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Seniors, administrators still divided over dome

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

Though his office in the Main Building is located just a few floors below the statue of Mary and his name carries with it the title of executive vice president, John Affleck-Graves sat at his desk Tuesday afternoon and said that he can do nothing to remove the scaffolding surrounding the golden dome, despite the intense backlash of the senior class.

"If there was any way to do the process faster, we would

do it. We realize this is a disappointment to the senior class," Affleck-Graves said.

Senior opposition has grown since the process began on March 7.

"When I came back from spring break and they had already started, I felt the administration pulled a fast one. They could have polled student voices to gauge the impact before beginning the process," senior Rob Van Gorder said.

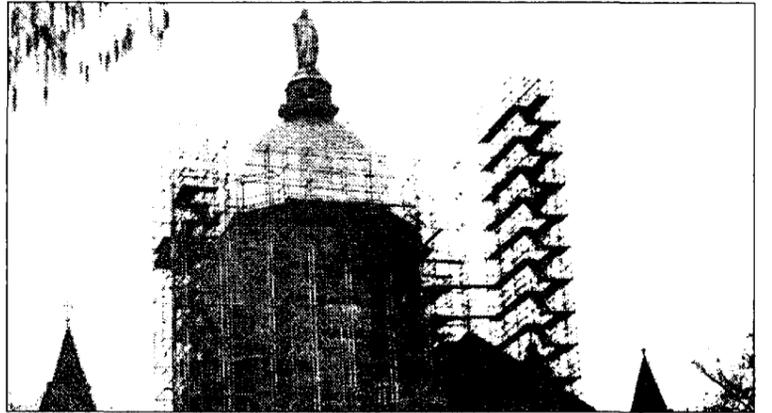
Affleck-Graves apologized for the lack of communication and admitted that it was his mistake that the information

was not released to students earlier.

"I'll take the blame for it," he said. "Honestly, I did not anticipate the huge reaction from the class. Other times the Dome has been re-gilded the students have not been so upset."

In the last few weeks, student government has stepped in to try and stop the gilding process. Senior class president Darrell Scott told members of the Council of Representatives at their meeting March 21 that he

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CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer
Scaffolding surrounding the golden dome grew to reach the height of the Virgin Mary statue during the Easter weekend.

Students add on-campus jobs to daily studies

University employs 3,611 in various posts

By LISA SCHULTZ
News Writer

Students at Notre Dame are known for their hard work and dedication in the classroom. However, the University also recognizes them as hard workers outside of class — in on-campus jobs ranging from secretary to sandwich artist.

Joyce Yates, the assistant student employment coordinator for the Office of Student Employment, said from the interest shown on the University Job Board, Notre Dame students seem anxious to work.

"As soon as we post a new position [on the board], it's gone," she said.

The online resource has been in use for about three years and is touted as the best place to start looking for an on-campus job.

For some students, employment is a necessity, a reason campus jobs are highly sought.

Sophomore Molly Kealy has three jobs under work-study. Kealy, an Alumni Association employee, serves as the assis-

see JOBS/page 6



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer
Sophomore Adam Cummins works the cash register in The Huddle Tuesday. Students fill thousands of on-campus positions at the University.

Campus employment factors into financial aid packages offered

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The opportunity to work is frequently presented to Notre Dame students as part of a financial aid offer, said Joe Russo, director of Financial Aid.

Russo said that for the nearly 6,400 undergraduates who do

receive some form of financial aid, the average amount is \$23,000, with \$2,300 being granted as the maximum typical offer to work.

To earn the \$2,300, Russo said a student receiving the basic pay rate would have to work about 12 hours a week, 15 weeks a semester.

"However, it's an opportunity

to work — it's not a guarantee of money," Russo said. "If you don't work, you don't get paid."

This means that students who are given the opportunity to work in their financial aid offers must seek out employment themselves when they get to campus, but Russo said that stu-

see AID/page 6

College offers Iraq support services

By COLLEEN KIELTY
News Writer

While their family, friends and loved ones are serving in Iraq, members of the Saint Mary's community join together to offer support to one another each week in a group for students who have loved ones in the military.

The support group is co-sponsored by Saint Mary's Counseling and Career Development and Campus Ministry, and it provides students with a place to come to share stories and have conversations with those experiencing similar situations.

The need for such a group was brought to the attention of Campus Ministry and Counseling and Career Development by students and faculty. Both the sponsors of the group and faculty members knew of students who have a loved one serving in the military.

For some students, it is a family member. Others know friends from home who are serving in the armed forces.

"We've all had a few students who have friends or family serving in different capacities," said Judy Fean, director of Campus Ministry.

The group began meeting on March 15 and continues to meet every Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Campus Ministry room in the new Student Center at Saint Mary's College.

"While our numbers have been low, the responses we have received are appreciative," said Gina Christiana of The Counseling and Career Development Center.

The group has received e-mails from students studying

see SUPPORT/page 6

Dillon summer-long remodeling underway



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer
Tarps protect bushes outside of Dillon Hall while the building undergoes construction Tuesday.

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

Dillon Hall began a makeover on March 3, a process that will take through the summer to complete, but will leave the men's dorm with new windows, updated bathrooms and a laundry room.

For the past few weeks, crews have been pulling out loose mortar between the bricks and stones, while also

power-washing the exterior of the building, Dillon rector Father Paul Doyle said.

"This is loud work. The men have been very understanding. I tried to give the men an explanation before each step of this process," Doyle said. "As of tonight or tomorrow night they will have power-washed all of Dillon Hall except the courtyard facing Alumni. Noise is over with for the men of

see DILLON/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

Dome letdown

Acting on emotion rarely results in a positive outcome. Since the administration's letter reiterating the regilding and repairs to the Dome wouldn't halt for graduation, emotions have run high for a number of seniors, including myself.

Letting it sink in during the past week, I've come to what bothers me the most with the scaffolding that will continue to surround the University's landmark on arguably our most important day at Notre Dame.



Matt Lozar

Senior Staff Writer

It has to deal with disappointment stemming from the way this situation has been handled by the administration.

My problem goes further than sneaking the beginning of this project past students who were on spring break when the last thing on our mind was Notre Dame.

My disappointment comes from the administration not showing it's doing everything possible to put the seniors first.

I refuse to drink the Kool-Aid being handed out by the administration insisting the schedule for this project can't be changed. I understand the repairs and regilding need to be done, that's indisputable.

But why can't the schedule be changed?

Tell the senior class the project's cost increases too much if overtime or working on weekends are unrealistic, making finances the major issue. Provide a detailed schedule showing why six months are necessary if the South Bend weather dictates each and every day. Explain how having a golden Dome is more important for that Michigan State game on Sept. 17 or University President-elect Father John Jenkins' inauguration rather than graduation weekend, if that is the case.

Nothing on campus can be built taller than the Dome. Driving on the Indiana Toll Road, the Dome provides goose bumps as it sticks out above the trees. It symbolizes Notre Dame. On graduation weekend, what else would one want as a picture background?

That's why this is an issue that won't, and shouldn't, go away.

Not only do the seniors deserve some sort of answer, but so do our parents.

Parents who are sending their first and possibly only child through Notre Dame. Parents who are making their second trip to South Bend when dropping their son or daughter off for Freshman Orientation was the first. Parents who are making their umpteenth trip to campus after getting their own degree and attending numerous football games.

All of these issues need to be addressed, and people who deserve these answers haven't received anything specific from the University.

Ultimately, seniors don't have to agree with the final decision or reasoning, just give us something we can respect.

That's all I'm asking for — something believable, credible and legitimate.

Come graduation weekend, instead of taking pictures with my family with the Dome as a background, I'm going to have to face it.

Smiling for those pictures might be a little difficult.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW ARE YOU ENJOYING THE WARM WEATHER?



Christian Brown
sophomore
O'Neill

"Getting ready for the bookstore tournament."



John Mulvahill
freshman
Carroll

"Running around barefoot."



Matt Schulte
senior
Dillon

"Starting up spring practice for Walsh football."



Rebecca Jakubisin
freshman
Le Mans

"I prayed the rosary while laying out."



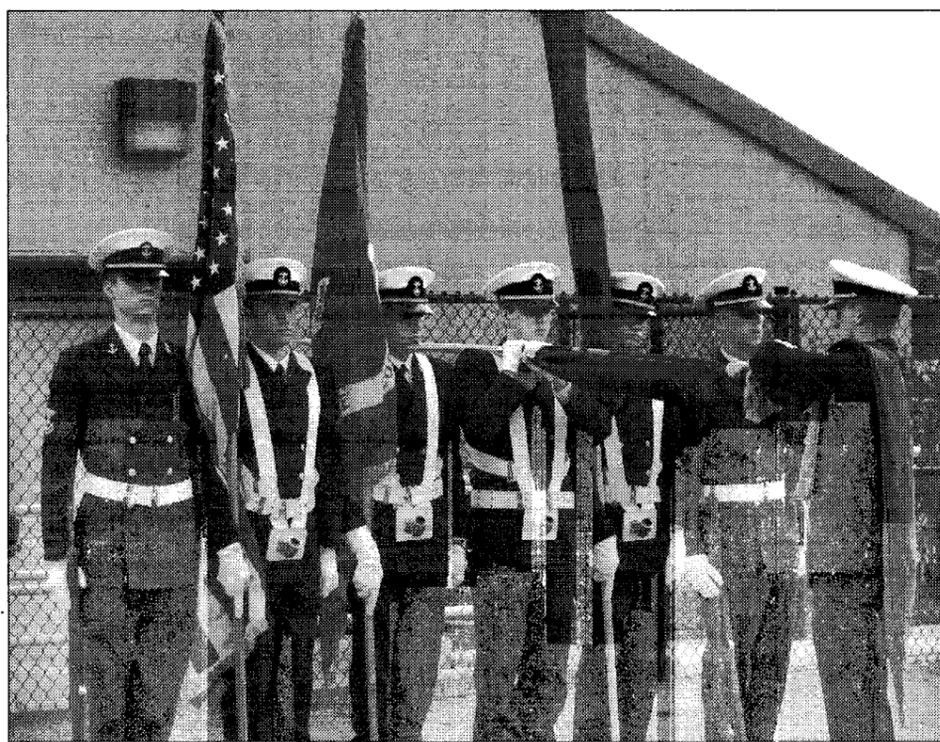
Teresa Kolf
sophomore
McGlenn

"I'm walking slower to class."



Thomas Thuruthiyil
employee
South Dining Hall

"Jogging and running around campus. I like the green leaves on the trees."



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Members of Navy ROTC presented the colors at the Notre Dame baseball game Tuesday at Eck Stadium. The Irish defeated Western Michigan 9-5.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame softball team will face off against Valparaiso in a double header today at 4 p.m. and 8 at Ivy Field.

The fourth annual girl's McDonald's All American high school basketball game will take place tonight at 5 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research Dean Baker will speak tonight in a lecture titled "Social Security: The Phony Crisis." It will begin at 7 p.m. in 126 DeBartolo Hall.

Philip Sakimoto, former acting director of NASA's Space and Science Education and Public Outreach program, will give a lecture entitled "The Universe and Everything In It" tonight at 8 p.m. in 102 DeBartolo Hall. The talk is sponsored by the department of physics.

David Solomon, director of the Center for Ethics and Culture, will give a talk entitled "Legal Mercy Killings of People with Disabilities" as part of Theology on Tap. It is sponsored by Campus Ministry and will begin at 10 p.m. in Legends.

There will be a conference Thursday entitled "Contemporary Catholicism, Religious Pluralism, and Democracy in Latin America: Challenges, Responses, and Impact" in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, beginning at 8:45 a.m.

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

OFFBEAT

Cocaine stash discovered in minivan gas tank

SLIDELL, La. — A reliable family car suddenly developed a tendency to decelerate, leading to the discovery that it had been driven for years with \$40,000 worth of cocaine stashed in the gas tank.

A suburban New Orleans family had bought the 1996 Toyota Camry from a used car lot in 1997.

"They hadn't had any major mechanical difficulties with it until last week," the sheriff's spokesman James Hartman said Tuesday.

When the car started los-

ing speed, it was taken to a mechanic, who discovered two bricks of cocaine wrapped around the vehicle's fuel line. The wrapping had apparently come loose recently.

Legally blind man hits hole-in-one

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — A man who is legally blind has heard it before, so he was naturally skeptical when he was told he scored a hole-in-one while golfing at a local golf course. "They've said it before," said Joel Ludvick, 78.

Only this time it was true. Ludvick aced the 168-

yard No. 11 hole at Twin Pines golf course with a driver.

He had to rely on his three golfing partners to confirm the feat, because Ludvick is legally blind.

"A big fluke, it's just one of those things," Ludvick said.

He has been an avid golfer for years and this is his second hole-in-one. It's his first since he lost most of his vision because of macular degeneration.

He said his vision is hazy and he can't see things he's directly looking at.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 71 LOW 44	HIGH 45 LOW 35	HIGH 54 LOW 41	HIGH 41 LOW 30	HIGH 44 LOW 31	HIGH 52 LOW 38

Atlanta 76 / 52 Boston 51 / 39 Chicago 66 / 39 Denver 47 / 28 Houston 84 / 66 Los Angeles 70 / 52 Minneapolis 57 / 32 New York 58 / 42 Philadelphia 62 / 45 Phoenix 76 / 53 Seattle 50 / 43 St. Louis 64 / 51 Tampa 80 / 61 Washington 67 / 46

Progressive Student Alliance enjoys success of agreement

Taco Bell Corp. to pay penny-per-pound surcharges, raise farm labor standards, ending three-year-long boycott

By KATIE PERRY
News Writer

Actions taken last spring by the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) reached a large-scale level earlier this month when Taco Bell presented a large labor organization with groundbreaking plans to reform the conditions and pay of its workers.

A March 8 agreement between Taco Bell, Corp., a division of Yum! Brands, and the Florida-based Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) proved successful as the Mexican fast-food powerhouse served up an order deemed sufficient by the labor activist group.

The CIW officially ended its three-year boycott of Taco Bell, asserting the deal "sets a new standard of social responsibility for the fast-food industry." Taco Bell has agreed to pay a penny-per-pound surcharge to workers and "raise farm labor standards" by adding new clauses to the company Code of Conduct and strictly adhering to current laws.

The denouncement originated from alleged unfair standards in labor and wages for migrant workers who harvested tomatoes for the restaurant's Florida supplier.

Last April, members of the Progressive Student Alliance

rallied against Taco Bell and its marketing relationship with the Notre Dame athletic department through a series of hunger strikes, organized protests and correspondence with administrative officials.

Notre Dame then placed pressure on Taco Bell and asked the company to refute the claims with specific, unequivocal evidence. After failing to promptly receive adequate answers to its inquiries, the University postponed and later terminated its \$50,000 promotional contract with local Taco Bell restaurants.

PSA member Alicia Lachiondo said the actions taken by Notre Dame students last spring "absolutely" played a significant role in the eventual agreement between Taco Bell and the CIW.

"Anytime you have a high-profile institution like this University make a sweeping move of this nature, it brings the cause to the forefront and forces other institutions to reevaluate their affiliations," Lachiondo said.

According to the CIW Web site, almost 30 academic institutions had joined in the

fight to "boot the Bell." The sum total not only raised awareness but also contributed by bringing about economic consequences necessary for social change, Lachiondo said.

As a Notre Dame student, Lachiondo has held strong connections to the concerns of the CIW through her membership in the PSA and her role as coordinator of the Migrant Experiences seminar through the Center for Social Concerns.

"I have had the honor to personally meet many of the farm workers, see their living and working conditions and hear

first hand their account of the struggle," Lachiondo said. "In fact, quite a few of the students who have worked on the boycott for the past four years have either been on the seminar or met members of the CIW. So we felt that this was a personal issue for us."

Lachiondo said that although the PSA has not made any formal response to the agreement between Taco Bell and the CIW, the overall reaction from members has been one of "celebration." Even after Notre Dame ended

its contract with the restaurant chain, PSA members continued to protest at local Taco Bell establishments and circulate letters to top officials at Yum! Brands.

"It's an amazing feeling to be a part of something so large like this boycott and to see the group achieve this level of unprecedented success," Lachiondo said.

The PSA plans to meet with University administrators this week to express its gratitude toward Notre Dame for listening to its concerns and taking subsequent action.

"We want them to know how important our campaign was in the larger movement that ultimately pressured Taco Bell to do the right thing," PSA member Melody Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez played an active role in the move to terminate Notre Dame's relationship with Taco Bell by mobilizing student support and contacting members of the press. On a larger scale, she served as a translator in Louisville when the final agreement was reached between Taco Bell and the CIW.

Because PSA-led actions like protests, hunger strikes

and other demonstrations are done in solidarity with the CIW, both groups can revel in the groundbreaking accomplishment. Similarly, the CIW — and by extension the PSA — is still not content in the working conditions of other such companies.

"This is just a battle in the war for fair wages and working conditions," Lachiondo said. "It's time for other corporations to follow the impressive example finally put forth by Taco Bell."

The PSA will "continue to support the CIW in its causes" because of its strong belief in the group's fundamental mission, Lachiondo said. By using their purchasing power as a metaphorical vote, PSA members will strive to voice concerns to other companies through economic means.

"It is our belief that someone needs to take responsibility for the conditions throughout the food supply chain; if the corporations won't do it, we will through the power of our purchasing choices," Lachiondo said.

"We want [University officials] to know how important our campaign was in the larger movement."

Melody Gonzalez
PSA member

"This is just a battle in the war for fair wages and working conditions."

Alicia Lachiondo
PSA member

Contact Katie Perry at
kperry5@nd.edu

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BANDS

Dome

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intended to pursue measures to halt or delay the process until after graduation.

Last Wednesday, Scott, along with student body president Adam Istvan and third year law student Adam Russ, met with Affleck-Graves and presented what Scott referred to as a "hypothetical contract" that would allow for the Dome to be temporarily uncovered for graduation.

Their plan called for the re-gilding to continue through the month of April. Then, one week before graduation the scaffolding would be taken down, allowing the Dome to be visible for commencement. The following day, the scaffolding could be rebuilt, and the process would continue on as planned.

After speaking with contractors, Scott estimated that his proposal would add two weeks to the re-gilding process but would still allow for the project to be completed by the mandatory deadline of Oct. 1, when frost will become a factor.

"Mr. Affleck-Graves was sincere and committed to making an arrangement. I was optimistic going to bed Wednesday night that our compromise was feasible," Scott said.

Affleck-Graves said he was impressed with Scott, Istvan and Russ's enthusiasm.

"Darrell had a really good idea, I thought. We wanted to do anything we could to make the best out of the situation," Affleck-Graves said.

But to the disappointment of Scott and the rest of the senior class, the proposal was not approved after Affleck-Graves sent it to Conrad Schmitt Studios and learned that the process of taking down and rebuilding the scaffolding would push the completion date beyond the deadline of Oct. 1.

"The contractors told me it was not possible," Affleck-Graves said.

This will be the 11th time the dome has been re-gilded — 17 years since the last touch-up.

"If you look at the Dome from the front, it looks fine. But if you look at the back of Mary, you can see it is in need," Affleck-Graves said.

As a result, this year's process will be especially long. Instead of painting over the old paint, the workers are going to strip the dome of all the previous layers and apply a brand new coat. Also, structural work will be done to maintain the integrity of the inside of the building, Affleck-Graves said.

"Now we have to strip 12 layers of paint. We have to prime and re-paint, and that is what takes time. It is going to be stripped down to the bare metal," Affleck-Graves said.

But knowing the logistics of the procedure does little for Joe Tan, whose aunt and uncle will be taking a 24-hour flight from Singapore to see Notre Dame for the first time.

"Of all the time to be re-gilding, why before graduation? It's disappointing that something like this would take place, to my aunt and uncle who are looking forward to seeing campus," Tan said.

Affleck-Graves said he understands how the students and parents are feeling, since

he has had two-children graduate from the University. But he also knows that the best memories of graduation are not about the dome itself, but the spirit of the graduates underneath it.

"Graduation is not about the physical dome. You don't remember standing in front of it getting your picture taken. It's about the proud parents and being part of mass. There could be no dome and it would be a fabulous time," Affleck-Graves said.

Many students have insisted that the University's refusal to

change the re-gilding plans shows a lack of respect for its students.

"This is just another example that students really do not have a voice at this campus. If our own class president can't sit down and talk and have something come of it, then certainly a common student won't be able to," senior Sarah Bates said.

Yet Affleck-Graves insisted that undergraduates are his top priority.

"We care more about undergraduates than anybody else. We care about creating a reli-

gious and educational foundation for them. Hopefully that is more important to them than buildings," Affleck-Graves said.

Affleck-Graves promised that he will do all he can to make up for the eyesore of a scaffold-covered golden dome.

Affleck-Graves and other members of the administration have begun exploring other possibilities to keep graduation special for this year's class. Affleck-Graves said he would consider any suggestions the students

put forth, such as a new location for professional photos or special access to places like the stadium press box or the 14th floor of the library.

"We care more about undergraduates than anybody else."

