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Malloy focuses on final semester

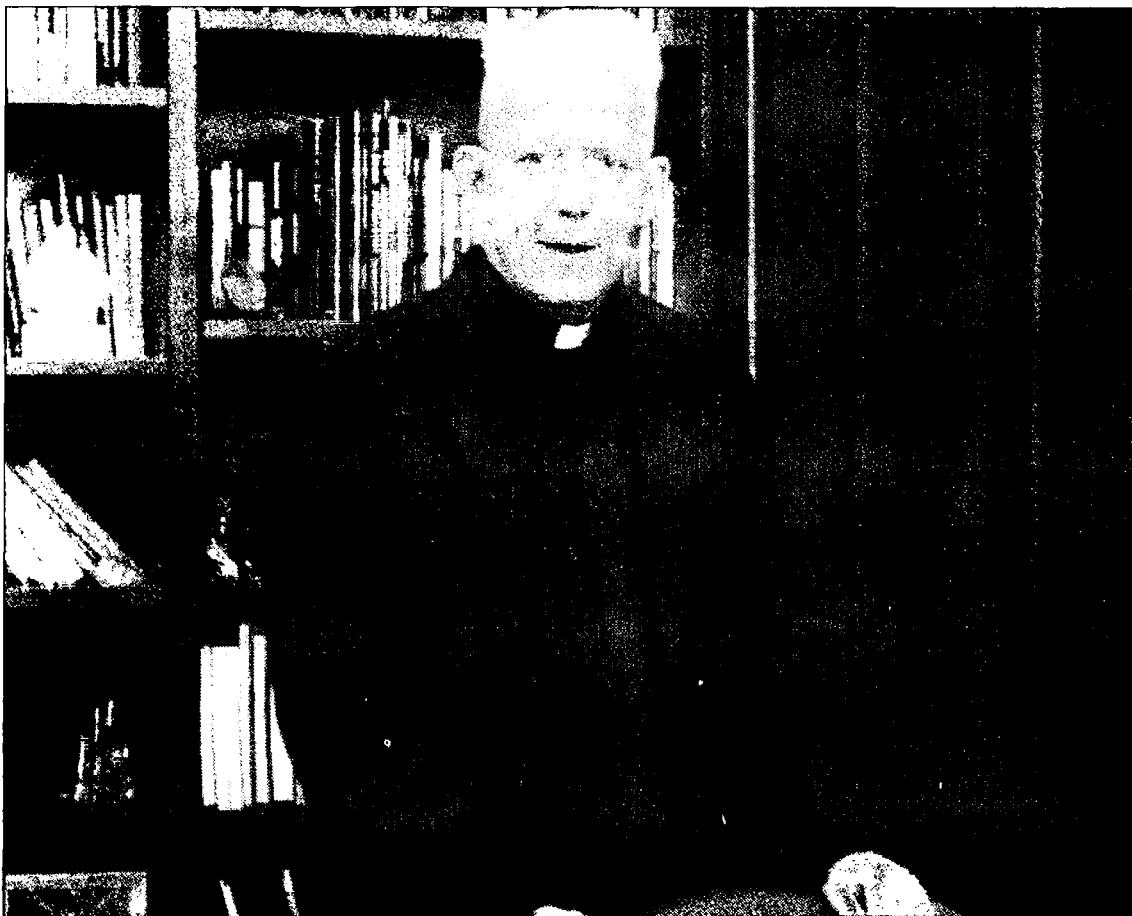
President reflects on past, looks to future

By MEGHANNE DOWNES
News Writer

With just one semester left at the helm of the nation's premier Catholic institution, Monk Malloy is not becoming nostalgic. He is looking toward the future.

"I am the kind of person who tends to always look forward at the next thing I will be doing, rather than looking back at the last thing I did," University President Father Edward Malloy said. "Temperamentally, that is just the way I am."

For 18 years he oversaw Notre Dame, watching as the rankings climbed, the "face" of Notre Dame diversified and ground was broken for new buildings. With less than a year left as president and his successor already chosen, Malloy said he did not approach his final year as president with a sense of sad-



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

After 18 years as University president, Father Edward Malloy will step down on June 30, handing over his post to University president-elect Father John Jenkins.

see MALLOY/page 6

Community leaders to honor Malloy's history of charity with fundraiser

By KATIE PERRY
News Writer

The greater South Bend community will honor University President Father Edward Malloy with a fundraising tribute benefiting three local charities with strong ties to the outgoing president.

In a gesture of appreciation for Malloy's 18 years of service at Notre Dame, South Bend

community leaders organized "Michiana Salutes Monk," an honorary benefit to be held March 3 at the Century Center in downtown South Bend.

According to Dennis Brown, associate director of news and information, prominent local organizers of the event include John Rosenthal, president of St. Joseph's Bank, and Mike Leep, owner of several South Bend automobile dealerships. Politicians Steven Luecke, mayor of South Bend,

and former Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan also helped plan the benefit.

The event will begin with a reception, followed by dinner and a program.

Kernan, a '68 alumnus of Notre Dame, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Proceeds from the tribute will benefit the Center of the Homeless, the Robinson Community Learning Center and the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County. Hand-

picked by Malloy, each organization has shared a close relationship with the president during his tenure at the University.

Malloy founded the Center of the Homeless during his early years at Notre Dame. The organization has since set national precedents for other communities and their handling of the issue of homelessness.

see CHARITIES/page 6

Events go 'abroad' for annual JPW

By JEN ROWLING
News Writer

Parents hailing from all over the country will arrive on campus today to take part in the 53rd annual Junior Parents Weekend.

The JPW committee has been working since last April to plan the traditionally extravagant theme event, with "Passport Abroad" as this year's title.

"We're giving the juniors a chance to get away from South Bend, and somewhat honoring the students who are studying abroad and can't make it to the event,"

see JPW/page 6

JUNIOR PARENTS WEEKEND
FRIDAY
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Joyce Center
The Grand Tour Gala
SATURDAY
Various Times and Locations
Collegiate Workshops & Hall Luncheons
5:30 p.m. Joyce Center
7-9 p.m. Joyce Center
The "Arctic Excursion" President's Dinner
SUNDAY
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Joyce Center
Brunch
Escape to Paradise

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphic

Administrators defend tuition hike policies

University calls costs necessary, but students bristle at price raise

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

As the University peels off the old \$37,100 tuition sticker price and slaps on one for \$39,552, those who will dole out the money are feeling the sting.

Director of Student Financial Services Joseph Russo said there have been few negative reactions in the Financial Aid Office thus far, but he anticipates some in the future.

"My guess is that there surely will be [phone calls], not just from parents but from students and alumni who might ask why our costs are going up higher than the rate of inflation," Russo said.

Director of University Budgeting Linda

see TUITION/page 4

Saint Mary's intends to hold future increases to four percent

By NICOLE ZOOK
Assistant News Editor

With Notre Dame tuition for 2005-06 set to jump 7 percent, Saint Mary's students face a lesser spike.

Tuition at the College will increase 4 percent next year, a small amount compared to Notre Dame's \$2,622 surge, said Laurie Stickelmaier, vice president for finance and administration.

Stickelmaier said Saint Mary's tuition — not including room, board and other extraneous fees — will rise from \$22,922 to \$23,838 for the next academic year. This represents a lesser increase from last year, when tuition rose 6 percent. Stickelmaier said the College intends to continue with this

see FREEZE/page 6

NOTRE DAME: TUITION & ROOM AND BOARD

2004-2005	\$37,100
2005-2006	\$39,552

SAINT MARY'S: TUITION & ROOM AND BOARD

2004-2005:	\$30,735
2005-2006:	\$32,500

2004-2005 TUITION & ROOM AND BOARD AT:

PRINCETON	\$38,297
HARVARD	\$39,880
GEORGETOWN	\$40,492
NORTHWESTERN	\$40,686

GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

INSIDE COLUMN

On the surface...

Little did I know that yes, distraction can be found even in the secluded and dusty 13th floor of the library. I was soon distracted by the very table I was at — it provided even better literature than that which was published on bathroom stalls of my former inner-city public high school.

There is so much history — so many emotions etched into the wood surface. Each vandalizer leaves his or her mark, in hopes of becoming an eternal part of underground Notre Dame history, as an honest attempt at reaching out to the future generations to come to this very table or in hopes of achieving a work ethic, such as:

The ever-present political catfight: "~~Bush Cheney '04~~ —> Kerry Edwards '04!"

The love declaration: X <3's Y
The obviously deep music lyric best remembered when in a melancholy mood — oftentimes caused by such courses as calculus, mechanics and contemporary topics.

Phone numbers, both real and fake, depending on the writer's bravery: because how are you supposed to meet your Domer soulmate if you sold your soul already to engineering?

The ever-philosophical question such as, "WHY let the dogs out?"
ND logos, from the crudely scribbled to the "I did no studying whatsoever" sort.

The bashing of inferior schools, such as cough BostonCollege cough.

Remnants of our dying language: "OmG nD is s0 1337x0rz! X-D~"
The fearful ones will opt for this better, 21st century way of writing. The time slot for vandalism is safer when all words are abbreviated or substituted by numbers and pitied keys of the keyboard that are seldom used.

Words of encouragement: "D is for degree."

Let's not forget the Bible passages — we are at a Catholic school, after all.

Teacher reviews. A wooden table does not have a profanity filter like <http://www.ndtoday.com>.

Or the default, "What's Her Face and So And So were HERE" or four-letter word.

Nevertheless, it is an ever-changing piece of furniture. Readers will look to read the fresh additions proudly showing off their recently etched selves, from the modest ballpoint pen message in the corner to the obnoxious permanent marker prophecy that seeks to cover all the others. They all eventually become one inky entity, seeping into each other, fading into the wooden past...

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Desiree Zamora at dzamora@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

Due to an editing error, the word "praying" was used incorrectly in a quote on page 3 of the Feb. 17 edition of The Observer. The word "preying" should have appeared in its place. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SMOOTHIE FLAVOR AND WHY?



Pat O'Brien
freshman
Fisher

"Strawberry — it tastes delicious."



John Skakun
senior
Keough

"Peach — peaches are fuzzy."



Jenny Enright
freshman
Walsh

"Orange strawberry — it's yummy!"



Leslie Kealhofer
junior
Lewis

"Strawberry — I'm addicted."



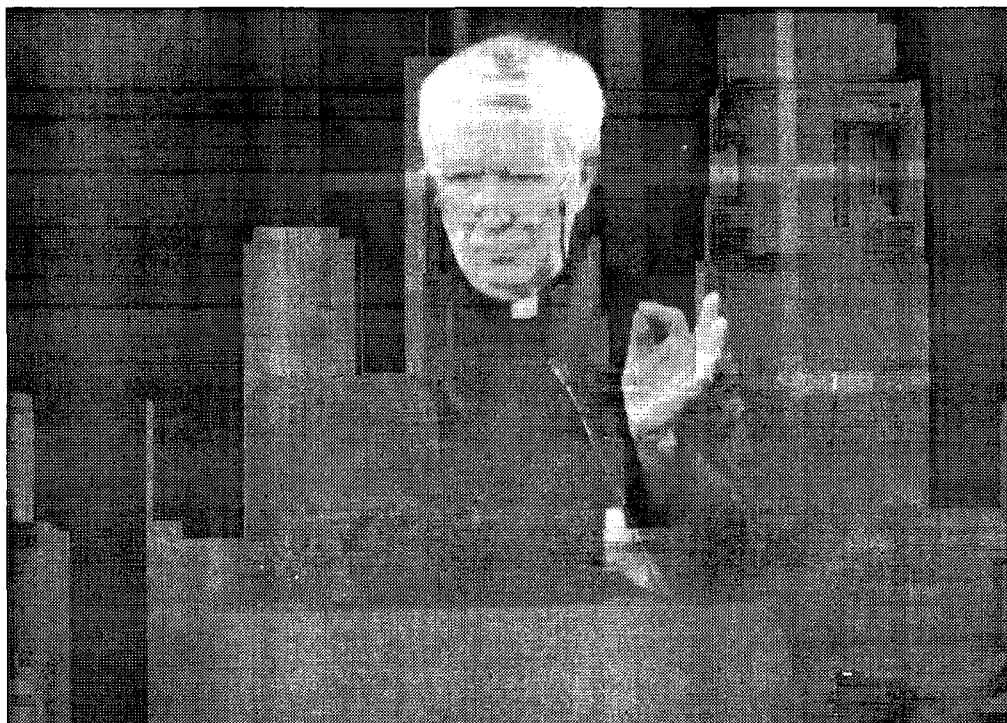
Alex Wutch
freshman
Stanford

"Smoothie? What's that?"



Kristine Rosek
sophomore
Welsh Family

"Smoothie #9... I think?"



BRAD CARMEAN/The Observer

Renowned Vatican II historian Father Joseph Komonchak delivers a lecture on the history and significance of the Council Thursday evening in Stapleton Lounge at Saint Mary's. The talk was part of the College's year-long Vatican II anniversary celebration.

OFFBEAT

Strip club artfully slips by anti-nudity laws

BOISE — A strip club in Boise, Idaho has found an artful way to prance past a city law that prohibits full nudity.

On what it calls Art Club Nights, the Erotic City strip club charges customers \$15 (8 pounds) for a sketch pad, pencil, and a chance to see completely naked women dancers.

"We have a lot of people drawing some very good pictures," said Erotic City owner Chris Teague, who has posted many of the drawings around the club.

Teague said he got the

idea when a customer asked if he could get in for free to sketch the dancers. Realizing that "art classes" were exempt from the law, Teague decided to bill Mondays and Tuesdays as art nights, and let the dancers go without their G-strings and pasties.

In the two months since they began, Art Club Nights have drawn full crowds of 60 people but no police citations, he said.

Rabbi rules it best to swallow gum

JERUSALEM — Your chewing gum has just lost its flavor, but there is no

garbage can in sight. What do you do? According to Jewish law, get ready to swallow it.

A prominent Israeli rabbi has ruled that spitting gum on a sidewalk or hiding it under a desk is a violation of Halacha or Jewish law, the Yediot Achronot newspaper reported Thursday.

"Gum cannot be thrown where others are liable to be disgusted by it," said Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu, the rabbi of the holy city of Safed.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The film **National Treasure** will be shown tonight at 8 and 10 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. The event costs \$3 and is sponsored by the Student Union Board.

ND Cinema will show the 2004 film "**House of Flying Daggers**" tonight at 10 p.m. and again Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m. at the Browning Cinema.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band, Symphonic Band and Symphonic Winds will present a concert Saturday at 2:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall. Tickets are available in the DeBartolo Ticket Office.

The Notre Dame Class of 2007 is sponsoring a **Class Dinner and Bowling Night** Saturday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Beacon Bowl.

"Shrek 2" will be shown at 7 p.m. in Carroll Auditorium in Madeleva Hall at Saint Mary's Saturday. The free event is sponsored by RHA and SAB.

The Saint Mary's Music Department will present scenes from "**Witness**," an original opera composed by Professor Zae Munn, Sunday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Little Theater of Moreau Hall.

Singer, songwriter and social activist **Jen Chapin** will be performing in the **Leighton Concert Hall** of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Sunday. The event is part of the SpringARTSfest: Tolerance and Reconciliation.

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 24 LOW 18	HIGH 18 LOW 10	HIGH 33 LOW 24	HIGH 35 LOW 22	HIGH 35 LOW 20	HIGH 35 LOW 21

Atlanta 31 / 74 Boston 28 / 16 Chicago 26 / 14 Denver 48 / 24 Houston 26 / 13 Los Angeles 64 / 52 Minneapolis 23 / 8 New York 33 / 18 Philadelphia 35 / 19 Phoenix 67 / 53 Seattle 54 / 36 St. Louis 41 / 31 Tampa 70 / 46 Washington 48 / 26

Historian focuses on Vatican II

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's continued a year-long celebration of the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council by welcoming renowned Vatican II historian Father Joseph Komonchak to campus Thursday evening. Komonchak, a professor of theology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., presented a lecture entitled "Vatican II: History and Significance."

Komonchak began his presentation by noting the difficulties of speaking about Vatican II to an audience whose parents are not old enough to remember the Council. He explained that he had firsthand information about the Council, as he studied at a seminary in Rome during the two years leading up to the Council and during the first two Council sessions.

"The fact that we undertake such celebrations as this indicates the historical significance of the Council," he said. "For

better or worse, Vatican II represented an epic shift in the history of the Catholic Church. Precisely because something historic has occurred, it has become controversial."

Komonchak said Pope John XXIII startled the Catholic world by announcing his plans to convene an ecumenical council. John XXIII was elected at age 77 to serve as a transitional pontificate after the long reign of Pope Pius XII, but the new pope quickly became involved in a more significant transition in the Church.

"The Pope proposed the Council as an occasion for spiritual renewal in the church. This had very significant implications, as it suggested that certain Catholic ways of doing things were no longer as appropriate as they had once been," Komonchak said.

Komonchak described the development and politics of the Council throughout its four sessions. He stressed the importance of the 16 documents presented at the Council and the changes they caused in the

Church.

"The Church became more open to self-examination, adopted a far more nuanced attitude towards the modern world, and made the decision to validate the distinctiveness of local churches. These were three revolutionary decisions," he said.

The anniversary celebration of Vatican II began in November and will continue through October of next year. The next event will be held on March 30, when Kenneth Woodward, a contributing editor at Newsweek, will speak about his experiences reporting on the Council.

"Programs offered through the College's Center for Spirituality will engage members of the College community, as well as interested individuals from all levels of academia, Church and society in a dialogue about the impact of Vatican II," said Sister Kathleen Dolphin, director of the Center for Spirituality.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

Saint Mary's welcomes girls for Hypatia Day

Seventh graders come to celebrate math

By DANIELLE LERNER
News Writer

Saint Mary's will welcome nearly 100 seventh-grade girls from across Indiana as it hosts the 15th annual Hypatia Day on Saturday. Hypatia Day, named after the first female mathematician and scientist in history, aims to reinforce girls' enthusiasm for math and science.

Mathematics chair, professor Mary Connolly, stressed the importance of this event.

"We know that girls who love math and science need to

be encouraged to continue their studies in these areas, and that waiting to provide this encouragement until high school is too late," Connolly said. "By then, many have made choices which close the doors to the wide variety of opportunities available to women who pursue math and science."

"I think it is important we encourage these girls that learning is fun too."

Laura Ficker
Junior

Although the math department sponsors the event, students from the chemistry, biology and nursing departments will participate as well.

Attendees, nominated by their schools because of their interests, abilities and achievements in math and science, will partake in numerous activities throughout the day. For example, math sessions with Saint Mary's students aim to emphasize the creativity of geometry through interactive Origami exercises.

Junior math major Laura Ficker said she is looking forward to a day with participants.

"I'm very excited because it's going to be a fun day and it's always great to see young people on campus," she said. "I think it is important we encourage these girls that learning is fun too."

The program also allows girls to attend active science lab sessions alongside students.

"A large number of Saint Mary's students are involved," Connolly said. "It gives our students an opportunity to offer real service to the outside community."

In what is perhaps the most important aspect of the program, participants learn about famous women in the math and science fields through active role-playing activities.

"The program gives [the participants] the view that math and science are things people actually do," Ficker said. "They get to see how women, throughout history, have impacted the world in these fields."

The educational opportunity is not limited to the girls alone.

The College also hosts a panel for parents intended to offer support and guidance for their daughters' high school curriculums.

Many agree a women's college is the perfect place for such an event.

"A lot of girls are intimidated by math and science," Ficker said. "It's important for girls to see that females have opportunities and success in these fields."

If past events are any indication of success, this year's Hypatia Day is sure to be a triumph.

"The program has gone very well in years past," Connolly said. "Students and parents both enjoy the day and are grateful for the opportunities it affords."

Contact Danielle Lerner at lern6311@saintmarys.edu

Rowing Baseball Track & Field Golf Football Basketball Ice Hockey Fencing

Irish Sports Report

Beyond the game. Behind the scenes.

