it, and Notre Dame already has more of a conservative tradition than it does."

Irwin said that a change to the clause would have to be passed through the Board of Fellows, which is required to vote on certain policy changes. The Board consists of three priests and three laymen who already serve on the Board of Trustees.

"For anything to pass, you have to have majority vote," said Irwin.

Gude said that part of the reason that the University didn't adopt the sexual orientation section as part of its anti-discrimination clause was precisely to avoid getting caught in a situation that would place University policy and the Church position at odds with each other.


In order for the University to smoothly adopt a sexual orientation section to its anti-discrimination clause it would have to be in response to a change in Church teaching. However, Gude acknowledged that the Church stance on homosexuality remains a controversial issue on which many Catholic academics remain divided.

"Who knows in the future?" Gude said. "But you can imagine this is going to take sometime; the stance is founded on gospel."

Gude speculated that the Massachusetts ruling would take about four or five years for the courts to fully work through, and she emphasized that much remains unsettled.

Indiana is one of 37 states that have laws prohibiting recognition of gay marriage. Of the 13 states without such a law, two are in the Midwest, Wisconsin and Ohio, eight are on the east coast and the remaining three are Wyoming, New Mexico and Oregon.

Contact Dolores Diaz at ddiaz@nd.edu



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Acquittal sought for 9/11 suspect

HAMBURG, Germany — Lawyers for the second Sept. 11 suspect to go on trial argued Thursday that the Moroccan was unaware of the plot by hijack ringleader Mohamed Atta.

Abdelghani Mzoudi, charged with more than 3,000 counts of accessory to murder and membership in a terrorist organization, knew al-Qaida cell members but was not part of the plan to attack the United States, lawyer Guel Pinar told the Hamburg state court during closing arguments.

"Abdelghani Mzoudi belonged to the group of students around Mohamed Atta. He spent time in Afghanistan. The evidence shows that — but no more than that," Pinar argued.

Prosecutors last week sought the maximum 15 years in prison for Mzoudi, 31, arguing evidence showed he assisted the Sept. 11 plotters.

American pilot pays fine for gesture

SAO PAULO, Brazil — An American Airlines pilot paid a fine of nearly \$13,000 Thursday after being accused of making an obscene gesture during new customs procedures for U.S. citizens.

Brazil authorities charged that Dale Robin Hersh, 53, lifted his middle finger on Wednesday while undergoing the new security process, imposed in response to similar rules in the United States for citizens of Brazil and many other countries.

Hersh was accused of showing contempt for authorities — a crime in Brazil punishable by up to two years in jail.

But officials said the offense was minor, fining him \$12,750 instead of pressing charges.

NATIONAL NEWS

Press gathers as Jackson arraigned

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — The world press descended in full force Thursday on the normally quiet Santa Maria Valley, setting up mini TV studios with satellite dishes to beam news around the globe when pop star Michael Jackson is arraigned on charges of child molestations.

Call it O.J. deja vu.

Nearly 10 years after the O.J. Simpson trial brought a media horde to the Los Angeles courts, many of the same players have trekked 150 miles northwest to a rural area better known for its vineyards and strawberry fields than its criminal cases.

The feeling of a time warp was intensified by the presence of Simpson prosecutor Marcia Clark, standing outside the courthouse doing reports for "Entertainment Tonight."

Man faces double murder charges

McKEESPORT, Pa. — A man was charged Thursday with killing two brothers during a fight over a half-ounce of crack, and authorities were investigating whether he also shot his ex-girlfriend and her daughter.

Keith Howard, 38, was charged with homicide in the deaths of Jamar Hooper, 27, and Ondrea Hooper, 23, the county coroner's office said.

LOCAL NEWS

Kernan line-item veto questioned

INDIANAPOLIS — Lawmakers have given an early, bipartisan response to Democratic Gov. Joe Kernan's call for the power of the line-item veto on spending: Forget it.

After deadlines passed in the Senate and House this week, not a single legislator had filed a joint resolution with language allowing a governor to strike individual items from the budget without killing the entire bill.

Giving the governor such power would require amending the Indiana Constitution, a process that usually takes at least three years.

Bush visits Martin Luther King's grave

Between 700-800 demonstrators protest Bush's appearance at MLK site

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Looking for election-year support from black voters in the South, President Bush was greeted at Martin Luther King's grave here Thursday by noisy demonstrators who chanted "Go home, Bush!" after receiving a warmer reception at a run-down church in New Orleans.

As Bush placed a wreath on King's crypt, a low chorus of boos could be heard from across the street where an estimated 700 to 800 protesters beat drums and waved signs bearing slogans such as "War is not the answer" and "It's not a photo-op, George."

Bush's four-stop swing through Georgia and Louisiana allowed him to court two important constituencies — religious conservatives, who make up his base of support, and black voters, only 9 percent of whom supported him in 2000. Events in both states were paired with fund-raisers, which raised \$2.3 million for his campaign account, already brimming with more than \$130 million.

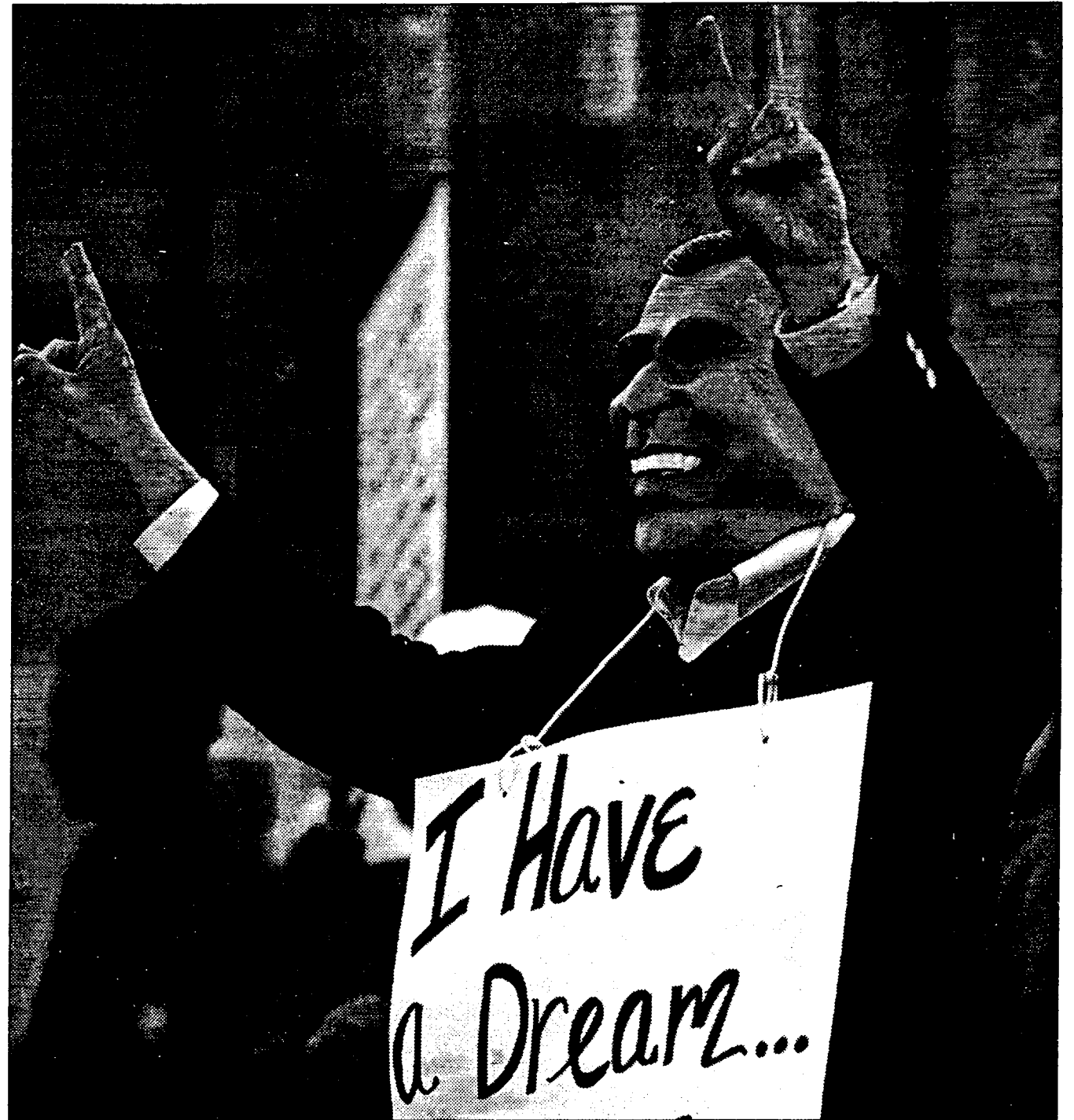
In this year's presidential race, Bush probably will garner only slightly more of the black vote, predicts David Bositis, a political analyst in Washington who focuses on black issues.

"Nine percent is the lowest for a Republican candidate since Barry Goldwater," he said. "When you get a zero on a test and you take it a second time, the odds are that you're going to do a little better."

The president, standing silently, his head slightly bowed, appeared unfazed by the protesters at King's tomb, where he laid a wreath of red, white and blue flowers to mark what would have been the civil rights leader's 75th birthday.

King Center officials said they extended no formal invitation to Bush but accepted his offer to come.

The president's critics



A masked protestor — one of hundreds — voices his opinion as President Bush arrives to commemorate the death of Martin Luther King Jr. at his grave site.

dismissed his visit to the grave as a symbolic gesture that only underscored shortcomings in the administration's relationship with blacks.

Back in Washington, Rep. Elijah Cummings, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, said not one policy decision made by the Bush administration — from the war in Iraq to the economy, from education to the environment — has mirrored King's dream. "The president needs to be more embracing of elected African American officials and the entire African American community every day of the year, not just on January 15th," he said.

Bush didn't speak publicly at the grave, but earlier at the black church in

Louisiana, Bush said King understood that "faith is power greater than all others," and that it was important for America to "honor his life and what he stood for."

Bush was at Union Bethel A.M.E. Church, in a high-crime area of downtown New Orleans, to push his faith-based initiative. He typically uses black churches for faith-based events, but Bositis of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a think tank in Washington said Thursday's events were tailored to winning white voters too.

"They're aimed at white Christian conservative supporters," he said. "Appearing in black churches makes him look

like he's doing all these things for black people. It makes him look less conservative, and that's a potential plus for white, suburban swing voters."

At the church, where pews are broken and the sky can be seen through holes in stained glass window panes, Bush announced that the Justice Department has finalized just such regulations affecting \$3.7 billion in funding, primarily for programs that help crime victims, prevent child victimization and promote safe schools.

"That's why I'm here — to get involved with the faith-based initiative," said David Shelton Jr., minister from a poor church nearby that has fed 400,000 people the past 17 years.

Rover rolls onto planet's surface

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — To the great relief of NASA scientists, the Spirit rover rolled onto the surface of Mars and trundled across the salmon-colored soil Thursday for the first time since the vehicle bounced to a landing nearly two weeks ago.

The slow maneuver was a nail-biting moment for scientists who had feared that Spirit might become yet another casualty in the star-crossed history of Mars exploration.

"This is a big relief," said Rob Manning, manager of the entry, descent and landing portion of the

mission. "Our wheels are finally dirty."

The six-wheeled vehicle had been perched atop its lander since its arrival on Mars on Jan. 3. On Thursday, it finally rolled down a ramp onto the surface of the Red Planet, covering a mere 10 feet, as planned. The trip took 78 seconds.

Engineers had worried that the golf-cart-size vehicle might become snagged on its ramp or damaged beyond repair, making it impossible to complete its mission. Scientists said the roll-off may have been the riskiest step the rover would ever take on Mars.

NASA engineers and scientists

were misty-eyed and choked-up as they described the success of the maneuver, and raised a champagne toast at an early morning news conference.

"Mars now is our sandbox, and we are ready to play and learn" said Charles Elachi, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Spirit is to spend three to four days parked beside its lander, giving it time to find its bearings and perform some preliminary analysis of the soil and pebbles around it. Then it will set off a meandering journey to prospect for geologic evidence that the now-dry planet was once wetter and hospitable to life.

Panel nixes reducing radioactive testing

WASHINGTON — The Energy Department has not done the necessary tests to justify relaxing the testing of radioactive waste shipments bound for a New Mexico storage site, a panel of scientists said Thursday.

The department has argued that safety checks required on shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, N.M., cost \$3.1 billion and create delays. Changing the requirements would save time and money, the department said in petitioning for changes last week.

A report by a panel of scientists appointed by the National Research Council — a division of the National Academies of Science — said Energy has not done adequate studies to support its argument for easing regulations and those analyses should be done before it seeks to modify the state waste disposal permit.

However, a provision backed by Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and signed into law last month by President Bush orders the Energy Department to request that New Mexico relax its testing requirements and restricts the state's ability to refuse the request.

"This is another example of the management failures coming from the highest levels of DOE," said New Mexico Environment Secretary Ron Curry. "It is another example of DOE putting the cart before the horse and making unfounded assumptions to the detriment of New Mexicans."

The Carlsbad facility buries transuranic waste — such as gloves, rags, tools, dried sludge and other debris contaminated

during nuclear weapons making — in ancient salt beds 2,150 feet below ground.

Under the Energy Department's proposed changes, instead of testing each shipment of waste, records kept on each drum of radioactive material would be used to determine whether the waste inside is eligible to be buried at the site.

There is no deadline for the state to act on the Energy Department application.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., who objected to the Domenici provision, said the scientists' report shows that Congress should only pre-empt state regulatory authority "after a transparent process has taken place — a process that yields thoughtful and careful analysis."

The law cannot be undone,

Bingaman said, but it should serve as a reminder "that there is a well-established process for modifying existing state regulations and that the federal government should respect it."

Domenici defended the provision.

"Experience has shown us that intrusive sampling techniques have shown to have little environmental, public safety or health benefits," he said.

The National Research Council panel said that when the Carlsbad plant became the first operational waste facility of its kind four years ago, it made sense for regulators to be cautious and impose rigorous measures for screening waste.

Today, the site's track record could help identify changes that could be warranted. However, a systematic analysis is needed before the Energy Department can make its case that changes are justified, the panel said.

"[This] is another example of DOE putting the cart before the horse..."

Ron Curry
New Mexico
Environment Secretary

King's legacy discussed

By MATT SMEDBERG
News Writer

Students, faculty and staff met in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge Thursday night for a "town hall meeting" as part of the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, discussing issues of campus diversity, respect and other topics related to King's legacy.

The event drew a large audience who did not hesitate to voice their ideas — and their frustration at the ways they see the Notre Dame environment stifling real diversity.

The event's moderators, professor Carolyn Nordstrom of the anthropology depart-

ment, and J. Roberto Gutiérrez, University vice president for communication, asked the assembled students open-ended questions which had been put together by the event's four student organizers. The questions were framed in terms of King's life and legacy, but student answers dealt with the historical aspect only in passing, preferring to cut straight to their ideas on the state of the campus.

Students voiced concerns that ethnic groups are sequestered into their own areas of campus life, rather than being seen as participating in all that Notre Dame has to offer. White students men-

tioned being apprehensive that they would be seen as patronizing if they tried to mingle with minorities.

Elena Lacayo, a sophomore from Howard Hall, described her experiences coming from her homeland of Nicaragua to Notre Dame.

"I found that there are rules, unspoken rules, that make it very difficult to deal with someone from another culture, someone who is different ... I think I break the rules a lot without even knowing it, because I grew up in a different culture," Lacayo said.

Contact Matthew Smedberg at smedberg.1@nd.edu

Woman identifies rapist

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — A nurse who survived a beating and attempted rape in her home in 2002 pointed to serial killing suspect Derrick Todd Lee in a courtroom Thursday and said he was the attacker.

"I'm absolutely sure, without a shadow of a doubt,"

Diane Alexander testified.

Lee faces a March 1 trial in the death of Charlotte Murray Pace of Baton Rouge and has pleaded innocent. Police say DNA evidence linked Lee to the murders of five other south Louisiana women between September 2001 and March 2002, and the assault on Alexander.

In a hearing that began Wednesday, prosecutors are seeking permission to use evidence from four of the killings and the assault on Alexander in Pace's trial. The hearing will continue next month.

Lee was arrested in Atlanta in May after an intense, 10-month manhunt that terrified women across Louisiana.

Dialogue

continued from page 1

diplomat in Tajikistan. He organized meetings of Tajik national officials and used the principles which became the Sustained Dialogue program to help them overcome regional prejudices and differences of outlook. The program is currently run by the International Institute of

Sustained Dialogue in Washington, D.C.

"If [Saunders] can make dialogue across the world, we can do it across campus," said Garcia, a junior from Walsh Hall.

Student response to the announcement was overwhelmingly positive at the town hall meeting.

Chandra Johnson, assistant to the President, cautioned that some in the Notre Dame community might not be so

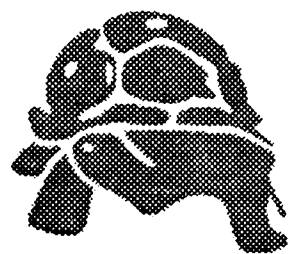
enthusiastic.

"There are some on this campus who will abhor the idea of 'Sustained Dialogue' because of their idea of the homogeneity which they associate with Notre Dame."

Garcia will be holding information sessions next week for all interested in the program. A kickoff retreat will be held Feb. 7.

Contact Matthew Smedberg at smedberg.1@nd.edu

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Competition - April 20-21, 2004

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Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,553.85	+15.48	
Up: 1,641	Same: 142	Down: 1,687	Composite Volume: 325,952

AMEX	1,185.93	-1.13
NASDAQ	2,109.08	-2.05
NYSE	6,500.04	-9.77
S&P 500	1,132.05	+1.53
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,665.15	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	4,456.10	-5.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-0.99	-0.33	33.06
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	-1.83	-0.10	5.36
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.58	-0.16	27.54
SIRIUS SAT RADI (SIRI)	-3.10	-0.10	3.13
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	+2.06	+0.30	14.89

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-0.43	-0.21	48.61
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.38	-0.15	39.71
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.54	+0.16	29.67
3-MONTH BILL	-0.70	-0.06	8.52

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.26		32.53
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-13.30		408.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.25		83.15

Exchange Rates			
YEN			106.3
EURO			0.7939
POUND			0.548
CANADIAN \$			1.296

IN BRIEF

Small cigarette companies sue La.

Three small cigarette makers filed a lawsuit Monday accusing Louisiana of enacting legislation aimed at preserving Big Tobacco's market share and artificially propping up the major producers' settlement payments to the states.

Plaintiffs said the lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in New Orleans, asked the court to declare Louisiana law unconstitutional. Lawyers for those filing the suit said 18 other states, including Indiana, have similar laws.

The National Association of Attorneys General says such laws closed a loophole that gave upstart cigarette companies a price advantage over companies that signed a settlement with 46 states in 1998 and agreed to pay more than \$200 billion over 25 years to resolve state claims for reimbursement for the costs of treating sick smokers.