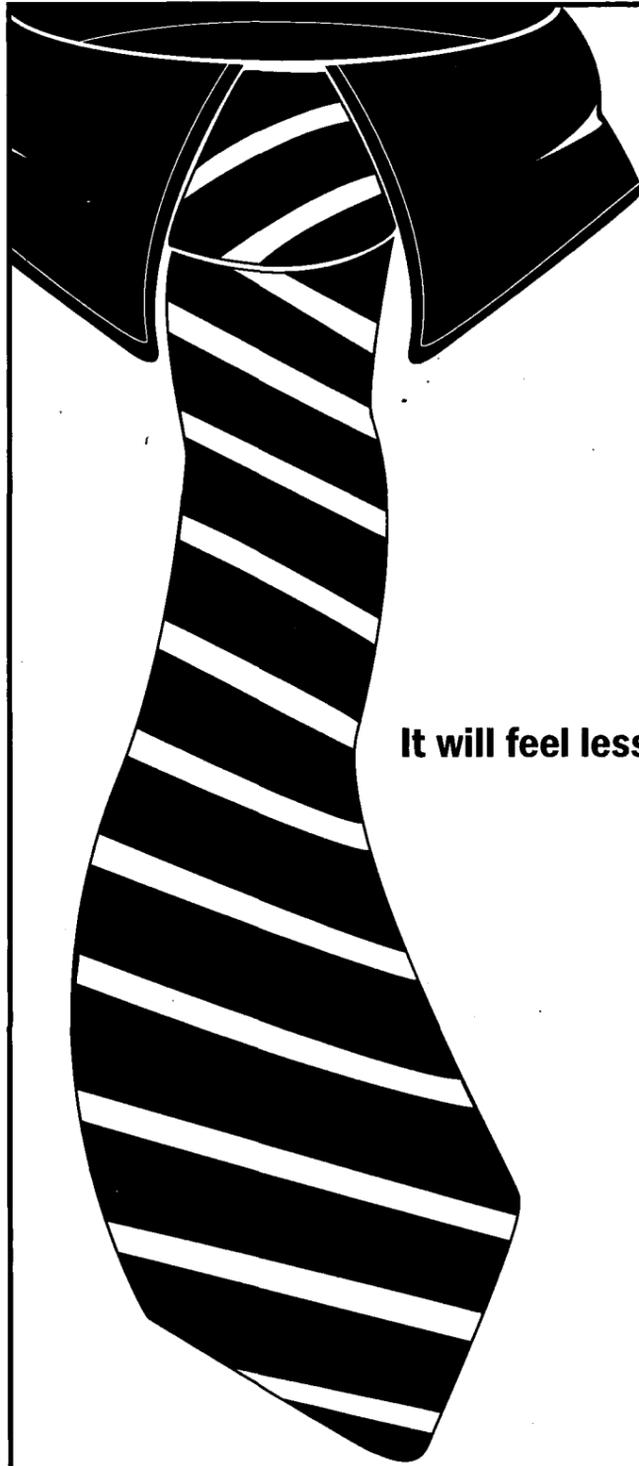
John Affleck-Graves
Executive Vice
President

"If seniors have suggestions, we will entertain everything. We want the students' initiative and suggestions," Affleck-Graves said. "But I know the seniors are paying a price, and we can never fully compensate."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

"It's disappointing that something like this would take place."

Joe Tan
senior



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Askar Akayev promises resignation

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan — Ousted President Askar Akayev surfaced in Russia after fleeing this Central Asian nation and said Tuesday he would resign if given legal protections — the first sign he is willing to yield power.

Akayev, who fled after protesters seized government headquarters last week, also accused his foes of plotting his overthrow for months. Interim leader Kurmanbek Bakiyev said the storming of the government headquarters was never planned, and he called for an official inquiry.

In an interview with Russia's state-run Channel One television, Akayev emphasized he is Kyrgyzstan's legitimate leader and suggested he would keep a hand in its fragile politics.

Asked whether he was prepared to step down, Akayev replied: "Of course, of course if I am given the relevant guarantees and if it is in full accordance with the current legislation."

Pope may rely on feeding tube

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II may have to return to the hospital to have a feeding tube inserted because he is having difficulty swallowing, an Italian news agency reported Tuesday.

The APcom news agency said no decision had been taken and the feeding tube was one option being considered to help the 84-year-old pope get better nutrition and regain his strength.

Calls to the Vatican spokesman went unanswered late Tuesday.

Citing an unidentified source, the agency said the pope's doctors were considering the procedure.

NATIONAL NEWS

Report: aviation never safer

WASHINGTON — The number of civil aviation accidents in the United States fell by 8 percent last year, according to preliminary statistics released Tuesday.

The National Transportation Safety Board reported that civil aviation accidents declined from 1,864 in 2003 to 1,715 last year. There were also 9 percent fewer deaths in 2004 — 635, down from 695 the year before.

"There is a single strong common thread among safety that's woven among every aspect of aviation, from the design of the aircraft through the systems on board to the training the pilots receive," said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Greg Martin. "The payoff is the safest three years in aviation history."

Most aviation fatalities resulted from accidents involving private planes and on-demand air taxis, but the overall accident rate for both kinds of aircraft has been improving over the past few decades.

Title IX protects whistleblowers

WASHINGTON — A closely divided Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that a teacher or coach who claims sexual discrimination on behalf of others is protected from firing under the same landmark law that greatly expanded athletic opportunities for women.

The 5-4 decision expands the scope of the Title IX gender equity law to protect whistleblowers as well as direct victims.

LOCAL NEWS

Senate takes stand on alcohol

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Senate approved a bill Tuesday that would hold drivers responsible for open containers of alcohol found in their vehicles, but the bill's fate depends on how receptive the House is to change.

House lawmakers have been reluctant to fine drivers for open containers. They passed a bill earlier this year that would have fined passengers, not drivers, \$25 for open containers of alcohol in a car.

Opponents of that bill say it isn't tough enough.

Politician's prayers lift spirits

Rev. Jesse Jackson visits Terri Schiavo's parents on day 12 without food, water

Associated Press

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. — As Terri Schiavo entered her 12th full day without food or water, the Rev. Jesse Jackson prayed with her parents Tuesday and joined conservatives in calling for state lawmakers to order her feeding tube reinserted.

The former Democratic presidential candidate was invited by Schiavo's parents to meet with activists outside Schiavo's hospice. His arrival was greeted by some applause and cries of "This is about civil rights!"

"I feel so passionate about this injustice being done, how unnecessary it is to deny her a feeding tube, water, not even ice to be used for her parched lips," he said. "This is a moral issue and it transcends politics and family disputes."

Jackson's visit provided an emotional boost to Schiavo's parents and siblings, who have maintained that Schiavo would want to be kept alive. Her husband, Michael Schiavo, insists he is carrying out her wishes by having the feeding tube pulled.

"I wanted the Reverend Jackson here for moral support," said Mary Schindler, Terri Schiavo's mother. "I feel good with him here. Very strong. He gives me strength."

Jackson said he asked Michael Schiavo for permission to see the brain-damaged woman but was denied. George Felos, Michael Schiavo's attorney, did not return phone messages seeking comment.

Jackson also telephoned black legislators in a last-ditch effort to bring back a bill that would prohibit severely brain-damaged patients from being denied food and water if they didn't express their wishes in writing.

Lawmakers rejected the legislation earlier this month and appeared



Bob Schindler, right, walks with son-in-law Michael Vitadamo Tuesday after visiting his daughter Terri Schiavo. Schindler wants Schiavo's feeding tube to be reinserted.

unlikely to reconsider it.

One of those contacted by Jackson, Democratic state Sen. Gary Siplin, said he told Jackson the issue had been "thoroughly discussed." Senate Democratic leader Les Miller added, "I have voted. It's time to move on."

The chief sponsor of the measure, state Sen. Daniel Webster, said he knew of no changed votes and that Jackson's efforts may have come too late.

"If he could sway votes — and I'm certain he may be able to — it would have been helpful if he had done that a little earlier" said Webster, a Republican. "We're running out of time. To do it

now is not as timely as a couple of weeks ago would have been."

Bob Schindler described his daughter as "failing" following his visit Tuesday.

"She still looks pretty darn good under the circumstances," Schindler said. "You can see the impact of no food and water for 12 days. Her bodily functions are still working. We still have her."

During Jackson's visit, a man was tackled to the ground by officers when he tried to storm into the hospice, police said. He became the 47th protester arrested since the feeding tube was removed March 18. The man had two bot-

tles of water with him but did not reach the hospice door, police said.

Doctors have said Terri Schiavo, 41, would probably die within a week or two of the tube being removed. She suffered catastrophic brain damage in 1990 when her heart stopped for several minutes because of a chemical imbalance apparently brought on by an eating disorder.

The parents also lost another round in the courts Tuesday when an appeals court upheld a previous ruling by Judge George Greer that blocked the Department of Children and Families from intervening in the case.

Human fetus stolen from exhibit

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two women stole a preserved 13-week-old fetus from an acclaimed exhibit at the California Science Center, authorities said Tuesday.

The fetus, its tissues infused with polymers in a process called plastination to prevent decay indefinitely, was part of a traveling display, "Body Worlds 2: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies."

A surveillance camera captured the women removing the fetus from an unlocked display case on the third floor early Saturday during the

round-the-clock closing weekend of the exhibit, police Detective Jimmy Render said.

Other people were inside the room at the time but they may not have been aware of the theft, he said.

"There's no indication at this time of the motives behind the stealing of the plastinated fetus," Render said. "There had been no threats."

The theft was the first ever involving "Body Worlds" displays, which have been seen by millions of people worldwide.

"We are deeply concerned and disappointed by the theft of this invaluable and irreplaceable speci-

men," Angelina Whalley, director of the Institute for Plastination, said in a statement.

"Although it is a tragedy that the fetus never made it to life, it is a teaching treasure and educational tool which we preserved for the benefit of public knowledge," she said.

"Body Worlds 2" and its predecessor, "Body Worlds," use plastinated human bodies and organs to provide information on human anatomy, illnesses and issues such as smoking and obesity. The displays, featuring bodies in natural poses, have drawn critical and public praise.

Jobs

continued from page 1

tant to the alumni newsletter editor and works on editing and mailings.

Kealy said her office job pays \$6.50 an hour, but she also receives income from being an Academic Services tutor and note-taker for the Office for Students with Disabilities.

Yates said that a position like Kealy's in the Alumni Association is coveted.

"Students would like to work in an office-type setting," Yates said. "There's a lot of competition for those jobs. The thought of working in a dining hall is irksome, especially for freshmen."

While he does not have an office job, freshman Brogan Ryan said working at Subway is a good experience.

"I would say that Subway is not the best job on campus, but if you work with the right people, it can be fun," he said. "The perk of working at Subway is the free sub at the end of the shift."

Ryan also said the on-campus location was an added advantage to his job, despite his comparatively low earnings.

"I think [the wage rate for University payroll jobs] is pretty fair, for working on campus," he said. "There is no doubt I could be making more money off campus, but that wouldn't work."

Currently, there are 3,611 students on the University payroll. Yates estimates about half of all these students work for Food Services. Academic Services is the second largest employer, providing about 500 jobs.

However, not many businesses are allowed onto Notre Dame's closed campus, some-

what limiting the variety of jobs available for the 40 percent of undergraduate students employed by the University. Students must make an effort to get the available jobs — whether they are ideal positions or not.

"There are no perks for working in the dining hall beyond getting paid," said freshman Zach El-Sawaf, a Food Services employee at South Dining Hall. Food Services jobs typically begin pay with an unskilled wage of \$6.45 an hour.

El-Sawaf is one of the 602 freshmen with jobs on campus. There is typically an increase of about 300 University payroll job recipients, usually about 600 to 900, from freshman to sophomore year, Yates said. Seniors constitute the highest number of students employed by class.

"Freshmen are trying to adjust, and working is just not an option for some," Yates said.

She said that as time goes by, students become more organized, begin seeking work experience and are generally more available as course loads lessen and as requirements are fulfilled.

Students who love their jobs tend to remain in their positions throughout their years on campus.

"I'd definitely say I have one of the best jobs on campus," junior and Writing Center tutor Curtis Leighton said.

"Flexible hours, human interaction and good pay" are all positives for working at the Writing Center, he said. Tutors start at the skilled rate of \$7.35 an hour.

Leighton has worked at the Writing Center for two years and will continue working there until he graduates.

Contact Lisa Schultz at lschultz@nd.edu

"Students would like to work in an office-type setting."

Joyce Yates
student employment coordinator

Aid

continued from page 1

dents could jump start the search before the semester by using the online Job Board and contacting prospective employers.

Russo made the distinction between federal work-study, a federal student aid program, and work-study, a term used loosely to describe working on campus that "may or may not be a federal work-study job."

"Whether you're work-study eligible or not, as opposed to just eligible to work, the federal government regulates," Russo said. "It's our role at the University to determine that eligibility."

Russo said that this evaluation

of work-study eligibility was made annually due to changes in university costs, the family's financial circumstances and the federal government's eligibility criteria.

A student who is not eligible for federal work-study funds is not impacted in terms of pay rate, opportunities or work hours, Russo said.

Although work-study is a federal program, Russo said that 100 percent of student paychecks come from Notre Dame.

"We can get part of that funding back from federal work-study funds," Russo said. "We count on those to fund student employment."

Russo said that if a student were not eligible to receive federal work-study funds, Notre Dame would pay the necessary amount

to meet 100 percent of the student's demonstrated need.

Stressing precaution with the statistics, Russo said that although \$23,000 is the average offer, financial aid ranges from \$50 to full cost and includes loans, federal grants, athletic aid and outside scholarships from organizations such as the Rotary Club.

Russo also said that the average amount of money made by undergraduates, regardless of financial aid status, is \$1,000. However, this number is the average of a wide range of possibilities, for example, students who work for a few weeks and quit and students who work 20 hours a week, he said.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

Support

continued from page 1

abroad saying that although they cannot participate, they think that this is a great offering to the student body, especially those with loved ones serving in Iraq, she said.

The goal of the group is to offer a warm, welcoming, safe and confidential environment, the directors said. By offering a sympathetic and confidential community, the group leaders hope that students will feel more comfortable coming to the group each Tuesday.

The conversation and ideas discussed each week are contingent

on the needs of the students who attend. The group is designed for support and will work with the needs of the individuals.

"It is an opportunity to know that this is part of their story here as students, and they are not alone," Fean said.

Contact Colleen Kieilty at ckieilt01@saintmarys.edu

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Wednesday, March 30th

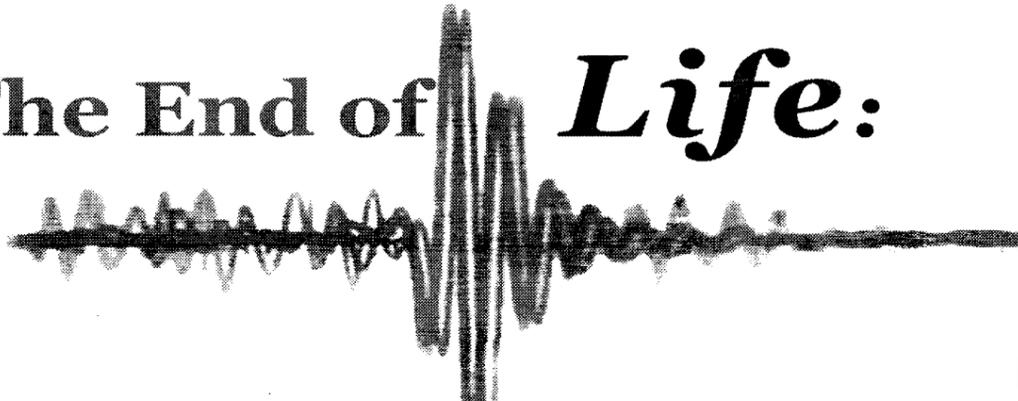
THEOLOGY ON TAP

PRESENTS

Dr. David Solomon, Ph.D

Professor, Dept. of Philosophy

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Campus Ministry

O.A.R.



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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	10,405.70	-79.95
Up: 1,061	Same: 136	Down: 2,236
Composite Volume		2,225,616,160

AMEX	1,436.63	-4.78
NASDAQ	1,973.88	-18.64
NYSE	7,070.53	-60.99
S&P 500	1,165.36	-8.92
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	11,596.65	-3.17
FTSE 100(London)	4,919.00	-3.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100TR SER I (QQQQ)	-0.80	-0.29	36.05
SUN MICROSYS INC (SUNW)	-1.16	-0.28	23.92
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.64	-0.15	23.15
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-0.78	-0.14	17.75
INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.49	+0.06	4.09

Treasury			
30-YEAR BOND	-0.53	-0.26	48.52
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.71	-0.33	45.91
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.86	-0.37	42.86
3-MONTH BILL	0.00	0.00	27.72

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	+0.18	54.23
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	0.00	428.60
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+2.50	97.65

Exchange Rates		
YEN		107.55
EURO		0.7735
POUND		0.5332
CANADIAN \$		1.2103

IN BRIEF

Verizon raises bid on, wins MCI

NEW YORK — Verizon has won the bidding for MCI Inc. a second time, agreeing to pay \$1 billion more for the long-distance telephone company, and yet still considerably less than a rival bid from Qwest.

Investors don't seem convinced Qwest Communications International Inc. will admit defeat, however. MCI's stock shot higher after the \$7.64 billion deal was announced, surpassing the \$23.50 price per share Verizon Communications Inc. has agreed to pay.

The new agreement increases the amount of cash MCI stockholders will receive for their shares while guaranteeing a minimum value for the Verizon shares that they'll get as the balance of the payment.

Qwest, the smallest of the nation's four big local phone companies, said it will reassess the situation, but reiterated its position that its offer of \$8.45 billion, or \$26 per share, is superior.

Court debates cable monopoly

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday questioned the tight control cable companies hold over high-speed Internet service in a case that will determine whether the industry must open up its lines to competitors.

More than 19 million homes have cable broadband service. The case turns on whether cable Internet access is an information service as the industry and the Federal Communications Commission say, or has a separate telecommunications component, as Internet service providers argue.

A federal appeals court set aside an FCC ruling that cable Internet service is solely an information service.

A lawyer for Brand X, a Santa Monica, Calif.-based Internet provider, asked the justices to allow competition, while the FCC sided with the cable industry, which argues that an unfavorable ruling will discourage investment and slow the spread of broadband.

Government should not allow cable companies to become self-regulating, a step that would turn the concept of opening up lines to competition "a dead letter," Brand X attorney Thomas Goldstein suggested.

JAPAN

Progress made in beef trade

Japan food panel complies to request for relaxed testing standards on U.S. cows

Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's food safety panel on Monday recommended the government stop testing cattle younger than 21 months for mad cow disease, a step toward making U.S. beef eligible for import after a 15-month ban.

Japan banned U.S. beef in December 2003 after the United States found its first mad cow case. Tokyo, seeking to soothe worries at home about a domestic mad cow outbreak, has refused to reopen its market to U.S. beef products until Washington adopted blanket testing for the disease.

However, the Food Safety Commission's scientific experts said research has shown that rogue proteins linked to the disease don't show up in tests on cattle younger than 21 months, and that easing the testing standards wouldn't put consumers at risk.

"We have concluded that the risk of excluding cows younger than 21 months old from inspections is negligible or extremely small," Yasuhiro Yoshikawa, who heads the scientific panel, told reporters.

Since discovering its first case of mad cow disease in 2001, Japan has tested every cow slaughtered as food for the bovine illness to reassure consumers jittery about food safety. Tokyo has found 16 animals with the disease, most recently a Holstein cow on Sunday.

Monday's panel ruling marked the first time Japanese experts have agreed with the assessment of U.S. scientists — a key step that allows Tokyo to begin debating standards for U.S. beef imports. However, the Japanese experts didn't discuss U.S. beef on Monday.

But the Japanese panel also acknowledged that not



Cattle from Darrel Sweet's Livermore, Calif., ranch are shown on Tuesday. California ranchers are affected by both Japanese and U.S. mad cow restrictions.

enough is known about the disease, formally called bovine spongiform encephalopathy, to rule out all risk.

Eating beef from an infected cow is thought to cause the fatal human variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

During her March 19 visit to Tokyo, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice pressed Japan to end the costly ban. Before the ban, Japan was American beef's most lucrative overseas market, estimated at \$1.7 billion a year.

Recently, Washington has

intensified pressure on some U.S. lawmakers, with threatening possible sanctions if the ban isn't lifted soon.

U.S. officials called Monday's development a step in the right direction, but said Japanese officials should hasten the process.

"It's a very small step. But we still think the Japanese process is going far too slow, and it's unnecessarily cumbersome. We would like to see it accelerated," said J.B. Penn, undersecretary of the Agriculture Department's Foreign

Agriculture Service.

The two sides tentatively agreed in October to restart imports of U.S. beef products from young cows considered less at risk for the disease, but discussions stalled over how to confirm the age of cattle.

Washington then proposed that Tokyo relax testing standards as a first step toward dropping its ban on American beef.

For months, Japan rejected the proposal and insisted that the United States abide by the same testing restrictions for Japanese beef.

'No Late Fees' causes confusion

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Blockbuster Inc. has agreed to make refunds to customers — and pay an additional \$630,000 — to settle allegations the nation's biggest movie rental chain deceived people with its "No Late Fees" campaign.

The agreement was announced Tuesday between Blockbuster and 47 states and the District of Columbia.

Many customers were angry to discover that despite the "No Late Fees" policy, if they were eight days late with a movie or a game, they owed it; their credit card accounts were automatically billed for the purchase price. If they then tried to return it, they were refunded the purchase

price but were charged a \$1.25 restocking fee.

Under the settlement, Dallas-based Blockbuster must make refunds to customers who claim the campaign misled them into thinking they could keep the video or DVD for as long as they liked.

Also, Blockbuster agreed to pay the states about \$630,000 to reimburse them for the costs of their investigations into consumer complaints.

In addition, the rental chain will have change its advertising to ease any confusion.

Blockbuster spokesman Randy Hargrove said that the cost of refunding the consumers is expected to be small, because fewer than 4 percent of Blockbuster customers kept the

video or DVD beyond the seven-day window. Customers who feel they were misled must fill out a form available at Blockbuster stores.

Blockbuster spokeswoman Karen Raskopf said that the "no late fees" program will continue but that signs will be added to stores to better explain the fine print.

"We think our clear communications were very clear, but we're happy to do whatever we can to add additional communication to better inform our customers," she said.

