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SAO rules frustrate political groups

Long club recognition process makes it difficult for students to organize for presidential candidates

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The Students for Barack Obama Web site lists a Notre Dame chapter, but no Students for Barack Obama organization exists at Notre Dame — at least not officially.

Last spring, junior Molly Slavin signed up on the Obama Web site with the intention of starting a grassroots campaign at Notre Dame. She received a packet in the mail from the site last May. It included flyers to post around campus in support of

the U.S. senator from Illinois' campaign for president.

But Slavin never put them up.

All advertising must be approved by the Student Activities Office, according to duLac, Notre Dame's student handbook. Slavin said she went to Student Activities to get the flyers approved, but Student Activities would not approve them because the group was not a University-recognized student organization. She asked how her group could become official but, she said, a Student Activities official told her the office did not

allow clubs that supported specific candidates. Slavin did not recall the name of the man she met in the office.

Assistant Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin said he did not meet with Slavin last year and was not sure with whom she spoke.

"I'm sorry if she got that message last year," Coughlin said. "I don't know if that's necessarily a policy."

Every group goes through the same process to become a University-recognized organization, Coughlin said. He said he did not think Student

Activities would tell a group before it applied that it wouldn't be approved.

"It seems like that wouldn't be an answer that we give," he said.

Mary Kate Havlik, the student program coordinator in the Student Activities Office, said any group, political or not, must get two approvals — one from Student Activities and one from the Club Coordination Council.

"It comes down to a couple things," Havlik said. "Student Activities checks to see that it

see GROUPS/page 4

Firth talks about ND journey

Student Affairs official daughter of immigrants

By MEG MIRSHAK
News Writer

Ann Firth's father, a German doctor, was taken prisoner by the Russians and tortured during World War II.

Notre Dame's associate vice president for student affairs described her journey as the daughter of immigrants to her position at the University during a talk Wednesday.

Firth prefaced her story with her father's. After the Russian army captured the doctor, who had been drafted into the German army, he was enslaved and tortured by the Russian government. But Firth's father persuaded a Russian doctor he had tuberculosis. He was then freed, since the Russians feared he would infect other prisoners of war.

After Firth's father and mother met, they immigrated to the U.S. but maintained



Firth

see FIRTH/page 8

STUDENT SENATE

Electronic reserves resolution passes

Executive Vice President Affleck-Graves briefs group members on campus development

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate passed a resolution Wednesday that encourages professors to increase their use of electronic reserves in place of course packets, which spiked in price this year.

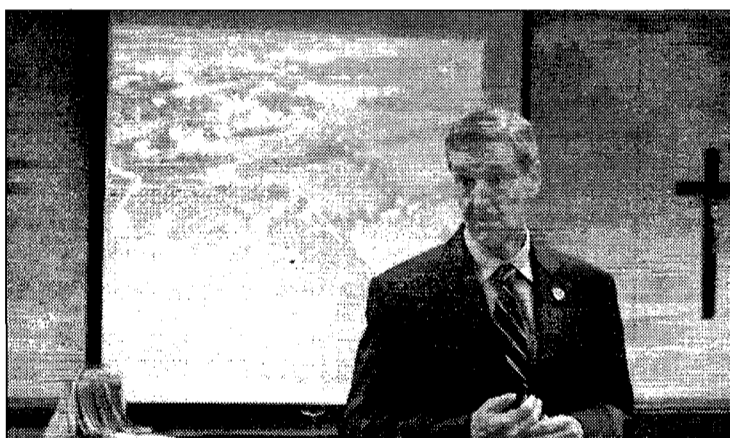
The resolution, presented by Senate Academic Affairs chair Carol Hendrickson and Fisher senator Stephen Bant, "respectfully encourages" professors to use electronic reserves instead of course packets "when it seems in the

best interests of their students based on the price and convenience of the materials."

A similar resolution was presented to the Senate on Oct. 31 but failed to pass. High course packet prices have been discussed in the Senate over the past several weeks. Hendrickson and Bant conducted an e-mail survey of students last month and found that the majority of those who answered were unhappy with the higher prices of course packets.

This semester, the packets

see SENATE/page 8



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves describes the upcoming development plans for the campus Wednesday.

Woman president a possibility

Professors discuss whether America is ready for female chief executive

By AMANDA JOHNSON
News Writer

American citizens are ready for a conservative, "brand name" woman president, agreed panelists Wednesday in a debate entitled "Is America ready for a woman president?"

Much of the discussion, which took place in the Oak Room of South Dining Hall, focused on Sen. Hillary Clinton's possible nomination as the Democratic candidate for the 2008 presidential election.

To begin the discussion, history professor Gail Bederman questioned the phrasing of the event's title. She proposed the real question should be "Is the



KATE FENLON/The Observer

History professor Gail Bederman discusses Wednesday in South Dining Hall whether Americans would vote for a female president.

see DEBATE/page 4

SMC holds annual Hunger Banquet

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

More than 75 Saint Mary's students traded in a meal at the dining hall Wednesday to learn about worldwide hunger as part of the Student Diversity Board's third annual Hunger Banquet.

Upon entering the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall, students who registered for the event were asked to draw a colored card out of a bag without looking. This card designated their "social status" for the night.

A select few students got to sit at a table and eat a full

meal, representing the upper class. The middle class sat on chairs and ate beans and rice. The lower class, which comprised more than half the people in attendance, sat on the floor, eating a scoop of rice.

The cards also told a story about the life of a person in that situation. For example, an upper class-card might describe the life of a Hollywood plastic surgeon and a lower-class card might describe a girl in Africa who is HIV-positive or an unemployed teenage mother.

After the meal, Sarah Barnes, the co-chair of the

see HUNGER/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Contemplate topics

Like all other Notre Dame freshmen, I am required take Contemporary Topics to complete my P.E. requirement. All I heard from students who had already taken the class was relief at being done. Most people seemed to regard it as a joke. My first impression was that this class has more going against it than it can possibly achieve. On my first day, I was bombarded with fact after scary fact about what happens when a student drinks, does not get enough sleep, etc.

The sad paradox of Contemporary Topics is that while I am sitting in class learning about the importance of sleep, I could be in my room receiving that extra hour of sleep that I so badly need.

My question for the average Notre Dame freshman is, will this class inspire you to change your habits? Will most students give up drinking on the weekends because they hear about all the adverse effects in this class? Will they go to bed an hour earlier every night because they learn that lack of sleep causes health problems?

My gut feeling is no. I do not believe it is the fault of the class, but rather the nature of the students. It is the natural reaction of a student to rebel against someone continually telling them to not do something, especially in a class most deem a waste of time.

Also, people are so entrenched in habits that it does not seem likely that information from one class will be reason enough for students to change their lifestyle. Although I am sure there are some who will take what they learn in Contemporary Topics seriously, the best reaction the class will get out of many students is a slight twinge of guilt for their bad habits.

Simply teaching students about health does not seem to be enough because as far as I can see, the teaching does not inspire action. What is the solution to this problem then? Although the class seems to have minimal impact on students, discontinuing it just seems like giving up. Students should learn how to take care of themselves.

Maybe it is too soon to gauge the effectiveness of the class. Perhaps the information will slowly filter into the minds of students, and then be reinforced by experience.

Maybe a gradual change will take place. I am not sure. However, my personal solution is to make peace with the class.

Although I will resent dragging myself out of bed each morning to sit in a class that will tell me how important it is to get enough sleep, I will try to open my mind, and maybe even learn something.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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: SHOULD A WOMAN BE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?



Mary Souder
freshman
McCandless

"Does Hillary count as a woman? If yes, then no."



Mary Reilly
freshman
McCandless

"Only if that woman's me."



Robert Scully
junior
Alumni

"These days anyone can be a woman."



Mary Beth Scully
senior
Cavanaugh

"No matter what I say, it will be controversial."



Nicole Medina
sophomore
Pasquerilla West

"Yes, but not Hillary."



Students gather around the grill at an Alumni Hall Mentor Mixer. The mixer is part of the "Big Dawgs" academic mentor program, intended to give freshmen the opportunity to seek advice from upperclassmen in similar programs of study.

OFFBEAT

Bank held up twice in one day

WEST ST. PAUL, Minn. — The TCF Bank in a Cub Foods was held up twice in one day — by different robbers. Kyle Loven, a supervisory special agent at the FBI's Minneapolis office, said the first robbery happened around 9 a.m. Tuesday, when a man presented a demand note to a bank teller and implied he had a gun.

The man got an undisclosed amount of cash, then left the grocery store and ran away to a wooded area. Police West St. Paul police officers, FBI and a

canine team searched the area but could not find the suspect, West St. Paul police Chief Bud Shaver said.

The law enforcement officers left after the first robbery, except for one West St. Paul investigators who stayed to gather more witness statements. He left the bank about 1:50 p.m. to get more paperwork out of his unmarked car.

That's when the second robber struck.

Two stray pigs cause chase

DAVENPORT, Iowa — Who wants a pig in a blan-

ket? Two stray pot-bellied pigs stirred up a commotion Wednesday morning while on the run from two animal control officers, two police officers and even a couple of utility company workers who joined the 35-minute chase.

Learning from her first pig chase, animal control officer Leah Messmer knew to grab a blanket.

"They're tough," she said. "They have no necks, so you really can't get a collar on them."

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

"Loyal Daughters and Sons: Sexuality and Sexual Assault As Told by Notre Dame Students" will be performed at 8 tonight through Friday at Washington Hall. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

"A Bright Room Called Day" will be performed on the Decio Main Stage in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight, tomorrow and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a performance at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for seniors, faculty and staff and \$8 for students.