Toyota car able to park itself

TOKYO — Your hands don't even need to be touching the steering wheel for it to start spinning back and forth aggressively, all by itself — slowly guiding the car into the parking spot.

Parallel parking is designed to be a breeze with the Intelligent Parking Assist system, part of a new \$2,200 option package for Toyota Motor Corp.'s Prius gas-electric hybrid in Japan.

This is a bold and somewhat unnerving concept, a car that parks itself. As a driver, you've got to wonder as the Prius eases back toward the curb: What is this machine thinking?

It's also difficult not to be gripped by a "Look Ma, no hands" thrill — even if the system only partially fulfills its promise.

Outsourcing backlash forms

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Executives from Silicon Valley to Wall Street are adamant that shifting white-collar jobs from the United States to developing countries is good business, but a backlash is brewing.

Indiana's state government canceled a \$15 million contract with an Indian consulting firm in November.

Yahoo making big comeback

Company beats MSN and American Online as number one Internet destination

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — They're cheering again at Yahoo! Inc.

The dot-com bellwether has recovered \$21 billion in shareholder wealth by astutely anticipating the habits of Web surfers — so much so, in fact, that it now outranks MSN and America Online as the Internet's top destination.

After a mortifying two-year slump, the Sunnyvale, Calif.-based company made a \$238 million profit in 2003, impressing disillusioned investors who had written off Yahoo as another Internet has-been.

Rave reviews are pouring in for chief executive Terry Semel, the former head of Warner Bros. who came to the rescue in May 2001.

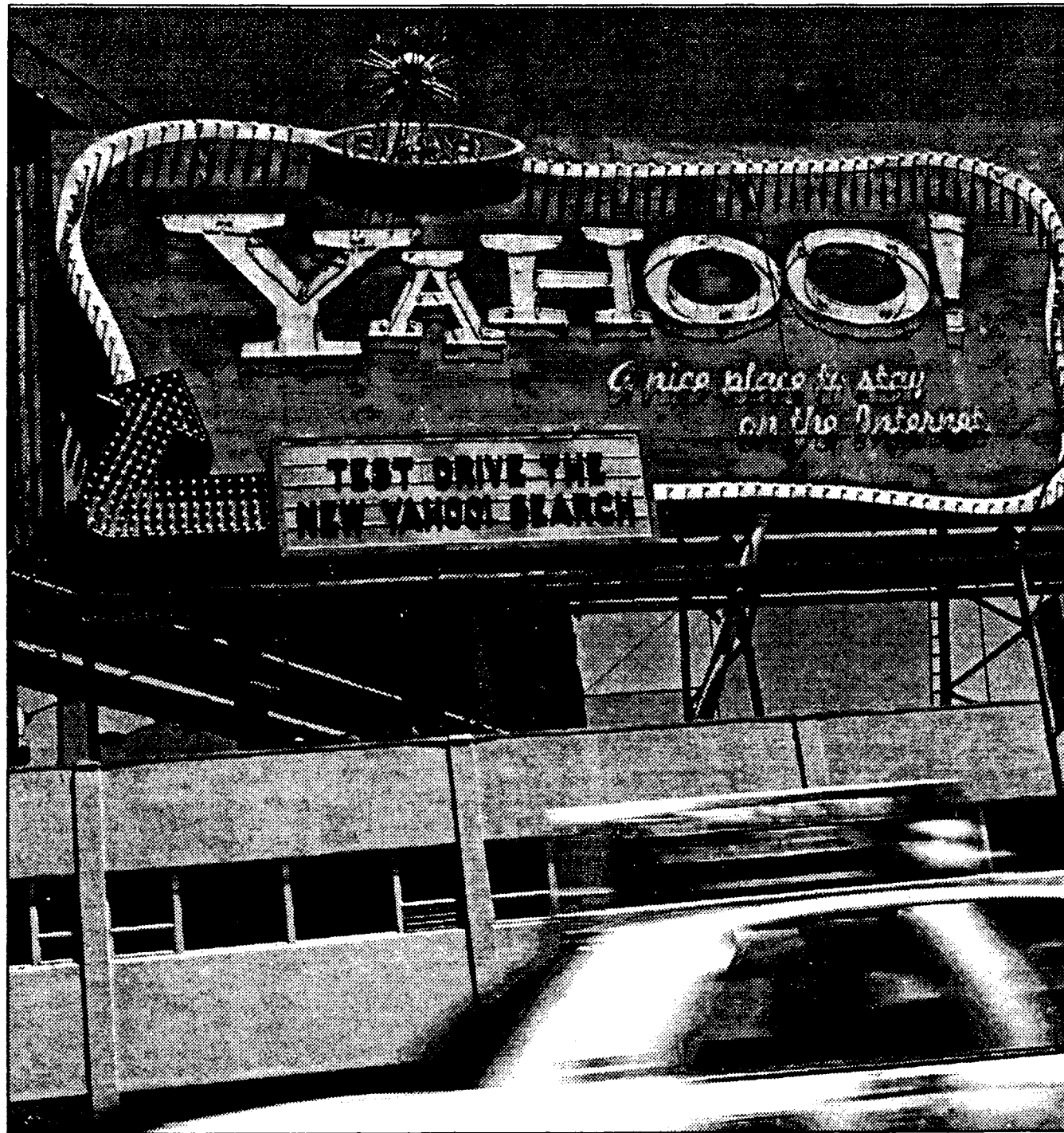
"It's been a very exciting trip because the results have been so great," said Semel, who still spends weekends at his southern California home.

Yahoo's comeback represents another hopeful sign for the high-tech industry. As more people get high-speed Internet connections in their homes and invest in portable devices to stay online, tech leaders like Intel Corp. and Apple Computer Inc. also are reporting higher profits.

After deteriorating from a 2000 high of \$237.50 to a 2001 low of \$8.02, Yahoo's stock price has tripled since the end of 2002, reaching \$48 in mid-January.

The Silicon Valley company's Web sites emerged as the most popular Internet destinations the last two months, surpassing Microsoft Corp.'s MSN and Time Warner Inc.'s AOL for the first time, according to comScore Networks, which tracks Web use. Yahoo had 111 million unique visitors in December.

Yahoo has thrived while Microsoft has directed much of its attention at



A taxi whizzes past a Yahoo billboard in San Francisco last year. The company has become the most popular Internet site.

luring traffic from AOL, said industry analyst Rob Enderle. But that could quickly change if MSN, AOL or another major Web site targets Yahoo.

While MSN and AOL can count on built-in traffic from the subscribers who also pay them for Internet connections, Yahoo has relatively few financial ties to its audience.

"If someone really takes aim and decides to try to hit Yahoo, they could lose a lot of people before they even knew it was happening," Enderle said.

The threat doesn't appear to worry Wall Street. Analysts expect Yahoo's profits to rise nearly 50 percent this year.

There is one striking

similarity to the frothy days before the tech bubble burst in late 2000: Almost everyone seems convinced Yahoo is poised for years of robust growth as the Internet increasingly becomes ingrained in people's lives and more homes get broadband connections to make the medium even more useful.

Yahoo "is a company in the right place at the right time," said analyst Imran Khan of Fulcrum Global Partners.

Much of Yahoo's success reflects a turnaround in Internet advertising, which fell from a \$7.6 billion market in 2000 to \$6.2 billion in 2002 and rebounded to \$6.8 billion last year, according to figures gathered by Fulcrum.

Yahoo's ad revenue has grown substantially since it paid \$1.8 billion to acquire Overture Services, a marketing vehicle that charges Web sites to display their links alongside related search engine results.

Other acquisitions in Semel's \$2.5 billion buying spree included the online help-wanted site HotJobs and search engine provider Inktomi.

With a soft-spoken manner and no previous Internet experience, the 60-year-old Semel didn't seem like a logical choice to run Yahoo, a fun-loving company filled with brash workers who weren't even born when he first became a Hollywood executive in 1972.

Kroger employees sue for family leave

Three Indiana women file class-action suit

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Three Kroger workers in Indiana have filed a class-action lawsuit accusing the grocer of violating the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Kroger placed the employees in jobs with reduced health care coverage when they returned in 2002 from leaves protected by the law, or forced them to pay their own health care bills for the time they missed, said Ann Lugbill, a Cincinnati attor-

ney who represents the workers.

"The more we dug into it, the more it became apparent this is a systemic problem," Lugbill said Wednesday.

The lawsuit was filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati, where Kroger is based.

"For two months, we've tried to work with top management and legal counsel at Kroger to avoid a lawsuit," Lugbill said. "But all we've seen is foot-dragging and threats against us if we file such a lawsuit. That left us with few other options."

Kroger spokesman Jeff Golc said it is the company's policy not to comment on pending litigation.

The plaintiffs — Jacqueline Buckley of Crawfordsville, Jane Carrington of Indianapolis and Karla Quillen of Danville — are members of United Food & Commercial Workers Union Local 700. The union represents nearly 4,000 Kroger workers in central Indiana.

Thousands of Kroger employees nationwide could join the lawsuit if they have had similar experiences upon returning to work after an FMLA leave in the past three years, Lugbill said.

The lawsuit is not part of contract disputes between Kroger and union workers that triggered strikes in several states last fall.

Halliburton may have overcharged for fuel

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Halliburton chose a high-priced Kuwaiti supplier for gasoline in Iraq in just one day after considering bids from only three companies, an Army document says.

The Army Corps of Engineers document, obtained Thursday by The Associated Press, raises new questions about Vice President Dick Cheney's former company two days after Pentagon auditors requested an investigation of possible criminal wrongdoing.

Halliburton has denied doing anything wrong and called criticism of its actions unfair and politically motivated.

The Defense Contract Audit Agency on Tuesday asked the Pentagon's inspector general to investigate a "suspected irregularity" involving the Halliburton contract to provide gasoline to civilians in Iraq. Auditors had said last month that Halliburton and its Kuwaiti fuel supplier, the Altanmia Marketing Co., may have overcharged the Army by \$61 million between May and

September.

The referral to the inspector general indicates the auditors suspect illegal activity. The investigation will center on actions by government workers, not the company, a senior defense official said Thursday on condition of anonymity.

The Army Corps of Engineers, which oversees the contract, has backed Halliburton. Corps officials last month ruled that Halliburton subsidiary KBR didn't have to justify the price it was paying Altanmia for fuel.

The latest document to surface is a Corps of Engineers memo to DCAA last week called a "business case" justifying the fuel costs. Halliburton charged the Army more than double the cost for fuel it trucked into Iraq from Kuwait than for fuel it bought in Turkey.

Halliburton has claimed that Altanmia was the only company approved by the Kuwaiti government to sell fuel in Iraq.

But the Corps of Engineers document doesn't say that. It says Altanmia had to get Kuwaiti government approval

for its sales to Halliburton because it had never sold fuel before. The Army document does not mention any demand by Kuwait that only Altanmia could be used as a supplier.

Halliburton got a contract to repair Iraq's crumbling oil industry as part of its contract to provide emergency construction and other services to the Army. On May 4, military commanders in Iraq told Halliburton to start supplying gasoline in Iraq because crowds in long lines at gas stations were becoming unruly.

Ashton Kutcher says 'Punk'd!' is really over

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Ashton Kutcher knows he's the boy who cried "Punk'd!" — but he promises that his MTV practical joke show is really and truly finished.

Despite the understandable public skepticism, Kutcher says he's NOT playing one of his signature pranks on fans.

He really is all punk'd out.

"I've become the boy who cried wolf," he acknowledged to The Associated Press while offering some assurance that his decision to end the show after two seasons isn't just another hoax.

"Let's put it this way," he said. "I'm getting ready to start shooting two movies, I'm still working on 'That '70s Show,' I'm producing two other shows for MTV and creating a one-hour drama pilot for Fox ... I don't have the time."

That won't leave much time for making monkeys out of his celebrity pals with tricks such as moving fake hillbilly relatives onto the grounds of their mansions (like he did to "Newlyweds" stars Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson, who

helped play the joke on her husband) or stealing a \$200,000-plus automobile (the fate that befell "Malcolm in the Middle" star Frankie Muniz).

Fans who feel they will be unable to survive without a fresh dose of "Punk'd" can get their fix Tuesday when the first season of the prank show comes out on DVD.

The two-disc set includes previously unseen footage and extended scenes of pranks on stars including Justin Timberlake, who thought his home and possessions had been seized by the Internal Revenue Service.

Kutcher said he started the show by springing jokes on pals he knew would be willing to let him highlight their gullibility on national television. Then it became a status symbol for young stars to be the victim of a "Punk'd" gag.

"People were really skeptical about this show in its first season," Kutcher said. "What I always said was, 'You don't look like a fool, you look like a human being.' It's humanizing. It brings you back down to a relatable level."

"I've become the boy who cried wolf."

Ashton Kutcher
former host of
"Punk'd!"



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Spending bill delayed in Senate

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Senate committee chairman has written senators seeking their support for a troubled government-wide spending bill and pointedly listing the projects the measure includes for each lawmaker's home state.

The letter — which falls short of explicitly threatening those projects — underscores the pressure both sides are bringing as the Senate nears a showdown vote over the \$373 billion measure on Tuesday, the day Congress returns from its winter recess.

"The subcommittees have tried to accommodate your priorities and concerns in this bill," read the Jan. 6 letter by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska. "Attached you will find a list of projects that may be of particular interest to you."

Senators and aides refused to discuss the letters publicly. One senator's letter included a nine-page attachment listing more than 300 projects, including one as small as \$25,000 for a neighborhood youth center, said an aide speaking on condition of anonymity.

Threats and rewards, are commonplace in Congress. But several congressional aides said that as subtle as the letter was, it is unusual to

see such sentiments committed to writing.

"It's basically saying, 'Here's a list of your programs. If you want to see them passed, you best vote for this bill,'" said Philip Klinkner, a political scientist at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y., who has studied Congress.

The bill's Republican supporters will need 60 of the 100 Senate votes to prevent Democrats from delaying the legislation. Members of both parties say the GOP may well fall short.

The House approved the package Dec. 8 shortly before Congress adjourned for the year. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., delayed his chamber's vote until now because of opposition from Democrats and some Republicans over overtime pay, media ownership rules and other issues.

"There is only one thing to do, and that is vote this turkey down and start over," said Paul Weyrich of Coalitions for America, one of six conservative groups that announced their opposition to the legislation on Thursday.

The overall bill would finance most domestic pro-

grams, including 11 Cabinet-level departments and scores of other agencies, for the fiscal year that started last Oct. 1. Its 1,182 pages also include \$7.5 billion for at least 7,000 home-district projects, House Democrats have said.

Republican leaders are threatening that if the bill is blocked, they will try pushing another measure through Congress financing most programs at last year's levels.

One dispute with newfound political clout is a provision delaying for two years a requirement that beef and many other foods carry labels identifying their country of origin.

Since the Dec. 23 announcement that a Washington state Holstein had tested positive for mad cow disease, that dispute has become one the bill's most visible, with many Democrats demanding the removal of the delaying language from the measure.

"I think there is a great deal of opposition to the omnibus in its current form, especially the provisions dealing with the labeling requirements," Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said in an interview this week.

"There is only one thing to do, and that is vote this turkey down and start over."

**Paul Weyrich
Coalitions for America**

Man arrested for double murders

Associated Press

McKEESPORT, Pa. — A man was charged Thursday with killing two brothers during a fight over a half-ounce of crack, and authorities were investigating whether he also shot his ex-girlfriend and her daughter.

Keith Howard, 38, was charged with homicide in the deaths of Jamar Hooper, 27, and Ondrea Hooper, 23, the county coroner's office said.

The men were found shot late Wednesday in Jamar Hooper's house in suburban Pittsburgh, where Howard had been staying. Earlier that day, the bodies of Jane Moyer, 42, and Kinisha Knight, 15, had been found in their home about a block away.

Police Chief Joseph Pero said police had been called to Moyer's home about a half-dozen times since December for domestic matters involving Howard and Moyer. He didn't know if Howard had been charged in those incidents.

Howard, whom Pero described as a crack abuser, had crack, a gun and \$1,200 in the car when he was arrested, authorities said. Police said he confessed to using the gun to shoot both brothers after Jamar Hooper accused him of stealing the drug.

Police said Howard told them he argued with Jamar Hooper on the top floor of Hooper's home and shot him during a fight. As Howard was coming down the stairs he realized Ondrea Hooper was downstairs and shot him, police said.

Police said Howard was suspected in the shootings of Moyer and Knight, but had not been charged.

Autopsies showed all the victims were shot in the head. Moyer and Knight were also shot in the chest and neck.

Moyer and her daughter were last seen alive on Monday, and investigators believe they may have been killed that day. Two friends of the daughter found the bodies Wednesday when they stopped by the home worried because the girl hadn't been in class, Pero said.

Howard was being held at the Allegheny County Jail. It was unclear whether he had an attorney.

Phillisa Hooper said her sons had been friends with Howard.

"My boys, they were always together. They were always around each other, just like they were that day," said Hooper, who was making plans Thursday for their funerals.

"They were always around each other, just like they were that day."

**Phillisa Hooper
mother of victims**

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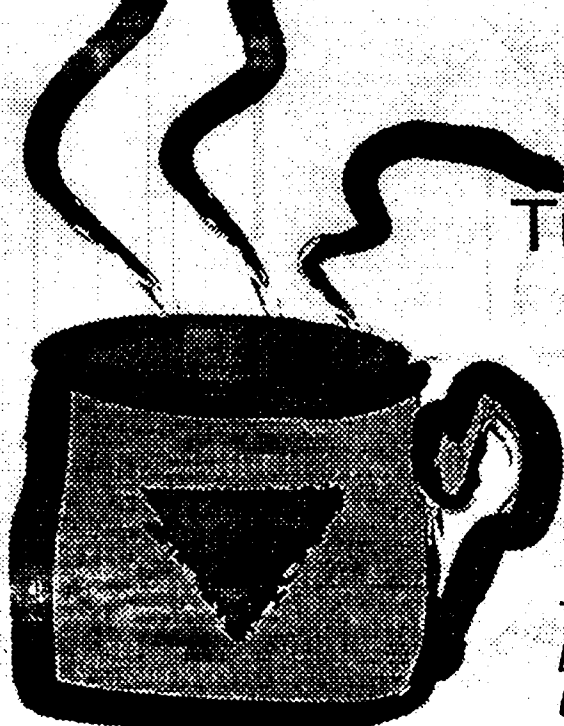
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Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

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First Meeting of 2nd Semester,

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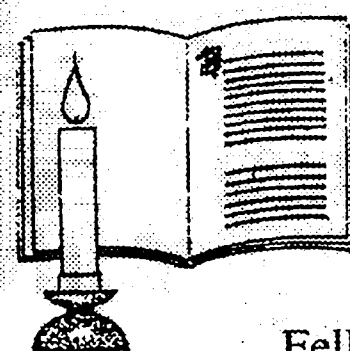
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Friday, January 16, 2004

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

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ND on track with road plans

Notre Dame has traditionally been a pedestrian campus, but as the campus expanded east with the construction of Rolfs and the new Jordan Hall of Science, Juniper Road — and its busy traffic — separates parts of campus and threatens that pedestrian nature.