Blockbuster launched the no-late-fees program at its 4,600 U.S. stores on Jan. 1. The states that were not part of the settlement are New Jersey, which is pursuing a separate lawsuit, Vermont and New Hampshire.

Dillon

continued from page 1

Dillon."

Once the power-washing is complete, workers will start the time-consuming process of putting in new mortar in where they found and removed loose mortar, Doyle said. Dillon will also be equipped with new windows over the summer, with windows scheduled to arrive May 16.

"They'll just take out the current windows which are in very, very bad shape," Doyle said.

Alumni Hall received new windows last summer, and, according to Doyle, it was a stretch to finish in those few months.

"It was a photo finish getting Alumni done, so they knew they couldn't get it [Dillon] done in the window between graduation and [freshmen orientation]," Doyle said. "Alumni should have been done first because it's the first one you see when you come onto campus."

Doyle said that Dillon "is a significantly bigger building" and the University wanted to ensure that all of the work was done properly and finished for the fall. Last year, due to discoloration of window frames due to power-washing, a few windows had to be replaced on

Alumni at the last minute, Doyle said.

"The University learned from the experience last summer to stay well ahead of the power-washing," Doyle said.

During the summer months, the dorm's six large bathrooms, two on each floor, will be completely redone.

"The plumbing is old; it works, but there are problems from time to time. New porcelain will come in and new pipes will be put in the wall," Doyle said. "That's a major outlay. Obviously the dorm is not going to be used this summer for high school sports camps and such."

A washer and dryer room will also be put in the basement of Dillon, Doyle said.

Though the process is a long one, Doyle said that the men of Dillon, as well as the rest of the campus community, have been understanding.

"Not one student has complained about this, which is a real credit to them. They understand where we're headed," Doyle said. "Maybe some people feel put out, but nothing has come to the [resident assistants] or me."

Doyle has worked with the construction crews to make the whole situation more accommodating for students. For example, the crews begin work each day at around 9 a.m., as opposed to 7 a.m. as they would with other projects.

"Workers are trying to keep the major inconveniences at a minimum," Doyle said. "They come in and ask for input from me once every 3 or 4 days."

The largest issue with the work on Dillon thus far has been the noise caused by the power-washing.

"There certainly has been noise during the day but I think people are just putting it up with it during the day. They know it is for a good reason because it will be really nice in the end," said Brian Hammel, assistant rector of Dillon.

Some students have found the noise disturbing amidst attempts to study, sleep and live in the rooms.

"They've been working on the windows for about a month now, they're like power-washing all of them to try to make them look a little better, but I haven't really noticed a difference and it's really loud and annoying, especially when they start work at like 8:30 outside my window," freshman Scott Hagan said.

Many students, however, recognize that the final product will be a positive addition to Dillon.

"They have a lot of work to do still this summer, and Dillon definitely needs new windows, so I can appreciate it. It would be a much bigger pain if they still had to replace the windows when we got back next fall," freshman Tyler Elson said. "It's a bit of noise, but we could all stand to get an earlier start to our day anyway."

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

IRAQ

New parliament faces stormy beginnings

Lawmakers argue, fail to choose speaker

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — They argued. They wrangled. They pulled the plug on the live TV feed and kicked out reporters. And some of them later walked out themselves.

The second meeting ever of Iraq's parliament was its stormiest — as lawmakers failed Tuesday to choose a speaker in an impasse that exposed tensions among Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds.

The turmoil in the National Assembly, two months after landmark elections, raised concerns about Iraq's efforts to build a new government.

Some politicians argued the delay could force them to request a six-month extension to the Aug. 15 deadline for drafting a permanent constitution — a vital step in organizing the next round of elections. "I think the time won't be enough. We might need an extension," said Ali al-Dabagh, a member of the Shiite-led United Iraqi Alliance.

The Sunni Arab minority — dominant under former dictator Saddam Hussein and believed to be the back-

bone of the insurgency — was given until Sunday to come up with a candidate to serve as speaker of the 275-seat parliament.

The United Iraqi Alliance and the Kurdish coalition want a Sunni Arab to hold the position as a way of healing rifts with the Sunnis, many of whom boycotted the Jan. 30 elections or simply feared attacks at the polls.

"We saw that things were confused today, so we gave [the Sunnis] a last chance," said Hussein al-Sadr, a Shiite cleric and member of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's coalition. "We expect the Sunni Arab brothers to nominate their candidate. Otherwise, we will vote on a candidate on Sunday."

More meetings were scheduled for this week. "There's a consensus that the talks should continue tonight and in the coming days so that Sunday's session will be better," Alliance negotiator Abdul Karim al-Anzi said.

Iraqis, already frustrated with drawn-out negotiations, were angered by the meeting.

Notre Dame Law School



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March 31, 2005

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

McKenna Hall Auditorium

The Commission will discuss the problem of sexual assault in prisons.

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Notre Dame Journal of Legislation

Symposium on the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003

Law School Courtroom

Commission's WMD report to criticize U.S. agencies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush's commission on weapons of mass destruction will castigate U.S. intelligence agencies for their continued failure to share information after numerous reforms aimed at improving coordination, federal officials said Tuesday.

One official familiar with the commission's workings, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the report also goes into great detail on why prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons programs turned out to be flawed. The report is scheduled to be released

Thursday.

The report examines factors that might have led to errors, the official said, such as whether policy-makers were seeking preconceived conclusions, whether foreign intelligence agencies had reached similar conclusions and whether analysts had little information to work with.

The panel considered a range of intelligence issues going beyond Iraq, including congressional oversight, satellite imagery and electronic snooping. Among numerous soft spots, officials familiar with the findings say "human intelligence" — the work

of actual operatives on the ground — is lacking.

In the three years since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the U.S. intelligence apparatus has been revamped. At Congress' direction, the government is establishing a new intelligence chief — a director of national intelligence — and new centers to focus on counterterrorism and counterproliferation.

Yet the nine-member panel has found that there's more to be done to improve the coordination among the 15 agencies that comprise the intelligence community. The commission will blame

enduring cultures at each agency for driving decisions to prevent intelligence sharing among them, according to U.S. officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A lesson learned from the report is that the information belongs to the entire government, not one agency, the officials said. That will require people — not just better technologies — to find improved methods of sharing and coordination.

The report will stress the importance of management and leadership, officials said, as well as a renewed emphasis on questioning assumptions in intelli-

gence analysis. Even before the report, intelligence analysts were faulted for rejecting information that contradicted presumptions that Iraq had active weapons of mass destruction programs before the 2003 invasion.

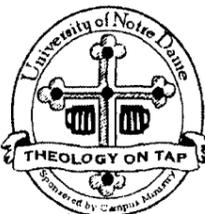
The report took more than a year of work, and the White House has taken pains to signal it is taking the panel's findings seriously.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Bush would discuss the report with Cabinet members on Thursday, immediately after the president meets with the full commission.

FAITHPOINT

Wednesday, March 30

What's up?

Today, 3/30 *Eucharistic Adoration (every week day, 12-7 PM, COMO Chapel) *Four:7 (10-11 PM COMO Lounge) *Theology on Tap (see right) *Sant'Egidio Prayer Community (5:30 PM, Log Chapel)		 Theology on Tap Wednesday, 10 PM Legends "Mercy Killings & Medical Ethics"		"What's the Future of This Relationship?" Reflection Sunday, 2-5 PM 330 COMO	
Thursday *Taize Prayer Service (7-8 PM, 330 COMO)	Friday *Nothing scheduled	Saturday *Vigil Mass (5 PM Basilica)	Sunday *"What's the Future of This Relationship?" (see above) *10 AM Mass (Basilica) *11:45 PM Mass (Basilica) *Law School Mass (5 PM, Law School Chapel) *MBA Mass (7 PM, Mendoza Faculty Lounge) *Rejoice Mass! (9 PM, COMO Chapel)	Monday *Nothing scheduled	Tuesday *Bible Study with Fr. Frank Zagorc (7:30-9:30 PM, 316 COMO)

Phone 1-7800 Web campusministry.nd.edu	Main Office 319 CoMo Retreats Office 114 CoMo	
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LIVE IT!!!

Campus Ministry welcomes next year's interns. Brian, Christina, and Lauren will be joining the Campus Ministry staff for the 2004-2005 school year.



Brian Vassal
 RA, Knott Hall
 Major: Theology and English



Christina Bax
 RA, Walsh Hall
 Major: Theology with a minor in Education, Schooling and Society



Lauren Prieto
 RA, Pasquerilla West
 Major: Management and Music with a minor in Liturgical Music

Lead Kindly Light: Prayers from the Campus Ministry Prayer Book

God of life,
ground of our faith,
With Jesus you have raised us up
in the waters of baptism
and given us life that endures.
Day by day refine our faith,
and remove every trace of unbelief,
that we may confess Jesus
as our Lord and God,
and share more fully in his risen life. Amen.

- A Prayer for the Easter Season

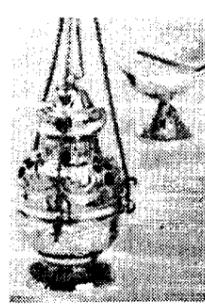
<u>Sunday</u> <u>Scriptures</u>	<u>Second</u> <u>Sunday of</u> <u>Easter</u>	<u>1st</u> Acts 2: 42-47	<u>2nd</u> 1 Peter 1:3-9	<u>Gospel</u> John 20:19-31
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Many Catholics and non-Catholics alike associate the use of incense (from Latin, "to burn") with the Catholic liturgy. When showing a Catholic liturgy, popular movies seemingly love to include a priest or altar server swinging the thurible, a censer attached to a long chain, with smoke billowing from it. But why do we use it?

The use of incense developed to serve a couple of different purposes in the

Catholic Q&A

Why Do Catholics Use Incense?



were not as developed as today. In the Holy Scriptures, we see incense mentioned in a variety of places. First, it shows up at the Nativity, as one of the gifts of the Magi. (And frankincense is still the main component of modern incense.) In Revelation, we hear of an angel "holding a gold censer. He was given a great quantity of incense to offer, along with the prayers of all the holy ones.... The smoke of the incense along with the prayers of the holy ones went up before God from the hand of the angel" (Rev 8:3-4, NAB).

Returning to its use in the Mass, incense is used to show honor and reverence to holy things: the book of the Gospels, the altar (and the gifts thereon), the crucifix, and (especially during Easter) the Pascal Candle. The priest and those of us present in the congregation are also censured during some liturgies, as we too are holy!

Send your questions to Perkins.26@nd.edu

Catholic schools' enrollment drops

Officials look for ways to stop decline

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Enrollment in Roman Catholic schools dipped again this school year, continuing a trend that has seen the student population drop from 2.6 million in 2000 to 2.4 million in 2004-05, according to the National Catholic Education Association.

The association, meeting in Philadelphia this week, said in a new report that national enrollment decreased 2.6 percent from the 2003-04 school year to 2004-05, as 173 schools closed or consolidated and 37 new schools opened.

"Sustaining [the schools] has been a struggle, but in the last four or five years it has become a very difficult struggle,"

Michael J. Guerra said Tuesday. "We don't want to lose these folks. We don't want to serve only those who can afford the bill."

Cost has been a significant factor in the enrollment drop, Guerra said. A top American official in the Vatican, Archbishop John P. Foley, told the conference that not enough Catholics who can afford to donate money to the schools are doing so.

"I have personally observed that as Catholics have become relatively more prosperous, they have become proportionately less generous," Foley said. "We must, must, must find ways to

finance an affordable, quality Catholic education for every child."

The average cost of tuition for ninth grade at Catholic schools was \$5,870 in 2003-04, a 37 percent increase from five years earlier, according to NCEA figures.

NCEA spokeswoman Barbara Keebler said the group does not believe fallout from the clergy

sex abuse crisis of the past several years has played any role in the enrollment decline.

While schools are being closed in Chicago, Boston, Brooklyn and St. Louis, more than one-third of the nation's 7,799 Catholic schools reported having waiting lists, the NCEA said. Schools are being opened

in Atlanta, Minneapolis and Austin, Texas.

Some businesses and charitable organizations also are trying to help make Catholic education more affordable for low- to moderate-income families.

Gregory P. Ciminera, executive director of Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools, said his group has helped raised \$5 million for schools in the Philadelphia region in the past year, with most of the money going to families for tuition subsidies.

"Because other funding is drying up," he said, "businesses are going to have to step up."

"I have personally observed that as Catholics have become relatively more prosperous, they have become proportionately less generous. We must, must, must find ways to finance an affordable, quality Catholic education for every child."

John Foley
archbishop

Science doesn't trump miracles

ND Protestant philosopher makes intellectual room for miracles

Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — In a scientific era, is it still possible to believe in God and such events as the Easter miracle of Jesus' resurrection from the grave?

Can a rational person see God as both all-powerful and benevolent despite horrendous suffering in disasters like the Asian tsunami?

From the perspective of philosopher Alvin Plantinga the answers are emphatic: yes and yes.

A Protestant professor at the University of Notre Dame, Plantinga applies modern analytic philosophy to the age-old questions about God and the universe. While he's little known outside his specialty, an assessment in Christianity Today magazine called him not just the best Christian philosopher of his time ... [but] the most important philosopher of any stripe.

Even atheist opponents recognize his importance. William Rowe of Purdue University and Michael Tooley of the University of Colorado — who is co-authoring a book with Plantinga — each consider him among the top two or three defenders of traditional belief in God.

A tongue-in-cheek lexicon edited by skeptic Daniel Dennett also handed Plantinga a couple of backhanded compliments, defining "planting" as "to use 20th century fertilizer to encourage new shoots from 11th century ideas which everyone thought had gone to seed." Meanwhile to "alvinize" something is "to stimulate protracted discussion by making a

bizarre claim."

Plantinga's best work is clear but hardly popular fare; it's filled with modal logic and letter formulas that summarize the steps in his rigorous arguments.

It may seem odd, but modern philosophy ponders how we know things like this: that other people exist with thoughts and feelings like our own; that material objects we observe are real; that the world existed more than five minutes ago; that the future will resemble the past or that we can rely upon our minds.

Plantinga argues that common sense and science know that such things are true — and that they employ personal sympathy, memory, perception and intuition in the process. Applying complex formulas, Plantinga asserts that belief in God is equally reasonable.

It's heavy stuff, but the philosopher tries to lighten the mood as much as he can.

He imagines Henry Kissinger swimming across the Atlantic in one text, a possible world where Raquel Welch is mousy and others where there never was a Raquel Welch. The actress, he notes, "enjoys very little greatness in those worlds in which she does not exist."

Plantinga's Roman Catholic campus, which decades ago hired no Protestant philosophers, provides congenial surroundings for his work. Notre Dame boasts the nation's largest philosophy faculty, and scholars surveyed by PhilosophicalGourmet.com rate it first in the English-speaking world for graduate study in the philosophy of religion. Plantinga long led its graduate

center in that field.

Chatting about faith's perennial puzzles, the bearded philosopher turns out to be a cheerful, plainspoken and seemingly ordinary Midwesterner. At age 72, he still takes an hour most days for a workout to keep his wiry 6-foot-2 frame in shape for his chief avocation, rock climbing.

Back in 1951, Plantinga was a Harvard University scholarship student surrounded by scoffers when one evening he experienced a "persuasion and conviction that the Lord was really there and was all I had thought."

Shortly thereafter, he transferred to Michigan's faith-affirming Calvin College, affiliated with his lifelong denomination, the Christian Reformed Church. "As good a decision as I've ever made," he says. He then did graduate work at Michigan and Yale and taught at Calvin before moving to Notre Dame in 1982.

In his student days "everybody was predicting and giving lots of learned reasons for Christianity just dying out."

"Christianity didn't have any future in the academy," he said, recalling what he himself felt at the time. "It seemed the thing to think."

But now, "in philosophy, at least, Christianity is doing vastly better than it did 40 or 50 years ago and that's probably true in academia in general." One index: In 1978, Plantinga and five colleagues founded the Society of Christian Philosophers. Today it's an 1,100-member subgroup of the American Philosophical Association that publishes a respected quarterly.

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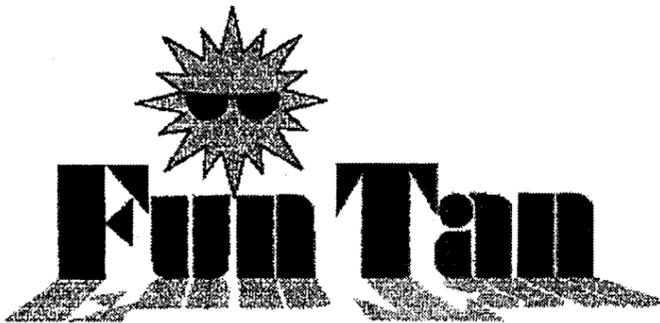
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Sex and Ivy League isn't an oxymoron

'Chloe Does Yale' depicts confused college girl trying to balance ambition with having fun

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — They soon will be doctors or diplomats, but right now they're hopped up on hormones and cheap beer and on the prowl for a temporary mate. Sex and the Ivy League. It's no different from sex on any college campus, says Natalie Krinsky, a 22-year-old Yale University graduate whose recent novel, "Chloe Does Yale," invites readers along for drunken hookups, naked parties and sex toy shopping.

Krinsky should know. As an undergraduate, she wrote a popular sex column for the student-run Yale Daily News and showed that even the super smart can be downright clueless when it comes to the opposite sex.

Sure, the SATs were a snap, but why isn't he calling you back after your date? Your computer algorithms are flawless, but how do you hide after a dance floor encounter was a bit too exciting? These are the questions at the

heart of "Chloe Does Yale." The plot and conflict are almost nonexistent. It's just a confused college girl and her friends moving from one mini-crisis to the next. The setting is the star.

"The allure is Yale," Krinsky said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "Yale and Harvard and Princeton as institutions are very much revered as serious centers of academia, which they are. But there's also the other side. And it's exciting and fun to see that other side."

Baring that other side is sure to get noticed. Harvard University drew international attention when its students launched a sex magazine, H Bomb, last year. And the mere suggestion that President Bush's daughter, Barbara, may have

attended a Yale naked party was enough to garner national media attention and an a \$1 million reward for evidence by Hustler publisher Larry Flynt.

"It's a combination of the interest in these bastions of American privilege and the taboo nature of sex," said Elizabeth Ehrenberg, a senior at Vassar College, where she is community relations

director for the periodical Squire: The Art of Campus Sex.

Krinsky's book has received mixed reviews, at best, from outright slams to just OK. And as of Tuesday, the book was only ranked 3,565 on Amazon.com. However, the Yale Bookstore reported that the novel was a strong seller on campus, with

160 copies selling since Krinsky came to speak there in February.

"Most people seem to think it's pretty thinly veiled nonfiction," Jessica Feinstein, features editor for the Yale Daily News, said. People knew from reading Krinsky's column what to expect from the book and weren't surprised by its contents, she said. "A lot of the shocking details — people are over it."

Chloe, Krinsky's alter-ego, is a sex columnist who bumbles through relationships with all the panache expected of a college undergraduate. She's definitely an overachiever (she consoles herself with a copy of "Anna Karenina"), but like the rest of her peers, she's trying to balance that drive to succeed with her drive to have fun.

"I don't think they have to be mutually exclusive," said Krinsky, who now lives in New York. "You can still have a great, fun exciting youth. Look at our current and our past presidents."

"It's a combination of the interest in these bastions of American privilege and the taboo nature of sex."

Elizabeth Ehrenberg
Vassar College student

Lisa Marie dishes on ex-husband Jackson

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lisa Marie Presley aired her "dirty laundry" on "Oprah."

In the first of a two-part interview on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" to promote her new album, Presley spoke Monday about her brief marriage to Michael Jackson, who is on trial in Santa Maria, Calif., on child molestation charges.

She told Winfrey that her marriage to Jackson, which lasted from 1994 to 1996, was real.

"Do you think that he loved you as much as he could?" the talk-show host asked.

"Yes, as much as he was capable of loving somebody," Presley replied. (They famously opened the 1994 MTV Video Music Awards by exchanging a long kiss.)

In a "PrimeTime Live" interview with the couple in 1995, Presley told ABC's Diane Sawyer that anyone who questioned their relationship could "Eat it!"

When Winfrey asked if she felt that Jackson had used her, Presley replied, "All signs point to 'yes' on that. I can't answer for him."

Presley, the daughter of Elvis, claimed she was uncomfortable talking about Jackson, at one point exclaiming: "This seat is hot!"

The 37-year-old singer made similar comments about her former husband while promoting her 2003 debut album, describing the relationship to The Associated Press as more "toxic" than her other relationships.

Then, she told the AP: "I don't want to bash him. I don't hate him, I don't have any of that going on."

The Hudson Highland Center for High Performance recently completed the largest and most in-depth global study ever done of the factors that accelerate or stifle high performance. The alarming conclusion: only 10 percent of knowledge workers are part of a high-performing workgroup, one that makes money for the company and is creating a new product or service.

Contagious Success reveals Susan Lucia Annunzio's proven strategies for identifying, nurturing, and replicating business units that are already high performing, and argues for the opposite strategy: Focus on the groups that are doing the best work in the organization, learn their secrets, and help spread their expertise to the average groups. Annunzio focuses on groups, not individuals, because even a great individual can't succeed in a weak environment. By using the high-performing groups to improve just the top 20 percent of the average performers—what Annunzio calls "moving the middle", a company can achieve dramatic and sustainable growth in revenue.

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Matrix reaches new online virtual reality

Associated Press

You've watched the movies. Now you can jack in and play it — no cranial implants required.

After months of testing and two years since the sequels, the persistent virtual reality of "The Matrix Online" is available for U.S. gamers.

A brief reintroduction for those still scratching their heads after "The Matrix Revolutions": When we last saw Neo, aka The One, he made a truce with the evil machines and saved the last bastion of humanity in the underground city of Zion.