Swimming


Irish Sports Report is your inside guide to all there is to know about Notre Dame sports. With exclusive photos, award-winning national writers and unmatched "on-the-ground" resources, Irish Sports Report provides insight you can't get anywhere else. For only \$45.95 receive 21 comprehensive issues, published weekly during the football season, monthly after the season. In addition, our annual Notre Dame Football Preview is included. Irish Sports Report is a must-have subscription for all true Irish sports fans.

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Softball Lacrosse Soccer

CELEBRATE JPW WITH IRISH LEGENDS!



Attention all Juniors: Looking to get off campus for awhile during Junior Parents Weekend? Why not visit the College Football Hall of Fame with your parents during JPW. It's the perfect way to spend some fun time with your parents during the hectic weekend.

It's just a short drive from campus, in downtown South Bend. So come celebrate with the 45 Fighting Irish Legends that are enshrined in the Hall of Fame, more than any other school!

**111 South St. Joseph Street,
Downtown South Bend
1-800-440-FAME
www.collegefootball.org**

Tuition

continued from page 1

Kroll said the decision to raise tuition has been long in the making.

"The planning for the budget for fiscal 2005-2006 begins in the spring of 2004," she said. "It is a very thorough process that involves detailed analysis of all of the major factors that affect the University financially."

These factors include "tuition, room and board levels, employee benefit costs [and] utility and insurance costs," Kroll said.

Russo also defended the decision to raise tuition. He said the University is a "labor-intensive operation," costing nearly \$2 million a day to keep things running smoothly on campus.

Like Kroll, Russo offered financial factors the University considers, such as up-to-date technology, new books, maintaining the power plant and retaining and recruiting top-flight professors. Russo also stressed another cost — employee benefits. The cost of health care for Notre Dame rose 13 percent in the calendar year 2005, and the University's finances need tuition to be able to cover these allowances, he said.

"Those benefits have to be met," Russo said.

Although Notre Dame is flooded with outside financial support, Kroll said much of that money serves a different purpose than tuition. She also said only 9 percent of the earnings on the University's \$3 billion dollar endowment can be used to support general University operations.

"Large gifts like Mr. Jordan's generous \$40 million dollar [gift] get much atten-

tion in the press," Kroll said, "but often do little to fund daily operations."

Kroll said Notre Dame is ultimately trying to "move our charge more in line with the rates charged by peer schools." Indeed, other major universities are not cheap. In the 2004-2005 school year, Harvard had a \$39,880 tuition, room and board price tag; Princeton's was \$38,297. Georgetown, often compared to Notre Dame due to its Catholic mission, charged its students \$40,492; Northwestern, another mid-western private school, asked for \$40,686.

Financial Aid

The question remains — who or what will the tuition hike benefit?

"Student tuition and fee income provides nearly 60 percent of the total operating revenue for the University, so all costs of running Notre Dame are supported by tuition in some amount," Kroll said. "[We] don't earmark a specific revenue to a specific expense."

However, the University designated financial aid as the primary beneficiary of the tuition hike. Since 1999, there has been a 39 percent increase in tuition — but the University has increased its investment in financial aid by 151 percent in that same time period, Russo said.

In its admissions process, the University operates on a "need-blind" basis; that is, the University does not base its decision on a student's ability to pay, Russo said. He added that Notre Dame has committed to another major policy — meeting the full need of every admitted student.

"That's not to say that how we measure need is a perfect science or that the families won't have to sacrifice or students won't have to work and

borrow money," Russo said. "But we are committed to looking every student in the eye and saying, 'Yes, we will meet your needs.'"

This policy wasn't always the case, Russo said. In 1990 — when the need-blind policy was not in effect — the trustees asked how families were coping and what could be improved, he said. Results were clear — "it didn't take a lot of research to see that we had to step up financial aid," Russo said. They did so with the help of generous benefactors, financial campaigns, a robust economy and even the NBC television contract, said Russo, and finally achieved a need-blind status in 1999.

Russo said the need-blind policy has had a snowball effect.

Secondary school students become interested in Notre Dame and now hear that Notre Dame will meet their needs — so they want to apply, he said, noting application numbers have been higher in the last three years than they have ever been in history.

"That policy clearly has had an impact on improving the quality and diversity of the student body and the reputation of the University," he said.

The value of a Notre Dame education

Russo emphasized the high value of a Notre Dame education. He pointed out that Notre Dame graduates 95 percent of its freshmen in four years, a rate which ranks fourth nationally; for the average college student, the chances of finishing on time

are just one in three.

"You don't need more semesters in college — each would cost more money — and additional time spent would be lost opportunity money, as they say in economics," he said. "Not only are you not working, but you're still there [paying for the cost of college]."

According to Russo, Notre Dame also has one of the lowest default rates on student loans, at just two-tenths of a percent. He called the low rates another indicator of success — not only do students graduate on time and become successful, but they have a sense of obligation to their alma mater.

Ultimately, Russo said, there is a difference between the rate of inflation and the rate at which tuition is rising, because there is a difference between an average market good and a four-year educational experience.

"Students aren't purchasing a consumer item; they're making an investment for which there's going to be a return," he said. "For most students, it's going to be positive, especially for Notre Dame students."

Students and parents respond

Sam Glass, a sophomore from Lyons in the work-study program at Notre Dame, said she feels there should be other fundraising techniques to cover financial needs.

"I understand the University has to keep up with the rising costs of living, but considering the cuts being made by the government to assist college students, it seems there are

better ways to fund education than to continually increase tuition," Glass said. "However, college is so expensive that it barely makes a difference — I'm already in debt forever as it is."

Evan Henley, a Zahm Hall sophomore financing part of his own education, said he feels the University's decision displayed a lack of awareness.

"I don't think the University realizes that not everyone here has an extra \$2,500 lying around," he said. "This tuition increase puts a strain on all of us, and it's hard to justify paying it when there are no noticeable changes."

Steve Rowley, father of freshman Elisabeth Rowley, admitted the tuition hike was going to be tough.

Like Glass, he suggested another source of financial support for the University.

"For us, we're not very wealthy, so it's a struggle," Rowley said. "... I'm wondering if, maybe, they shouldn't use [the Notre Dame] endowment to hold [the cost of tuition] down? I know they have a huge one."

Like many parents, though, Rowley said they "love the school" and no matter the cost of tuition, Notre Dame is worth it. Mary Ryan, mother of freshman twins Brendan and Brogan Ryan — the third and fourth Ryan children to attend the University, of the Ryan's 11 children — said the value of the religious education here is irresistible.

"Of course we have a problem [with the hike]," she said. "But we are firm believers in Catholic education; all of our children are in Catholic schools ... We're confident the University will meet our needs and help us out."

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

"We are committed to looking every student in the eye and saying, 'Yes, we will meet your needs.'"

Joseph Russo
director of student
financial services

This is your personal invitation!

Register to attend one of these exciting exclusive seminars - space is limited!

Monday, February 21st
5pm & 7pm
The Monogram Room
JACC

Space is limited!
\$3 will hold your
advance reservation

\$5 at the door
first come first available

R.S.V.P.
by Monday, Feb. 21st at 12noon
online
rsvp@PureSwissSkin.com



get healthy

5:00pm Monday Feb. 21

At 5pm, get the inside scoop on diet-myths, learn the role supplements can play in your over-all health, uncover the truth about natural hormone balancing creams. And, enter to win fantastic products!

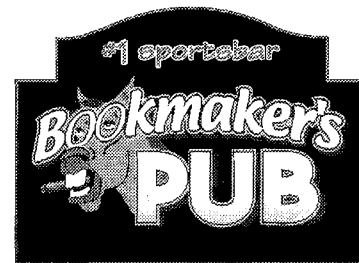
get beautiful

7:00pm Monday Feb. 21

At 7pm, get information on anti-aging skin care, find out what the big-deal is about Swiss skin care and all natural cosmetics, try an exclusive line of skin care and see the results on your skin! And, enter to win fantastic anti-aging products!

JPW WEEKEND

South Bend's #1 Sports Bar
2046 South Bend Ave - Across from Martins Plaza
272-1766



Juniors,
we look forward to meeting
your parents this weekend.

Bring them in for the party!

Must be 21 with valid ID

WORLD & NATION

Friday, February 18, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Car bomb kills five in Thailand

BANGKOK, Thailand — In an escalation of the sectarian violence plaguing Muslim-dominated southern Thailand, a powerful car bomb exploded Thursday in a busy nightlife district, killing five people and injuring more than 40. The car bomb was believed to be Thailand's first.

A series of smaller attacks during the past year has been blamed on Islamic separatists in the mostly Buddhist country, but Thursday's car bomb raised questions about whether foreign militants were involved.

The bomb was planted in a car parked near the Marina Hotel in Sungai Kolok, a town on the Malaysian border that is popular with male tourists. No one has taken responsibility for the attack, which police believe was triggered with a mobile phone.

China to send envoy to N. Korea

BEIJING — China said Thursday it will send a top communist party official to North Korea for talks with its longtime ally in an effort to break a stalemate over the North's nuclear program, but Beijing urged patience in its dealing with the volatile country.

U.S. and South Korean envoys visited Beijing to seek help in persuading the isolated North to rejoin six-nation nuclear talks that were suspended in June. Those talks include the United States, the two Koreas, China, Russia and Japan.

China, the North's biggest backer and a major source of aid to the impoverished country, has been wary of openly testing its influence with Pyongyang.

China urged patience with the unpredictable North, which has rejected calls to return to the six-nation talks, accusing Washington of hostility.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bill Cosby won't face charges

PHILADELPHIA — Bill Cosby will not face charges stemming from a woman's allegation he fondled her, a prosecutor said Thursday.

Authorities found "insufficient credible and admissible evidence" to support the woman's claims, Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said in a statement.

A former Temple University employee, who now lives in her native Ontario, went to Canadian authorities Jan. 13, contending that Cosby gave her medication that made her feel dizzy, then fondled her at his suburban Philadelphia home after a dinner out with friends in January 2004. She said she later awoke to find her bra undone and her clothes in disarray.

Cosby has denied the allegations.

Congress approves class-action law

WASHINGTON — Got a beef with big business? If you and enough of your fellow consumers are mad enough to sue, be aware that state courts — where many of the biggest payouts in class-action lawsuits have been made — may now be closed to you.

After years of complaints from business about the generosity of state judges and juries toward plaintiffs, lawmakers on Thursday sent President Bush legislation aimed at discouraging such multistate, multiplaintiff suits by sending many of them to the traditionally more stingy federal courts.

LOCAL NEWS

Prosecutor will seek death penalty

INDIANAPOLIS — Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi today said he will seek the death penalty against Kenneth Lee Allen, but spare Allen's sister, in the slayings of their mother and grandparents.

Brizzi — who will try the case himself — described seven aggravating factors why death should be imposed against Allen, 29. Among them was the brutal treatment of the victims, some of whom were dismembered.

Bush names intelligence chief

President selects veteran diplomat John Negroponte to unite U.S. spy agencies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush named John Negroponte, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, as the government's first national intelligence director Thursday, turning to a veteran diplomat to revive a spy community besieged by criticism after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ending a nine-week search, Bush chose Negroponte, who has been in Iraq for less than a year, for the difficult job of implementing the most sweeping intelligence overhaul in 50 years.

Negroponte, 65, is tasked with bringing together 15 highly competitive spy agencies and learning to work with the combative Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, the brand new CIA Director Porter Goss and other intelligence leaders. He'll oversee a covert intelligence budget estimated at \$40 billion.

Negroponte, a former ambassador to the United Nations and to a number of countries, called the job his "most challenging assignment" in more than 40 years of government work.

He was widely believed not to have been the first choice, but Bush officials denied the president had had trouble filling the position.

If confirmed by the Senate, as expected, Negroponte said he planned "reform of the intelligence community in ways designed to best meet the intelligence needs of the 21st century."

Bush signaled that he sees Negroponte as the man to steer his intelligence clearinghouse. "If we're going to stop the terrorists before they strike, we must ensure that our intelligence agencies work as a single, unified enterprise," Bush said.

Negroponte will have coveted time with the



John Negroponte speaks at a ceremony in the White House Thursday after the President announced his new position as the nation's first intelligence director.

president during daily intelligence briefings and will have authority over the spy community's intelligence collection priorities. Perhaps most importantly, Bush made clear that Negroponte will set budgets for the national intelligence agencies.

"People who control the money, people who have access to the president generally have a lot of influence," Bush said. "And that's why John Negroponte is going to have a lot of influence."

Bush also announced he had chosen an intelligence insider to serve as Negroponte's deputy, Lt. Gen. Michael Hayden, the National Security Agency's director since 1999. As the

longest-serving head of the secretive codebreaking and eavesdropping agency, Hayden pushed for change by asking some longtime personnel to retire and increasing reliance on technology contractors.

For years, blue-ribbon commissions have proposed creating a single, powerful director to oversee the entire intelligence community, but the concept didn't gain momentum until recommended by the independent Sept. 11 Commission.

Bush and other senior administration officials initially resisted, but reversed course after an exceptional lobbying effort by the families of Sept. 11 attack victims. Congress

approved the new post in December as part of the most significant intelligence overhaul since 1947.

Yet intelligence veterans remain concerned about whether the job will wield enough power to lead government elements that handle everything from recruiting spies to eavesdropping to steering satellites.

Some say the authorities of the intelligence chief are too ambiguous as established in the legislation. The position was also excluded from the Cabinet to shield it from politics, requiring Negroponte to work directly with more senior personalities such as Rumsfeld.

IRAN

Mideast nations expand alliance

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran warned that any strike on its nuclear facilities would draw a swift and crushing response and called Thursday for an expansion of its newly emerging strategic alliance with Syria to create a powerful united Islamic front that could confront Washington and Israel.

Such an expansion appears unlikely to go far, because many key Arab states — Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia — close Washington allies and have long been suspicious of

Iran's Shiite Muslim clerical regime.

Still, the statements were another sign of the tense situation, coming a day after Syria and Iran declared they would form a united front against any threats, and a mysterious explosion near a nuclear facility in southwestern Iran that initially was reported as a missile strike but later was attributed to construction work on a dam.

Iran's overtures to other Muslim countries in the Mideast reflect its concern about U.S. pressure to drop all its nuclear ambitions. With Syria under similarly strong American

scrutiny — in its case for its role in Lebanon and as an alleged sponsor of terrorism — the two nations are trying to diminish Washington's efforts to isolate them.

The Bush administration has so far applied only diplomatic pressure, but has talked tough. President Bush has labeled Iran part of an "axis of evil" with North Korea and prewar Iraq.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Feb. 4 that a military strike against Iran was "not on the agenda at this point," but Bush has said he would not rule out any option.

JPW

continued from page 1

committee secretary Lauren Messina said.

This evening students and parents will attend "The Grand Tour," an event featuring booths representative of a variety of European countries. Each booth will offer a selection of hors d'oeuvres from its respective country. In addition, the event will have a night of dancing and a cash bar.

Saturday, each individual academic school will provide workshops allowing parents to experience the academic aspects of their child's life at Notre Dame.

Following the Saturday evening JPW Mass, University President Father Edward Malloy, accompanied by University President-elect Father John Jenkins, will attend the "Arctic Excursion" - themed President's Dinner.

The weekend will conclude with a Sunday morning "Escape to Paradise" brunch.

In addition to the weekend's official events, many juniors have planned special gatherings for parents and friends. At the conclusion of the President's Dinner, individual students have rented local facilities including the College Football Hall of Fame and Bookmakers to allow their parents and friends to bond in smaller groups.

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh began the Junior Parents Weekend tradition to allow parents the opportunity to share a weekend at Notre Dame with their children prior to graduation. Hesburgh wanted parents and students to spend time together without having to attend the different events

scheduled during graduation weekend, Messina said.

"I can't wait to meet the parents of all of my friends," Messina said. "In high school it was so different because you knew everyone's parents, sometimes becoming as close with them as you were to your own parents. It will be great to have long conversations with them and finally realize why our friends here are such amazing people."

JPW committee chair Kathryn Reynolds emphasized the importance of the weekend to juniors and their parents and said some rules on campus will be altered to facilitate the event.

"It is because of [the event's significance] that the rest of Notre Dame's campus tries to make this weekend be about the junior class and their parents by not allowing on-campus social gatherings, and parietales are at 12 o'clock," she said.

With these rules in place, many non-junior students plan to leave campus for the weekend. Sophomore Alison McKillen and her friends plan to take a road trip to University of Dayton. Similarly, freshman Kristin Drach said her friends are off to visit Ohio State.

"I [don't like] midnight parietales. The dining hall also gets too busy with parents," Drach said. "It is a perfect weekend to get away."

Reynolds said the University provides a unique atmosphere for juniors and their parents.

"I hope students are able to show their parents the home they have here at Notre Dame," she said. "As a class, I hope we take advantage of this opportunity to share this experience with each other."

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Charities

continued from page 1

In more recent years, Malloy facilitated the creation of the Robinson Center, a Notre Dame-sponsored education center in the Northeast Neighborhood of South Bend. Additionally, Malloy has served on the board for the St. Joseph County chapter of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

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Freeze

continued from page 1

trend.

"As a matter of fact, we plan to try to limit our tuition increases as much as we can throughout the next several years," she said. "We're going to try to keep it to four percent or less."

The \$916 tuition hike will make the total for 2005-06 \$32,500, Stickelmaier said. This amount includes cost of education, a meal plan, cost of room, utilities and various items falling under the "fee" category, such as technology, student government and facilities.

Stickelmaier said she did

not think students would be worried by the small tuition hike this year, and compared the impact of this year's increase to other slight increases in the past.

"We did an analysis of our net tuition, which is tuition minus financial aid," she said. "We compared 1996 to 2004, and when you look at the net tuition, it only went up five percent in eight years. We also significantly increased our [allotment] to financial aid."

Stickelmaier said the College hands out \$11.5 million in institutional aid per year, a number that "definitely will go up as tuition rises." She believes the aid is a draw to Saint Mary's, and said most prospective students will not

be discouraged by the price tag.

"We try to do the best we can with institutional financial aid, and I'm sure that there are a few students who would go to a state school rather than here because of the cost," Stickelmaier said.

But cost is not the main factor for students who consider attending Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, she added.

"I think if you're looking at the price compared to the quality of the two institutions, price can be important — but quality can be even more important," she said. "That's a key issue for our students and for Notre Dame's."

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Malloy

continued from page 1

ness or bittersweet sentiment. He did, however, keep his sights set firmly on the future, trying to mirror University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh's precedent of leaving Notre Dame institutionally strong for the incoming president.

"I haven't given a lot of thought to that part of my life, but I'm not in denial or anything, I'm just focusing on what I do and hoping for a very smooth transition," Malloy said.

Since the Board of Trustees announced in April the upcoming presidential transition, Malloy and his successor, University President-elect Father John Jenkins, have been consulting one another when making decisions for Notre Dame. Though Malloy said he did not approach this year differently than any of the other 17 he served as president, he admitted that the biggest change and adjustment he made involved decision-making.

"Instead of being the final voice in decision-making administratively, I recognized the whole year and in particular as we get closer to the transition that I need to defer to [University President-elect

John Jenkins]," Malloy said.

While Jenkins devotes time to arranging his staff and preparing for transition, Malloy continues to focus on completing details of the University's current 10-year plan, hiring new faculty, overseeing next year's budget and approving tenure promotion decisions.

Despite an exceptionally eventful year, Malloy said he has no regrets from his last year in the Office of the President. During the past 14 months all three of Notre Dame's associate provosts — Carol Mooney, John Affleck-Graves and Jenkins — left their positions for promotions at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, and the University filled the year-long vacancy in the office of the executive vice president. Additionally, the controversial firing of head football coach Tyrone Willingham sparked debate across the country, and Notre Dame hired alumnus and Patriots offensive coordinator Charlie Weis to lead the Irish.

"We had a little public flap, it had little to do with John, it had to do with other circumstances. One of the things you find out in the complicated

world of administration is that you can't always control what happens. You do the best you can do and then you move on," Malloy said. "You really have to be flexible, and that's the way I live my life."