The University wants to close Juniper between Eddy Street and Douglas Road and re-route traffic by widening Ivy Road and building a new road. Proposals to close Juniper have been discussed before, but this newest effort differs in two ways. Not only is the University willing to pay for the cost of improving local roads so Juniper can be closed, but the University is being upfront with its neighbors about the proposal.

The University should be lauded for both of these steps. Explaining the University's plans to neighbors at town hall meetings might be viewed as a waste of time by some, but community members' suggestions have already been incorporated into the planning process, such as creating a new road near Ivy rather than expanding Ivy, which will mean no residents will lose their homes in the process. Residents used to Notre Dame's historical disassociation from the community may be skeptical of the University's plans, and some have feared that Notre Dame's decision may mean that they will lose their homes. But involving community members in the process and incorporating their opinions, as Notre Dame has

demonstrated it can do, means those affected by a Juniper closure will likely buy in to a final solution.

Notre Dame has several reasons for wanting Juniper closed. Because the University does not want to purchase additional land to expand, closing Juniper would allow the University to use that space for buildings. Two residence halls have been proposed in the space currently occupied by the road between Knott and Pasquerilla East Halls and the B2 and D2 parking lots. Safety is another concern on Juniper, for both pedestrians and automobiles. And these concerns will only increase in 2006 when the Jordan Hall of Science opens and even more classrooms and laboratories sit on the other side of the road. Before Juniper is closed, students should recognize that Notre Dame's pedestrian campus does not extend to Juniper Road and cross the street carefully, both as a matter of safety and a gesture of goodwill to the residents who will be inconvenienced when the road closes.

Closing Juniper may inconvenience some South Bend residents, but it is the right decision for Notre Dame. University officials must continue to work with residents to communicate its plans in order to simultaneously minimize the impact of the closure and to be a good neighbor. Incorporating local opinion and offering to finance future road-building projects are steps in the right direction.

The Observer Editorial

A nice man among mean people

God bless the Republican American patriot, former Bush Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, whose naivete generated the book "The Price of Loyalty." His insights have confirmed what Washington insiders know yet those outside the beltway cannot fathom about White House operations. Those around the president are more ideological and mean-spirited than any staff preceding them. They are nothing like the mix of their caring, conscious-driven predecessors, former Republican and Democratic White House writers, now collaborating on the television series "The West Wing."

The current crowd is faithful first to loyalty and then to ideology. The chief of staff, interviewed by a reporter featured in this week's New Yorker, equates interviews with reporters as opportunities to confirm leaks. His policy is to avoid speaking to the press. This White House views the press, not as a vehicle to report the news or serve as a watchdog and arbiter for the people, but as a special interest. To date, the current President Bush has hosted only 11 press conferences, nearly four times less than his father.

This White House staff are excessively nasty toward those whom they do not consider "one of them" in an "us versus them" outlook. In fact, they often systematically and subtly violate labor laws to discriminate against Democrats who legally qualify over all other applicants for career civil service jobs.

These staff members think nothing of punishing a Democratic diplomat by leaking the identity of his wife, an American intelligence agent whose work is most vital to American security, merely because the diplomat contradicted the White House.

These same people scared the stuffings out of O'Neill a day after his book was released by threatening to investigate the legality of documents he used for his book. It is no wonder O'Neill has soft-pedaled a bit in response.

O'Neill and Secretary of State Colin Powell have both been used by the Bush crowd to further strict ideological agendas. Where O'Neill is not as politically savvy as Powell, O'Neill also lacks Powell's military mentality of absolute discipline, even to the extent of diving over a cliff in the name of obeying orders. However, expect Powell to resign should Bush be reelected.

O'Neill's book is a must-read for both supporters of the president and those who oppose Bush. While every administration has its "kiss and tell" books, this one cracks the strict discipline the Bush White House has so successfully executed until now. O'Neill's 19,000 documents offered the author a wide view of Bush operations. The book's content, focusing on many embarrassing revelations, has already been corroborated by other Bush insiders. Moreover, nobody at the White House has denied the content.

Bush staff selectively take aim at areas they can spin into a positive light. For example, most have focused on O'Neill's description of a disengaged Bush at cabinet meetings as "a blind man in a room of deaf people." O'Neill now regrets choosing such an analogy, but White House attacks merely camouflage genuine issues of importance.

The White House has shrewdly countered O'Neill's assertion that at the first national security meeting Bush was determined to go to war with Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein. The White House claims that Bush was following an existing policy begun by Bill Clinton, which is a true statement. However, O'Neill needs to remind the public that he was a member of the National Security Agency and thus privy to

every aspect of the Iraqi issue for nearly two years.

The White House cannot answer why a March 2001 document lists American oil companies who qualify to drill in Iraq. Nor will they answer why the document shows a map describing how to divide Iraq into oil drilling regions. The Bush crowd cannot answer why transcripts of meetings never show the likes of Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld describing a single threat from Iraq at any time prior to September 11, only discussions of how to rule Iraq. Throughout all of O'Neill's NSA meeting transcripts dated prior to the September attack, none characterized Iraq as a threat. That alone calls into further question whether the president embellished reasons to invade Iraq.

Some Republicans may prefer to believe the spin rather than read the book to gain insight into their party's current White House occupant. They run the risk of lacking the conviction of many Democrats who, in past generations voted for Ronald Reagan or marched against Lyndon Johnson. It behooves every American to seriously examine any president who places American soldiers in harm's way, especially a president who drastically embraces an unprecedented preemptive strike policy that has now accounted for nearly 500 American deaths.

Paul O'Neill is truly a hero for his conviction to expose the White House workings from his insider's view. None of us, Democrat or Republican, should be both blind and deaf in a room of politicians.

Gary Caruso served as a public and legislative affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hotline@aol.com

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

OBSERVER POLL

Which cartoon would you rather see on the Today page: Dilbert or Classic Peanuts?

Vote by 5 p.m. next Wednesday at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."

Robert Frost
poet

How "Saved by the Bell" prepared me for life

Like so many others of our generation, I would rush home from middle school every day to settle into the couch cushion and watch perhaps one of the most influential television shows of my childhood: "Saved by the Bell."

Bill Rinner

Despite its dearth of realism, its cookie-cutter character stereotypes and its overwhelming corniness, "Saved by the Bell" nevertheless provided wisdom that I still carry today.

A Voice of Reason

For the small handful of you who never watched the show during your adolescent heyday, it featured six high school students, led by the ineffably cool Zack Morris, who planned their schemes in the principal's office at Bayside High, ate lunch at The Max every day and learned every harsh lesson to emerge as better people and closer friends at the end of each 30-minute installment.

Parents and critics alike panned the show as an unrealistic portrayal of high school life, and they were largely vindicated when we realized that the lines between the jocks, nerds, feminists and cheerleaders were more blurred than "Saved by the Bell's" depiction. I felt particularly disappointed when my high school experience did not include a dance contest refereed by Casey Kasem, but my enlightenment would come in due time. Now that we have grown up since the awkward and ignorant years of junior and senior high school, we can evaluate the show to recognize the positive effects lurking amidst its flaws.

I'll start by referencing an old classic, one that forever lingers in the memory for those fortunate enough to have viewed it. Entitled "Jessie's Song," the episode features the overachieving Jessie Spano, who later drops out of Stansbury University to pursue a career as a stripper, in the midst of a nervous breakdown only amplified by her addiction to caffeine pills. I'm willing to wager that every student familiar with the episode recalls the horrendous image of Jessie screaming "I'm so excited! I'm so ... scared!" when they contemplate taking a No-Doz pill during finals

week.

Not only did the episode offer a sentimental lesson on the nature of drug addiction, but the group's intervention after A.C. Slater discovers her secret proves that a friend in need is a friend indeed, and Jessie ultimately recovers from her traumatic experience.

When not facing internal adversity, the group's confrontations with societal injustice opened a young generation's eyes to problems ranging from sexism to the destruction of the environment.

Who can watch the tragic moment when Zack's pet duck Becky dies from an oil spill and not be enraged at the greed and utter inhumanity of oil companies with virtually no regard for the environment? Fortunately, the group overcomes the plot of an evil corporation and all other bounds of simple rationality to thwart the attempt to turn Bayside High into a giant oil rig at the expense of a duck pond.

Protecting the environment from evildoers was only the beginning of the group's inspirational movement for social justice. When the new girl Kristi tries out for the wrestling team, she faces the institutionalized sexism inherent in the athletic world where females are not encouraged to utilize their physical talents. Her ardent supporters intervene, and she receives her chance to prove her ability on the wrestling mat, shocking the after-school television world with the stunning pin of a rival wrestler.

The episode proved a worthy allegory for the real-life introduction of Title IX, which has benefited countless college students who can look no further than the gym of Bayside High for internal justification of the controversial provision.

None can forget Zack's encounters with his friendly nemesis, Mr. Belding, the bumbling principal.

Remembering their rivalry and Zack's string of moral victories against repression, a generation developed the courage and confidence required to question higher authorities. Notre Dame students, in particular, could benefit from a crash-course review of Zack's antics, lest we forget that authority is not so much a permanent obstacle as a temporary inconvenience to our goals.

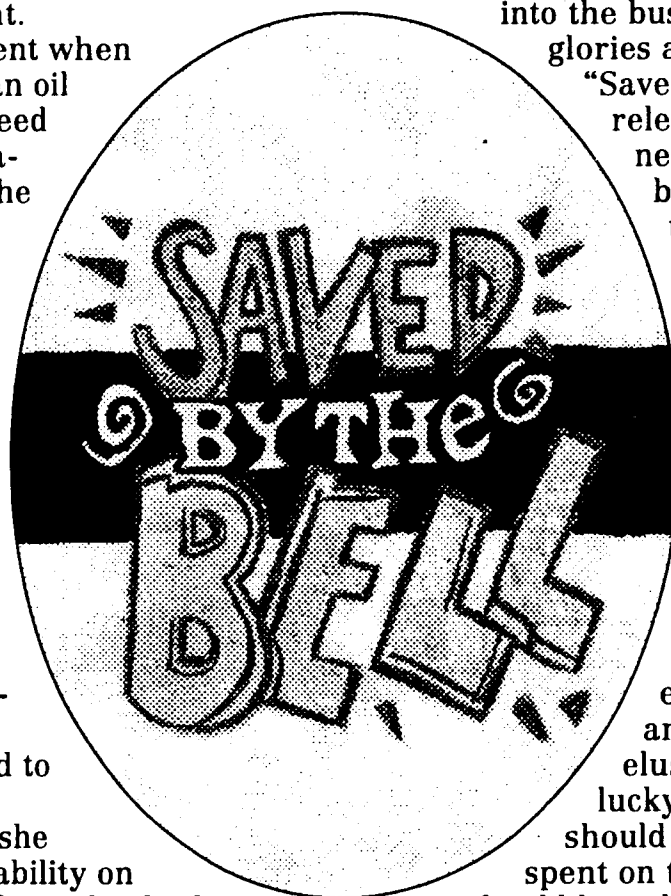
Finally, as we prepare ourselves to venture out into the business world, the lessons about the glories and pitfalls of capitalism that

"Saved by the Bell" presents are more relevant now than ever before. One needn't major in business to learn basic marketing skills. Look no further than the episode "Model Students," when Zack and company rejuvenate the failing student store by selling a women's swim team calendar. As they discover, sex sells. Despite the moral or ethical downside to objectifying the body, we live in a beauty-oriented world where looks can be crucial to success.

"Saved by the Bell" offered a dose of idealism to an otherwise apathetic generation, proving that even nerdy students have their day and jocks can ultimately attain the elusive yet attractive feminist. We lucky few who witnessed its brilliance should never regret the valuable time spent on the couch after school when we should have been doing our homework.

Bill Rinner is a junior economics major studying abroad at the London School of Economics. After much thought, he fully endorses Rev. Al Sharpton for the Democratic presidential nomination. He can be reached at wrinner@nd.edu.

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



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Exchange what?

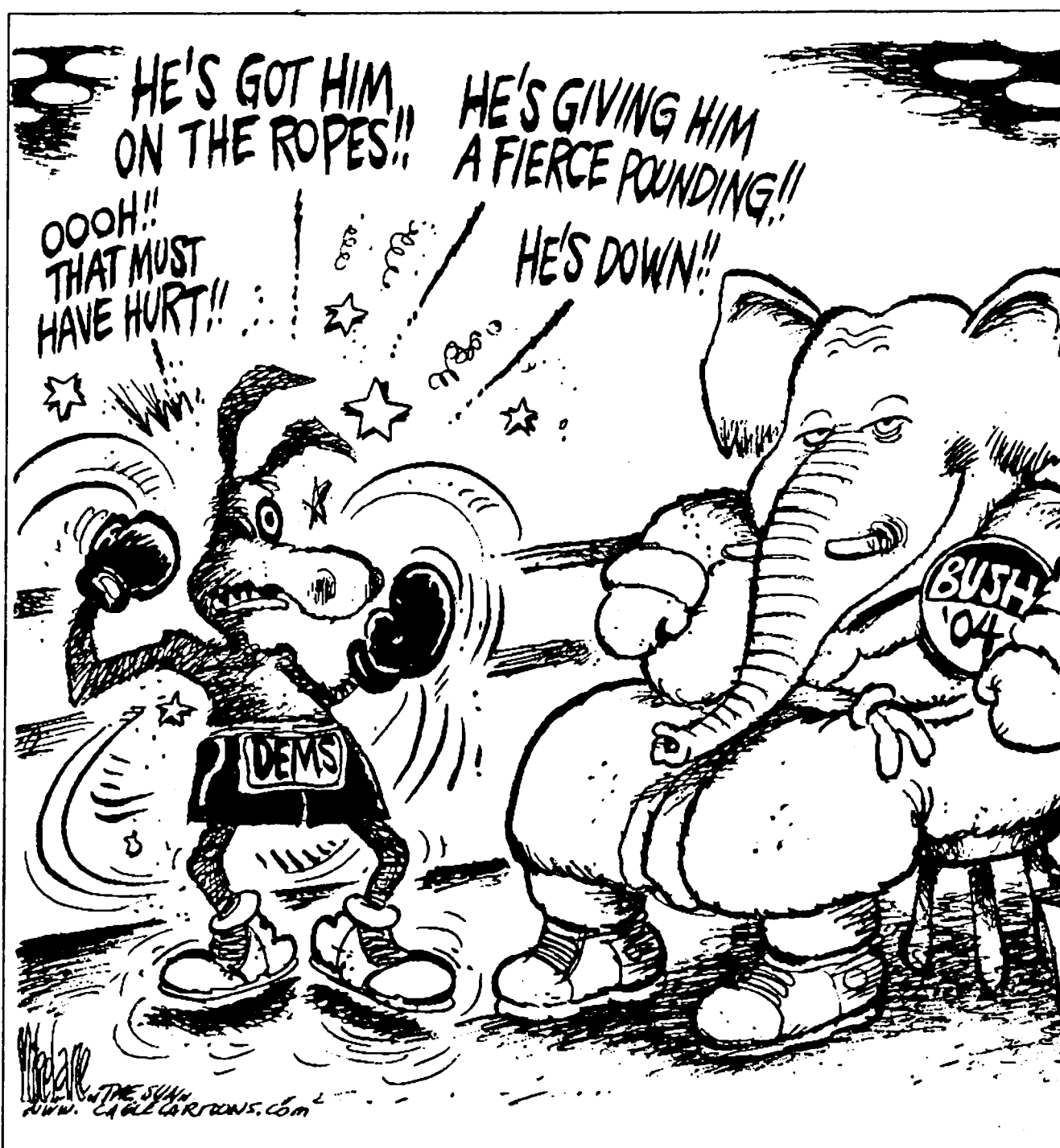
A couple of days ago, two friends and I, swaddled in the folds of Brobdingnagian jackets, slid onto the sidewalks of South Bend. My friend wanted nothing more than to convert some hundred-odd pounds sterling into its pea-colored American equivalent. Braving Boreas huffing and puffing against us, we walked from Washington to Colfax, across Michigan to Main, etching rectangular paths throughout the city's streets. What we discovered was that South Bend's financial district is the soul of the city. For a lovely overhead view of South Bend, visit Key Bank. For a wide array of travel magazines to pore over while the wind whips and whirls outside, pop into the TCU. Need to see some green fronds after the monotony of snow? First Source has plants. But should you ever need to exchange currency, should you by some fluke of fate



come from a distant, little-known kingdom called England, or for that matter, come from anywhere but here, you'd best get thee to Chicago before the bell tolls five on Friday. Not even the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union performs this feat of metamorphosing pounds into dollars. No, in matters of Midas, no bank can change shining sterling to gleaming green. (Or they will do it, but it will cost \$17-25 U.S. dollars for the exchange and to get the money can take up to 10 days.) I inquire of a University begun by Frenchmen, adopted by Irish, offering the Keough and the Kellogg, boasting the instruction of Chinese, Arabic, and many others, why it can't get its hands on the money.

Joan Arbery
graduate student
off campus
Jan. 15

EDITORIAL CARTOON



'Eye' on the Snite this weekend



Photograph courtesy of Snite Museum of Art

The "First Woman" painting is one of many very powerful commentaries about the death penalty as drawn by Malaquias Montoya.

By MARIA SMITH
Scene Editor

"My Eye," an exhibition of paintings by award-winning artist Rick Bartow, will open this Sunday at the Snite Museum of Art. Bartow, who is Yurok in origin, draws on his Native American ancestry in his paintings, which explore mythological themes from all over the world. Originally from northern California, Bartow now lives and works on the coast of Oregon.

Bartow is currently on a two-year national tour, funded by an endowment from The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and by the Oregon Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Oregon Council for the Humanities. An exhibition guide with an introduction by Oregon writer Barry Lopez, an extensive biography of the artist and a critical essay by curator Rebecca Dobkins will accompany the exhibition.