A revised Matrix was formed after the renegade, replicating Agent Smith was defeated, and we saw the machines carting off Neo's corpse to points unknown. Did he die? And what about all those people still unwittingly serving as batteries for the machines?

That's just part of the murky mystery in "The Matrix Online," where players can choose to ally with the Machines, the Exiles or residents of Zion for control of the new system.

"Nobody is sure how long this truce will last. The theme for the first year is peace and the things people will do to screw it up," said writer Paul Chadwick, who was chosen by "Matrix" creators Larry and Andy Wachowski to keep the game's story moving forward.

There are "red pills," humans who can freely enter the Matrix with some limits, while the remaining "blue pills" still have no idea they've been duped into living in a simulated world.

Writing the story for such a never-ending online game where hundreds can gather at once was among the biggest challenges, said Chadwick, creator of the Concrete comics in which a man's brain is transplanted

into a hulking stone body by aliens.

"You can't really hold everybody's attention on the same spot at the same time, so you've got to spray story at them from four different directions," he said. "I think I finally got the hang of that. There will be story happening all over the place."

Many key characters from the films make a return, including Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and Merovingian (Lambert Wilson).

The movies were a dystopian vision of the future, and that certainly continues in the video game version.

The kung fu combat and gravity-defying battles take place in the same steel-gray world of towering skyscrapers and urban grit called MegaCity.

It's not all dreariness, though — there are plenty of opportunities for aspiring fashion designers, says lead game designer Toby Ragaini.

Once you enter the Matrix, players can fully customize their characters, selecting gender, hair style, body shape, tattoos and clothing. Lots and lots of clothing.

There's gothic garb galore, with snake skin body suits, reflective sunglasses, hats — and the trademark black trench coats.

"One thing we can offer is a sense of cool," Chadwick said.

Another game in the so-called "massively multiplayer" genre, "City of Heroes," takes place in a city full of superheroes, but most are sword and sorcery epics filled with dungeons and dragons.

Like its competitors, "The Matrix Online" is PC only, costing \$50 plus a \$15 monthly subscription fee.

Ragaini said "The Matrix Online" should appeal to "people who are never going to be interested in dwarfs and orcs. It's a contemporary urban fantasy."

"You can't really hold everybody's attention on the same spot at the same time, so you've got to spray story at them from four different directions."

Paul Chadwick
writer

CBS's Schieffer brings new style

Evening news anchorman uses conversational approach to stories

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Three weeks into his new job as anchorman of the "CBS Evening News," Bob Schieffer's folksy, conversational approach to stories has added a new wrinkle to a format that is among the most ritualized in TV news.

Far more than competitors Brian Williams and Peter Jennings, Schieffer engages his correspondents in on-air conversations about their stories.

"In recent years I've come to think that the best way to do a newscast is the way reporters talk to each other in the newsroom," said Schieffer, who became the interim anchor March 10 after Dan Rather stepped down.

There's no immediate evidence that the changes have paid off in the ratings for CBS, which continues to run a distant third behind NBC and

ABC for the evening news.

Schieffer introduced Barry Petersen's report about the Indonesian earthquake on Monday's broadcast by saying, "These poor people. What's going to happen now? They've just been through one and now this one."

Later, talking with reporter Mark Strassman at the vigil for Terri Schiavo, he said: "This family has been at each other for so long, do you think they'll come together for the burial service?"

Schieffer's questions are often only of the "what's going on?" variety. But, he said, that's how people talk to one another.

"If you're writing a story about a five-alarm fire next door, you'd say something like, 'a roaring five-alarm fire driven by 40 mile-per-hour winds burned its way through a building.' That's how it would read in a newspaper," he said.

"That's fine. You're putting all the facts up where people can absorb it. If you walked into the newsroom, the first thing you'd say is, 'there's this big fire next door. Have you heard about it?'"

When Schieffer asked Byron Pitts, stationed in Baghdad, about what it felt like to be there, Pitts responded by saying he prayed before leaving his room each morning and prayed again when he got back safely.

That's far more memorable than giving the day's casualty report, he said.

There are still growing pains, since some correspondents are plainly more comfortable with the off-the-cuff conversations than others.

"I wanted a show that fit what he does best," executive producer Jim Murphy said of Schieffer, a courtly Texan used to cutting through rhetoric on "Face the Nation" each week.



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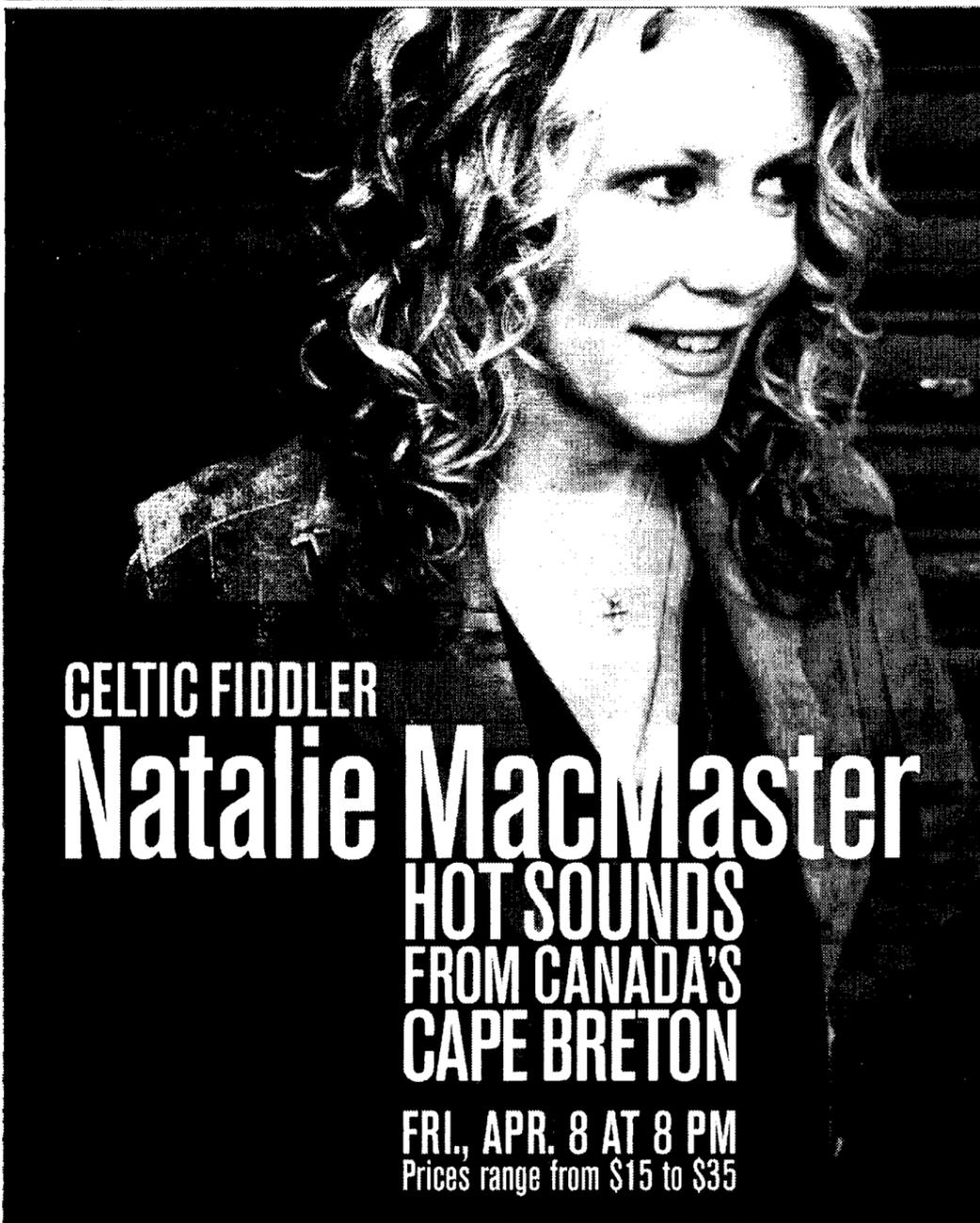
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Inject potency into American protests

In recent decades, protests as a form of political expression in America have become ineffectual, impotent social gatherings. The typical modern demonstration musters crowds in a police-permitted area to listen to speeches they already agree with, sing the usual protest hymns and perhaps march down the sidewalk — sure not to bother traffic. And for protests at Notre Dame, add or substitute a prayer vigil and a candlelight march. While these events are valuable at times in rallying activists, they have overwhelmingly become spineless, trivial vehicles for true political and social change.

Last week, I found myself in the middle of Uganda's first non-repressed opposition protest in twenty years. I have been to my share of demonstrations in recent years, but this one had a very different feel from the typical American rally. To begin, the hundreds of people that gathered at Central Risk Square faced the very real risk of being repressed, imprisoned and even shot by police. In recent history, the police have shot at crowds gathered to protest against the Ugandan government.

The demonstration Thursday was organized by the Popular Resistance Against Life Presidency, a youth coalition of the different opposition groups here working to stop a constitutional amendment bill that will repeal presidential term limits. Posters at the rally read, "Time out for Dictator in Africa" and "We are fighting for a transparent, non-corrupt government, No to Third Term." One I found particularly interesting read, "Bush, why are you quiet?"

The rally began with speeches at the square, followed by a march to the Parliament down the main roads of Kampala, blocking traffic for almost an hour. The hundreds marched, danced and sang in the streets, while many bystanders on the sidewalk cheered. They marched to Parliament, where they were greeted by a number of parliamentarians from opposition parties.

At the rally, the passion and zeal of the participants was palpable. Their very presence at the protest in such a repressive political climate is a testament to their willingness to sacrifice for their beliefs. One protestor told me they were not afraid of the police. One organizer of the rally whom I interviewed told me, "We have a program of two years to change this government democratically, but if they repress us, we will lose patience and we will be forced to storm Parliament and stage a revolution."

Witnessing this event, I was inspired by the courage of the protestors. By taking to the streets, they were sending a clear, loud message to the political establishment that their demands could not be ignored. And those holding power and even the general public, witnessing the individual sacrifices of the action, cannot disregard such resolve.

The difference between the typical modern American protest and those happening in poor repressive nations throughout the world is that the latter requires individual sacrifice. From Zimbabwe to Cambodia to Burma to China, patriots are risking their own lives, daring to face the barrel of the gun as they stand for liberty, freedom and justice. This is not to praise those nations, but to praise the activists who dare to defy in such repressive cultures. In the United States and many other richer nations, it has become too easy to protest. Consequently, the efficacy of protests has become paltry.

Throughout the history of United States, effectual protests have played a critical role, dating back to the days of the American Revolution when a few brave Bostonians dared to throw tea over a ship. That history runs through movements for women's suffrage, workers' rights, civil rights and more. In each of these movements that we now celebrate, protest actions played such an important role.

Yet today, when more than five hundred thousand in the United States and ten million people throughout the world took to the streets on February

15, 2003 to protest against the Iraq war, President Bush was easily able to dismiss the gatherings as a "focus group." While it is great that America has become a less repressive political atmosphere that allows protests, a major casualty has been that protests have become trivial in our times.

Activists have failed to intelligently adapt and organize demonstrations to challenge power structures. Even more, concerned citizens have lacked the courage to take risks for their convictions. As result, politicians and the elite have been able to act manipulatively and coercively under the cloak of an open political space. Which is worse: an environment that allows political expression but does not take it seriously, or an environment that simply suppresses political action?

Of course, the latter is worse because people die for holding signs or wearing shirts, but the question challenges us to reevaluate the role of protests as a tool of real political action in our nation. If we are serious about changing problems that exist, we have to be serious about the actions we take to challenge them and the systems that entrench them.

This can even begin at Notre Dame, where activist groups have become far too content with prayer vigils or filling South Quad with crosses. In the late 1960s, students took over the administration building, blocked traffic and took other acts of civil disobedience for their convictions. Why can such high-risk high-sacrifice actions not happen today? They must if we are to see real change.

Peter Quaranto is a junior political science and international peace studies major. He writes from Kampala, Uganda, where he is studying development studies this semester at Makerere University. Read his running commentary from Uganda at www.peterquaranto.blogspot.com. Contact Peter at pquarant@nd.edu

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

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Everything has been figured out, except how to live."

Jean-Paul Sartre
French novelist

Far from original, but still entertaining

By COURTNEY WILSON
Scene Writer

Simon Green, played by Ashton Kutcher, and his girlfriend Theresa Jones, played by Zoe Saldana, are lovebirds who plan to announce their engagement on the same weekend Theresa's parents will host a celebration to renew their own vows. The dilemma begins with Theresa's failure to mention to her parents that her new boyfriend is not of African descent, as she and her family are.

When Theresa's father, a bank loan officer, pulls up Simon's credit report, he is initially impressed by the prospect's qualifications. After meeting him in person, however, his attention quickly turns to an entirely different focus. Simon is white — very white — and Theresa comes from an upper-middle-class black family. Under the circumstances, Simon cannot help but feel intimidated by the presumptuous personality of his soon-to-be father-in-law.

To make matters worse, Simon has just quit his job. For the sake of impressing Theresa's parents, he deals with the uncomfortable task of concealing this secret till the end of the weekend.

If this plot sounds at all familiar, it might be because "Guess Who," was intended to be a satiric version of the

original classic "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," starring Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn. Keep in mind, however, that a reverse story line and comedic plot makes it much different from the first.

Hoping for more laughs, the movie depends heavily on the comical personalities of Bernie Mac and Ashton Kutcher. Mac plays the part of Percy Jones, the disenchanted father previously played by Spencer Tracy, while Kutcher accordingly plays Sidney Poitier's role as the distrusted boyfriend.

Dynamic duo Mac and Kutcher seem like they are essentially playing themselves in this movie. Like most of his roles, Mac plays the sarcastic and outwardly unfriendly man who is actually just a big cuddly teddy bear on the inside. And Kutcher does a great job at playing the silly and amusing man we all know from his appearances on "That 70s Show" and "Punk'd."

It is obvious that the film is carried almost entirely by the chemistry between the two stars; in fact, the best scenes in the movie feature witty back and forth taunting games and disagreements between the pair. When they attempt to outdo each

other in a series of activities, including go-cart racing and tango dancing, their collaboration is very humorous. Fans of either actor will absolutely love the two together.

Guess Who



Director: Kevin Sullivan
Writers: David Ronn and Jay Scherick
Starring: Bernie Mac, Ashton Kutcher, Zoë Saldana and Judith Scott



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Ashton Kutcher, left, plays a boyfriend continually trying to impress his girlfriend's overprotective and suspicious father, played by Bernie Mac.

While the movie jokes a lot about interracial dating, it also prompts viewers to recognize that prejudice and stereotypes are still relevant today. One scene in particular involves Kutcher — after much instigation from Mac — telling a series of derogatory black jokes in front of the entire family. Overall, the race talk is light and presented in an appropriate viewer-friendly manner. One should not find the subject overwhelming.

Simon's overbearing desire to impress his girlfriend's father, however, makes the movie appear to be more reminiscent of "Meet the Parents" than any other previous film. In a series of

lies concocted by the character, Simon finds himself in a series of slippery situations involving his employment and athletic capabilities. Likewise, Percy acts as the arrogant and overprotective father, also familiar to "Meet the Parents."

Although the movie is actually quite similar to many movies before it, it still maintains an individual kind of comedic appeal. But be forewarned to not go in expecting an Oscar-winning performance found in the original version of "Guess Who."

Contact Courtney Wilson at cwilson6@nd.edu

'The Incredibles' DVD lives up to its name

By EMILY IAROCCHI
Scene Writer

Ever imagined what it would be like to be part of a Super Hero family? Many people certainly did as a child, and it is quite obvious that "The Incredibles" writer/director Brad Bird did as well.

Pixar has done it again. "The Incredibles" is amazing.

"The Incredibles" depicts Bird's version of the attempted "normal" life of the Parr family, all of whom possess superpowers. Bird's writing/direction, along with several readily identifiable character voices including Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson and Jason Lee created a memorable animated picture, praised by children and adults alike.

Pre-marriage, Helen and Bob Parr worked as superheroes. Helen was known as Elastigirl because she was capable of stretching and contorting her body in all kinds of directions and shapes. Bob was Mr. Incredible, his extraordinary strength allowed him to do just about anything, including jump from building to building, slam through

walls and much more.

The two superheroes got married and shortly afterward were forced to go into hiding. Lawsuits against the superheroes were brought to court, and all of the "Supers" were forced to go into hiding and to suppress their natural inclinations to fight crime. Helen and Bob then started a family and had three superhero children.

Violet, the oldest child, has the power to become invisible and also to create protective force fields. Dash, the troublemaking middle child, has superhuman speed. The baby, Jack Jack, does not have any obvious powers until the end of the movie.

Shortly after the introduction of the family, Bob (Craig T. Nelson) is fired from his job and is recruited to complete a secret superhero mission. His nostalgia for the old "Glory Days," as he calls them, compels him to take the secret mission. He lies to Helen (Holly Hunter) about the mission to hide his involvement in this superhero activity from his protective wife.

Helen begins to get suspicious about his behavior and is afraid that he is having an affair. She eventually discovers that he had left for a mission, locates his whereabouts and sets off to find him.

The children, minus Jack Jack, stow away in Helen's transportation and the three find themselves caught in the middle of a sticky situation. They find that they must save Bob from Syndrome (Jason Lee). Syndrome

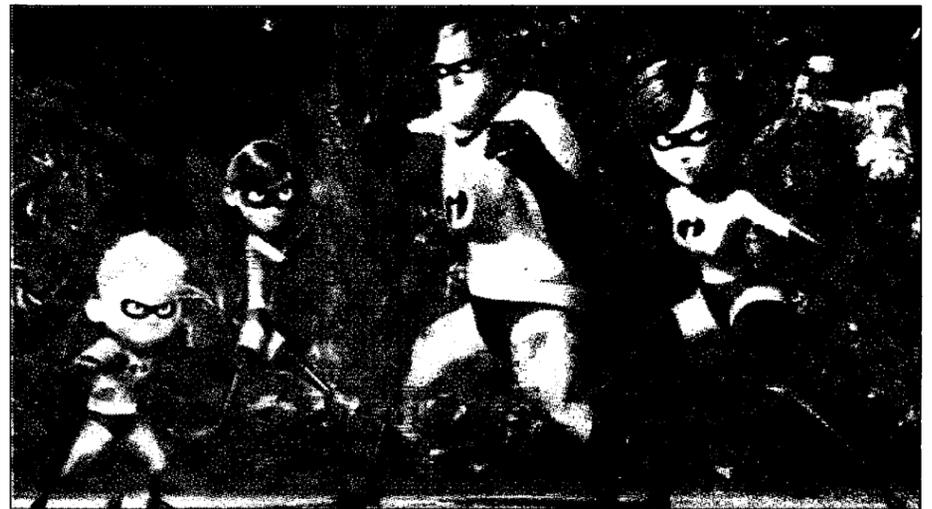


Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

The Parr family becomes "The Incredibles" as they bring their powers together to fight the forces of the evil enemy Syndrome on his secret island.

is a disgruntled, self-made superhero, who at one point in his life, was Mr. Incredible's number one fan. Mr. Incredible dismissed Syndrome as a young boy, and since then he has been looking for revenge against Bob.

The remainder of the film is a showcase of the family's powers and their cooperation throughout the mission. Pixar Studios left the end of the film wide open, so it is entirely possible that a sequel may be created sometime in the near future, which will no doubt, be well-received.

This two-disc edition of "The Incredibles" is full of extra features.

Two animated shorts are found on the second disc, one called "Jack Jack Attack," which shows the baby displaying his superpowers to his unsuspect-

ing babysitter. The second is a Pixar original short that was shown before the feature film in the theaters, called "Boundin'." Both short films are hilarious.

There are behind the scenes features, all sorts of commentary from the crew, a short bloopers reel, deleted scenes, a list of "The Incredibles" superheroes along with their abilities, fake junket interviews and other features on the second disc.

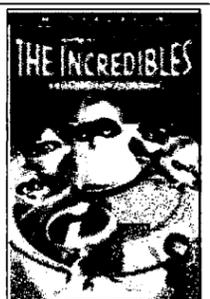
Between the movie itself and the fully loaded second disc, the two-disc edition of "The Incredibles," will keep you busy for hours and is well-worth the purchase.

Contact Emily Iarocci at eiarocci@nd.edu

The Incredibles

Collector's Edition

Pixar



'Eternal Sunshine' shines on in DVD

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Writer

"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" was one of the finest films of 2004 — an uncompromisingly intricate, complex and emotional experience. It garnered critical acclaim and two Academy Award nominations: Best Supporting Actress for Kate Winslet's charmingly off-kilter performance as Clementine and Best Original Screenplay, which it won, for Charlie Kaufman, Pierre Bismuth and Michel Gondry's head-spinning script.

The film follows Joel, a man who recently broke-up with his girlfriend Clementine. Clementine has undergone a process at Lacuna to have the memory of her relationship with Joel erased. Joel, as a sort of revenge, decides to undergo the same process, but decides midway through that he doesn't want to forget Clementine after all. As Elijah Wood comments on the DVD while trying to explain the film, "I just tell people that it's a Charlie Kaufman film," which is to say that it's unendingly complicated and intricate. A brief plot synopsis doesn't give justice to the convolutions of the story and the character

interactions. The film truly has to be seen to be understood.

Universal and Focus Features released "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" on DVD late in 2004 in a single-disc edition. Then, almost without warning, they released a two-disc edition at the tail end of the year. This wouldn't have been so upsetting to fans of "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" if Universal Studios had announced both editions simultaneously, so fans would know to pass on the single-disc and wait for the forthcoming double-disc edition. This alarming business practice of putting the single edition on the shelves only weeks before the newest and more complex edition is announced seems to be happening with disheartening regularity.