There will be a presentation on Careers in the State Department today at 6:30 p.m. in Montgomery Auditorium of LaFortune.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the Vatican's permanent observer to the United Nations will deliver the lecture "Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation" today at 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

The Notre Dame women's soccer team will play against Loyola-Chicago tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. on Alumni Field.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding modeling tryouts for its annual fashion show Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30. for any women interested. The men's tryouts will take place next Tuesday from 8 p.m. to 10. Both tryouts will be held in Washington Hall.

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	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 38 LOW 27	HIGH 28 LOW 20	HIGH 45 LOW 30	HIGH 46 LOW 31	HIGH 45 LOW 33	HIGH 55 LOW 40

Atlanta 55 / 48 Boston 57 / 42 Chicago 43 / 34 Denver 60 / 21 Houston 72 / 59 Los Angeles 77 / 59 Minneapolis 42 / 28 New York 55 / 49 Philadelphia 53 / 52 Phoenix 81 / 61 Seattle 54 / 45 St. Louis 52 / 38 Tampa 79 / 63 Washington 52 / 48

Professor, graduate speak about refugees

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Refugees need to be able to tell their stories and to feel like they can contribute to society, 1984 Saint Mary's graduate Laurie Pintor said during Wednesday's Theology on Fire discussion at the College's student center.

Pintor joined Saint Mary's philosophy professor Kevin McDonnell in talking about their experience as refugee sponsors at their parish in South Bend.

"[Being a sponsor] has put so much into perspective in that it's about relationships and it's about their story and learning so much about people through that story," Pintor said.

Pintor became involved in sponsoring refugees from countries such as Bosnia, Rwanda and Vietnam through her church. St. Joseph Parish sponsored its first refugee family in 1979 when McDonnell and his family took in seven Vietnamese refugees.

"It's much like taking a young teenager through early adulthood in two months," McDonnell said. "That's what sponsorship is."

The refugees that come to America are completely mature in their own culture and society, McDonnell said, but they aren't in the United States, so they have to reach cultural adult-

hood in the short time that sponsors aid them.

In addition to the shelter that a sponsor provides, refugees need food, clothing, medical and dental care, schooling, employment and most importantly, to learn English, McDonnell said.

"They need jobs and they need schooling," he said. "To get a job they need English."

He said the South Bend public school system has an excellent English and second language program that helps refugees get a good education.

The family that McDonnell sponsored moved out of his home and into their own in South Bend after they adjusted to life in the U.S. The father works at Notre Dame, and the mother works in building services at Saint Mary's.

"Why do the Vietnamese stay here? It's the weather," McDonnell joked. "No, they've been welcomed here."

The Vietnamese refugees have created a community in South Bend, he said.

"South Bend is a very good town for these people," McDonnell said. "There are enough people who have stayed in South Bend to make it a real community of people. You've got to have enough people here that they can feel some sense of continuity with other people."

Contact Liz Harter at
charte01@saintmarys.edu

OIS prepares students for abroad

University works to ensure travelers know laws of foreign countries

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

Before the next wave of Notre Dame students leave to study abroad in January and February, the Office of International Studies (OIS) wants to make sure they understand the laws of their new country.

OIS program coordinator Lesley Sullivan said students are required to read and sign documents acknowledging that they will abide by the laws of the country in which they will study.

"Students must be aware [of their country's laws]," Sullivan said. "For example, public intoxication is illegal in most countries."

Sullivan, who has been director of the study abroad programs in Angers, Bologna, Russia, Berlin and Rome's Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies since the summer of 2004, organized a program for women to discuss safety and health while living abroad. "Women and Study Abroad" addresses five areas: cultural cues and miscues, personal health and safety, emotional health, alcohol and self-defense.

The program features presentations and testimonials from previous study abroad students. In addition, student

representatives from PILLARS (Peers Inspiring, Listening, Learning and Responsible Socializing) come to discuss issues with students drinking overseas.

While rules in other countries regarding drinking may differ from those in the United States, Sullivan said she has never encountered drinking-related problems with students studying abroad.

Personal safety is a topic discussed in great detail in the program, Sullivan said. Students are sometimes the victims of theft while abroad, she said.

The meeting is required for women studying abroad, Sullivan said, but students studying in Washington are also invited to attend.

Another safeguard for students studying in foreign countries is the emergency information card the OIS office issues students, said Kathleen Opel, the associate director of International Studies Programs and director of programs in Tokyo, Beijing, Nagoya, Shanghai and Rome. The card includes numbers for the police, ambulances, taxis, the

U.S. Embassy and an SOS number that connects directly to the Notre Dame Security/Police.

Students are advised to use this card if they get in trouble with the law, have medical emergencies, or in the case of a terror attack, Opel said.

The University is in no position to bail students out of jail or engage in any other legal matter, she said. Sullivan also said that Notre Dame does not get involved in

cases of stolen passports, which are a legal issue.

"[Students] are bound by the laws of the country [in which they are studying]," Opel said.

If a student faces legal trouble, the U.S. Embassy sends a representative to the jail to speak with him. Then, Opel said, the Embassy notifies the student's parents, guardians or anyone else the student might want to contact.

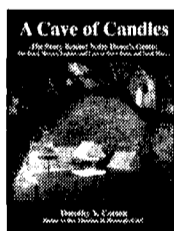
Opel said she has never had any significant legal troubles with students studying abroad.

"Our students do a good job with behaving themselves," Opel said.

Contact Katie Peralta at
kperalta@nd.edu

ND vs DUKE BOOK SIGNINGS

FRIDAY, NOV. 16



11am-1pm
Dorothy Corson
Cave of Candles



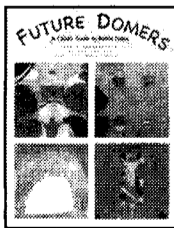
11am-1pm
Mel Tardy
(signing for his mother, Jo Anne Tardy)
A Light Will Rise in Darkness



1pm-3pm
Karen Heisler
Fighting Irish Legends,
Lists and Lore



1pm-3pm
Matt Cashore and Kerry Temple
Celebrating Notre Dame



3pm-5pm
Sharon Bui
Future Domers
A Child's Guide to Notre Dame

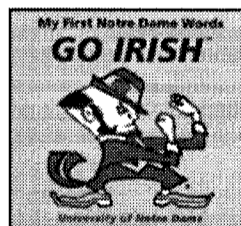


3pm-5pm
Angi Jurkovic
Notre Dame Coloring
and Activity Book



3pm-5pm
George Porter-Young
Boy Amidst the Rubble

SATURDAY, NOV. 17



9:30 am- 11:30pm
Connie McNamara
Go Irish: My First
Notre Dame Words



9:30 am- 11:30pm
Pete Connolly
When Shadows fell
at Notre Dame



11:30am- 1:30pm
Matthew Cashore
& Kerry Temple
Celebrating Notre Dame



11:30am- 1:30pm
Phillip Brooks
Forward Pass



11:30am- 1:30pm
Anne Cisle Murray '74
Anne Giffels '82
Bridget Keating '08
Jane Pitz '72
Thanking Father Ted

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Groups

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fits within the Catholic character and mission of the University. The Club Coordination Council checks to see, is this a group that is going to be able to be sustained? If we are going to allocate funds to them, will they be using them wisely?"

According to the Student Union Fiscal Policy section of the Undergraduate Student Body Constitution, the Club Coordination Council would not be able to fund a group whose goal it is to support a presidential candidate.

Section 18.4(c) of the constitution reads: "Allocated funds may not be used for the support of candidates, whether federal, state, local or University level."

The deadline to apply to be an official student organization was Nov. 2. This year, Havlik said, 24 groups applied for club status. She expects the groups to be notified of the outcome of the process by February or March.

Slavin said the Notre Dame chapter of Students for Barack Obama did not and will not apply as an official group because if Obama wins the nomination in August, the College Democrats will support him and her group will no longer be necessary.

Representatives from the Notre Dame chapter of the College Democrats, along with the College Republicans and the College Libertarians, told The Observer that their groups would not support a specific candidate until their respective parties name their presidential ticket.

In the interim, Coughlin said, he suggests Slavin try to register a demonstration. According to duLac, individual students may register for demonstrations with the Associate Vice President for Residence Life, Bill Kirk.

"If they want to do that, they most certainly can register that type of rally," Coughlin said.

Meeting on campus

When Slavin returned to campus this August, the College Democrats allowed Students for Obama to hold their meetings in the space reserved by the College Democrats on the first floor of LaFortune. The College Democrats had reserved the room for an hour, but the meetings were usually over in half that time, so they allowed Slavin to meet with anyone interested in supporting Obama after the end of the meetings.

Other than holding meetings, Slavin said, she has not been able to do anything else with her group.

"We couldn't advertise, we couldn't fundraise, we couldn't do any of this," Slavin said. "So basically, the only purpose our group was serving really was to coordinate volunteers to go knock on doors in Iowa."

Slavin wondered if her group could canvass on campus by knocking on dorm rooms, so she sent Student Activities an e-mail asking if she could. Student Activities said she could not.

Door-to-door solicitation is prohibited by duLac, Havlik said in an e-mail. The only exception she knew of, she said, was for campus student elections.

After fall break, Slavin said, the president of the College Democrats, junior Spencer Howard, told her Student Activities had informed him he had to stop letting Slavin use

"We want to make sure ... there is a proper and appropriate way for students who support a campaign to officially advertise."

Bob Costa
senior

and according to [Student Activities], if they do, they can get ResLived," Howard said.