Malloy is not about fanfare. He knows that a series of "goodbye" events are planned, but he would rather focus on his future, and the University's. He candidly said his biggest joy this year was the opening of the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. He is also looking forward to completion of the Jordan Hall of Science, the Guglielmino Family Athletics Center and the South Bend Center for Medical Education, the Indiana University School of Medicine on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

"Those projects are all coming to fruition and I was involved in approving them," Malloy said. "It isn't just about the people we are bringing along, it's the facilities that will be available to the Notre Dame community."

Malloy will step down as president on June 30, 2005.

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IN BRIEF

War on terror hurts U.S. tourism

Mickey Mouse has a bone to pick with Uncle Sam.

Some U.S. travel executives — including those who run Disneyland and Walt Disney World — think the government needs to do more to improve the country's image with foreign tourists who increasingly are choosing other places for their vacations.

Tourism officials ascribe the decline partly to anti-Americanism that arose after the country launched military action in Afghanistan and Iraq and to the "hassle factor" associated with new visa application and airport security procedures.

Aggressive campaigns by other countries to lure tourists have had an impact, too.

"It's more than just an image decline," said Jay Rasulo, president of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts, a Lake Buena Vista, Fla.-based unit of The Walt Disney Co. "I think other countries are out there competing for tourists and we have not been."

FTC approves hotel conglomerate

LAS VEGAS — The Federal Trade Commission on Wednesday approved MGM Mirage's proposal to buy rival Mandalay Resort Group, a move that could create one of the largest gambling companies in the world and give the casino operator control of 11 resorts on the famed Las Vegas Strip.

The commission voted 5-0 to close its investigation and place no conditions on the transaction, an FTC spokesman told The Associated Press.

MGM Mirage Inc. still needs Nevada and other state gambling regulators to approve the blockbuster deal.

"We are very pleased that the FTC has made the ruling but there remains a significant step, the approval of the Gaming Control Board and Gaming Commission in Nevada," MGM Mirage spokesman Alan Feldman said. State gambling regulators are scheduled to consider the matter next week.

In June, MGM Mirage agreed to purchase Mandalay for \$4.8 billion in cash, \$2.5 billion in debt and \$600 million convertible debentures. The company has secured financing for the merger.

Microsoft faces new dilemma

Corporation's new antivirus products might compete directly with its allies

Associated Press

SEATTLE — If Microsoft Corp. doesn't do more to stem Internet attacks, the company risks further alienating customers unhappy with the multitude of threats already facing its ubiquitous software.

Sell its own security products, on the other hand, and Microsoft faces a potential backlash from some of its allies — the companies that now provide an extra layer of security for its Windows operating system, Internet Explorer browser and other products.

With a powerhouse like Microsoft becoming a direct competitor, they could get squeezed out.

What a quandary.

Last week, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates confirmed plans to sell antivirus products to both consumers and big businesses by the end of the year. But the Redmond company is mum on cost and features.

Speaking at a security conference, Gates also said the company would give consumers a free tool for combating spyware, a pesky and growing threat that can monitor users' activities, hinder computer performance and create other hassles. Microsoft also will sell a more sophisticated antispyware product to businesses.

Executives in the security industry say they believe Microsoft's promise to continue sharing security information and working with other security companies even after it becomes a direct competitor.

Analyst Gregg Moskowitz with Susquehanna Financial Group said both sides have an incentive to "continue to play nice with each other."

The security companies are dependent on Microsoft to make sure their defenses run smoothly, while Microsoft cannot risk having competing security products break down and



Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates speaks at a conference Tuesday in San Francisco. The corporation announced it will sell software to battle privacy-invading pests.

wreak more havoc on Windows, Moskowitz said.

"A very significant number of people, if they don't have a good security experience, they're going to hold it against Microsoft — even if they're using another vendor," Moskowitz said.

Still, John Schwarz, president and chief operating officer of Symantec Corp., would rather see Microsoft concentrate on fixing security flaws.

"We believe they'd be better off in focusing on making sure that their platform, the Windows operating system, is less subject to attack," Schwarz said.

Microsoft has worked feverishly to better secure its products, including updating Windows XP with

a new firewall and other security measures. But given their widespread use, the products are near-constant targets of attacks that take advantage of loopholes and flaws to hijack computers, steal personal information and cripple businesses.

McAfee Inc. President Gene Hodges calls its new competitor an example of "capitalism at its best."

But he said it will only be a fair fight if all companies have a level playing field in which everyone sells, rather than gives away, products.

Microsoft's move to sell antivirus software appears fair so far, Hodges said, though he said Microsoft's decision to give away an antispyware product could hurt smaller players who

can't afford such giveaways.

"We would have rather they entered the market for spyware and competed," Hodges said.

Security companies including McAfee already sell antispyware products, generally charging between \$30 and \$40, though a few give away versions or trials for free.

Microsoft has downplayed the competitive angle, saying they are simply responding to requests from customers for more protection options. Amy Roberts, a director with the company's security and business unit, said the company is most concerned about people who have no extra protection at all.

Clear Channel plans liberal format

Associated Press

DETROIT — The day before President Bush's inauguration, listeners tuning in to the Detroit sports station WXDX-AM were suddenly greeted by the sound of braying donkeys. By the time Bush was taking the oath of office, the radio station had new call letters and a full schedule of liberal talk shows.

WXDX-AM — now known as WDTW-AM — is one of 22 stations owned by Clear Channel Communications Inc. that have switched to a liberal talk format in the last year. This month, KTLK-AM in Los Angeles became the latest Clear Channel station to adopt the format.

Those who track broadcasting trends say there's money to be made in liberal talk radio. Todd Webster, a consultant for Washington-based liberal talk show producer Democracy Radio, said Clear Channel is expected to introduce the left-leaning format on 20 more stations by the end of the year.

"There is a tremendous appetite out there for progressive talk," he said.

Webster said that even as recently as a year ago, no one thought Texas-based Clear Channel, a media conglomerate that owns 1,200 stations, would ever become partners with upstart liberal talkers.

"There has been a tectonic shift in the industry from all of the big brains and the head honchos saying, 'Nobody

wants to listen to a bunch of whiny liberals on the radio,'" Webster said.

The partnership might seem surprising because of Texas-based Clear Channel's conservative reputation. Clear Channel CEO Lowry Mays and his wife gave \$65,000 to the Republican National Committee in the last election cycle, and two-thirds of the company's federal donations went to Republicans, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

And last summer, a Berkeley, Calif.-based group sued Clear Channel, which also owns an outdoor advertising business, after it refused to run an anti-war billboard in Times Square during the Republican National Convention.

ENGLAND

Ban prohibits Brits from hunting foxes

Associated Press

SEDBERGH — For two foxes in northwestern England, the ban on hunting came too late.

Caught and killed by the dog pack of the Lunesdale Hunt on a bright winter morning, they were casualties on the last day before the centuries-old sport is banned. Now it's the hounds — in kennels across England and Wales — who face an uncertain future.

The majority of hunts in England and Wales held events Thursday before the start of the ban on hunting with dogs. Scotland, with a separate legal system, had already banned hunting.

"When the ban comes in, we're not going to break the law of course," said Peter Capasso, secretary of the Lunesdale Hunt, based in Sedbergh in northwestern Cumbria County.

Instead, he believes the 350 members of the hunt will vote to continue paying a total of \$2,800 a month to keep the 60 dogs alive while hoping that the ban can be repealed. Other hunts, however, have said they may have to kill their dogs.

Warmed by a shot of whisky or coffee dispensed at the Dalesman Country Inn, the members of the Lunesdale Hunt and supporters — many following in cars — set off across the rugged landscape of Howgills as an early mist burned away and the day shone crisp and clear.

"Today, a lot of people have taken the day off work," Capasso said. "It's been like a bank holiday or Boxing Day" — Dec. 26, traditionally the big day on the Lunesdale hunt calendar.

The legislation, forced into law by the House of Commons in November, bans all hunting with hounds including the pursuit of rabbits and deer. Shooting foxes

will remain legal.

The weekend brings a change of gear in the campaign to overturn the law.

Isobel Walsh, a spokeswoman for the pro-hunting Countryside Alliance, said thousands of hunters were expected to attend more than 250 hunts planned around the country Saturday.

"They are determined to go out and hunt within the law to prove how absurd it is," Walsh said.

The Duke of Beaufort's Hunt in western England, whose supporters include Prince Charles and his fiancée, Camilla Parker Bowles, planned to hold trail hunts, where hounds chase a scent rather than foxes.

"If we happen to catch a fox on Saturday, it will just be a nasty accident for that fox because our intention will be to hunt the trail, not the fox," said Mike Hibbard, a member of the hunt.

The Countryside Alliance had tried to overturn the ban by questioning the validity of the 1949 Parliament Act, which lawmakers used to override the opposition of the House of Lords.

Three senior judges on Wednesday rejected the argument. Hunt supporters have said they are prepared to take the case to the European Court of Human Rights. Rural affairs minister Alun Michael said he

was confident the law would survive the legal challenges.

"I am particularly pleased that hunts are now talking about an intention to hunt within the law," Michael said.

"That means doing all that is traditionally associated with hunting from the stirrup cup to red coats to enjoying a day in the fresh air, and that should cause problems for no one as long as they don't use their dogs to hunt a wild mammal."

"If we happen catch a fox on Saturday, it will just be a nasty accident for that fox..."

Mike Hibbard
member of the hunt

'Lil' Sibs' come to Saint Mary's

By APRIL THOMAS
News Writer

While parents set up camp across the street this weekend, Saint Mary's will welcome students' younger family members.

From this afternoon to Sunday morning, Belles' sisters, brothers, cousins and friends will enjoy activities, explore campus and spend quality time with their hostesses during Little Siblings Weekend.

"We have about 130 students and 220 sibs participating — pretty much the same as last year," event co-chair Jennifer Pillar said.

According to co-chair Lisa Cozzi, the Residence Hall

Association began preparing in September, producing an itinerary based on the chosen theme, "SMC Gone Country."

The theme will be tied into the scheduled dance and craft activities on Saturday.

"Each child can decorate a cowboy hat," Pillar said.

Along with a karaoke night at Dalloway's tonight, Cozzi said a new addition to the annual weekend will take place.

"Friday night around 9 p.m., each dorm will be showing its own movie for the sibs," she said.

McCandless and Holy Cross Hall Councils are sponsoring "Monsters, Inc.," LeMans Hall will be showing "The Emperor's New Groove" and "Sleeping

Beauty" will be shown in Regina.

Saturday's events include a pizza party, dorm breakfasts, a pool party and a free-throw contest at the Belles basketball game.

RHA also teamed up with SAB to bring "Shrek 2" to Carroll Auditorium at 7 p.m. Saturday, an event open to the whole campus.

Cozzi plans to participate in the finished product of RHA's hard work and already looks forward to her favorite activity — the dance Saturday night.

"My three cousins are coming for their third year," she said. "They are so excited."

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POLAND

Pope to publish his fifth book

Associated Press

WARSAW — In his new book, Pope John Paul II for the first time described publicly the moments after he was gravely wounded in 1981, saying he was fearful and in pain, but had "a strange feeling of confidence" that he would live.

In the book, a copy of which was obtained Thursday by The Associated Press, the Polish pontiff also said his would-be assassin, Mehmet Ali Agca, "understood that above his power — the power of shooting and killing — there is a greater power."

In "Memory and Identity: Conversations Between

Millenniums," the pope said he remembered being rushed to the hospital but didn't recall much of what happened after he arrived because "I was almost on the other side."

"Oh, my Lord! This was a difficult experience. I woke up the next day, around noon," the pope wrote.

The book, his fifth, is essentially a transcript of conversations he had in Polish with his close friends political philosopher Krzysztof Michalski and the late Rev. Jozef Tischner in 1993 at his summer residence near Rome. It will be published Feb. 23 in Italy by Rizzoli, which also plans an English version soon for the United States.

In it, the pope reflected on a range of topics and broadly compares abortion to the Holocaust, saying both derived from governments in conflict with God's laws.

The most personal section of the book contains John Paul's recollections of how his faith sustained him after being shot in the abdomen by the Turkish gunman on May 13, 1981, while riding in an open car in St. Peter's Square.

"Yes, I remember that journey to the hospital," he wrote. "I remained conscious for some time after. I had a feeling that I would survive. I was in pain, I had reason to be afraid, but I had this strange feeling of confidence."

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Delays cut for visa applications

Associated Press

The State and Homeland Security departments have reduced from months to weeks the time it takes foreign students and scholars trying to travel to the United States to clear a key visa review, according to a new government report.

The findings are welcome news for education leaders, though they have cautioned streamlining the visa process will not, on its own, reverse the trend of declining interest among foreigners in attending American colleges and universities.

Amid complaints from higher education groups and major business leaders, including Bill Gates, that visa hassles were discouraging foreign students from attending American schools, a Government Accountability Office investigation last year found average delays of 67 days for applicants to clear a security check for scientists known as Visa Mantis. Some delays were considerably longer, and some applicants

waited as long as 12 weeks just to get an interview to start the process.

In a follow-up report to be released Friday, the GAO finds the average wait following the interview has now fallen to 15 days, according to a source who has been briefed on the findings and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The report credits the overall improvement to better technology, coordination among agencies and policy changes — such as priority interviews for student applicants. It cautions that problems remain and some scholars still face considerable delays.

The report comes just a week after the government announced it would allow international students to keep their Visa Mantis clearance for the duration of their studies, up to four years — a change that will likely further reduce delays. Reapplications from those who had been previously cleared were a major bottleneck, and a source of anxiety for applicants, who worried they might be unable to get back to school if

forced to return home in an emergency.

Peggy Blumenthal, vice president for educational services at the Institute of International Education, praised U.S. embassies for making an improved visa process a top priority. Still, public relations challenges remain, she said.

"Even more important than the actual wait times, which have improved, is combatting the perception abroad by students that the situation is the same as it was shortly after Sept. 11," she said. "Students right now are going on what they heard from their cousin or friend or neighbor who applied three years ago."

About 600,000 foreigners study in the United States, but international graduate student applications fell 32 percent last year, according to an IIE survey. Another survey released in November found the number of first-time foreign enrollees in American graduate schools was down 6 percent — the third straight decline after a decade of growth.

PBS cautions about war documentary's swearing

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Worried about the FCC, PBS is taking the words out of the mouths of some soldiers filmed during combat in Iraq.

The public broadcaster is distributing "clean" and "raw" versions of next Tuesday's "Frontline" documentary about the Iraq war, titled "A Company of Soldiers," and is warning it can't insure stations against FCC fines stemming from the language.

It's an example of the television's industry's continued uncertainty about Federal Communications Commission standards for language and content and a real-life echo of last fall's decision by 66 ABC affiliates not to air the movie "Saving Private Ryan."

The documentary contains 13 expletives spoken by soldiers. "Frontline" producers decided to leave them in because it presented a true picture of how these men and women react to the fear and stress of war, said David Fanning, the show's executive producer.

The producers also made a separate version of the documentary with the words edited

out, for use by some of PBS's 170 stations in more conservative parts of the country. "Frontline" is produced by Boston's WGBH, which will air the raw version.


Instead, PBS decided to send the clean version out to all of its stations. The raw version will also be made available, but station managers will have to make a special effort to tape it in advance.

PBS is also warning its stations that if they want to put themselves at risk of an FCC fine for language, the system can't insure them, said senior programming executive Jacoba Atlas. To air the raw version, stations must sign a statement acknowledging the financial risk is theirs.

"It's a financial decision," Atlas said. "It's not a decision that reflects on the merit that we think the film has."

Fanning said he wished this was something that PBS could take a stand on, but understood why not.


"I'm not upset about PBS," he said. "We're upset that we're put in the position of having to make a special circumstance of this and PBS is put in the position of not being able to have viewers see this."



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Tuition increase discouraging

Most graduates talk about the value of a Notre Dame education, emphasizing the academically, ethically and morally sound foundation they received as students. But "value" recently took on a different connotation.

It's difficult to believe that just four years ago Notre Dame introduced its lowest tuition increase in 40 years, at 4.9 percent for the 2001-02 academic year. That's a very different story than last week, when the University announced its third tuition increase in as many years that exceeds 6 percent.

After the 2003 economic downturn led to endowment losses and budget cuts, Notre Dame increased its tuition by 6.5 percent for 2003-04, 6.9 percent for 2004-05 and, most recently, 7 percent for 2005-06.

If the current pace of tuition hikes continues, entering freshmen for the class of 2009 could be facing a total four-year tuition bill of approximately \$140,000 - not including room and board. With a possible room and board bill of \$35,560, the "value" of a Notre Dame undergraduate education could top \$175,560.

Yes, the University is an expensive place to operate. Among other costs, it must be able to afford to pay top-notch administrators and professors, keep pace with the newest technology, continue construction on new buildings and operate the campus power plant. But Notre Dame shouldn't have to sustain its growth on the backs of its students.

It is surprising that only 9 percent of earnings on the University's \$3 billion endowment are used to support daily opera-

tions, leaving tuition — at 60 percent — to bear much of the difference. While financial operations are a sensitive and complicated matter, and certainly should not be treated lightly, the University could benefit from a reassessment of both the sources of its funds and how it chooses to allocate them. Depending heavily on tuition to secure a financial cushion should not become a habit.

The University is justifying this increase by stating that it wishes to maintain its ability to meet 100 percent of students' demonstrated financial need. But with the burgeoning costs, Notre Dame could limit its applicant pool because — whether their concerns are justified or not — prospective students will be discouraged from applying to the school in the first place. And increased tuition costs will lead to increased demands on financial aid, which only furthers the costly cycle for both sides.

Notre Dame also raises the point that it is trying to keep pace with the rates charged by peer schools, such as Georgetown's \$40,492 and Northwestern's \$40,686 for tuition, room and board and fees in 2004-05. But the University has always prided itself on its history of educating students from various socioeconomic levels. Climbing into the academic elite does not mean Notre Dame must raise its costs to fit the mold.

Notre Dame students are fortunate to receive an education that is valuable on so many fronts. It is unfortunate that by consistently increasing the burden of paying for that education, the University could force some students to choose one "value" over the other.

The
Observer
Editorial

V-Day mission unquestionable

Since the first performance of the Vagina Monologues at Notre Dame, the overriding question of whether the play belongs at a Catholic university has remained the same.

There's no denying the dilemma. Academic departments may sponsor it and students may attend, but parts of the play undoubtedly challenge the face of Catholic teaching on human sexuality. Saint Mary's, Notre Dame's sister school, has refused to host the play.

But whether allowing the production of the Vagina Monologues is a violation of Catholic identity is questionable. What is unquestionably a violation of Catholic identity is to ignore the problems that lie at the heart of the V-Day movement that has grown as a result of the play. V-Day is first and foremost an organization that works to stop violence against women, and is becoming increasingly effective at raising awareness of the pain experienced by women around the world.

The issue of which words should be shouted on which colleges' campuses pales in comparison to the violations of human rights that V-Day brings to light. V-Day is growing in popularity around the world for its strong stance on violence against women in any form. Sexual assault against Native American women, acid attacks in Bangladesh, female infanticide in Asia and enforced prostitution in Europe and America are all realities, and while V-

Day cannot eliminate these things, it may be the first voice through which many people become aware of them.

