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3,478 admitted from first-rate pool

956 minority students invited to class of 2009

By JULIE BENDER
News Writer

Notre Dame will be slightly smarter come enrollment time this August.

The prospective students for the class of 2009 — with the strongest applicant pool in terms of academics to date — have received their acceptance letters and are currently deciding whether or not Notre Dame is the place they want to spend the next four years of their lives.

"The applicant pool was clearly stronger than ever in terms of college prep courses, grades, rank-in-class and test scores," said Dan Saracino, director of admissions at Notre Dame. Statistics prove Saracino's



KERRY O'CONNOR/The Observer

An admissions office tour guide shows a group of prospective Notre Dame students around campus, pointing out notable sights.

see 2009/page 4

ADMISSIONS STATISTICS

Number of Total Applicants:	
Class of 2008	Class of 2009
11,483	11,316

Total Number Accepted:	
Class of 2008	Class of 2009
3,359	3,478

Number of Minority Applicants:	
Class of 2008	Class of 2009
1,879	2,028

Number of Minority Applicants Accepted:	
Class of 2008	Class of 2009
885	956

U.S. sees effect of late pope

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

Pope John Paul II was nothing less than an international globetrotter. When he visited the United States for the first time in 1979, Americans granted him unprecedented celebrity status for a religious figure. Despite his enormous popularity, the U.S. Church and the pope have had a complicated relationship from the beginning.

Under John Paul II, the Church saw an increase in the number of Catholics on a global level, a reinvigoration of Catholic conservatism and a new appreciation for the youth of the world. But the late pope also leaves behind him a struggling Church in the United States, a church that clashed with the Vatican over John Paul II's firm control of church leadership and refusal to compromise with American Catholics seeking a more democratic approach.

Some church experts, such as law professor Cathleen Kaveny, attribute the tension between the United States and the Vatican to a natural result of the coexistence of two hugely powerful global institutions.

"There's always going to be tension between the American Church and the universal Church because [the United States] is the only empire left in the world," she said. "The Vatican is about caring for the whole world and that's going to create tension in terms of the perspective of our nation."

The U.S. Church, though united in its mourning of the pope, is struggling with internal problems.

In 2002, the sexual abuse

see CHURCH/page 6

SENATE

Baron, Shappell lead fledgling representatives



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Student body president Dave Baron and student body vice president Lizzi Shappell preside over their first meeting with senators.

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

Student government veterans took fledgling senators under their wings at Wednesday night's Senate meeting, introducing them to parliamentary procedure and the various committees.

"The entire meeting was a learning experience for them," student body vice president Lizzi Shappell said.

Student body president Dave Baron agreed, saying the meeting laid the groundwork for the year.

"Things could get going [quicker] this year than last year," Baron said. Baron noted the new senators' energetic attitude and willingness to ask questions as reasons why.

Shappell said the meeting

served as a "day of introduction," as old committee chairs described past achievements and new committee chairs proposed future goals, providing information to new senators who then decided what committees they would like to join.

Outgoing senator Vijay Ramanan said the Academic Affairs committee focused on course registration, teacher course evaluations, DARTing and the College Readership Program. Incoming committee chair Chris Harris said while he has 10 to 12 projects in mind, the College Readership Program is the "number one priority."

Outgoing chair of the Diversity Affairs committee Nick Coleman noted last year's

see SENATE/page 6

Women gather to envision future for Catholic Church

Discussion ensues at Saint Mary's College

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

While members of the College of Cardinals gathered in Vatican City this week to bury Pope John Paul II and to appoint a new leader, a group of roughly equal size met in Le Mans Hall at Saint Mary's to discuss hope for the future of the Catholic Church.

There were no television

cameras present, and at the end of the night there would be no smoke, gray or white, wafting from the bell tower. But students and faculty talked with energy and sometimes emotion about issues ranging from the ordination of women to homosexuality to Terri Schiavo.

The discussion, entitled "The Church Women Want," began with opening comments from two church experts and five students and then continued in small groups. It was part of an ongoing dialogue at the college in relation to its

official affiliation with the Catholic Common Ground Initiative, a movement founded by former Chicago Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

Mary Henold, professor at Roanoke College and an expert on Catholic feminism, told the audience she was a "contradiction" within the Church.

"I am unapologetically progressive and thoroughly Catholic," Henold said. "I can't imagine ever leaving the church, although I have come to understand that others are perfectly justified in doing

so."

When she asked herself what she would like to see in the Catholic Church, Henold said, there were several obvious answers including the ordination of women and the recognition of single, non-celibate women whom, she said, the church currently ignores.

Other responses, Henold said, took her by surprise and will take further thought to develop fully.

"First," Henold said, "the Church I want is a church that lives."

Henold said the decline in

vocations to the priesthood, specifically the order of Jesuits that deeply influence her, is frightening.

"I'm willing to take on more responsibility as a layperson, so that the church I love remains vibrant and visionary in the changing world," Henold said.

Henold said the Church should once again embrace itself and its history. Henold believes the Church has lost some of its identity in the last half of the century.

see WOMEN/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

I'm not offended

One hazy night in London, I mistakenly boarded bus number 23 without my lovely roommates. When they realized back in Flat 16 that I was missing, they "organized" a makeshift "search party" that consisted of them wandering around in a Strongbow-induced stupor, asking stupors if anyone had seen "the Asian."

Christie Bolsen

Assistant
Scene Editor

Judging by the offended reaction of passers-by, we apparently find ethnic jokes a bit too funny. I must have the sensitivity of a rhinoceros when it comes to the fine nuances of the diversity debate, since it's okay for people to refer to me as "the Asian," or to make me keep the cups score because "my kind" is "good with numbers," or to tell me that we're only good at Little League and hot dog eating contests.

We're all careful about being politically correct, so saying you hate Asians in Scholastic is not received as humorous, and Latin Expressions emcees are perceived as alienating non-Latinos. Is it really the people making good-natured jokes we should worry about, when we know for a fact that they are not at all racist? Please, let's rally our efforts instead against the boorishly ignorant, like people who try to find out what kind of Asian you are by asking, "Where are you from?" If you really want to know what kind of Asian someone is, the effectiveness of this question is clearly dependent on the assumption that we all recently stepped off a plane from Asia. I'm from Ohio. Back off.

I don't know what the world is coming to when we can't all gather round and have a nice hearty laugh at an ethnic joke. Sure, Latin Expressions featured Latino pride, sometimes at the expense of white people. Maybe it went too far, I'm obviously one of the least qualified people to judge that, but isn't it better than the alternative of pretending we're all the same? It's funny because it's true — when someone has a "you don't understand us" attitude they're usually right. I don't know what it's like to feel uncomfortable around white people, like one of my Mexican friends who expressed this sentiment to me, so I really don't understand her situation. Let people have their harmless fun.

So the next time someone makes an inappropriate joke about your pocket abacus, it's probably not because they're prejudiced or because they're trying to build up more barriers between ethnic groups. There's already underlying differences in place, so commenting on them doesn't mean you created them, it means you can acknowledge and maybe celebrate them. Discrimination is not funny; ridiculous stereotypes about minorities are.

But seriously, guys ... stop making me keep score.

Contact Christie Bolsen at cbolsen@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU WERE PRESIDENT OF THE SHIRT, WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE?



Aaron Zielinski

junior
Stanford

"Wins and losses, but no Ty."



Tom Martin

freshman
Siegfried

"A picture of a bright gold dome with scaffolding."



Lukas Mendoza

sophomore
St. Ed's

"Like the shirt from last year, a picture of the team."



Darius Stewart

5th year
off-campus

"On the front a picture of Waldo and on the back 'Where's Ty?'"



Patrick Welch

sophomore
St. Ed's

"Not crappy."



Andrew Yi

sophomore
St. Ed's

"I'd have pictures of past greats such as Montana, Tim Brown, etc."



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

A banner outside of Breen-Phillipps Hall combines artistry and poetry to celebrate the 40th birthday of rector Becca Davidson.

OFFBEAT

Professor accused of stealing manure

ROCKPORT, Mass. — A Harvard economics professor has been accused of neglecting the standard market practice of paying for goods and services by trying to steal a truckload of manure from a horse farmer.

Stable manager Phillip Casey says Martin Weitzman, Harvard University's Ernest E. Monrad Professor of Economics, has been stealing manure from Charlie Lane's Rockport farm for years.

Police said said Casey found Weitzman on the property last Friday, so he

blocked in Weitzman's pickup truck and called police. Weitzman got angry, Casey said, then offered to pay for the manure he'd already taken. But Casey said he wouldn't budge because he wanted the thefts to stop.

Police say ex-teacher acted on old grudge

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Police say a former elementary school teacher held a grudge almost 30 years after receiving poor work reviews, littering the driveways of former co-workers and administrators with roofing nails and splattering paint on their garage doors.

Thomas R. Haberbush, 72, of Niskayuna pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count each of stalking, criminal mischief and criminal tampering, all misdemeanors. Police said that three former school board members, a retired principal and a retired assistant principal at Caroline Street Elementary School were among the nine victims Haberbush targeted over the past two years. Their car tires were damaged by roofing nails that Haberbush threw in the driveways, police said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Author and historian Mae Ngai of the University of Chicago will give a seminar today entitled "Chinese Americans and World's Fairs." It will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium and is sponsored by the department of American studies.

Deborah Yashar, professor of politics and international affairs at Princeton University, will lecture on "Contesting Citizenship in Latin America: The Rise of Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge" today. It will begin at 4:15 p.m. in C-103 Hesburgh Center.

As part of the 2004-2005 Nanovic Institute series of contemporary film "European Cinemas," the film "Soldiers of Salamina" will be shown tonight at 7 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Canadian fiddler Natalie McMaster, who has performed with musicians such as Luciano Pavarotti, Faith Hill and Carlos Santana, will perform Friday at 8 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The Student Union Board will be showing the movie "Closer" Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. Tickets are three dollars.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 57 LOW 43	HIGH 50 LOW 40	HIGH 55 LOW 33	HIGH 65 LOW 38	HIGH 70 LOW 40	HIGH 63 LOW 46

Atlanta 68 / 54 Boston 63 / 47 Chicago 52 / 36 Denver 70 / 40 Houston 76 / 52 Los Angeles 71 / 54 Minneapolis 62 / 40 New York 64 / 50 Philadelphia 75 / 48 Phoenix 76 / 52 Seattle 54 / 42 St. Louis 61 / 43 Tampa 80 / 64 Washington 73 / 50

SMC-TV to provide campus information

By KELLY MAUS
News Writer

With the increasing number of obligations and responsibilities facing college students, it is often dif-

ficult to keep track of the many events happening in the world, let alone those on campus.

Understanding a need for a new way of campus communication, members of Saint Mary's Student Government

and the Information Technology Resource Center have combined forces to launch SMC-TV — a closed-circuit campus cable channel for educational and communicative use on campus.

Over 18 months in the making, SMC-TV will provide students, faculty and staff with a means for circulating information like campus news, upcoming events and national/world headlines.

On Monday night, Director of Information Technology Keith Fowlkes gave a presentation on what can be expected from this new project.

"The campus needs a new and fresh information source for students and faculty," Fowlkes said.

In addition to campus news, Fowlkes said SMC-TV will also have to ability to broadcast other programs from talk shows to special interest programs.

"As long as the proposed programming follows our slogan of 'creative, intelligent, and engaging', as well as the professional standards set by the advising committee, the sky's

the limit," Fowlkes said.

"We believe SMC-TV will serve as a great innovative way for students to express themselves, as well as learn the skills needed to create and produce on-air performances."

One key point that was emphasized at Monday's presentation was the great need for student involvement. It is planned that within two years, SMC-TV will be completely student-run and operated, from pitching ideas all the way to the time the program is aired.

"The campus needs a new and fresh information source for students and faculty."

Keith Fowlkes
director of information technologies

Currently, SMC-TV is being funded through the Husking Foundation Grant received by the college several years ago. This summer, advisors

hope to purchase new cameras and other equipment to begin training students in the fall.

Once student management positions and independent production teams are filled, the faculty members and advisors involved hope to begin on-air programming beginning January or February 2006.

Contact Kelly Maus at
kmaus01@saintmarys.edu

Student designs win prizes

Special to the Observer

Two senior industrial design students at the University of Notre Dame placed second and third at the 12th annual International Housewares Association (IHA) Student Design Competition held March 20 to 22 at the McCormick Place Exposition Center in Chicago.

The competition was part of the IHA International Home and Housewares Show, the world's largest home goods and house wares marketplace showcasing thousands of new products and designs.

Selim Nurudeen from Friendswood, Texas, took second place and received a \$1,600 cash prize for his product design "Clean Sweep," an innovative broom that deals with the inefficiencies of using a dust pan by integrating a vacuum function into the body of a broom.

Michael Elwell from Amherst, Ohio, finished in third place and won \$1,000 for his product design "Magnificare," a device that helps people with arthritic hands open push-and-turn prescription bottles and also includes a magnifying glass to help read labels.

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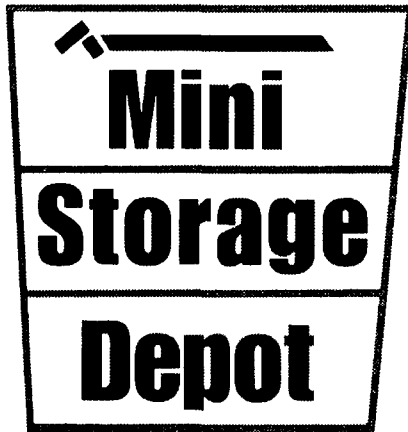
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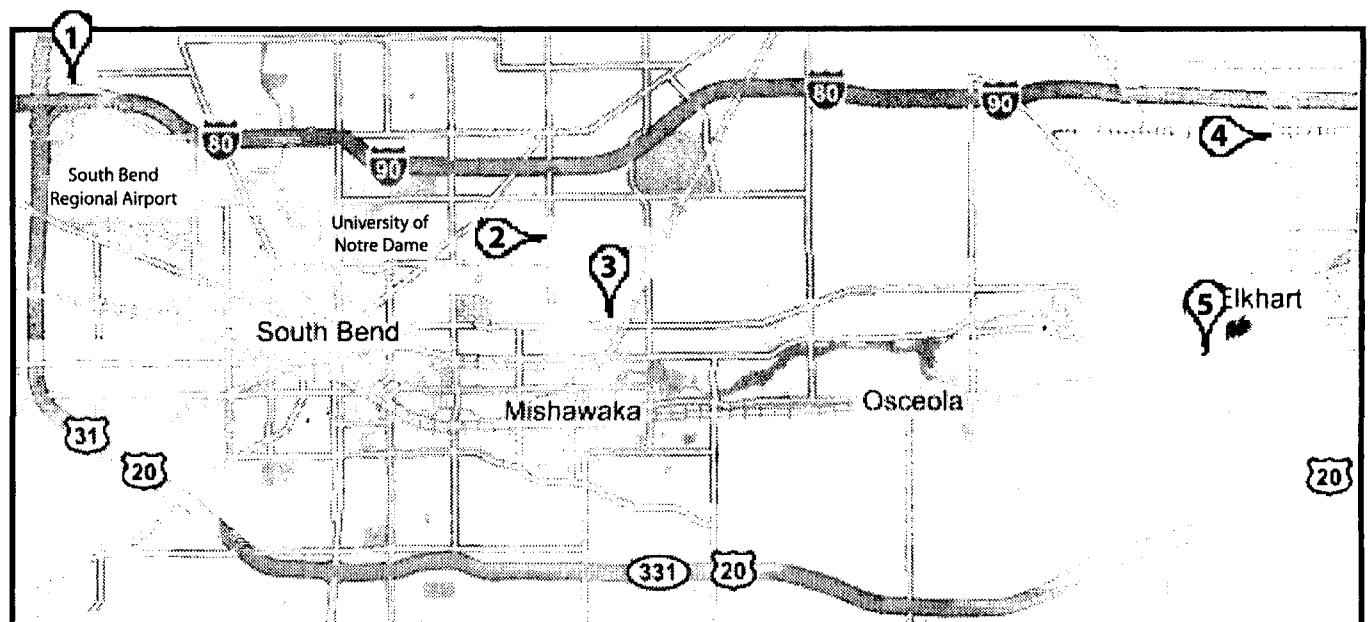
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2009

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assessment accurate.

There were 11,316 students who applied to Notre Dame this year — the third-highest number of applicants ever. Of that number, less than one-third of applicants were accepted to Notre Dame, with 3,478 students receiving acceptance letters. Last year, just ten fewer students were admitted.

Of the students who received acceptance letters, the Admissions Office predicts a little more than half will enroll at the University. Saracino quoted expected enrollment at 1,975

students.

With such a large number of quality students applying to Notre Dame this year, the University was able to select an incoming class of high caliber in the classroom. According to Saracino, the average SAT score for the 11,316 applicants this year was 1312, and the average ACT score was 29. Both figures were the highest test score averages Notre Dame has ever seen in applications for an incoming class.

Notre Dame, however, looks for more than just academic excellence when selecting prospective students, Saracino said. Students must be well-rounded with a variety of experiences outside the classroom.

The class of 2009 didn't fail to impress admissions officers in this area either, despite its outstanding academic records.

"The students' extracurricular involvement was equally impressive this year," Saracino said.

Diversity is another key area the class of 2009 excels in. This year saw a jump in the number of minority applicants to the University, a fact the Admissions Office looks on with pride.

"We had a record number of ethnic minority students apply-

ing this year," Saracino said. "There were 2,028 minority applicants versus last year's high of 1,879."

Of those minority students who applied to Notre Dame, about half were accepted into the incoming class.

"We admitted a record number of ethnic minority students for the class of 2009 — 956 versus 885 from last year," Saracino said.

An increased number of applicants generally means a larger number of students will choose to enroll at the University, so

predictions for the incoming class are high.

"Based upon previous years' yields on admitted students, we anticipate enrolling the largest number ever of ethnic minority students," Saracino said. "Twenty-three percent of the incoming class would be considered ethnic minority."

This year's applicants also exceeded expectations on the diversity of their geographical distribution. According to the Admission Office's statistics, all 50 states are represented in the admitted student pool, and 129 of the admitted students are international students.

Contact Julie Bender at jbender@nd.edu

Women

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"The reality for many of us who grew up in Vatican II's wake is that we never experienced that which made Catholicism truly distinctive, and so now there's a real hunger in my generation and younger for a vibrant Catholic culture," Henold said.

According to Henold, her position could be misinterpreted as an argument to return to the days before the second Vatican Council. Instead, what she would like to see is a return to a teaching of Church history.

Senior Carolyn Madison said she has had many strong role models in her life and in her faith, particularly her mother and grandmother. These roles, however, are no longer sufficient in a modern Church, Madison said.

"There are many positions in which women can make a difference, can inspire others, can lead someone to a better union with Christ," Madison said. "However, [these are] positions in which women are restricted in their actions and these women desire more."

Senior Sarah Brown recounted her most memorable childhood experiences as a Catholic, bringing the gifts up to the altar and being asked to serve as a cross bearer during mass.

"These feelings of having been included and taken seriously in the Church are both what made me Catholic and what keeps me Catholic," Brown said.

Brown said that while she feels fortunate to have been given certain roles within the Church as a woman, the Church still fails to include them on an equal level.

"When I watch CNN interview members of the leadership of the Church on the significance of the death of the Pope and I see no women approached, I do not feel included," Brown said. "I do not feel as if my voice is being taken seriously."

Brown told the audience the Church must make a place for women at every level.

"The Church that I want, as a woman, is one that works to make women's voices and women's experiences included and taken seriously in every arena of the Church — from carrying the gifts of the Eucharist during mass, to leading the Church in its decision making."

Contact Megan O'Neil at onei0907@saintmarys.edu



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Welcome to our newest stars from University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College.

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Melanie Ball	Jacob Kaczka	Jasmine Small
Grant Bartucci	Jack Kingseed	Bradley Springman
Michael Bosley	Amy Leonard	Matthew Thompson
Sara Cerreta	Marguerite Malone	Thomas Turnbull
Gloria Chiu	Dennis Mathews	Jennifer Van Hettinga
Adam Dufour	Catherine Peer	Andrew Vitt
Michael Ferguson	David Purcell	Kathleen Wagner
Colin Flood	David Rooney	Chad Ward
Cesar Flores	Alison Ruddy	Sarah Wear
John Gaylord	Steven Rudnik	Dean Wolf
Miranda Graham		Joseph Zurenko

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Suspect acquitted on terrorism charges

BERLIN — A Tunisian man accused of planning attacks in Germany for al-Qaida was acquitted of terrorism charges Wednesday but found guilty of illegal weapons possession and tax evasion. He was sentenced to three years, nine months in prison.

The verdict marked another setback for the German government, which has had difficulty making charges stick in several post-Sept. 11, 2001, terror cases.

Federal prosecutors alleged that Ihsan Garnaoui, 34, planned attacks on American or Jewish targets to coincide with the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. They had sought a six-year prison sentence on charges that included attempting to form a terrorist group.

Parliament elects Kurdish president

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The Iraqi parliament chose Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani as the country's new interim president Wednesday, reaching out to a long-repressed minority and bringing the country closer to its first democratically elected government in 50 years.

Ousted members of the former regime — including toppled leader Saddam Hussein — were to watch the announcement on televisions in their prison cells, Iraqi officials said. It wasn't clear if they would watch it live or on a tape.

Adel Abdul-Mahdi, a Shiite, and interim President Ghazi al-Yawer, a Sunni Arab, were chosen as Talabani's two vice presidents.

After weeks of at times tense negotiations, the three candidates received 227 votes. Thirty ballots were left blank.