Havlik met with Howard but said she did not tell him the group members would face disciplinary action from the Office of Residence Life and Housing. Havlik, who has worked for Student Activities for three months, said she did not know what the disciplinary process would be if an unapproved group had met, and said she was "not completely familiar with the ResLife policies."

Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk said the University does not permit the creation of groups and organizations on campus without going through the Student Activities process. This process is required for any group on campus, he said.

"If they do fail to follow that process, there could be sanctions," Kirk said. "But that's not a typical response, only because I think students aren't trying to cause problems, they are just trying to form groups."

According to duLac, students or student groups that want to schedule an activity or use University grounds must first contact Student Activities.

Students for GOP candidates

Sarah Way, the president of the College Republicans, said the group's leadership does not yet support any specific presidential candidate. She said she has been contacted by students who want to start organizations to support candidates — like former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback. Way said the College Republicans do not fundraise for any of these groups, but they do make their members aware of volunteer opportunities.

Senior Bob Costa said his campus chapter of Students for Giuliani is still in its early stages. He said he has not applied for club status with Student Activities — and does not plan to — since his group intends to be a short-term political club.

Coughlin said Student Activities has no procedure for expediting the process of recognizing student groups as official student organizations.

"I think the hard part about, saying 'Hey, this is a unique situation,' is that every student that is passionate about a club, and feels that their situation is unique, and they would want to fast track it," he said.

Costa, who has written articles for the Scene section of The Observer, said the group has not done much yet, but said he expects to be more active closer to the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 3.

"We haven't really even started doing much at all," he said. "We're just trying to get it off the ground in terms of organization."

In the coming months, however, Costa said he would like to be able to put up posters around campus to advertise for their meetings.

"Students for Rudy, in the coming months, will do all it can to involve all facets of the student body in learning more about the mayor," he said.

Costa said he wants his group to work with Student Activities to follow their rules.

"We want to make sure ... there is a proper and appropriate way for students who support a campaign to officially advertise," Costa said. "It's so important that students are informed going into the 2008 election."

Havlik said the College Democrats and College Republicans can "talk about the candidates all they want."

"It is my hope that all students find a way to be active in the political process and take an interest in learning about all candidates prior to voting in the upcoming elections," she said.

Costa said he hopes to start holding meetings on and off campus in the coming months, but for now, most of the organization occurs through e-mail. Both Costa and Slavin have Facebook groups for their respective candidates.

"We're trying to mobilize via Internet but there's really only so much you can do," Slavin said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at
kriely@nd.edu

Debate

continued from page 1

United States ready for a woman chief executive?" Bederman pointed to examples in 13th century B.C. Egypt, the 6th century Byzantine Empire, 16th century England and modern-day women to give examples of females in executive roles.

"It's not that women have never had power before, and now we're finally about to break through into some sort of modern state," Bederman said. "Women have had political power for centuries at different times depending on the particular time or place."

Bederman examined the instances of women in politics in America, from Rebecca Felton, who served one day in the U.S. Senate in 1922, through the myriad of women who served due to family connections, whether they were filling the vacancy of their husband or were appointed by their husband to a position of power.

"You need a brand name these days," Bederman said. "You need to be a Kennedy. Or a Bush. Or a Clinton."

Bederman said women often break into politics through family connections.

Political science professor Eileen Hunt Botting also examined the wording of the question posed at the debate. The constitutionality of a woman president is not contestable, Hunt Botting said.

"There seems to be a very sad tradition of a contradiction between our egalitarian political symbols innate in the Constitution," she said "... and this tradition we have of excluding certain groups."

Hunt Botting pointed to a thesis written by a famous political scientist, which said racism and

sexism are traditions inherent to the United States, as support for this contradiction.

The goal of the nation should be to show that rights are available to all, Hunt Botting said.

Hunt Botting also emphasized the difference between voting for a political candidate because of his or her sex versus voting because of his or her opinions.

Political science professor Darren Davis used public opinion polls to show voter tendencies. Although one poll shows voters are more willing to elect a woman to the White House than an African-American, Hispanic, Mormon or Jew, Davis said he was skeptical.

"I don't believe for a second that people are telling us the truth," Davis said.

He suggested that when people hear "woman president," they think of Hillary Clinton since she is currently running for that office. This thinking affects their poll answers, Davis said.

"Is America ready for a woman President? I'm going to say 'yes' and 'no.' I'm going to say 'yes' because of the particular characteristics of Hillary Clinton," Davis said, citing Clinton's name recognition, position as senator of New York and her financial resources.

When people call Clinton "overly ambitious," they are using a "sexist codeword," Davis said. But, he said, there are only six female governors and 15 female senators who could possibly run a successful campaign for presidency.

"I think only a woman president can actually get us out of the mess" and invigorate the United States, Davis said.

The debate was sponsored by Women in Politics, Pi Sigma Alpha and Gender Studies.

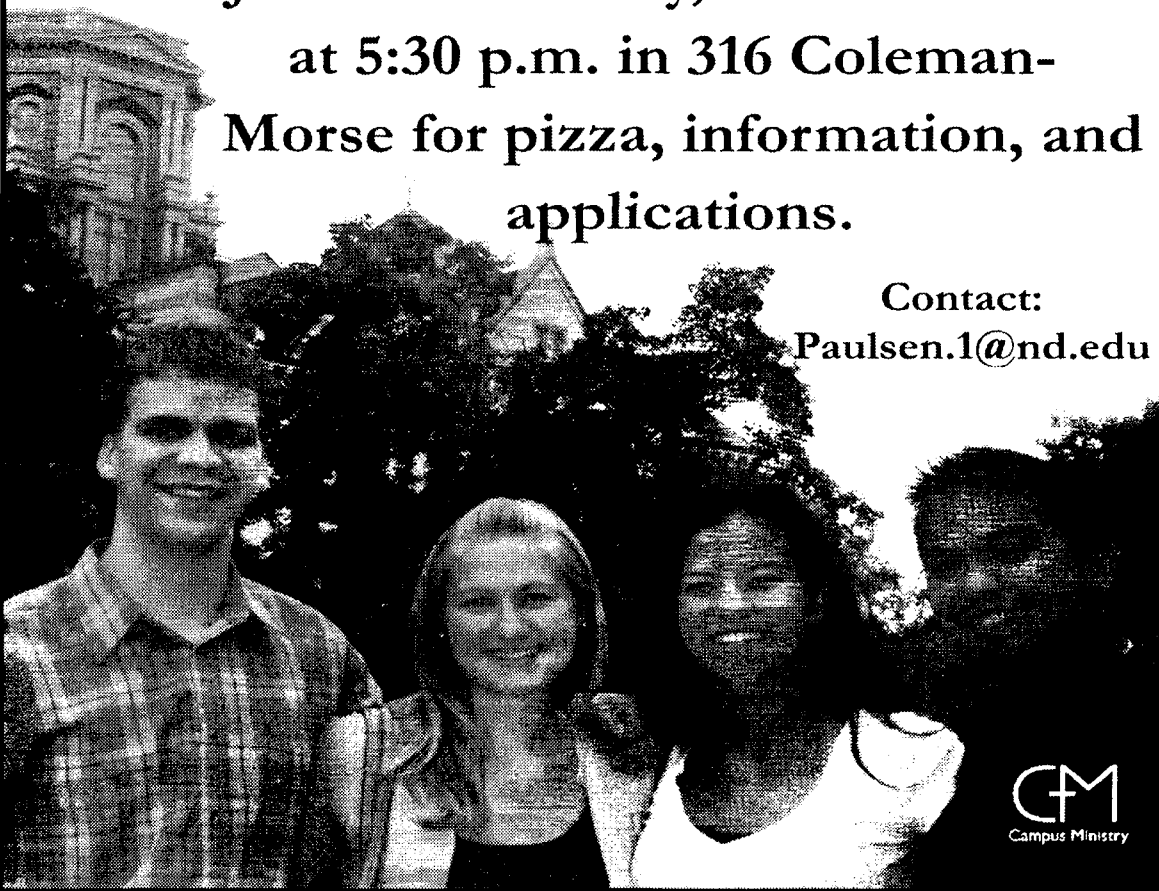
Contact Amanda Johnson at
ajohns15@nd.edu

Seniors, what in God's name are you doing next year?

How about the Campus Ministry Internship?

Join us Thursday, November 15th
at 5:30 p.m. in 316 Coleman-Morse for pizza, information, and applications.

Contact:
Paulsen.1@nd.edu



CM
Campus Ministry

WORLD & NATION

Thursday, November 15, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia completes troop withdrawal

MOSCOW, Russia — A top Russian general said early Thursday that Russia has completed its withdrawal of troops that had been based in Georgia since the Soviet collapse, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

The presence of Russian troops in the ex-Soviet republic was one of the longtime irritants between Georgia and its giant neighbor.

"There are no more Russian troops in Georgia, there remain only peacekeepers ... in Abkhazia and those that are part of the combined forces in South Ossetia with the participation of Georgia," the news agency quoted Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Ground Troops Gen. Alexei Maslov as saying.

Iran charges former nuclear negotiator

TEHRAN, Iran — A former senior Iranian nuclear negotiator has been charged with passing classified information to foreigners, including the British Embassy, the Iranian intelligence minister said Wednesday, according to the official IRNA news agency.

Hossein Mousavian, who was a deputy of the top negotiator under reformist former President Mohammad Khatami, was briefly detained in May, again on suspicion of espionage, according to the semiofficial Fars news agency.

"His crime from the viewpoint of the Intelligence Ministry is obvious and provable," IRNA quoted Intelligence Minister Gholam Hossein Mohseni Ejei as saying.