Aspects of the Vagina Monologues might make some uncomfortable, and Eve Ensler herself is still a controversial figure. But the overriding goal of the play, the movement and the author is to build respect for women. This goal is held in common with the Catholic Church, which also holds respect for human life as a

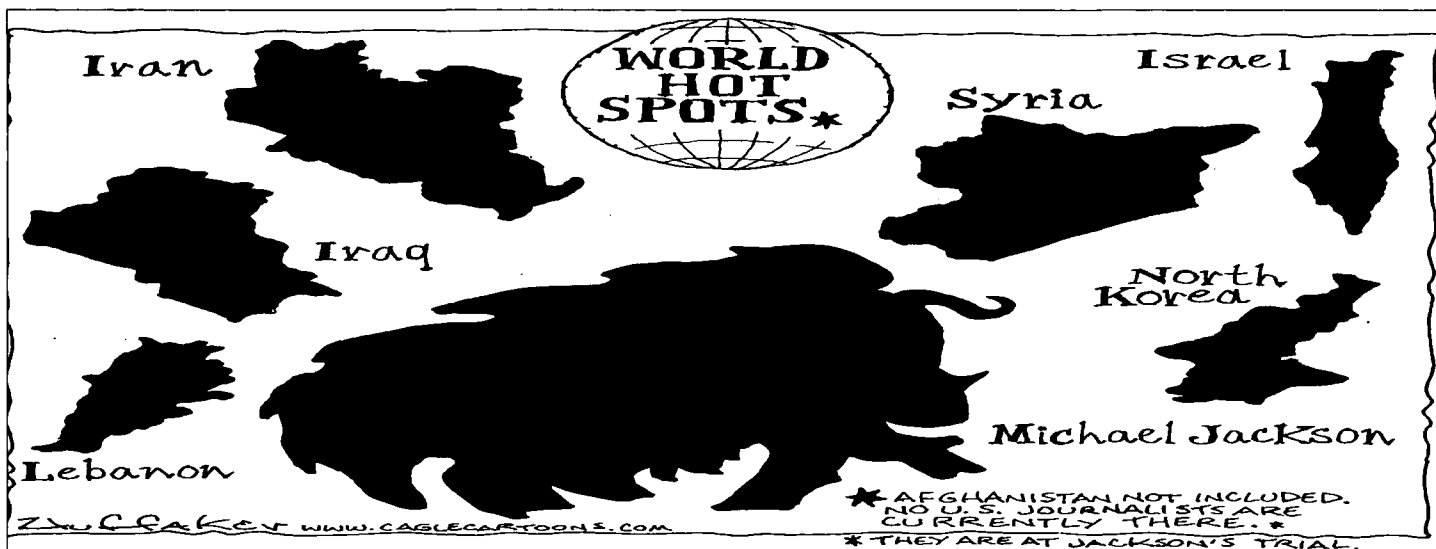
sacred duty. Whether the play is the most effective means for building this respect is debatable, but any real dialogue about real problems started by V-Day or the Vagina Monologues ought to be respected and needs to continue.

Few beliefs strike as directly to the heart as religion, sexuality and freedom of speech. Conflicts will inevitably arise when they are challenged. The University's line between Catholic identity and academic freedom has likewise always been contentious. Whether allowing the play at Notre Dame means relinquishing an authoritative position on Catholic teaching, or merely accepting the imperfect outside world, is difficult to say.

But people who support or oppose the Vagina Monologues should still acknowledge a common and crucial goal. The character of the Vagina Monologues may still be questionable, but the value of the goals expressed by V-Day is not.

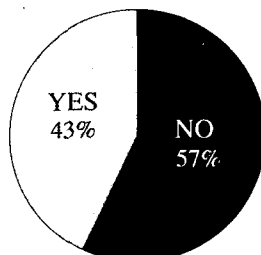
The
Observer
Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Do the Vagina Monologues belong at Notre Dame?



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 648 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds."

J. Robert Oppenheimer
physicist, Manhattan Project

'Cafeteria bishops' constrict views

During the past two weeks visitors to the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center have twice been greeted by individuals dispensing leaflets with a letter from Bishop John D'Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Bishop D'Arcy has written these letters to criticize both the Queer Film Festival and more recently the Vagina Monologues. The Bishop is certainly well within his bounds to write such letters and to approve of their distribution to those attending both events. He should be praised for reading the text of the Monologues, offering thoughtful reflection and perhaps enhancing the campus-wide debate regarding their merits and appropriateness. He also, as he said in his most recent letter, has a certain "pastoral freedom" akin to academic freedom, as well as an "obligation to teach."

John Infranca

Dissident Poetry

What are most interesting about Bishop D'Arcy's pastoral letters, however, have been the issues he chooses to address. While Notre Dame has arguably strayed from Catholic teaching on war, workers' rights, economic justice and various other concerns it is only issues dealing with sexuality that seem of concern to the Bishop. As one former Notre Dame hall rector once said to me, through the way in

which it directs its attention the Catholic Church often seems to expand the space between people's legs at the expense of everything beyond it.

That being said I am not writing here to defend the Vagina Monologues. I find them to be of questionable artistic merit and wonder whether the movement they have spawned is not perhaps stuck in a rut, performing the same play over and over again. I am not sure even Shakespeare's works could handle such numbing repetition. But I am also not interested nor do I consider myself sufficiently talented to write a sequel that will move things forward. That is another person's task and one I hope is taken up sooner rather than later.

What I do believe is that the Bishop, and other Church leaders, must be challenged to speak out on other issues of concern to our university community and the wider world. It seems only predictable that when issues of sexuality present themselves Church leaders rush to the typewriter. Where was Bishop D'Arcy's voice regarding matters of workers' rights when students protested the University's relationship with Taco Bell? Where is his voice as Notre Dame's ROTC unit trains soldiers to fight a war the pope and other Vatican officials have questioned the morality

of and justification for? Where are his letters questioning Notre Dame's selection as head of its Board of Trustees, a man who leads a law firm regarded by many as the nation's premier union-busting outfit?

On a related note, where are his demands for Notre Dame to actively pursue the commitment within Catholic Social Teaching to support unions and the rights of workers? Where are his letters demanding an investigation of the production of Notre Dame athletic apparel? Where is his voice questioning the tremendous wage discrepancies on this campus or asking whether Notre Dame's School of Business sufficiently challenges the rampant consumerism within our culture? Have the pope and the Church not spoken out on matters related to all these issues? Why are these messages not being shared with the faithful? How can, using D'Arcy's own words, "the light coming from faith, or indeed from right reason" be "brought to bear" on these decisions?

I do not question the integrity or the commitment of Bishop D'Arcy. What I do question is whether a decision to focus on only certain components of Church teaching by any Church leader is perhaps a self-defeating strategy. Like much of the Church faithful many Bishops appear to have chosen one side of the so-called "culture war." They appear content to proclaim only

one half of the "consistent ethic of life." By focusing so intently on a small array of issues, often revolving around sexuality, they consequently marginalize both their own teachings and the Church, instead of affirming the integrity of both.

In focusing on issues of sexuality, however, Bishop D'Arcy and many others seem to have chosen the easy road. The same can be said of a Notre Dame administration that appears to deem nothing more evil (and worthy of expulsion) than sex among unmarried students. Such a position does not demand the same risk required by a willingness to challenge the rush to war and Notre Dame's tacit approval of it, to question a dominant culture that seeks consumption often in place of spiritual fulfillment and to speak out on behalf of workers here on Notre Dame's campus and those manufacturing our sports apparel thousands of miles away. The Catholic tradition speaks to each of these issues in a clear and often challenging voice. Where are our shepherds willing to raise their voices?

John Infranca is a theology graduate student. His column appears every other Friday. He can be reached at jinfran1@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Silencing of viewpoint not the way to educate

I wholeheartedly agree with Courtney Tawressey on an extremely salient point addressed in her Feb. 17 letter. The University of Notre Dame does indeed have a duty to educate its students. I am slightly confused, however, as to how the dissemination of erroneous information and the complete prohibition of some information all together will aid the University in the discharge of this duty.

Read the mission statements and the literature proffered to the community by SOS and the YWCA. There is no pro-choice advocacy to be found. In fact, there's no mention of abortion, period. Instead, both groups support and advocate safety and comfort and provide aid to women who have been victimized by violence. Go see the Vagina Monologues. Note again the lack of pro-choice propaganda — indeed, again, the complete absence of even a mention of abortion. Her assertions to that end are simply wrong.

Further, as an educational institution, it is in fact the duty of this University to provide for its students a range of curricula, of viewpoints, of arguments and hot buttons to ponder and discuss and use to reach universal truths.

No one is asking you to like the show. No one is asking you to declare what your vagina would wear if it got

dressed. The purpose of Eve Ensler's play, the mission of the Vagina Warriors and the objective of the academic departments sponsoring the show and the V-Day movement on campus is simply to challenge you. To engage you. To dialogue with you and to aspire to a higher level of learning and understanding than can ever be reached by only presenting a single side to the story.

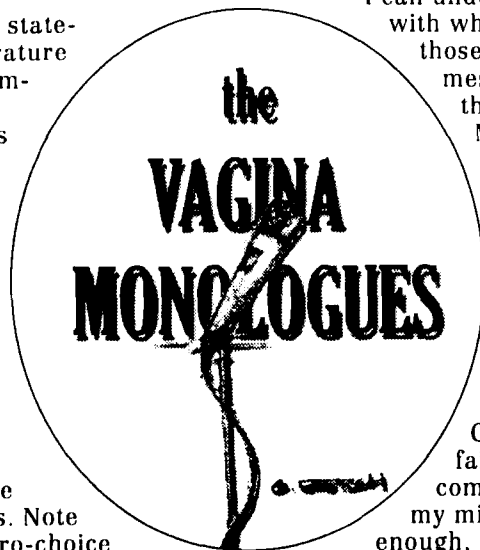
I can understand the anger with which you condemn those who spread the message of V-Day through the Vagina Monologues.

Throughout history, those who have propounded a controversial message have been criticized and ostracized, even beaten and put to death. One example, central to Catholic belief and faith and teaching, comes immediately to my mind ... and oddly enough, it's in His name

that you purport to ban the perhaps unpopular message of the Vagina Monologues.

In my mind, no greater loss would be suffered by the University than the banning of any one viewpoint, no matter how controversial. There is no greater violence to women than keeping them shrouded in silence.

Corey McDevitt
Law Student
Feb. 17



'Intellectual diversity' not a valid justification

Notre Dame Students are very familiar with the story of "Adam and Eve." After all, this is a Catholic university. Lately, however, students have been surrounded with other sideshows. Last week it was "Adam and Steve" during Notre Dame's 2nd Queer Film Festival. This week we had no Adam, just plain Eve, as in the controversial author of The Vagina Monologues, Eve Ensler. Oh, the pressure for next week.

It's bad enough to hear "Notre Dame" and "queer" incessantly said together each time the Fightin' Irish travel to Boston College for football, but to have it as a Notre Dame event is shocking. Father Sorin must be rolling over in his grave. Notre Dame's outgoing president Monk Malloy needs another off-campus academic conference to proclaim more shame in Notre Dame, but this time it would make sense. After all, many events lately are in direct conflict with the pope and our Bishop. So are we first and foremost catholic or Catholic here at Notre Dame? I think I'll shave my head until the day Catholicism rules again at Notre Dame.

I read The Vagina Monologues before coming to Notre Dame. I attended the play at Washington Hall as a freshman. I found some uplifting content for women's rights and some moving storylines about abuse — interestingly, the best parts were extras written by Notre Dame students for the event — but I also found inappropriate content aplenty, especially if looked at through Catholic eyes. No one protesting this event at Notre Dame condones violence or abuse towards women. To the contrary, the protests are because people feel so strongly about the issues of rape, violence and abuse and they recognize this is not a true positive for that mission. We have some of the best minds in the country here at Notre Dame, yet certain people want us to believe we need Ensler's guidance to understand women's issues. God help us.

As the Vagina Monologues now rotate to center stage, it's interesting to listen to the debate. Freshman Amanda Deckelman was quoted by The Observer saying the protesters don't understand Ensler's mission and that artistic expression should be allowed "if we're going to be viewed as a learning environment." Another freshman, Erin Horan, agreed with Deckelman, saying, "it is also about rape and violence about women." How right she is. After all, in case you haven't read it, in the Vagina Monologues, Ensler devotes an entire storyline to a 13-year-old girl being statutorily raped by a 24-year-old female neighbor. The positive portrayal ends with the child telling us that "if it was rape, it was a good rape." Did she say good rape? Better call ResLife to update DuLac; apparently "good rape" is now condoned by Notre Dame in the name of academic freedom, intellectual diversity and women's rights. Notre Dame, Our Mother, pray for us.

Dave Daley
junior
off-campus
Feb. 17

Fighting in the 'Shadow of Rome'

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Scene Writer

"Shadow of Rome" is one of the few games in recent years to place the player in the shoes of a gladiator. There are many different arenas of combat, increasing in size and fame as the player progresses through the game. In addition to the broad array of settings, the game play itself is quite varied as well.

The actual fighting segments vary over the course of the game. It starts off by placing the player in standard melees. As the player advances, however, different modes are earned with new missions like search-and-rescue and search-and-destroy. The enemies range from human form to animals. After all, what game about gladiators would be complete without a fight involving tigers?

There's actually a story to complement the bloodshed. The game is set shortly after Caesar's assassination. Agrippa is a soldier, fighting for the glory of Rome, when he hears that Caesar was killed. He returns to Rome to find his father charged with murder and his mother killed. Through a turn of events, he finds himself fighting as a gladiator in hopes of finding a way to save his father from his mother's fate. The player begins to play the role of Agrippa as the game progresses.

To add more variety to the game play, the player also controls Caesar's nephew, Octavianus, as he searches the Senate for the truth. When playing as him, the game turns to stealth to avoid foes. Octavianus lacks the muscle and experience that Agrippa possesses, forcing him to rely on other means to accomplish his goals.

Sadly, it is with Octavianus's parts of

the game that it begins to slow down. While they are necessary to further the story, the player plods through those parts, looking forward for the next chance to control Agrippa. The fights in the Roman arenas are by far the highlights of the game. The gamer can earn point for performing different moves, such as the Juicy Tomato. One can imagine what that move represents. Once enough points are obtained, the gamer can unlock new fighting techniques and become familiar with those.

"Shadow of Rome" provides a gamer with a good experience. There's a lot that can be done within the game, and fans of the movie "Gladiator" will feel at home. While it's not the greatest out there, it's far from the worst.

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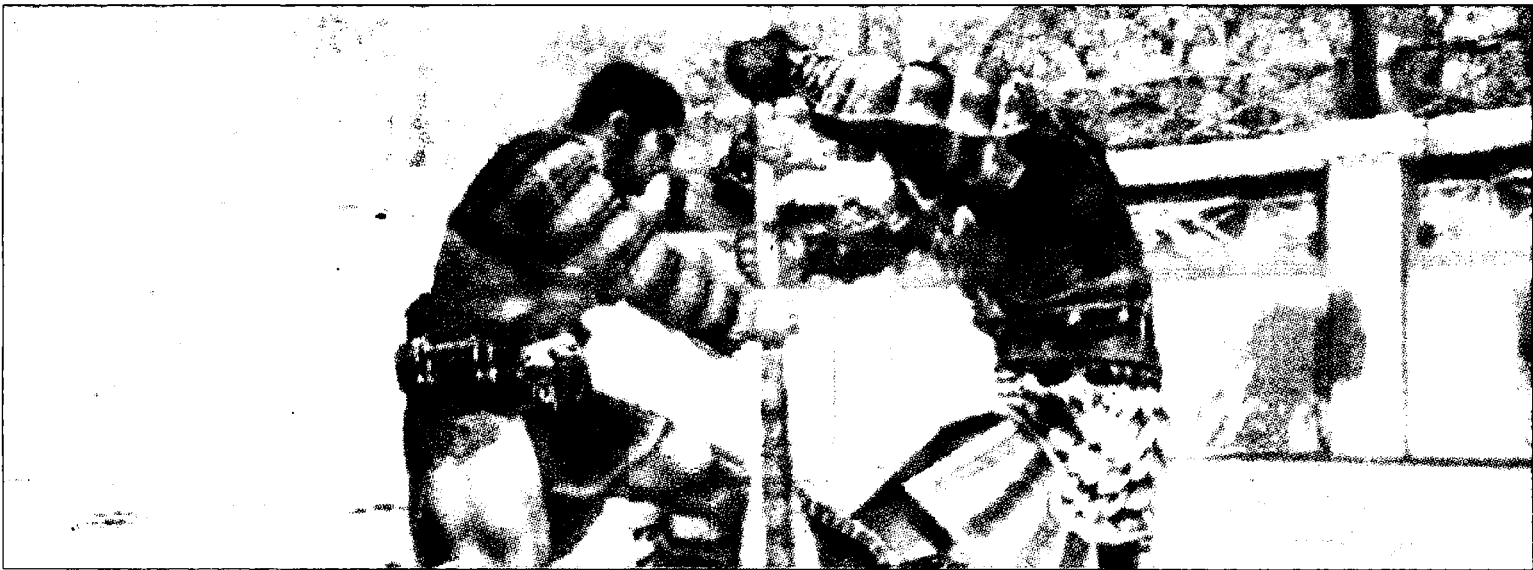


Photo courtesy of www.gamesfirst.com

As a gladiator in ancient Greece, gameplayers contend in a series of missions and arenas of combat. These missions range from fighting for a father's life, battling various warriors and wild animals and seeking to bring peace and justice to the Senate.

Hunting a stranger in 'Oddworld'

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Scene Writer

The Oddworld universe is a rich, colorful world with a range of loveable, and less than loveable, characters. "Oddworld: Stranger's Wrath" is the latest installment in the series and it is quite possibly the best.

The player takes on the role of the Stranger, a bounty hunter in the Oddworld universe. In a largely lawless land, the character is the only source of justice that the people have.

Set in a western backdrop, the game alternates from being familiar to completely alien. The towns look like typical western backdrops, but the inhabitants do not blend into this atmosphere. The denizens, known

as clakkerz, are essentially giant chickens who are more than willing to toss a one-liner your way. The bad guys are dressed in typical western attire at first and talk the part but, like the clakkerz, are essentially completely different.

"Oddworld: Stranger's Wrath" is also a departure from the previous games in the series, as it is the first first-person shooter in the series. However, classical Oddworld elements come into play as the player can switch to a more standard third person camera on the fly. The ability to switch between the two makes this one of the easiest games to control ever released, as one can choose the correct camera for each situation.

Another first is the incorporation of live ammo. Instead of using lead, the Stranger

fires off little critters, which help him take the bounties in alive. Some of the critters are quite funny as well. The Chippunks in particular are humorous as they can talk and are more than willing to do so. Firing them off is reminiscent of the squirrels on the Quad — a bonus within the game.

It really is difficult trying to describe Oddworld for those who have never tried it. The odd, yet sympathetic, characters find a way to draw the player into the game like none other. The player can often relate to these creatures more easily than a lot of other video game protagonists. So, when looking to pick up a new game, ignore the usual fare. Try something a little odd.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at
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Photo courtesy of www.gamespot.com

In the latest installment of the "Oddworld" series, players take on the role of a bounty hunter, exploring foreign lands, meeting colorful characters and fighting against the forces of evil in a pseudo-western setting.

Gamecube answer the 'Call of Duty'



Re-creating the challenges of fighting and at other times lacking in this new period weapons of the war.

By JOSH TALLEY
Scene Writer

The original "Call of Duty," for PC, was an amazing game that separated itself from the crowd of other first-person World War II shooters. It packed intense single-player action while adding good multiplayer interaction. But much was lost when it was ported to Nintendo's Gamecube.

Like the original, the game is comprised of smaller campaigns told from the perspectives of different soldiers in the Soviet, British and American armies. This allows for varied settings and offers you the chance to experience the "Great War" in different locations with different weapons. During game-play, AI-controlled comrades accompany the character's side, who will fight by his side, protect him and even die for him as he accomplishes missions. There are several kinds of missions — riding in a jeep while shooting, planting explosives and destroying depots. The roughly 10 hours of game-play offers a solid war re-creation, except for occasional frustrating errors in programming and bugs.

One of the biggest errors is the lack of checkpoints or mid-level saving points. Some levels are incredibly hard and long, which makes the gamer play them over and over again to beat them. Another problem a gamer may find is that while the weapons look historically accurate, they are often inaccurate and force a player to waste precious ammo in

does not all of Duty'



Photo courtesy of www.morgantowngamers.com

World War II is at times successful
ideo game that focuses on the vari-

order to defeat enemies. Grenade usage is horrible. The grenades are not allowed to "cook" in the hand, and the length of the throw cannot be varied. Also, the game does not allow for grenades to be placed via bouncing. The physics engine is almost non-existent with respect to grenades, which makes house-clearing missions extremely difficult. The player never needs to compensate for the arc of gravity when distancing munitions. Presentation-wise, the graphics in the game are not nearly of the same quality as its PC counterpart. The graphics appear blotchy with noticeable sluggishness when many explosions and characters fill the screen. Additionally, the explosion graphics are poor and look nothing like an actual explosion. The audio is average — it has the basic voice work and background noises, but nothing special. The Gamecube version has no multi-layer mode, which detracts immensely from the overall value of the game. Also, the controls of the game are horrendous. A gamer must unnecessarily use a health pack while trying to reload or switch to an empty weapon instead of throwing a grenade. The game is mediocre. It is fun in a historical shooting context, but other than that, there are much better first-person shooting games on the market — particularly of the World War II genre.