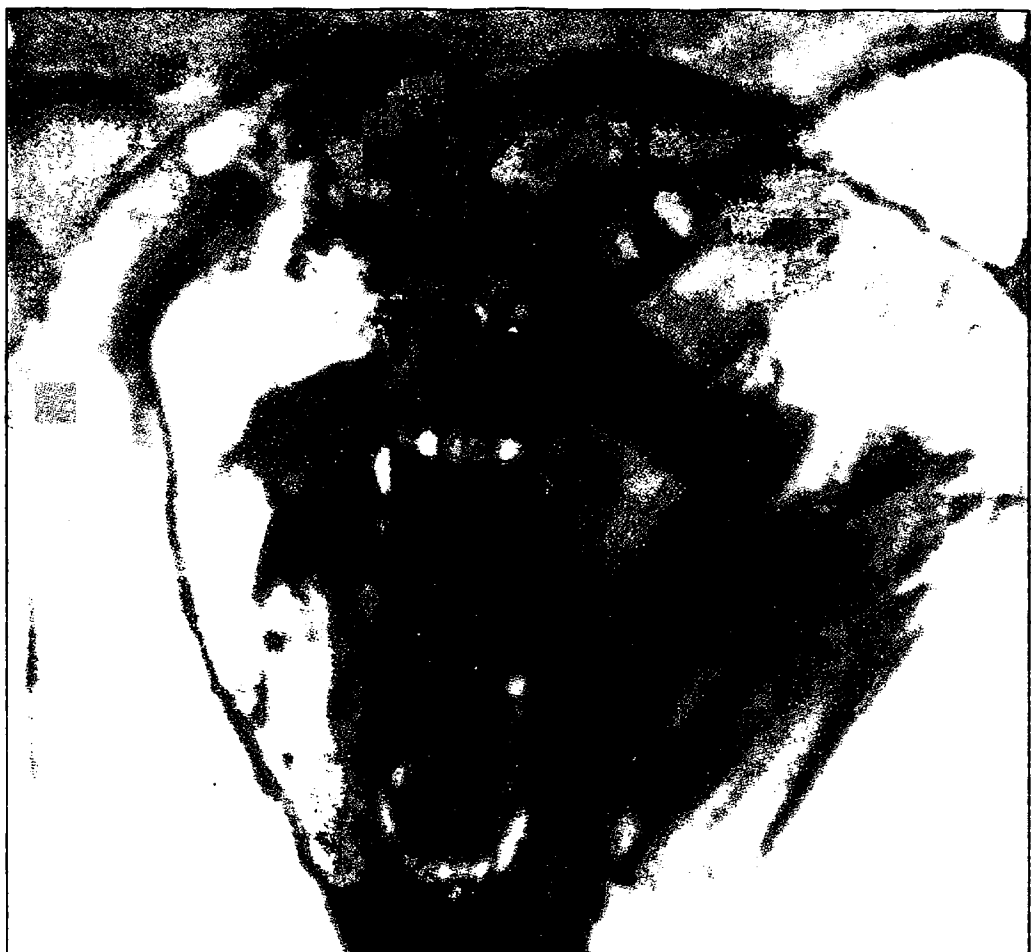
"Premeditated: Meditations on Capital Punishment"

opened last Sunday. Artist Malaquias Montoya, a leading figure in the political Chicano movement on the west coast, conceived the protest during the 2000 presidential election after the focus on George Bush's home state of Texas brought greater media attention to the issue of the death penalty in the United States. He uses his imagery to protest a practice that he considers an atrocity.

"We have perfected the art of institutional killing to the degree that it has deadened our national, quintessentially human response to death," the Snite Museum Web site quoted the artist as saying. "I want to produce a body of work depicting the horror of this act."

"Premeditated: Meditations on Capital Punishment" will run through Feb. 22. "My Eye" will run from Jan. 18 to March 14. Both exhibitions are free and open to the public.

Contact Maria Smith at
msmith4@nd.edu



Photograph courtesy of the Snite Museum of Art

Bartow's paintings, like this "Sie/Angry," use animal imagery to illustrate mythological influences on a diversity of cultures.

"Kennedy's Kitchen for an Irish

Started in the South Bend high

By JULIE BENDER
Assistant Scene Editor

With a leprechaun as the mascot, Irish as the team name, bagpipes on football mornings and a fair share of students with red hair, freckles and last names prefaced by "O" and "Mc," Notre Dame can pretty much claim itself the hub of Irish Americans in the United States. So, with the new live music bar Legends on campus, it is only natural that in a place where

Irish culture is celebrated, so is Irish music.

This weekend, Legends is host to Kennedy's Kitchen, a South Bend-based band founded, naturally, on St. Patrick's Day in 1998. The seven members of the band, all a variety of ages and backgrounds, play traditional Celtic music in their numerous gigs around town and have made quite a name for themselves in the local music scene.

Getting their start in the Monday night jam sessions at Lula's Café, the



Photo courtesy of www.kennedyskitchen.com

John Kennedy, the lead singer/songwriter of Kennedy's Kitchen, sat in with his nephew, Nolan Ladewski, last year at the 2002 Saint Mary's Fine Art Camp.



Photo courtesy of w

At the Rockford Celtic Festival, Kennedy's Kitchen's usual three-part "orchestra" and a bodhran, has a broad repertoire of Irish music ranging from slow aires to flying

"Kitchen" returns to Notre Dame Irish concert at Legends

*Bend area, this hot Irish band is well-known for
high-energy and authentic music*

band has had incredible success and in the past has performed in the Shaheen Music Series at Saint Mary's College and with champion step dancers Paul Cusick and Caitlin Allen at Notre Dame.

This past July brought the release of their self-titled debut album, and the band currently plays regular gigs at both Fiddler's Hearth and Lula's.

One of the essential characteristics of the band is their ability to interact with a crowd in such a way that it erases any distinction between musicians and audience. Participation, dancing, clapping and singing are encouraged by the band and occur naturally with the nature of the music played. Everyone is part of the show when Kennedy's Kitchen is playing. In fact, all the members of the band originally started out in the band as guest participants in the open Monday night jams at Lula's Café learning the ropes of Irish and Celtic music together.

Band members include John Kennedy, who is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist contributing vocals, guitar, tin whistle, bouzouki, bodhran and banjo to the band. Before forming Kennedy's Kitchen, he was the founder of another traditional Irish band, Seamaisín, and he continues to work as a producer and promoter for various other projects.

Bob Harke, the oldest member of the band and a science professor for local high school and college students, visited Ireland in 1995 and was immediately taken by the musical atmosphere, rhythms and culture found in local pubs. It didn't take him long to begin composing his own Irish tunes, and upon returning to South Bend he began participating in the Lula's jam sessions with his guitar, bodhran and vocals.

Rob Weber, bass player and supplier of low vocals, is a South Bend native who lived in Texas for many years performing with many blues, jazz and R&B artists during his time there. Weber is a writer with hundreds of short stories, novellas and a novel in his repertoire, and the story-telling qualities of Irish music is what drew him into playing with Kennedy's Kitchen.

Joel Cooper is currently the Director of Information Technology at Carleton College in Minnesota, but he returns regularly to the Michiana area to perform with Kennedy's Kitchen, contributing bass, guitar and vocals. His singing background includes groups such as the Notre Dame Chorale and the Vesper Chorale, and gigs with the South Bend Symphony. Cooper is also a composer; his song "Land By The Sea" is on the Kitchen's debut album.

Chris O'Brien, who lives in Kilkee, Ireland during the summers with her husband and children, works to restore artwork and antique furniture and also offers her talents on fiddle and vocals to Kennedy's Kitchen, and another band, Tallas.

Jim Bradberry, the owner of Mr. Bradberry's Violin Shop, played guitar with Jericho and TD Davis in the 70's, and now plays a variety of music including country, bluegrass, Bulgarian, and of course, Irish music. In addition to Kennedy's Kitchen, he plays with a bluegrass band along with his wife.

The band also includes two younger members, adding youth, vitality and much talent to the band. Nolan Ladewski, who is 14 and the nephew of founding member Kennedy, plays the tin whistle and the low D whistle with the band. In 1999, he placed first in his age for tin whistle in the Midwest Fleadh and went to Ireland to compete later that year. Ladewski appears on the CD *Notre Dame Experience*, and is also a member of the band Mira, which also performs regularly at Fiddler's Hearth.

Sally Joyce, age 16, although relatively new to Irish music, plays fiddle and various whistles with the Kitchen. She is an accomplished pianist and has studied tin whistle and fiddle with local teachers. Along with Ladewski, Joyce is also a member of Mira.

Much is in store for the band in the coming year. March brings the promise of several concerts at local venues in Michigan City, St. Joseph, Mich. and Valparaiso. In September the band will be part of Indiana's biggest festival, the Blueberry Festival, held in Plymouth, and in October the band will take part in a weekend festival for Notre Dame's Alumni Bands on campus. Sometime in the fall, the band also plans to participate in the LVD Concert Series and will perform at the University of Illinois.

So, even if it isn't possible to fly to Ireland and sit with authentic Irish fiddlers and a creamy Guinness in hand, the closest thing this side of the Atlantic is at Legends this weekend, cooking it up with Kennedy's Kitchen. Come support the band and get your Irish dance groovin'! The show starts at 10 p.m.

Contact Julie Bender at
jbender@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of www.kennedyskitchen.com

Bob Harke, seen here playing the bodhran, is one of the band's oldest members and is also a high school and college science professor.

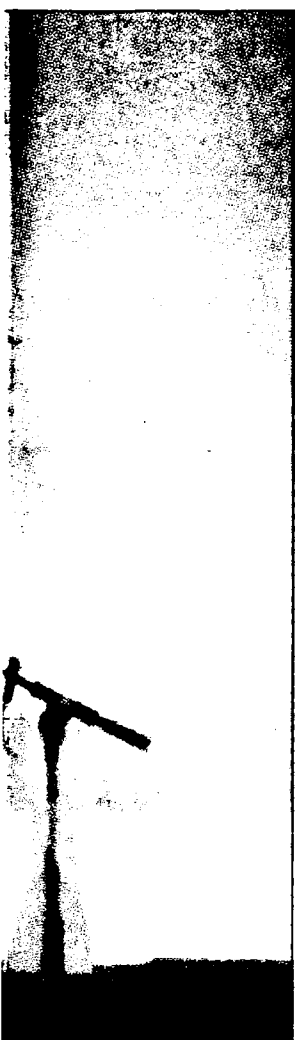


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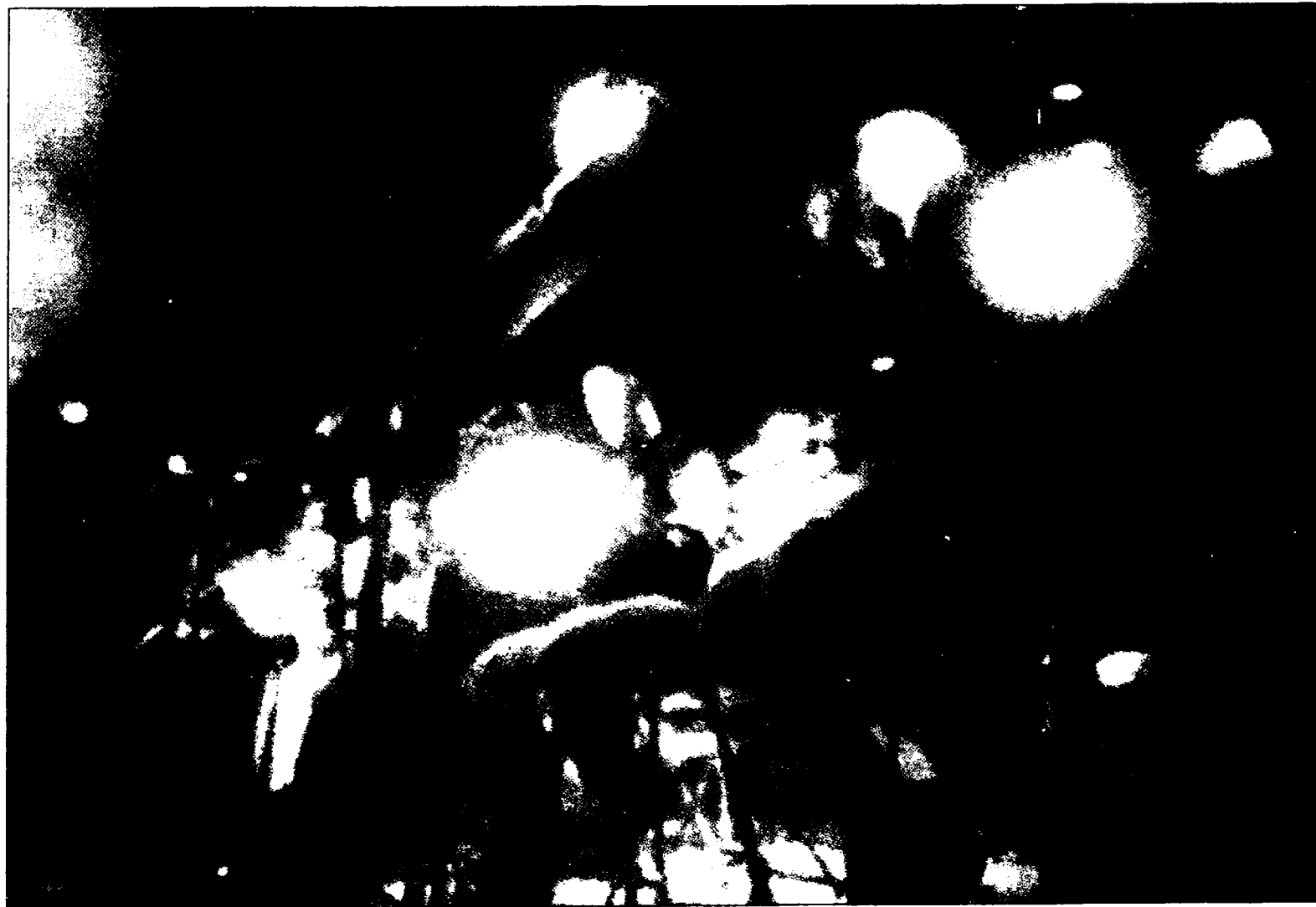


Photo courtesy of www.kennedyskitchen.com

Kennedy's Kitchen played for a fundraiser for firemen and policemen at the Notre Dame Senior Bar in 2002. They return this weekend to Legends for a night of upbeat Irish music.

NHL

Barnaby third period goal lifts Rangers into tie with Devils

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Matthew Barnaby scored with 1:49 remaining in regulation to lift the New York Rangers into a 3-3 tie with the New Jersey Devils on Thursday night.

The Devils appeared to be on their way to another win over the Rangers after Sergei Brylin scored to snap a third-period tie. But Barnaby salvaged a rare point for New York against New Jersey with his late goal.

Martin Brodeur made 30 saves in his 50th straight start against the Rangers, who are 1-21-13-1 versus the Devils since Feb. 17, 1997.

Mike Dunham made 30 stops for New York, outshot 2-0 in overtime.

Brylin put the Devils in front 3-2 at 4:05 of the third, just 3:37 after rookie Chad Wiseman scored his first NHL goal to tie it at 2 for New York.

New York's third goal came when Mark Messier worked the puck behind the net and found Barnaby in front. The feisty forward split two Devils defenders and beat Brodeur.

Brodeur gave a long-distance goal to Anson Carter late in the first period, before Scott Niedermayer assisted on goals by Erik Rasmussen and Jay Pandolfo in the second to give New Jersey a 2-1 lead.

The Devils haven't lost to the Rangers since falling in overtime on Oct. 17, 2001 — going 7-0-4 in that span. New Jersey was without captain Scott Stevens for the fourth straight game, and Niedermayer wore the 'C' in his place.

Stevens had been fighting the flu, but has still felt run down since recovering from the illness. New Jersey general manager Lou Lamoriello said Stevens will be out another seven to 10 days because the defenseman might be feeling the effects of an unknown hit from earlier in the season.

Carter gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead with 1:11 left in the first period. Jan Hlavac carried the puck into the Devils' zone after Carter forced a turnover. Hlavac dropped a pass back to Carter, who slapped a shot from the blue line past Brodeur.

The Devils tied it and went ahead when Rasmussen and Pandolfo scored 3:08 apart. Pandolfo took a pass in front from John Madden, who had

carried the puck the length of the ice, and beat Dunham.

Wiseman got the Rangers even just 42 seconds into the third when a pass trickled loosely off Barnaby's stick. Wiseman found the puck in the slot and chipped a shot over Brodeur's stick.

It was Wiseman's first point in seven career NHL games.

But Brylin cleaned up a big rebound left by Dunham, waited patiently in front, and put a backhander in over the goalie's shoulder at 4:05.

Boston 1, Buffalo 0

Felix Potvin made 27 saves for his 31st career shutout and Sergei Samsonov scored to lift the Boston Bruins over the Buffalo Sabres.

Potvin, 3-0-1 in his last four starts, helped Boston extend its winning streak to five games and its unbeaten streak to seven (6-0-1-0).

The Bruins got their first shutout in Buffalo since April 4, 1993.

Mika Noronen made 24 saves for Buffalo, which had its home unbeaten streak stopped at seven games.

Samsonov scored his ninth goal with 4:33 remaining in the second period. Joe Thornton recovered a loose puck in the corner and swung around to the slot, where he fed Glen Murray.

Murray's one-timer was stopped by Noronen, but Samsonov tucked in the rebound.

Thornton extended his point streak to seven games. Samsonov has a point in five of seven games since returning from a knee injury.

Buffalo came closest to scoring in the game's first minute, when Daniel Briere hit the post.

Potvin made consecutive stops in traffic five minutes into the third period. He stopped Jason Botterill from the slot, and foiled Ales Kotalik on the rebound while sprawled on the ice.

Potvin, who made 12 saves in the third period, raised his record against Buffalo to 5-7-4. Two of his five wins have been shutouts.

Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 4

Martin St. Louis had his second hat trick of the season and Dave Andreychuk got his 1,300th point, leading the Tampa Bay Lightning to their fifth straight victory, over the



Justin Papineu (left) of the Islanders and Chris Neil fight for the puck in a 4-4 tie between the Ottawa Senators and the Islanders.

Reuters

Carolina Hurricanes.

St. Louis scored all three of his goals during the Lightning's five-goal first period against goaltenders Kevin Weekes and Jamie Storr, matching the three-goal performance the All-Star forward had against Carolina on Jan. 30, 2003.

Andreychuk scored the 622nd goal of his 22-year career in the period, making him the 25th player in NHL history with 1,300 points. Brad Richards scored just 35 seconds into the game, and Carolina coach Peter Laviolette yanked Weekes when St. Louis scored on Tampa Bay's second shot, less than three minutes later.

Storr wasn't much better at first, giving up two goals to St. Louis in a three-minute span before Andreychuk got his ninth of the season on a power play to give the Lightning a 5-1 lead.

After dominating the opening period, Tampa Bay managed just two shots in the second and 11 in the third.

St. Louis 5, Columbus 3

Eric Boguniecki scored twice to lead the slumping St. Louis

Blues to a win over the Columbus Blue Jackets.

Mark Rycroft added a goal and an assist for the Blues. Chris Pronger and Dallas Drake also scored for St. Louis, which won for just the fourth time in its last 14 games.

Backup goalie Reinhard Divis made 23 saves to improve his record to 3-0 and keep the Blues perfect against the Blue Jackets (4-0-0-0).

Geoff Sanderson and Nikolai Zherdev each had a goal and an assist for Columbus. Todd Marchant also scored for the Blue Jackets.

Columbus took a 3-2 lead when Sanderson scored 1:05 into the third period.