NATIONAL NEWS

Governor drops immigrant license plan

WASHINGTON — New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer announced Wednesday he was abandoning a plan to issue driver's licenses to illegal immigrants, but said that the federal government had "lost control" of its borders and left states to deal with the consequences.

"I have concluded that New York state cannot successfully address this problem on its own," Spitzer said at a news conference after meeting with members of the state's congressional delegation.

Spitzer said overwhelming opposition led to his decision.

"It does not take a stethoscope to hear the pulse of New Yorkers on this topic," he said.

Jury finds Marine instructor guilty

SAN DIEGO — A Marine boot camp drill instructor was convicted Wednesday of abusing recruits under his command.

A military jury found Sgt. Jerrod M. Glass guilty of cruelty and maltreatment, destruction of personal property, assault, and violating orders on the proper treatment of recruits.

Glass, who was relieved of duty as a drill instructor in February, faces as many as 11 years of confinement, dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank, and forfeiture of pay and benefits. A sentencing hearing began immediately after the verdict.

Telephone calls to Glass' attorney and his family were not immediately returned.

Glass, who volunteered for two tours in Iraq, had worked as a drill instructor for less than a year when the mistreatment occurred at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot near downtown San Diego.

LOCAL NEWS

ACLU asks court to reconsider case

INDIANAPOLIS — The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana wants a federal appeals court to reconsider a decision that could allow the return of sectarian prayers to the state House of Representatives.

The group filed a petition Tuesday asking for a hearing before the full U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. The court ruled 2-1 last month that taxpayers who sued over the prayers do not have the legal standing to do so.

A hearing before the full court would involve 11 judges.

ACLU of Indiana legal director Ken Falk said the group will argue that the judges incorrectly applied a 2007 U.S. Supreme Court decision to the case.

CHILE

Major earthquake hits northern Chile

Magnitude 7.7 quake felt in Santiago, Peru, Bolivia; injures at least 20 people

Associated Press

SANTIAGO — A major earthquake struck northern Chile on Wednesday, toppling power lines, closing roads and sending terrified residents into the streets. Authorities reported 20 injuries but no deaths from the quake, which was felt in the capital as well as neighboring Peru and Bolivia.

The earthquake, which struck at 12:40 p.m. local time (10:40 a.m. EST), measured magnitude 7.7 and was centered 780 miles north of Santiago, or 25 miles east-southeast of Tocopilla, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The USGS said it occurred about 37.3 miles underground.

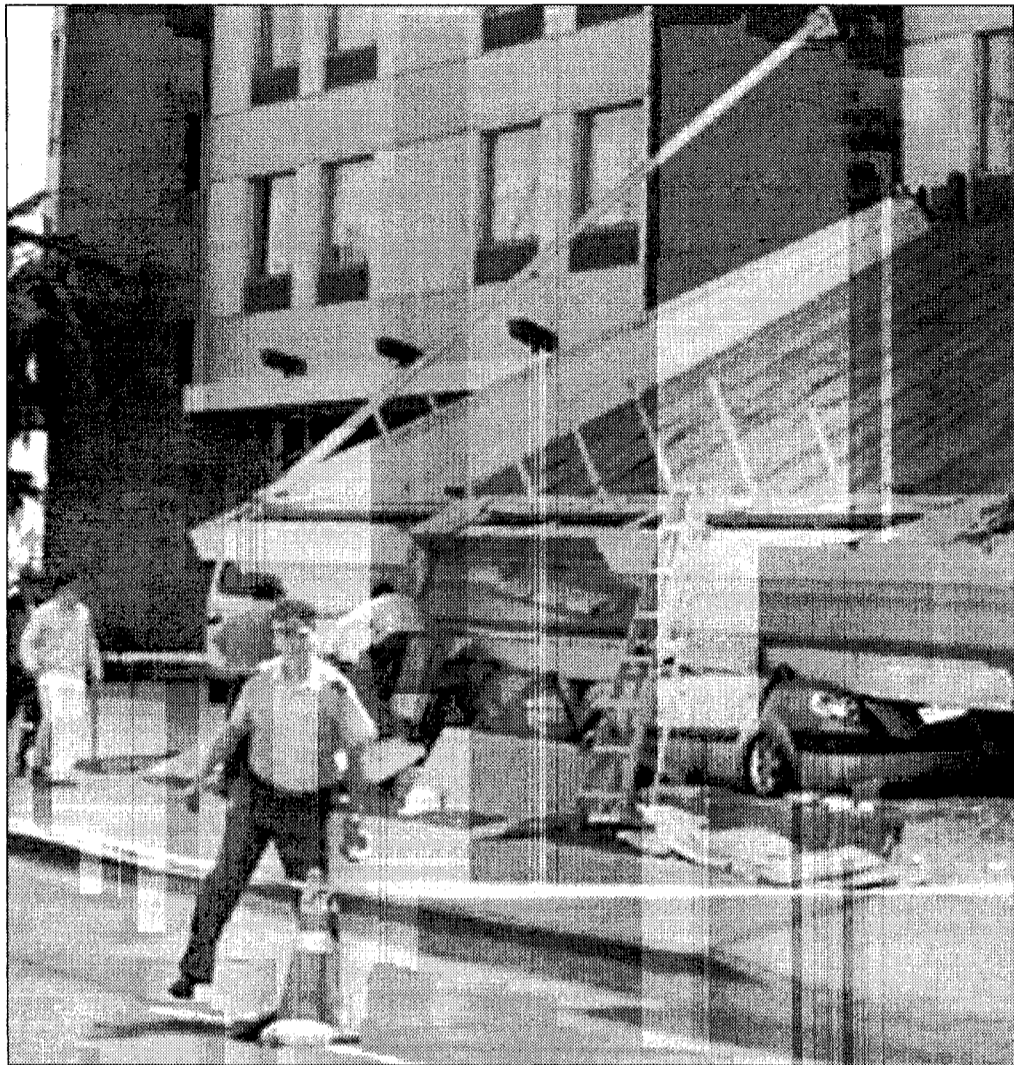
The U.S. Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued, then canceled a tsunami warning for Chile and Peru. It said the quake generated only a 2-foot wave.

Aftershocks were felt in several cities, according to media reports from the area.

Some houses were damaged in the port city of Tocopilla, according to Deputy Interior Minister Felipe Harboe, "and some people were injured, apparently none seriously." He gave no figures but the government's Emergency Bureau said at least 20 people were injured in the small town of Maria Elena. A number of houses were damaged there, said Mayor Eduardo Ahumada.

Presidential spokesman Ricardo Lagos Weber said power was cut in several cities in northern Chile.

The region is home to some of the country's largest copper mines. A statement from mine operator Codelco reported no "relevant" damage, but said its



Officials rope off a scene that resulted from Wednesday's 7.7 earthquake in northern Chile where several cars were crushed after a roof collapsed.

mines in the region were without power and only emergency teams were operating. Only minor landslides were reported, it said.

Television images showed cars crushed by the collapse of a hotel entryway in Antofagasta, 105 miles south of the epicenter. A reporter for Radio Cooperativa said she saw cracks in the tarmac at the airport in Antofagasta.

Schools, hospitals and other buildings were evacuated in several cities.

"It was horribly strong. It was very long and there was a lot of underground noise," said Andrea Riveros,

spokeswoman for the Park Hotel in Calama, 60 miles from the epicenter and site of the large Chuquicamata copper mine.

She said the quake knocked out power to the hotel, but caused no damage.

At the nearby Agua del Desierto Hotel, administrator Paola Barria said she felt like she was riding on "a floating island." She reported downed power lines, cracked windows and fallen pieces of houses near the hotel.

"I was very frightened. It was very strong," she said. "I've never felt one that strong."

In the Bolivian capital

of La Paz, 385 miles northeast of the epicenter, some high-rise buildings were evacuated, but there was no apparent damage and people soon returned to their offices.

Stretching along the earthquake-prone Pacific "Ring of Fire," Chile has suffered many destructive temblors. A 1939 quake killed 28,000 people and in 1960 a magnitude-9.5 quake killed 5,700 people. That remains the most powerful quake on record.

On June 13, 2005, a magnitude 7.8 quake near Tarapaca in northern Chile killed 11 people and left thousands homeless.

Police arrest 18 in sports gambling ring

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY — An illegal sports gambling ring run out of a high-stakes poker room in an Atlantic City casino was busted Wednesday, authorities said, and 18 people were arrested, including four with mob ties.

Since March 2006, the ring took in \$22 million in bets on college and professional football and basketball in the poker room of the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, said New Jersey Attorney General Anne Milgram.

The off-the-books exchanges of cash and casino chips were unraveled only when an informant told

authorities what to look for using the casino's eye-in-the-sky surveillance cameras, Milgram said.

The suspected ringleader of the operation, Andrew Micali, 32, of Ventnor, is an associate of Philadelphia mob boss Joseph "Skinny Joey" Merlino, according to a New Jersey law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the criminal complaints do not mention any reputed mob ties.

Three associates of Micali also were arrested on charges of promoting gambling, money laundering and loan-sharking: Vincent Procopio, 41, of Brigantine; and Anthony Nicodemo, 36, and Michael

Lancellotti, both of Philadelphia.

"They sought to escape detection by enlisting casino employees in their crimes," Milgram said. "I'm pleased to say they greatly underestimated our vigilance and determination to keep organized crime out of Atlantic City casinos."

Twenty-three people in all are charged, and authorities were seeking five on Wednesday. Most were charged with promoting gambling or money laundering.

Unlike Las Vegas, Atlantic City has no legal sports book.

Authorities said the Borgata cooperated with the investigation and let investigators use casino surveillance video.