NATIONAL NEWS

White supremacist given 40 years

CHICAGO — Avowed white supremacist Matthew Hale was sentenced to 40 years in prison Wednesday for trying to have a federal judge killed — the same judge whose husband and mother were murdered five weeks ago by a deranged man with no connection to Hale.

Hale, the 33-year-old leader of a group that preaches racial holy war, was sentenced after a rambling, two-hour speech in which he claimed he was the victim and even recited part of "The Star Spangled Banner." He showed no emotion and sat staring at the defense table as the sentence was handed down.

Prosecutors argued for the maximum sentence, saying Hale's crime amounted to an act of terrorism, and the judge agreed.

Ex-maid testifies against Jackson

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — A former maid for Michael Jackson said Tuesday she once entered the pop star's bedroom and, through bathroom steam, saw him showering with a boy who often slept in the pop star's bed.

The woman, who was Jackson's personal maid for about five years and whose son settled a molestation claim with the singer, told of seeing Jackson in the shower with a boy about eight years old who frequently stayed at Neverland.

"Are you aware of him staying anywhere other than in Michael Jackson's bedroom?" asked prosecutor Ron Zonen.

LOCAL NEWS

State plans to close juvenile prison

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The state plans to close its Bloomington Juvenile Correctional Facility by April 22 because of abundance of empty juvenile beds statewide.

The Indiana Department of Correction will move the 34 prisoners at the Bloomington site to other facilities, spokeswoman Java Ahmed said Tuesday.

DOC facilities statewide have space for more than 1,700 juvenile offenders but currently hold about 1,030.

Police cut off pope's visitors

Officers work to clear the Vatican for the preparation of John Paul II's funeral

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — After electronic highway signs and cell phone text messages failed to staunch the flow of pilgrims, police stepped in Wednesday to turn back mourners hoping to join the 24-hour line to view the body of Pope John Paul II, on a day that brought almost 1 million people to the Vatican.

Using a special entrance for VIPs, President Bush viewed the body with his wife, Laura, along with his father, former President Clinton and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, shortly after the U.S. delegation reached Rome. They knelt in a pew in front of the remains, bowing their heads in prayer, joining a million pilgrims who had filed solemnly through St. Peter's Basilica.

Seeking to clear the basilica by Thursday evening so the Vatican could prepare for John Paul's funeral the following day, police announced they were closing the line at 10 p.m. Text messages were sent over Italian cellular phone lines. Those at the back would wait 24 hours before entering the basilica.

"We're just hoping the order can be reversed," said Federica Bruni, a 20-year-old student who came from northern Italy and was one of the first to be told to go away Wednesday night.

It took more than an hour after the deadline to set up the barricades and establish the cutoff point.

"You tell these people!" said one Civil Defense officer in frustration as the time passed for the line to end. "How can we close?"

"It's possible there are 1 million people out there," said Luca Spoletini of the Civil Defense Department. "They are all concentrated



People gathered on the bridge Vittorio Emmanuel in Rome Wednesday to pay last respects to Pope John Paul II. Italian police closed the line to view the pope at 10 p.m..

outside St. Peter's ... We are all working to ensure maximum tranquility."

The crowd control problems developed hours after the College of Cardinals set April 18 as the start of its conclave in the Sistine Chapel to choose a successor to John Paul, a papal election with new rules and new technological challenges.

The Vatican is a keeper of secrets without parallel, but there were questions Wednesday about whether the deliberations — and the name of the new pope — could be kept within the frescoed walls in an era of cell phones and

now that the cardinals will be allowed to roam freely around the Vatican.

"They've assured us there are ways to block all communications and conversations," Chicago Cardinal Francis George said. "They're taking precautions to prevent outside interference. ... No cell phones, no laptops, nothing."

The severest of punishments — including excommunication and "grave penalties" meted out by the pope himself — await anyone who breaks the sacred oaths of secrecy.

John Paul set out the penalties in a 1996 document, giving cardinals

who will choose his successor a set of detailed guidelines to ensure the centuries-old process of electing a pope is safe in the modern age.

In it, he called for a clean sweep by "trustworthy" technicians of the Sistine Chapel and adjoining rooms to prevent bugs and other audiovisual equipment from being installed. He banned telephones.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the cardinals would celebrate a morning Mass on April 18, then be sequestered in the Sistine Chapel in the early afternoon for their first ballot.

MONACO

Prince Rainier III dies at 81 years

Associated Press

MONACO — Prince Rainier III, who reshaped Monaco and worked to overcome its reputation as "a sunny place for shady people," died Wednesday, leaving the throne to Prince Albert II, his only son with actress Grace Kelly.

In power for 56 of his 81 years, Rainier was Europe's longest-reigning monarch and the only ruler many of Monaco's 32,000 residents had ever known.

A veritable father-figure, he dragged Monaco into the modern age while preserving much of the

Mediterranean charm and royal trappings of his tiny principality.

Before age slowed him, Rainier poured his energies into public works, earning the name "the builder prince." He put Monaco — which is smaller than New York's Central Park — on the world map with his April 18, 1956, marriage to Kelly, who gave up Hollywood fame to become Princess Grace.

Albert, 47, has been groomed from birth to succeed Rainier. Multilingual, U.S. educated, and a five-time bobsledding Olympian, he was at his father's bedside when Rainier died at a hospital overlooking Monaco's yacht-filled main harbor.

Rainier had been treated there for the past month for heart, kidney and breathing problems. Albert took over the royal powers last week because of Rainier's ill health.

Rainier's funeral will be held April 15 at the 19th-century Monaco Cathedral where he and Princess Grace wed. He is expected to be buried alongside her.

At the traditional midday changing of the palace guards ceremony Wednesday, drums were covered with black cloth. The body of Rainier, whose family dynasty took power in 1297, was moved to his hilltop palace where it will lie in state, the palace said.

Church

continued from page 1

crisis and the revelation that many predatory priests had been relocated rather than removed caused many Catholics to desire a greater voice in choosing local church leaders. The Vatican refused to change its policy.

As a result, many Americans turned their anger toward Rome. Kaveny said the empowerment of local leadership could have helped ease the minds of concerned American Catholics.

"We need to empower our local bishops to address the situation in their own diocese, and I think the pope was a model of the universal Church," Kaveny said. "The next call will be working out a fruitful relationship between the local and the universal Church."

Many have said John Paul II breathed new life into the priesthood, inspiring new American priests to follow in his conservative footsteps. The work of these young priests, many of whom are more conservative than their elders in the priesthood, will play a key role in shaping the Church.

But the number of priests is shrinking. Worldwide, their ranks have dropped by more than 15,000 during John Paul II's pontificate.

Associate professor of history professor Robert Sullivan said, in response, that it is important to note the decline in the number of priests in America under John Paul II's reign is not an indicator of an unstable relationship with the U.S. Church. The shrinking numbers are apparent all over the world and are not characteristic of Catholicism alone, Sullivan said.

"The decline in vocations is a worldwide problem; it is not confined to United States," Sullivan said. "[The U.S. Church] not doing that badly relatively speaking. There has also been great difficulty trying to find rabbis in any number."

Pope John Paul II's firm stance on issues such as birth control, euthanasia and capital punishment sparked debate in the United States and encouraged more non-Catholics to give the Church's views on such issues some of their attention, Sullivan said.

"There has also been a kind of movement in the public sphere toward a greater willingness to entertain the Catholic position on a range of life issues," Sullivan said. "Political data suggests a slight increase in the number of people toward the Church's side."

Kaveny said John Paul II reigned during a time when the U.S. Church faced issues that rocked its foundation. She also said dignity needs to be restored to the priesthood and its authority.

"I think that Pope John Paul II has shown that moral authority is really incredibly important in our media age," Kaveny said. "Not just the appearance of authority, but authority rooted in holiness."

John Paul II's effect on American Catholics is only beginning to become apparent, and the force of his impact is yet to be seen though it will likely play out gradually, parish by parish, according to the Associated Press.

"In our relationships with God it's one soul at a time rather than mass movements," Sullivan said. "In his words and prayers he was able to strengthen the spiritual lives of individuals and that's the most anyone can hope to do."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 1

goal was "to make Notre Dame a more diverse place, not just on paper." Coleman referenced Diversity Awareness Week, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transsexual (GLBT) Week and the Board of Trustees report focusing on equality as last year's key committee projects.

New chair Sarah Liu said this year's committee would be different from last year's due to the addition of a Minority Affairs committee and mentioned her biggest goal, a diversity retreat to be held next August.

Liu said the retreat would cover race, religion, class and GLBT issues.

Shappell, who previously served as Gender Issues committee chair, discussed last year's Sexual Assault Awareness Week and Eating Disorders Awareness Week and development within the Gender Resource Center.

Incoming chair Ali Wishon said the committee would focus on awareness weeks as well as peer intervention groups, updated health and counseling center websites, resident assistant and rector training and increased male involvement.

Residence Life committee chair Sarah Bates cited the projects involving a 24-hour copy machine in the LaFortune cluster, a "Flex 10" meal proposal and a student discount at the Bookstore as key to last year's committee.

Student body president Dave Baron stood in for new ResLife chair Mark Seiler and said this year would build off of past projects as well as work to get to-go cups in the dining hall, printers in every dorm, 24-hour spaces with wireless Internet access and a comprehensive report about a new student center.

"We want to be proactive about what we want," Baron said.

Former University Affairs committee chair Katie Boyle said last year's group worked on issues that affect

students' everyday lives, such as Fair Trade coffee in the dining halls and LaFortune as well as basketball tickets, among other projects.

Incoming chair Matt Walsh discussed his overall view of the committee, defining its area of concern as University policy that affects students and their lives and saying it would potentially target issues such as the dome scaffolding controversy, AllianceND recognition and the programming endowment.

Liz Kozlow, chief executive assistant and last year's Oversight committee chair, said last year's group examined the student government constitution for inconsistencies and tried to change the transi-

tion date, among other projects.

Returning senator and new committee chair Sujal Pandya said this year's Oversight committee would continue last year's work, making minor changes in the constitution to increase efficiency and setting up a master calendar.

Minority Affairs, chaired by Rhea Boyd, and Community Relations, chaired by Nick Guzman, will be ad hoc committees that will be soon be explained in further detail, Shappell said.

Shappell noted committees will be composed of both senators and non-Senate members, since anyone can apply to join. Some committees have up to 15 to 20 members, Shappell

said.

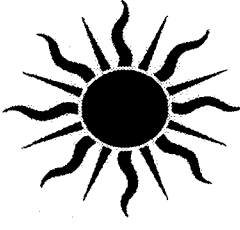
Besides the committee introductions, liaison positions were also introduced. Senators can apply for seats on Judicial Council, Council of Representatives, Financial Management Board and Campus Life Council.

Senators will be assigned to committees and liaison positions by next meeting, Shappell said.

In addition, senators passed three resolutions granting emeritus status to outgoing president Adam Istvan, outgoing vice president Karla Bell and outgoing chief executive assistant Baron.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

summer session



university of notre dame

JUNE 20 – AUGUST 5, 2005

anthropology
architecture
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chemistry
classical languages
computer applications
east asian languages
economics
engineering
english
film
french
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history
irish studies
italian
mathematics
music
philosophy
physics
political science
psychology
sociology
spanish
theatre
theology

The 2005 summer session will begin on Monday, June 20 (enrollment), and end on Friday, August 5 (final exams). Some courses—primarily in science and languages—will begin and end before or after these dates. The *Summer Session Bulletin* contains complete schedule information. The *Bulletin* is available at the Summer Session Office (111 Earth Sciences Bldg.) beginning on Monday, February 28. Information on summer courses, as it appears in the *Bulletin*, is also available at the Summer Session Web site (www.nd.edu/~sumsess).

Notre Dame continuing students—undergraduate and graduate students in residence during the spring semester of 2005 who are eligible to return in the fall—must use Web Registration (1) to register for summer courses and (2) to add or drop courses according to the add and drop dates specific to each course. The Web Registration PIN (personal identification number) for summer is available on insideND for all continuing students. Instructions for course registration (selection) are available at <http://registrar.nd.edu>. Course reference numbers (CRNs) are published in the *Bulletin* and at the Summer Session Web site.

Web Registration will be available for summer registration from Wednesday, March 16, through the add and drop dates specific to each course. Students may register or make schedule changes whenever they choose during this period; no appointment times are necessary.

Air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned housing and (optional) summer meal plans will be available. Forms for these services may be obtained at the Summer Session Office at any time during the spring semester. Students may also apply for summer housing online at www.nd.edu/~sumsess.

Tuition for the summer session of 2005 will be \$565 per credit hour for undergraduate students and \$302 per credit hour for graduate students, plus a \$50 general fee.

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Panelists:

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Annick Gnock Fah, JP Morgan
Virginia E. Ho, Baker and Daniels, Indianapolis
Kwan Kim, Economics and Policy Studies, Notre Dame
Bong Miquiabas, Director, International Student Services and Activities, Notre Dame

The Inaugural Asia Career Forum
Friday, April 8, 2005, 4-6 pm
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NASDAQ 1,999.14 -0.18
NYSE 7,191.18 +20.28
S&P 500 1,184.07 +2.68
NIKKEI(Tokyo) 11,784.98 -42.18
FTSE 100(London) 4,947.40 +4.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100TR SER I (QQQQ)	-0.16	-0.06	36.50
SIEBEL SYSTEMS (SEBL)	-9.73	-0.89	8.26
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+0.82	+0.20	24.67
INTEL CP (INTC)	-0.35	-0.08	23.05
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	-0.28	-0.05	17.77

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-0.23	-0.11	47.42
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.76	-0.34	44.36
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.99	-0.41	40.89
3-MONTH BILL	-0.95	-0.26	27.02

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.19		55.85
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+2.60		429.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.30		92.10

Exchange Rates			
YEN			108.5700
EURO			0.7769
POUND			0.5318
CANADIAN \$			1.2221

IN BRIEF

Family store closes after 94 years

KOKOMO, Ind. — A formal men's wear store owned by the same family for 94 years will close this summer, the owner says.

Maher's III, named so because it represents the third generation of family involvement, is scheduled to close at the end of June because of declining business, owner Tom Maher said.

"Casual Friday became Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday," he said. "People just don't dress up or take any pride in their clothes anymore."

"I just kept thinking it was going to get better, but it's just not going to get better," he said. "Quality has gone by the wayside."

Maher said his grandfather opened the first Kokomo Maher's store in 1911. The second store in the line, Maher's II, closed some years ago in the city some 50 miles north of Indianapolis.

Maher's wife and sister both work part time at the store. He said he have specific plans, but will likely remain in the clothing business.

California winery shipments increase

BERKELEY, Calif. — Wine shipped by California wineries to U.S. markets increased by 3 percent in 2004, which experts attributed to a recovering economy and increased wine consumption.

Overall, California wineries shipped 428 million gallons of wine to U.S. markets in 2004, according to the Gomberg-Fredrikson report compiled by wine analyst Jon Fredrikson.

The San Francisco-based Wine Institute, which released the figures Tuesday, estimated retail value of the shipments at \$15 billion.

"The market's rebounding in a big way," Wine Institute spokeswoman Gladys Horiuchi said.

As in previous years, supervalues wines such as Two Buck Chuck continued to sell well, making up 12 percent of California table wine shipments to the state's home market.

Still, there are signs that the grape glut, which has been driving down prices, is drying up.

That means bargain prices could evaporate, too, said Robert Smiley, a business professor at the University of California, Davis.

Vermont residents defeat law

A close vote decides local Wal-Mart store can grow to 112,000 square feet

Associated Press

BENNINGTON, Vt. — In a closely watched vote, residents decided against capping the size of big-box retailers to 75,000 square feet — an attempt to halt an expansion of the local Wal-Mart store.

"I want a bigger Wal-Mart," said Jessica Caron, 26, a mother of three and a clerk at the Mobil gas station next door to the existing store.

The bylaw, enacted in December, was expected to produce a closer vote Tuesday but the cap was rejected 2,189-1,724. The turnout was 40 percent of 9,650 registered voters — heavy for a special election.

Workers had distributed thousands of handbills urging residents to support the cap and nix Wal-Mart's plans to increase its store to 112,000 square feet. The anti-cap campaign ran radio ads supporting its cause.

The victory for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. came after heavy advertising by Ohio-based real estate developer, Redstone Investments.

"I'm very happy for the people of Bennington, Vermont," said Redstone partner Jonathan Levy. "They took on Town Hall and showed them what they thought about the whole thing."

The local Planning Commission and Select Board studied the issue at length and unanimously supported the cap. Then, opponents of a cap collected more than 1,000 signatures to put the question to a town-wide vote.

Alicia Romac of the pro-cap group Citizens for a Greater Bennington said she wished the decision had been left up to elected officials.

"It's special interests interfering with what's best for the community process, and I don't think



Jay Allen, second from left, senior vice-president of corporate affairs for Wal-Mart, and Bob McAdam, right, Wal-Mart's vice-president for community affairs, convene Tuesday.

that's really the best way to run a government," she said.

The political fight leading up to the vote brought out many of the familiar arguments about big-box retailers, with some voicing fears a larger Wal-Mart would drive out downtown businesses. Others said those businesses needed competition.

Wal-Mart has come under scrutiny around the country for its effects on everything from its labor practices to the health of other businesses in town and the traffic its stores generate. Last month, the company agreed to pay a record \$11 million to settle federal allegations it

used hundreds of illegal immigrants to clean the floors at its stores in 21 states.

In 1993, two years before the Bennington Wal-Mart opened, the National Trust For Historic Preservation put the entire state of Vermont on its list of the "10 most endangered places," proclaiming the state was endangered by a phenomenon it called "Sprawl-Mart."

Vermont made the list again last year when the National Trust said its "special magic" of historic villages and bucolic countryside faced "an invasion of behemoth stores that could destroy much of what makes Vermont

Vermont."

The vote in Bennington, a town of 16,000 in the southwest corner of the state, was closely watched by lawmakers in Montpelier, where a pending bill would limit retailers statewide to 50,000 square feet.

A main sponsor of the bill, Republican Sen. Vincent Illuzzi, said he was rethinking his position and coming to believe the question should be left up to individual communities.

"I'm sure there are existing stores in Bennington that will no longer be in business in three to five years," he said. "My hat's off to Wal-Mart and the developer."

MCI rejects Qwest's buyout offer

Associated Press

DENVER — The board of MCI Inc. has rejected an \$8.9 billion buyout proposal from Qwest Communications, opting instead to go with a lesser offer from Verizon Communications Inc.

In a statement early Wednesday, the MCI board said the firm was "not willing to jeopardize the certainty of its Verizon agreement for the uncertainties surrounding the Qwest proposal."

Qwest Communications International Inc., which has made three bids for MCI, plans to evaluate the situation before deciding its next move, Qwest spokesman Steve Hammack said Tuesday night.

"We are weighing our options, and shareholders will dictate the next steps

in the process," Hammack said. "MCI's board of directors has chosen to reject what we believe is a superior offer to acquire MCI."

Denver-based Qwest issued a mid-night Tuesday deadline to MCI last week when it raised its bid by nearly \$500 million to \$8.9 billion, or about 20 percent more than the sweetened \$7.5 billion Verizon bid that MCI accepted just days earlier.

Verizon spokesman Peter Thonis read a statement early Wednesday that said the company was "pleased."

"We are looking forward to working with MCI shareholders to get the deal done promptly," the statement said.

Verizon and Qwest, two of the nation's biggest telephone companies, have been battling for about two

months over Ashburn, Va.-based MCI, which operates a national fiber-optic network serving a lucrative roster of government and corporate clients.

MCI's board has been worried about Qwest's financial troubles, including a \$17 billion debt load, and the long-term value of the Qwest shares that will be used as partial payment for the buyout. As a result, MCI has twice accepted lower bids from Verizon rather than agreeing to merge with Qwest.

Qwest's most recent offer of cash and stock was worth \$27.50 a share. Verizon's latest stock-and-cash bid values MCI at \$23.10 per share, up from \$20.75 under the original agreement those companies reached in mid-February.

FDA to reconsider ban on breast implants

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government is considering lifting a ban on most silicone-gel breast implants, but federal scientists question whether there's enough evidence indicating how long the devices will last inside a woman's body — or what health risks may result if they break.

The Food and Drug Administration will consider the issue in a three-day meeting with its scientific advisers next week. The meeting is a key hurdle in determining whether the implants can re-enter the market. Since 1992, they have been available only to women enrolled in strictly controlled research studies because of fears they could cause major health problems.

The implants have been largely exonerated of causing such serious illnesses as cancer or lupus. But painful scar tissue that can form around the implants, breaks that require surgery to remove or replace implants, and other complications remain contentious. Just 15 months ago, the FDA told manufacturers that it wouldn't lift restrictions on the implants' sale until questions about breakage in particular are settled.

The FDA posted documents on the controversy on its Web site Wednesday.

Competitors Inamed Corp. and Mentor Corp. believe they've met that requirement, arguing that breast implants, just like pacemakers or metal hips, don't last forever but that newer generations are acceptably durable. They're better than salt water-filled implants that U.S. women can buy today, Inamed Vice President Dan Cohen said.

Broken implants don't always cause immediate symptoms, so the FDA asked manufacturers to use MRI scans to track durability. Mentor cited one study suggesting three-year breakage rates ranging from fewer than 1 percent to 5 percent of patients. Inamed data showed that over four

years, implants ruptured in 3.4 percent of women who had received them for breast enlargement patients — and in 20.5 percent of breast cancer patients who received implants after a mastectomy. The company attributed that higher rate to a particular implant model that is being redesigned.

But those studies tracked small numbers of women for a short time, FDA scientists cautioned in preliminary analyses posted on the Web site.

"These data are of limited value" in determining how many years a woman can expect her implant to last — and what pain or other complications she might experience if it breaks and silicone gel oozes out, one FDA document concludes.