In any case, the first disc of the two-disc version is identical to the single-disc of the single-disc edition, and it's a fine DVD. The anamorphic widescreen presentation preserves the theatrical ratio of 1.85:1 and looks quite good. Much of this film has a low-budget appearance, so the picture quality is exactly what one expects. Sound is either 5.1 digital or DTS and both tracks sound great, but this is, for the most part, a dialogue-driven film. The DTS soundstage is slightly smoother and punchier, but both tracks offer an immersive experience. There are also forced menus at the start of the DVD, but these can thankfully be skipped.

The extras are numerous and occasionally insightful, but sometimes seem a bit fluffy. The featurettes are sometimes



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Kate Winslet, left, and Jim Carrey star in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," an original and uniquely compelling love story.

cursory and fail to delve deep into the making of the picture. The best feature is the commentary track by Gondry and Kaufman, who sound relaxed and comfortable with each other. Both offer interesting anecdotes and observations about the film. Sadly, the trailer is absent, as are any other advertising promotions. The second disc of extras offers just over an hour of material, so it's not really enough to warrant an upgrade if the single-disc edition has already been purchased.

The packaging, which is smugly self-congratulatory, screams "award promotion." The box is plastered with words

like "unforgettable, profound, real, brilliant, wondrous." The booklet is also a waste, filled with blurbs from reviews praising the film's wonderful qualities. We know it's wonderful — that's why we bought it, Universal.

This is a good DVD of one of the best pictures of 2004. It could've been better, but the feature film is the main reason to buy, and it's in fine shape. The two-disc edition is recommended, but it's not worth upgrading if you already own the single-disc version.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
bdoxtade@nd.edu

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

Collector's Edition

Universal



'The Notebook' proves to be a classic

By JULIE HYNES
Scene Critic

Quotes from "The Notebook" pervade AIM profiles and often are listed as quotations on thefacebook.com. On those rare uneventful nights at Notre Dame, it is not uncommon to see away messages that read "watching 'The Notebook'" or "Ryan Gosling, please father my children."

But what is this craze all about? What is it about "The Notebook" that seems to have tugged at the heart-strings of so many?

It only costs a meager \$2.99 worth of Flex Points to find out, but hopefully by the end of this review the choice between this instant classic and a Subway sandwich will be a no-brainer.

"The Notebook" is the film adaptation of the bestselling novel by Nicholas Sparks, a Notre Dame graduate whose other work includes "A Walk to Remember" and "Message in a Bottle." The movie begins with an adorable elderly man reading to his wife, who is afflicted with Alzheimer's, from a worn

old notebook.

Although his wife Allie is completely unaware of the history of their relationship, it soon becomes apparent the narrative Noah is reading to her is, in fact, of their own enduring love story from years past. And what a torrid love affair it is.

Allie (Rachel McAdams, better known for her role as the unforgettable Regina in "Mean Girls") comes from a very wealthy and high-class background. She is spending her summer in North Carolina where she meets Noah (Ryan Gosling of "Murder by Numbers").

Noah is a local teen from modest roots who dares to challenge her to take risks and make decisions for herself, free from the influence of her overbearing — and at times harsh and judgmental — parents. The two lovebirds spend a memorable summer together — full of many terrific experiences — which comes to an abrupt halt with a dramatic exit initiated by Allie's disapproving parents.

Allie is eventually able to move Noah out of the forefront of her mind and begins a new relationship with an injured soldier she meets while working as a nurse during World War II. The soldier is a successful businessman named Lon (James Mardsen, best known for his work as one-eyed-wonder Cyclops in "X-Men").

Lon eventually proposes to Allie, who accepts



Photo courtesy of darkhorizons.com

Rachel McAdams, left, plays Allie, a wealthy Southern belle who falls in love with Noah, played by Ryan Gosling, in a summer romance that lasts a lifetime.

to the great delight of her parents.

However, she soon realizes that she must see her first love one last time before taking the plunge. It quickly becomes evident that the sizzling flame, which once burned strongly between them, is nowhere near extinguished. Allie must make the difficult choice between a safe bet and an unbridled passion.

The movie follows the book reasonably closely and the onscreen chemistry between up-and-coming actors Gosling and McAdams does justice to the ardor expertly articulated by Sparks in his tumultuous novel. Several twists enrich the plot and leave the audience at the edge of their seats

wondering how the movie will end.

"The Notebook" mania hit Americans of all ages and genders and tells of the widespread desire for searing drama in one's own life. Unfortunately for many students, it often proves a challenge just to find the time to sleep and perchance dream of such scorching passion with the rampant never-ending reading assignments and excruciatingly lengthy and tedious science labs.

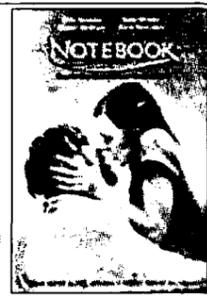
For those who know what I am talking about, live vicariously through the characters of "The Notebook." After all, "The O.C." is a rerun this week.

Contact Julie Hynes at
jhynes1@nd.edu

The Notebook

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NBA

Sonics overpower Grizzlies 102-99 for playoff berth

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — After a two-year absence, the Seattle SuperSonics are in the Western Conference playoffs again.

The Sonics clinched a playoff berth with a victory over the Memphis Grizzlies. They were led by Ray Allen and Jerome James with 22 points each, James' a career high.

"This is a big win to come on the road and have some guys down and find a way to win like that is pretty impressive for our team," said Seattle guard Luke Ridnour. "It feels good to make sure we're in the playoffs."

Ridnour keyed a fourth-quarter comeback for Seattle (49-21), which trailed by 14 earlier. His 3-pointer with 2:55 left completed the Sonics' rally for a 93-92 lead.

Memphis tied the game at 99 after Pau Gasol converted a 3-point play with :46.2 remaining. James, who was 9-of-11 from the field, made one free throw with 27.6 left. Ridnour's two free throws with 15.2 left gave the Sonics their final margin.

Mike Miller missed a pair of long 3-pointers in the final seconds as the Grizzlies lost their third straight and fourth out of their last five.

Ridnour finished with 15 points for Seattle, while reserve Damien Wilkins added 13. Reggie Evans scored 12 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and kept Seattle in the game as the Sonics struggled in the first half.

The Sonics were without Rashard Lewis, their second-leading scorer, who sat out with a right foot injury, and reserve forward Danny Fortson, who is recovering from a left ankle sprain.

"We won a game that a lot of people didn't think we could win," said Seattle coach Nate McMillan, whose team leads the Northwest Division by 10 1/2 games over Denver.

Gasol, in his best performance since returning March 20 from a foot injury, led Memphis with 24 points and eight rebounds. Bonzi Wells scored 17, and Shane Battier added 16 points. Stromile Swift and Earl Watson finished with 15 each for the Grizzlies.

While Seattle was celebrating its playoff-clinching win, Memphis was wondering how its current slide could affect its playoff hopes. The Grizzlies are currently in the seventh spot, but only a half game ahead of

Denver and 2 1/2 in front of Minnesota.

"It's frustrating to lose at any time," Gasol said. "At this point in the season, it's more frustrating because we're trying to move forward. It especially hurts to lose at home. We should protect our home court better."

Miami 103, Toronto 91

A distinct chill was coming from the sheet of ice that will host a traveling skating show this week. And when the Toronto Raptors lost their cool, they were finished.

Shaquille O'Neal had 28 points and Dwyane Wade added 27, leading the Miami Heat to a win in a game marred by the fourth-quarter ejections of Raptors forward Morris Peterson and coach Sam Mitchell.

Damon Jones added 14 for Miami, which outscored Toronto 24-10 over the final 8:01, extended its franchise-best home winning streak to 17 games and moved 10 games ahead of Detroit in the Eastern Conference standings. The Heat could clinch home-court advantage for the first three playoff rounds by Saturday.

"Sometimes we come out fast, sometimes we don't," Wade said. "But as long as we end strong, that's all we really care about."

Rafer Alston had 19 points and Chris Bosh had a 16-point, 13-rebound game for the Raptors, who also got 15 points from Peterson.

Miami led by six points with 3:46 left when Wade drove the lane and was fouled by Peterson. The two got tangled up, exchanged words and were separated — but Peterson kept shouting as O'Neal tried to intervene.

"He fouled me pretty hard and after the play, he fouled me again," Wade said. "I let him know, pretty much, that you can't do that."

Wade was called for one technical; Peterson was called for two, drawing the second after his shouting fit.

"We were playing hard and for the most part I thought we had a chance to win the game," Peterson said. "So when something like that happens, (it's) your emotions that take charge. I got the short end of the stick."

Mitchell was thrown out with 1:47 remaining after arguing a foul called against Jalen Rose, who clearly tried to trip Eddie Jones under the basket after

the two battled for a rebound.

"There's nothing I can say that wouldn't get me fined," Mitchell said. "When you have three or four players cursing at each other, how do you determine which one said the worst of the profanity?"

The Heat didn't escape the game unscathed. Eddie Jones, who had 11 rebounds for just the 14th double-double of his career, injured his right ankle with 1:11 left and was helped off the floor. He appeared to roll the ankle while leaping into the first row of stands for a loose ball, but X-rays were negative.

Jones, who received treatment after the game and said the ankle "wasn't all that bad," and he's hopeful of playing in Indiana on Thursday.

LA Lakers 117, New York 107

The Los Angeles Lakers broke their eight-game losing streak when Kobe Bryant scored 20 of his 32 points in the second half to beat the road-weary New York Knicks.

New York's Stephon Marbury had a season-high 45 points, six rebounds and 10 assists in defeat. He scored 34 in the second half, shooting 9-of-13 from the floor and 10-of-11 from the foul line. He wound up making 12 of 22 field goals and 15 of 16 free throws in falling five points shy of his career high.

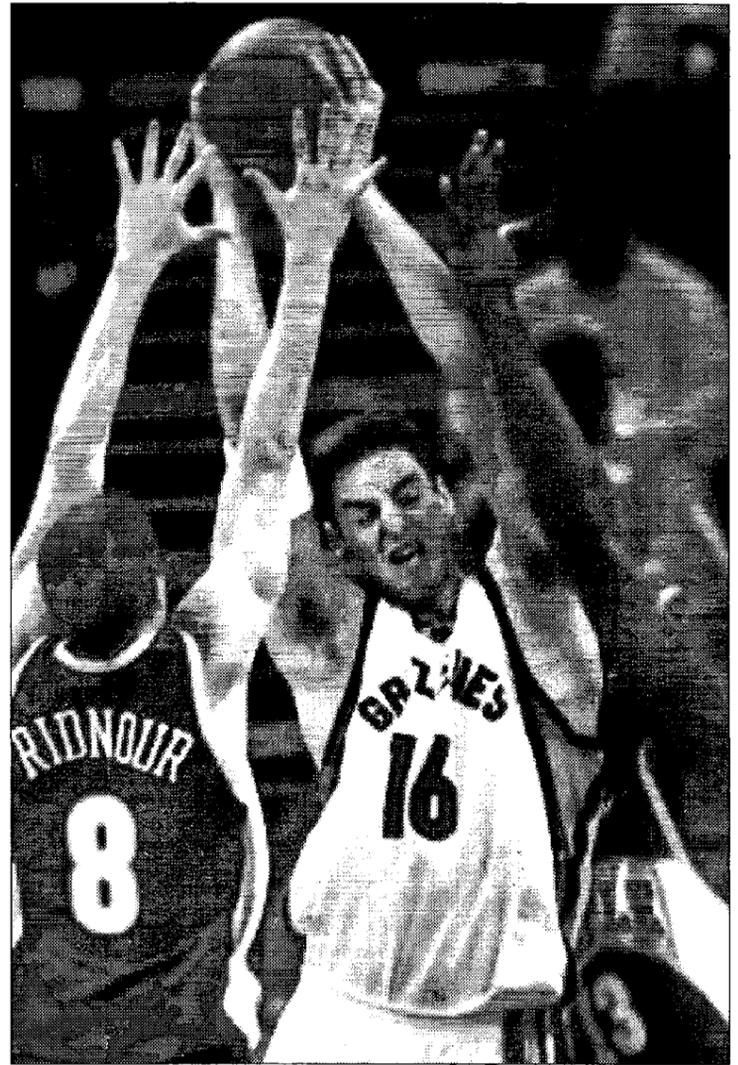
The losing streak was the second longest for the Lakers (33-37) since they moved from Minneapolis to Los Angeles in 1960. The Lakers lost their last 10 games of the 1993-94 season. That was the last time they failed to qualify for the playoffs, something they seem destined to do this year for just the second time since 1976. They are in 10th place in the Western Conference, and trail Denver for the eighth and final playoff berth by 5 1/2 games with 12 remaining.

Caron Butler added 26 points for Los Angeles. Devean George, playing just his third game of the season, had 18 points and Chucky Atkins scored 12 for the Lakers, who shot 53.4 percent and committed only 10 turnovers two days after committing a season-high 27.

The Lakers, who have had defensive problems all season, are now 7-32 in games where their opponent scores 100 or more points.

Cleveland 94, LA Clippers 84

LeBron James was not about



Seattle SuperSonics guard Luke Ridnour, left, and center Jerome James, right, try to steal the ball from Memphis Grizzlies forward Pau Gasol. The SuperSonics won 102-99.

to let a sore left ankle, lack of sleep or blown layup affect him.

James hit two key 3-pointers down the stretch and scored 22 points to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers past the Los Angeles Clippers 94-84 Tuesday night.

"I thought we would be a lot more tired," said James, who got treatment on his ankle before the game and shot just 7-for-20 from. "I felt OK."

"We ran early and just jumped on them. We worked together defensively and were just playing complete basketball."

Cleveland had lost five of six before rallying for a one-point overtime win Monday in New Orleans. The win Tuesday gave the Cavaliers victories on consecutive nights for the first time since Nov. 26-27 and revitalized their quest for home-court advantage in the playoffs.

"We got to bed at three or four this morning, but I thought we had an awful lot of energy,"

said Brendan Malone, 3-2 since replacing the fired Paul Silas as Cavaliers coach. "We pushed the ball and ran off our defense. Our defense was very good."

Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 19 points, 15 rebounds and three blocked shots as the Cavaliers moved within 1 1/2 games of Washington for fourth place overall in the Eastern Conference. The top four teams get the home-court edge in the first round and Cleveland is 26-9 at Gund Arena.

"We want the playoffs and we want to be at home, too," said point guard Eric Snow. "Every team is fighting for it now and we're right there. We have to keep winning."

Corey Maggette scored 26 points to lead Los Angeles, but the Clippers have lost four straight on the road, where they are 7-26 with eight of their final 11 games away from home.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 3 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

WANTED

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PERSONAL

Second weekly middle name day

Elizadoolittle; Anna: No You Eat It!

D: I know you and me isn't that probable, but can't a guy ever wish for the impossible?

K: If I had a puking smiley face right now I'd use it!

Who would you rather??? Ann or Mary Kate?

CONGRATULATIONS!

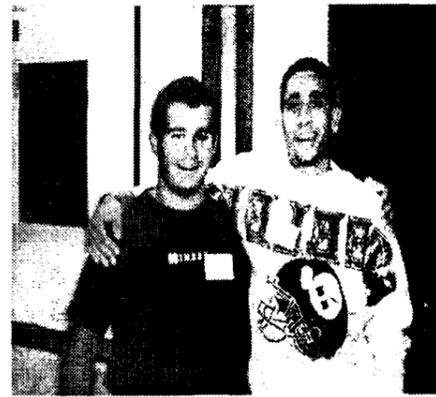
This past Easter Vigil, 12 members of our Notre Dame community were fully initiated into the Catholic Church. At this liturgy, the 12 received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Please join us in congratulating them and welcoming them into our faith community.



Fabian Udoh, Godfather
Richard Austin



Matthew Paprocki, Godfather
Ryan Brennan



Vinnie Versagli, Godfather
Milo Dodson



Joshua Swaim, Godfather
Nikki Dorough



John Fahy, Godfather
Jared Galvan



Karen Catvanagh, Godmother
Amy Guimaraes



Patrick Russell, Godfather
Brent Mitchell



Shane Fimble, Godfather
Mindi Odle



Brian Barone, Godfather
Adam Russ



Karen Chan, Godmother
Philip Snowberger



Nathan Farley, C.S.C., Godfather
Michael Torres



Anne Vorhes, Godmother
Marilyn Villarreal

TENNIS

Sharapova outlasts Henin-Hardenne in Nasdaq 100 Open

Wimbledon champion is set to face one of Williams sisters next

Associated Press

KEY BISCAVNE, Fla. — Maria Sharapova started strong and finished fast, while Justine Henin-Hardenne was feisty but rusty.

Henin-Hardenne, playing her first tournament in seven months, staged a gallant comeback Tuesday but lost to Sharapova 6-1, 6-7 (6), 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

"She has been a top player," Sharapova said. "I was expecting a really tough match. It came out to be really tough."

Sharapova, seeded second, failed to convert three match points in the second set but finally closed out the victory an hour later with a backhand winner accompanied by her trademark shriek.

The Wimbledon champion, who said she has been winning lately despite a sore back, will play a Williams sister in the semifinals Thursday. Serena and Venus, both three-time champions at Key Biscayne, were scheduled for their first meeting since July 2003 on Tuesday night.

Advancing to the men's quarterfinals was six-time Key Biscayne champ Andre Agassi, who endured a grueling first set

and beat French Open champion Gaston Gaudio 7-6 (7), 6-2. Gaudio faded after converting just one of 10 breakpoint chances in the opening set, which lasted 85 minutes.

Two Spaniards made the men's final eight. Rafael Nadal, an 18-year-old left-hander with two titles already this year, beat No. 13-seeded Ivan Ljubicic 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-3. Unseeded David Ferrer rallied past countryman Juan Carlos Ferrero 6-7 (7), 6-3, 7-5.

No. 26 Dominik Hrbaty, who upset Marat Safin in the third round, eliminated 18-year-old Gael Monfils 6-3, 6-3.

Henin-Hardenne, coming back from a virus and knee injury, was pleased to win three matches and give Sharapova a battle.

"It's pretty amazing," the three-time Grand Slam champion said. "I couldn't imagine before coming to Miami that I would play at this level. I did a good job, so it's good for my confidence."

Against Sharapova, Henin-Hardenne dug in after a poor start. She shanked several shots early, and even her picturesque backhand malfunctioned on a mis-hit that sailed 10 feet long on break point. She blew an overhead and lost that game, too, and hit a drop shot that didn't even reach the net.

Sharapova, meanwhile, repeatedly placed shots inches inside the lines to keep Henin-Hardenne on the defensive.

"She was playing unbelievable tennis," Henin-Hardenne said.

"She's tall and she's powerful. She's a great player."

But with Sharapova on the verge of victory at 5-4, 40-love in the second set, Henin-Hardenne saved three match points. Sharapova then double-faulted to lose the game.

With Henin-Hardenne hitting her groundstrokes more aggressively, Sharapova saved three set points to hold for 6-6, then saved three more in the tiebreaker before dumping a backhand in the net on the final point of the set.

"You just keep fighting and keep being positive," Sharapova said. "Easy to say, hard to do."

She quickly regrouped in the final set, taking a 3-0 lead against a tiring Henin-Hardenne and improved to 5-0 in quarterfinals this year. She has rebounded from a 6-0, 6-0 loss to Lindsay Davenport at Indian Wells earlier this month.

The first set of the Agassi-Gaudio match was an endurance test with plenty of long rallies and each player winning 61 points. In the tiebreaker, Gaudio committed a foot fault and six unforced errors, allowing Agassi to take control.

Midway through the second set, it became clear Gaudio was spent and his judgment impaired. The Argentine tried an acrobatic shot between his legs and dumped the ball into the net to fall behind 4-2.

"It's an odd shot to play in that situation," Agassi said.



AP
Maria Sharapova makes a return in the Japan Open last season. Sharapova defeated Justine Henin-Hardenne in the Nasdaq 100 Open.

The *Schiavo* Case: Life and Death – Faith, Law, and Morality A Law School Panel Discussion

4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

Law School Courtroom

Professor John H. Robinson

What Does the Catholic Tradition Say about Artificial Nutrition and Hydration for Patients in a Persistent Vegetative State?

Professor Anthony J. Bellia, Jr.

Can and Should Congress Give the Federal Courts Jurisdiction to Hear a Case Already Decided by the Florida Courts?

Professor Richard W. Garnett

Were Terri Schiavo's Religious-Freedom Rights Violated?

Professor John M. Finnis

How do Law and Morality Relate in the *Schiavo* Case?

Professor M. Cathleen Kaveny, moderator

NFL

Three Panthers investigated for steroids

Sauerbrun, Mitchell, Steussie had steroid prescriptions filled

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Carolina Panthers Todd Sauerbrun and Jeff Mitchell and former player Todd Steussie had steroid prescriptions filled by a West Columbia, S.C., doctor now under investigation by federal authorities, according to a "60 Minutes Wednesday" report.

In a release Tuesday, the CBS News show said the players all had prescriptions for testosterone cream filled within two

weeks of the Panthers' appearance in the 2004 Super Bowl.

In addition to the cream, which is banned by the NFL, Sauerbrun — one of the league's top punters — also obtained syringes and the injectable steroid Stanozolol, which is also banned by the league.

The prescriptions were reportedly written by Dr. James Shortt, who is the subject of a Drug Enforcement Administration probe for allegedly prescribing steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

Mitchell, a center, filled a testosterone prescription seven times, while Steussie, an offensive lineman now with the

Tampa Bay Buccaneers, obtained 11 refills over an eight-month period in 2004, CBS reported.

"We've heard rumors and speculation about what was going to be in the CBS report, but this is the first time we've heard the specific allegations," Panthers general manager Marty Hurney said. "Obviously, any time there is a possible connection with alleged actions that violate NFL rules, it concerns us greatly."