Contact Josh Talley at jtalley2@nd.edu

Dating-simulator is 'Sprung' in America

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Scene Writer

Some video games push technology further and further. But then there are the other games — games like "Sprung" — which do the opposite. Essentially a dating game, the player gets to choose from various conversation paths in efforts of wooing the girl of his choice. The game is broken up into multiple chapters where the player can choose different paths. They all lead to the same conclusion, which then limits the interest in a replay. Control is limited to choosing the dialogue and the occasional use of an item. This can lead to a tedious experience, as

the game alternates from babying the player to be insanely obscure and difficult. The monotony of choosing what to say is broken up by simple "Simon says" style of game play, elements that have been around since the early days of video games. Designed for the Nintendo DS handheld gaming system, this game makes decent use of the dual screens. The top half shows the target of the conversation, while the bottom shows your personal avatar. The characters react to the player's choices in suitable cartoon fashion. This has been done before — just not with two screens. The game does have some redeeming factors. The humor in the game can at times be quite zany and good. It has ele-

ments of typical Japanese humor meshed with simple dating antics. This can lead to some humorous situations. At one point in the game the character woos a self-described hippie. Halfway through the conversation with her, she becomes one with her animal spirit and her head is replaced by a cow's. The character notices this, and is logically thrown off by the sudden metamorphosis. While this dating game was somewhat popular in Japan, it may not find the same success here. It does have some moments of genuine humor, though, which allows some slight redemption.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu

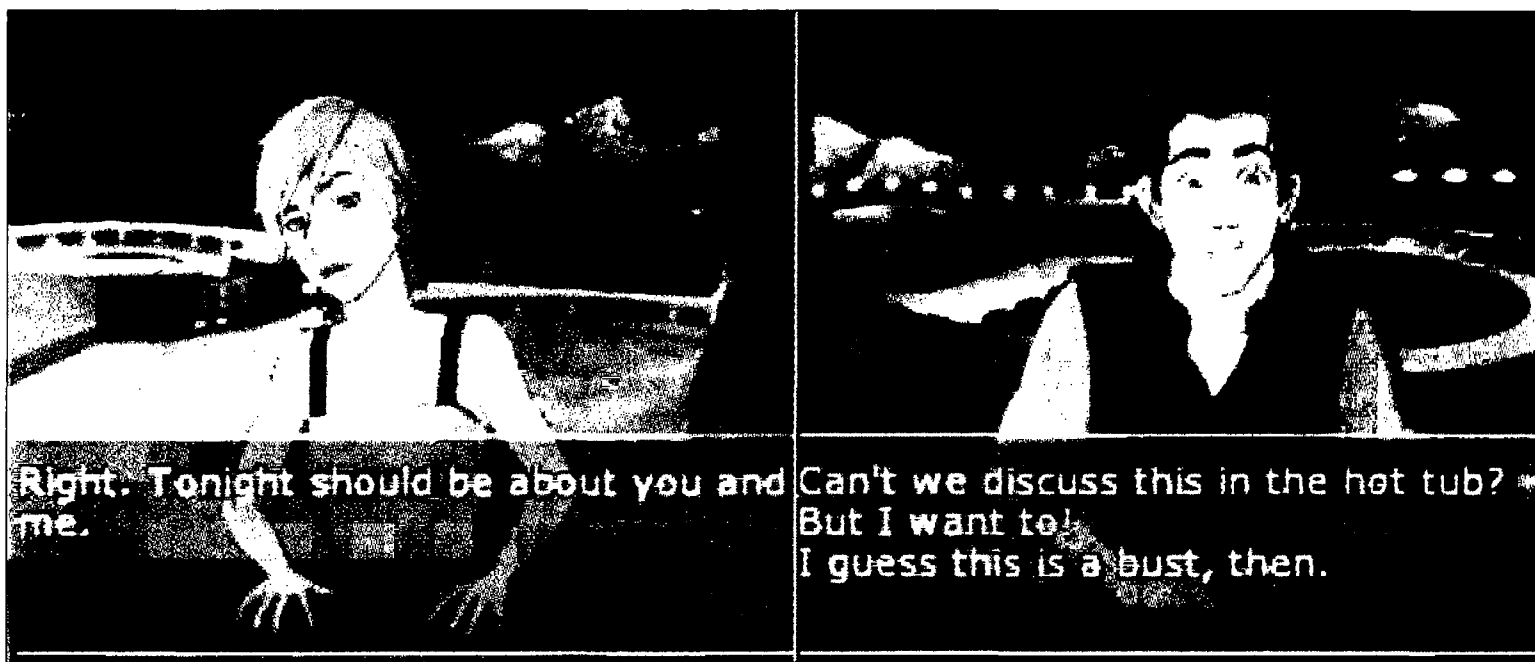


Photo courtesy of www.gamespot.com

In this date-simulating video game, which found more popularity in Japan than in the United States, players are offered a selection of responses to give to potential romantic targets and their choice of response determines whether they get a date or not.

'WarioWare' reinvented

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Scene Writer

Finally, a game for those with attention spans, which can only be measured in nano-seconds. "WarioWare: Touched!" is a crazy, addictive game, constantly creating wacky scenarios for the player to use the touch screen. Whether splitting logs in half, or helping a statue to put out a fire, the variety of mini-games in this game lives up to its predecessor. For the uninitiated, the first version of "WarioWare" came out on the original Gameboy Advance. It drew a cult following of fans through its quirky humor and countless mini-games. The player, during

one moment, would be helping a disco dancer and his cat, and the next, they would be doing something entirely different. The sheer variety and spontaneity found in the game always kept players on their toes. Each round of the game begins with a clue in the form of a one-word phrase to direct the player to the nature of the mini-game. This word could be "divide," "count," "cut" or one of many others. The player then looks at the challenge that they are presented with, and must accomplish the objective within the five-second time limit. Sometimes the time limits are a little longer — sometimes shorter — but a sense of urgency is always placed upon the player.

So much attention has been placed on the game's predecessor rather than the game itself because the sequel decided to use the same formula down to the letter. While the story mode has obviously been updated, the essential game play has not. A large number of opportunities to unlock bonuses have been added, giving the game more replay value than before. Keeping the formula intact doesn't hamper the game play at all, and the full employment of the touch screen can be quite addictive. There are certainly worse ways to waste time.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of www.n-sider.com

In this new game for Nintendo DS, Wario returns to guide the player through a series of challenging mini-games. "WarioWare:Touched!" also recreates the old-fashioned Nintendo feel with a quirky sense of humor and fast-paced action.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Devils blue, defeated by unranked Hokies

Virginia Tech's Dowdell hits late 3-pointer for thrilling 67-65 victory over Duke

Associated Press

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Zabian Dowdell made a 3-pointer with 14.6 seconds to play and Virginia Tech stunned No. 7 Duke 67-65 on Thursday night, one of the biggest victories in Hokies history.

The Hokies (13-10, 6-6 Atlantic Coast Conference) ended a three-game losing streak against the most unlikely opponent, and a team that had beaten them 100-65 only 18 days earlier at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

The finish was frantic, with Duke's J.J. Redick hitting a 3-pointer with 22.9 seconds left to give the Blue Devils (18-4, 8-4) a 65-64 lead and Dowdell coming right back with a jumper from the right wing that caused the sellout crowd to erupt as it swished through.

After timeouts by each team, Duke inbounding the ball with 4.9 seconds left and Redick fed Daniel Ewing for a 3-point try that missed. Hundreds of fans rushed onto the court as the clock struck 0.0.

Carlos Dixon led the Hokies with 18 points and got Redick into foul trouble. Jamon Gordon added 17 points, Coleman Collins 14 and 18 rebounds and Dowdell 11.

Redick, playing only about a 40-minute drive from where he starred in high school in Roanoke, led Duke with 19 points on 7-for-16 shooting and was jeered all night. Shelden Williams had 16 points and Ewing had 13.

Redick brought the Blue Devils back to 60-all on a drive with 3:05 left.

After Jeff King, a football tight end who joined the team after the season, made a baby hook to get the Hokies back in front, Williams scored inside to tie it again, setting up the thrilling finish.

Collins, 10-for-10 from the line in a game earlier this year, missed a pair with 1:11 left, but Redick missed a 17-footer at the other end.

Gordon then emerged from a crowd under the Hokies basket to tip in a miss, with just over 32 seconds left. Redick then nailed his third 3-pointer, before Dowdell's big swish.

Trailing 54-49, the Hokies scored nine consecutive points to take the lead, and drew two more fouls on Redick, sending him to the bench with four fouls with 7:07 left.

Dixon drew the first, and converted a three-point play, then added a 3-pointer from the right corner after a scramble for a loose ball.

After a turnover by the Blue Devils, Gordon drove into the lane, was fouled by Redick and hit both shots, making it 58-54 with 7:07 to play.

A 3-pointer by Redick started a 12-6 run for Duke to begin the second half, give the Blue Devils a 48-41 advantage and making it look like they were finally taking control.

But after Redick missed a wide-open 3, Coleman Collins brought the sellout crowd back to life with a putback dunk, Duke turned it over and Dixon scored on a drive to get the Hokies back in it, trailing 48-45.

The Blue Devils trailed much of the first half, but led 36-35 at the break after Redick broke a five-point Hokies run with his first 3-pointer.

Earlier, the Hokies got two baskets from Dixon and a four-point play by Dowdell to take a 20-12 lead, but Duke rallied behind four points each from Williams and Ewing to pull even at 24-all.

It was one of eight ties in the half.

Louisville 64, Marquette 61

When the Louisville Cardinals found themselves down by 11 points to Marquette with 5:38 left, they didn't think of turning

to their prolific offense to bail them out of another upset.

"We had to win this game with defense, not offense," Cardinals coach Rick Pitino said after Francisco Garcia's 3-pointer with 2.6 seconds left capped a 14-0 run that gave Louisville a 64-61

win Thursday night.

The Cardinals clamped down on the Golden Eagles, who turned the ball over once and missed three free throws, three 3-pointers, a jumper and two layups on their final nine possessions.

"We just kept digging in on defense," said Garcia, who



Virginia Tech forward Carlos Dixon is swarmed by fans after Virginia Tech beat Duke 67-65 at Cassell Coliseum in Blacksburg, Va. The Hokies lost to the Blue Devils 100-65 Feb. 1.

scored 16 of his 18 points in the second half, helping the 12th-ranked Cardinals avoid their second loss in three games.

Travis Diener's 3-pointer at the buzzer bounced off the rim.

"You couldn't ask for a better shot, I just missed it, missed it bad. It was the story of my night," said Diener, who also clanked two layups off the rim in the final minutes, finishing 2-for-16 from the floor in what the senior called his worst collegiate performance.

"They played good defense and we missed some layups. I missed some layups. I'm supposedly the best player on the floor. I should be able to make layups."

The Golden Eagles tried to run the shot clock down in the final 5 minutes, and they ended up with hurried shots instead of good looks.

"It's feast or famine sometimes when you do that," Pitino said.

After Louisville (22-4, 10-2 Conference USA) tied it at 61, Garcia turned over the ball to

Todd Townsend with 47 seconds left.

Joe Chapman missed a hurried 3-pointer just before the shot clock went off.

Then Ellis Myles grabbed the rebound for Louisville with 13 seconds left.

The Cardinals didn't call timeout, setting up a screen that left Garcia open for a 3-pointer.

"I was looking to create, but if they gave me the green light, I was going to shoot," he said.

After two timeouts, Diener got the ball just past midcourt and had an off-balance shot at overtime, but it banged off the rim.

Steve Novak's 14 points led Marquette (17-8, 5-7), which was in prime position to secure a confidence-building upset against a team that handed the Golden Eagles their worst loss ever — 99-52 last month when Diener was sidelined by a foot injury.

Marquette seemingly had the game in hand after Diener sank two of three free throws and then fed Novak for a 3-pointer on the break that gave

Marquette a 61-50 lead.

The Cardinals scored seven straight points, then Larry O'Bannon, who scored 15, was fouled by Chapman with 1:37 left.

As he sank his first foul shot, Ryan Amoroso shoved Otis George to the floor, drawing a foul himself.

After O'Bannon sank his second shot, George stepped up and sank two of his own, tying it at 61.

"That call at the end of the game on the push-off was costly, (but) it was the right call," said Marquette coach Tom Crean, who looked at the tape right when he got into the locker room.

"Let's face it, the momentum swing at the end with the free throws is what made this a game."

But it was his team's close call that left Crean with at least some solace.

"The best thing about tonight is our team realized that the game down in Louisville was a complete aberration," he said.

"They played good defense and we missed some layups. I missed some layups ... I should be able to make layups."

Travis Diener
Marquette guard

CLASSIFIEDS

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MLB

Wells takes shots at Yanks

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — After switching sides and joining the Boston Red Sox, David Wells quickly had some choice words for the New York Yankees.

The Boomer reported to spring training on Thursday, saying Alex Rodriguez "has to earn it" and admitting he didn't get along with Yankees manager Joe Torre.

"Maybe I did wear out my welcome there," Wells said.

At the Yankees' camp, Randy Johnson playfully got into it, too. The Big Unit said he didn't think that merely by signing with the Yankees he'd join A-Rod as a target of the Red Sox and their fans.

"I haven't done anything to them," he said.

Not yet, but his job is to lead the Yankees to their first title since 2000 and deny the Red Sox a second straight World

Series championship.

"So they'll be mad at me if I pitch well against them? Bring it on then," he said, laughing.

"So I guess I'm a target, but I'm going to go out there and do the best I can," Johnson said. "I'm not going to be firing quotes and stuff like that to make myself more of a target, that's for sure. I'll leave that to other people that can do that better than I probably could."

As Johnson pitched his first bullpen session at Legends Field, former Arizona teammate Curt Schilling and Wells arrived at Boston's training camp in Fort Myers. Wells, who helped New York win two AL pennants and one World Series, wasn't pleased with some of Rodriguez's remarks.

"I remember reading the press conference or something when he went there," Wells said. "He said: 'When

we.' He said a 'we' in his comment about like he's won like three or four rings with them and he hadn't, and that kind of disturbed me.

"He shouldn't put himself in that category," added Wells. "You've got to earn it. It's like he's been there the whole time. But you can't take away what A-Rod has done for the game. He's a great player, and he will continue to be a great player."

As for Torre and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre, Wells remembered difficult times.

"I've never had a good relationship with Joe," he said. "We've had a few run-ins and Mel Stottlemyre as well, and Mel's probably the best pitching coach I probably ever had. But just when you have run-ins like that, it just leaves a sour taste, and who needs it? I can understand their point and, hopefully, they can understand mine. But like I said, there's no hard feelings, one way or another. Life goes on. You move on. Now I'm in a Boston uniform. Now it's my job to go out and prove to myself that I can still pitch at this level and go out there and beat the Yankees."

Wells called New York general manager Cashman after last season:

"I told him if there was any interest I'd love to come back to New York and play, and Brian told me that, 'We'd love to have you but the Boss [George Steinbrenner] is looking in another direction. We're going to go with youth this year.' Then they turn around and sign Randy."

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Women move a day closer to a ninth title

By MIKE TENNANT
Sports Writer

The Irish started off on the right foot in their pursuit of a ninth straight Big East title, setting a couple new school records in the process.

After the first day of action in East Meadow, N.Y., Notre Dame and Pittsburgh sit tied atop the leaderboard with 72 points apiece. Rutgers — runner-up the last three years — is a close third with 68 points.

After Thursday's morning preliminaries, the Irish were sitting pretty with a meet-best nine swimmers advancing to the championship finals. Notre Dame also boasted the top qualifier in three of the four events held Thursday.

The Irish broke out to a fast start Wednesday, winning the very first event, the 800-yard freestyle relay.

The team of freshman Caroline Johnson and sophomores Ellen Johnson, Katie Carroll and Rebecca Grove finished with a time of 7:16.95, breaking the school record by more than three seconds.

The previous record had been set at last year's Big East Championship by a team that included Ellen Johnson and Carroll.

Rutgers finished second, but was more than three seconds behind the Irish squad.

The Notre Dame school record was also good enough for an NCAA "B" cut, so they will be considered for a bid to the NCAA Championships. This was the first "B" cut for an Irish relay team this

season.

The Irish kept up the intensity Thursday with a total of 12 swimmers competing in the evening session.

Fifth-year senior Meghan Perry-Eaton was the top qualifier off the 1-meter board, and will look to continue her dominance of the Big East. Her score of 297.75 was 72.6 points ahead of the next closest diver. Perry-Eaton was named Big East Championships Most Outstanding Swimmer the past two years, taking home three conference titles in that stretch.

Also earning a spot in the one-meter board finals was freshman Tara Hyer, who qualified fourth with a score of 221.20.

Notching top marks in the prelims were sophomore Katie Carroll in the 200-yard individual medley and sophomore Ellen Johnson in the 500-yard freestyle.

The 200 IM proved to be the Irish's best event yet, posting four of the top seven times in the morning prelims. Notre Dame also sent two other swimmers to the consolation championship in the event, leaving the Irish with six swimmers able to score points for the team.

Johnson posted an NCAA "B" cut in the 500 freestyle, the third "B" cut she has hit this season.

In the final event of the day, the 50-yard freestyle, Caroline Johnson and Grove both qualified for the finals, finishing second and sixth, respectively. Freshman Katie Guida posted the eleventh best score, giving her a spot in the consolation championship round.

Contact Mike Tennant at
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NFL

Chargers put the franchise tag on QB Brees

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — For a guy who wasn't expected to do much last season, Drew Brees sure got a nice raise.

The San Diego Chargers used their franchise tag Thursday on Brees and will offer him a one-year contract at just more than \$8 million.

The quarterback made \$1.56 million in base pay last season, when he led the Chargers out of the NFL's basement to the AFC West title at 12-4.

The Chargers needed to put the tag on Brees, the NFL's Comeback Player of the Year, to keep him from leaving as an unrestricted free agent.

"Franchising him is a no-brainer because if we didn't, we wouldn't get any compensation and he wouldn't be here, he'd be going to the airport," general manager A.J. Smith said. "We want him to be our quarterback. I mean, a little bit over \$8 million for one year, for a quarterback, I think, tells you clearly what we think of his abilities and his talent. We want him to be our quarterback."

Brees rebounded from a nightmarish 2003 season to lead the Chargers to their first playoff berth in nine seasons. He also was voted to the Pro Bowl.

Brees has said he wants a long-term deal from the Chargers, but Smith said the team currently is not interested in offering one.

Brees, on vacation in Australia with his wife, said in a statement issued by the team that he was happy to remain in

San Diego.

"We've built a solid foundation and I feel we can really make a run. I'm excited about being a part of that," Brees said.

His salary for 2005 is the average of the top five salaried quarterbacks from last season.

The Chargers could trade Brees, but a team interested in him would want to negotiate a long-term contract before finalizing a deal.

Brees was tagged as a non-exclusive franchise player, meaning he can still negotiate with other teams. Should Brees receive an offer from another team, the Chargers can either match it or receive two first-round choices from that club as compensation for losing Brees.

Smith said he made it clear to Brees' agent, Tom Condon, that the Chargers will insist on two No. 1 picks.

"If any offer comes, some-

times it's flexible where you can work with an agent and have a less thing," Smith said. "We're not looking to move Drew Brees anywhere. We're expecting him to be our quarterback."

Condon plans to check other teams' interest in Brees. But he said that if Brees were to leave San Diego this year, it'd likely be via a trade rather than an offer sheet and its steep price of two No. 1's.