In a second document, FDA scientists estimated that up to three-quarters of the devices might rupture within 10 years of implantation, requiring women to undergo additional surgery to remove or replace the implants.

Moreover, additional documents suggest that if the FDA approved widespread implant sales, implant recipients would be encouraged to get regular MRI exams, perhaps every year or two, to check for breakage. Those exams cost hundreds of dollars, and there's no way to ensure women would get them, said Diana Zuckerman of the National Research Center for Women and Families.

It's the second time in less than two years that the FDA is debating the silicone-gel implants. In October 2003, its advisers narrowly recommended allowing the implants to sell again, advice the agency declined to follow.

Next week, the debate again will pit woman against woman, patients who say the implants caused lasting scars versus others who say the silicone-gel versions look and feel more natural than saline implants. The FDA has set aside an entire extended day — from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Monday — to hear from the public.

Gay civil unions bill approved

Unlike Vermont, no court pressure motivates Connecticut vote

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — The state Senate has approved a landmark bill that would make Connecticut the first state to recognize civil unions between same-sex couples without being pressured by the courts.

Senators debated for nearly four hours on Wednesday before voting 27-9 in favor of the bill, which would give gay and lesbian couples many of the same rights as married couples. Vermont has approved civil unions, but only after a lawsuit by same-sex couples.

"We stand today before a portal to history," said Democratic Sen. Andrew McDonald, one of a handful of openly gay lawmakers. "I ask you to pass through it."

Proponents say the legislation will likely clear the House of Representatives, possibly as early as next week. Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell has not taken

a stand on the bill, but has said she supports the concept of civil unions.

Brian Brown, executive director of the Family Institute of Connecticut, maintained that most voters do not support civil unions or same-sex marriage, and he called the vote "a slap in the face of democracy."

"This is same-sex marriage by a different name," Brown said.

The vote came a day after Kansas became the 18th state to pass a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. Thirteen other states passed such prohibitions last year, while Alabama, South Dakota and Tennessee plan elections next year on constitutional bans.

Gay rights proponents originally hoped to pass a bill similar to the Massachusetts law that allows same-sex couples to marry. But legislative leaders determined there was

more political support this session for Vermont-style civil unions, which extend the same rights and privileges of marriage, but without the marriage license.

According to the 2000 census, there were 7,400 same-sex couples in Connecticut.

Six of the Senate's 12 Republicans and 21 of the 24 Democrats voted for the bill. Six Republicans and three Democrats voted against it.

Civil union supporters said the state should be proud to voluntarily extend basic human rights to thousands of gay and lesbian couples.

"I believe that our most precious and important job is to make sure the rights of all our citizens are protected where they exist and expanded where they don't exist," said Democratic Sen. Mary Ann Handley, who is part of a group of legislators who plan to press for gay marriage in Connecticut.

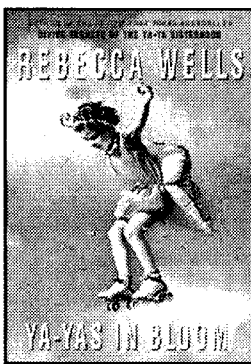
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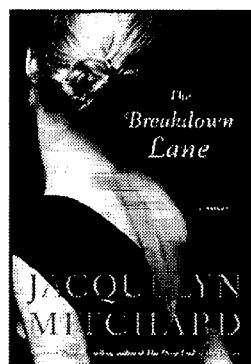
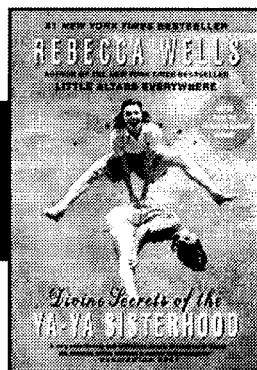


Ya-Yas in Bloom by Rebecca Wells

YA-YAS IN BLOOM reveals the roots of the Ya-Yas' friendship in the 1930s and roars with all the raw power of Vivi Abbott Walker's 1962 T-Bird through sixty years of marriage, child-raising, and hair-raising family secrets.

Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells

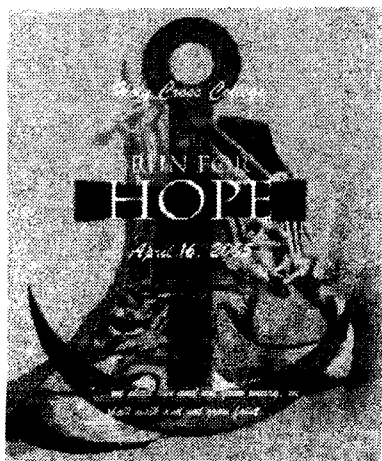
After two bestsellers and a blockbuster movie, the Ya-Yas have become part of American culture -- icons for the power of women's friendship.



Breakdown Lane by Jacquelyn Mitchard

Written with Mitchard's trademark poignancy, humor, and insight, The Breakdown Lane is her most moving, eloquent, and life-affirming work yet.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Treaty pacifies Ivory Coast

Mbeki helps warring factions agree on disarmament, new elections

Associated Press

CAPE TOWN — Ivory Coast's warring factions agreed Wednesday to end hostilities, start immediate disarmament and make plans for new elections in a bid to prevent a renewed explosion of violence in the world's leading cocoa producer.

The agreement followed four days of talks in Pretoria mediated by South African President Thabo Mbeki, who summoned all sides to his country's capital to try to rescue the peace process. The negotiations were the factions' first face-to-face meeting since civil war flared up again last fall in the West African nation.

"The parties ... hereby solemnly declare the immediate and final cessation of all hostilities and the end of the war through the national territory," said the agreement signed in Pretoria.

"In this regard, they unequivocally repudiate the use of force as a means to resolve differences among themselves," the accord said, acknowledging the "untold misery and suffering" inflicted on the Ivorian people and the disastrous economic repercussions of the fighting.

Ivory Coast has been split between the rebel-held north and loyalist south since a failed coup attempt in 2002. A peace accord was reached in France in January 2003, but to little avail. A cease-fire

reached in May of the same year was violated twice by Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo, raising doubts about elections.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan welcomed the accord and urged both sides to follow through with their commitments "promptly and in good faith," his spokesman Fred Eckhard said in a statement.

The agreement commits the warring factions to "immediately proceed with the disarmament and dismantling of the militia throughout the entire national territory."

All sides said they were committed to holding presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled in October. On his return to Abidjan, the Ivorian capital, Gbagbo said disarmament would begin April 14 in the northern rebel headquarters at Bouake town.

A copy of the deal, which was signed by Mbeki, Gbagbo, Prime Minister Seydou Diarra, former President Henri Bedie, opposition leader Alassane Ouattara and rebel leader Guillaume Soro, was sent to The Associated Press in Cape Town.

Mbeki, who was mediating on behalf of the African Union, said all sides had agreed to the text after negotiations ran for two extra days.

To promote fairness and transparency, the agreement said the United Nations would be invited to participate in an Independent Electoral

Commission comprising representatives of both the ruling party and rebels.

The accord also gave a more prominent role to the prime minister, who is regarded as much more moderate and conciliatory than Gbagbo.

However, the trickiest issue — the eligibility of presidential candidates — was not finalized. The current constitution contains a clause that all presidential candidates be second-generation Ivorians. As it stands, the clause effectively bars Ouattara — a former prime minister who is considered Gbagbo's main opponent — from running.

Mbeki said he was confident this could be sorted out within a week, according to the South African Press Association.

The U.N. Security Council on Monday extended the mandate of its peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast for a month to give more time to mediation efforts. The council had threatened sanctions to complement an arms embargo in place since November.

The United Nations has 6,000 peacekeepers in the buffer zone between the two parts of the country, and France has an additional 4,000 soldiers.

The Pretoria talks marked the first face-to-face meeting of all the factions since violence flared in November, when Gbagbo sent his newly built-up air force on bombing runs in the north.

MEXICO

Civilian border guards slow immigrant influx

Determined migrants promise to find other routes through desert

Associated Press

AGUA PRIETA — The number of Mexican migrants trying to sneak into the United States through southeast Arizona has dropped by half since hundreds of U.S. civilians began guarding the area earlier this week, say Mexican officials assigned to protect their citizens.

But that doesn't mean the migrants have given up. Most remain determined to cross and say they will simply avoid the 23-mile stretch of desert between Agua Prieta and Naco, where volunteers from the "Minuteman Project" are guarding the U.S. side of the border.

Grupo Beta, a Mexican government-sponsored organization that tries to discourage people from crossing illegally and aids those stranded in the desert, began patrolling that area along with state police officers on Sunday, when Minuteman anti-immigrant activists began showing up.

Before the volunteers arrived, Grupo Beta encountered at least 400 migrants daily. On Monday, the second day Minutemen were present on the border, they spotted 198, said Bertha de

la Rosa, Beta's coordinator in Agua Prieta, a town across the border from Douglas, Ariz.

De la Rosa said that doesn't mean most have decided to stay home.

"The fact that we're not seeing them here doesn't mean they are not trying to cross," de la Rosa said. "They say they will look for another place or wait awhile — but they are not giving up."

Grupo Beta, along with armed state police officers, began patrolling the Mexican side of the border on Sunday.

Jose Luis Mercado is among those determined to cross.

Mercado, a farm worker from central Mexico state, was one of 10 migrants who walked through the desert all night Monday and early Tuesday before they were abandoned by the smuggler they had paid to get them across the border.

"He just said it was too risky to cross and to wait for him, but he never came back," Mercado said.

Mercado, like most migrants trying to cross into the United States from this dusty border city, had been unaware of the Minuteman Project, despite extensive news media coverage of the group.

He and his companions were resting in a ditch littered with plastic bottles, clothes and empty tuna cans when they were spotted by Grupo Beta agent Hector Salazar.

Journalist's house arrest concludes early

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A federal judge on Wednesday granted a television reporter early release from the home-confinement sentence he was serving for failing to disclose the source of a videotape that showed a city official taking a cash bribe.

Jim Taricani, 55, was expected to be released Saturday, two months earlier than his original release date. He was originally scheduled to be released in June.

Taricani sought early release, and U.S. District Court Judge Ernest Torres found that Taricani had complied with all the conditions of the home confinement, which included a ban on him working, giving media interviews or using the Internet.

Prosecutors also did not object to releasing him early. The order frees Taricani from probation or any further court supervision.

Taricani, who works for the NBC affiliate WJAR-TV, has been confined to his home since Dec. 9. He was given a six-month sentence for failing to disclose the source of the video.

Taricani, who is a heart transplant recipient and suffers from a variety of medical ailments, cannot speak to the

media until his release on Saturday.

"We are very relieved, very happy," said Taricani's wife, Laurie White. She said her husband's health is stable, and he is looking forward to walking and enjoying outside air.

His TV station said in a statement that it was pleased by the ruling and looked forward to Taricani's return. White said she expected her husband to be back at work as early as next week, at least on a part-time basis.

Taricani's lawyer, Deming Sherman, referred all calls to the station.

Six days after Taricani was found guilty, his source, defense lawyer Joseph Bevilacqua Jr., admitted that he had given Taricani the tape. Bevilacqua had previously denied under oath that he had been Taricani's source and is now the subject of a criminal investigation.

Taricani is among a small but growing number of reporters who have become ensnared in the legal system for defying judicial demands to disclose where they got information. At least 16 reporters and 14 news organizations are involved in legal fights in courthouses from New York and Washington to San Francisco.



College of Arts and Letters

University of Notre Dame

Invites Nominations

for

the Father Sheedy Award

Each year, the Sheedy Award, named for a former dean of the College of Arts and Letters, honors one member of the Arts and Letters faculty for outstanding teaching.

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Hugh R. Page, Jr.
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
105 O'Shaughnessy Hall

Deadline
Tuesday, 12 April 2005

AFGHANISTAN

U.S. military copter crash kills 16 people

Associated Press

KABUL — A U.S. military helicopter returning from a mission smashed into the southern Afghan desert Wednesday, killing at least 16 people in the deadliest military crash since the fall of the Taliban in late 2001. An Afghan official said most of the dead appeared to be Americans.

The CH-47 Chinook was returning to the U.S. base at Bagram from a mission in the militant-plagued south when it went down near Ghazni city, 80 miles southwest of the capital, Kabul.

"Indications are it was bad weather and that there were no survivors," said a U.S. spokeswoman, Lt. Cindy Moore. An Afghan official said there were no signs the craft was shot down.

A U.S. military statement said 16 deaths had been confirmed and two other people listed on the flight manifest were "unaccounted for" when the recovery operation was suspended at nightfall.

U.S. officials said the four crew members killed were Americans, but declined to give the nationalities of the passengers. The names of the victims were being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Moore said the transport helicopter was returning from a "routine mission" when controllers lost radio contact. A second Chinook made it safely back to the sprawling base north of Kabul.

Associated Press Television News footage showed dozens of Afghan security forces and officials scurrying round burning wreckage. Strong winds that had whipped thick dust into the darkened sky fanned the flames.

Abdul Rahman Sarjang, the chief of police in Ghazni, said the helicopter crashed about 2:30 p.m. near a brick factory 3 miles outside the city and burst into flames. U.S. troops rushed to cordon off the area, he said.

Sarjang said he saw nine bodies. "They were all wearing American uniforms and they were all dead," he told The Associated Press by cell phone from the crash site.

Sarjang said that the weather was cloudy with strong winds and that witnesses reported one of the helicopter's two rotors looked damaged before it hit the ground. He said he saw no sign of enemy fire, and militants issued no immediate claim of responsibility.

According to U.S. Department of Defense statistics, at least 122 American soldiers had died before Wednesday's incident in and around Afghanistan since Operation Enduring Freedom, the U.S.-led war on terrorism, began after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Accidents have proven almost as deadly as attacks from Taliban-led insurgents, including a string of helicopter crashes and explosions caused by mines and munitions left over from the country's long wars.

The previous worst incident in Afghanistan was an accidental explosion at an arms dump in Ghazni province that killed eight American soldiers in January 2004.

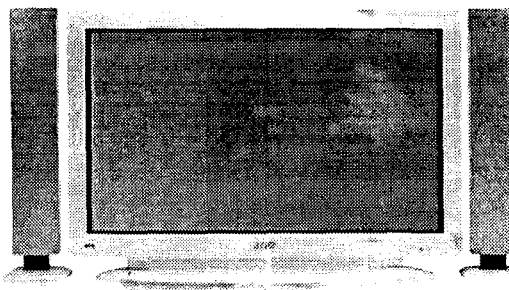
Most recently, four U.S. soldiers died when a land mine exploded under their vehicle south of Kabul on March 26.

Last November, six Americans — three civilian crew members and three U.S. soldiers — died when their plane crashed in the Hindu Kush mountains. The military's last fatal helicopter crash occurred a month earlier when a pilot was killed in the west of the country.

About 17,000 U.S. soldiers are in Afghanistan battling a Taliban-led insurgency and training a new Afghan army.

The top U.S. commander here, Lt. Gen. David Barno, told AP on Tuesday that the military would also now train Afghan police and provide intelligence to Afghan forces battling the country's rampant drug industry.

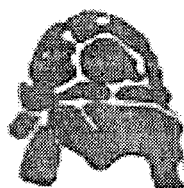
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Celebrities attend Cochran's funeral

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Johnnie Cochran Jr.'s most celebrated clients, O.J. Simpson and Michael Jackson, joined civil rights figures and Hollywood stars at the lawyer's funeral Wednesday, remembering Cochran's cunning legal skills and his commitment to the people he represented.

Cochran, 67, died March 29 of an inoperable brain tumor at his home in Los Angeles. He was diagnosed with the tumor in December 2003.

"He didn't just love justice or admire justice — he did justice, he achieved justice, he fought for justice, he made it happen," said Mayor James Hahn, the former city attorney and a Cochran friend.

The Rev. Al Sharpton drew applause from the packed West Angeles Cathedral — a throng that ranged from the Rev. Jesse Jackson to Michael Jackson — by describing the emotional aftermath of the Simpson trial.

"We didn't clap when the acquittal of Simpson came for O.J.," Sharpton said. "We were clapping for Johnnie."

"We were clapping because for decades our brothers, our cousins, our uncles had to stand in the well with no one to stand up for them. And finally a black man came and said, 'If it don't fit — you must acquit,'" Sharpton said, referring to Cochran's famous quote from Simpson's sensational trial

about a glove found at the murder scene.

The line drew a roar from the crowd, which also heard from other figures in Cochran's life, including two other members of the Simpson "dream team," Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck.

The line was on the back of T-shirts being sold for \$10 outside the church. The shirts had a picture of Cochran on the front with the words: "Freedom and justice."

Colorful and eloquent, Cochran became a legal superstar after helping clear Simpson.

"Johnnie fought for his clients," Simpson told reporters outside the cathedral. "He was just a good friend, a good Christian man and a great lawyer."

Jesse Jackson called Cochran "the tallest tree in our legal forest. ... The national stage did not make Johnnie, it revealed him."

The range of mourners reflected Cochran's work in high-profile civil rights cases and high-glamour trials. Also paying respects were such celebrities as Stevie Wonder and Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

Neufeld said Cochran's real accomplishments were in civil rights and defending downtrodden clients: "Johnnie Cochran taught us the importance of doing well by doing good. He lived it and preached it, and the world is a better place for all of us."

Percentage of primate species may disappear

Associated Press

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Human activities such as hunting and logging have driven nearly one quarter of the world's primate species — man's closest living relatives — to the brink of extinction, according to a new report.

Without concerted action, great apes such as the Sumatran orangutan of Indonesia and the Eastern gorilla of central Africa are at risk of disappearing, according to the report to be released Thursday by the World Conservation Union, the International Primatological Society and Conservation International.

It said Madagascar and Vietnam each have four primates on the list of 25 most endangered. Brazil and Indonesia have three. Sri Lanka and Tanzania have with two each. Colombia, China, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, and Congo have one each.

"The situation for these primates is down to the wire in terms of extinction," said Russell A. Mittermeier, president of Conservation International. "If you took all the individuals on the list and gave them a seat in a soccer stadium, they probably would-

n't fill it," he said in a telephone interview from Madagascar, where primate specialists are meeting.

While listing 25 species as most endangered, the report said that one in four of the 625 primate species and subspecies are at risk. Fifty experts from 16 countries cited deforestation, commercial hunting for meat and the illegal animal trade — including for use in traditional medicines — as the biggest threats.

The golden-headed langur of Vietnam and China's Hainan gibbon number only in the dozens. The Horton Plains slender loris of Sri Lanka has been seen just four times since 1937. Perrier's sifaka of Madagascar and the Tana River red colobus of Kenya are now restricted to tiny patches of tropical forest, leaving them vulnerable to rapid eradication, the report said.

The threat is especially perilous in Madagascar, one of the planet's biodiversity hotspots that has lost most of its original forest cover, the study said.

"More than half its lemurs, none found anywhere else in the world, are threatened with extinction. Without immediate steps to protect these unique creatures and their habitat, we will lose more of our planet's natural heritage forever," Mittermeier said.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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Schiavo not to be overlooked

Schiavo is more important than Roe v. Wade. In Roe, the Court cancelled prohibitions of abortion because the Court wrongly said the unborn child is not a person whose life is protected by the Fourteenth Amendment against deprivation by the state. The courts do not themselves

Charles
Rice

Right or
Wrong?

order abortions. The mother makes that decision. In Schiavo the state itself ordered Terri's execution. As Columbia law professor Michael Dorf commented on U.S. District Judge Whittemore's ruling that there was no state action and therefore no Fourteenth amendment violation, "Judge Greer issued an order instructing Michael Schiavo to remove Terri's feeding tube, even specifying the exact date and time ... The state court did not merely stand idly by while permitting Michael to take such action; the court ... mandated the disconnection. That ought to have counted as state action by a state actor."

In Schiavo, the state itself executed an innocent person without the protections mandated for a defendant accused of capital murder or even of shoplifting. Judge Greer found that Terri was in a persistent vegetative state (PVS), in the face of contrary evidence, and that she would have wanted her tube removed. He relied on Michael's testimony despite Michael's conflicting statements and despite his conflict of interest that should have caused his removal as guardian. The Florida courts deferred robotically to Greer's findings which they never would have done in a criminal death penalty case. Nor would a convicted murderer's desire to die be considered by any court as a justification for sentencing him to death. The federal courts refused Terri the stay of execution which is automatic whenever a condemned murderer brings his case from the state courts to a federal

court. Governor Bush also abdicated his responsibility by his deference to Judge Greer.

Schiavo is important for reasons beyond judicial abuse. Since the Bouvia case in 1986, the law allows a competent adult to starve and dehydrate himself to death. This is a form of suicide. If a person is incompetent, food and water may legally be withheld from him if there is evidence that he would have wanted that withholding or, in some states, if a court decides that the withholding would be in his best interest. Where the family and caregivers agree that food and water should be withdrawn, it is commonly done without court involvement. The intent to deprive a patient permanently of food and water is essentially an intent to kill. In moral terms it is murder. A benevolent motive does not change that reality.

John Paul II said, "the administration of water and food, even ... by artificial means, always [is] a natural means of preserving life, not a medical act." It is "morally obligatory" as long as it is achieving its goal of "providing nourishment to the patient and alleviation of his suffering." Food and water do not aim to cure the patient's underlying disease or the suffering caused by it. They sustain biological life, nourish the body, and prevent the suffering of hunger and thirst. "Death by starvation or dehydration," said John Paul, "is ... the only possible outcome ... of their withdrawal."

The only reason anyone heard of Schiavo was because Michael wanted to kill Terri and her parents and siblings did not. An impasse arising from such disagreement was inevitable in a legal regime which allows family members, who agree, to kill quietly an incompetent relative.