"We are dealing with allegations right now and we will continue to cooperate with the NFL and law enforcement in this matter."

The Panthers have been cooperating with a federal

subpoena that sought contact information for several players as part of the probe of Shortt.

Hurney has stressed that none of the team's players have tested positive for steroids.

According to a report last month in The State of Columbia, Shortt has been under investigation since May.

In September, authorities raided Shortt's Health Dimensions office and Congaree Pharmacy near the Columbia Metropolitan Airport. State and federal agents seized computer data, at least 21 boxes of patient and medical records and 256 audio cassettes, the paper reported.

NBA

Fan pleads no contest to charges

Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich. — A fan charged with throwing a chair during one of the worst brawls in U.S. sports history pleaded no contest Tuesday to felony assault. He is expected to receive a sentence ranging from probation to three months in jail.

Bryant Jackson was the only one of the 13 players and fans charged with a felony for their alleged role in the Nov. 19 melee during an Indiana Pacers-Detroit Pistons game at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Rae Lee Chabot indicated she would sentence Jackson to up to three months in jail, but he could get probation if he expresses remorse at the sentencing hearing May 3.

Events at The Palace were triggered by a "mob mentality," the judge said.

"It's been reported to me that he is otherwise a productive member of society. He has a job, he has a family, he has kids, and he supports them," Chabot said.

Assistant county prosecutor Paul Walton, however, said his office would request a sentence of one year in jail — in part because of Jackson's prior record. He has a 1993 conviction for carrying a concealed weapon, a 1987 conviction for unlawful driving away and a misdemeanor domestic violence conviction, Walton said.

Walton said the mob mentality didn't excuse Jackson's actions and noted that Jackson's actions endangered children who were among the fans at The Palace.

"These are adults," he said of the brawl participants. "They should be able to control themselves. If they can't, they should be in jail."

Jackson and his attorney, Christopher McGrath, declined to comment after the hearing.

Jackson, a 37-year-old resident of Genesee County's Mundy Township, is accused of dislodging a chair and heaving it over his head, hitting several people. He also is accused of throwing a drink at the Pacers as they left the court area.

He pleaded no contest to one count of felony assault and one count of misdemeanor assault and battery. A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated as such for sentencing purposes. McGrath said Jackson was pleading no contest instead of pleading guilty because of civil liability issues.

If Chabot decides after reviewing the case in more detail that 90 days in jail is insufficient, Jackson has the right to withdraw his plea and the case could proceed to trial, Walton said.

Three other fans were sentenced to probation earlier this month for walking on the court or throwing objects.

A motion hearing is scheduled for April 8 in the cases of the five Pacers charged in the brawl — Ron Artest, Jermaine O'Neal, Stephen Jackson, Anthony Johnson and David Harrison — and the other four fans.

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Pearl to take on Volunteers' coaching position

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Bruce Pearl plans to stay at Tennessee for a while.

After leading 12th-seeded Wisconsin-Milwaukee on a surprising run through the NCAA tournament, Pearl was introduced as the Volunteers' sixth basketball coach in 16 years.

"The one thing about coaching that is the most challenging is that it is nomadic in nature," Pearl said Monday. "If you win, they are worried you are going to leave. And if you lose, they are packing your bags. There just doesn't seem to be anything in between."

Pearl has done some moving

around. The 45-year-old coach won a national championship during nine seasons at Division II Southern Indiana before moving to Wisconsin-Milwaukee four years ago.

"This is my dream to be able to run a program like this," he said. "And because I am built that way, I am digging in."

University president John Petersen appreciated the sentiment.

He gave Pearl a Tennessee jersey with the No. 14, marking his 14th season as a coach, and expressed hope that he would be presenting Pearl with another one — a No. 24 — in 10 years as Petersen retires.

Pearl took Wisconsin-

Milwaukee to the round of 16 this year for the first time, beating Alabama and Boston College before falling to top-seeded Illinois. The Vols haven't been in the tournament since 2001 and missed it in all four years under the fired Buzz Peterson.

He was fired March 13 after a 14-17 season.

"I have complete confidence that he will take our program to the next level," university president John Petersen said of Pearl, whose career record is 317-84.

Tennessee doubled Pearl's package with a five-year deal paying \$800,000 a year, plus bonuses, and agreed to buy out his Wisconsin-Milwaukee

contract for \$194,000.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee athletic director Bud Haidet was disappointed Pearl was leaving, but said the departure didn't come as a total surprise.

"Success is always a double-edged sword in our business," he said.

Pearl told the UWM players Sunday night about his decision.

"To be honest, I guess I'm a little surprised that he went to Tennessee as far as it being his first offer," guard Mark Pancratz said.

Pearl wants the Tennessee men to play up to the reputation of the university's other nationally ranked programs, notably the football team and

the women's basketball program.

"It's time for us to hold our end up," Pearl said, with football coach Phillip Fulmer looking on.

Tennessee women's coach Pat Summitt, whose name often comes up as a candidate to be the men's coach, said she has heard "great things" about Pearl.

Pearl huddled with Tennessee players Monday before the official announcement. Players said they liked what they heard.

"I feel a lot better that we have a coach and he wants to play the style of play that I like to play," junior guard C.J. Watson said.

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Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Joah Tucker shoots over Boston College's Sean Williams in the NCAA tournament this season.

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**PPE INFORMATION MEETING
Wednesday, March 30, 5 PM, 204 De Bartolo**

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Page 23

Baseball America College Top 25

Team	record	previous
1 Texas	23-4	4
2 Cal St. Fullerton	17-6	1
3 Georgia Tech	21-4	5
4 Tulane	21-5	2
5 LSU	19-6	3
6 Mississippi	19-5	7
7 Florida	19-7	11
8 Miami (Florida)	22-7	6
9 Arkansas	21-4	8
10 Arizona	18-10	13
11 North Carolina	20-5	16
12 Stanford	14-8	12
13 Rice	18-9	15
14 South Carolina	19-5	9
15 Baylor	16-10	10
16 Texas A&M	19-9	14
17 Florida State	27-5	17
18 Oregon State	19-4	18
19 Coll. of Charleston	20-4	19
20 Nebraska	21-3	20
21 Mississippi State	17-4	24
22 Long Beach State	18-10	NR
23 Auburn	19-8	NR
24 Arizona State	18-13	NR
25 Central Florida	25-5	25

ESPN/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25

Team	record	prev.
1 Michigan (17)	31-1	1
2 Arizona (3)	26-2	2
3 California	29-3	3
4 Texas	26-4	4
5 Tennessee	37-4	5
6 Texas A&M	31-2	T7
7 Stanford	23-4	6
8 Baylor	31-4	T7
9 Oklahoma	33-6	9
10 UCLA	18-6	10
11 Alabama	36-7	11
12 Georgia	28-7	12
13 Florida	27-6	14
14 Louisiana-Lafayette	22-7	13
15 Oregon State	19-6	15
16 Missouri	27-3	16
17 Washington	16-9	17
18 Fresno State	20-7	18
19 Iowa	25-5	21
20 Arizona State	25-7	22
21 Georgia Tech	32-7	23
22 Nebraska	20-11	T19
23 Northwestern	18-9	24
24 Creighton	22-4	NR
25 LSU	17-11	T19

Big East Baseball

Team	overall	conf.
1 Boston College	14-6	3-1
2 Rutgers	12-8	3-1
3 NOTRE DAME	12-10	3-1
4 Villanova	12-6-1	2-2
5 Georgetown	14-10	2-2
6 Connecticut	12-5	1-1
7 St. John's	9-9	1-1
8 Pittsburgh	11-8	1-3
9 West Virginia	9-14	1-3
10 Seton Hall	5-13	1-3

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL



Sophomore Charlie Villanueva, third from right, walks dejectedly off the court during Connecticut's second-round loss to North Carolina State March 20. Villanueva declared for the NBA draft Tuesday.

UConn's Villanueva declares for draft

Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Two years ago, Charlie Villanueva thought he was ready for the NBA. Now, he says he's sure.

UConn's 6-foot-11, 240-pound sophomore forward said Tuesday he will skip his final two years of college eligibility to enter the NBA draft.

It will be the second time Villanueva has gone through the NBA evaluation process. Coming out of Blair Academy in Blairstown, N.J., in 2003, Villanueva declared for the draft, but changed his mind after workouts in front of NBA scouts.

"I knew I wasn't ready," Villanueva said. "I know I have to work on my body, to get stronger, but I'm 100 percent confident this time. I didn't have that feeling coming out of high school."

Villanueva led the Huskies in scoring this season, averaging 13.6 points and 8.3 rebounds per game. Scouts have praised Villanueva's ball-handling, passing and shot-blocking skills, and have projected he will be a late first-round pick.

Scouts also have expressed concern he's not big enough to pound with the power forwards in the NBA, and he might not have the defense to stay

with the smaller forwards in the league.

Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun told Villanueva he needs a lot of work in the weight room to get ready for the pros.

Villanueva is the ninth player during Calhoun's tenure at UConn to leave school early for the NBA. The coach said he is not shy about telling players when he thinks they are not ready.

"I don't think Charlie's making a mistake," he said. "Would I have liked him to stay for another year? Yeah. Could he use another year? To some degree, they all could."

Villanueva chose to go

pro in part because his mother was in a serious car accident last year on her way to work, and he doesn't want her to have to work again.

Even though Villanueva will likely earn millions of dollars next year, his departure will hurt UConn's grade under a system being implemented to evaluate academic progress of NCAA programs. Calhoun said that should be changed.

"Right now, we seem to have lost a little bit of sight that a few of our very, very special students have an opportunity to get a very, very special job," Calhoun said.

IN BRIEF

Yankees fill hole, deal for minor league catcher Nieves

TAMPA, Fla. — The New York Yankees acquired minor league catcher Wil Nieves from the Los Angeles Angels for right-hander Bret Prinz on Tuesday.

By trading for Nieves the Yankees filled a hole created when they sent top prospect Dioner Navarro to Arizona in the deal for Randy Johnson in January.

Nieves will be assigned to Triple-A Columbus, but Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said Nieves could be the first player called up if Jorge Posada or John Flaherty are injured.

"It will add depth at catcher," Cashman said.

Nieves hit .297 with 10 homers and 53 RBIs in 108 games last season for Triple-A Salt Lake.

Prinz went 1-0 with a 5.08 ERA in 26 games with New York last season. He also made 29 appearances, going

3-1, for Columbus.

Boilermakers plan transfers after coach's retirement

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue players Xavier Price and Adam Liddell have announced they will transfer after the spring semester ends.

Price, a 6-foot-3 freshman from O'Fallon, Ill., played in 26 games and started five, averaging 3.1 points and 1.7 rebounds.

Liddell, a 6-7 redshirt freshman from DeKalb, Ind., scored five points and had 12 rebounds in 10 appearances during a 7-21 season for the Boilermakers.

"Adam and Xavier have decided it's best to go in another direction with their careers," incoming coach Matt Painter said in a statement released Tuesday. "We've told both Adam and Xavier that we will assist them in finding a new place to play basketball and continue their education. We appreciate their contribu-

tions to our program and wish them nothing but the best."

'Big Cat' retires

NEW YORK — Andres Galarraga retired Tuesday after a subpar spring training with the New York Mets, leaving him a homer shy of 400 for his career.

The 43-year-old first baseman signed a minor league deal with the Mets in the offseason after making his second successful return from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma last season.

A five-time All-Star and two-time Gold Glove in a 19-year career, Galarraga was hitting just .235 in 17 games for the Mets this spring, with three home runs and seven RBIs. The Big Cat would have likely been left off New York's 25-man roster when the team broke camp.

"This is a sad day for me, but I honestly felt it was the right time to step away," Galarraga said. "I just wasn't playing up to the expectations that I have set for myself."

around the dial

NBA

Bulls at Bobcats 7 p.m., Comcast
Nuggets at Jazz 9 p.m., Altitude
76ers at Suns 10 p.m., ESPN

MLB SPRING TRAINING

White Sox at Diamondbacks 3:05 p.m., Comcast

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame suffers a heartbreaking 10-9 loss

By **MATT PUGLISI**
Associate Sports Editor

The calendar may have said "Easter" this weekend, but it was more like "Groundhog Day" for Notre Dame.

For the second time this season, the Irish (2-5, 0-1 conference) rallied to tie the contest in the game's waning minutes, only to fall in overtime as the Notre Dame dropped a 10-9 heartbreaker to Boston College in its Big East opener in Waltham, Mass., Saturday afternoon.

The Irish lost by the same score in overtime to No. 19 Vanderbilt three weeks ago on March 9 in Nashville, Tenn.

"I don't want to take anything away from Boston College, but I definitely felt like there were things that we did in our lack of execution that they were able to capitalize on," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It was more our own mistakes."

Trailing 9-8 with just 1:07 on the clock, standout Irish attack Crysti Foote beat Eagle goalkeeper Tara McKennett for her first goal of the afternoon — to go along with a trio of assists — to knot the game at 9-9 and send it to overtime.

However, after leading most of the contest, Boston College wouldn't accept defeat.

Katherine Wagoner's unassisted goal 26 seconds into the extra frame proved to be the difference as Boston College moved to 1-1 in the Big East and 5-1 overall on the year.

"In the second three minutes of the overtime, we had five shots on goal, so it's not like we couldn't have won the game," Coyne said. "Crysti had a shot that we thought went in, but they didn't call it. We had our chances to win."

The victory marked the first

time in seven meetings that the Eagles have knocked off the Irish.

The season-long trend of falling behind early continued to plague the Irish Saturday.

After the Eagles netted a pair of goals in the game's first four minutes for a quick 2-0 lead, Irish midfielder Lindsay Shaffer put visiting Notre Dame on the board seven minutes later.

The Irish would find the back of the net only once more in the first half on a tally by attack Mary McGrath with 1:11 remaining in the half.

The Eagles, on the other hand, posted four goals in the same span to take a 6-2 lead at the break and put the Irish in a familiar position this season — behind.

"We are spotting teams big leads in the first half, and then we make these furious comebacks, and we outscore people in the second half, but we give them too much of a cushion," Coyne said. "We're not coming out completely ready to play in the opening minutes of the game."

Mirroring previous games, despite the four-goal deficit, Notre Dame refused to roll over and hand the contest to Boston College.

Beginning only 44 seconds into the second half, McGrath spearheaded an Irish uprising that saw Notre Dame net four consecutive goals to tie the game 6-6 at the 7:47 mark.

After McGrath drew the Irish within three with her second goal of the game, freshman midfielder Caitlin McKinney scored a pair of goals and attack Jackie Bowers finished off the run with her only goal of the game to even up the score.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

GIRLS' McDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN GAME

Rising stars to take the court

Signee Lindsey Schrader is among players competing

By **HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN**
Sports Writer

The country's top women's basketball players take to the court at the Joyce Center tonight, one of whom will make Notre Dame her home next fall.

Notre Dame signee Lindsey Schrader will give the hometown crowd a glimpse into the future of Irish basketball in tonight's McDonald's All-American High School Basketball game.

"It's a thrill [for her] to make the team," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of the top recruit.

"To be here it's nice, first of all, that it's close to home, so her parents can come down, but just to be here at Notre Dame, with everyone around, I think she's really excited about that."

Schrader was recently named Ms. Basketball in the state of Illinois after leading Bartlett High School to a second place finish in the Class AA state tournament and a 30-5 overall record.

The Notre Dame signee is the only player from Illinois on the girls' roster for the game, and will play on the West team.

She is joined by 23 other players, including some whom she will likely play against next season.

Two of the All-Americans

signed with Big East schools, with Connecticut landing Saint Albans, W.Va., native Renee Montgomery and Rutgers signing center Kia Vaughn out of the Bronx, N.Y. Both are set to play on the East squad, and tonight will likely mark the first of many matchups between the three Big East-bound seniors.

But it is a Big 12 school that has the most McDonald's All-Americans. Texas has signed three of the All-Americans — point guard Erika Arriaran (Norco, Calif.), forward Crystal Boyd (North Little Rock, Ark.) and forward Earnesia Williams (Sapupla, Okla.). All three will play for the West team.

But for Irish fans, Schrader is the main attraction.

The 6-foot forward/guard averaged 22.1 points and 10.3 rebounds as a senior, en route to her runaway Ms. Basketball award. She received 94 first place votes, 68 more than the first runner up, as voted on by the media in Illinois.

Schrader should play a key role for next year's Irish. Notre Dame loses leading scorer and All-American Jacqueline Batteast to graduation after finishing 27-6 this year and falling to Arizona State 70-61 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

After a disappointing end to this year's season last week, McGraw is excited to see Schrader play in the Joyce Center, as she will give a sneak peak into the future of Irish basketball.

"It'll be nice to see her on our floor and what she looks like, because she's somebody we're really counting on to score [next season]," McGraw said. "She's a great scorer. She can shoot the three, she's got great hands, she's tough, she's physical, she's aggressive, and that's what this team needs."

And so with Schrader making her first appearance on the home court of the Irish, McGraw is ready for the star senior to wear a Notre Dame uniform.

"We're just anxious to get her in here and have her make that adjustment to the college game that all freshmen have to go through," McGraw said.

In 2002, current Irish junior Courtney LaVere played in the game, winning the 2-ball competition with Irish forward Torin Francis of the men's team.

The fourth annual girls' game is set to tip off at 5 p.m. tonight at the Joyce Center.

"It'll be nice to see her on our floor, and what she looks like, because she's someone we're really counting on to score [next season]."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Elizabeth Burke is 21 this week!
You made it Liz!
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MEN'S LACROSSE

No. 9 Notre Dame enjoys its share of success

Irish defeat Hofstra, Villanova; improve their record to 5-1

By **BOBBY GRIFFIN**
Associate Sports Editor

The Easter weekend was a productive one for Notre Dame, as the Irish continued to show why they deserve to be the No. 9 ranked team in the country.

The Irish defeated Hofstra 9-8 in double overtime on Saturday and then came back to defeat Villanova 11-7 on Monday, improving their overall record to 5-1 on the season.

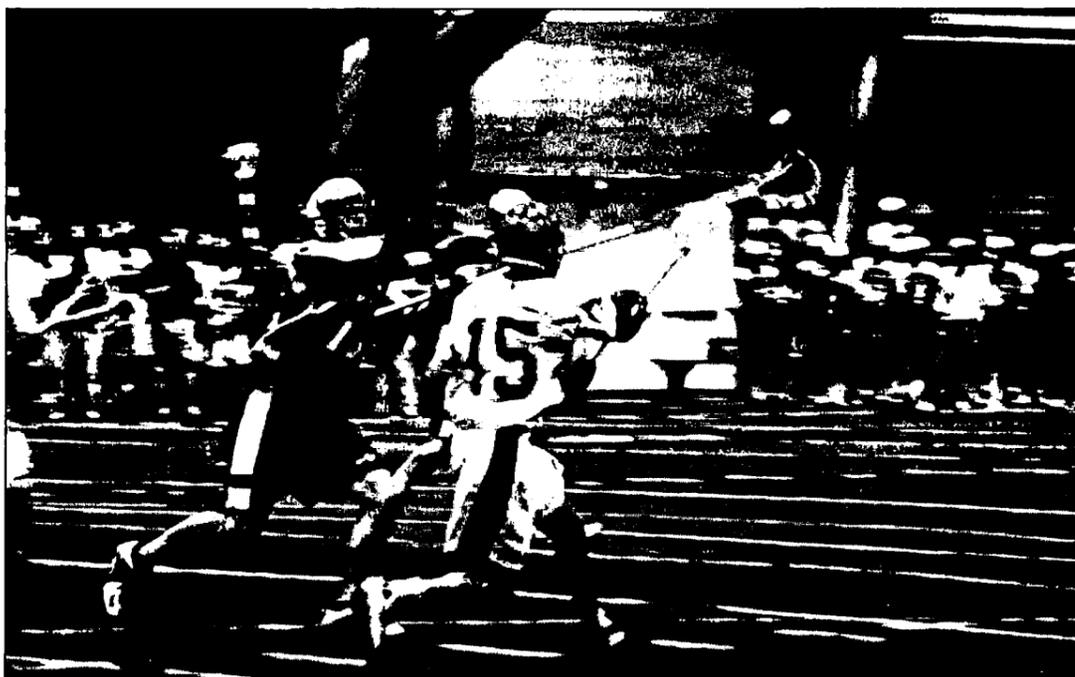
Hofstra rallied from a two goal deficit with two minutes remaining to tie the score at eight, forcing the overtime against Notre Dame.

The Irish prevailed when Pat Walsh scored his sixth goal of the game to break the stalemate.

Walsh, who hails from Long Island, NY, also contributed an assist to commemorate his homecoming.

"I think we played really well at times. We played hard and we played gritty, and we played with determination down the stretch," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said.

Corrigan gave credit to his team for being able to fight



Senior attack Matt Malakoff struggles to gain control of the ball during a game against Butler on March 19. Last weekend, the Irish improved their record to 5-1 after defeating Hofstra and Villanova.

LUKAS MENDOZA/The Observer

back after giving up the game tying goal and win in overtime.

"Things are tough. You are on the road in front of 4500 people and they scored the last three goals to tie it up and it's a perfect opportunity to fold if that's what you are made of, but our guys didn't do that and found a way to win the game."

The Villanova game was a

make up date from the March 8th contest, which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Nevertheless, the two teams had to deal with Mother Nature anyway, as conditions were not much better this time around.

"It was a little warmer, but [there was] a torrential down-pour the whole game.

"I've never been in condi-

tions like that for the entire game," Corrigan said.

In the midst of the rain, Jim Morrison led the Irish with four goals to keep the momentum in Notre Dame's favor. Colin Fatti and Matt Ryan also scored two goals each.