Hunger

continued from page 1

event, gave a talk about the differences between poverty and hunger. Hunger and poverty are not the same, she said. Hunger is the complete absence of food and nourishment. Poverty is more of an issue in the U.S., she said, although there are 854 million people suffering from hunger worldwide. The past two years, the Hunger Banquet proceeds went to an international organization called Oxfam, which gives people money not only for food but also for smaller farm animals, like chickens.

This year, the Diversity Board decided to support the Hope Rescue Mission, a local organization that provides food and shelter for people in the South Bend area. They do not ask for identification and all are welcome.

"We decided to keep it local this year to drive it home that there is poverty and hunger in South Bend," Barnes said. "... It is a bigger problem than students know about. They're sheltered in the Notre Dame community."

Like Barnes, event co-chair Adrianna Rodriguez said she thought it was important to support a local charity this year.

"I'm from South Bend, and I have seen people in South Bend who have nothing," she said. "I've seen it firsthand. I wanted people to realize that it goes on here and globally, to make people aware of the situation."

Many students participated in the event to show their support of the Diversity Board and the Hope Rescue Mission.

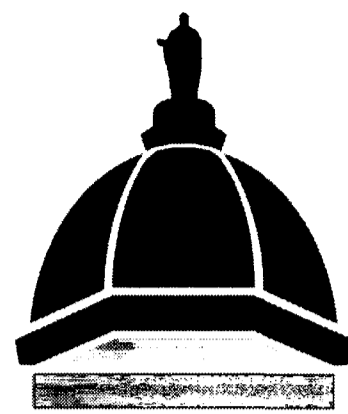
"I was really happy with the turnout," she said. "It's always a little scary. The goal was 100 and I don't think we were far off."

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylo01@saintmarys.edu

"We decided to keep it local this year to drive it home that there is poverty and hunger in South Bend."

Sarah Barnes
co-chair
Hunger Banquet

Recycle The Observer.



**CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY & LESBIAN
STUDENTS**

University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

(Information, education, and resources)

Contact: Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, 1-5550, or Melanie (Mel) Bautista, Baustista.5@nd.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources in 304 Co-Mo; discussion and support)

Contact: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

Visit our web site at

<http://corecouncil.nd.edu/>

THURSDAY 11/15

Ten Thousand Villages

O'Shag Great Hall

9:00am- 4:30pm

Cecilia Vaisman, Hewlett Visiting Fellow, and Gary Marx, Havana Bureau Chief, Chicago Tribune "Cuba from Inside"

C103 Hesburgh Center

4:15pm

IEW Keynote Speaker, Dr. Bob Einterz, M.D., Ph.D.

Director of the Indiana University Kenya Partnership
105 Jordan Hall of Science

7:00pm

Global Democracy and the World Social Forums

Jackie Smith, Associate Professor of Sociology
and Peace Studies

Montgomery Auditorium, LaFortune

7:00pm

IEW events are sponsored by International Student Services and Activities, Office of International Studies, the Kellogg Institute, the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, the Senate Social Concerns Committee, the Millennium Development Initiative, the Gender Studies Program, DPAC, the Career Center, the Center for Asian Studies, Notre Dame Food Services, Campus Ministry, GSU

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 13,231.01 -76.08

Up: 1,623 Same: 78 Down: 1,752 Composite Volume: 1,189,699,722

AMEX 2,408.37 -4.90
NASDAQ 2,644.32 -29.33
NYSE 9,809.15 -51.83
S&P 500 1,470.58 -10.47
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 15,527.66 +28.10
FTSE 100 (London) 6,432.10 +69.70

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-1.28	-0.65	50.09
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-0.28	-0.41	147.67
E*TRADE FINL CORP (ETFC)	+10.80	+0.54	5.54
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+0.39	+0.14	36.04

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.31	+0.013	4.269
13-WEEK BILL	-1.34	-0.045	3.315
30-YEAR BOND	-0.02	-0.001	4.604
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.57	+0.022	3.850

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+2.92	94.09
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+15.70	814.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.50	88.43

Exchange Rates

YEN	111.6450
EURO	0.6823
CANADIAN DOLLAR	0.9639
BRITISH POUND	0.4866

IN BRIEF

Ford workers ratify new contract

DETROIT — Ford Motor Co. no longer can complain about being hamstrung by high U.S. labor costs that prevent it from making money domestically.

The automaker's hourly workers on Wednesday ratified a historic four-year contract that sets lower pay for new hires and puts Ford's huge retiree health care liability into a trust run by the United Auto Workers.

The UAW represents about 54,000 Ford workers, and 79 percent of those voted in favor of the pact, the union said Wednesday. The UAW typically does not release vote totals.

Workers at General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC already had ratified similar deals, with the contract passing at Chrysler by only a small margin.

The deals are historic because they will help to rescue the troubled Detroit Three and make them more competitive with Japanese rivals who build cars in the U.S., said David Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor.

Chevron pays \$30 million settlement

WASHINGTON — By agreeing to pay \$30 million, Chevron Corp. has reached the largest of five settlements in the government's ongoing investigation of illegal kickbacks made to Iraq in connection with the U.N.'s oil-for-food program.

The Securities and Exchange Commission on Wednesday said Chevron settled charges brought under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act without admitting or denying allegations that kickbacks were made as part of oil purchases in 2001 and 2002. But the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York said the nation's second-largest oil company still could be prosecuted for criminal tax violations.

Chevron agreed to remit \$25 million in profits and pay a \$3 million civil penalty. The company also will pay the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Controls \$2 million.

United, Delta deny merger rumors

Anonymous official claims the nation's second- and third-largest carriers may combine

Associated Press

ATLANTA — United Airlines and Delta Air Lines have been discussing a combination between the nation's second- and third-largest carriers that would keep the United name and the corporate headquarters in Chicago, according to an official with knowledge of the talks.

The reported talks come as all airline executives are wrestling with the implication of oil prices hovering close to \$100 a barrel. That has sharply boosted jet fuel expenses — and accelerated a search for ways to cut costs, which typically are the result of airline takeovers.

Earlier Wednesday, Delta said its board established a special committee to work with management to review and analyze strategic options for the airline. Top executives have said recently they are trying to determine whether consolidation makes sense for Delta.

Delta issued a statement denying "published reports that it had engaged in merger talk with United." CEO Richard Anderson was quoted as saying, "There have been no talks with United regarding any type of consolidation transaction and there are no such ongoing discussions."

United called the report of recent talks "wholly inaccurate."

The Wall Street Journal's online edition, citing unidentified people, reported Wednesday that Anderson has informally talked about consolidation possibilities with counterparts at other airlines, including senior executives at United and Northwest Airlines.

Then-Delta CEO Gerald Grinstein said during a stop in New York on Oct. 12, 2006, that he had previously



A Delta Air Lines jet takes off at Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta. The rumored United-Delta merger would keep the United name.

received "feelers" from United about a possible merger.

There is a sense of urgency in the most recent talks, which have been going on for some time and continued as recently as a week or so ago, the official with knowledge of the talks said Wednesday. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly. The official stood by the assertions about the talks after learning of the statements by Delta Air Lines Inc. and United, a unit of UAL Corp.

"They want to get something done before a new administration gets in and so they get the clock ticking on" federal regulatory approval, the official said.

Financial details were not clear. But the talks involve United being the name of the combined airlines, the headquarters staying in Chicago and Delta's Atlanta hub being an operational center for the two carriers, the official said. One possible scenario involves Delta's Anderson being the chief of the combined airline, the official said.

Delta also has had talks

with other airlines, the official said, without specifying which airline or the status of any such talks.

Shares of Delta rose 77 cents, or 4.1 percent, to \$19.52 in trading Wednesday while UAL shares gained 67 cents, or 1.5 percent, to \$44.17.

When Anderson was named in August as Delta CEO to replace Grinstein, there was immediate speculation in the investment community that Delta and Northwest might eventually merge. Anderson is a former CEO of Northwest Airlines Corp.

Merrill Lynch names Thain new CEO

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the game of Wall Street musical chairs, one of the biggest seats has just been taken.

Merrill Lynch & Co. named the New York Stock Exchange's John Thain to lead the world's biggest brokerage just two weeks after it ousted Stan O'Neal for presiding over the biggest quarterly loss in its 93-year history.

Thain — also thought to be a candidate to become chief executive of Citigroup Inc. after the departure of Chuck Prince — faces a tough job ahead as he fills Merrill's top seat.

The 52-year-old will need to lean on his reputation as a consensus builder to win the allegiance of Merrill's army of some 16,000 brokers worldwide. Many felt betrayed by O'Neal, who was forced out of his job after the broker reported a \$2.24 billion loss during the third quarter.

The biggest challenge: Help guide

Merrill Lynch through the unfolding credit market turmoil that threatens Wall Street's biggest investment houses. The broker took a \$7.9 billion write-down during the third quarter — an amount that shocked investors because the broker originally pegged the amount at \$4.5 billion.

The crisis shows no sign of abating — analysts expect another \$4 billion charge this quarter.

Alberto Cribiore, Merrill Lynch's interim non-executive chairman who headed the search to find a new CEO, said Thain is "the right person."

He already has widespread support — from academics to Wall Street analysts. He's viewed as one of the smartest men on the Street after a career at Goldman Sachs Group Inc., where he rose from a bond trader to chief operating officer.

"I think John is a very good candidate for the future," said Win Smith

Jr., a former chairman of Merrill Lynch International whose father was among Merrill's founders. "He has a great background, did a good job stepping into NYSE when it had troubled times, and comes out of a firm that has a very strong culture. He can help bring the pride back."