In Schiavo, the focus on PVS, including Governor Bush's petition to intervene on the ground that Terri might not have been PVS, generated

an inference that an indisputably PVS patient would want to end his life. Schiavo is precedent for courts to order the starvation of PVS patients in reliance on testimony of hostile, court-appointed guardians even against the wishes of family members who want to care for the patient. With diminished public attention, starvation will give way to the painless injection. And the triggering disability will drop below PVS.

In late 1938, the Knauer case, in which Hitler authorized euthanasia of a blind and deformed infant, was the "test case" that "was pivotal for the two killing programs of children and of adults." (Robert Jay Lifton, The Nazi Doctors (1986), 51). Within months the grounds for killing included such defects as cleft palates and "badly modeled ears." Those programs evolved into the Holocaust.

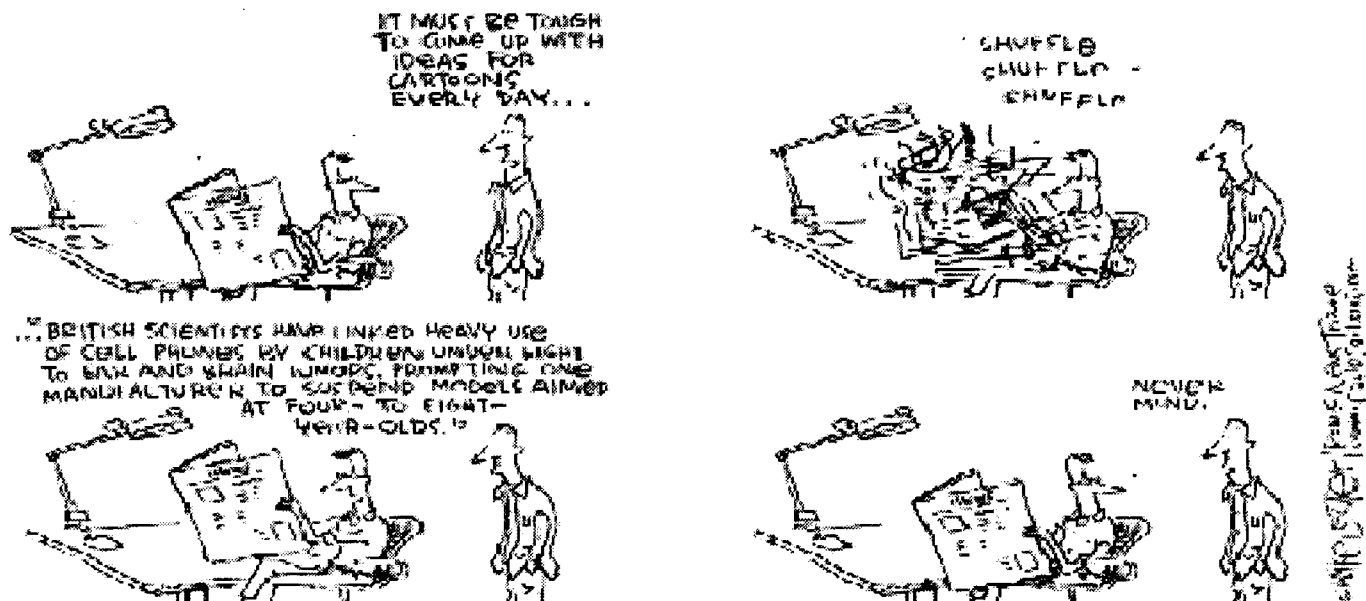
It is useless to criticize the Schiavo execution by the state of an innocent, disabled person without confronting the practice that allows family members to starve and dehydrate an incompetent patient to death when they agree that he would so desire. More basically, Schiavo is a predictable result of the acceptance of contraception in which man, of both sexes, assumes the role of arbiter of whether and when life shall begin. Inevitably that role will extend to that of arbiter of whether and when life shall end.

The Nazis, as arbiters of the value and termination of life, brought disaster to Germany. Maybe, because we are Americans, God will consent to be mocked indefinitely. But it might not be a good idea to count on it.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the Law School faculty. His column appears every other Thursday. He can be contacted at plawecki.1@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Genius may have its limitations,
but stupidity is not thus
handicapped."

Elbert Hubbard
American author

Embrace the season

The death of Pope John Paul II on Saturday has left the world mourning the loss of a great man and wondering who will be selected to lead the Catholic Church at this critical time. Luckily for us Americans, however, we have been handed a welcome distraction from all of our sorrows: the start of baseball season. The first regular season game of the year took place in the Bronx on Sunday night, when the Yankees upended their hated rivals, the Boston Red Sox. For most other teams, however, Monday afternoon marked the start of the 2005 campaign. Ballparks across the nation welcomed fans back to cheer on their favorite teams and partake in some of America's most time-honored traditions.

Molly Acker
Nobody Likes a Dumb Blonde

It is rather appropriate that Major League Baseball raised its curtain on 2005 just as many of its fans found themselves in a state of grief. For over 150 years, baseball has provided Americans with welcomed relief during tumultuous times. Though the game is thought to have been invented during the 1840s, it was the Civil War that permitted it to flourish, when Union soldiers played the game as a way to pass the time during an otherwise grim period. Similarly, baseball provided relief on the home front during the Second World War. Although great players like Ted Williams had to abandon the game in order to defend the country, the major leagues gave Americans an opportunity to read about something other than troop movements and casualties in the morning newspapers. In addition, the war precipitated the formation of the first all-female league, which was immortalized in the Tom Hanks movie *A League of their Own*.

Even when baseball was not distracting people from the horrors of war, it still provided people with a temporary escape from their daily lives. In order to appreciate baseball's importance in American culture, one need not to look any further than the way in which we have come to idolize those who play the game. Babe Ruth has long been considered a symbol of the fast-paced, excessive lifestyle of the 1920s; Lou Gehrig is looked upon as a

source of courage and perseverance in the face of a hopeless situation; and Jackie Robinson's emergence with the Brooklyn Dodgers is heralded as a key moment in the Civil Rights movement.

Nowadays people enjoy the games for the same reasons. Although overpaid players, elevated ticket prices, and steroid scandals may have caused baseball to lose some of its innocence, millions of fans still eagerly anticipate hearing the umpire yell "Play ball" for the first time each year. In my hometown of Chicago, the beginning of the baseball season is always an exciting time, as the rivalry between the city's two teams is renewed. True baseball fans in the Windy City must choose between the White Sox and the Cubs, and simply "rooting for Chicago" is completely unacceptable. As a popular South Side song reiterates, "And when it comes to baseball, we have two favorite clubs: the Go-Go White Sox and whoever plays the Cubs!"

As a White Sox fan, the onset of spring always allows me the opportunity to trash talk some of my North-side rivals. I usually take some time to remind them that the Cubs have not won a World Series since the Roosevelt Administration (Theodore Roosevelt that is). Also, I usually make sure that they are aware that Harry Caray spent more seasons as the White Sox announcer than he did as the voice of the Cubs. Finally, I like to point out that, unlike those who flock to Wrigley Field to simply drink and people-watch, Sox fans actually go to baseball games in order to watch baseball.

In addition to some good natured Cubs-bashing, I also enjoy the start of baseball season because it allows me to become reacquainted with many of the institutions that have become a part of my White Sox experiences. Certainly, I always enjoy ballpark food, and U.S. Cellular Field has some of the best in baseball. In addition to staples such as hot dogs, pretzels and popcorn, "the Cell" also has great pizza, curly fries and churros.

In addition to the great cuisine, I also look forward to hearing the familiar tune of the ballpark organ. On the South Side, Nancy Faust has been the White Sox organist for several decades, and she has become a sort of local

celebrity. In addition to the always familiar, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," she also plays classic tunes such as "Runaround Sue," "My Kind of Town" and "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye," which has been adopted as the unofficial fight song of the White Sox.

While the food and music always add to the ballpark experience, my personal favorite aspect of White Sox games is sadly no longer with us. From the 1960s until the 1990s, a man known as "Andy the Clown" became a fixture on the South Side. Never employed by the team, Andy was simply a fan who would attend every home game dressed in a cheap clown suit, with a light-up nose, and a bowling hat. In addition to his festive appearance he would also kind of sing out his cheers. He became famous for his battle cry, "C'mooooooooooooon you White Sox." While I was always entertained by Andy's antics, others were not. When the Sox moved into a new stadium in 1991, management made it clear that he would no longer be welcome at home games. Andy died several years later, and South Side lore says that it was due to a broken heart.

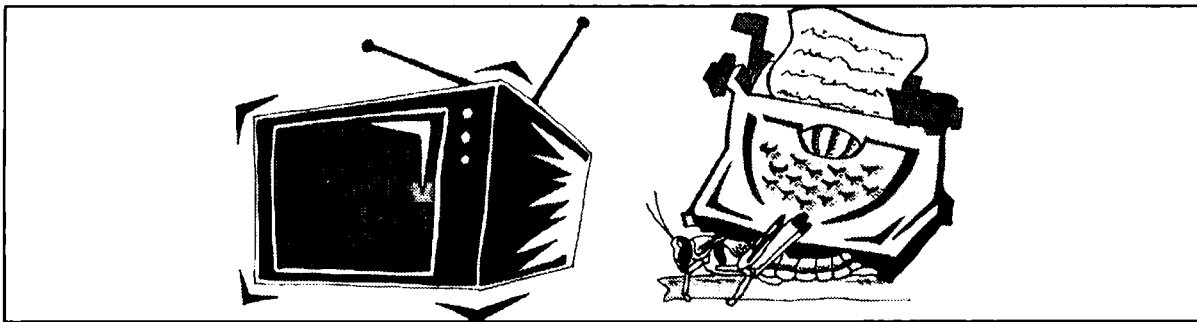
I like to remember Andy's legacy by wearing my Andy the Clown t-shirt to games. Not only is this a great conversation starter with the old timers at the park, but it also usually guarantees you at least one free beverage during the game. I am sure many of you have your own favorite institutions that come with baseball season whether it be wearing your team's cap or scouring the paper for scores every day. Now that it is beginning to warm up it is high time we take advantage of what can be a much-needed distraction from books, tests and the world around us. So while we are still in South Bend for the next few weeks, go check out a Notre Dame or Silverhawks match. Enjoy a day at the old ball game!

Molly Acker is a junior communications and humanistic studies major at Saint Mary's. Her column appears every other Thursday. She can be contacted at acke6758@saintmarys.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It could be worse



I am writing to respond to a letter written by Duncan McIntyre entitled "Cable creates distractions," which was printed on April 6. There is one line in the letter that I would specifically like to analyze. Mr. McIntyre states, "I would like to put forward the opinion that providing cable in the dorms would be the worst thing that could possibly happen to this University." I have come up with examples that, in my humble opinion, are clearly worse than Notre Dame providing cable in the dorms.

1. The radiation building explodes causing students to seek refuge at either Saint Mary's or Stepan Center.

2. A plague of locusts mysteriously descends upon campus and infests every classroom building to breed.

3. In a freak accident, the scaffolding over the dome collapses and turns a \$500,000 renovation into a \$10 million rebuilding process.

4. A meteor the size of a Volkswagen collides into DeBartolo Hall during peak class time.

5. Power goes out in Michigan and northern Indiana for the remainder of the semester, causing students and teachers alike to resort to using typewriters to type final papers and exams.

6. The administration decides to cancel this year's commencement ceremonies due to a "lack of enthusiasm."

7. Notre Dame professors begin a strike which they claim will last until the next Notre Dame football championship.

8. A draught causes St. Mary's and St. Joseph's lakes to dry up.

9. Father Poorman establishes a new position for the University entitled Spiritual Advisor and appoints Michael Jackson an unconditional spot there for the remainder of his tenure.

10. All Notre Dame alumni stop donating money, forever.

The scenarios I just described may be outrageous, but they are not as ridiculous as a college graduate believing that putting cable into dorm rooms is the worst possible thing that could happen to a school. This will be my last semester living on campus, so this decision will have little if any effect on me personally. However, I believe that asking the administration to put cable in the dorms is not asking too much. The majority of schools that are similar to ours as far as tradition and demographics are concerned already have provided cable to their students living on campus. The implementation of cable in the dorms would almost eliminate the usage of satellites that litter the exteriors of many dorms and provide an opportunity to get a decent number of channels for students living in dorms which prohibit the use of satellites. If television is such a big distraction for students who are already very busy with classes and extracurricular activities, it can be turned off. Let individuals decide how they want to spend their time.

Sean Ryan
junior
Stanford
April 6

U-WIRE

Individual responsibility

The University of Oklahoma is experimenting with the 1920s all over again. That's right: Prohibition. It seems that OU is not the only campus to dry out, either. In fact, many universities around the nation are banning the bottle.

But why? Well, it seems that our universities are full of idiots. Actually, allow me to clarify. Our universities are full of two kinds of idiots.

The first type consists of binge drinkers. These are the people whose sole purpose is to consume as much of the cheapest booze around in the shortest possible time. It seems that — surprise, surprise — these people are starting to turn up dead on an increasingly frequent basis.

Obviously, if you are one of the people who believe "one drink is good, so 100 must be the cat's meow," then you are failing on the smart scale. Buzzzzzz! No gene passing for you, plant food!

The second group of idiots are those "in power," who are choosing to punish an entire student body due to the irresponsibility of a handful of people. Because, everyone knows, if you have a problem, just pass a new law. After all, the 18th Amendment — prohibition — solved all sorts of problems.

This flat ban simply begs the question, why should Billy Ray be punished just because Amy Sue is a dolt and drank herself to death?

The answer is that even though Billy Ray didn't even know Amy Sue, he must have been, through some bizarre aligning of the planets, part of the problem that caused Amy Sue to die.

Although the founders of this country seemed to be a big fan of personal responsibility, it is refreshing to see that such an outmoded and defunct value has not stuck around to plague us. After all, personal responsibility would dictate that I, personally, should be mindful of how much I'm drinking.

But cropping up as a solution to that pesky responsibility problem is the good old notion of "punish everybody."

So here's a solution. For the drinker: Don't be a moron. I don't care how badly you want to fit in or be cool. Anyone trying to get you to stick a funnel in your mouth to force-feed you alcohol is an idiot. If you follow them, then you're twice the idiot. Idiots don't get to pass on their genes, and you'll generally find that a drink or two will work just fine, leaving you with a much clearer head and many fewer questions the next morning.

For the authorities: Leave me alone.

This column originally appeared on Apr. 4 in the Kansas State Collegian, the daily publication at Kansas State University.

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

Jonas Hogg

Kansas State University Collegian

CONCERT REVIEW

Bob Dylan shines in Chicago

By JULIE BENDER
Scene Music Critic

"The poet laureate of rock 'n' roll. The voice of the premiere of the '60s counter-culture. The guy who forced folk into bed with rock, who donned makeup in the '70s and disappeared into a haze of substance abuse, who emerged to find Jesus," who was written off as a has-been by the end of the '80s, and who suddenly shifted gears and released some of the strongest music of his career beginning in the late '90s."

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Columbia recording artist Bob Dylan.

With these words, pop music critic Jeff Miers summed up the unpredictable life of Bob Dylan in a feature story that appeared in The Buffalo News in August 2002. Apparently, Bob Dylan liked this quick summation of his life so much, he now uses it as his introduction at every concert he performs — and he certainly performs.

Embarking on what has become known as his "Never-Ending Tour" in 1988, Dylan has played a constant stream of shows on and off throughout the world. This past week Dylan and his six-piece entourage added five more dates to the Never-Ending Tour, stopping in Chicago at the Auditorium Ballroom Sunday night.

Though Dylan will be 64 this May, he never seems to tire of his life on the

road, and this is a blessing for his devoted fans in Chicago who attended Sunday night's concert.

Anticipation was high after the opening acts, Amos Lee and Merle Haggard, but when Dylan finally took the stage, he left no one disappointed. He kicked things into high gear immediately with an electrified version of "Drifter's Escape," from his 1967 album "John Wesley Harding," and then settled into the haunting "Senor" from Street Legal. Both songs have appeared in set lists regularly on this leg of the tour. The songs created an appropriate introduction to what the rest of the night held in store.

Dylan remained fixed behind his electric piano for most of the evening, allowing his band — supplied with a fiddle and a pedal steel guitar — to shine musically. Dressed in all black with his signature (as of late) black cowboy hat, Dylan spurred on the show with periodic harmonica solos that rang with clarity throughout the ballroom.

The most endearing quality of the performance was Dylan's voice. Often ridiculed for his lack of vocal expertise, in recent years, Dylan has changed his voice yet again, differentiating its sound from that on former recordings. On Sunday, he almost seemed to hiss and growl into his microphone as he maneuvered his gravelly voice through the words he has made so famous. What the vocals lacked in beauty and finesse, they made up for in passion and charm.

Perhaps the best moment of the night was when Dylan slowed things down with a poignant rendition of "Don't Think Twice, It's Alright." A folk classic he penned in 1963, "Don't Think Twice" has a startling beauty with its sweet melody and bitter-tinged lyrics. On Sunday night, the band gave this normally sparse song a full instrumental backing, which — combined with Dylan's harmonica — left the audience in silent awe.

For the remainder of the show, Dylan coursed through various components of his repertoire, including a raucous version of "Highway 61 Revisited," the lovely "Shooting Star" and his protest-era classic, "A Hard Rain's A Gonna Fall."

As the concert came to its close, Dylan left the stage without a word only to return minutes later to deliver his encore. Delighting fans of his 1960s songs, Dylan nudged into a gentle rendition of "I Shall Be Released." The song found a new meaning as Dylan's vocals hummed an aged wisdom: "I see my light come shining, from the west down to the east / Any day now, any day now, I shall be released."

Ending the night in true rock 'n' roll fashion was a song off the same album as the opener — "All Along the Watchtower." Although originally an acoustic number, Dylan took elements from Jimi Hendrix's electric version of the song and sent charged vibes through his haunting lyrics. Turning from growl to howl by the ending chord, Dylan left



Photo courtesy of mtv.com

Despite being 63 years old, Bob Dylan continues to entertain fans with his "Never-Ending Tour."

the stage in Chicago to a standing ovation as though this were his last performance on a farewell tour.

Of course, with show dates lined up long into the future, fans know that fortunately, there is no end in sight for the original Song and Dance Man on his "Never-Ending Tour."

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ALBUM REVIEW

Nanook's naïveté a sincere delight

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

At the imaginary "37th Annual Concept Album Awards Ceremony in the Sky" (affectionately known as "The Tommys"), Nanook of the North's "The Täby Tapes" would have glaciated over the competition and emerged with more awards — bronzed miniature pinball machines, naturally — than there are Inuit words for snow. The Swedish act would have garnered "most whimsical concept," "most far-fetched concept," "most ridiculous concept that actually kinda works somehow," and, most notably, "the Honorary Bono Award for Unabashed Idealism" for the endearingly naïve

track "Israel and Palestine — a Solution."

As far as concept records go, Nanook's resides in a class all its own. Invoking the title character of Robert Flaherty's celebrated 1922 quasi-documentary "Nanook of the North," multi-instrumentalists Mattias Olsson and Olle Söderström weave a loose narrative across 12 tracks that takes Nanook from the Canadian Arctic to the sterile Stockholm suburb Täby. Along the way, Nanook joins a band, fights a dragon, outdoes the Camp David Accords, duets with several of Sweden's finest female vocalists of the 1980s and debates the verity of love in postmodern suburbia. Bizarre? Certainly. Ridiculous? Perhaps. Entirely unique and oddly enchanting?

Quite.

Nanook excels on the songcraft front. However outlandish the subject matter, the songs on "The Täby Tapes" remain fun and accessible and abound in a certain wistful vitality. Olsson and Söderström utilize a smorgasbord of instruments, some of which are possibly made-up, including guitars, keyboards, accordions, theremin, orchestron, optigan, omnichord, stylophone, and percussion. With such an impressive musical arsenal comes substantial risk of meandering, ennui-inducing arrangements or needless instrumental flourishes, but Nanook showcases crisp refinement throughout, with a refreshing hint of lo-fi.

What distinguishes Nanook and makes "The Täby Tapes" so richly affecting, however, is the vocal interplay between Nanook and his coterie of female duet partners. Olsson and Söderström construct many of the lyrical passages in call-and-response fashion, carving rather telling roles for the male and female voices and creating some often fascinating dialogue.

On "Karin Boye's Grave," vocalist Camela Leierth embodies the ghost of Karin. She and Nanook alternate, "We would have loved your style / I would have loved to be alive / ... I could have held your hands / you could have played in our band" and then harmonize, proclaiming, "we could have spread revolution through this land." Despite an upbeat arrangement, the

conditional perfect tense lends this track an air of melancholy, along the lines of Hemingway's famous "isn't it pretty to think so?"

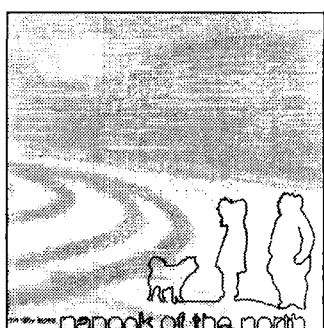
Also fabulous is "St. George and the Dragon," where Irma Schultz plays the misunderstood mythical beast to Nanook's brazenly self-righteous St. George. "So you think I'm just the village moron?" the latter taunts, "we'll ponder that when you go down." The song's closing exchange reveals Nanook may not be so naïve after all — Nanook begins, with Schultz responding, "I'm bound to be a hero / but I am unarmed / easier for me then / but I'm just a girl / well, I will tell nothing of that to the world."