The Irish jumped to a 8-2 lead to start the game, but were outscored 5-3 down the stretch.

Corrigan had mixed feelings about the team's performance.

"There were times when we played really, really well," Corrigan said.

"I thought most of the first half we were outstanding. In the second half, I think we might have felt a little bit like the game was done and we can't afford to relax."

Playing with consistency is something that Corrigan has stressed the importance of all season.

The Irish have plenty of talent, but carrying the same amount of intensity throughout a game is something that their coach maintains still needs improvement.

"We've got to be more consistent. Coming out of the weekend I think that's the thing we have to realize, you've got to be consistent over 60 minutes.

"You've got to continue to adjust throughout games because people adjust to you."

Coming into the game, Villanova had a 14-game winning streak at home.

The Irish will travel to Hanover, New Hampshire this weekend to take on Dartmouth. The game will start at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Bobby Griffin at griffi3@nd.edu

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ND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Irish shine, demonstrate potential in invites

Madia wins the 5,000 meter race and Erigha records personal bests

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Two meets, one victory and — most importantly — six NCAA regional qualifications.

So the stat line reads for the Notre Dame women's track team following one of the best weekends of the year for the squad.

The Irish sent their best distance runners to Palo Alto, Calif. this weekend to compete in the Stanford Invitational, widely considered one of the premier events on the collegiate track slate.

Notre Dame's runners shined as junior Stephanie Madia triumphed over a field of 26 runners to win the 5,000-meter

race. Her time was the eighth best in the United States this season. Madia realized the significance of her accomplishment.

"It was great to have an opportunity to run in a race

like Stanford with all of the competition," Madia said. "Winning that race tells me I'm in good shape at this point in the season. It was good to post a time this early in the year."

Teammate Sunni Olding finished less than a second behind Madia, rounding out an impressive 1-2 finish in a race that Coach Tim Connelly termed "NCAA level competition." Both runners qualified for the NCAA regional meet with their times. Madia commented on the teamwork between her and Olding.

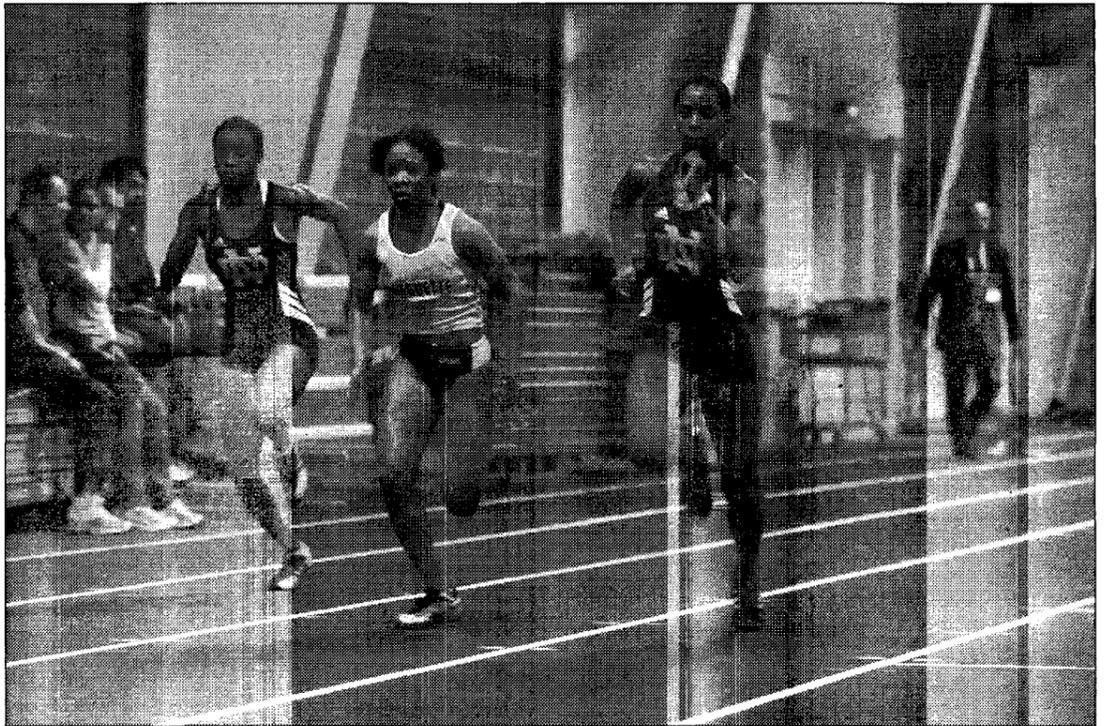
"Sunni has been amazing," she said. "She's a great training partner and a great friend. I think that since we run together everyday, we'll be able to push each other to reach our goals."

Katie DeRusso also qualified for the NCAA regional with a third-place finish in the steeplechase. Junior high jumper Stacey Cowan broke out of a recent slump by clearing 1.78 meters. The jump was Cowan's best in over a month and earned her a third place finish.

While distance runners were in California, sprinters and hurdlers were in Waco, Texas at the Dr. Pepper Invitational hosted by Baylor University.

"Winning that race tells me I'm in good shape at this point in the season. It was good to post a time this early in the year."

Stephanie Madia
Irish distance runner



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Freshman Brienne Davis, left, and sophomore Maryann Erigha run in stride with a sprinter from Marquette during the 60-meter dash at the Notre Dame Invitational on Jan. 29.

Sophomore sprinter Maryann Erigha once again starred for the Irish. A week after winning the 200 meters at the Willie Williams Invitational, the sophomore turned in personal best times in both the 100 and 200 meters. Her marks earned her a second- and third-place finish, respectively, and qualified her for the regional meet in

both events.

The Irish now move on, relishing their success this weekend, but also keeping in mind long-term goals. After her race, Madia was asked about goals for herself and the team this season. Her response showed the determination she and the rest of the Irish possess.

"We want to win the Big East

and qualify as many girls as we can for NCAAs," she said. "Last year I ran NCAAs but didn't run my best, partly because I felt like I didn't belong. This year, I want to feel like I belong at the championships, and we as team belong there."

Contact Ryan Kiefer at rkiefer@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles anticipate crucial match against Chicago

Win over Maroons may earn team an invite to the Midwestern Meet

By KATE SERYAK
Sports Writer

This afternoon the Belles will take on the University of Chicago Maroons in an important non-conference match.

The team is vying for an invitation to the Midwestern Meet next weekend, and defeating Chicago could play an important role in the committee's decision.

Earlier this season, Chicago defeated Kalamazoo, a prime conference opponent for the Belles.

If the Belles win today, they will add a decisive win to their record and will have indirectly defeated Kalamazoo, an opponent they will not face until the end of the regular season.

Last year, the Belles beat Chicago in a close match.

"We are really looking forward to playing. They will be really good competition," captain Kristen Palombo said.

The Belles haven't played

any matches since spring break, when they traveled to Florida for a preseason tournament.

Their match last week was cancelled due to weather conditions and is rescheduled for Thursday of this week.

"We can't wait to play a match, we only hope that the good weather persists," Palombo said.

"We have been doing a lot of conditioning training since spring break because it's hard to get indoor court time and we can't play in 30-degree weather. So we are really looking forward to just playing."

Although this Belles team is young, with sophomores holding the No. 3-6 singles seeds, players have risen to the challenge by starting the season off with a record of 3-4.

"The match experience in Florida really helped the sophomores," Palombo said.

"They are ready to go and anxious to play. They weren't seeded last year, so they are eager to get points for the team and get some wins under their belt."

Contact Kate Seryak at kseryak@nd.edu

Tour Guide Manual.
Page 241.
Walking Backwards.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions is now hiring tour guides for the summer, fall, and spring. Applications are available at

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or in 220 Main Building and are due April 8th.

Questions?
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Fig. 1

Want to write for sports?
Call Mike at 1-4543

ND SOFTBALL

Home season opens with 2-1 Irish victory

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Senior Staff Writer

Carrie Wisen showed she can win games with her bat as well as with her arm.

With the Irish down to their final two outs and behind 1-0 against Western Michigan, Wisen knocked home a two-RBI double to give Notre Dame (14-8) a thrilling come-from-behind victory in its home opener Friday.

"That was an interesting game. I think we made it more interesting than it should have been," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "[Wisen] has really stepped up with the bat this year. She hits the ball right on the nose."

Wisen, who has made several appearances this season as a relief pitcher, helped take advantage of a two-base error earlier in the inning.

Bronco starter Tricia Vanderslik led off the bottom of the seventh inning by retiring Meghan Ruthrauff on a ground ball. Katie Laing reached on base with a single to right field to start Notre Dame's one-out rally.

Liz Hartmann followed Laing and hit a ground ball up the middle that was fumbled by Western Michigan shortstop Danielle Daughtry. The ball skipped away into centerfield, and both runners moved up a base on the play.

Pinch runner Nicole Wicks replaced Hartmann at second base, and both Wicks and Laing came around to score after Wisen drilled a line-drive double down the left field line that just stayed fair — landing on the chalk line and rolling into the corner.

Wisen's walk-off double spoiled an impressive pitching performance for Vanderslik, who had retired 10 consecutive batters before Laing's single in the seventh. Vanderslik only allowed four hits to the Irish, striking out two batters.

"[Vanderslik] did a nice job of placing the ball and hitting her spots," Gumpf said. "Early in the game, we didn't take advantage of our opportunities and would hit it right at people."

"But she had a good change-up working and really did a nice job of keeping us off balance."

Steffany Stenglein pitched the first three innings of the game for the Irish, allowing one run and three hits before being replaced by Heather Booth. Booth entered the game and shut down the Broncos the rest of the way, allowing just two hits in her four innings of work.

"[Stenglein] was giving up more hits than she usually does and was getting called for some debatable illegal pitches, so I wanted to do something to change up the momentum," Gumpf said.



ERIN VRANISH/The Observer

Senior pitcher Steffany Stenglein winds up to deliver a pitch in last Thursday's game against Western Michigan.

Western Michigan took a one-run lead in the top of the third inning, with Amy Fleming leading off with a double to right field. Fleming was replaced by pinch runner Corey Andrejewski, who advanced to third on an illegal pitch by Stenglein and came around to score on Connie Kolokithas' one-out RBI single.

Stenglein worked out of the inning with no further damage, striking out Daughtry and getting Vanderslik to ground out

to third.

Notre Dame will be back in action today with a doubleheader at Ivy Field against Valparaiso.

"I want to see us go out and dominate somebody," Gumpf said of the doubleheader. "We need to go out there and get after it early and not let up. I want to see us make things happen."

Contact Justin Schuver at jshuver@nd.edu

BASEBALL

Team aims to impress at home

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

To the average fan, the baseball team's start to the season might seem sluggish and disappointing.

But to the knowledgeable fan, Irish are right on pace for a strong season.

Through 22 games of Notre Dame's historic 2002 season, the Irish owned a 12-10 record. From there, the Irish won 37 of 43 games en route to the school's second-ever trip to the College World Series.

Through 22 games this season, the Irish again are at 12-10.

Winners of three of four in Big East opening series against Georgetown and Seton Hall, the Irish headed into last night's contest against the Western Michigan Broncos (5-11) with confidence.

The Irish pitching staff threw perhaps its best four-game stretch of the season in conference openers. Against Seton Hall, the staff combined for 1.12 ERA and surrendered just three runs.

The Easter weekend wins left the Irish sitting tied atop the Big East Conference at 3-1.

Game 1 vs. Georgetown (6-2, 7 innings)

In the first Thursday game against Georgetown, junior Tom Thornton (2-3) fireballed a gem, extending the Irish's winning streak against Georgetown to 24 games. He was one out away from a shutout in the 6-2 Irish win.

Game 2 vs. Georgetown (8-9, 12 innings)

The Hoyas rallied for a 9-8 win in the nightcap — a 12-inning, 3-hour-54-minute marathon — to end nine seasons of frustration against the Irish. The teams combined for 33 hits in the slugfest. Closer Ryan Doherty suffered his first loss of the season for the Irish.

Game 3 vs. Seton Hall (8-2, 7 innings)

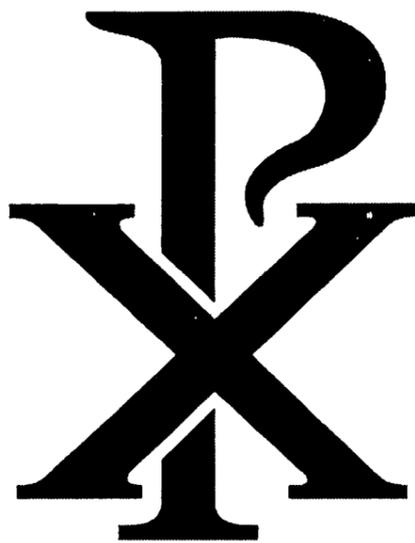
Sophomore Jeff Samardzija fanned eight Seton Hall batters for a complete-game victory. The Irish used a three-run fifth to jump out to an 8-0 lead on the Pirates.

Game 4 vs. Seton Hall (4-1)

Fellow sophomore Derik Olvey continued the stellar pitching for the Irish. He only faced 18 Pirate batters through five innings. Senior Matt Edwards continued his hot-hitting with an RBI double in the sixth inning. He extended his hitting streak to nine games. Alex Nettey is riding an 11-game hitting streak.

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

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Weathers

continued from page 32

women's swimming at Notre Dame."

The team learned of the decision Tuesday afternoon in a meeting with two athletic directors, Irish swimmer Katie Carroll said, and many swimmers left with mixed feelings.

"I think the team was shocked that it came right now," Carroll said.

Weathers would not comment further on the reasoning behind his decision when contacted by The Observer Tuesday night.

However, several swimmers had their own opinions on the matter.

"The morale hadn't been what it was in the past, and I think the athletic directors noticed that," Carroll said.

Sophomore Jess Stephens echoed Carroll's thoughts on the team's morale this year. "If this is what's best for the team as a whole then this is what needs to happen," Stephens said.

While the announcement came as a shock to some, some swimmers acknowledged hearing rumors about Weathers' fate with the University.

"We kind of saw it coming," senior Georgia Healey said. "Bailey had mentioned something about it, and there were rumors about it, but no one was completely sure."

"I think he needed something different in his life to inspire him," Healey added. "I think he was under a lot of pressure, and the 24th place

[finish in this year's NCAA Championships] wasn't really cutting it.

"One of the things [Athletic Director] Kevin White said to us as freshmen was that he wanted all of our teams to be No. 1."

During his tenure, Weathers led the Irish to an 86-20 dual meet record and was named Big East Conference coach of the year six times. Notre Dame also scored points in the NCAA Championship meet every year Weathers was at the helm.

Weathers had previously coached two seasons at Southern Illinois and three at South Carolina. While with the Gamecocks, Weathers was a three-time Metro Conference Coach of the Year. But Notre Dame will always be special to the coach.

"I really enjoyed ND a lot, I really loved the kids I had an opportunity to coach," Weathers said Tuesday night. "I look forward to watching them do well in the future."

For now, the Irish are looking ahead, and seem optimistic about the future.

"I think that people definitely are looking forward to a change to bring some new life and change to the team," Healey said.

There is no word yet as to a replacement for Weathers, but in some eyes he might not ever be replaced.

"I know that we [the team] wish him well. We only hope for the best for him, and we know that's what he wants for us," Carroll said.

Contact Mike Tennant at mtennant@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish knock off pair of Big Ten teams

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Sports Writer

One loss to a Big Ten team is quite enough, thank you.

Bouncing back from a tough loss to Illinois in their last match, the Irish made plenty of noise over the Easter weekend at the expense of two other Big Ten teams.

After clinching a 5-2 victory against No. 56 Michigan (10-6) at home on Saturday, No. 20 Notre Dame (15-5) brushed past No. 68 Purdue (3-9) with a 7-0 sweep in West Lafayette on Monday.

After this weekend's action, Notre Dame improved to 6-1 against Big Ten opponents on the season. Their sole defeat came at the hands of No. 3 Illinois.

"We play the best teams in the Big Ten, traditionally," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It's a good measuring stick for us because, geographically, we're in the center of the Big Ten, and it's easy to schedule. It makes a lot of sense, and they're all good programs."

"We're very happy to get that quality of schedule without actually being in the Big Ten Conference."

On Saturday, the Irish continued their annual rivalry against the Wolverines. Notre Dame has beaten Michigan the last nine times the teams have met on Irish turf. This time was no different, as the win streak was pushed to 10 in a row.

"That's always a spirited

match," Bayliss said. "It's a nice, healthy, competitive rivalry between two schools that have had a lot of success in numerous sports over the years. You feel the electricity in the air when you warm up to play Michigan. It really means something."

The Irish found themselves in an early hole as their revamped doubles lineups dropped the match's closely contested first point. Despite also falling behind in three first set singles matches, the team bounced back well and won five of the six individual contests.

After the Irish evened the team score at 1-1, sophomore Stephen Bass gave the Irish the lead with a win over No. 81 Matko Maravic in a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 upset. The victory gave Bass his fourth win this season over a nationally-ranked opponent and improved his career mark to 14-2 in three-set matches.

"Stephen Bass really deserves a lot of credit because Maravic had just beaten one of the best players in the country the week-end before at LSU," Bayliss said. "We have a lot of respect for him. All of [Michigan's] guys played well against us. I was particularly proud of the way Irackli [Akhvlediani] fought and dug out his match against Steve Peretz. In general, we played pretty darn well."

Although he dropped the first set of his match 6-2, Akhvlediani clinched the match for Notre Dame with a 2-6, 6-2, 7-5 win over Michigan's Steve Peretz at

the No. 5 slot.

Shuffling their doubles lineup dramatically, the Irish had mixed results over the weekend but showed flashes of potential. Although the team dropped the doubles point against Michigan, they placed well against the Boilermakers and picked up the early 1-0 advantage.

Irish duos Brent D'Amico and Eric Langenkamp and Ryan Keckley and Barry King posted doubles victories at the No. 1 and No. 2 spots, respectively.

The 7-0 shutout match against the Boilermakers was a fairly quick one that saw the Irish claim five of the singles matches in straight sets. D'Amico was the first player to register a singles victory, defeating Sounak Chatterjee in a quick 6-2, 6-2 decision.

Akhvlediani again clinched the match victory for Notre Dame against Purdue, posting a 6-2, 6-3 victory against Jarred Leibner.

"He's been a pretty big rock for us this year," Bayliss said. "You better bring your lunch against Irackli because you're going to be out there a long time if you plan on beating him. He keeps the ball deep and he hits big off the ground. He's come probably the greatest distance of all our players in the last year."

Notre Dame's next challenge will come from No. 44 Southern Methodist in an outdoor showdown next Sunday.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumu@nd.edu

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Edwards

continued from page 32

run]. I think the wind helped it a little bit," said Edwards, who has nine home runs and 35 RBI in 22 games this season. "I was pretty sure the other two were good."

Edwards hit a solo blast in the first to give the Irish a 1-0 lead. His next bomb was a two-run shot in the third before he added insurance runs with a three-run smash in the seventh that cleared the "Frank Eck Stadium" sign in left field.

"You can watch a lot of

games in baseball and never see a guy locked in that way," Notre Dame coach Paul Mainieri said.

Freshman lefthander Wade Korpi threw five quality innings to earn his second victory of the season, yielding just a three-run homer in the fourth to the Bronco's Tony Scheffler. Korpi struck out three, walked two and allowed just six base hits.

"I thought Wade Korpi was phenomenal," Mainieri said. "That was the Wade Korpi we recruited. He changed speeds great, and he got ahead of hitters."

Dan Kapala pitched 2 2/3 innings and gave up two runs, Mike Dury added zero runs in

1/3 inning and Ryan Doherty closed the door on Western Michigan with a scoreless ninth.

Western Michigan starter Derek Schlecker took the loss after pitching three innings and surrendering four earned runs. The Broncos, who haven't played a home game yet this season, dropped to 5-11.

Leading 1-0 in the third, the Irish took command of the game with a three-run inning. Shortstop Greg Lopez and centerfielder Alex Nettey both singled to put men on the corners with zero outs. Freshman second baseman Brett Lilley fell behind two strikeouts before choppy a grounder to the right side of the infield, which scored Lopez and advanced Nettey into scoring position. Edwards then blasted home run No. 2 to give the Irish a 4-0 advantage.

After Scheffler's home run in the top of the fourth, the Irish added a run in the bottom of the fifth. Down in the count 0-2, Nettey was hit by a pitch and advanced to second on Lilley's fielder's choice. Edwards was intentionally walked before Matt Bransfield smoked a sharp single through the left side, scoring Nettey and putting Notre Dame ahead 5-3.

Nettey added an RBI single in the ninth and finished with two hits, three runs and an RBI.