But the Blues rallied. Rycroft tipped home Murray Baron's slap shot from the point to tie it at 8:43 of the period, and Boguniecki gave the Blues the lead 1:07 later when he converted Petr Cajanek's centering pass.

Drake then added an empty net goal with 24.9 seconds left.

Boguniecki scored the first goal of the game 7:28 into the contest thanks in large part to Keith Tkachuk, who had two

assists.

With the Blues on the power play, Tkachuk carried the puck from the right point into the slot. Tkachuk lost control of the puck, but Boguniecki was there to whip a quick shot past Columbus goalie Marc Denis.

NY Islanders 4, Ottawa 4

Todd White, Martin Havlat and Zdeno Chara scored in the third period to help the Ottawa Senators overcome a four-goal deficit and tie the New York Islanders.

Patrick Lalime made 34 saves for the Senators, who earned a point for the 14th time in their last 15 games (10-1-4).

Michael Peca scored twice, and Mattias Weinhandl and Mariusz Czerkawski had power-play goals as New York built a 4-0 lead 14:13 into the second.

Ottawa rookie Josh Langfeld scored for the second straight game at 14:30, just 17 seconds after Peca's second goal, to draw the Senators within three.

White scored a power-play goal 3:17 into the third and Havlat made it 4-3 when he scored off a turnover.

CLASSIFIEDS

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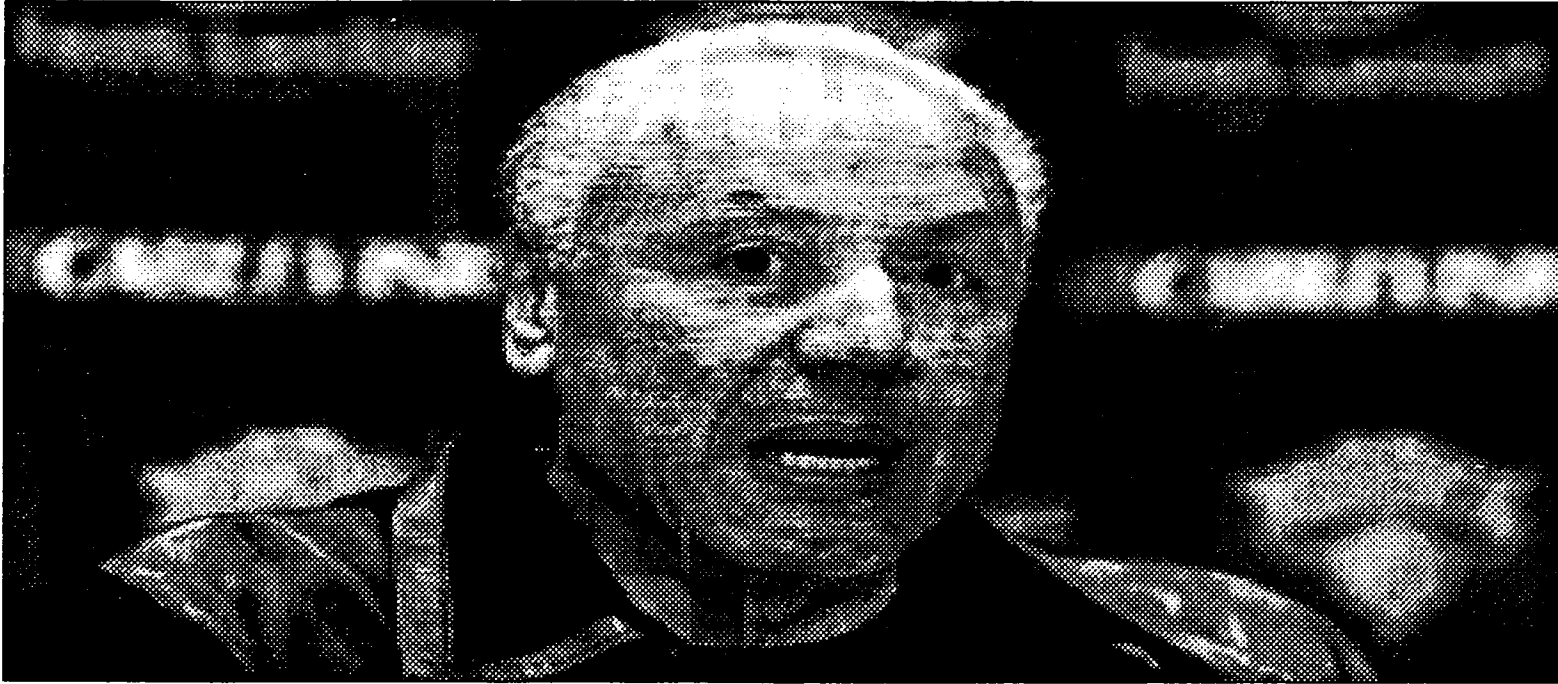
Go Cubs. April is just a few short months away.

Sorry guys, I'll close the im windows from now on....

No she won't

NBA

Wilkins joins Knicks, replacing Chaney as head coach



Lenny Wilkins, a Hall of Famer, speaks about his plans for the the Knicks Thursday at the Knicks training facility. Wilkins replaces Don Chaney as the head coach of the Knicks.

Associated Press

GREENBURGH, N.Y. — Lenny Wilkins was wrapping up his introductory news conference Thursday when a grinning Stephon Marbury strode over to the dais.

"Here comes another Brooklyn guy," the New York Knicks' new coach said before receiving a big hug from the team's point guard.

Marbury delivered the warmest embrace to Wilkins as the Knicks welcomed aboard another of the best playmakers ever to come out of New York. First, new team president Isiah Thomas traded for an All-Star (Marbury), then he hired a Hall of Famer (Wilkins).

Wilkins ran a brief practice in the afternoon, preparing the revamped Knicks to play the Seattle SuperSonics on Friday night. He replaces Don Chaney, fired Wednesday.

"The opportunity to come back to New York is just tremendous. It's not anything that I thought could happen," said Wilkins, who had been out of work since being fired by the Toronto Raptors at the end of last season.

The Knicks are the sixth team coached by the 66-year-old Wilkins, who has made the playoffs in 19 of his 30 seasons on the bench. His challenge in New York will be to guide the Knicks (16-24) back to the postseason after a two-year absence.

New York is 2 1/2 games behind Philadelphia for eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

"We've got our work cut out for us, but I'm an optimist," Wilkins said. "It's still early enough. We can make the playoffs."

He plans to prod the Knicks to refocus on defense and hopes to tweak their offense — all while growing accustomed to a roster that, until Thursday, he had only seen a handful of times on television.

Wilkins said he welcomes input from Thomas, who drew up a wish list of coaching candidates before settling on the gray-haired gentleman from the Class of '56 at Boys High School in Brooklyn.

"I feel like it's my team right now — or I should say Stephon's team," Wilkins said.

Wilkins, owner of the most coaching victories and losses in NBA history, will have to make adjustments on the fly. The Knicks enter a stretch of six games in nine days that includes a matinee matchup with the Raptors on Monday.

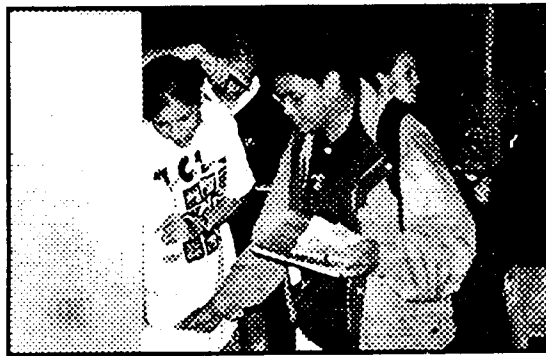
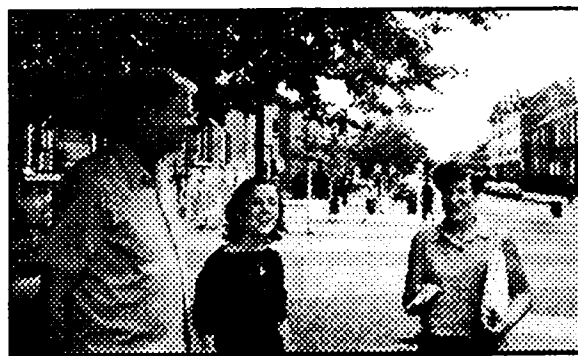
Several Toronto players criticized Wilkins' coaching methods after he was fired in April. Vince Carter said Wilkins doesn't understand today's game.

Wilkins said he was surprised by Carter's comments and defended his tenure in Toronto, citing the team's numerous injuries during his three seasons there.

"I don't pay it any mind because many players will say things to distract from themselves," Wilkins said.

After being fired, Wilkins spent time at home in Seattle playing golf and tennis.

"I never gave much thought to whether my coaching days were over or not. When I left I said I still had a lot of coaching left in me," Wilkins said. "When the season started, I started missing it. And I started to watch a lot of games. And when this opportunity came, I jumped at it."



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NFL

Delhomme brings spirit, enthusiasm to Panthers

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jake Delhomme sprinted onto the football field and into the huddle, words of encouragement tumbling out of his mouth faster than his teammates could comprehend.

The Carolina Panthers trailed 17-0 in their season opener and Delhomme was sent in to turn it around.

He did. That day he rallied the Panthers to the biggest comeback in franchise history and has continued to do so, bringing them within one win of a trip to the Super Bowl.

"To me, this game is no different than the first game of the season," Delhomme said. "The goals are still the same: Play your best and win."

No one knew what to expect from Delhomme when he relieved Rodney Peete in the second half of the Sept. 7 season opener. He failed to seat Peete for the starting job in training camp, but Peete played so poorly that day against Jacksonville there was no way the Panthers could leave him in.

So they sent in Delhomme, then crossed their fingers and hoped he'd be able to pump some life into the offense.

"He came running in as if it was 0-0 and we had a shot," receiver Steve Smith said. "He was screaming and yelling and telling us we were going to win. He really came in with some fire."

It was the chance the feisty Cajun from Louisiana had been waiting for his entire life.

He'd spent five years as a backup for his hometown New Orleans Saints with no chance to unseat Aaron Brooks for the starting job. Although he loved being close to his home and family, Delhomme knew he needed to leave if he was ever going to play in the NFL.

He was courted by Carolina and Dallas, and picked the Panthers hoping he'd be starting by opening day.

Although it didn't happen the way he planned, his big chance was in front of him and there was no way Delhomme was going to blow it.

"I just told myself 'Don't try to win it all at once. This is what you've wanted to do all your life,'" Delhomme recalled.

The Panthers fed off of his enthusiasm as Delhomme threw three touchdown passes — the final with 16 seconds to play — to rally them to a 24-23 victory over the Jaguars.

"It was like with the snap of a finger, everything changed,"

fullback Brad Hoover said. "It was weird. There needed to be a change and he comes in joking, saying, 'Don't worry. We're going to do it.' Then, Bam! Bam! Bam!"

It's been Bam, Bam, Bam ever since.

Delhomme has led Carolina to eight victories this season by engineering the game-winning drive late in the fourth quarter or in overtime.

His most recent heroics came last week in St. Louis, when he threw a 69-yard touchdown pass to Smith on the first play of double overtime to beat the Rams and put the Panthers into the NFC championships.

Delhomme is far from the next Joe Montana, John Elway or Dan Marino.

But his ability to stay calm in the waning moments of a tight game have earned the 29-year-old some comparisons to the great fourth-quarter comeback quarterbacks.

So how does a guy in his first season as a starter not panic with the game — and now the season — on the line?

"In those situations where we do have to come back, I just tell myself, 'OK, don't try to do something you can't, don't try to be somebody you're not, don't try to take something that's not there,'" Delhomme said. "The main thing for me is to get the ball into the hands of our playmakers. I know if I get too riled up, if I try to do too much, then I will only hurt the team."

That's a lesson Delhomme learned the hard way with the Saints.

Given an opportunity to prove himself in 1999, Delhomme couldn't eat or sleep before the preseason game. It was between Delhomme and Danny Wuerffel for the starting job and Delhomme flopped when he got out onto the field.

"I had to play well and then some, probably, to win that job," Delhomme said. "I put a lot of pressure on myself and came in and stunk it up. I hated the feeling that I had, feeling like, 'Oh, you've got to make a play.'"

"From that point on I swore that I would never, ever do that again."

Instead, Delhomme hits the field like an eager kid who just got his first pair of shoulder pads. He's passionate and eager and excited, but determined not to make the same mistakes twice.

But it's the intangibles — the lift he gives the offense, the spark he brings to the entire team — that make him invaluable.

Lopienski contributes for Colts

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts fullback Tom Lopienski waited all season to touch the football and tight end Joe Dean Davenport went seven games without having a pass thrown his direction.

Both delivered when given the chance.

With players like Lopienski and Davenport, Brandon Stokley and Reggie Wayne now on Peyton Manning's radar, opponents look almost defenseless against an Indianapolis offense that finds new contributors every week.

"They have weapons all over the place," Patriots cornerback Ty Law said. "They have the big three, Brandon and Reggie are stepping up. You have to go out and play good, sound team defense to stop them."

The 15-2 Patriots' biggest challenge of the season could come Sunday when the Colts bring the league's hottest offense to chilly Foxboro, Mass.

Indianapolis (14-4) scored 79 points in its first two playoff games, has yet to punt and seems to be improving as the stakes increase.

Manning, the league's co-MVP, has a near perfect passer rating of 156.9 after throwing eight touchdowns and no interceptions in a 41-10 victory over Denver and a 38-31 win at Kansas City. Five-time Pro Bowl receiver Marvin Harrison has 13 catches for 231 yards and two touchdowns, while Edgerrin James has rushed for 203 yards and two TDs.

The other part of the equation is the Colts' supporting cast.

Stokley has become a big-play threat in the playoffs with

eight catches for 201 yards and three touchdowns, including an 87-yarder — the longest pass play in the franchise's postseason history. Wayne also has emerged as a primary threat with 11 catches and two touchdowns the last two weeks. Even little-used players like Lopienski, an undrafted rookie, and Davenport, a blocking tight end, are making an impact.

Lopienski's first touch of the season came on a 2-yard touchdown reception at Kansas City, and Lopienski and Davenport each had as many catches as James last week — one. That's by design.

"In this offense, you just have to stay with it," Manning said. "Joe Dean? Now there's a trend-breaker right there. Tom Lopienski, there you go."

The offensive mastermind is Tom Moore, a man who has run some of the best offenses in league history, including those of the high-scoring Detroit Lions teams that featured Barry Sanders and Herman Moore.

In Indianapolis, Moore has made some adjustments, such as using double-tight end formations, but has continued to rely primarily on one-back sets.

With all the options — a quarterback adept at reading defenses and changing calls, a receiver defenders must focus on stopping and a power running back — Moore has tested defenses by putting more stress on them.

The Colts don't hesitate to send tight end Marcus Pollard deep over the middle, and Wayne and Stokley can be used short or deep. And just when defenses think they've figured it out, Manning crosses them

up by going to Davenport or Lopienski.

"Marvin sets the tempo for us in the passing game. We see how people are playing him and how they're going to try and take him away," coach Tony Dungy said. "Then it's a matter of everyone being ready. In our offense, you have to be able to produce when your number is called."

For these Colts, that call could come at almost any moment — given their injury history.

Harrison, who hurt his ribs last week, had already missed one game this season with a strained hamstring.

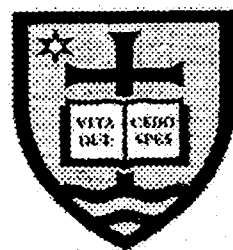
James sat out three games after breaking two bones in his lower back and rookie tight end Dallas Clark missed the last 6 1/2 games with a broken right leg.

Now Stokley, who was signed to be the team's No. 3 receiver but didn't get healthy until December, may not play Sunday because his infant son was hospitalized.

Yet the Colts have continued to win because of The Unknowns — players such as Troy Walters, who had a career-high 36 receptions and 456 yards before breaking his nose and then being dropped to No. 4 after Stokley's emergence.

"Everybody's making plays, everybody's reading it when it's called," Walters said. "Stokley's made several big plays, Reggie and Joe Dean, every one has made a play."

The Colts are hopeful that Clark, who was not placed on injured reserve, may be healthy enough to play in the Super Bowl, if they make it.



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NFL

Marino becomes Dolphins' VP of football operations

Associated Press

MIAMI — He spent 17 years running the huddle for the Dolphins. Now, he'll run their front office, which means enduring fickle fans, carping columnists, endless hours of game film and a December trip to Buffalo.

Why would Dan Marino want that?

The office, desk and other trappings that come with joining the mundane 9-to-5 world will all be new to Marino, now that he



Dan Marino

has become Miami's senior vice president of football operations.

The job title may be long, but it lacks the luster of the position he played so well. The best, most popular player in Dolphins history, Marino puts his reputation on the line by taking charge of a team that won its most recent Super Bowl title 30 years ago.

"I've had people say to me, 'Why take this risk?'" he admits.

His answer: While working the past four years as a network TV analyst, Marino missed the Dolphins. He missed chasing the NFL title he never won. He especially missed the rush of adrenaline

that comes with having a stake in the outcome of every game.

"The TV shows have been

great, and I feel I did a pretty good job, but you don't win or lose," he says.

"There is something about being part of the organization and

working together. If you're part of that process and you win, there is no better satisfaction in the world."

So Marino will give up his three-days-a-week, \$2 million-a-year TV gigs for a less glam-

orous, more demanding, newly created job that has been only vaguely defined.

This much Marino knows: Coach Dave Wannstedt and general manager

Rick Spielman will report to him. He'll sit in on coaches' meetings and assist with player evaluations, but Spielman will

make the final decision on personnel.

"Dan has a real feel for the game, and I think that's going to translate to helping our team both on the field and in securing players," team president Eddie Jones said. "It's going to be a feel thing as we go along, defining exactly what he's going to be doing."

There's no doubt Marino will have the ear of owner Wayne Huizenga. They're golf buddies and often travel together. But the fuzzy job description reinforces suspicions that Marino is merely a figurehead to appease season-ticket holders unhappy that Miami missed the playoffs the past two years.

Reaction to his hiring was enthusiastic from fans, less so among media pundits.

"I wouldn't have taken the job just to make it look good," Marino says. "It's not a PR position. ... I think Wayne is looking for another set of eyes that played the game for 17 years that can look at it from a different perspective."

A handful of standout NFL players have moved to the front office, with results ranging from first rate (Ozzie Newsome in Baltimore) to last place (Matt Millen in Detroit).

"It's very difficult to go straight from the field without any experience in that role," former Dolphins coach Jimmy Johnson says. "But there are enough quality people within the organization that Dan will have time to learn in the job, and I'm sure he'll do a great job."

Marino's judgment could prove particularly beneficial regarding the passing game that has been Miami's weakest area since he retired. The receiving corps and offensive line need to be upgraded, and the Dolphins must decide whether to stay with inconsistent, injury-prone Jay Fiedler at quarterback.