Indeed, the transformation he made at NYSE might serve as the blue print for how to do the same at Merrill Lynch — which faces both media scrutiny and troubled books. At the NYSE, he took over after Richard Grasso was ousted over his controversial pay package.

Not only was he able to rebuild confidence of NYSE board members and workers, but put the exchange on the right track. His acquisition of electronic trading platform Archipelago Holdings Inc. set NYSE up to go public, and then Thain snapped up Euronext to become the world's first trans-Atlantic stock exchange.

Firth

continued from page 1

their German heritage and identity. Firth spoke German, ate German food and wore German clothes — things she said were not easy as a child.

"I appreciate my German heritage," she said. "But at the time, I was different."

Firth has long moved past the memories of those who tormented and teased her as a child, but she underscored the importance of those who were kind to her.

"The first lesson I learned at that stage in my life was the importance of kindness," she said. This principle has remained with her since.

Firth spoke to faculty, staff, rectors and students in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge as part of the noon-time luncheon series titled "Telling HERstory."

Her presentation was the third in the series, which is an initiative to highlight, honor and give a voice to women in leadership positions on campus.

Firth shared memories of events and influential moments that have directed her life as a student and professional woman at Notre Dame.

Firth said her high school principal, a Holy Cross priest, was one of the people that helped direct her story. He encouraged Firth to attend Notre Dame, and she became a student in 1977.

Since she attended Notre Dame in its early years as a co-educational institution, Firth said she has watched the evolution of women at Notre Dame.

"It is wonderful to see the leadership roles I see women embracing on this campus," she said.

After Firth's undergraduate years, her mother encouraged her to become a lawyer.

A mentor she found at Notre Dame persuaded her to attend Notre Dame Law School after seeing the moral and ethical concern Firth had for the law.

Firth practiced law in Chicago for the year following her graduation from law school, and then married her friend and classmate. She attributed her 22 years of marriage and five children to common values, faith and commitment.

Firth realized she did not want to practice law and moved with her husband to South Bend, where she inquired about jobs at Notre Dame. She was offered the position as director of Residence Life and Housing, a newly created department at the time.

"It was the beginning of a

career that has far exceeded anything I could have hoped," Firth said.

Firth became the primary hearing officer for disciplinary matters and, at the age of 25, she was not far removed from the issues she encountered with students.

"I had to learn some important lessons on how to handle myself and how to wield authority gracefully," Firth said.

She said she learned valuable lessons on being a parent, serving God and serving the Catholic Church during her career at Notre Dame.

"I have been extraordinarily blessed to find work that I love with great colleagues who have allowed me the flexibility to fit it in with my family," Firth said.

Firth said she could never pretend to have all of the answers to balancing a career and family. She admitted that it is "a little hard to have it all, all at once."

Firth said she could not tell her story without sharing her faith. Although her parents were not religious people, Firth said, she emulated her German grandmother, a very devout Catholic.

"What I really want is for people say at the end of my life that I loved and served God," she said.

The next speakers in the Telling HERstory Series will be student body president Liz Brown and vice president Maris Braun on Dec. 10 in the Coleman-Morse Center Lounge.

Contact Meg Mirshak at mmirshak@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 1

were sold at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore instead of copy centers around campus, as was done in the past. The Bookstore added a profit markup, resulting in complaints from students about the high prices they were paying for course materials.

At the Oct. 17 Senate meeting, senators passed a resolution recommending course packets no longer be sold exclu-

sively through the Bookstore, but rather from campus copy centers, like those in Decio and O'Shaughnessy Halls.

The senators were less receptive to the version of the resolution presented two weeks ago, which recommended professors increase their use of e-reserves to be environmentally friendly.

The resolution presented Wednesday omitted that assertion and also included more research to show that students would be in support of a switch to e-reserves.

"We are confident with our additional research ... that we have a better resolution to present to you today," Hendrickson said.

Hendrickson and Bant gave a PowerPoint presentation in support of their resolution. Their survey, Bant said, showed that 67.3 percent of students were "very dissatisfied" with course packet costs.

Unlike with course packets, students will not have to pay for markup or copyright

costs using e-reserves through University Libraries. According to the resolution, the University Libraries' Course Reserves department has said it is "willing and able" to put more academic materials on electronic reserves, and also "willing and able to cover current and future copyright costs for any materials they allow

to be placed on e-reserves."

Bant and Hendrickson gave other reasons why a switch to e-reserves would benefit students and faculty. Faculty members would have more flexibility in adding

materials to the e-reserves at points during the semester, Hendrickson said. E-reserves are available anywhere one has a computer and an Internet connection, Bant said.

Students can use their yearlong \$100 print quota if they choose to print their articles. That would allow students to print 1,000 sheets of paper.

Students can currently add money to their print quotas in 115A DeBartolo Hall. The Senate passed a resolution Nov. 7 encouraging the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) to establish an online system for increasing printing quota, so students could use a credit or debit card to increase their print quota online, rather than going to the DeBartolo classroom.

Hendrickson said she is working with OIT, and that right now, a print quota depository system is in the works.

Hendrickson and Bant

"The building that's going on on campus is there to provide more opportunities for you. It's just the fact of modern universities that you grow."

John Affleck-Graves
executive vice president

encouraged the senators to support their resolution.

"We do not expect unanimity across campus or Senate," Hendrickson said. "But considering the student body at large, after extensive research, and much deliberation, our committee has concluded that this option is the best for the majority of students."

The resolution passed with 18 senators voting for it and three against it.

Some senators left before the meeting was over, so the Senate did not have quorum and was unable to conduct any new business after the e-reserves vote.

The amendment proposed by Siegfried senator Jim Lockwood, which asks the student body president to report the events that occur at Community/Campus Advisory Coalition meetings, will be discussed at the next Senate meeting.

In other Senate news:

Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves spoke to the Senate for more than 30 minutes about campus development plans for the next year or two. Using a detailed PowerPoint presentation, he walked the senators through the plan for the campus, showing architectural drawings of construction projects. Affleck-Graves pointed out Duncan Hall, a male residence hall to open next fall; the new Law School, Stinson-Remick Hall, the new engineering building; athletic facilities development; and Eddy Street Commons.

"The building that's going on on campus is there to provide more opportunities for you," Affleck-Graves told the senators. "It's just the fact of modern universities that you grow."

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu



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CHINA

CCP seeks help from minor political parties

Communist government wants to retain full control but seeks input from smaller groups

Associated Press

BEIJING — China's communist government wants several small political parties to play a greater role in advising the leadership, though without challenging its authoritarian hold on Chinese society, the government said Thursday.

The statement of support for the eight minor parties came in a policy paper that follows on Chinese President Hu Jintao's call last month for more open, consultative decision-making to help the government cope with a fast-changing society.

While stressing the advisory and supervisory roles played by the small, powerless parties, the policy paper said plainly that the Communist Party "holds the leading and ruling position."

The Communist Party's leadership position "is the choice of history and the people," the paper said.

Trying to maintain the party's control while governing a society that has splintered into different interest groups is a key challenge for Hu. The paper's recipe of calling for greater consultation while insisting that the party go unrivaled has been a hallmark of Hu's leadership of the 73-million-member party.

ber party.

The eight minor parties are holdovers from the early days of the revolution. De-fanged and co-opted by the party over the decades, they have served mainly to rubber stamp decisions taken by the leadership. Many of the parties' individual members remain influential in business and academic circles, providing a key conduit of communication for Chinese leaders.

Though the Communist Party has the final say, it has shown a willingness to go outside for expertise. Earlier this year, China appointed two non-communists to the Cabinet-level posts of minister of health and minister of science and technology.

Chen Zhu and Wang Gang, both of whom were educated in Europe, were the first nonparty members appointed to the Cabinet since the 1970s.

Despite the appeals for greater consultation and Hu's constant use of the word "democracy," the government has taken few steps to holding open elections. Limited elections are held at the neighborhood or village levels but most offices are filled by the party or people the authorities are comfortable with.

Disappearance opens older case

Man's second wife vanishes; investigators examine first spouse's death

Associated Press

ROMEDEVILLE, Ill. — Nobody listened when Kathleen Savio said she was afraid of her husband. But now, three years after she was found dead in a bathtub in what was ruled an accidental drowning, authorities are paying close attention.

They suspect she was killed. But that theory did not dawn on them until her husband came under suspicion in the recent disappearance and possible murder of his new wife.

Drew Peterson, a former police officer in suburban Bolingbrook, denies any role in his wife's disappearance, saying she told him she was leaving him for another man.

Stacy Peterson, 23, was reported missing Oct. 29, the day after failing to show up to help her sister paint a house. She was 17 when she began dating Peterson. He was 47 and still married to Savio.

Peterson believes his wife has left him for another man, and said he has no plans to look for her because he thinks she left willfully.

"Why would I look for somebody who I don't believe is missing? She's just gone. She's where she wants to be," Peterson told NBC's "Today" show.

Peterson's troubles began during his marriage to Savio, who died in 2004.

She left behind a trail of clues about the couple's stormy marriage, including an order of protection she filed in 2002 after

Peterson allegedly knocked her down, ripped a necklace off her and left marks on her body. Savio wrote in the order that she feared Peterson could kill her.

"He wants me dead, and if he has to, he will burn the house down just to shut me up," she wrote.

A coroner's report includes testimony from Savio's sister, who said Savio warned relatives that if she died, it may look like an accident, but it would not be.

Authorities have not said Peterson, now 53, is a suspect in Savio's death. But they have reviewed autopsy photos, police reports, court documents and even exhumed her body as they point the finger at Peterson in Stacy Peterson's disappearance.