Nanook of the North's many talents culminate and coalesce on "Forget it Jenny, Love is Just a Privilege for the Rich," the album's final track. Here, Nanook becomes the jaded postmodern lover who rationalizes the futility of love in sublimely witty fashion: "love is just a privilege for the rich, you see / cause love requires time / and time is money." Vocalist Malin Olofsson retorts, "No! Love is universal to humanity / it gets to you no matter of economy." "Forget it" climaxes in a chorus of la la la's — a fittingly ambiguous conclusion to a record that succeeds on so many contradictory levels.

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The Täby Tapes Nanook of the North

Hidden Agenda



ALBUM REVIEW

'Everything's OK' with Al Green

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Assistant Scene Editor

Al Green has finally returned. Although the Reverend Al Green has not been in the business of real soul music since the mid-70s, he has finally returned to full form in his newest album, "Everything's OK." The latest album is produced by Willie Mitchell, the producer Green worked with in the early 70s when he earned his title as — according to many listeners — the first real soul artist. The two worked together on a 2003 album called "I Can't Stop," but many critics felt the album was weighed down by Green's desire to hold onto the spiritual and gospel elements in its music. "Everything's OK" suffers from no such ailment. Green has officially risen

from the depths of gospel music and is soulfully singing at the height of his talent.

Green is a man with a rich and interesting history. After rising to fame in the early 1970s with his soul hits, Green's career took a severe swerve at the height of his fame in 1974. Mary Woodson, one of Green's ex-girlfriends broke into his home and poured boiling grits on Green while he was bathing, causing severe burns on his back, stomach and arms before shooting herself. This incident was interpreted by Green as a sign from God that he should go into ministry. Thus he bought a church, became a pastor and, although he released other albums during that time period, never became as popular as he once was.

"Everything's OK" is a reminder of what Al Green was and what he still is.



Photo courtesy of mtv.com

Often considered the first great soul singer of the 70s, the Reverend Al Green shows on "Everything's OK" that he can still create great music to this day.

Green's voice does not seem to have aged a day with his falsetto still piercing the beats of many of the songs. The album makes one feel like he has stepped back into the best part of 70s and it is hard to do anything but enjoy it.

While the title track is probably the single best song on "Everything's OK," there are many other high points on this generally solid album. There is not a bad song on "Everything's OK," but there are some better ones, such as, "Build Me Up" and the new renditions of the past hits "Perfect to Me," "You Are So Beautiful" and "Real Love." Green transforms the over-popularized song "You Are So Beautiful" into the best and most passionately believable

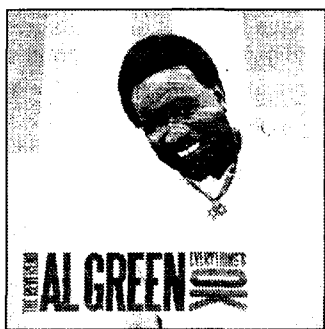
version ever sung. With a good mix of upbeat and deeply soulful songs, "Everything's OK" makes for an album that one can simply listen to again and again.

There is no question that "Everything's OK" in the musical world of the Reverend Al Green — everything is terrific. Although the album is a bit stacked with the best songs on the first half of the track list, the entire album reveals the Green that fans and those who do not know that they are fans yet have waited more than 30 years for. Thank the Lord — the Reverend is back.

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Everything's OK The Reverend Al Green

Blue Note



SINGLES ROUNDUP

Aberdeen's heartfelt pop never cloys

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

Few worthwhile romances begin in whirlwind, Romeo-and-Juliet fashion. Usually, a chance encounter will foster a subtle liking, which over time may evolve into a mutual affinity, which in those few rare and wonderful cases, blossoms into full-fledged amore. When love works, it is because the beloved in question gradually grow upon one another where other suitors have dazzled for a brief time and swiftly fizzled. The songs on Aberdeen's new single operate in very much the same manner as the love that works.

Whereas most pop has the tendency to

grate, achieving optimal potency around the fourth or fifth listen and careening downhill forever thereafter, Aberdeen's brand of pop makes a dramatically different ascent. The three songs on "Florida" may strike the listener as unexceptional at first — and this is good, as successive listens will reveal the songs' nuances and endearing qualities that the casual pop aficionado may have missed.

"Florida" opens with the title track, a sophisticated number featuring the vocals of John (Aberdeen's press materials expressly omit surnames), that culminates with an exalted "don't fall in love / don't ever break my heart." The second song, "Late Bloomer," finds John paired with primary Aberdeen vocalist Beth. The third and perhaps finest track draws lyrical inspiration from Haruki Murakami's "Norwegian Wood" and features Beth on vocals once again. She asks, "Did it snow the day she left? / Cherry blossoms caught the blood that fell." Lyrics like these haunt the listener long after the music has faded into oblivion, retaining the same understated pull as that lover who becomes something more.

Longtime Aberdeen fans may be dismayed somewhat by the relative lack of jangle on this release, as the combo sound increasingly like brother band Trembling Blue Stars here, but the wistfully romantic essence of Aberdeen

remains quite intact.

B-sides, guests redeem Esthero's tardy tirade

Canadian chanteuse Esthero has an odd history of tardiness. Her debut, 1999's hypnotic "Breath From Another," arrived with a whisper several years after trip-hop had faded from the mainstream music consciousness. While an uneven effort overall, "Breath" boasted a handful of exceptional tracks, including the brass-tinged "That Girl" and the neo-murder ballad "Heaven Sent." The latter saw an iota of MTV airplay thanks in large part to its haunting video inspired by Luis Buñuel and Salvador Dalí's avant-garde milestone "Un Chien Andalou."

Fast-forward to late 2004, and Esthero has resurfaced at long last to deliver, of all things, a hackneyed diatribe against the sorry state of the music industry. On "We R in Need of a Musical Revolution" the lady prattles, "I'm so sick and tired of the [bad music] on the radio / MTV they only play the same thing / no matter where I go I see Ashanti in the video / I want something more." Her plea is indeed valid, but such quality-mongering reached its peak during the same late 1990s that nearly swallowed Esthero for good. And besides, the state of music production has never been better. Our chanteuse should curb her frustration and invest in an iPod.

Graciously, the other five songs on this

**We R in Need of a
Musical Revolution!**

Esthero

Warner Brothers



comeback EP strike a more consonant chord. Esthero puts herself in good company, collaborating with Sean Lennon on the bouncy piano-centered romp "Every Day Is A Holiday (With You)," and with the mighty Cee-Lo Green on the R&B-flavored "Gone." The true payoff, however, comes in the form of "Amber and Tiger's Eye," the EP's closing track, and a mesmerizing, string-laden midnight drifter. Esthero's voice, a rich and sultry high alto, manages to transcend anything it says, and the top-notch production rounds out an overall pleasurable package.

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Florida Aberdeen

Better Looking



MLB — AMERICAN LEAGUE

ChiSox rally, edge Indians behind 4-run 9th

Konerko, Dye both homer as White Sox win second straight

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Bob Wickman was consistent: Pretty much everything he threw turned into a hit.

Paul Konerko and Jermaine Dye hit consecutive home runs off Wickman as the Chicago White Sox rallied with four runs in the ninth inning Wednesday to beat the Cleveland Indians 4-3.

"He just didn't have it today," Cleveland manager Eric Wedge said. "The ball was up a little bit and a couple of good hitters got on them."

Kevin Millwood pitched six scoreless innings in his debut for the Indians but was done in by Wickman (0-1), who inherited a 3-0 lead from Arthur Rhodes and was trying to complete a five-hit shutout. Wickman allowed hits to his first four batters over a span of just eight pitches, then made an error.

Wickman was the Indians' most reliable reliever last year in his second stint as their closer. He had saved 12 in a row stretching to last season.

"I throw strikes and today, obviously, it hurt me," Wickman said.

Carl Everett took a strike, then singled, and Konerko homered to left on a 1-0 pitch. After swinging and missing the next pitch, Dye homered to left-center to tie it.

"In that situation his job is to come after me and throw a strike, make me swing the bat," Konerko said. "I'm not trying to hit a home run. I'm just trying to get a base hit and keep the rally going."

Aaron Rowand took a ball, then doubled, and A.J. Pierzynski was intentionally walked.

Pinch-hitter Willie Harris' bunt was misplayed by Wickman for an error that loaded the bases, and Juan Uribe flied to right as Rowand tagged up and scored from third to win the game on the sacrifice fly.

Chicago had 46 comeback wins last year, including four after trailing in the ninth inning.

"We've got a group of guys just like last year," Harris said. "We're not going to roll over."

Damaso Marte (1-0) got the last two outs in the top of the ninth for the win.

"Winning a game like this where we hadn't swung real well in two days, I think it got the guys pumped up," Chicago

manager Ozzie Guillen said. "I bet they can't wait for tomorrow to start."

Signed to a \$7 million, one-year contract during the off-season, Millwood allowed four hits, struck out one and walked two as his fastball reached 94 mph. He was trying for his 99th career win, his first in the American League.

"Nothing was working a lot," Millwood said. "I didn't locate very well at all. It just seemed like I was able to make a pitch when I needed to, and that kind of got me through it."

Last year, he went 9-6 with a 4.85 ERA for Philadelphia, and the condition of his elbow was a concern to the Indians, who put special clauses in his contract to reduce their risk.

Freddy Garcia, acquired by Chicago from Seattle last season, gave up two runs and five hits in six innings, struck out six and walked three. He threw 109 pitches.

Cleveland went ahead in the second when Grady Sizemore singled and scored on a Ronnie Belliard double. Garcia walked Victor Martinez in the third, and he took third on Ben Broussard's double and scored on a balk.

Boston 7, NY Yankees 3

NEW YORK — The Boston Red Sox pulled off another comeback against Mariano Rivera, then turned their thoughts to Terry Francona.

Playing without their ailing manager, the Red Sox rallied for five runs off Rivera in the ninth inning — helped by Alex Rodriguez's costly error — and beat New York Wednesday to avoid a season-opening sweep.

Francona was taken to a hospital in the morning with tightness in his chest. He was resting there comfortably awaiting test results, the team said. Bench coach Brad Mills filled in for him.

"We're just concerned about Tito and what's going on," Mills said. "They're a great bunch of guys, a great bunch of coaches, and they did a great job."

Derek Jeter left the game after he was hit in the helmet by a pitch and was taken to a hospital for a precautionary CT scan. The results were normal and Jeter was expected to play Friday night against Baltimore, the Yankees said.

The teams play three more games next week at Fenway Park beginning with Boston's home opener Monday, when the Red Sox will receive their World Series rings.

"It was a huge win to get us on the board," Boston knuckleballer Tim Lincecum said.

Rodriguez and Tino Martinez



White Sox outfielder Jermaine Dye, right, is congratulated by White Sox outfielder Aaron Rowand after Dye homered in the 9th inning to tie the game 3-3. Rowand doubled and scored the winning run.

homered for the Yankees, who went ahead in the eighth without a hit. Gary Sheffield drove in the tiebreaking run with a sacrifice fly.

Rivera entered in the ninth with a 3-2 lead for the second consecutive day and blew it again. He issued a leadoff walk to Bill Mueller before consecutive singles by Mark Bellhorn and Johnny Damon loaded the bases with none out.

"Even though I walked Mueller, I made my pitches," Rivera said. "After that, I was getting groundballs that were going through the holes. There's nothing you can do against that. I'm fine."

After Trot Nixon struck out, Manny Ramirez hit a routine grounder to Rodriguez at third. He should have been able to get at least a force play at the plate and possibly a game-ending double play, but he bobbled the ball and the tying run scored.

"When I went down with two hands, I think I locked myself up," Rodriguez said. "I was going to go to second before the bobble. Then I knew I still had Bill Mueller at home, but then I bobbled it again."

David Ortiz drove in the go-ahead run with a dribbler to the right side, and Edgar Renteria made it 6-3 with a

two-run single.

After walking Doug Mirabelli, Rivera was lifted — a rare sight. He walked off the mound to a healthy dose of boos, but he thought those must have come from Red Sox fans.

"I think it's inexcusable if the boos were from Yankee fans because they wouldn't be crawling all over themselves to get into this ballpark if it weren't for him," New York manager Joe Torre said.

Pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre had a similar reaction.

"I was very surprised by that. Everything he's done here and in this ballpark, I was shocked. But that's New York," Stottlemyre said.

The final run scored on Felix Rodriguez's wild pitch.

Rivera (1-1) allowed five runs — one earned — and three walks in two-thirds of an inning. He also gave up three hits and threw 38 pitches.

"I don't want to say he lost his cool, but he definitely lost his command," Stottlemyre said.

The All-Star closer has blown his last four save chances against the Red Sox, including two in the 2004 playoffs, and six opportunities in all against Boston since the start of last season.

He yielded Jason Varitek's tying homer in the ninth on Tuesday, but Jeter bailed out Rivera with a game-winning homer in the bottom half.

"Yesterday's game had nothing to do with today," Rivera said.

Mike Timlin (1-0) got two outs for the win. His first pitch hit Jeter in the left shoulder and then deflected off his ear flap, knocking Jeter's helmet off and sending him sprawling to the dirt.

He remained in the game to run the bases, but was replaced at shortstop by Rey Sanchez in the ninth.

"He heard some ringing in his ears. He felt a little woozy," Torre said. "Timlin wasn't trying to hit him. He was just trying to rush a little, and his ball was all over the place."

The Red Sox got a strong outing from Wakefield, who allowed only three hits in 6 2-3 innings — including solo homers by Rodriguez and Martinez.

Making his first start of the year, Mike Mussina gave up nine hits but worked out of trouble. Helped by three double plays, he limited the Red Sox to two runs in six innings. Kevin Millar's two-run single gave Boston the lead in the fourth.

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MLB — NATIONAL LEAGUE

Brewers thump Pirates for second straight day



The Brewers' Lyle Overbay, left, is tagged out by Pirates catcher Benito Santiago in Milwaukee's 10-2 victory Tuesday.

Rightfielder Carlos Lee homers, drives in four runs in victory

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Brewers manager Ned Yost insisted all spring his offense is much improved, especially with Carlos Lee batting cleanup. Yost has some believers now, many in his own clubhouse.

Lee homered and drove in four runs in his first big game since an offseason trade and Doug Davis pitched effectively over six innings in the Brewers' second rout of the Pirates in as many games, a 10-2 decision Wednesday.

"So far, so good," Lee said after Milwaukee outscored Pittsburgh 19-4 in the two-game series. "We're doing a good job with defense, pitching and we're getting some key hits, big base hits, and that's the way we have to play."

The Brewers dealt popular leadoff hitter Scott Podsednik and reliever Luis Vizcaino to the White Sox for Lee in a deal that wasn't popular with some Brewers fans, but it probably looks a lot better to them now.

"That's why we got him, that's why he's in middle of lineup," Davis said. "(As a pitcher), you can't lay one in there and expect him to get himself out. You take a look at our lineup, and it's totally different."

Lee hit a two-run double off Kip Wells (0-1) in a four-run first that had some of the

12,077 fans booing even before Pittsburgh batted, then hit a solo homer leading off the fifth. Lee also had a run-scoring grounder in the sixth against reliever John Grabow.

If the Brewers were looking for a positive start after dropping 94 games during a 12th consecutive losing season in 2004, they got it in one of their least-favorite cities.

They went 6-12 against the Pirates last year and, going into the series, were 11-26 in Pittsburgh since PNC Park opened in 2001.

They hadn't won back-to-back there since April 8-9, 2003, a span of 16 games, before following up Monday's 9-2 victory with an even more one-sided win.

"It's big to come in here and win a couple of games from those guys," said Junior Spivey, who had three extra-base hits after striking out four times Monday. "They have good pitchers, a good staff and a young team. It was good to get going against this team."

The Pirates are 0-2 for the first time since 2000 and now seem as eager to get out of Pittsburgh as they were to get there following seven weeks of spring training.

They start a seven-game trip Thursday in San Diego.

"It's still only two games, and two games at the beginning don't count any more than two games at the end," Matt Lawton said. "When it starts to get deeper is when you start to press."

Manager Lloyd McClendon, who hoped a good start would elevate the confidence of his

relatively young team, said, "You always want to play well here. But it's only two games, it's not the end of the world."

Wells, erratic during spring training, constantly left his pitches over the plate as five of the first seven Brewers batters reached base.

Spivey doubled and Lyle Overbay walked ahead of Lee's double in the first, and Russell Branyan followed three batters later with a two-run double. Spivey added a solo homer in the fourth and a double in the sixth.

"To give them a 4-0 lead right out of the gate, I didn't give us much of a chance," Wells said.

Wells lasted five innings, giving up six hits and six runs while walking five.

"He wasn't very good," McClendon said. "He got his pitches up and it was not a good outing."

The left-handed hitting Branyan is expected to get the majority of starts at third base, but didn't start the opener so the right-handed hitting Jeff Cirillo could face Pirates left-hander Oliver Perez. Cirillo responded with a double and homer.

Davis was much more effective than Wells, allowing two hits over five shutout innings ahead of Tike Redman's two-run homer in the sixth. Davis gave up four hits and two runs and struck out five over six.

Like opening-day starter Ben Sheets, Davis is expected to start three times in the Brewers' first 10 games because the team has three off-days during the first two weeks of the season.

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AROUND THE NATION

page 18

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Major League Baseball

American League East

team	record	perc.	GB
Toronto	2-1	.667	-
New York	2-1	.667	-
Baltimore	1-0	1.000	-
Tampa Bay	1-2	.333	1.0
Boston	1-2	.333	1.0

American League Central

team	record	perc.	GB
Chicago	2-0	1.000	-
Minnesota	2-1	.667	0.5
Detroit	1-1	.500	1.0
Kansas City	1-1	.500	1.0
Cleveland	0-2	.000	2.0

American League West

team	record	perc.	GB
Los Angeles	1-0	1.000	-
Seattle	1-2	.333	1.0
Texas	0-1	.000	2.0
Oakland	0-1	.000	2.0

National League East

team	record	perc.	GB
Florida	1-0	1.000	-
Philadelphia	1-0	1.000	-
New York	0-1	.000	1.0
Washington	0-1	.000	1.0
Atlanta	0-1	.000	1.0

National League Central

team	record	perc.	GB
Milwaukee	2-0	1.000	-
Cincinnati	1-0	1.000	0.5
Chicago	1-1	.500	1.0
St. Louis	1-1	.500	1.0
Houston	1-1	.500	1.0
Pittsburgh	0-2	.000	2.0

National League West

team	record	perc.	GB
Colorado	1-0	1.000	-
San Francisco	1-0	1.000	-
Arizona	1-1	.500	0.5
San Diego	0-1	.000	1.0
Los Angeles	0-1	.000	1.0

ITA Tennis Rankings

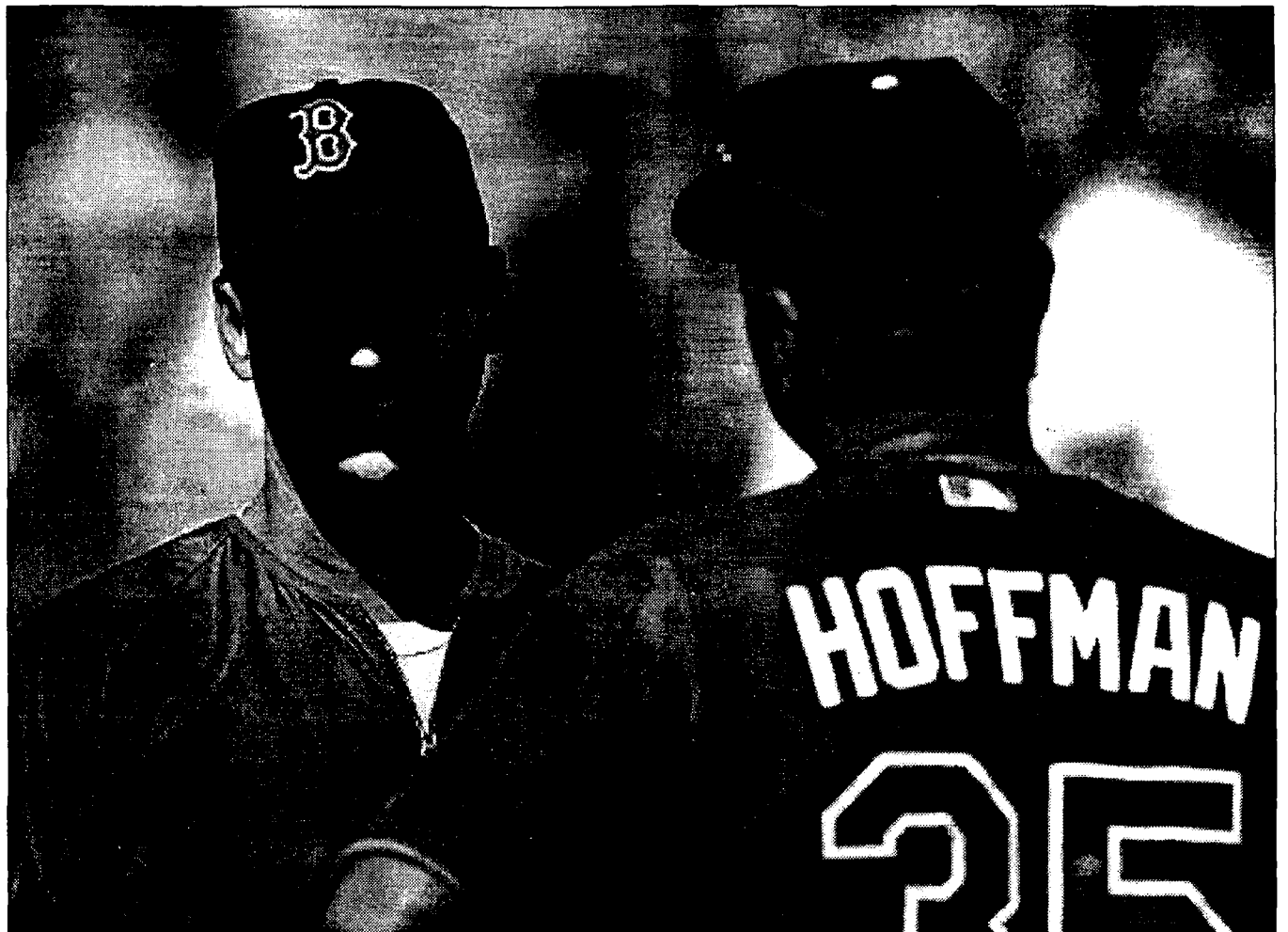
Men's

team	rank
1 Baylor	1
2 Illinois	2
3 Virginia	3
4 Mississippi	4
5 Duke	5
6 UCLA	6
7 Florida	7
8 Pepperdine	8
9 Georgia	9
10 Texas Tech	10
11 Oklahoma State	11
12 Washington	12
13 Southern California	13
14 Texas A&M	14
15 Mississippi State	15
16 Louisiana State	16
17 Tulane	17
18 Stanford	18
19 Kentucky	19
20 TX A&M-Corpus Christi	20
21 Florida State	21
22 South Carolina	22
23 Middle Tenn. St.	23
24 Clemson	24
25 Tennessee	25

Women's

team	rank
1 Stanford	1
2 Northwestern	2
3 Southern California	3
4 Georgia	4
5 Kentucky	5
6 Vanderbilt	6
7 Florida	7
8 Georgia Tech	8
9 Miami (FL)	9
10 Texas	10
11 UCLA	11
12 Duke	12
13 Clemson	13
14 North Carolina	14
15 Baylor	15
16 William & Mary	16
17 TCU	17
18 Harvard	18
19 Tulane	19
20 California	20
21 Washington	21
22 Mississippi State	22
23 Tennessee	23
24 Oregon	24
25 South Carolina	25

MLB



Boston manager Terry Francona, left, talks with Los Angeles Dodgers third base coach Glenn Hoffman in a 2004 spring training game. Francona was admitted to the hospital before Wednesday's game after complaining of chest pains.