The presence of Marino also means another year of shaky job security for Wannstedt, who narrowly avoided being fired after this past season. He became coach in January 2000 and is widely perceived to have nudged Marino into retirement two months later.

At the news conference Monday where Marino was introduced as the new boss, Wannstedt stood off to one side, back literally against the wall, wearing an expression he usually reserves for losses to the New York Jets. He and Marino claim there's no strain in their relationship.

"Dave told me [in 2000] if I wanted an opportunity to come back, I could," Marino said. "But it didn't feel right. It was time for me."

He retired reluctantly, and now the master of the fourth-quarter rally has staged another comeback. An hour after his hiring was announced, there were 40 congratulatory messages on his cell phone, reflecting a good vibe that's sure to last awhile.

The Dolphins are Marino's team again, and they'll remain undefeated until at least September.

"Dan has a real feel for the game, and I think that's going to translate to helping our team both on the field and in securing players."

Eddie Jones
Team president

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AROUND THE NATION

page 18

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER WIRE SERVICES

Friday, January 16, 2004

AP Men's Basketball

	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (52)	13-1	1,767
2	Duke (4)	12-1	1,689
3	Stanford (11)	13-0	1,647
4	Wake Forest (5)	11-0	1,562
5	Kentucky	10-1	1,477
6	Saint Joseph's	13-0	1,356
7	Arizona	10-2	1,249
8	Louisville	11-1	1,248
9	North Carolina	10-2	1,146
10	Cincinnati	11-0	1,136
11	Oklahoma	10-1	973
12	Georgia Tech	12-2	952
13	Pittsburgh	16-0	926
14	Kansas	9-2	923
15	Florida	11-2	914
16	Gonzaga	12-2	810
17	Syracuse	11-1	806
18	Texas	9-2	619
19	Wisconsin	11-2	472
20	Mississippi State	13-0	388
21	Marquette	11-2	294
22	Texas Tech	13-2	240
23	Vanderbilt	12-1	222
24	Creighton	12-0	218
25	Illinois	10-3	133

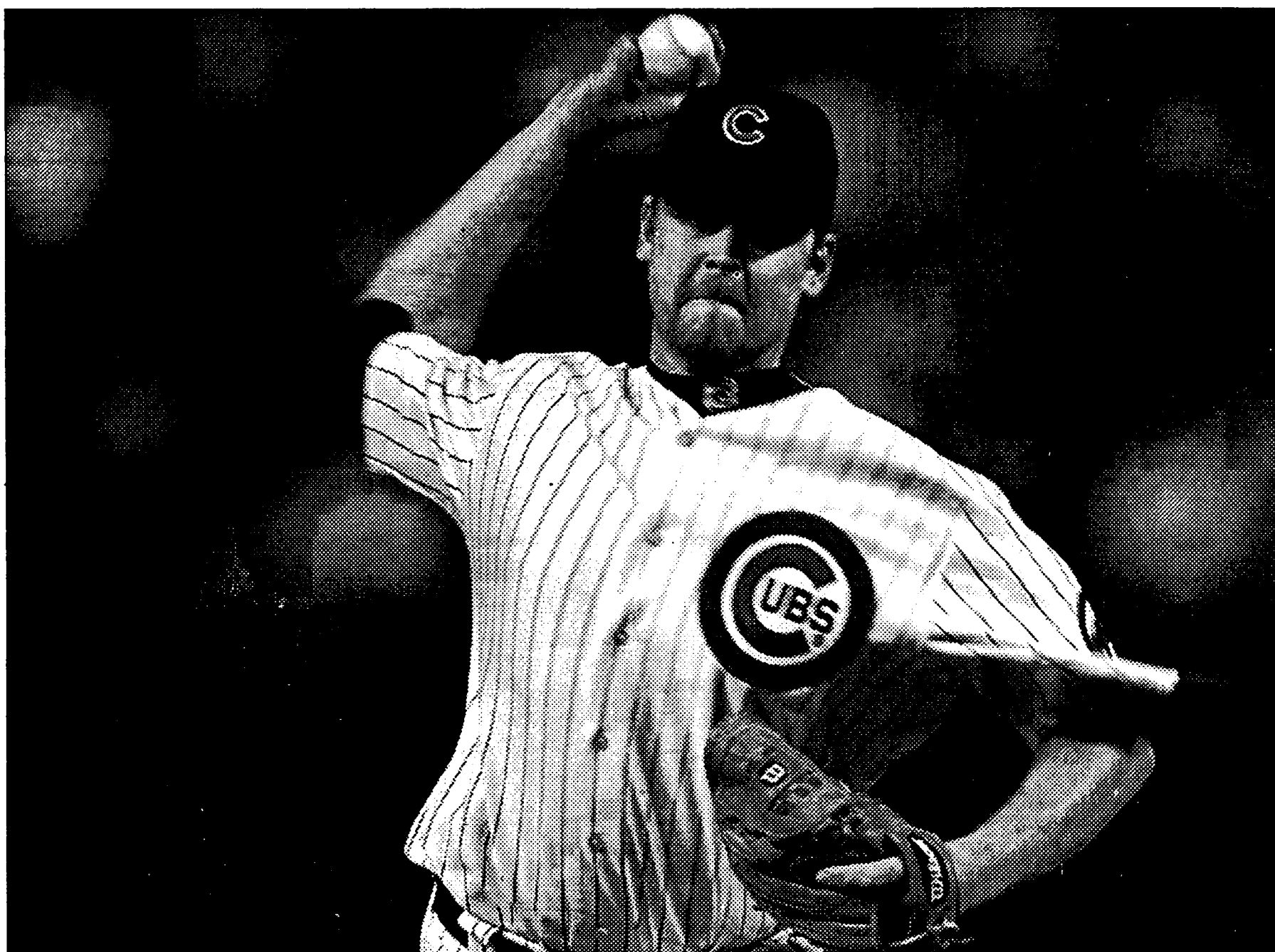
ESPN Men's Basketball

	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (24)	13-1	763
2	Duke (2)	12-1	729
3	Wake Forest (3)	11-0	687
4	Stanford (1)	13-0	684
5	Kentucky	10-1	658
6	Saint Joseph's (1)	13-0	588
7	Cincinnati	11-0	565
8	Arizona	10-2	542
9	Louisville	11-1	473
10	Florida	11-2	458
11	North Carolina	10-2	450
12	Kansas	9-2	406
13	Oklahoma	10-1	404
14	Georgia Tech	12-2	393
15	Pittsburgh	16-0	381
16	Texas	9-2	316
17	Gonzaga	12-2	288
18	Syracuse	11-1	275
19	Wisconsin	11-2	262
20	Creighton	12-0	146
21	Marquette	11-2	138
22	Texas Tech	13-2	100
23	Vanderbilt	12-1	95
24	Mississippi State	13-0	85
25	Illinois	10-3	64

Mens College Basketball Big East Conference

	conf.	overall	last 5	RPI
Pittsburgh	3-0	16-0	5-0	24
Connecticut	2-0	14-1	5-0	16
Syracuse	2-0	12-1	5-0	27
NOTRE DAME	2-1	8-4	4-1	110
Virginia Tech	1-1	8-5	3-2	140
Selon Hall	1-1	10-3	4-1	20
Providence	1-1	9-3	3-2	19
Villanova	1-1	8-4	2-3	79
Boston College	1-2	11-4	2-3	11
Rutgers	1-2	9-4	2-3	26
West Virginia	1-2	8-4	3-2	69
Georgetown	1-3	10-3	2-3	90
Saint John's	0-3	4-9	2-3	107

MLB



JONATHAN DANIEL/Getty

Kerry Wood pitches in Game 7 of the NLCS. The Cubs ace joined sixty-four others in filing for salary arbitration Thursday.

65 baseball players file for arbitration

Associated Press

AL Cy Young Award winner Roy Halladay, 2001 NL Rookie of the Year Albert Pujols and New York Yankees second baseman Alfonso Soriano were among 65 players who filed for salary arbitration Thursday, the fewest to submit their names since 1999.

Houston pitchers Wade Miller, Roy Oswalt and Octavio Dotel also filed, as did Chicago Cubs pitcher Kerry Wood, Anaheim pitcher Jarrod Washburn and Florida pitchers Brad Penny and Carl Pavano.

Two free-agent pitchers

who accepted arbitration offers from their former teams also were in the group: Philadelphia's Kevin Millwood and the New York Yankees' Gabe White.

Clubs have made an effort in recent years to force deals with non-star players well before mid-January, threatening not to offer them contracts unless they settled before filing.

Seventy-two players filed last year, down from 90 in 2002 and 102 in 2001. Just 62 filed in 1999.

Many of those who filed are expected to settle by

Tuesday when players and teams exchange proposed salaries — just 34 players swapped figures with their teams last year. For those who don't settle, hearings before three-arbitrator panels will be scheduled during the first three weeks of February.

Just seven cases went to hearings last year, with owners winning five and increasing their record to 259-194 since arbitration began in 1974.

Players have not won a majority of a year's hearings since 1996, but owners complain about arbitration because of the huge raises many players

receive in the process, which is largely limited to those with at least three but less than six years of major league service.

Three players who had been eligible agreed to contracts Thursday, with San Diego right-hander Adam Eaton getting a \$5.25 million, two-year deal, Cubs closer Joe Borowski receiving a \$4.3 million, two-year agreement and Seattle catcher Ben Davis getting a \$1.4 million, one-year deal.

Philadelphia shortstop Jimmy Rollins settled shortly after filing, agreeing to a \$2.4 million, one-year contract.

IN BRIEF

MLB hopes to find home for the Expos

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Major league baseball hopes to pick the future home of the Montreal Expos by the All-Star break, vowing to make a decision this season following two years of missed deadlines.

The Expos were bought by the other 29 teams before the 2002 season, and the commissioner's office originally hoped to relocate the team by 2003.

Following a two-day owners meeting, Expos president Tony Tavares said baseball's goal was to "hopefully have a decision by the All-Star game."

Commissioner Bud Selig expressed confidence the Expos would be relocated by the start of the 2005 season. He said remaining in Montreal was not an option.

"They've had a hard time finding local ownership once Charles Bronfman left in 1989. It's been a

terrible struggle up there," Selig said. "I'd like to get the club sold. It would be one less thing for us and for me."

Baseball officials have spoken about the Expos with groups from Las Vegas; Monterrey, Mexico; Norfolk, Va.; Northern Virginia; Portland, Ore.; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Washington, D.C. Last year, owners told the groups they wanted funding for a new ballpark in place before making a decision. It was unclear if baseball still holds to that.

"Whoever gets the team is going to have a ballpark situation structured," Selig said.

Wie two over at Sony Open

HONOLULU — Michelle Wie hardly looked out of place Thursday at the Sony Open. Give her time, and the 14-year-old might prove she belongs on the PGA Tour.

Michelle Wie just missed on a few long birdie putts Thursday.

Wie, believed to be the youngest player ever on the PGA Tour, made three birdies in a respectable round of 2-over 72 that left her nine strokes behind early leader Carlos Franco and in need of her best round to make the cut.

Still, the ninth-grader from Punahou made quite an impression.

"She hits it long enough to play any golf course," said Craig Bowden, her playing partner who posted a 70. "I looked at her today as another player."

"We don't have a lot in common," Bowden said. "I asked her when she was going to get her driver's license."

They were different in other areas, too.

Wie twice hit drives longer than 300 yards, and routinely knocked it some 20 yards beyond Bowden. Her only weakness was her irons. Despite length that would fit right in among the men, she rarely gave herself good birdie chances.

around the dial

GOLF

Sony Open 7 p.m., ESPN

NBA

San Antonio at Indiana 7:30 p.m. ESPN2

LA Lakers at Sacramento 10:30 p.m. ESPN

Boston at Orlando 7 p.m. FSN

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish travel
for indoor
opener

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame's men's and women's track and field teams will begin the indoor portion of their 2004 schedule this weekend at the Central Michigan Opener in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., today at 5:30 p.m.

After this weekend's opener, the Irish will return to the Loftus Sports Center for three consecutive weekends of home meets. Notre Dame will take on Western Michigan and Ball State in a triangular meet on Jan. 23, followed by a quad meet with DePaul, Marquette and Michigan State on Jan. 30. The Meyo Invitational follows on Feb. 6 and 7.

Visits

continued from page 24

looked at his film, they knew they wanted him to have the ball in his hands."

Nate Lyles, a hard-hitting, 6-foot, 185 pound cornerback, and cornerback Junior Jabbie (5-foot-11, 175 pounds), a late prep-school find out of Parlin, N.J., are two other defensive backfield prospects. Lyles would most likely play safety due to his style of play, and, according to Frank, Jabbie is now talking about switching his intentions to playing running back.

Lyles is one of Notre Dame's initial offers from the beginning of the recruiting process. Also making visits are offensive guard Jaimie Thomas, running back Samson Taylor and linebackers Maurice Crum, Ronnie Palmer and Justin Brown.

Thomas, a 6-foot-4, 320 pound guard from Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg, Penn., has visited Maryland and Tennessee already.

Notre Dame has already

offered Crum a scholarship, although the Florida native is still deciding between the Irish, Michigan State and Tennessee.

Frank thinks the weather in South Bend could be a factor in possibly shying away the 6-foot, 214 pounder.

"Crum is looking forward to visiting," Frank said. "But with a Florida kid, it's always hard to know how they'll accept the environment."

Palmer is a middle linebacker out of Houston who Frank believes will be a challenge to lure.

"He just visited Arizona and came away very impressed," Frank said. "Notre Dame has to really impress him, [because] he's the type of guy you want on your team. He's a middle linebacker with good size and good speed." The final visitor, 6-4, 215 pound linebacker Justin Brown could have potential at linebacker or defensive end. His size reminds Frank of Justin Tuck as an incoming freshman.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles look to regain
form against Alma

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

A tough stretch of games over the winter has hurt the Belles' overall record, but the team looks to rebound Saturday against Alma College.

The Belles (4-10) have lost their last five games and are 0-4 in the MIAA this year. After a close loss Tuesday against Adrian College, the Belles are eager to pull out a win against Alma.

Despite the setbacks faced over the past month, the Belles remain confident about the rest of the season. The team looks to play more aggressively and avoid mistakes.

"We are as hungry as ever to get a win and get things on track," coach Suzanne Bellina said. "We are still focusing on getting the little things done as well as getting an aggressive mentality for 40 minutes rather than just parts of the game."

Alma College (8-5) has traditionally been a tough opponent for the Belles, and this year looks to be no exception. Forward Karen Hall, who recently was named MIAA player of the week, should be

a strong presence in the post for Alma.

The Belles will try to counter Alma's good shooting and inside game with a determined defense and a combined team effort.

"We feel that our depth, defensive intensity and rebounding are our big keys in winning this game," Bellina said. "The key to getting all of our players on the same page at the same time."

Center Emily Creachbaum probably has been the most consistent player for the Belles this year, but the team has done best in games where there is a balanced effort.

"Our team has been very balanced this year," Bellina said. "I feel like there are many different individuals that have

stepped up at different times throughout the season."

The Belles will play nine of their last ten games against conference teams. With a win against Alma, the Belles can snap their losing streak and gain their first conference win of the year.

The Belles will play at home against Alma Saturday at 3 p.m.

Contact Steve Coyer at scoyer@nd.edu

*"We are as hungry
as ever to get a win
and get things on
track."*

Suzanne Bellina
Belles coach

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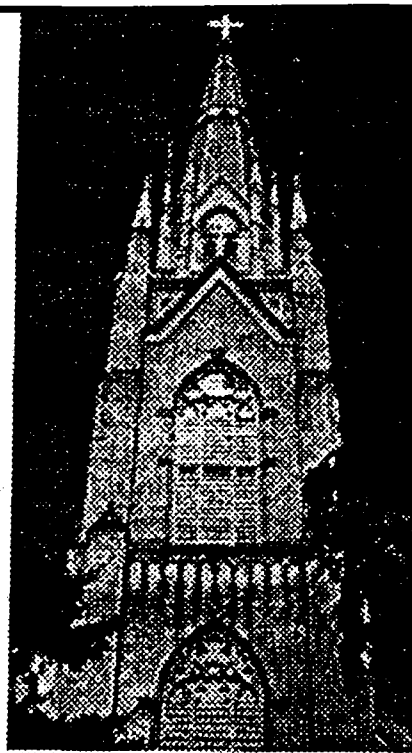
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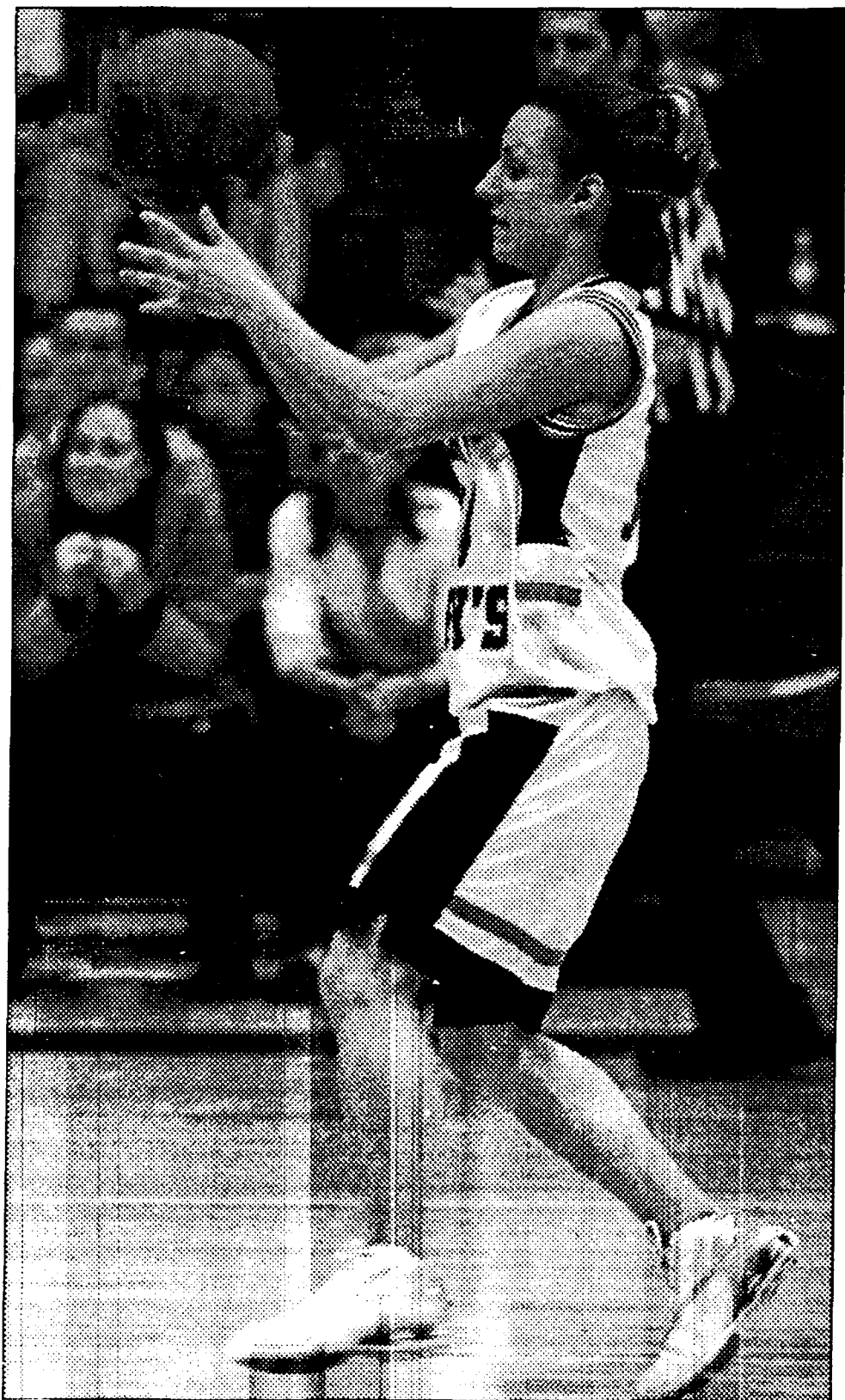
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STEPHANIE GRAMMENS/The Observer

Kristin Kanla passes the ball in a recent game for Saint Mary's. The Belles hope to snap a five-game losing streak.