"From our standpoint, \$8 million and change, that's more money than he made in his first four years," Condon said. "It's hard to be unhappy if you're Drew. All in all, it's probably what we expected."

At this time last year, Brees was coming off a 4-12 season in which he threw 15 interceptions and just 11 touchdown passes, was benched for five straight games and yanked from two others.

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MEN'S SWIMMING

ND leading after first day

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Just two days into Big East competition, the Irish are already well on their way to a championship.

After Thursday's competition, the Irish have rocketed to first place with 302 points and a 54-point advantage over second-place Pittsburgh. This is the first time Notre Dame has ever finished a day in the Big East Championship in the lead.

"We're swimming at the top of our game and loving it," coach Tim Welsh said. "This is all celebration of the great work we've done all season."

Tim Kegelmann led the Irish effort Thursday night, winning the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:49.62 — just .14 seconds off from his own school record. He was the first Notre Dame swimmer to ever win the event at a Big East meet.

Kegelmann truly earned his first-place finish, said senior Matt Bertke. After surging to first place, the sophomore suffered an asthma attack midway through the race. Despite the setback, Kegelmann managed to retain his position and finished in first place.

"[Kegelmann] has just been unbelievable," Bertke said. "He's

been an inspiration for the whole team."

Later in the meet, Kegelmann anchored the 200-yard freestyle relay and spurred the team to a second-place finish — Notre Dame's highest-ever in the event — with 1:20.64. Pittsburgh claimed first place, winning by .09 seconds.

Sophomore Ted Brown and freshman Jay Vanden Berg added to the team's stellar performances, tying for third place in the 500-meter free with 4:26.82. Brown cut .06 seconds off of his school record with the swim.

In the 200-yard individual medley, junior Jamie Lukus finished less than a second behind Kegelmann with 1:50.87 for fourth place. Freshman Andrew McKay finished in fifth place with 1:50.87 and senior David Moisan came in sixth with 1:52.31.

Finally, in the 50-yard free, senior Frank Krakowski lead the Irish efforts in fourth place with 20.56, the fourth-fastest time in Notre Dame history. Sophomore Louis Cavadini was close behind in sixth place with 20.65. Thursday's races were characteristic of the team's high level of intensity the entire meet, Bertke said.

"We've already had a lot of great performances and we've

been strong in a lot of events," Bertke said. "This is the start of a lot of great things."

Notre Dame had a strong start to the competition, breaking records in the 800-yard freestyle relay and the 200-yard medley relay for a second-place standing in the competition. In the 200 medley relay, the final event of the night, junior Doug Bauman and sophomores Tim Randolph, Kegelmann and Krakowski finished in second place with a time of 1:30.12. Last year the same relay team finished fourth with a time of 1:30.12. The four also earned all-Big East honors for their performance.

In the 800-yard free relay, the quartet of Bertke, Brown, sophomore Brian Freeman and Cavadini broke the school record by nearly two seconds with a time of 6:40.79, good for a fourth-place finish.

Freshman Sam Stoner led the divers, qualifying fifth in the one-meter springboard with a score of 269.35.

But despite the success the Irish have enjoyed, Welsh said the Irish remain mindful of the talent the other teams possess.

"There are still two full days to go," Welsh said. "There's still a lot of game to play."

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MEN'S TRACK

Irish look to build on past Big East success

Irish hope to extend nine-year streak of top finishes at event

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

The Irish are looking to extend their history of excellence at the Big East Indoor Championships in Syracuse, N.Y. this weekend.

This is Notre Dame's 10th season in Big East competition, and at each of the previous nine Indoor Championships the Irish have placed in the top three.

Notre Dame won the meet two years ago and was narrowly defeated last year by Connecticut.

Notre Dame's strongest competition is expected to come from the Rutgers.

The Irish feature many athletes with the best in-conference times in their respective events, so expectations for this meet run high.

Selim Nurudeen's 60-meter hurdle time of 7.81 seconds has not been challenged this season.

Nurudeen may also run in this weekend's 60-meter dash and

the 200-meters.

Notre Dame features perhaps the top three runners in the 60-meter dash, with Dwight Ellick leading the way with his league-best time of 6.81 seconds and followed closely by Terrail Lambert and Nurudeen.

Kurt Benninger, who ran just the third sub-four-minute mile in Notre Dame history at the Mayo Invitational, is the presumptive favorite in that race and a contender in the 3000-meters as well. Adam Currie, Austin Wechter and Trevor McClain-Duer are expected to earn points for the Irish in the 800-, 500- and 400-meters, respectively.

Notre Dame will also be looking to garner points in the field events.

Chris Staron has the third best high-jump mark in the conference this year, with a height of 6-7.

Justin Oppel and Dave Viken could both finish within the top five in the pole vault, and Chris Roberts could do the same in the weight throw. The meet will be held both tomorrow and Sunday at the Carrier Dome.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Wildcats slated to visit Eck Tennis Pavillion

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Sports Writer

For the past month, the Irish have enjoyed the comforts of playing in the friendly confines of the Eck Tennis Pavilion. But with a grueling road trip looming, the team intends to make the most of tonight's home stand.

No. 23 Notre Dame (8-2) plays its final home match for almost a month tonight, facing No. 40 Northwestern (5-3).

After playing eight of their last nine matches in familiar quarters, the Irish will close out the current stretch of the home schedule against the Wildcats.

"We're really excited about the opportunity to play a really good team," Notre Dame coach Bobby Bayliss said. "[Northwestern] played a great match against Mississippi, who's ranked No. 6 in the country. They just beat North Carolina, who's No. 18. So we know we've got our hands full and we need to play really well."

The Irish have excelled on their home front this season, winning all but seven of their nine home matches so far. Their most impressive wins have come against two top-40 ranked foes — a 5-2 decision over then-No. 18 North Carolina and a 4-3 win over then-No. 40 Florida State.

"I'm sure that every team is just a little more comfortable on their home courts," Bayliss said. "It'll be an advantage to be at home, but Northwestern has a terrific indoor facility. Their courts are about the

same speed as ours so there really won't be a big adjustment."

Northwestern will bring another top-40 challenge for the Irish.

The Wildcats have gained a lot of experience competing against high-caliber teams. They also beat North Carolina and played four of their last five matches against top-25 teams.

"It has to make you better," Bayliss said. "I think you improve when you play better competition. So I know [Northwestern's] a lot better than they were at the start

of the year. If you look at their scores, they've jumped, and the team's playing at a very high level."

The two teams have met frequently throughout the years. The Wildcats hold a 37-33 all-time advantage over the Irish. But Notre Dame won the most recent meeting between the two teams, escaping with a 5-2 decision last year in a close match at Northwestern.

"Last year's match was a barn-burner," Bayliss said. "We ended up winning a couple of three-setters late to sneak out of there with a win, but we were down most of the match and somehow ended up on top. It was one of the highlights of our season."

The stiffest challenge for the singles matches will come from Northwestern's Tommy Hanus. The senior, who plays at the No. 1 spot for the Wildcats, lost 7-5 in the third set against Catalin Gard of Mississippi, the No. 1 singles player in the country, Tuesday.

"I know Brent [D'Amico] will have to play extremely well to beat [Hanus]," Bayliss said. "But Brent's playing good tennis right now, so we'll see how it goes."

Notre Dame is coming off two solid performances last weekend, beating both Marquette and the University of Indianapolis in 7-0 decisions.

The Irish only dropped one set on their way to the two victories.

The two sweeps helped vault Notre Dame six spots in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's national rankings, from No. 29 to No. 23.

The Irish will try to continue this winning streak tonight at 8 p.m. in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at
rgottumu@nd.edu

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AROUND THE NATION

page 18

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, February 18, 2005

College Baseball

Baseball America Top 25

	team	record
1	Tulane	3-0
2	Louisiana State	2-0
3	Cal State Fullerton	4-1
4	Texas	7-0
5	Miami	7-0
6	Stanford	7-2
7	South Carolina	3-0
8	Baylor	3-0
9	Georgia	0-0
10	Arizona	6-0
11	Arizona State	6-4
12	Washington	0-3
13	North Carolina	0-0
14	Texas A&M	1-2
15	Florida	2-1
16	Mississippi	0-0
17	Rice	3-1
18	Vanderbilt	0-0
19	UC Irvine	5-1
20	Long Beach State	5-3
21	Georgia Tech	2-1
22	NOTRE DAME	0-0
23	Texas Christian	3-0
24	Oral Roberts	3-0
25	Winthrop	4-0

Men's Track and Field

Trackwire Top 25

	team	projected meet points
1	Arkansas	82
2	Indiana	39
3	Michigan	31
4	Florida	31
4	Wisconsin	30
6	Texas	28
7	LSU	23
8	Auburn	21
9	Florida State	21
9	Nebraska	21
11	Oregon	19
11	Oklahoma	19
13	Texas Tech	17
14	Arizona	16
14	Arizona State	16
16	East Carolina	16
16	Mississippi	16
16	Baylor	16
19	Kansas State	16
20	Colorado State	15
20	BYU	14
22	Virginia Tech	13
22	Tennessee	10
22	Texas A&M	10
25	UCLA	9
25	George Mason	9

MIAA Women's Basketball

team	MIAA	overall
Hope	14-1	22-2
Albion	13-2	21-3
Calvin	12-3	18-4
Tri-State	7-9	10-15
Alma	6-9	11-10
Kalamazoo	5-10	10-14
SAINT MARY'S	5-10	10-14
Adrian	4-11	8-15
Olivet	2-13	7-16

around the dial

NBA

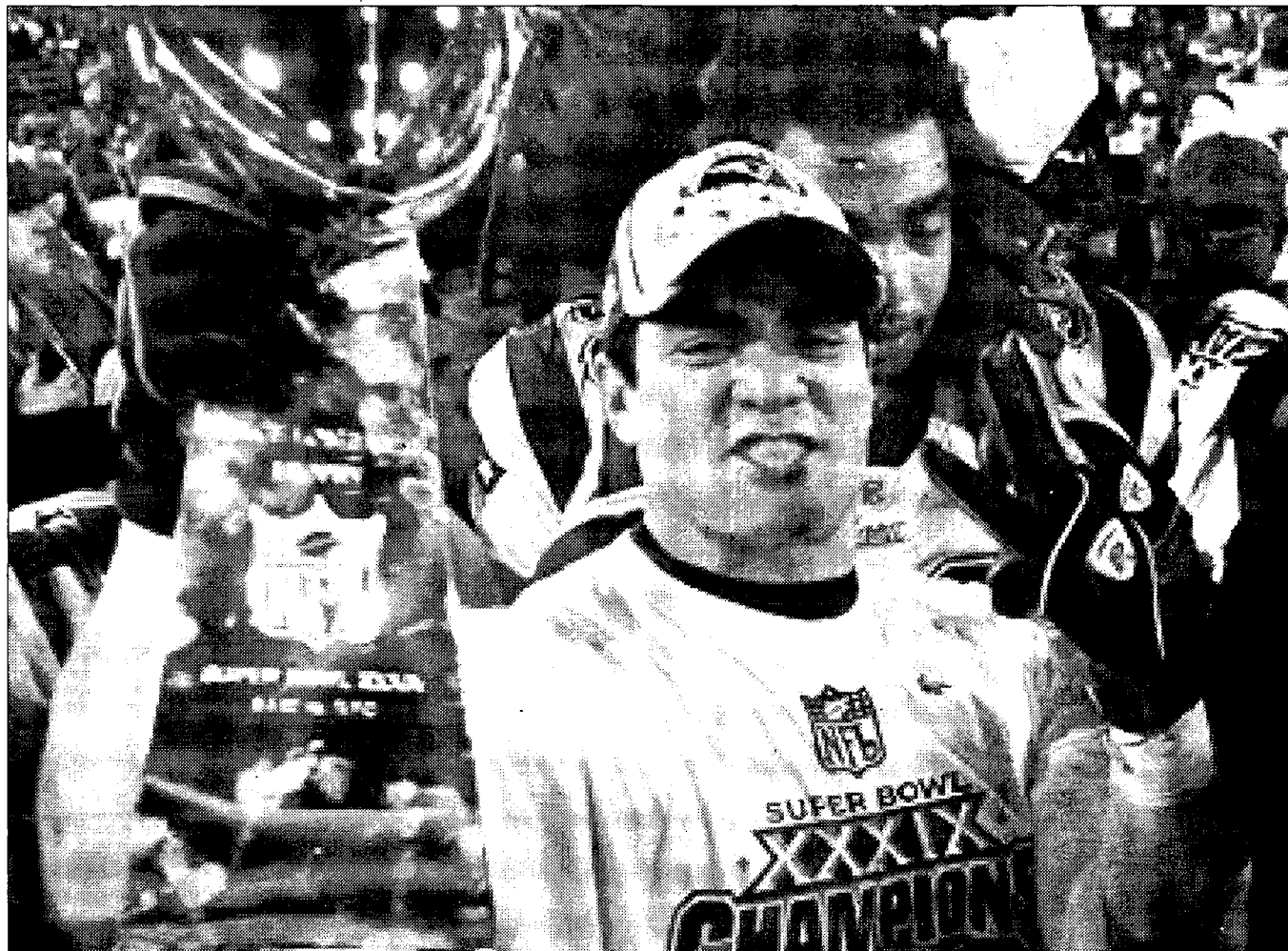
All-Star Celebrity Game, 7 p.m., ESPN

All-Star Rookie Challenge, 9 p.m., TNT

EXTREME SPORTS

Winter X Games Nine, 4 p.m., ESPN2

NFL



Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi was hospitalized Wednesday with a broken blood vessel in his head and stroke-like symptoms. The Pro-Bowler is said to be in good condition and will remain in the hospital for tests and monitoring.

Bruschi might have suffered stroke

Associated Press

BOSTON — New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi has a broken blood vessel in his head and might have had a minor stroke, according to newspaper reports.

Bruschi was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital on Wednesday with unexplained headaches.

"He's having blurred vision, numbness on the right side of his body," his wife, Heidi Bruschi, was heard telling a dispatcher on a tape of the 911 call.

The possibility that he had suffered a stroke was reported in Thursday editions of the Boston Herald, which cited unidentified sources. The story also said Bruschi suffered lost vision.

The Boston Globe, citing an unidentified team source, reported on its website Thursday that Bruschi had

a broken blood vessel in his head and suffered from partial paralysis that has since gone away. A broken blood vessel can cause a stroke if it deprives the brain of oxygen.

Patriots spokesman Stacey James said Thursday that any information on Bruschi's condition would come from the player or his family. Bruschi spent Wednesday night at the hospital and more tests were scheduled for Thursday morning, James said.

"He is in good condition and will be held for further evaluations," the team said in a statement. "The Bruschi family appreciates everyone's concern, but requests that you respect their privacy at this time."

A spokeswoman for Massachusetts General Hospital would neither confirm nor deny that Bruschi had been admitted and referred all questions to

the Patriots. Patriots owner Robert Kraft, who was attending the men's college basketball game between Boston College and Rutgers on Wednesday night, declined comment.

A nine-year NFL veteran, Bruschi is the centerpiece of the Patriots defense that helped the team win three of the past four Super Bowls, including a 24-21 win over the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 6.

On Sunday, Bruschi played in his first Pro Bowl.

Bruschi, 31, was selected as the AFC's Defensive Player of the Week three times, including the first-round playoff victory over the Indianapolis Colts. A second team Associated Press All-Pro selection, he ranked second on the team with 128 tackles and tied for second with three interceptions.

IN BRIEF

Moore sues Bertuzzi for 'unprovoked hit'

DENVER — Former Colorado Avalanche player Steve Moore filed a lawsuit against the Vancouver Canucks forward Todd Bertuzzi, who pleaded guilty to assault after slugging Moore in the head from behind during a game last season.

Moore's attorney, Lee Foreman, said in a statement that the lawsuit filed Tuesday in Denver District Court accuses Todd Bertuzzi of civil conspiracy, assault, battery and negligence.

Bertuzzi pleaded guilty to criminal assault and was given a conditional discharge in December, more than nine months after the attack during a game in Vancouver. He faced up to 18 months in prison. He also was suspended indefinitely from the NHL.

Moore has not completely recovered from the broken neck and concussion he suffered. The Avalanche did not resign Moore, who is an unrestricted free agent.

Former soccer great Omar Sivori dies

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Former soccer great Enrique Omar Sivori, who helped Argentina's River Plate and Juventus of Italy to numerous titles, died Thursday. He was 69.

Sivori passed away in San Nicolas, a community north of this capital in Buenos Aires province, where he was born in 1935. He went on to shine in numerous local championships with River Plate, the famed Buenos Aires club, and later in Italian league play in the 1950s.

Sivori made his debut at River Plate at age 17. In 1957 he was picked up by Juventus, where he helped the Italian squad capture league titles in 1958, 1960 and 1961. He also helped Juventus to two Italian Cup championships, in 1959 and 1960.

The Argentine television network TodosNoticias reported he had pancreatic cancer, but the family reported no further details.

Auburn signs Tuberville to seven year extension

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville has signed a new seven-year contract that will pay him \$2 million this year and increase by \$200,000 each successive year.

Tuberville and the school agreed in principle to the deal in December, about a week before the Tigers completed a 13-0 season with a 16-13 victory over Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl.

The contract announced Thursday by the school will pay Tuberville a base salary of \$210,000, with the remainder coming from endorsements and radio and television deals. Tuberville's previous package was worth \$1.5 million.

Auburn's buyout and Tuberville's penalty for leaving is \$7 million for the first two years of the contract, \$6 million for 2007-08, \$5 million for 2009, \$4 million for 2010 and \$3 million for 2011.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish lock horns with pair of top-10 opponents

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

This weekend should be a challenge for the No. 21 Irish (4-2) as they prepare to face two top-10 opponents — Duke and North Carolina.

The team will play against No. 6 Duke (5-1), who is fresh off a 7-0 victory over Old Dominion last Wednesday, today at 3 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"We are more talented than Old Dominion so I talked with [my team] about not giving [them] any kind of confidence," Duke coach Jamie Ashworth told goduke.com after the win.

"The longer they hang around you start to get close matches."

However, this is the exactly the predicament the Irish have found themselves in lately against opponents such as Harvard — unable to win the close matches. After leading the Crimson 3-1, the Irish failed to convert a win in the final three singles matches to drop the match 4-3 to Harvard.

"We've been in every match this year," sophomore Christian Thompson said. "But now it is about winning the close ones."

Leading the Irish today in doubles will be Christian and sister Catrina Thompson at No.

1 — they are currently ranked as the No. 2 ranked pairing in the nation.

They have yet to lose a match this spring. Playing at No. 2 will be freshman Brook Buck and junior Lauren Connelly. Senior Sarah Jane Connelly and junior Kiki Stastny will play at No. 3.

But Irish coach Jay Louderback wants the team to focus on more than just trying to win the doubles point and head into the singles matches with an advantage.

"The doubles has been big all along," he said. "But we have to back it up and get at least three great singles matches."

Playing at No. 1 for the team

is No. 69 ranked Catrina Thompson, who defeated No. 27 ranked Courtney Bergman from Harvard last weekend.

"She has been playing really well, even the matches she's lost this spring she's played well. She's come up with some big wins and it is coming through into her singles," Louderback said. "She is playing with a lot more patience and willing to hit more balls until she has a chance to finish off the points."

At No. 2 will be No. 85 Buck, followed by Christian Thompson at No. 3. Playing at No. 4 and 5 are Lauren Connelly and Stastny. At No. 6 will be junior Liz Donohue.

Louderback said he is proud of the team's performance this season.

"[Stastny] and Lauren are both 5-1 in singles and they've been great," Louderback said. "We have gotten a lot of wins out of them."

The Irish will take on No. 9 North Carolina this Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 10 a.m. Neither team looks to be a pushover.

"Both are deserving of their top-10 rankings," Louderback said. "But we are looking at [these matches] as a way of getting a great win."