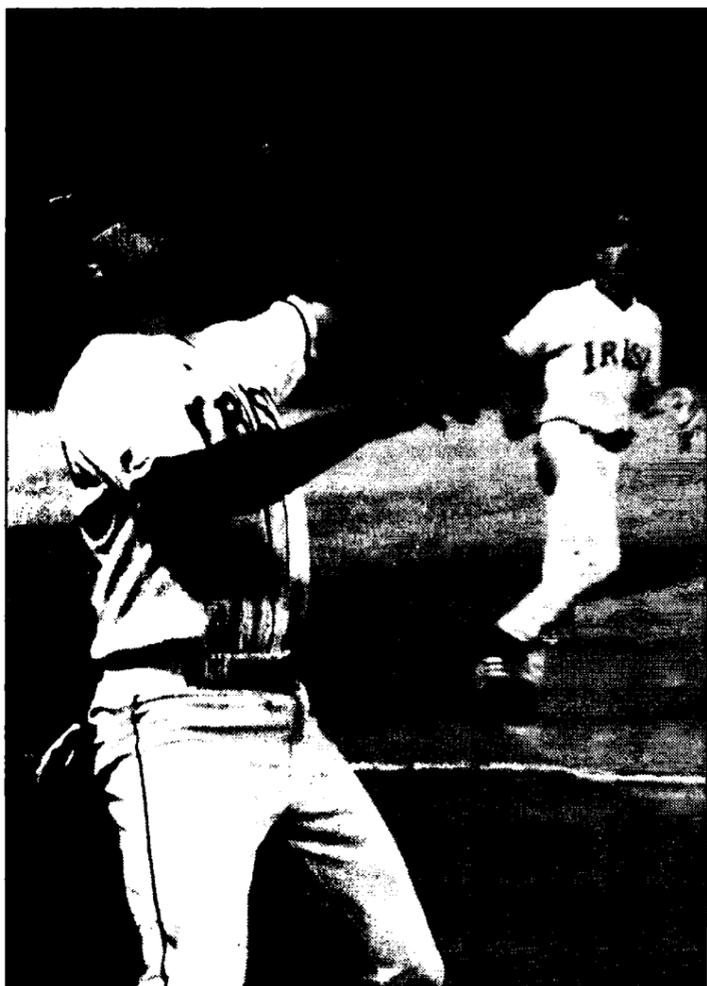
With the victory, Notre Dame has now won five of its last six, including four in a row.

"I feel like we're playing better baseball," Mainieri said. "The pitching is better, which is the big thing. We've been pretty efficient."

The Irish face a dreadful 0-24 Chicago State squad at 5:05 p.m. today at Frank Eck Stadium.

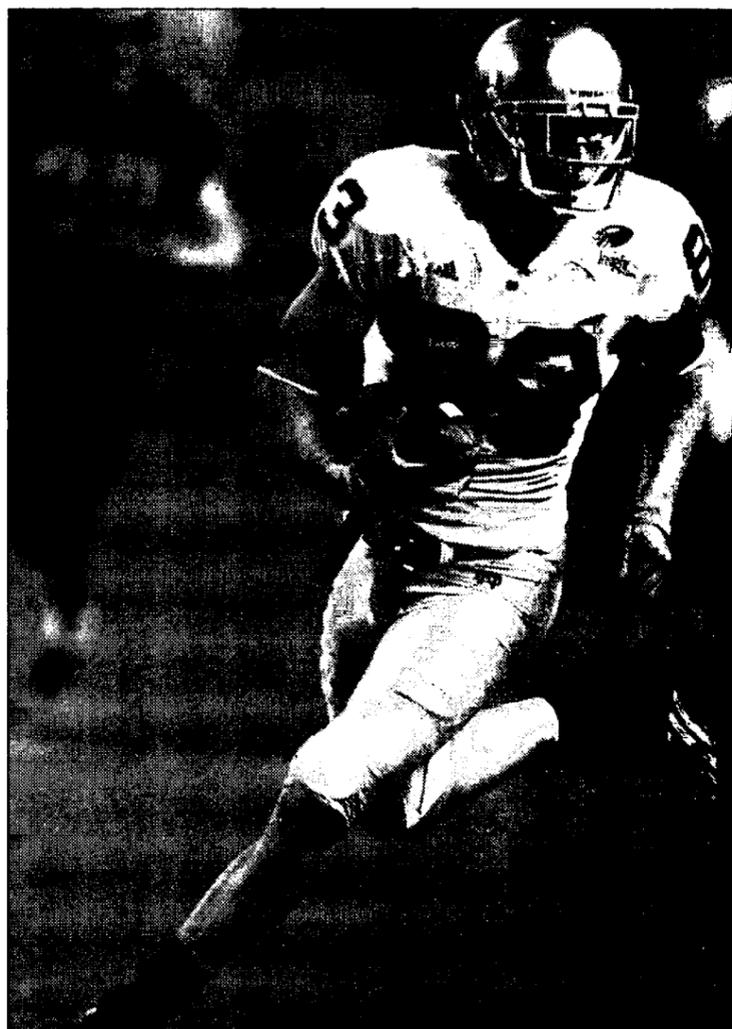
Freshman Joey Williamson, who has six appearances this season, will make his first career start for Notre Dame.

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Irish third baseman Matt Edwards looks a pop-up into his glove Tuesday night. Edwards hit three home runs in Notre Dame's 9-5 win over Western Michigan.



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish wide receiver Jeff Samardzija believes the team will respond well to head coach Charlie Weis' high expectations this spring.

Spring

continued from page 32

raise their expectations because it just isn't good enough. They get the message, and I think that's the important thing."

Sophomore wide receiver Jeff Samardzija fully expects the Irish to deliver on Weis' demands.

"He's a straightforward guy — he tells you what he thinks, and he tells you what he wants," Samardzija said. "He expects to get that from his players, and we expect to give that to him."

While practice may have started on the wrong foot, Weis was ultimately encouraged by what he saw on both sides of the ball.

Specifically, Weis was pleased to see a more holistic, team-oriented defensive style that the new coaching staff has emphasized.

"The number one thing I saw on defense — one of the things that [defensive coordinator] Rick [Minter] and the defensive staff were trying to stress — was getting 11 guys running to the ball," Weis said. "I really think that shows one major step towards being an unselfish defense where instead of looking to highlight and grandstand and pointing out to the crowd that you made a play, let's go party with your teammates — that was very refreshing to see."

In addition to positive signs on the defensive side of the ball, a number of offensive players provided cause for optimism.

However, Weis cautioned that spring practice — especially the first day — is a little different than Saturday afternoon.

"There were several skills guys that I was both intrigued by and excited about that I've seen out there," Weis said. "But this is in shorts without pads on, so I'm trying not to do cartwheels."

If there was one major source of disappointment for

Weis, it was the lack of relatively unknown players that stepped up and made the coaching staff take notice Tuesday.

"The biggest problem I had today was not seeing enough people that I don't know that much about making statements for themselves," Weis said. "If I'm going to have this open door policy where everyone has a fair chance to make a name for themselves, you'd like some people to stand out."

With Notre Dame spring practice officially underway, the next step is simply to build on what has been accomplished the day before.

"We set the bar, and now we have a long ways to go," Irish offensive coordinator Michael Haywood said. "That bar is a little low right now, but with the kids' attitudes and expectations, I think we can raise it up each and every day we go out to practice."

Notes

◆ Three Irish players — running back Justin Hoskins, defensive end Ronald Talley and offensive guard James Bonelli — did not participate Tuesday.

"As of this time, they're not participating with us for violating team rules — that's as far as I'm going to go with that subject," Weis said. "We'll see how that goes at a later date."

◆ Weis said that Ron Powlus, the director of personnel development, will be substituting for assistant head coach David Cutcliffe during spring practice. Cutcliffe is at home recovering from heart surgery.

"I went to the NCAA, and I applied to add a ninth guy onto the field so that I could have somebody that could help monitor the quarterbacks," Weis said. "I felt that the guys after [starting quarterback Brady] Quinn would not get much coaching if I was spending all my time with Quinn. The NCAA granted that relief — that will be the case throughout the entire spring."

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

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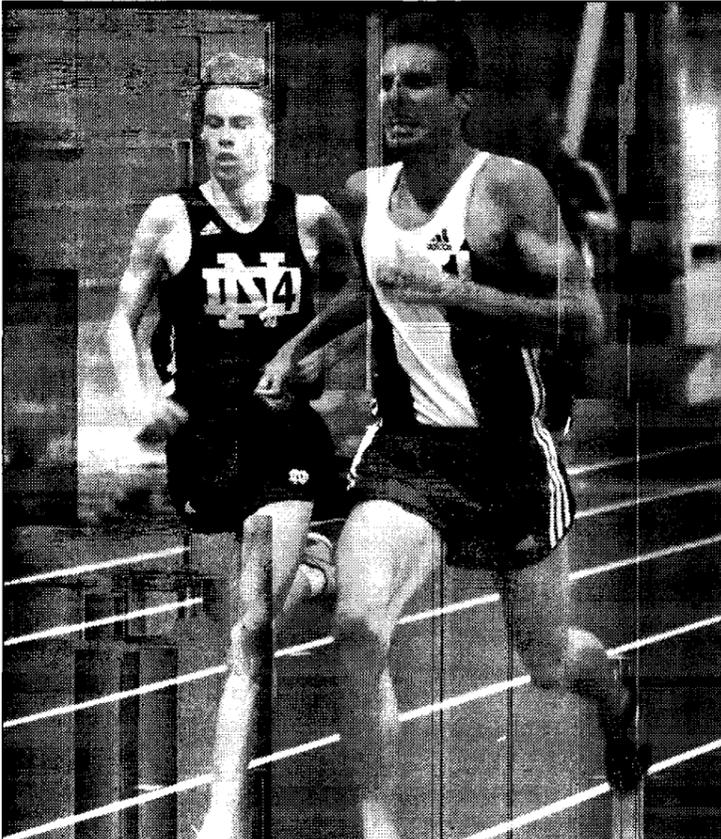
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Ray C. Anderson

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March 31, 2005
4:30 p.m.



BETH WERNET/The Observer

Irish runner Kurt Benninger, left, ran the fastest 5,000 meters in school history this weekend. He broke the old mark held by Luke Walton, pictured at right running for Adidas Sports during the Mayo Mile on Feb. 5.

Record

continued from page 32

Benninger's time of 13 minutes, 33.05 seconds was made even more incredible by the fact that it was the first time he had run the 5,000 meters. Benninger won the race with a six-second cushion over his nearest competitor and broke Luke Watson's old Notre Dame record by two seconds.

Head Coach Joe Piane was understandably impressed.

"It was wonderful. He was under control the whole time. He ran the first two miles in 4:24 each and then ran the third in 4:12," Piane said.

The 5,000-meter run is equivalent to roughly 3.1 miles.

In addition to Benninger, the Irish men saw several others attain NCAA regional qualifying marks at the Stanford meet.

Kaleb Van Ort won the 10,000 meters in 28:59.35. Tim Moore and Todd Mobley finished behind Van Ort in the 10,000 but also posted times that qualified for the regional meet. Todd Ptacek and

Ryan Johnson also qualified for the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Senior Selim Nurudeen got a rare opportunity for a student-athlete — the chance to go home over Easter break as he competed in the Dr. Pepper Invitational at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Nurudeen, who is from Friendswood, Texas, won the 110-meter high hurdles in 13.92 seconds and finished third in the 200-meter dash in 21.53.

Coach Piane said that he was satisfied with the number of qualifying times his team achieved this weekend, but stressed that there was work to be done, saying that he hoped the team would qualify around 25 athletes for the regionals. He was, however, pleased with what he saw this weekend.

"There were a lot of guys that ran well — it was a very exciting day," he said.

Friday and Saturday the Irish will be competing at the Indiana Relays in Bloomington on the campus of Indiana University.

Contact John Everett at jeverett@nd.edu

Zeller

continued from page 32

Plymouth in the Indiana Class 3A state championship game, 74-72.

Zeller is one of 24 players selected to participate in the 28th annual Boys McDonald's All-American game at Notre Dame's Joyce Center tonight (8 p.m., ESPN). He will compete on the West team.

"It will be great to have him as a representative for us on our floor," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said.

The other representative for the state of Indiana is Josh McRoberts, a 6-foot-10, 235-pound power forward from Carmel High School in Carmel, Ind., headed for Duke.

Three colleges (Duke, Kansas and North Carolina) are tied for the most future players on the McDonald's All-American Team with three each. Oklahoma State and Washington both have two recruits on the team.

Jack Keefer of Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis, Ind., will coach the East team.

Al Rhodes of Logansport, Ind., High School will coach Zeller's West squad.

The Irish recruit will headline the team after completing a near triple-double performance at Canseco Fieldhouse of 27 points, nine rebounds and a State Finals-record 11 assists.

The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA)

MCDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAMES

WHERE:
NOTRE DAME JOYCE CENTER

WHEN:
• GIRLS AT 5:00 P.M.
• BOYS AT 8:00 P.M.

RADIO:
WSBT (960 AM)

TELEVISION: ESPN
• GIRLS: TAPE-DELAY, 5:00 PM THURSDAY
• BOYS: BROADCASTED LIVE

GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

also gave the 6-foot-11, 240-pound center the Arthur L. Trester mental attitude award.

Brey had the opportunity to watch his recruit play in the Semi-state round on March 19, when Zeller faced another

Irish prospect — committed football recruit and defensive lineman Patrick Kuntz.

Brey said he was more than satisfied with what he saw in a 51-46 Washington win over Roncalli High School.

"It's a four-and-a-half hour drive back from Seymour, Indiana," Brey said. "But I was smiling the whole way home."

Coach Morgan Wootten, who won 1,274 games as the head coach of Dematha High School in Hyattsville, Md., is the chairman of the McDonald's All-American Selection Committee.

Wootten, who coached Brey as a player and whom Brey coached under as an assistant before leaving for Duke, was responsible this year for selecting Zeller and 23 other players from a field of more than 1,500 nominees.

UCLA coach John Wooden will serve as the chairman of the game.

All net proceeds from the 2005 McDonald's All-American Game will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charity of South Bend and Fort Wayne, Ind. In its history, the game has raised nearly \$4 million.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu



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Relive the Revolution. Revive the Spirit!

How the Media Told the Story of Pope John and the Council

Kenneth Woodward
Contributing Editor at *Newsweek*

Wednesday, March 30, 2005, 7:30 p.m.
Stapleton Lounge, Le Mans Hall
Saint Mary's College Campus
Free and open to the public

A lecture co-sponsored by the Center for Spirituality and the Department of Communication Studies, Dance, and Theatre

FOOTBALL

A fresh start

Weis aggressive as Irish begin spring practice drills

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Reflecting the optimism that accompanied both unusually warm weather and the start of a new season, Notre Dame football officially kicked off its 2005 campaign with its first spring practice Tuesday afternoon at Cartier Field.

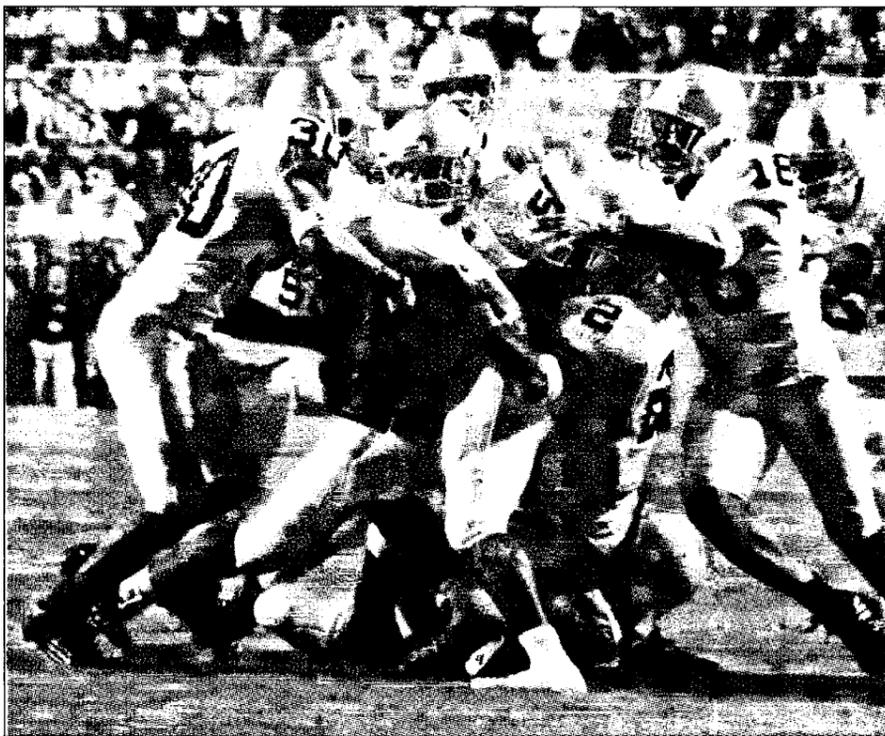
It didn't take long for the demanding style characteristic of new Irish head coach Charlie Weis to emerge — the first group ran the first play of the afternoon three consecutive times before Weis was satisfied.

"I thought we started out slow — I think that the effort level was very good, but my expectations for execution early on are very high," Weis said. "Right from the beginning, if you just let a rep go by without trying to correct it, you're sending the wrong message."

Weis stressed that while he asks a lot from his players — even on the first day of spring practice — the players understand the intentions behind the aggressive approach.

"I think that the number one thing is for the players to know that you're not being condescending and demeaning," Weis said. "I think that's important that they know when you're getting on them, you're getting on them to

see SPRING/page 29



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

The Irish defense swarms to the ball against Tennessee last season. Head coach Charlie Weis has especially stressed defense early in this year's spring practice.

BASEBALL

Edwards slugs team to victory

Third baseman hits three home runs to pace ND in 9-5 win

By JOE HETTLER
Senior Staff Writer

Matt Edwards' first home run Tuesday against Western Michigan needed a gusting wind to clear the left center-field fence.

Credit his next two to pure power.

Notre Dame's third baseman finished 3-for-3 with three home runs, six RBI's and two intentional walks in leading the Irish (12-10) past Western Michigan 9-5 at Frank Eck Stadium.

"I just missed [the first home

see EDWARDS/page 29

See Also

"Team aims to impress at home" page 27

MEN'S TRACK

Benninger sets new 5K record

Sophomore runs race in third-fastest time worldwide this year

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

While most students were celebrating the Easter holiday and the four-day weekend it provided, the Irish were giving themselves other reasons to be joyful while competing in two separate meets in different areas of the country.

The most exciting performance by a Notre Dame runner was at the Stanford Invitational, where sophomore Kurt Benninger not only broke the Notre Dame record in the 5,000 meters, but also recorded the third-fastest time worldwide in the event this

see RECORD/page 30

MCDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN GAMES

All-stars descend on Joyce Center

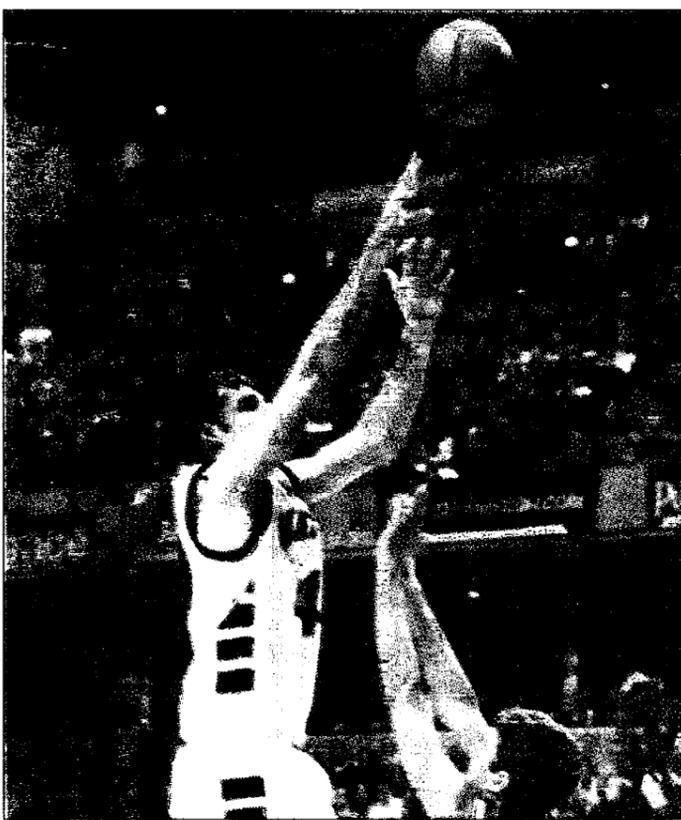


Photo courtesy of The Washington Times-Herald

Irish recruit Luke Zeller takes a shot for Washington High School this season. Zeller was named a McDonald's All-American.

Notre Dame recruit Zeller named to the East team's roster

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Common knowledge says the McDonald's All-American High School Basketball Game is an annual national stage for the country's elite high school players to showcase their skills.

If common knowledge holds true, then Luke Zeller should have the option of sitting this one out.

One of four recruits committed to Notre Dame for next fall, Zeller already showcased his skills last weekend. The Washington High School senior canned a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from just inside half court Saturday night to beat

see ZELLER/page 30

See Also

"Rising stars to take the court" page 24

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Weathers resigns as head coach

By MIKE TENNANT
Sports Writer

Head women's swimming coach Bailey Weathers resigned Tuesday, leaving the Irish program after 10 winning seasons and nine straight Big East titles.

In a press release issued Tuesday by the Notre Dame Sports Information Department, Weathers cited both his and the University's need for a change.

"We've had a nice run for the last decade, and now I think it's time for something new, both for me and for the program," Weathers said in the release. "I'm ready for a different challenge and I think the timing is right for someone new to come in and see where they can take

see WEATHERS/page 28

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

MEN'S TENNIS

ND 5, Michigan 2
ND 7, Purdue 0

The Irish rebounded from their March 17 loss to No. 3 Illinois by knocking off a pair of Big Ten teams.

page 28

ND SOFTBALL

Notre Dame 2,
W. Michigan 1

Carrie Wisen's seventh-inning two-RBI double helped the Irish come from behind to win.

page 27

WOMEN'S TRACK

Team qualifies six
for NCAA regionals

Stephanie Madia was the highlight of the weekend, winning the 5,000 meter run at the Stanford Invitational.

page 26

SMC TENNIS

Saint Mary's vs.
Chicago

A victory for the Belles would help the team earn an invitation to the Midwestern Meet next weekend.

page 26

MEN'S LACROSSE

ND 9, Hofstra 8
ND 11, Villanova 7

The No. 9 Irish have now won four games in a row after breaking Villanova's 14-game home winning streak.

page 25

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Boston College 10,
Notre Dame 9

The team fell behind early against the Eagles, eventually losing in overtime on the road.

page 24