"I would say that right now Drew Peterson has gone from being a person of interest to clearly being a suspect" in his fourth wife's disappearance, Illinois State Police Capt. Carl Dobrich said last week.

Peterson downplayed any similarities between the two cases but said his relationships with both women were troubled. Both suffered from emotional problems, he said. He denied having anything to do with the two cases.

"I can look right in your eye and say I had nothing to do with either of those incidents," he told NBC.

Authorities have been tightlipped about the specifics of their investigation, including what they hope to learn from examining Savio's body. Will County

State's Attorney James Glasgow said some tests that should have been conducted on Savio's remains never were.

In the final days of her marriage, Savio traded battery allegations with her husband, who resigned from the police department this week.

Drew Peterson twice persuaded the state's attorney's office to bring battery charges against his wife, but she was acquitted both times. Peterson never was charged, although Bolingbrook police have said officers investigated 18 domestic calls involving the couple.

Savio's family suspects police were trying to protect one of their own.

"She called it the 'good old boys club,'" said Charlie Doman, Savio's nephew. "Cops taking care of cops, is what it was."

Among the documents Savio's family has kept for years is a copy of a letter they say she sent to an assistant state's attorney in Will County, claiming Peterson had beaten her several times, but police declined to file reports.

They also have a report from a suburban Chicago hospital that Savio visited in 2002 for treatment of a sprained wrist after what she said was a confrontation with Peterson. The report includes a notation by someone, possibly her doctor, that Savio said her husband was a Bolingbrook police officer and that the police would not take a report on the incident.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Responding to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Sub-Saharan Africa:

The Power of Academic Partnerships



A slide presentation by

Dr. Robert Einterz

Associate Dean for International Affairs,
Indiana University School of Medicine

**7 pm, Thursday
November 15, 2007
Jordan Hall of Science
Room 105**

Hosted by— the Office of International Studies, the Center for Health Sciences Advising, the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative, the Department of Africana Studies, the Center for Social Concerns, and the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies.

Reception will follow

PUERTO RICO

Animal control agencies inhumanely kill strays

Investigation found companies tossed scores off bridges

Associated Press

TRUJILLO ALTO — Back roads, gorges and garbage dumps on this tropical island are littered with the decaying carcasses of dogs and cats. An Associated Press investigation reveals why: possibly thousands of unwanted animals have been tossed off bridges, buried alive and otherwise inhumanely disposed of by taxpayer-financed animal control programs.

Witnesses who spoke with the AP said that, despite pledges to deliver adoptable strays to shelters and humanely euthanize the rest, the island's leading private animal control companies generally did neither.

News that live animals had been thrown to their deaths from a bridge reached the public last month when Animal Control Solutions, a government contractor, was accused of inhumanely killing some 80 dogs and cats seized from three housing projects in the town of Barceloneta. A half dozen survived the fall of at least 50 feet.

The AP probe, which included visits to two sites where animals were slaughtered, found the inhumane killings were far more extensive than that one incident. The AP saw and was told about a scale and brutality far beyond even what animal welfare activists suspected, stretching over the last eight years.

A \$22.5 million lawsuit against Animal Control Solutions and city officials — including those who helped round up the animals — was filed on behalf of 16 Barceloneta families whose dogs or cats were seized under rules prohibiting pets at the city projects. The animals' deaths show "a cold and depraved heart and has stirred public outrage around the whole world," the lawsuit says.

Julio Diaz, owner of Animal Control Solutions and a co-founder of another company, Pet Delivery, declined AP requests for an interview but told reporters there is no proof his company was responsible for the Barceloneta pet massacre. "We have never thrown animals off any place," he said.

A police investigation into the Barceloneta killings has not led to charges, but police Sgt. Wilbert Miranda, who heads the probe, said the information gathered so far indicates Animal Control Solutions was responsible. He declined to give details.

Maria Kortright, a lawyer involved in the suit, said it's clear the pets Animal Control Solutions removed from Barceloneta were the same ones hurled off the bridge because the survivors have been identified by their owners. "Last Tuesday, I saw one of

the survivors back at its home," Kortright said.

Animal welfare activists have complained to government agencies for years about allegations of improper disposal of animals, but say officials didn't act. Preventive action also is almost nonexistent: Puerto Rico has at least 100,000 stray dogs and cats — and no island-wide spaying or neutering programs.

Activist Alfredo Figueroa said the animal disposal companies acted with impunity because government agencies ignored allegations of cruelty, rather than investigate the companies or address the overpopulation of strays.

"There is apathy," Figueroa said. "No one wants to take responsibility."

A former employee of one of Diaz's companies told the AP that the firms rounded up thousands of animals over the years, brutally killed many of them and discarded the corpses wherever it was convenient. One of the former employees led the AP to two different killing fields and he and another former employee described a third.

"Not a single animal was turned over to a shelter," a former dogcatcher for Animal Control Solutions told the AP. Both he and an ex-employee of Pet Delivery, who was inter-

viewed separately, spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation. Both said they left the animal disposal jobs voluntarily.

The AP contacted all eight animal shelters and sanctuaries across Puerto

Rico, and they confirmed that none had received animals for potential adoption from Diaz's companies.

Diaz co-founded Pet Delivery in 1999 and created Animal Control Solutions in 2002. Pet Delivery appears to be defunct, having reported no earnings since 2004. Facing little competition, the companies had 85 contracts with municipalities and other clients worth \$1.1 million in the past eight years, according to the Puerto Rican comptroller's office.

The AP could find no sign that any of the municipalities checked to make sure the companies dealt with the strays humanely.

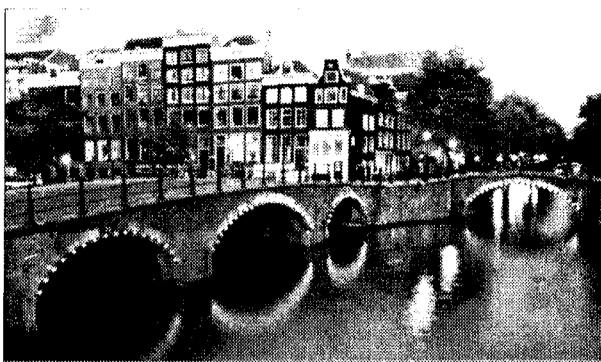
"It wasn't our responsibility," said Edwin Arroyo, special assistant to the mayor of Barceloneta, which paid Animal Control Solutions up to \$20,000 per year and in October hired the company to remove banned pets from housing projects — allegedly the ones that wound up at the bottom of the bridge.

The pet disposal scandal adds to Puerto Rico's poor reputation for treatment of animals. Cockfighting is legal, with matches shown on television. One of the island's beaches is known as Dead Dog Beach — a place where teenagers drive over live puppies sealed in bags or cruelly kill them with machetes and arrows, according to animal welfare groups that photographed the atrocities.

"We have never thrown animals off any place."

Julio Diaz
owner
Animal Control Solutions

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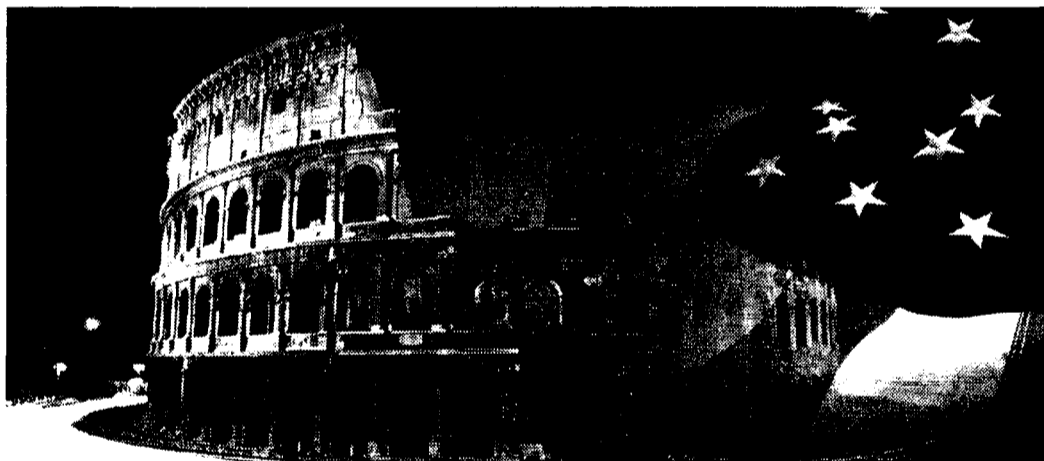
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FDA warns Avandia users

Popular diabetes drug may cause increased risk of heart attack

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government slapped a prominent, though confusing, warning on the popular diabetes drug Avandia on Wednesday — telling patients that it may, or may not, increase the risk of heart attacks.

The move is less stringent than steps Canada took last week to restrict the drug's use to hard-to-treat diabetics.

But the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded that studies are too contradictory to tell if Avandia really is riskier than other treatments for Type 2 diabetes.

So the FDA described the controversy in a black box on Avandia's label — the most severe type of warning the agency can require — pending further research. Unlike most black-box warnings that urge strong caution, Avandia's says, "The available data on the risk ... are inconclusive."

"It's still an open question," said Dr. John Jenkins, FDA's drug chief. Still, he said, "We want to make sure health care providers and patients are aware this signal of risk has been identified."

Patients may need a medical dictionary to interpret the new warning. It says Avandia may be associated with "myocardial ischemic events such as angina or myocardial infarction."

In layman's terms, that's chest pain or a heart attack. Manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline PLC is to develop a pamphlet that will come with each bottle putting the warning in easier-to-understand language.