SMC SWIMMING

Petcoff looks to veterans to improve team's times

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

Despite facing adversity earlier this season, it is the veterans that have continued to make Saint Mary's a threat to other teams.

Saint Mary's will be challenged today by conference rivals Kalamazoo (1-1) and Olivet (1-3) in a three-way meet that will be scored separately and give Saint Mary's the chance to come away with two wins.

Earlier this season Saint Mary's had to overcome obstacles such as the lack of divers

and the loss of a top swimmer who took a leave of absence from college.

But as the season is nearing a close and Saint Mary's begins preparations for the MIAA Swimming Championships in Grand Rapids, Mich., Saint Mary's coach Gregg Petcoff is anticipating season best times from his veterans.

"Kelly Nelis, Megan Ramsey and Marueen Palchak will all be looked upon when it comes to

top times," Petcoff said.

All three swimmers posted impressive times last weekend against conference rival Calvin College (3-1) who is currently third in the MIAA standings. Nelis finished first in the 500-yard freestyle and second in the 200-yard freestyle. Ramsey placed

second in the 200-yard butterfly and Palchak finished first in the 100-yard freestyle and second in the 50-yard freestyle.

In addition to these veterans,

"We'll have a number of season best times."

Gregg Petcoff
Belles coach

Saint Mary's has also welcomed newcomer Sarah Nowak who finished second in the 200-yard individual medley and returning swimmer Katie Dingeman.

Despite the team's loss to Calvin last weekend, the Belles are expecting faster times from the majority of their swimmers.

After recovering from a week of double workouts, fatigue is not expected to impact the Belles' performance.

"Historically the team has always swam better times than the weekend after winter break," Petcoff said. "[The team] feels a little more rested when they come back to their regular swim

schedule."

However, Saint Mary's is not taking its challengers lightly.

"[Kalamazoo] always swims well against us and this year they had an unbelievable recruiting class," Petcoff said. "[Kalamazoo] is knocking on the door of conference leaders Calvin and Hope."

Keeping the other teams' strengths in mind, Saint Mary's will be bringing its competitive spirits to the meet.

"We'll have a number of season best times," Petcoff said.

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ND SWIMMING

Roster finally back at full strength for women's team

Men looking to build off training trip wins

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The women's swimming and diving team hopes to bolster its 4-1 dual meet mark when No. 21 Notre Dame travels to Ann Arbor, Mich. to compete in the Michigan Invitational against host No. 16 Michigan and Illinois tonight and tomorrow.

"We want to find out where everyone's at and start planning for the Big East Championships," coach Bailey Weathers said. "[The meet] will

let us know what we need to do in the next month to get ready."

Since the Irish will host the Wolverines on Jan. 31, scoring will only be kept against the Illini in this particular meet.

On Jan. 4, the Irish set four meet records in handily winning the second annual Puerto Rico Winter Training Meet in Encantada, Puerto Rico. The 200-yard medley relay team (Danielle Hulick, Laurie Musgrave and Lisa Garcia and Katie Carroll) in addition to Musgrave (100-yard breaststroke), Carroll (100-yard freestyle), and Ann Barton (200-yard backstroke) all recorded records in the victory.

After a particularly brutal fall season that saw most of team suffer a viral infection, the Irish finally appear to be at full strength with about a month remaining before the Big East Championships.

"I think we're pretty healthy," Weathers said. "The traveling [over break] tends to weaken the kids a little, but we're a lot healthier right now than we were at this time last year."

The men's squad (3-5) looks to continue its climb to .500 when the Irish journey to Pittsburgh to lock horns with the No. 17 Panthers as well as Villanova and Maryland in a quadrangular meet today and

tomorrow.

"We're looking to see if we can pick up where we left off with our in-season meets," coach Tim Welsh said. "The question is always, 'Are we faster compared to ourselves than we were last time?'"

Last Friday, Notre Dame took care of both UC-Santa Barbara and Wyoming, 104-101 and 133-98, respectively, to finish off a 12-day training trip in Mission Viejo, Calif. over winter break.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team (Matt Obringer, Frank Krakowski, Tim Randolph and Louis Cavadini), Ted Brown (500- and 1,000-yard freestyle), Krakowski (50-yard

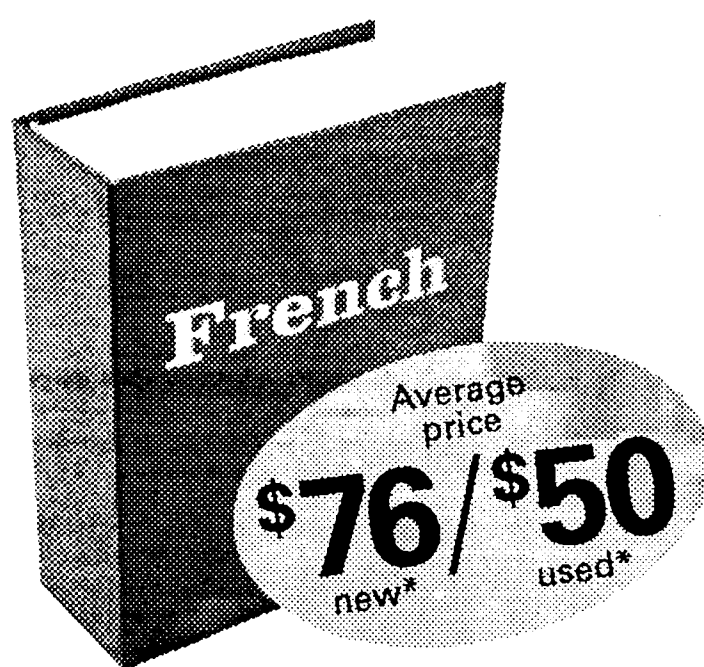
freestyle) and Doug Bauman (200-yard backstroke) each recorded a first place finish as the Irish overcame a 21-point deficit to steal a victory over UCSB in the meet's final race.

The tri-meet victories coupled with intense training resulted in quite a successful holiday trip for the young team.

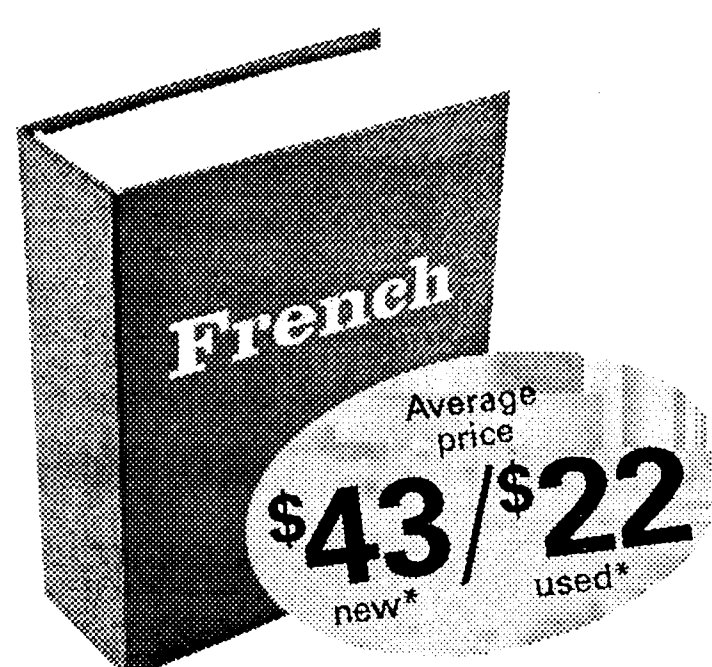
"The training trip was magnificent," Welsh said. "We trained hard everyday, raced well and we're very happy with the results. Now we have to translate those [results] to our season meets."

Contact Matt Puglisi at
mpuglisi@nd.edu

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GOIRISH

Streaks

continued from page 24

What's more, Syracuse's offense creates matchup problems for the Irish. Although Carmelo Anthony was the third overall pick in the NBA Draft last summer after playing just one season for Syracuse, the Orangemen have had little difficulty replacing his point production.

Most striking about Syracuse's offense is that while guard Gerry McNamara makes 42.5 percent of his 3-pointers, the rest of the team has only made nine. Instead of hanging around the perimeter, guards Billy Edelin — who shredded the Irish for 26 points at the Joyce Center last year — and Josh Pace crash the basket play after play, scoring most of their points by cutting to the hoop. Notre Dame's 6-foot guard tandem of Chris Thomas

and Chris Quinn has had some trouble playing physical guards in the past.

"It's a unique way of playing," Brey said. "Both [Edelin] and Pace are unorthodox guys. To their credit, they stay to their strengths."

On the other hand, Brey is anxious to see his team return to a student-filled Joyce Center for the first time since a loss against Indiana. Then, in December, Notre Dame had dropped to a losing record for the first time in the Mike Brey era and the Irish were reeling. Now, having gone 6-1 since that loss, Brey wants to see how his squad responds to a boisterous crowd.

"Sometimes the energy in our building, we don't handle that well," Brey said. "I talked to them about using the crowd to our advantage. ..."

"We have to use the energy to play defense and not try to do something on offense that's not us."

Surprisingly, Notre Dame has

had little trouble playing well on the road. The Irish rallied from a six-point deficit with three minutes left to beat Villanova and nearly snapped Pittsburgh's two-season-long home winning streak.

That road-warrior attitude is one the Irish want to bring into the Joyce Center.

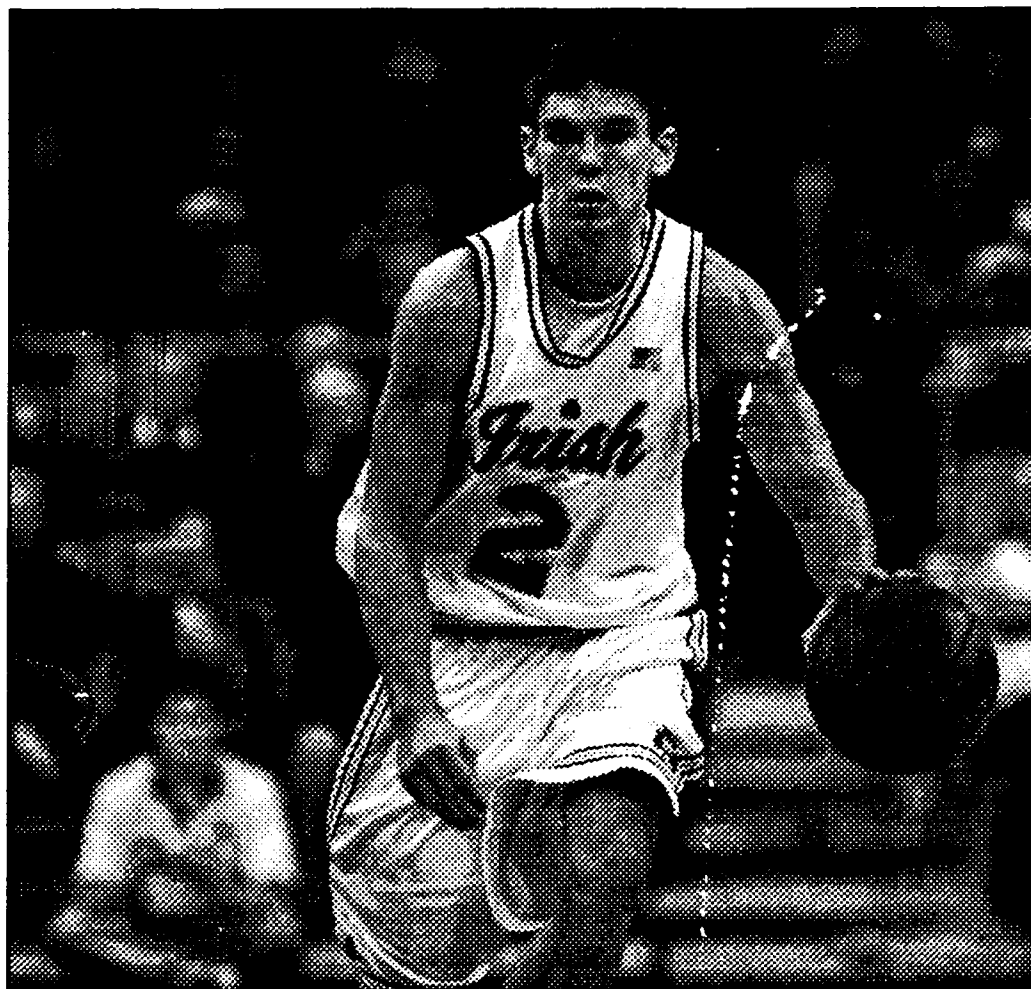
"We have a road identity where we are real focused on the road," Quinn said. "We have to carry that over to our home court and use the crowd for different things to our advantage."

Saturday's game is the first in a string of matchups against ranked foes. Notre Dame still has to play Kentucky, Pittsburgh, Syracuse again, Providence and No. 1 Connecticut twice. Beating any of those teams would help Notre Dame's quality-win component and improve their RPI ranking, which was 110th in the nation this week.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Brey wants Quinn to be aggressive from tip-off



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Chris Quinn dribbles down the court against Central Michigan Dec. 6. The Irish hope to knock off No. 19 Syracuse.

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

His shot wasn't falling, his game was suffering and Chris Quinn was struggling.

So after Notre Dame's loss to Indiana Dec. 10, Irish coach Mike Brey made Quinn the team's sixth man for Notre Dame's next six games to shake up the Irish lineup.

The results were impressive. Quinn shot 33-for-57 over the stretch, averaged 16 points a game and went four straight games without a turnover.

Convinced that Quinn had shaken whatever ailed him, Brey re-inserted the sophomore guard into the lineup against Pittsburgh and said Quinn will start Saturday against the Orangemen.

"There was a change in his dynamic a bit, his awareness was heightened and it jump-started his play," Brey said of the initial switch. "That's great. But now I want him going out with 19:59 on the game clock."

Quinn, for his part, took the switch in stride. While his minutes didn't drop, he feels ready to be back on the floor during the opening tip. And Quinn is willing to take what Brey told him to heart.

"He has been impressing upon me all year not to pass up any shots," the sophomore said. "He wants me to be aggressive because for our team to be successful, I'm going to have to get off some shots."

In his element

At the beginning of the season, senior Torrian Jones felt ready to explode. He'd worked all summer on improving many different aspects of his game, and Jones — a three-year role player for the Irish — relished the opportunity to see his first extended minutes.

But in his last three games, Jones has averaged a double-double — 11.7 points and 10.3 rebounds — in part because Brey said Jones has returned to doing what he does best — playing tough defense, slashing to the basket and tipping in rebounds.

"You gotta let a guy try a little bit of everything," Brey said. "But when it comes down to it, that's who you are and that's who he is."

Jones, one of Notre Dame's most vocal leaders, knows the Irish often key off his play. That's why he feels it's his responsibility to help set the tone in big games like Saturday's clash against Syracuse.

"My play on the court is going to reflect the rest of the team's play, and they are going to look to me for guidance and leadership on the court," Jones said. "When I'm out there, I'm staying within myself, doing the small things to affect the team in a positive way."

New member

With Notre Dame's big men beset by injuries, Brey started looking for another body to help the Irish in practice.

So he turned to the football team.

Enter 6-foot-6, 230-pound tight end John Carlson, who joined the basketball team over Christmas Break with football coach Tyrone Willingham's blessing. Carlson is the first athlete to play both football and basketball since wide receiver Javin Hunter walked onto the basketball team five years ago.

"It was completely out of the blue," the freshman said. "Coming into break, I expected to stay home for awhile and come back for off-season training. I didn't expect it at all."

Carlson, who was recruited by a handful of schools to play basketball, said that the football team was fine with his dabble on the hardwood as long as he maintained his training regimen and kept his grades up.

He knows there's little chance he'll see significant — or even any — playing time this year. But Brey has been highly complimentary of Carlson's play.

"If he had to go in a game," the coach smiled, "he'd handle himself OK."

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

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Game

continued from page 24

sets us up terrifically going into the second half of the season. These are also terrific games to try and get those at-large bids for the NCAA tournament."

Notre Dame currently sits in third place in the CCHA, with a conference record of 8-6-2 and 18 points, only one point behind Michigan and Miami (Ohio). Following the Wisconsin series, the Irish play 12 straight conference games to finish up the season.

The Irish come into the Wisconsin series with a losing record against the Badgers, 15-36-6. However, the Irish made history on Oct. 2, 1998, when the team spoiled the opening of Wisconsin's Kohl Center with a 2-1 victory over the Badgers.

Notre Dame will also come into the Kohl Center feeling confi-

dent, having collected a 3-1 record in its last four games, including the victory over Maine. The lone Irish loss in that span came at the hands of Bowling Green, who defeated Notre Dame in a 5-4 overtime heartbreaker Jan. 9.

The Irish got revenge on the Falcons a day later with freshman goaltender David Brown

making 32 saves in a 3-0 shutout win over Bowling Green.

Freshmen Jason Paige and Josh Sciba and senior Brett Lebeda scored goals in the victory. Paige and

Sciba also scored goals in the 5-4 overtime loss.

"Jason Paige has really been a steady defensive force for us all year, but he's also scored some nice goals," Poulin said. "Josh Sciba may have as good a set of hands as anyone on this team, and he's going to score a lot of goals for us."

One reason for Notre Dame's success this year has been a

stout defense, allowing an average of 2.42 goals per game. That defense is backed by two solid netminders in junior Morgan Cey and Brown.

Each goalie has at least two shutouts this season (Cey with two, Brown with four), and Brown has the third lowest overall goals against average (2.36) and second highest save percentage (.920) in the CCHA. Cey would also be ranked highly in both lists, with an overall GAA of 1.79 and a save percentage of .944, but he has not played in enough games to be counted on the official statistics.