Francona sent to hospital, misses game

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chest pains forced Terry Francona into a hospital Wednesday. How soon the Boston manager returns to his team remains to be seen.

Francona was taken by ambulance to New York Weill-Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan after experiencing chest tightness in the morning. He underwent a variety of tests and then listened on the radio as the Red Sox rallied for a 7-3 victory over the Yankees, their first win of the season.

Red Sox spokesman Glenn Geffner said

Francona, who turns 46 on April 22, was scheduled to be transferred Wednesday night to Boston, where he will remain under the supervision of team doctor Thomas Gill.

The Red Sox, meanwhile, were off to Toronto to open a series against the Blue Jays on Friday.

"Tito has meant so much to this whole team," center fielder Johnny Damon said. "He's the guy that would go to battle for you."

The Red Sox would not specify what Francona was tested for or any results.

General manager Theo Epstein informed the team of Francona's situation in a very brief meeting after

the second Red Sox bus arrived at Yankee Stadium around 10:30 a.m. He then went to the hospital and spent the game with Francona.

Francona came to Boston with a reputation for being too nice and letting players take advantage of him. But the Red Sox responded to his easygoing personality and gelled into a raucous bunch that brought Boston its first World Series title in 86 years.

With Francona in the hospital, the Red Sox banded together in the collegial manner that made them champions.

"I almost needed a bed next to Tito," acting man-

ager Brad Mills said jokingly of the tense game. "[The win] was a lot to do with the guys focused on what they have to accomplish."

Damon said during the game players asked the trainers, including Jim Rowe, who accompanied the manager and returned to the ballpark, about Francona but they "didn't give us any until after the game."

The Red Sox were upbeat after their ninth-inning comeback, yet there was little of the boisterous revelry common from the team that dubbed themselves Idiots during the playoffs last season.

IN BRIEF

Myskina advances, Molik upset at Bausch & Lomb

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — Anastasia Myskina survived a three-set match with unseeded Shahar Peer of Israel to advance to the round of 16 Wednesday at the Bausch & Lomb Championships.

While the third-seeded Myskina advanced, Virginia Razzano posted the tournament's first surprise, upsetting No. 9 ranked Alicia Molik, 6-4, 6-4.

Myskina, ranked No. 6 in the world, defeated Peer, ranked 112, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Serena Williams played Dally Randiantefy later Wednesday.

Myskina rolled through the first set in 20 minutes, holding her service at love in her first three serves and breaking Peer's serve at love in the eighth game.

The second set was nothing like the first. Peer broke Myskina in the first and third games and held her own service twice to jump out to a 4-0

lead en route to a win.

"I played really well that first set, but then I got a little bored," Myskina said.

Baylor welcomes home national champions

WACO — The crowd was already in a frenzy, having been introduced to all but one of the Baylor players. Then senior Steffanie Blackmon emerged from behind a curtain hoisting the NCAA championship trophy.

Flashbulbs lit up the arena Wednesday, and more than 7,000 fans screamed even louder in appreciation of the prize a well-deserved shining moment for the university and the town.

"This is a women's basketball championship," coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson said. "But it's bigger than that. It is a Baylor national championship."

The Lady Bears (33-3) won their first national title with an 84-62 win over Michigan State on Monday night.

Pirates minor leaguers fail drug tests

PITTSBURGH — Three Pittsburgh Pirates minor leaguers were suspended Wednesday for failing drug tests last year, with Triple-A pitcher Brian Mallette drawing a 30-game penalty as a two-time offender.

Outfielder Jon Nunnally, also with Pittsburgh's Indianapolis farm team, was given a 15-game suspension as a first offender, as was infielder Tom Evans, who plays for Double-A Altoona.

Mallette and Nunnally were with other organizations when the tests were conducted before signing minor league contracts with Pittsburgh. Both attended the Pirates' spring training camp as non-roster players but did not make the opening-day roster.

Evans is the only Pirates farmhand to date to fail a drug test, though results of tests conducted this year among Florida-based spring training teams have not been released.

around the dial

MLB

Cleveland at Chicago, 1:05 p.m., Comcast
Oakland at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m., ESPN

GOLF

The Masters, first round, 3:00 p.m., USA

MLB — AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tampa Bay scores 6 in 8th, tops Toronto, 8-5

Cantu delivers 3-run homer to finish off big rally against Blue Jays

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Lou Piniella could smile for a change. After watching his team squander opportunity after opportunity through most of a three-game series against the Toronto Blue Jays, the Tampa Bay manager savored a six-run, eighth inning that carried the Devil Rays to an 8-5 victory Wednesday.

"That's a thing of beauty for us," Piniella said. "It'll sure make our off day (Thursday) a little better."

Jorge Cantu capped the rally with a three-run homer off Jason Speier. That came after the Devil Rays overcame a 5-2 deficit on Aubrey Huff's two-run double off Scott Schoeneweis (0-1) and Chris Singleton's RBI single off Speier.

The Blue Jays' bullpen wasted a strong performance by starter Josh Towers, who left with a 3-1 lead after allowing four hits, striking out six and walking none in six innings. Danys Baez (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings for the win.

"I'm very, very happy we won two out of three. But it's 5-2 in the eighth, and I was thinking sweep," Toronto catcher Gregg Zaun said. "I'm not leaving the clubhouse happy today."

Tampa Bay went 2-for-13 with runners in scoring position while losing the first two games of the series, and was 1-for-5 Wednesday before busting loose against Schoeneweis, who was pitching for the third straight day.

The Devil Rays scored once in the seventh off Jason Frasor when Toby Hall grounded into a double play with the bases loaded. Orlando Hudson's RBI triple gave Toronto a 4-2 lead in the eighth, and Eric Hinske's run-scoring single made it 5-2.

Cantu homered for the second straight game, and Carl Crawford had an inside-the-park homer off Towers for the Devil Rays, who rely more on speed

than power to generate offense. Crawford led off the winning rally with a triple that seemed to energize his teammates.

"That's the kind of team we have," Piniella said. "But there's no substitute for a three-run homer. You saw that today."

Tampa Bay avoided its first 0-3 start with a roster that includes 16 players who were not here on opening day last year. Another fresh face could be on the way after backup catcher Charles Johnson requested a leave of absence.

Johnson, a former All-Star who signed a one-year contract Monday, was granted permission to leave the team. If he does not return Friday, he will be placed on a restricted list without pay.

"I am going to leave the club for personal reasons," Johnson said in a statement released by the team. "I'm going to return home to Miami and hopefully join the club as soon as possible."

Kansas City 7, Detroit 2

DETROIT — After a layoff of more than a year, Runelvys Hernandez was eager to prove his recovery from elbow surgery is complete.

"I waited a long time for this moment," he said Wednesday after leading the Kansas City Royals over the Detroit Tigers 7-2.

Hernandez (1-0) had not pitched since Aug. 16, 2003. He had elbow ligament replacement surgery that Sept. 5 and missed all of last season.

He gave up one run and five hits in seven innings against the Tigers, walked three and struck out three for his first win since Aug. 10, 2003 at Tampa Bay.

"I was wondering what I might have," he said. "But you saw today, Hernandez is back. I had good pitches. I was trying to hit the corners. I wasn't worried about throwing hard, but about location."

Hernandez threw 100 pitches, 61 for strikes.

"He located his fastball well, and threw his offspeed pitches for strikes," Detroit's Rondell White said.

Tony Graffanino had three sin-

gles and a double as Hernandez was backed with 15 hits.

"After the third inning, he was in command," Kansas City manager Tony Pena said. "He threw great. He had a great changeup, slider and curve."

Jeremy Affeldt, Kansas City's third pitcher, completed the six-hitter, giving up an RBI triple to Dmitri Young in the ninth.

Mike Maroth (0-1) allowed five runs and 11 hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Kansas City, coming off an 11-2 loss Monday, got started quickly in the first when singles by David DeJesus and Graffanino put runners at the corners.

A pitch appeared to hit Mike Sweeney and bounce toward the Royals dugout on the first-base side. Catcher Ivan Rodriguez didn't give chase at first, but plate umpire Larry Vanover ruled Sweeney wasn't hit. DeJesus scored and Graffanino moved to third on what was ruled a wild pitch.

Rodriguez and Detroit manager Alan Trammell argued to no avail. After the game, Sweeney acknowledged he had been hit.

"I'm an honest man," he said. "The pitch hit me on the foot."

Sweeney followed with a broken-bat single for a 2-0 lead.

"He has pitched well against us the last couple times we've faced him, so getting a couple of runs was huge," Sweeney said. "Once he gets into a groove, he can get a complete game with 85 pitches, and we didn't want that to happen today."

Maroth never got into a groove, allowing the first batter in each of the four innings he pitched to reach base.

"I think it probably showed, throwing a lot of balls, going deep on hitters," he said. "I'm a guy that likes to get them to put it in play early in the count and I wasn't able to do that today."

Detroit drew a crowd of 14,168 to Comerica Park after setting a ballpark record of 44,105 at Monday's opener.

Omar Infante hit a sacrifice fly in the third, but Kansas City made it 5-1 in the fourth. Matt Stairs doubled and scored on Mark Teahen's first major league hit, a triple into the right-field



Tampa Bay outfielder Carl Crawford heads for home to finish an inside-the-park home run against the Blue Jays Wednesday.

corner. DeJesus and Sweeney followed with RBI singles. Eli Marrero added a sacrifice fly in the seventh, and Angel Berroa homered in the eighth.

Minnesota 4, Seattle 1

SEATTLE — Carlos Silva allowed one run in seven innings and Matthew LeCroy hit a three-run homer in the Minnesota Twins' 4-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Wednesday.

Silva, in his second full season as a starter, gave up nine hits — including Bret Boone's solo homer leading off the second. The right-hander, known for his efficiency and excellent control, had no walks or strikeouts.

The Twins had a scare in the eighth when first baseman Justin Morneau was hit in the right temple by a pitch from left-handed reliever Ron Villone,

though the batting helmet appeared to absorb most of the hit.

Morneau dropped to the ground and Twins manager Ron Gardenhire immediately rushed out with an athletic trainer. Morneau stayed on his back for about one minute, with his head propped up by a rolled-up towel. He was helped to his feet and walked off on his own, then taken for a precautionary CT scan. There was no immediate word on the result.

Silva escaped a bases-loaded jam in the seventh, when the Twins turned their third double play, then gave way to Juan Rincon. Joe Nathan pitched a perfect ninth for his first save as Minnesota won two games in the season-opening series.

Seattle also had a player leave because of an injury, starter Bobby Madritsch, who went out in the fifth with a strained left shoulder. He pitched 4 1-3 innings, allowed three runs and four hits, struck out one and walked one.

The lefty looked good early, retiring his first 10 batters. Then, Nick Punto got Minnesota's first hit with a one-out bunt single in the fourth. Morneau hit a two-out single to right, and LeCroy drove a 1-0 pitch an estimated 378 feet over the visitor's bullpen for a 3-1 lead.

With one out in the fifth, Madritsch flinched after throwing a pitch to Juan Castro. After a conference on the mound, Madritsch was replaced by Ryan Franklin. The Twins took a 4-1 lead in the eighth after Jacques Jones' one-out sacrifice with the bases loaded.

Silva survived a jam in the seventh, after one-out singles by Boone, Raul Ibanez and Randy Winn. But he got Dan Wilson to ground out at third, where Michael Cuddyer stepped on the bag and tossed it to first for a double play.

Boone, playing on his 36th birthday, put Seattle ahead 1-0 in the second, sending a solo shot into the left-field bullpen.

Irish Athletics

Thursday, April 7th

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vs Denver

4:00pm

Moose Krause Stadium

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Softball
vs Ball State

5:00pm

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Saturday, April 9th

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vs William & Mary

Gold Game

10:00am

Courtney Tennis Center

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Sunday, April 10th

Women's Lacrosse
vs Stanford

Noon

Loftus Sports Center

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#9 Men's Lacrosse
vs Air Force

Noon

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MLB — NATIONAL LEAGUE

Pettitte leads Astros to their first victory

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Andy Pettitte felt better than he had in a long time, going all the way back to his final game with the New York Yankees almost 18 months ago.

He pitched like it, too.

Pettitte allowed only a solo homer to Reggie Sanders in a strong six-inning season debut, and Mike Lamb's two-run triple in the bottom of the eighth sent the Houston Astros to a 4-1 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday.

"It was great to go back out there and not pitch with a lot of pain," Pettitte said. "I can't tell you how happy I am to go out there and not hurt. It makes you appreciate your health."

Chad Qualls pitched two perfect innings and Brad Lidge got three outs for a save to help Houston break a three-game losing streak against the Cardinals, dating to Game 6 of the NL championship series last October.

Coming off an elbow injury that ended his season last August, Pettitte proved that those painful days of 2004 might finally be behind the hurler.

The last time Pettitte looked this good, he was wearing pinstripes and pitching in Game 6 of the 2003 World Series.

Washington 7, Philadelphia 3

PHILADELPHIA — A few players drank beers. Others

quietly grooved to hip-hop music. Some simply showered and dressed.

The Washington Nationals have their first win. They're still working on how to celebrate.

Brad Wilkerson hit for the cycle for the second time in his career and Jose Guillen hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the eighth inning, leading the Nationals to a victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday night.

It was Washington's second game since moving during the offseason after 36 years as the Montreal Expos.

"It's a special day to get the first victory," Wilkerson said.

Vinny Castilla was 4-for-5 with two doubles and one RBI for Washington, which hadn't celebrated a victory by a major league team since the expansion Senators left for Texas following the 1971 season.

The Nationals play their home opener at RFK Stadium on April 14 against Arizona.

"It's nice to win your first game," Nationals manager Frank Robinson said. "It's a good feeling."

Wilkerson was 4-for-4 with a walk and two RBIs, completing his cycle with a ground-rule double in the eighth against Aaron Fultz.

Wilkerson homered off Brett Myers in the third, singled off Myers in the fifth and tripled against Rheal Cormier in the seventh. Wilkerson's first cycle was against Pittsburgh on June 24, 2003.

THE MASTERS

Mickelson looks to repeat

Tiger's still drawing crowds, but others demand attention

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — A half-dozen grown men were walking along the 11th fairway Wednesday morning when they scampered into the woods and huddled around a golf ball, gawking as though it were a meteorite that descended onto Augusta National.

They knelt over and held their cameras inches from the ball — a swoosh on the right side and "TIGER" printed on the top — and clicked away. Other fans came over and started passing the men their cameras for more pictures.

And it was only a golf ball.

The guy who hit the tee shot some 50 yards off line — right of the trees, right of the gallery and into a small forest of Georgia pines — never showed up. A marshal eventually broke up the crowd and heaved the ball to Woods' caddie.

Tiger Woods is used to this kind of star treatment at Augusta National, where he shattered scoring records as a 21-year-old and already had three green jackets by the time he was 26.

But he no longer is the main event.

Phil Mickelson is the defending champion when the 69th Masters begins Thursday, and many believe he is primed to join Woods,

Nick Faldo and Jack Nicklaus as the only back-to-back winners of a green jacket.

His victory Monday in the BellSouth Classic was his third of the year. And his confidence soars even higher just driving down Magnolia Lane, walking upstairs to the champions locker room, being on a golf course where a year ago he birdied five of the last seven holes to capture his first major.

"Being able to come through when I needed to gives me a little of extra confidence," Mickelson said.

Vijay Singh is No. 1 in the world, and has been for all but two weeks in March. And while his only victory this year came in the second week of the season, he is the only player who seems to be around the top of the leaderboard no matter where he plays.

"Vijay is the one that is playing the best at the moment," Sergio Garcia said.

Ernie Els is seeking redemption at Augusta National. Retief Goosen is seeking recognition.

Those two South Africans, along with Mickelson and Singh, all have won majors in the nearly three years since Woods last captured a coveted Grand Slam event.

"If you look at guys who are at the top in the world ranking, and the guys who have won major championships, you know they can handle the heat," Woods said. "You know they're not going to make a mistake."

He hasn't had this much competition since winning the

first of his eight majors at Augusta National in 1997.

On perhaps the most famous stage in golf, the latest battle begins to unfold Thursday with a Masters that is being billed more as a free-for-all than a heavyweight prize fight.

And while top players are getting most of the attention, another familiar theme threatened to intervene.

A line of violent thunderstorms began working its way toward Augusta National even as the undercard — the Par 3 Tournament — was being held Wednesday.

Weather already has interrupted play in eight of 14 tournaments, and one forecast said the course could get as much as an inch of rain about the time the Masters gets under way.

"See you Friday," Woods said jokingly as he left the course after a nine-hole practice round, knowing that his 1:33 p.m. starting time might be pushed back.

Perhaps the adage this year will be the Masters doesn't start until the back nine Monday.

If nothing else, rain figures to soften an Augusta National course that has been firm, fiery, fast and frightening, with players remarking they had never seen the greens this fast so early in the week.

That could be an advantage for the longer hitters, although accuracy is underrated at the Masters. And to see Woods send his tee shot on the 11th hole so far to the right only raises more questions about his game.

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NBA

Bulls outlast Magic, win in overtime 102-101

Chandler pulls down 22 rebounds in win

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Orlando Magic are running out of time to make a playoff push.

Kirk Hinrich scored 25 points, Tyson Chandler added 15 points and 22 rebounds and the Chicago Bulls beat Orlando 102-101 on Wednesday night to deal the Magic's postseason hopes a serious blow.

Combined with Philadelphia's win over Charlotte, Orlando is 2 1/2 games out of the Eastern Conference's eighth and final playoff berth with seven games remaining. The Magic have lost three of four, and Grant Hill is out indefinitely with a sore left shin.

"It may look bleak, but I've seen stranger things happen," Orlando coach Chris Jent said. "But we can't keep saying that."

Hill, who has missed three straight games, underwent a CT scan earlier Wednesday and the team hopes to know the results Thursday.

Orlando general manager John Weisbrod said the pain in the shin isn't related to the ankle woes that sidelined Hill for most of the previous three seasons.

The Bulls' victory came on the heels of a loss at Miami on Tuesday, which snapped their nine-game winning streak. Chicago now has a one-game lead over Washington for fourth place after the Wizards lost 105-93 to Detroit.

After Ben Gordon missed a runner on Chicago's final possession, Antonio Davis rebounded and was fouled by Kelvin Cato on the put-back try. Davis, shooting 74 percent from the line this season, missed the first then swished the second.

"After missing the first one you don't feel good about the second one," said Davis, finished

with 11 points and 14 rebounds. "But you step up, relax and shoot it the same way."

"Once it went down I felt good, but you have to play defense because Stevie Francis has shown time and time again that he can score the ball with 1.9 seconds or whatever the case may be."

Indiana 98, Cleveland 77

INDIANAPOLIS — Reggie Miller and the Indiana Pacers are already in postseason mode.

Miller scored 17 points and Stephen Jackson had 23 to lead Indiana to its fifth straight victory over the slumping Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

"We've taken the approach that the playoffs really started in late March for us," Miller said. "Right now, we are probably playing the best basketball we've played all year."

The Pacers hold the sixth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference, two games ahead of the Cavaliers, who have lost nine of 13.

"We want to go in the playoffs with some momentum," Jackson said after hitting 8-of-16 field goals. "We're happy to be in the playoffs, but we want to win a championship."

The game was never close after the Pacers held the Cavaliers to 10 points in the second quarter. Cleveland made just 3 of 22 shots in the quarter and 36 percent for the game.

LeBron James scored 20 points on 9-for-18 shooting for Cleveland.

James said frustration is mounting for the Cavs, who fired coach Paul Silas was fired on March 21.

Philadelphia 106, Charlotte 103

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia 76ers would rather not rely so heavily on Allen Iverson.

They certainly can't complain

about the results, though.