Contact Dan Tapetillo at
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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles set to battle Olivet in final regular season contest

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Fresh off a 58-50 conference victory over the Kalamazoo Hornets, Saint Mary's hopes to make it two in a row and gain some momentum before the MIAA tournament against last place Olivet Comets Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Angela

Athletic Center.

Saint Mary's (10-14, 5-10 in the MIAA) is tied with Kalamazoo for sixth place in the conference.

A win over the Comets (7-16, 2-13), coupled with a Hornets loss to the Alma Scots, would give the Belles the sixth seed in the MIAA tournament.

A Kalamazoo win, however,

would create a three-way tie between Saint Mary's, Alma and the Hornets.

Whoever ends up in the six seed will probably face Albion in the first round.

The Belles have played the Britons tough in two meetings this year but came up on the short end both times.

Before the conference tournament settles itself out, though, the Belles have to concentrate on beating the MIAA cellar-dweller Comets.

After Saturday's loss to Alma, Belle's forward Alison Kessler reflected in a confi-

dent Saint Mary's locker room heading into the final week of the season.

"Our expectations are to win the [Kalamazoo and Olivet] games, without a doubt," Kessler said.

The Comets have struggled this season and are currently riding a 10-game losing streak.

They have been especially bad away from the Upton Center, recording a 2-8 record in road games.

Junior guard Kari Searles has led Olivet all season, by averaging 11.3 points per game.

Sophomore forward Stephanie Smith has also come on strong in recent games.

Smith scored 13 points in the Comets' 100-87 loss to Tri-State Wednesday.

The task of guarding Smith will probably fall to Belles star forward Emily Creachbaum. Creachbaum will be playing her final home game in the Angela Center, along with fellow seniors Katie Boyce and Deidre Mangan.

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University of Notre Dame Department of Music Presents

Friday, February 18, 2005

7:30 p.m.

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Mary Anne Ballard, viola da gamba

Darlene Catello, harpsichord

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Sunday, February 20, 2005

2:00 p.m.

Ethan Haimo

"How to Listen to Scriabin's Sixth Sonata"

A Notre Dame Faculty Lecture/Recital

Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art

Free and open to the public; no tickets required

ND WOMEN'S TRACK

Irish expect to benefit from divison change

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Recent conference realignment in college athletics has drawn the most attention in football and basketball, but don't tell that to the Notre Dame's track team.

With last year's decisive conference champion Miami gone to the ACC, last year's runner-up, the Irish, feel everything is in place for them to capture a Big East title, something they have not done in three seasons.

Notre Dame's quest will not go unchallenged, however, as a strong field is expected this weekend in Syracuse, N.Y. for the conference meet. Villanova enters the meet ranked 14th in the nation by Trackwire.com and Pittsburgh, last year's third-place team, carries a No. 15 ranking.

"Pittsburgh is a solid team," assistant coach Scott Winsor said. "They are strong in all events, but especially in the 400 on down."

The Irish enter the meet unranked despite being as high as 11th earlier this season. Their fall in the rankings can be attributed to the inactivity of key distance runners Molly Huddle, Lauren King and Kerry Meagher, all recovering from cross country injuries. Huddle, a seven-time All-American, is said to have recovered from her foot injury and is scheduled to run the 5,000, her first race of the year, at the Big East meet. The junior is the defending conference champion and meet record-holder in this event.

Notre Dame will look for the distance runners to anchor the team, but will need a strong performance from all areas of the team to be victorious this weekend. Maryann Erigha, who has notched several victories this year and finished eighth in the 60-meter dash last season, will lead the Irish in the sprint events.

Tiffany Gunn will pace Notre Dame's middle-distance group, following a fourth-place performance last season in the 500. In the field events, the Irish expect Stacey Cowan to be a standout performer in the high jump. Cowan had her best jump of the season last year — 5-11 1/2 — at this meet and finished second. Meghan Horn is the best hope for the Irish in the throwing events, as she has already set a personal best this season and finished eighth at the conference meet last season.

These individuals are expected to lead the team, but Winsor made it clear that this weekend will have to be a team effort.

"We didn't bring anyone this weekend who we didn't think could help us. We expect every team member to score points this weekend. We need this because the meet may be decided by one or two points," Winsor said.

With all the pieces in place,, all that's left to do is race.

"This has been a goal of ours since the beginning of the season," Winsor said. "The opportunity is there and that's all you can ask for."

Contact Ryan Kiefer at
rkiefer@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

Team ready to go out west

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

There won't be rest for the Irish this weekend as they travel to San Diego State to participate in the Campbell-Cartier Tournament.

Notre Dame (3-2) will face three ranked teams at the event, in addition to the hometown Aztecs, as the Irish attempt to win their second-straight early-season tournament. Notre Dame won the Gainesville Regional Utilities Classic in Florida last weekend.

The Irish open against Utah tomorrow at noon, then face No. 21/18 Fresno State at 4 p.m. Notre Dame returns to action Saturday, taking on No. 3/4 UCLA at 4 p.m. before facing San Diego State two hours later. The Irish then close out tournament play with a matchup against No. 22/24 Long Beach State.

Notre Dame has already played four games against ranked opponents this season, splitting with both No. 19 Florida and No. 21 South Florida at the GRU Classic.

"We do our schedule that way on purpose," Irish head coach Deanna Gumpf said. "I really don't think our girls would have it any other way. We want to play the best, because then we know we can beat the best."

The Irish started that week-

end tournament with consecutive losses to Florida and South Florida, but then rattled off three consecutive victories — including rematch wins over Florida and South Florida — on their way to the tournament championship. During those three wins, Irish pitchers held their opponents to just 10 hits in 21 innings.

"[Starters] Heather [Booth] and Steffany [Stenglein] were great in Florida, but they're going to have to be even better this weekend because we're playing better competition," Gumpf said. "They've already fought hardest when the team needed them to step up and make big

pitches. I think if they continue to fight like that all season, they're going to be real successful."

Notre Dame handed Florida its first loss of the season. The Gators came into the championship game of the GRU tournament with an 11-0 record.

Notre Dame's game against UCLA is a chance for the Irish to square off against one of the top softball powers in the country. The Bruins have won the NCAA championship in softball nine times, and hold a 2-0 lifetime record against the Irish.

"We're really excited to [play a team like UCLA]," Gumpf said. "We're playing well right now and really think they're a team we can compete with and

beat."

The game against Utah is an interesting matchup, as Irish assistant coach Charmelle Green returns to her alma mater. Notre Dame has a 2-0 record against the Utes, including a 4-3 victory last season at the Palm Springs Classic.

This weekend's trip to San Diego is the first visit Notre Dame has made to the California city. It will be a return home for the seven California natives on the Irish roster this season — Booth, Liz Hartmann, Carissa Jaquish, Mallorie Lenn, Meagan Ruthrauff, Stenglein and Carrie Wisen.

Notre Dame will return to California two more times this year, traveling to Palm Springs for a tournament Feb. 25-27 and to Los Angeles Mar. 6-7 for a doubleheader with Loyola Marymount and a single game against California-Santa Barbara.

The Irish will remain on the road until March 23, the team's first game at home against Western Michigan. Barring cancellations, the Irish are scheduled to have already played 27 games at that point.

"I'd like for this team to get to the point where it doesn't matter where we play," Gumpf said. "It's nice to be at home, but I think we'd rather get to where we can win just as easily on the road. In the long run I think playing all these games on the road will help us tremendously."

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu

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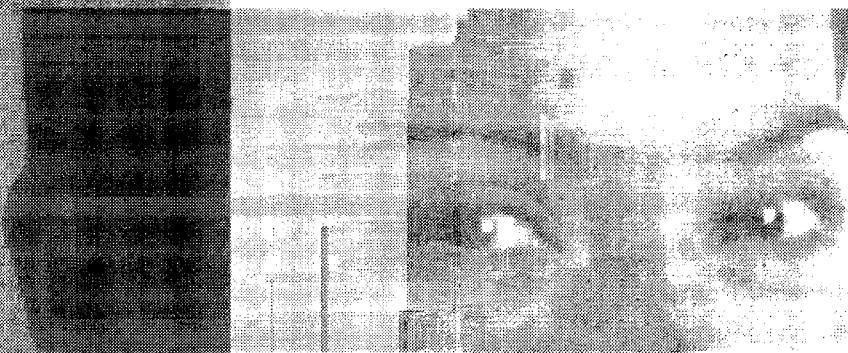
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Rutgers

continued from page 24

"I'm so much more relaxed," McGraw said with a smile. "I don't think we've taken the time to appreciate what we've done."

But despite the game not being a must-win, it is still important for the Irish, who take a 10-game win streak into the matchup. With a win, Notre Dame could help its case for a top seed in the upcoming NCAA tournament, as well as be on its way for a regular season Big East title.

No. 10 Rutgers (19-5, 10-2 Big East), meanwhile, comes off a scare against Syracuse (11-13, 3-10 Big East). The Scarlet Knights had to score the final 10 points to come away with a 64-54 win in New York Feb. 16.

"We had a tough game there, too," McGraw said. "Syracuse is a pretty good team."

And the Irish will have their hands full come Saturday. The last time they faced the Scarlet Knights on Jan. 23, Notre Dame needed a 23-0 second half run to come back from a 13-point half-time deficit.

"Taking care of the ball is the No. 1 key to the game," McGraw said. "We've got to take care of the ball, because they're so good in transition. So if we can limit our turnovers, which is what we did in the second half of that game, then we have a chance to win — that, and rebound. Those are the two big things we've got to do."

Leading the Irish will be All-American forward Jacqueline Batteast (17.9 points, 6.6 rebounds per game) and point guard Megan Duffy (11.6 points, 5.5 assists per game). Batteast scored 27 points the last time the Irish faced the Scarlet Knights at the Joyce Center. Saturday's game will be played in Piscataway, N.J., at the Louis

Brown Athletic Center, also known as the RAC.

"It's a hostile environment," McGraw said. "It's tough."

The Irish will have to play better than they did Tuesday night against No. 25 Boston College, when they scored just 15 points in the first half. McGraw said Thursday she didn't know what the cause of the slow start was, or why the team shot just 34.5 percent against Boston College.

"I don't feel like we've been shooting the ball well lately," McGraw said.

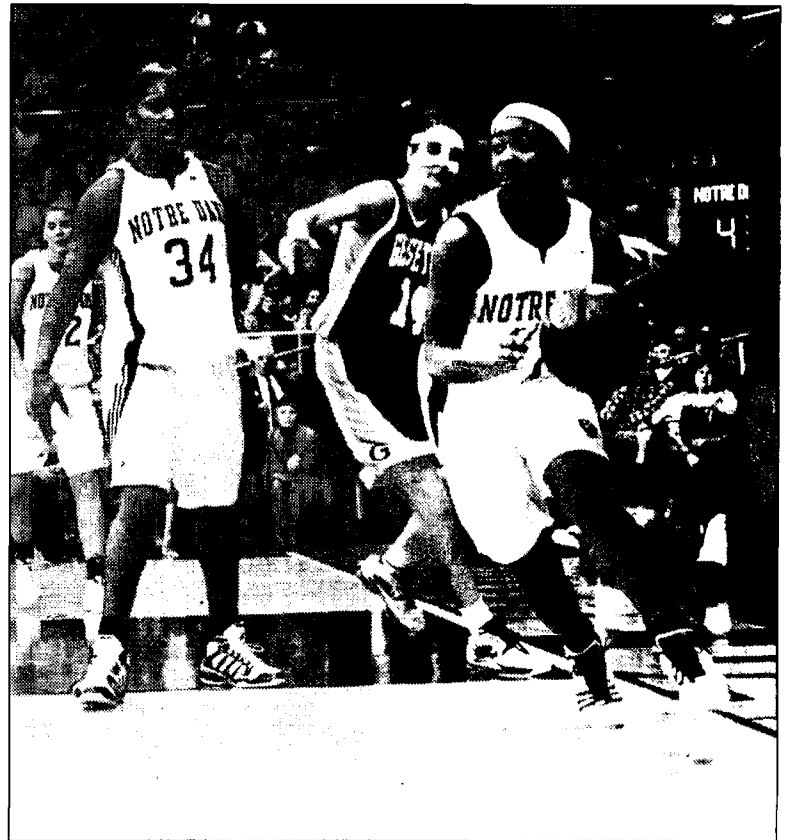
Rutgers, meanwhile is led by star point guard Cappie Pondexter and freshman Matee Ajavon, who comes off the bench. Chelsea Newton adds senior leadership for the Scarlet Knights, who defeated Connecticut 76-62, Feb. 13, putting the Irish atop the Big East.

Tipoff is set for noon Saturday.

Notes

♦ Megan Duffy was named to ESPN The Magazine's Academic All-District V Second Team. Duffy has a 3.45 grade point average.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Irish guard Charel Allen drives as forward Crystal Erwin looks on during Notre Dame's 72-58 win Feb. 12.



RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Irish defenseman Noah Bablin moves the puck up the ice during Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to Ohio State Jan. 15. The Irish face Michigan tonight at 8 pm in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Icers

continued from page 24

in the U.S. College Hockey Online/CSTV poll, and the Wolverines are one point ahead of Ohio State for first place in the CCHA standings. Notre Dame currently is 12th with just 11 total points compared to Michigan's 40.

Notre Dame last played the Wolverines in a home-and-home series on Dec. 3-4, dropping the first game by a score of 6-1 and the second 8-0. Those 14 goals are still the most the Irish have given up in a two-game series this season.

The Irish are coming off a disappointing weekend, in which they dropped a pair of games to Ferris State at home. The Bulldogs had come into the series only one point ahead of Notre Dame for 11th in the conference, but now have a comfortable lead on the Irish.

Ferris State defeated Notre Dame 4-3 on Friday in a heart-breaking loss for the Irish as Ferris State's Matt Verdone scored a shorthanded goal with less than a minute left in the game to give the Bulldogs the victory. Saturday, Notre Dame again allowed four goals to the Bulldogs — all in the second period — as Ferris State won 4-2.

The Irish have now failed to win in 13 straight games, with their last victory coming at home against Rensselaer Jan. 2. Notre Dame's last conference victory was a Dec. 10 3-2 overtime victory against Michigan State.

Michigan comes into this

weekend's games on a high note, having taken two games on the road against Nebraska-Omaha. The Wolverines defeated the Mavericks 6-4 Friday and survived a 4-3 nailbiter Saturday.

Michigan's strength all season has been its offense, which is currently ranked first in the CCHA with a 4.09 goals per game average — Notre Dame is 12th with just 1.59 goals per game. But the Wolverines' defense hasn't been too shabby, either, with goalie Al Montoya headlining a defense that has only allowed 2.62 goals per game, fourth in the conference.

Montoya, the CCHA's leading draft pick last season, has actually been in a bit of a slump during the regular season, carrying a 2.69 GAA and a dismal .893 save percentage. But his defense has made life easy for him, only allowing their opponents to shoot 25.9 shots per game against the junior netminder.

"You look at this team and they have the ability to outscore opponents," Poulin said. "They don't have to win games 1-0. But as a coach, if I'm looking at a goalie there's only one statistic I'm concerned with and that's wins."

"Montoya might not have the numbers this year, but he's putting up the W's."

Sophomore forward T.J. Hensick, last year's CCHA rookie of the year, paces the team's offense with 41 points (19 goals, 22 assists). Hensick is the second-leading scorer in the CCHA, two other Michigan forwards are in the conference's top ten — Jeff Tambellini (36 points) and Milan Gajic (30 points).

The team's real strength offensively is in its balance — 13 different players have scored 17 points or more this season.

"Their depth and quality of depth is just remarkable," Poulin said. "They've got 10 seniors and 10 guys who were drafted, and that combination of skill and depth is what you see in championship-caliber teams."

Notre Dame faces Michigan at 8:05 p.m. at Fort Wayne's Allen County Memorial Stadium Friday. The rematch is Saturday at Yost Field House in Ann Arbor at 7:35 p.m.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu



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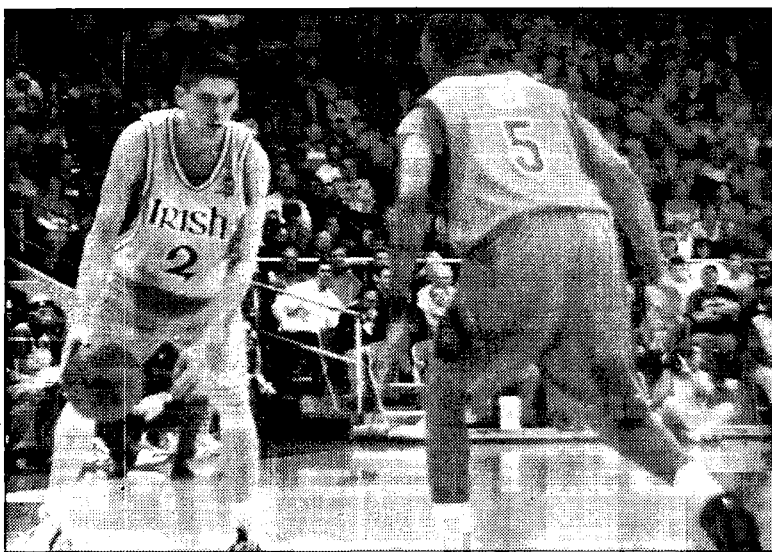
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RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Irish guard Chris Quinn dribbles as Georgetown guard Ray Reed defends during the 70-64 Notre Dame win Wednesday.

Friars

continued from page 24

their season, despite having no chance to get to the NCAA tournament except winning four consecutive games in the Big East Tournament. At West Virginia on Feb. 5, Providence lost by two. On Sunday, the Friars won their first conference game on the season, beating Rutgers 81-65. And on Tuesday, they took Connecticut to double overtime behind a career-high 37 points from Ryan Gomes.

"That 1-10 record might be the most deceiving 1-10 record in the history of college basketball," Irish senior Jordan

Cornette said.

Gomes, the preseason Big East player of the year and a 2004 first-team All-American, is leading the Big East in scoring with 21.8 points per game, second in the conference, pulling down 8.5 rebounds, and seventh in field goal percentage.

Overall, of their 14 losses, the Friars have lost only three of them by more than 10 points.

"They are a talented team with RG. He's the best player in the league," Thomas said. "He plays with a lot of confidence. Their record doesn't describe the type of team they are."

Thomas hasn't let Gomes forget about last season when the Friars came into the Joyce Center and defeated the Irish 73-59.

Sitting squarely on the bubble, the Irish played one of their worst games of the season while Gomes led the Friars with 25 points and 12 rebounds.

"They got us last year. We feel we owe them one," Thomas said. "Despite their record, there's a lot at stake."

"We have to be resilient, just like we were against Connecticut."

Saturday's game is Notre Dame's first against a team entering the game with a losing record in the conference this season.

Tip-off is set for noon and the game will be televised locally by WNDU.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

Irish

continued from page 24

Irish baseball and owns 781 career victories. "We went out to the parking lot and hit some pop ups to the infielders and outfielders. I'm not sure there are many Top 25 teams in the country that have had to do that."

Mainieri sees advantages in practicing indoors and in matching up against opponents who already have game experience this season.

"Everybody thinks it's a big disadvantage by not going outside, but I don't look at it that way because if you look at Florida A&M, they've had a lot of bad things happen to them already. So maybe their confidence is a little bit down."

"We haven't had anything bad happen to us, so our confidence should be sky-high."

After a school record-setting 51 wins last season, the Irish return six of nine starters from the 2004 squad. Filling the void of four-year starter second baseman Steve Sollmann, All-American third baseman Matt Macri and heavy-hitting catcher Javi Sanchez presents challenges, but Mainieri believes his newcomers are ready.

"Those two everyday guys, [Brett] Lilley and [Ross] Brezovsky, they've got big shoes to fill in replacing Sollmann and Macri, but both those kids are going to be up to the task simply because they're just such hard-nosed kids. They're really fearless, and I'm really expecting a lot out of both of them," Mainieri said.

Behind the plate will be sophomore Sean Gaston.

Veteran juniors Greg Lopez (shortstop), Cody Rizzo (right

field), Craig Cooper (center field), Steve Andres (left field) and Matt Bransfield (DH) and senior first baseman Matt Edwards provide experience, depth and leadership for the Irish.