"I think the confidence is really high among our goalies," Poulin said. "When you have two guys back there, I think they help each other. They drive each other, and I know that each of them wants to play every game, but they know the most important thing for the team is [a win] and they play that way."

The Irish face a dangerous foe in the Badgers, who sent three players to the U.S. Junior National Team that won a gold medal in Finland in December. Wisconsin coach Mike Eaves was also the coach of that team.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu



ANDY KENNA/The Observer
Corey McLean passes the puck against Bowling Green Oct. 17. The Irish travel to Wisconsin to face the No. 4 Badgers.

Bball

continued from page 24

Against Virginia Tech, the Irish dominated in the paint, getting 14 points and 11 rebounds from forward Jacqueline Batteast and 14 points from forward Teresa Borton. In the game, the Irish held the Hokies to 33 percent shooting, as they outscored the Hokies 32-20 in the paint.

"That game was a great confidence booster for us," LeTania Severe said.

Tuesday night against Connecticut, the Irish dominated a team that has lost two games in three years. Batteast once again led the way with 23 points on 10-of-13 shooting and 11 rebounds. Severe added 12 points and six assists in only 23

minutes of play, as the Irish won by a convincing margin, 66-51.

But the Irish aren't dwelling on their two wins.

"We know that UConn and every Big East team is going to be a battle," Severe said. "So, the non-conference schedule has prepared us for the Big East."

West Virginia will test the Irish, as they travel to Huntsville, W.Va. where they face the Mountaineers, who gave the Irish two tough games last season.

In the first meeting last year, Notre Dame knocked off West Virginia 66-59 at the West Virginia Coliseum. After that, the Irish held on for a 69-64 victory at the Joyce Center.

Game time is 4 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Job Search Club

The Career Center – University of Notre Dame

Join the Career Center Staff and a group of ND students who will collaborate on a unique project over a four month period to search for jobs and internships throughout the nation. Five meetings are scheduled for spring semester 2004. All club members must attend all five sessions in order to participate.

#1 JOB SEARCH CLUB ORIENTATION MEETING Wednesday, January 21 4:00 pm or 6:00 pm, Flanner 114

- Learn about the club format, timeline, membership and more
- Identify geographical areas of interest among student members
- Review goals and objectives

#2 CAREER RESEARCH Wednesday, February 11 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Flanner 114

- Discover unique and creative ways to find prospective employers
- Gain access to \$1,000s worth of on-line resources
- Begin your personal job search tracking system

#3 NETWORKING STRATEGIES Wednesday, February 25 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Flanner 114

- Gain a special insight into the strategies to build your own professional network
- Secure access to the Notre Dame Alumni Career Network
- Role play session on informational interviewing

#4 CONTACT MANAGEMENT, FOLLOW-UP, GUEST PANEL Wednesday, March 31 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Flanner 114

- Job search assessment: hot leads and not leads
- Just in time recruiting of college grads by employers
- Continue alumni networking with special guests

#5 TRANSITIONS FROM BACK PACK TO BRIEFCASE Wednesday, April 14 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Flanner 114

- Transitions for college to career: budgeting, car buying, insurance, apartment hunting
- Relocating to new cities, setting up interviews, etc.
- Join an alumni club



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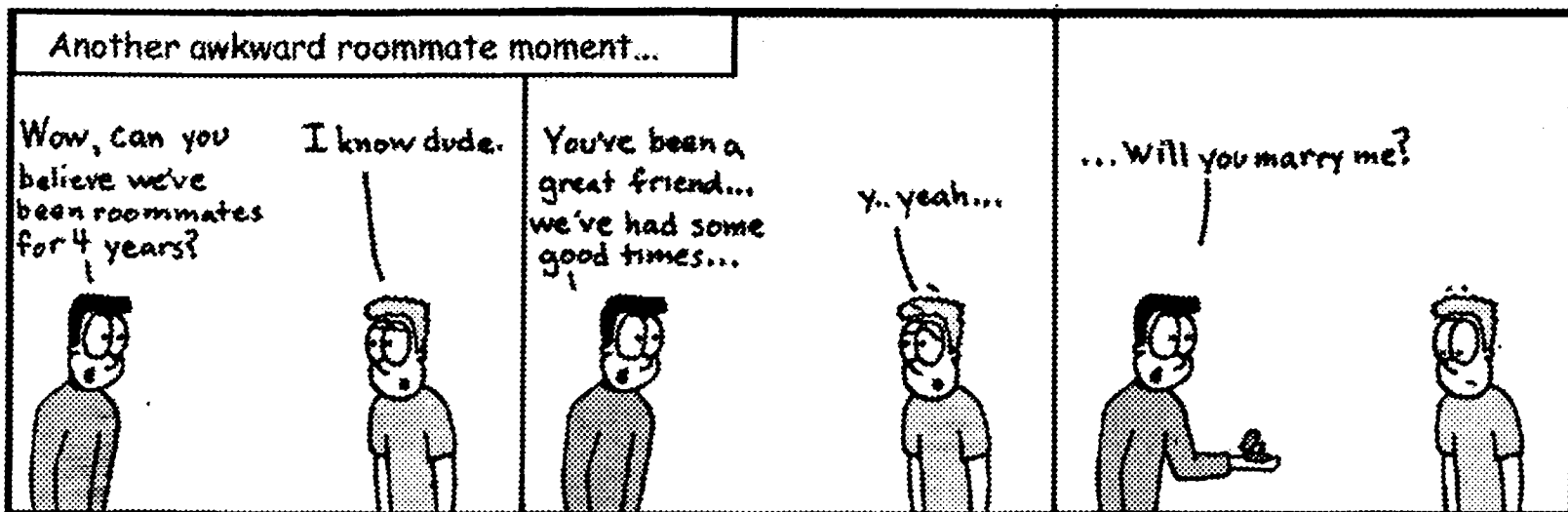
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NASDY

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DRYBE

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THUBOG

□ □ □ □ □

www.jumble.com

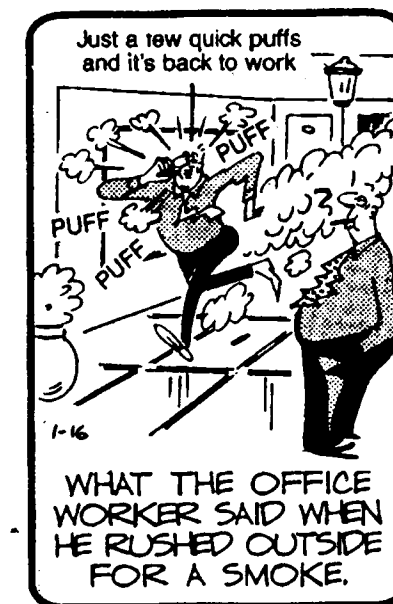
NATTIC

□ □ □ □ □

Answer here:

□ □ □ □ □

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: □ □ □ □ □ A "□ □ □ □ □"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOISE FOYER WOEFUL EFFORT
Answer: The cops caught the pickpocket with quick hands because of this — SLOW FEET

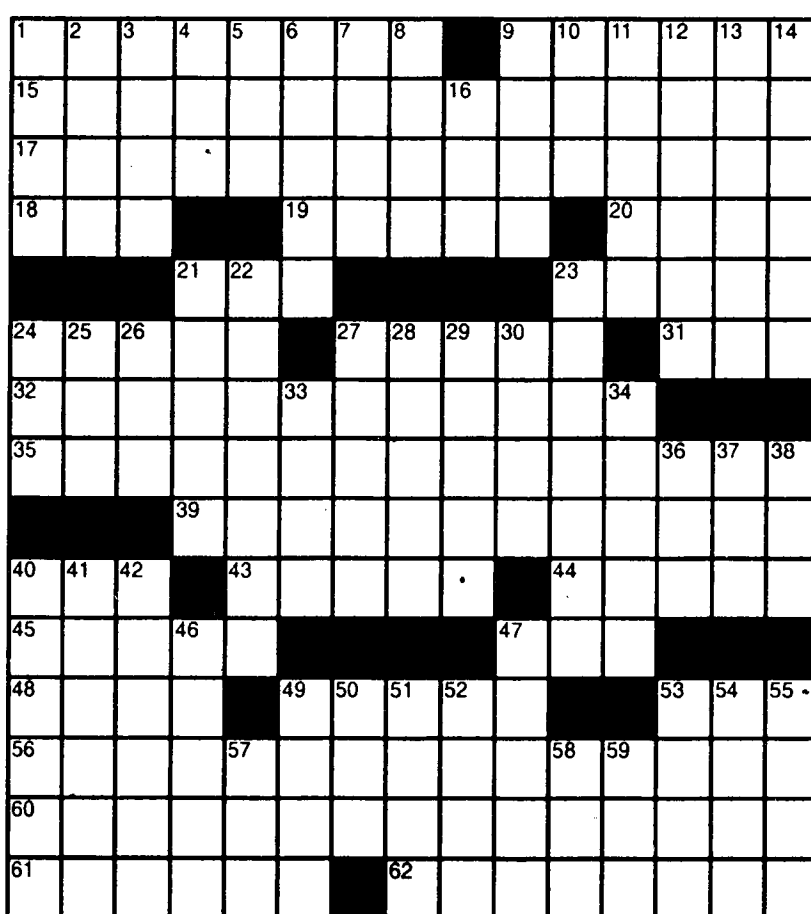
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- Secures, as a bottle cap
 - Male seals have them
 - Snarl
 - Helps secretly
 - Some hoops scores: Abbr.
 - Nobel-winning father-and-son physicists
 - Suffix with major
 - Location identifier: Abbr.
 - Turn right, e.g.
 - About to receive
 - Get the lead out?
 - Dr. with a beat
 - Personal documentaries
 - A pittance, pay-wise
 - Something deeply engrained
- DOWN**
- It may come from a crib
 - Actress Taylor
 - Burden with more duties
 - Smarts
 - Entrance requirements, sometimes
 - Place of fiction
 - Top, in a way
 - Comic Philips
 - Pop-up producer
 - Shot putter?
 - Their lines are often crossed
 - One way to swim
 - Where Bergen is: Abbr.
 - They're leaving
 - Many mathematicians
 - Airline employee
 - Drippers
 - Young parasite
 - Substance checker: Abbr.
 - Be a member of, as a committee
 - One of the 61-Across
 - Chip away at
 - Actor Mark — Baker
 - Freshwater fish
 - Is enough for
 - It may be sucked in
 - Two or more periods

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TUSK LULU IPSO
ORING ARON NAIL
TABOO DISCHARGE
ANYBODYS GUESSES
LIL DOD ATATIME
SAS JOIST RUFUS
SOW TOO PADS
NOBODYSFOOL
ROAR PAL FDR
EAMES TEDDY LUG
PRELUDE OAS IRA
SOMEBODYSBABY
GRASSLAND ELIAN
NUKE HITE YESNO
PEER I TOR DEAR



Puzzle by Robert H. Wolfe

- Driver's license datum
- Word accompanying a clink
- Juice source
- Former Nicaraguan leader
- Unsaid
- Popular portable music players
- Crumbs
- Never: Ger.
- Almond
- Western Athletic Conf. team
- Bien- (well-being): Fr.
- Monument Valley feature
- Utah city
- Canadian market inits.
- Fire
- California's Point

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Crosswords for young solvers: The Learning Network, nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

Celebrities born on this day: Debbie Allen, Jim Stafford, William Kennedy, A.J. Foyt, Marilyn Home, Ethel Merman, Sade, Kate Moss

Happy Birthday: Don't be disillusioned by the information you receive this year. Research will help you find out the truth of any given situation. Once you have all the facts, you'll find it easy to move into the mainstream of any direction you choose. This is not a year to sit idle waiting for things to happen. Get moving and initiate whatever it is you wish to accomplish. Your numbers: 8, 10, 15, 25, 34, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional problems may affect your job. Let your boss know that personal difficulties have been interfering with your performance and reassure him that you will make improvements. **
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will meet new and exciting friends if you take part in sports events. Someone from your past will come back into your life. Don't be too eager to trust this individual. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Socializing with friends will be enlightening. Travel will stimulate your curiosity and bring you into contact with new friends. Investments can be made if you are careful. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will pick up a lot of information from the material you read. Too much idle time will create nervousness. Make changes to your surroundings, but don't exceed a set budget. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be most annoyed if your lover has made you look foolish. You will be prone to extravagance if you don't tighten your purse strings. Mix business with pleasure if possible. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Financial ventures will not be as profitable as you anticipate. Overspending should be a prime concern today. Don't let those you love cost you dearly. Offer good advice, not cash. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Pleasure trips will bring you mental stimulation. You will have conversations with interesting and informative individuals. Listen to those who offer solutions to any existing problems. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look into career changes or start your own small business. Don't expect help from others. You will get great satisfaction if you do the work yourself. Keep your overhead down. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't take on issues or projects that you aren't completely comfortable with. Be diplomatic when dealing with other people's problems. Try not to get caught in the middle. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will have to be careful not to intimidate others. Don't elaborate too much about your goals. Your persuasive ways will get you into more trouble than you bargained for. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There is no point in hiding your true feelings. Lay your cards on the table and try to sort out an amiable way to solve the existing problems. Those who aren't involved won't understand. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): This will be a good time to network. You can get involved in excellent investments if you are in the right place at the right time. Laziness will be your downfall. ****

Birthday Baby: Generous and trusting to a fault, you must learn to put yourself first and follow your own dreams throughout life in order to be successful. You have the ability to promote yourself, but you must take the initiative in order for that to happen.

Need advice? Try Eugenia's Web site at www.eugenialast.com

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Breaking one more streak

The Irish try to beat Syracuse for the first time in three years

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Since Big East play started, Notre Dame has been joking that they've been the streak-breakers.

First, the Irish snapped West Virginia's Drew Schifino's string of 48 consecutive games with at least 10 points. Then, they snapped an eight-year losing streak against Villanova.

Now, the Irish have a chance to end another one.

When defending national champion Syracuse rolls into the Joyce Center Saturday, the Irish hope to halt a four-game losing streak against the No. 19 Orangemen.

"It's a frame of mind of believing that you can do it," said Irish coach Mike Brey, whose team has lost nine of its last 10 games against the Orangemen. "[Syracuse is] a team that has done it more than us. One of the things we have to do mentally is try to convince ourselves we can be like that."

To beat Syracuse, it's no secret

that the Irish have to overcome Jim Boeheim's zone defense. Although Brey said the Orangemen have been playing more man-to-man defense this year than they typically have in the past, the Irish coach knows that he has to prepare his team to face a zone for an extended period of time.

"We just need to be patient," senior Torrian Jones said. "The 2-3 zone doesn't turn you over. It makes you play a little faster than you want to."

"A lot of times, teams settle for a 3-point shot and don't move the ball around to break down the zone. If we go inside and establish Torin [Francis] early and kick the ball out, we'll get open looks for our guards for 3's and open driving lanes."

See Also

"Brey wants Quinn to be aggressive from tip-off" *page 21*



Chris Thomas looks to drive against Bracey Wright of Indiana in a Dec. 10 Irish loss. Notre Dame hopes to end a four-game losing streak to Syracuse Saturday.

TIM KACMAR/The Observer

HOCKEY

No. 4 Wisconsin awaits Irish

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish hope the third time will be the charm when they face yet another ranked opponent in a grueling non-conference schedule when they meet No. 4 Wisconsin in a two-game road series this weekend.

Notre Dame has already knocked off two ranked non-CCHA opponents this year on the road, beating then-No. 1 Boston College 1-0 Oct. 24, and defeating then-No. 3 Maine Dec. 28.

The Irish are actually facing their fourth ranked non-conference foe of the season this weekend, with the team losing to then-No. 14 Cornell Dec. 27.

Irish coach Dave Poulin sees many positives in playing a difficult schedule.

"We've played a grueling non-conference schedule and have picked up some big wins," he said. "I think this

see GAME/page 22

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish hope to continue winning ways

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

After upsetting two ranked teams in a row (No. 16 Virginia Tech and No. 4 Connecticut), Notre Dame looks to continue its play traveling to face West Virginia.

The Mountaineers, 10-5, 2-2 Big East, come off their first win on the road since Feb. 2, 2001, defeating St. John's Tuesday night, 69-67.

In the game, six-foot-one center Michelle Carter led West Virginia shooting 8-of-10, good for 16 points. Sherell Sowho scored 16 as well, including 4-for-7 from beyond the arc, to go along with 10 rebounds.

The Mountaineers are also home to the Big East assist leader Yolanda Paige, who averages 7.3 per game and dished out 14 assists against St. John's.

Meanwhile, Notre Dame (9-6, 2-1 Big East), comes off what were two of arguably its best games of the season.

see BBALL/page 22



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish forward Jacqueline Batteast drives to the basket Tuesday night against Connecticut.

FOOTBALL

11 recruits visiting campus this weekend

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Tyrone Willingham and his coaching staff secured a top-five recruiting class last winter. A 10-3 season and the coined 'Return to Glory' of the Notre Dame football program was attractive enough to lure the talent of immediate impact players such as starting quarterback Brady Quinn and defensive end Victor Abiamiri.

The 2008 Notre Dame football recruiting class contains few players like an Abiamiri or Quinn who could have such an impact save maybe Grand Rapids, Mich. running back Justin Hoskins, according to Irish Insider columnist Mike Frank.

This weekend the Irish continue to plug away at the remaining talent pool, welcoming 11 players — including three verbal commitments — on official visits.

Hoskins, offensive tackle Chauncey Incarnato and defensive back Tregg Duerson are all players who have committed verbally but are still making the trip on the first of three weekends the coaches have remaining to sell Notre Dame.

Cornerback Courtney Grixby headlines the remainder of the visiting players.

Grixby, 5-foot-9, 160 pounds, was an explosive quarterback at Central High School in Omaha, Neb. He threw for over 1,200 yards and ran for 800 yards, scoring 14 touchdowns. He also played defensive back on third-and-long situations. In fact, Grixby's versatility already has coaches brainstorming.

"Notre Dame has started to talk to Courtney about playing receiver," Frank said. "With the ball in his hands, he is just a deadly player. After the staff

see WEEKEND/page 19

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND SWIMMING Michigan Invitational

The Irish look to add to its 4-1 dual meet record this weekend.

page 20

SMC SWIMMING

Saint Mary's faces Kalamazo and Olivet in a conference meet this weekend.

page 20

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's vs. Alma

Saturday, 3 p.m.

The Belles hope to snap a five-game losing streak.

page 19

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Central Michigan Opener

Today, 5:30 p.m.

Irish runners open their indoor season in Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

page 19

NFL

Panthers' quarterback Jake Delhomme has led his team to the playoffs by engineering fourth quarter drives all season.

page 16

NBA

Former Raptors coach Lenny Wilkens is now the New York Knicks head coach.

page 15