Iverson scored 48 points and the 76ers gained ground in the race for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with a win over the Charlotte Bobcats on Wednesday night.

Iverson had 30 in the first half to help the Sixers (37-37) take a 25-point lead, which was sliced all the way to one late in the fourth quarter.

It was the second straight game the Sixers let a huge lead slip away, blowing a 26-point lead against Boston before holding on for a four-point win.

Certainly, the eighth spot is Philly's to lose over the final eight games. The Sixers have won six of 10 and are 11-8 since March 1 to build a game and a half lead over New Jersey and a 2 1/2 -game cushion on Orlando.

Chris Webber missed his third straight game with a sprained left shoulder.

"When Chris is not on the court, it puts way too much on Allen's shoulders," said Sixers coach Jim O'Brien.

Kyle Korver finished with 11 points and Andre Iguodala had 11 rebounds for the Sixers.

Cleveland's 98-77 loss to Indiana on Wednesday night pulled the Sixers to one game of the Cavaliers for the seventh spot. The Cavs play at Philadelphia on Friday and are 0-2 this year against the Sixers.

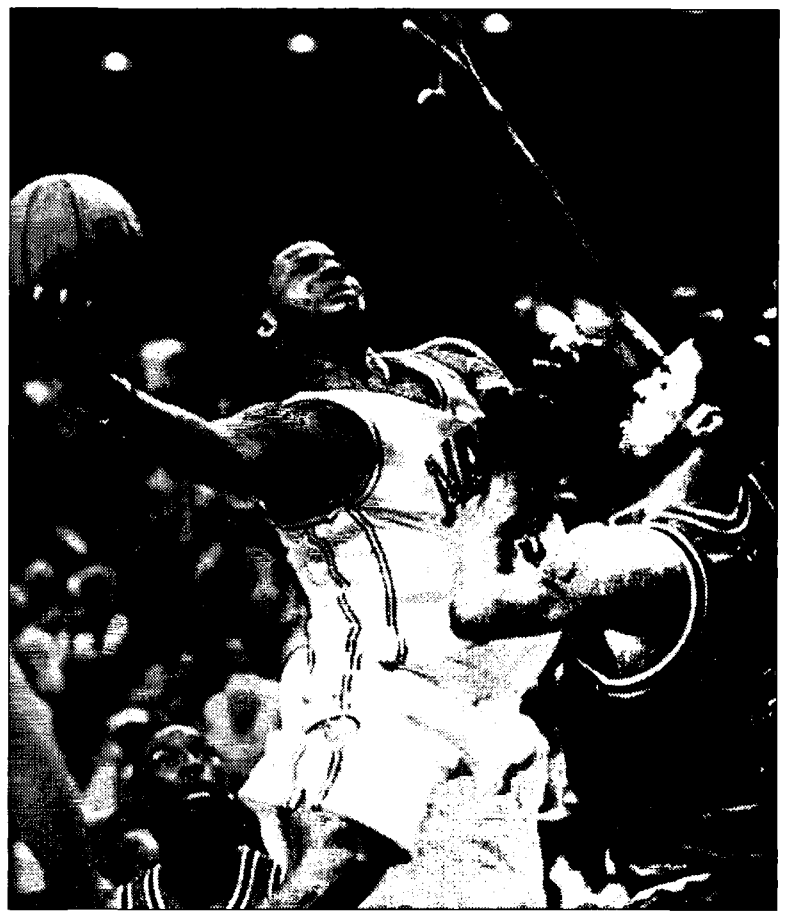
The Sixers are 3 1/2 games behind first-place Boston in the Atlantic Division.

Detroit 105, Washington 93

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Ben Wallace heeded his teammates' advice and took more shots for himself.

It paid off Wednesday night, when Wallace scored 21 points and had 18 rebounds to help the Detroit Pistons reduce their magic number for clinching the Central Division title to four with a victory over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

"Everyone on the team has been telling me to shoot the ball more, so I figured they must know something," Wallace said. "They've been doing a great job of getting me the ball where I can do something with it instead



Bulls center Tyson Chandler, right, attempts to block Magic guard DeShawn Stevenson in Chicago's overtime win Wednesday.

of just being an emergency option."

Even after two seasons together, Wallace is still impressing coach Larry Brown. The All-Star has now scored in double figures in five straight games.

"He was sensational tonight," Brown said. "He did everything."

Detroit has won four straight and leads second-place Chicago by five games.

It was Brown's 101st win as Pistons coach, breaking Rick Carlisle's team record of 100 over his first two seasons with Detroit.

The Wizards have lost three in a row and had a three-game road winning streak snapped.

San Antonio 91, LA Clippers 82

SAN ANTONIO — Playing for the first time in more than a year, Glenn Robinson displayed the

shooting touch of an everyday player.

Signed as a free agent to help fill the scoring void left by the injured Tim Duncan, Robinson hit three of four shots and scored seven points in his debut with the Spurs, helping San Antonio to a win over the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday night.

"I'm really surprised he's got his rhythm," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "But he's a jump shooter ... You don't forget how to do that."

Manu Ginobili scored 12 of his 16 points in the second half and Brent Barry added four 3-pointers for the Spurs, who are two games behind Phoenix in the race for top seed in the Western Conference. San Antonio and the Suns each have eight games remaining.

The Clippers got within 49-45 on a three-point play by Chris Wilcox midway through the third, but San Antonio made 10 of its final 11 shots, including four 3-pointers, in the quarter to extend its lead to 72-57 heading into the fourth.

The Spurs pushed their lead to 22 points early in the fourth before the teams went to their reserves.

Barry finished with 12 points on 4-for-5 shooting from beyond the arc. Tony Parker had 11 points, and Bruce Bowen and Beno Udrih each added 10. Sean Marks had 10 rebounds in 17 minutes.

San Antonio went without Duncan (right ankle sprain) for an eighth consecutive game, while Bobby Simmons (left leg bruise) and Chris Kaman (lower back strain) sat out for Los Angeles.

Corey Maggette led the Clippers with 23 points on 6-for-16 shooting, with only two of his baskets coming in the second half. Elton Brand scored 13 and Wilcox 10 for Los Angeles, which shot 39 percent and committed 22 turnovers.

"They outworked us, they out-shot us, they outrebounded us."

Robinson, who has averaged 21 points over 10 NBA seasons, said.

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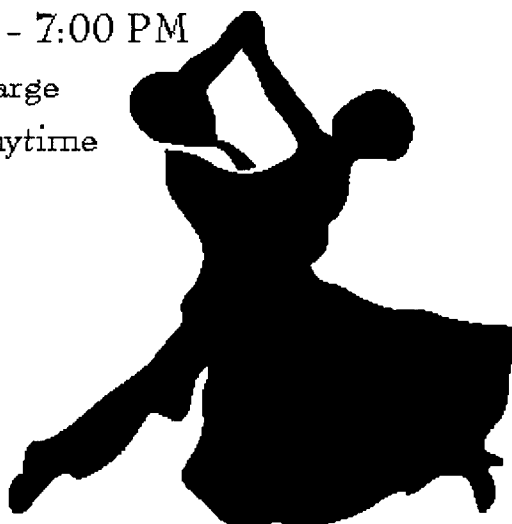
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SMC TENNIS

Belles set to challenge MIAA-leading Hope

By KATE SERYAK
Sports Writer

On Thursday, the Belles will take on the Flying Dutch of Hope College in one of their most important conference matches.

Hope recently reached the .500 mark after a 9-0 shutout win over Olivet College on Tuesday and is currently tied with Albion College atop the MIAA conference at 3-0.

"Inside of our conference, this will be our first big challenge," Belles captain Miranda Mikulyuk said. "This match, how we play in it, will be a good indicator for the rest of the season."

"It will also be a good challenge for our doubles [pairs]," Mikulyuk said. "Tuesday's match wasn't a good challenge for the doubles, but Hope is almost stronger in doubles than they are in singles so this will be a good challenge."

Captain Kristen Palombo echoed Mikulyuk's thoughts.

"The doubles will be key to setting up the match tomorrow," Palombo said. "If we can go into the singles having won two out of the three doubles, I think we have a chance at winning the whole match. That would take the pressure off of the singles players — they would only have to win three out of the six singles matches."

This will be only the Belles' second conference match. Saint Mary's played Tri-State University on Tuesday and won with a 9-0 sweep, beginning their conference run at 1-0.

Despite a strong start to the

season, however, the Belles were not invited to the Midwestern Tournament in Wisconsin this year.

"I think it's kind of hard to be judged so early in the season," Mikulyuk said. "We've only played one conference match, whereas Hope and Albion have played three. I don't know what the criteria are to get invited to that match. I'm not sure it's clear to anyone."

The Belles, however, aren't fazed. Instead, they are looking forward to tomorrow's match.

"We've beaten Hope in the past few years, but they have always been close matches," Palombo said. "They always come ready to play, and it will be a tough match. Hope had a really good win against Calvin last week, so [Hope is] definitely strong this year."

As of yet, it has not been determined where the match will be held. If it rains before 11 a.m., the match will be held in Hope's indoor facilities. If not, the match will be played at St. Mary's as originally scheduled.

"Tennis is mostly mental, and right now we don't even know where we are playing this match," Palombo said. "It will be tough if we have to sit in a van for two hours because your legs get cramped and it's hard to stay focused."

"Also, if we don't play at home, we won't have as many fans, and Hope has the loudest and most obnoxious fans. I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow," Palombo said.

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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

The Moonshiners advance

Top seed U Got A Bad Draw wins but does not dominate

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

In a game that took a lot longer than it had to, the Moonshiners finally reached 21 points to put away Ghetto Fab, a squad of girls from Pasquerilla West who showed up for the game in white tank-tops with messages written in marker. Ghetto Fab member Julie Opet said the messages were not meant to have a purpose.

Although Ghetto Fab won the coin toss, it was The Moonshiners who got off to a fast start by forcing turnovers on each of Ghetto Fab's first two possessions and executing the break perfectly for a 2-0 lead.

At that point it appeared the game would be over quickly, but Eric Blevins of the Moonshiners decided to take a larger role in his team's offense.

Blevins made it abundantly clear that he did not mind shooting the ball. His first, from beyond the 3-point arc, cleared the backboard, hitting the metal pole behind it, and the second cleared everything. Blevins was heard, after each shot, saying, "That was pretty close."

If not for the efforts of Rob Gilmer it is hard to say whether this game would have ever ended. Gilmer, known as "The Toledo Tornado" in homage to his hometown and his patented spin move down in the post, put up six points and eight rebounds to lead the way for the Moonshiners.

Opet led the way for Ghetto Fab, scoring three of the team's four points. After the game, Opet and her teammates were only mildly disappointed.

"Our shots weren't falling," Opet said. "We hadn't planned on winning this game, but we hope this will help us do better in the women's tournament."

Team Awesome 21, We Go Down the Court 2

In a game that came dangerously close to being a shutout, Team Awesome made quick work of We Go Down the Court, a team comprised of five McGlinn girls.

Team Awesome was led by its trio of Pats — Pat O'Brien, Pat Conley and Pat "Tastycakes" Gotebeski — who had their own cheering section, as three of their male friends stood on the sidelines, bare-chested, with the letters P-A-T emblazoned in green on their chests.

Team Awesome maintained a high-intensity playing style throughout the game, long after the outcome was no longer in doubt. Whether they were just exhibiting their work ethic or needlessly trying to embarrass their opponents is hard to say, but We Go Down the Court's Katie Grimes let her disapproval be known.

"We considered this a chance to tune-up for the women's tournament, but apparently it was also a way to boost the self-esteem of some of the men on campus," Grimes said.

U Got A Bad Draw 21, The Diamond Dick Podell Experience 8

In a game that was delayed fifteen minutes while U Got A Bad Draw waited for team member

Brady Quinn to arrive, the defending champs showed Diamond Dick just how literally to interpret their name.

Before the game, the members of the Diamond Dick Podell Experience, who named themselves after an old man they met in Osco who claimed to have been a waterboy for Notre Dame in the days of Knute Rockne, appeared optimistic, almost to the point of being brash.

"We're honored to have the opportunity to knock out the big guns," team member Dick Dunne said.

Sam Young of DDPE listed what he thought were his team's main advantages over the defending champs.

"Power, size, speed — I think we've got all three," Young said.

Along with Quinn, U Got A Bad Draw features offensive lineman Dan Stevenson (6-foot-6, 297 pounds) and offensive lineman Scott Raridon (6-foot-6, 315 pounds), who is playing in the place of Chinedum Ndukwe.

U Got A Bad Draw came out for the start of the game wearing brand-new, shiny red uniforms, the team name across the chest and each player's number on the back along with a nickname instead of their surnames.

Both teams struggled to score early, as the game appeared to be a contest between two top-tier defenses.

DDPE put up a good fight, at one point down only 9-5 and 11-6 at the half. In the second half, however, the athleticism of the defending champs wore down DDPE, as U Got A Bad Draw closed the game on a 10-2 run.

Contact John Everett at
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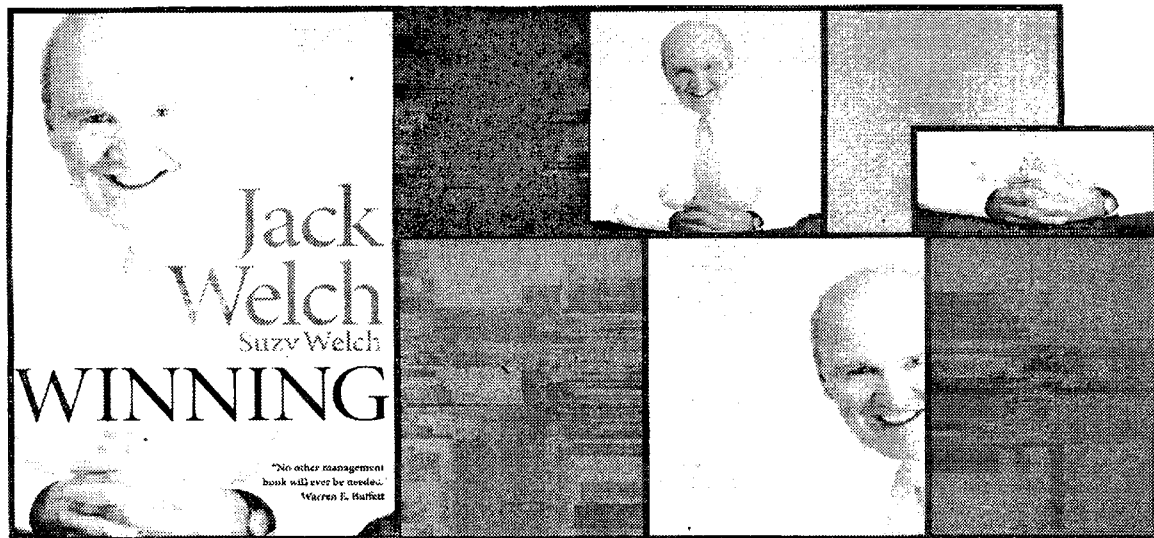
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ND SOFTBALL

Team looks to remain hot, extend win streak

By THOMAS BARR
Sports Writer

Notre Dame (21-8) hopes to remain undefeated at home when it faces Ball State (10-23) today.

The Irish have been hot as of late with a 10-game winning

streak that is now into its third week.

During this time, they have outscored opponents 53-7 and have recorded an impressive .337 batting average.

After playing two double-headers in two days, the Irish were given yesterday off.

This will be the first meeting

between these two teams this season.

The Cardinals ended a four-game losing streak yesterday with an extra inning win at home in Muncie, Ind. Ball State defeated Indiana State in nine innings, 6-5.

Pitchers Heather Booth (11-4) and Steffany Steinglem (9-4)

are likely to split the game for the Irish.

Booth comes in with 1.22 ERA while Steinglem is averaging 10.25 strikeouts per seven innings.

The forecast calls for rain late tonight through early afternoon. The game is scheduled for 5 PM at Ivy field

weather permitting.

The Irish have dealt with bad weather on many occasions this season, having at least ten games postponed or cancelled thus far this year, including segments of tournaments.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles struggle with errors, drop two games to Albion

By BRIAN CARDILE
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's (5-12, 0-4) dropped its eighth and ninth consecutive games today, falling 10-6 and 11-5 to conference foe Albion College.

The Belles offense showed signs of life, producing nine runs in each of the double-header's two games, but the defense committed eight errors on the afternoon, allowing six unearned runs to cross the plate.

Saint Mary's played well in

the first game of the double dip and led 4-3 going into the sixth inning.

But Briton Jessie Loegel singled in Jenelle Vleck — who had reached base earlier on an error — to tie the game at 4-4.

In the top of the eighth, the

Britons pushed two across, taking a 6-4 lead.

The Belles fought back, knotting the game at 6-6 after a sacrifice bunt by Sarah Miesle and an RBI double by McKenna Corrigan.

The next two batters flew out, however, leaving Corrigan

stranded at second.

The game went to a second extra frame, where the Britons pulled away, scoring four runs to make the final score 10-6.

The second half of the doubleheader had a promising beginning for Saint Mary's.

The Belles got on the board early, when Corrigan hit another RBI double in the first inning that scored Audrey Gajor. The hit would have netted two runs but Laura Heline was called out in a close play at home to end the inning and the threat.

Albion countered with four runs in its half of the inning, taking a lead the team would never relinquish.

Saint Mary's pulled within one at 4-3 in the third inning, but the Britons scored the next five runs to pull away, eventually winning the game 11-5.

The six errors committed by the Saint Mary's defense made any chance of a comeback near impossible.

The young Belles squad showed promise throughout the afternoon, but had trouble stringing together good innings, which allowed a very consistent Albion team to notch the two victories.

The wins were the first and second for the Britons in MIAA play. Saint Mary's fell to 0-4 in the conference and will need to put forth a strong effort as the season progresses if they hope to make any noise in the conference.

The Belles play away this Saturday, meeting Adrian College. They return to Saint Mary's April 14 for a double dip against Hope College.

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bcardile@nd.edu

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Errors

continued from page 28

those runs were earned as the Irish committed three errors in that inning and five overall on the game.

Those lapses in defense — 13 errors in the past three games for the Irish is concerning Mainieri more than his pitching staff's struggles.

"I know we have the players."

Paul Mainieri
Irish coach

"That's eating at me more than anything else," Mainieri said. "Infield defense has been a concern and third base has been our Achilles' Heel all year. I've always taken great pride in our infield defense."

"I know we have the players. We just haven't done it."

Ball State built a 14-0 lead with two more runs in the seventh inning before the Irish got on the board in the bottom of the seventh.

A single by Eddie Smith scored Greg Lopez to get the

Irish their first run. Matt Edwards hit his 11th homerun of the season after Smith's single to make the score 14-4.

The Irish got their fifth and last run of the game in the eighth when Matt Bransfield scored on a fielder's choice.

The Irish travel to Boston

College this weekend for a three-game series.

Despite the 14 runs and five errors, Mainieri knows not to put too much stock into this game and just to get his team focused for the important conference games remaining on the schedule.

"I've coached over 1,300 games and with the start to the game that we had, it would have been a daunting task," Mainieri said. "I don't want to make more out of it than it is."

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

Pitching and fielding are costing Irish dearly

A year ago, Notre Dame's 12th loss was its last — a 7-6 defeat to Arizona in the NCAA tournament on June 6.

This season, the Irish surpassed that loss total Wednesday with a one-sided, 14-5 manhandling from Ball State at Frank Eck Stadium.

After being swept in a double-header for only the seventh

time in their Big East history with two losses Monday to Rutgers, the Irish stumbled again in uncharacteristic fashion.

They couldn't get any key hits.

They couldn't field, tallying five errors. And they certainly couldn't pitch.

Two of the three reasons for Wednesday's loss also explain why the Irish are struggling 27 games into the 2005 season. The defense has been bad, the pitching worse.

While the Irish bats have been consistent — averaging 7.5 runs per contest — Notre Dame's staff has been anything but.

Paul Mainieri teams have always prided themselves on solid pitching. But this season, the arms are a weakness. The teams' ERA hovers around 5.11, with opposing hitters batting .314. Two of Notre Dame's better pitchers from 2004, Tom Thornton and Jeff Samardzija, are just 5-4 combined with ERAs of 5.59 and 6.04, respectively.

Not having the team's top four pitchers from the beginning of last season isn't helping the situation, either. Chris Niesel and Grant Johnson both left school early for the Major League draft, and current starters Jeff Manship and John Axford are slowly recovering from arm problems that kept both out for all of 2004.

"The biggest change is that you've got two power arms with Niesel and Johnson [gone]," Mainieri said. "When Johnson came back [from injury] we basically had two No. 1's."

Axford, who was drafted in the seventh round of the 2001 draft by Seattle, showed he's not back to form yet, yielding five earned runs and five walks in just 1/3 of an inning Wednesday. Manship has only logged 5 1/3 innings this

season.

Either way, Notre Dame needs someone who can be a stopper. Someone who gets the job done nearly every time out. Someone who gives teammates confidence that the game is under control.

The Irish just don't have that guy right now. Without him, Notre Dame will continue to be up and down all season. With him, the Irish at least have a chance at making a run in the Big East tournament.

Whether the pitching comes around or not, Notre Dame's defense has to improve, particularly in the infield. Last season the Irish had a .967 overall fielding percentage. That dropped to just .954 this season entering the Ball State game. Middle infielders Ross Brezovsky and Greg Lopez have struggled the most with .839 and .924 percentages, respectively.

"Our infield defense has been the big concern for me all year," Mainieri said. "It's been such an Achilles' Heel for us. I don't know what to say except that the infield has been a bigger concern than our pitching ... I really feel like we've got the players that

can play, they just haven't played great defense yet."

While things have been bad, Notre Dame realizes the season is still young.