"I think when you look at the leadership of our team, you have to look clearly at the junior class. Those are going to be the guys that have to carry the big portion of the load for us," Mainieri said.

Despite losing standout pitchers Grant Johnson and Chris Niesel to the draft, the Irish rotation remains as potent and as deep as ever.

Jeff Samardzija will throw the first pitch for the Irish on Friday. The 6-foot-5, hard-throwing Samardzija compiled the second-best ERA in the Big East last year

at 2.95. Last year's Big East wins leader junior Tom Thornton, a lefty, gets the nod in the early game Saturday, while another lefty, freshman Wade Korpi, makes his first career start for the Irish in the late game. To round out the weekend lineup, sophomore Jess Stewart takes the hill com-

ing off a seven-win season last season.

Seven-foot-one right-hander Ryan Doherty leads a group of dominant bullpen pitchers. A 2004 All-American, Doherty completed 12 of 13 save chances. He is on track to break the Notre Dame career ERA record with his current 2.30 ERA.

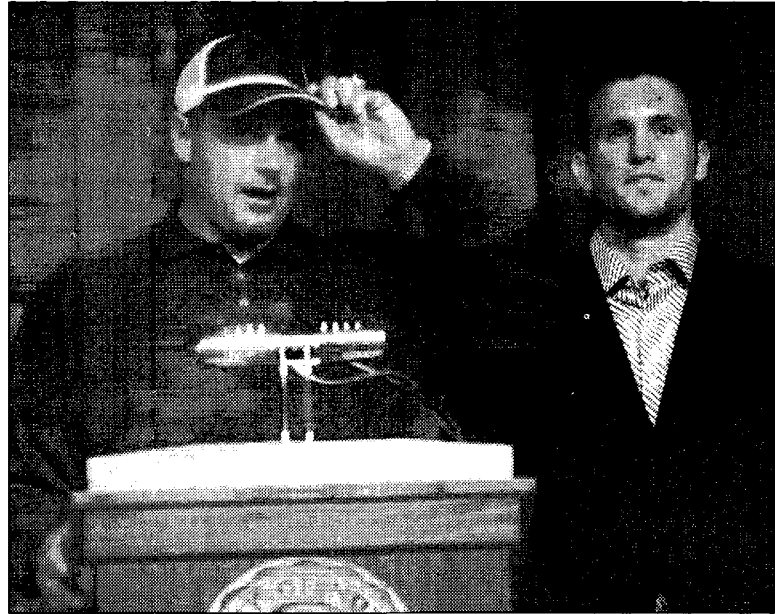
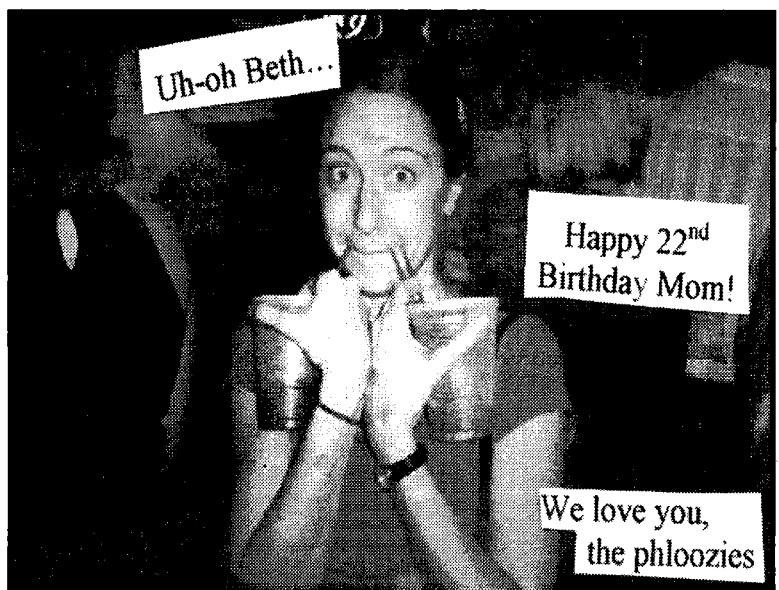
In addition to the returnees from the 2004 lineup, senior John Axford and sophomore Jeff Manship will be back from injuries in a couple of weeks, creating an even stronger rotation. Each had season-ending, reconstructive elbow surgeries last season.

"They are going to continue their rehabilitation down in Florida with us. Hopefully they're a week or two or three weeks away from being able to pitch — we don't know for sure yet," Mainieri said.

With the rest of the pitching rotation and lineup set, Mainieri knows his team is eager to set foot on the baseball field.

"I'm hoping that we're going to come out sharply our first days outside," Mainieri said. "And our team will be very enthusiastic and excited to play."

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Baseball great Roger Clemens, left, and former Notre Dame pitcher Brad Lidge speak at the baseball banquet Feb. 10.



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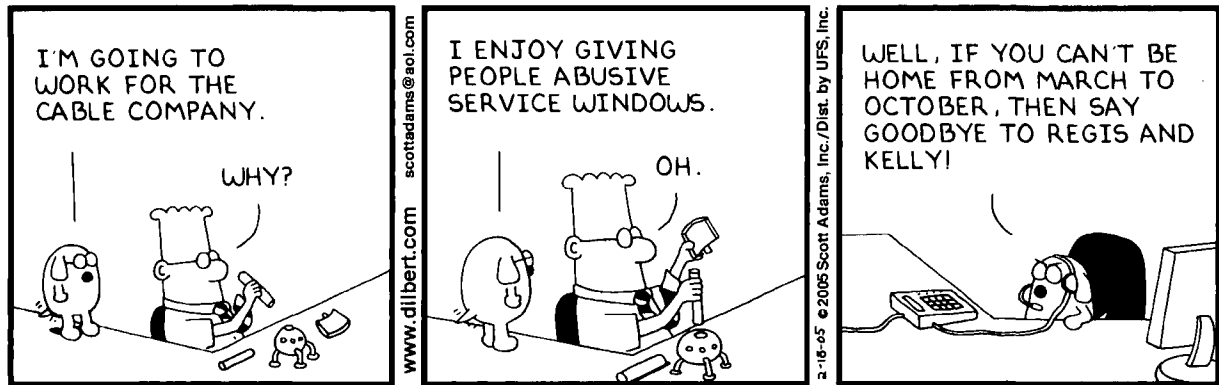
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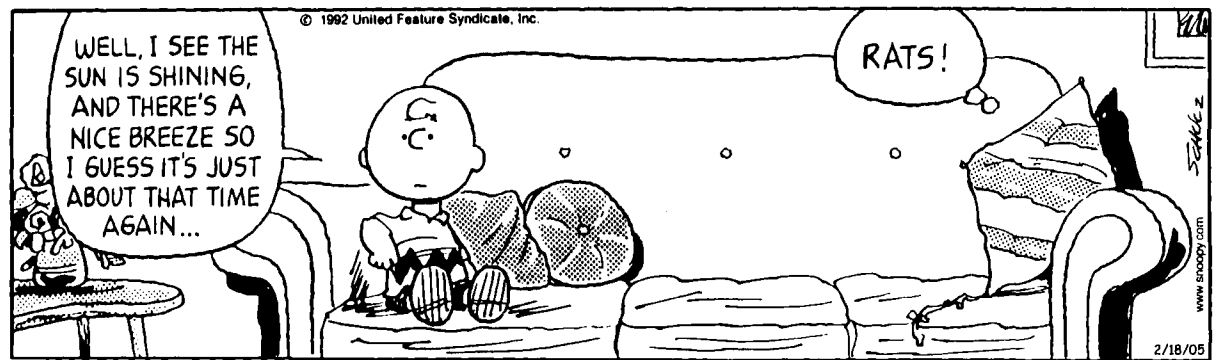
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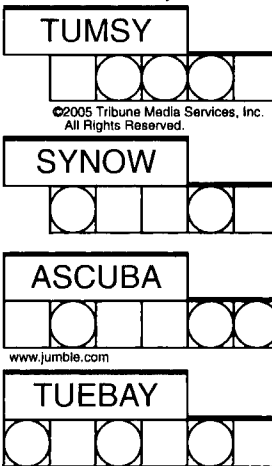


JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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

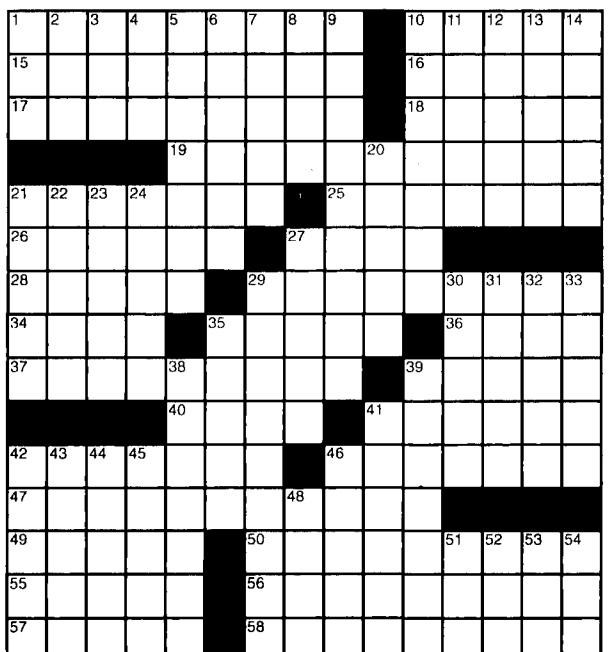


Yesterday's Jumbles: STUNG WEIGH FEDORA OMELET
Answer: What the shepherd did when the mother and lambs strayed from the flock — MADE A EWE TURN

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Opposite of 58-Across
 - 10 Evidence of trauma
 - 15 Took off without a sound
 - 16 Mel Tormé's "Home Baby"
 - 17 "Doesn't that beat all?!"
 - 18 Betel palm
 - 19 Camp sight
 - 21 Matching tops, maybe
 - 25 Creeks, e.g.
 - 26 Lapsed
 - 27 Sitcom about a Texas soccer mom
 - 28 Condition
 - 29 Call up
 - 34 Take ___ view of
 - 35 Cartier rival
- DOWN**
- 1 Where Sydney is: Abbr.
 - 2 Opposite of hiver
 - 3 Console abbr.
 - 4 Old cloth measure
 - 5 It's newly available, but not new
 - 6 Knocker
 - 7 Big-eyed baby
 - 8 "Streamers" playwright
 - 9 Seeing things
 - 10 What a gate may be attached to?
 - 11 Literally, "dwarf dog"
 - 12 Simple life?
 - 13 San Juan native, slangily
 - 14 Annoying things to hit
 - 20 Work site
 - 21 It includes a third and a fifth
 - 22 Rockabilly queen Jackson
 - 23 Certain Greenlander
 - 24 Bellini's title priestess
 - 27 Commanded anew
 - 29 "The Dick Van Dyke Show" actress
 - 30 Soak up

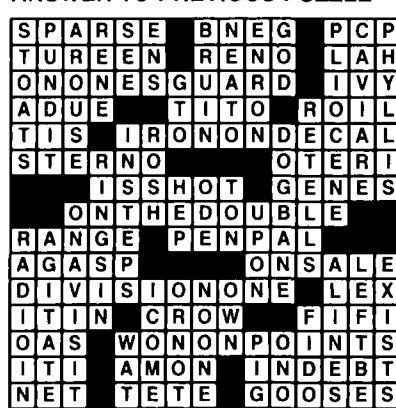


Puzzle by Stella Daily and Bruce Venzke

- 31 Matriarch of an 80's prime-time soap
- 41 Water, vis-à-vis wood
- 48 Time to give up?
- 32 Subpoenas, say
- 33 Reds' old foes
- 35 Collect, as funds
- 38 Some Chevys
- 39 A few hours after dawn, in verse
- 42 Some N.C.O.'s
- 43 Actress Aimée
- 44 ABC's Arledge
- 45 Requiring cracking, perhaps
- 46 Wallop
- 51 Warriors' grp.
- 52 "An all 'round good fellow," in song
- 53 In the U.S.M.C., e.g.
- 54 Shade of blue

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



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, 24; Paris Hilton, 24; Bryan White, 31; Rene Russo, 51

Happy Birthday: Don't just think about all the things you would like to do; get busy and start doing them. You have some good ideas to explore, and this is a great year to do so. The more you interact with people who have similar interests, the more you will accomplish along the way. Your numbers are 8, 14, 22, 26, 39, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Love, creativity and making any personal changes to your appearance or attitude will go a long way today. Just say the word and you will get the response that you need to move forward. Progressive action will result in positive alternatives. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Slowly but surely you are beginning to pick up momentum. Don't wear yourself down by overdoing it, and you should be able to make headway today. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may have to do a little troubleshooting today, especially if you have said or done something that has upset someone. A unique opportunity will arise if you are determined to get ahead. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): As long as you stick to what you know and refuse to go overboard, this could turn into a very fruitful day. Being a little secretive about your ideas and projects will make them that much more enticing when you finally reveal your intentions. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your mind will be on love, romance and, of course, pampering and pleasure. Take whatever measures are necessary to take care of your needs as well as the needs of the person you are closest to. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have what it takes to get things done, but don't be too quick to resolve issues today. You are likely to make a mistake based on false information. Wait to gather more information and you will spare yourself backtracking later on. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Thinking big can be good, but only if you have what it takes to follow through. Don't rely on someone else to do it for you. Love is in the picture. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get your money matters cleared up quickly. You have some good opportunities coming your way, and you want to be able to take advantage of them. The more you do to complete unfinished business, the freer you will feel to take part in whatever comes your way. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may find it difficult to make up your mind -- too many choices and not enough hours in a day. Change is apparent. Putting up a resistance will only force you to lose control. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Change is good and probably necessary. The ideas you have regarding how to make more money and what to do with your life are looking good. Talk to someone with experience and you will get the information you need to develop your ideas. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your vibrant attitude will be enticing. Someone very special will get what you are all about and opt to walk by your side. This can be a turning point for you as long as you aren't negative. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Proceed with caution. You may have some interesting thoughts, but now is not the time to share them. Work on your own and develop your niche. **

Birthday Baby: You are curious and carefree. You are a communicator. You can envision what it is you want to do and follow through with your plans. You are an opportunist, quick to react.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

No sure thing

One-win Providence wants to derail Irish hopes for road win

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Mike Brey has an offer for Providence coach Tim Welsh.

He'll cut Saturday's game down to a minute with the score tied.

If Providence was contending for a NCAA tournament berth — as the coaches predicted in the preseason with the Friars' sixth-place projection — Brey's statement after Wednesday night's win over Georgetown might make more sense.

If the Friars weren't in last place in the Big East with a 1-10 conference record, the Irish would be lucky to get such a deal going into conference road game after losing their last four away from the Joyce Center.

But the Irish are throwing all of those truths out the window.

They feel the real truth is Providence is much, much better than its record this season has shown.

"The fact that we're 7-5 and they are 1-10 means nothing," Brey said. "They scare the heck out of me."

The Friars haven't mailed in

see FRIARS/page 22



RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Notre Dame point guard Chris Thomas keeps the ball away from Georgetown guard Ray Reed during the 70-64 Irish win Wednesday night. The Irish will play tonight at Providence.

HOCKEY

ND set to face off with UM

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish are hoping a change of scenery will help them finish the regular season on the right track.

Notre Dame (5-21-6, 3-16-5 in the CCHA) faces first-place No. 6/5 Michigan (22-7-3, 19-3-2) twice this weekend, first in Fort Wayne's Allen County Memorial Stadium Friday and then in Ann Arbor, Mich. Saturday.

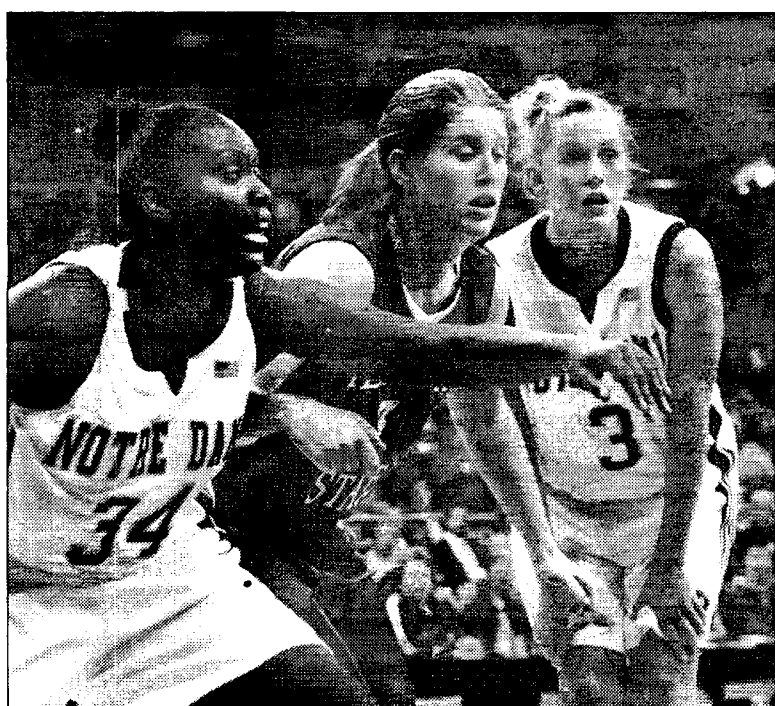
"This is a great hockey town," Poulin said of Fort Wayne. "This isn't one of those multipurpose arenas; this is a full-fledged hockey building. The town is really excited that we're here and they're expecting a sellout on Friday."

Michigan is ranked sixth in the nation in the USA Today poll and fifth overall

see ICERS/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Scarlet Knights not a worry



RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Irish teammates Crystal Erwin, left, and Susie Powers prepare for a rebound during a 92-78 win over Illinois State Nov. 12.

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

The last time these two teams met, the circumstances were completely different.

Notre Dame was fighting for its Big East life in the toughest stretch of its season, and Rutgers was coming off of a week of upsets. Notre Dame needed a win, and the Irish got one, 63-47 with a huge second half comeback.

Saturday, however, is much different for the No. 5 Irish (23-3, 11-2 Big East), as they are in first place in the Big East with just three games to play, including Saturday's contest.

"We're in the drivers' seat," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But at the same time, there's no pressure. It's not like it's a must-win game."

see RUTGERS/page 21

BASEBALL

Irish baseball to kick off season in Florida

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

The weekend forecast for Orlando, the site of the opening four games of the 2005 season for Notre Dame, shows sunny skies and highs in the low 70s. That's a far cry from the chilly, wintry weather in South Bend.

Notre Dame begins their 2005 campaign today at 1 p.m., taking on the Florida A&M Rattlers (0-10). A Saturday doubleheader follows, beginning with the Central Florida Golden Knights (5-1) at 1 p.m. and finishing with Florida A&M at 5 p.m. A 1 p.m. Sunday game against Central Florida completes a full weekend of competition.

"It's quite possible that

Florida A&M's record is misleading since they've played an extremely tough schedule," coach Paul Mainieri said. "Central Florida is an extremely tough team. They won 47 games last year, and we're playing them in their ballpark, so we know we've got a couple of games that are going to be as challenging as any we play all year."

While the Irish have been cooped up inside for the first couple weeks of practice, their weekend opponents have already played a combined 16 games, and the few outdoor practices the Irish held were on asphalt.

"The field conditions would not allow us to get out on the field," said Mainieri, who is in his 11th season at the helm of

see IRISH/page 22

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

NCAA BASKETBALL

Virginia Tech upset no. 7 Duke 67-65 on a late 3-pointer.

page 14

ND SWIMMING

The Irish lead after the first day of the Big East tournament.

page 15

MLB

New Red Sox pitcher David Wells criticizes his old Yankee team.

page 15

NFL

The Chargers name quarterback Drew Brees a franchise player.

page 16

TENNIS

Northwestern meets ND tonight at the Eck Tennis Pavillion.

page 17

SMC BASKETBALL

The Belles battle Olivet in their final regular season game.

page 19