Mainieri points to 18 more conference games on the schedule as opportunities. After this weekend's trip to Boston College,

three of the next four Big East series are at home, where the Irish are 7-2.

All is not lost, but things must change.

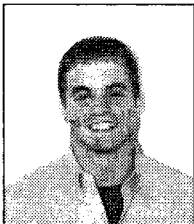
"It's obvious that we have some areas of our team that are not playing up to the level that we've grown accustomed to over the last decade," Mainieri said. "Right now we need to win as many games as we can, and we need to qualify for the conference tournament. Once you get in the conference tournament, that's your way into the NCAA tournament."

It's a simple plan. But it will become much simpler if Notre Dame improves pitching and defense.

Do those things well and the Irish will start doing what this program's used to — winning baseball games.

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

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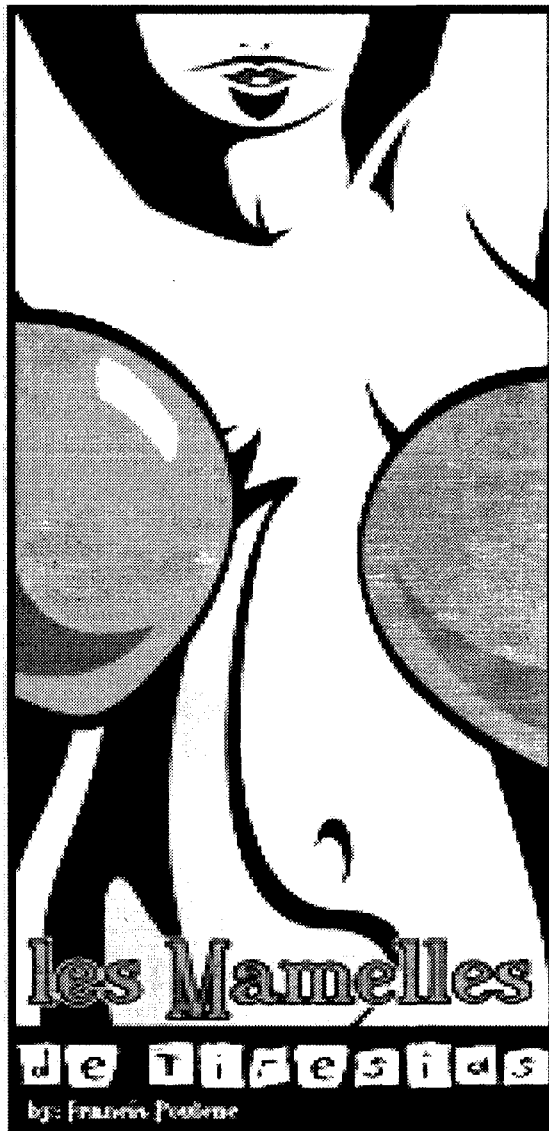
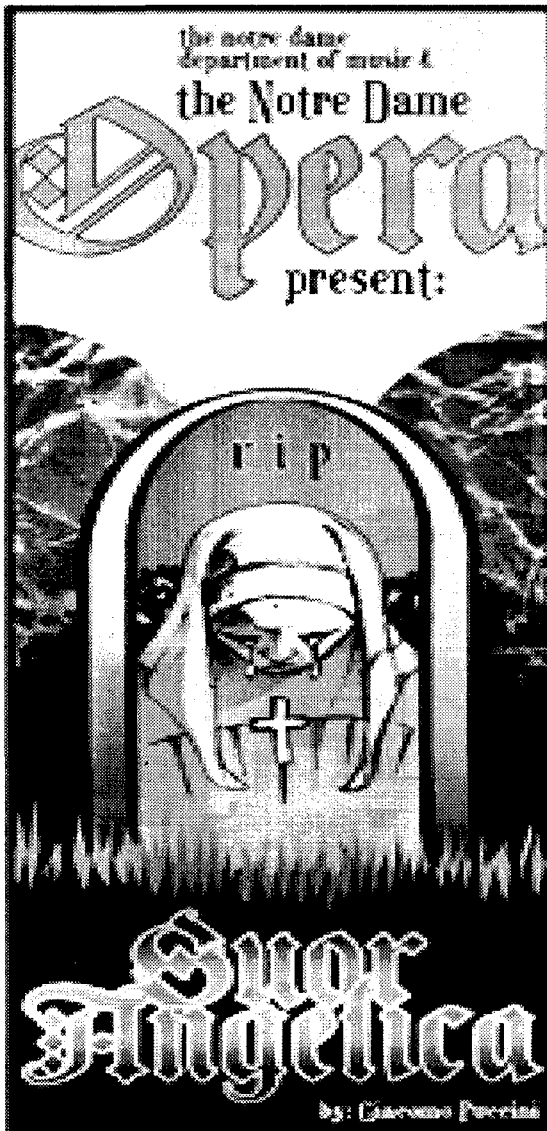


Joe Hettler

Senior Staff
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"It's obvious that we have some areas of our team that are not playing up to the level that we've grown accustomed to."

Paul Mainieri
Irish coach



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continued from page 28

was one of the primary deciding factors in the win. "We took the game seriously," Vega said. "We came to win."

Play High Score High 21, Rhodie 14

Captain Niklas Doeblar's team entered its game Wednesday with high hopes in mind.

But following its win over Rhodie, the team walked off the court with high expectations.

Doeblar's Play High Score High relied on its slight height advantage and solid rebounding en route to a 21-14 victory.

Early on in the game, Alumni

sophomore fan Nate Barbera predicted size would be the deciding factor in the matchup.

"It has kind of been a back and forth game," Barbera said. "I think height might become a factor as the game goes on. [Rhodie] will get tired of jumping for the ball."

Barbera's prediction proved correct.

Rhodie jumped out to an early 9-7 advantage and appeared as if it would maintain that lead throughout the remainder of the game. But Play High Score High quickly surged

back to narrow the lead at 9-9 over their visibly worn opponents just before the end of the half.

From that point on, the team turned on its jets and played a much more offensive-minded game, scoring four consecutive points in the second half.

"It just took us a while to get adjusted and used to the screen," off-campus senior Todd White said. "Once we got up 11-9, we never

looked back." Doeblar credited the team's positive attitude for the win.

"We have taller guys, the other team is drunk [and] the other team smoked at halftime."

Matt Goulet
Baller fan

"We like to ... score as high as possible, just like our name says. We have high spirits and that's what helps us play at a high level."

Seabiscuit 21, Number 1 13

In a game that pitted the all-male Seabiscuit team against the all-female Number 1 team, the matchup proved to be a battle of more than just the sexes.

Wednesday night's game was one that set height against speed. Ultimately, Seabiscuit's

height was the decisive factor in the team's 21-13 victory.

"We couldn't stop them inside," Saint Mary's senior Katie Boyce of Number 1 said.

"We just didn't have their size. I think if we had a chance to play them again, we would have used Catlin Conatay more at the post and we would have alley-ooped Deirdre Mangan more."

Number 1 kept Seabiscuit racing up and down the court and played

with an aggressive defense. With their strength lying in outside shooting, the Number 1's made the matchup more competitive than the score indicated.

Saint Mary's senior Katie Boyce of Number 1 said she was proud of her teammates, saying they played with a lot of heart.

"We were playing for every girl in America," Boyce said.

But despite a hard-fought effort from Number 1, Seabiscuit secured a 14-11 advantage and kept their opponents at arm's length for the remainder of the game.

"We came out flat in the second half, but after that we picked it up and pulled together," Stanford sophomore Kevin Faist said.

After their triumph over Number 1, the members of Seabiscuit walked off of the courts admittedly relieved.

"We were just trying to retain our pride," Stanford senior Brandon McNee said. "They played really well."

Stanford junior Tim Rohman agreed.

"We had the luck of the Irish with us tonight," Rohman said.

Peasant's quest 21, LA BAM 11

Sometimes the best offense is a good defense.

Peasant's quest exemplified this mantra, capitalizing on their height advantage and dogged defense to create scoring opportunities.

Peasant's quest utilized aggressive play and solid blocking to overcome their opponents' attempts at scoring. Although LA BAM showcased a solid passing game, they were unable to capitalize on their scoring opportunities.

By half-time, Peasant's quest had the game in hand. The team jumped out to an early 15-5 advantage — a lead it never relinquished.

Once Peasant's quest started making shots, they afforded LA BAM little opportunity for scoring.

The team quickly gained control of the pace of the game to wear out their opponents. Fueled by an especially potent offense in the second half, Peasant's quest walked off the courts with a 21-11 win to extend their Bookstore Basketball run.

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Line

continued from page 28

field come next fall. "We got a lot of young guys on the d-line ... everybody's fighting for position," Leitko said. "For me, I want to be starting, I want to be out there on the d-line."

"It's all about making plays. I'm getting the defenses down, the technique, where I'm supposed to be, but now it's getting off blocks, getting to that ball, just being athletic out there."

Oliver complimented the

group's intensity in practice Tuesday and stressed the development of his unit in general this spring.

"We're progressing okay," Oliver said about Tuesday's practice. "Guys got after it, and I like the way everybody's competing."

Competing is the clear word here.

The intensity in practice that Leitko and Frome have shown thus far battling for a starting spot come next season is not

exclusive to the two.

There are a lot of players who have been working hard in order to both live up to expectations and earn playing time.

Justin Brown, a current 6-foot-3, 240-pound freshman defensive end/linebacker, has impressed defensive coordinator Rick Minter to

the point where he is throwing his name out there with Leitko and Frome.

"We got Leitko and Frome competing right now, and they are both doing a good, solid, steady job," Minter said. "You've got Justin Brown [who's] a little bit limited in terms of a minor injury. He's the youngest of that lot too, and that shows up, but he's got some promise. I like the way [Brown is] beginning to show up, he's just a pup."

A lot of questions regarding the defensive line will undoubtedly be answered as the spring practices progress.

But whatever happens, it will not be for lack of intensity or effort from the Irish players.

Notes:

♦ After practice, Coach Charlie Weis addressed the

"It's all about making plays. I'm getting the defenses down, the technique, where I'm supposed to be."

Travis Leitko
defensive end

issue of the "Get Nasty" wristbands that have been circulating around campus. He emphasized the connotation of the word nasty and also gave a little insight as to his son Charlie's thoughts on the matter.

"Somebody's making money off of me. My son called me up this morning and it was kinda funny, he goes, 'Daddy, do you get a cut of that action?' and I said 'No Charlie, I don't get a cut of that action,'" Weis said. "I understand marketing and all that stuff, but I think the most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

♦ After practice on Monday, Weis spoke about how the offense was dominated by the defense. The team was coming off Sunday and Monday when they had not practiced.

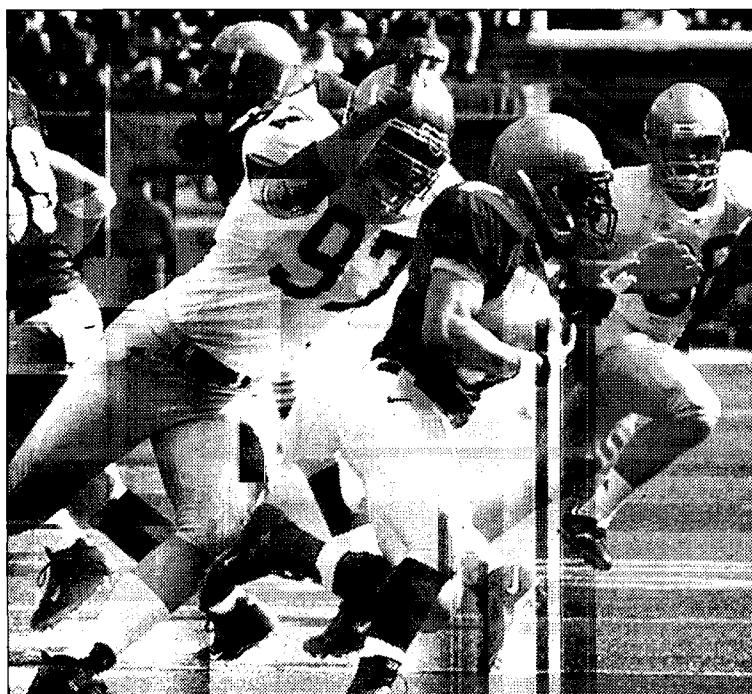
The offense and defense broke out of their isolated drills early into practice Tuesday and lined up 11-on-11. Coach Weis was asked about why they had gone into that so early in practice and Weis replied in a firm, matter of fact manner.

"We had 11-on-11 early today because I wasn't very happy about it yesterday," Weis said.

Contact Bobby Griffin at
rgriffi3@nd.edu

"The most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

Charlie Weis
head coach



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer
Irish defensive end Travis Leitko makes a tackle in the backfield against Navy at Giants Stadium on Oct. 9, 2004.

Denver

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All season, Corrigan has emphasized the Irish need to be consistent from start to finish in order to win. That consistency was not there against Dartmouth and will need to be there against Denver.

"We didn't play well at Dartmouth. If there was any consistency at Dartmouth, it was not on the positive side," Corrigan said. "[Denver] is one of those games — it's a league game that we need to win, and they need to win, frankly. So I think this is one of those games where you just find a way to get it done."

The Irish have only played one home game this season — a 22-6 romping of Butler — so the prospect of playing a game at Notre Dame tomorrow is exciting.

"In a year when we don't have a lot of home games, we're very excited to be home," Corrigan said. "[They're excited] to play in front of their friends and family here."

The game will begin at 4 p.m. at Moose Krause Stadium.

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Write Sports.
Call 1-4543.



2005 Nanovic Visiting European Lecturer

Louis-Jean Calvet

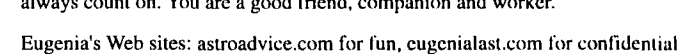
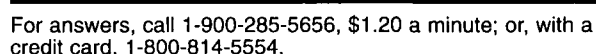
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Professor Calvet is a leading scholar of sociolinguistics from the Université de Provence (Aix-Marseille).

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The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

BASEBALL

Unlucky 13

Axford gives up six runs in one-third of an inning as Irish fall

By MATT LOZAR
Senior Staff Writer

Heading into Wednesday's game against Ball State, Irish coach Paul Mainieri expected a wide range of possibilities for John Axford's first start since 2003.

Unfortunately for Mainieri and the Irish, Axford's start came up on the disappointing end of the range.

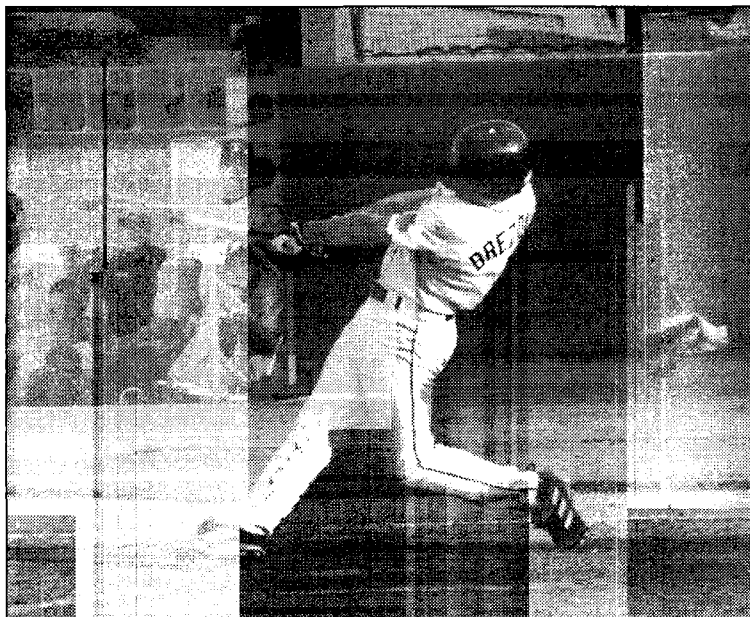
Axford pitched 1/3 of an inning, walked five of the eight batters he faced and allowed six runs, five earned, as the Irish dug themselves too much of a hole in losing to the Cardinals 14-5 at Frank Eck Stadium.

"It's just one of things where the kid needs to find his confidence again," Mainieri said.

"I knew this was a possibility. He's had some control issues his whole career. Even when he was throwing great he had control issues."

"I knew the possibility existed that that could happen, but I

See Also
"Pitching and fielding have plagued Irish" *page 24*



BETH WERNET/The Observer

Ross Brezovsky hits a line drive during Notre Dame's game against Toledo Tuesday. The Irish lost to Ball State Wednesday.

just felt like for all he's done for the program, I just needed to run him out there and give him a chance. Unfortunately, he just struggled like crazy. Once we got off to a bad start against a good ball club, it was an uphill battle.

"I just can't give up on the kid," Mainieri said.

Axford walked the first two he faced before a Brad Miller single scored Mike Sullivan to give Ball State its first run.

After two more walks, one of which forced in a run, Axford retired Chris Pestle on a foul pop out to Matt Edwards.

Then, Axford allowed another single and walked in another run before being removed for Tyler Jones, who got the last two outs of the inning.

During the next two innings, the Cardinals got six more runs off Mike Dury, but only two of

see ERRORS/page 24

FOOTBALL

Defense looks to stay tough without Tuck

Several players hope to fill void left when star decided to go pro

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Coming into the season, the Irish clearly have a huge missing piece on the defensive line. A 6-foot-4, 265-pound missing piece.

That's not to say that anyone involved with Notre Dame football is noticeably worried about the absence of Justin Tuck. After all, it's a new season and there is a new coaching staff.

"We're building towards the future," Irish defense end Victor Abiamiri said. "The old guys, they did us well, but they're not here anymore."

The Irish being optimistic about their defensive line next season has a lot to do with Abiamiri. The sophomore defensive end is a talented pass rusher who will be the leader in this year's group.

"I'm ready to step up to this challenge," Abiamiri said. "We've got guys that have been through the program and

done well, but they are gone now. It's like a new team trying to build a new identity, and I'm trying to be one of the anchor points of the defensive line."

Tuck's absence has created a situation in which a number of players are vying for a chance to take his place.

As of now, Chris Frome and Travis Leitko appear to be the front-runners.

"Right now we got Chris Frome working on the right side, and we got Travis Leitko working on that side," Irish defensive line coach Jappy Oliver said. "Those two are competing well, and I've been pleased with their progress right now."

Abiamiri echoed his coach's thoughts.

"We're rotating a lot to see what kind of abilities everyone has, giving everybody equal chances," Abiamiri said. "I'm not sure how its going to be when the season comes around, but hopefully we'll have a nice rotation going and keeping guys fresh in there."

This competition is no secret to Leitko, who expressed his own desire to be on the playing

see LINE/page 26

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

Tournament in full swing on second day

Ballers crush Team 536; Seabiscuit also takes down Number 1

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Fueled by an opportunistic offense and a patient defense, the Ballers overwhelmed Team 536, 21-11, Wednesday night.

Although the Ballers seemed a little unsure in the first minutes of the game, they quickly recovered and gained enough composure to pull ahead of their stumbling opponents, 6-3. From that point on, a win seemed certain as the Ballers extended their lead.

Off-campus junior fan Matt Goulet was quick to point out attributes that made the Ballers so successful.

"We have taller guys, the

other team is drunk [and] the other team smoked at half-time," Goulet said. "It's pretty much a blowout."

The Ballers combined a solid short game and a number of key steals to extend their lead. Battling blustery winds, Keenan, sophomore Bob Laney boasted one of the more impressive plays of the game, capitalizing on an alley-oop after a break away boost their lead to 13-6.

"We were able to get a lot of open looks at the basket," Laney said. "We broke down their defense, and they had a hard time shooting after that."

With the score at 19-11, Team 536's fate seemed certain as the Ballers secured two consecutive points for the win. Keenan sophomore J.J. Vega made a layup for the final point of the game.

Vega said the team's attitude

see HOOPS/page 25

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish hope to rebound from loss

Notre Dame takes on Denver in penultimate home game of season

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

It's time to get serious.

Notre Dame (5-2), coming off a disheartening loss at Dartmouth, is heading into a weekend where it will take on

Denver Thursday and Air Force Saturday.

The two games are imperative to Notre Dame's chances of receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament starting May 14.

If the Irish win out in their remaining four games, they

will win the Great Western Lacrosse League and receive an automatic berth.

Before they worry about that, however, they will first have to defeat Denver (5-2), an extremely talented Great Western Lacrosse League team that has yet to play a league game.

"We're going to face a real challenge, because Denver is a very good team and our guys know that," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "But I think we're a good team too."

The one-goal, 10-9 loss to Dartmouth was tough as the Irish allowed two goals in the final three minutes, but Corrigan is confident his team will be able to rebound.

"I think we'll bounce back well," Corrigan said. "I think that last weekend was a tough weekend for us, but I really believe that our guys are excited."

see DENVER/page 26



LUKAS MENDOZA/The Observer

Matt Malakoff delivers a pass downfield in the Irish's 22-6 win over Butler in Loftus Sports Center on March 19.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND SOFTBALL

Streak extends to ten straight

Notre Dame bests Eastern Michigan 1-0 and 7-5.

page 23

SMC TENNIS

Saint Mary's vs. Hope

Saint Mary's will take on the MIAA's No. 1 team Thursday.

page 22

NBA

Bulls 102, Magic 101 (OT)

Chicago continued its winning ways against Orlando.

page 20

THE MASTERS

Mickleson, Singh and Els ready

Several golfers set to compete for the Green Jacket in Augusta, Ga.

page 20

MLB — NL

Astros 3, Cardinals 1

Andy Pettitte allows just one run in his first start since elbow surgery.

page 20

MLB — AL

Devil Rays 8, Blue Jays 5

Toronto scored six runs in the eighth en route to a three-run win.

page 19