Glaxo also agreed to FDA's

demand for a major study directly comparing Avandia and its competitors' heart effects. The study will begin by next November and won't end until 2014, but the FDA will order interim checks to see how patients are faring and if it's possible to settle the issue any sooner.

"It isn't as if we're going to be clueless until 2014," said Dr. Janet Woodcock, FDA's chief medical officer.

For now, Type 2 diabetics who also have heart disease or are at especially high risk for it should talk with their doctor about Avandia's potential heart effects as they decide among treatment options, FDA advised.

In contrast, Canada's drug regulators last week withdrew approval of Avandia as a stand-alone therapy except for patients who can't tolerate older competitors. Health Canada announced that Avandia should be used only in combination with certain other drugs for hard-to-control blood sugar.

Dr. Steven Nissen of the Cleveland Clinic, who first brought the heart attack issue to public attention, said he preferred Canada's approach — but that Wednesday's warning is important, if imprecise.

"It is a black-box warning, and no matter what the language says, it's telling you something," Nissen said. "A black-box warning is telling you there's enough evidence here that physicians and patients ought to be concerned."

What should Avandia users do?

"The easy answer is talk to

your doctor, but that doesn't help much because the doctors are just as much in the dark as the patient," said Dr. Thomas Pickering, a cardiovascular disease expert at Columbia University Medical Center and an FDA adviser. While he isn't convinced of the heart attack risk, he advises trying other drugs first, and adding Avandia if they're not enough.

It is not the first warning about Avandia's heart effects. In August, the FDA ordered a black-box warning for both Avandia and a competitor, Actos, that they may cause or worsen heart failure, a different cardiac problem.

About 1 million Americans with Type 2 diabetes use Avandia. It helps control blood sugar by increasing the body's sensitivity to insulin.

Diabetics already are at increased risk of heart disease. Type 2 diabetes, the most common form, is linked to obesity, which in turn harms the heart. Plus, high blood sugar over time damages blood vessels. Lowering glucose prevents many diabetes complications, such as blindness and kidney failure.

The hope is that intensive treatment also will lower the risk of a heart attack.

But on Wednesday, the FDA also said Avandia's competitors must change their own labels — to say none has been proven to reduce diabetics' risk of heart disease. That includes the treatment mainstay metformin, a family of medicines called sulfonylureas, and Actos.

The Avandia question, however, is whether it might actually increase heart attacks.

WWII fighter plane found on Wales beach

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sixty-five years after an American P-38 fighter plane ran out of gas and crash-landed on a beach in Wales, the long-forgotten World War II relic has emerged from the surf and sand where it lay buried.

Beach strollers, sunbathers and swimmers often frolicked within a few yards of the aircraft, unaware of its existence until last summer, when unusual weather caused the sand to shift and erode.

The revelation of the Lockheed "Lightning" fighter, with its distinctive twin-boom design, has stirred interest in British aviation circles and among officials of the country's aircraft museums, ready to reclaim another artifact from history's greatest armed conflict.

Based on its serial number and other records, "the fighter is arguably the oldest P-38 in existence, and the oldest surviving 8th Air Force combat aircraft of any type," said Ric Gillespie, who heads a U.S.-based nonprofit group dedicated to preserving historic aircraft. "In that respect it's a major find, of exceptional interest to British and American aviation historians."

Gillespie finds romance as well as historic significance in the discovery of the aircraft, long forgotten by the U.S. government.

"It's sort of like 'Brigadoon,' the mythical Scottish village that appears and disappears," he said. "Although the Welsh aren't too happy about that analogy — they have some famous legends of their own."

Gillespie's organization, the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, learned of the plane's existence in September from a British air history enthusiast and sent a team to survey the site last month. The group plans to collaborate with British museum experts in recovering the fragile but nearly intact aircraft next spring.

The Imperial War Museum Duxford and the Royal Air Force Museum are among the institutions expressing interest.

"The difficult part is to keep such a dramatic discovery secret. Looting of historic wrecks, aircraft or ships, is a major problem, in Britain as it is worldwide," Gillespie said.

British aviation publications have been circumspect about disclosing the exact location, and local Welsh authorities have agreed to keep the plane under surveillance whenever it

is exposed by the tides of the Irish Sea, he said. For now, the aircraft is again buried under sand.

Officially, the U.S. Air Force considers any aircraft lost before Nov. 19, 1961 — when a fire destroyed many records — as "formally abandoned," and has an interest in such cases only if human remains are involved.

The twin-engine P-38, a radical design conceived by Lockheed design genius Clarence "Kelly" Johnson in the late 1930s, became one of the war's most successful fighter planes, serving in Europe and the Pacific. About 10,000 of the planes were built, and about 32 complete or partial airframes are believed to still exist, perhaps 10 in flying condition.

Another P-38, part of a "lost squadron" of warplanes marooned by bad weather in Greenland while being flown to Europe in 1942, was recovered and extensively restored with new parts. Dubbed "Glacier Girl," its attempt to complete the flight to Britain earlier this year was thwarted by mechanical problems.

The Wales Lightning, built in 1941, reached Britain in early 1942 and flew combat missions along the Dutch-Belgian coast.

Second Lt. Robert F. "Fred" Elliott, 24, of Rich Square, N.C., was on a gunnery practice mission on Sept. 27, 1942, when a fuel supply error forced him to make an emergency landing on the nearest suitable place — the Welsh beach.

His belly landing in shallow water sheared off a wingtip, but Elliott escaped unhurt. Less than three months later, the veteran of more than 10 combat missions was shot down over Tunisia, in North Africa. His plane and body were never found.

As the disabled P-38 could not be flown off the beach, "American officers had the guns removed, and the records say the aircraft was salvaged, but it wasn't," Gillespie said. "It was gradually covered with sand, and there it sat for 65 years. With censorship in force and British beaches closed to the public during the war, nobody knew it was there."

It was first spotted by a family enjoying a day at the beach on July 31.

The discovery was stunning news for Robert Elliott, 64, of Blountville, Tenn., the pilot's nephew and only surviving relative. He has spent nearly 30 years trying to learn more about his namesake's career and death.

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Thursday, November 15, 2007

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The Internet age and honesty

I drank before I was 21.
I have not inhaled — and neither has Bill Clinton.

I have viewed Internet pornography.
I have discussed all of the above online with friends.

I have made jokes
I now regret about nearly every inappropriate topic.

I once wrote a column that started with, "I have never been solicited for gay sex in a men's room."

I have never been solicited for gay sex in a men's room.

I have never done cocaine.

But Barack Obama has.

Obama's first book, "Dreams from My Father," includes the following passage: "Pot had helped, and booze; maybe a little blow when you could afford it. Not smack, though." Of course, when Obama wrote the book, he likely wasn't considering its implications on a future presidential campaign (this may not be entirely true — Obama's brother-in-law has said that Obama considered the possibility of the presidency as early as 1992). But Obama would have had to admit to his past at some point — the same way Bill Clinton admitted (— ish) to marijuana use in 1992. The rise of the Internet, and the accompanying flood of used-to-be-personal information, requires it.

Earlier this year, the New York Times published portions of letters Hillary Clinton had written as an undergraduate. Imagine what it will be like for our generations: newspapers (or, equally likely, Matt Drudge) will publish old e-mails, saved somewhere in the bowels of the Google empire, old AIM conversations, which you know at least one creepy friend is saving (note to my friends: I'm that creep), and

old Facebook wall posts.

Imagine the 2036 presidential elections. Both candidates, in all likelihood, will have had Facebook profiles. (If you're reading this in 2036 and the candidate didn't have a Facebook profile, you should not vote for her/him. He/she lacked a social life or was so concerned about being president in their college years that they'll likely make an awful president.) Of course, that means that each candidate will have pictures to look at, which will likely reveal all sorts of foolish college-y activities that they wouldn't want their mother (or the rest of the voting public) knowing about. Who knows, they might even have written an offensive joke or two on a wall that they'll promptly disown as "a regrettable decision made when I was young and thought I knew everything."

It won't just be political candidates, though. You'll be able to pull up a plethora of information on your co-workers. Google the guy at the desk next to you and you'll learn something about his/her teenage years, which (despite his self-fashioned image) he probably spent as a high school debater who probably didn't talk to girls.

This sort of thing is already happening — our Career Center is telling us to check out our Facebook profiles and make sure they are "clean," so that potential employers think that all we do on weekends is play Scatagories or Catchphrase and make funny faces while we volunteer at centers for underprivileged youth. But the Career Center — and any employer who would actually make a hiring decision because of a picture of you doing a keg stand at a football party last Friday night — doesn't get it. They don't understand what the Internet means today and it will mean in the future.

Starting with our generation, all sorts of information our parents understood as private will become public. There will be embarrassing pictures, stories, and e-mails about nearly everybody. And it will have an important effect: It will force us to be more

honest about what we've done in our past. It will force us to present ourselves as real human beings, not carefully constructed images of human beings, in all aspects of our lives. The Internet behaves like a giant polygraph test. The threat (or, in the case of the Internet, the increasing certainty) that the truth will emerge means that people are more likely to tell the truth on their own terms.

Any employer who doesn't hire someone because they have seen a picture of a candidate on that night when they played Vodka pong after taking three straight beer bongs will be at a competitive disadvantage. They will lose some of the best candidates — in fact, they'll lose most candidates. Most people did foolish things when they were young — it's just that before, we got to turn our heads the other way. The Internet will force us to recognize people as people, not just the saint-like constructs they can try to be today.

It means that we'll be able to talk more frankly about our experiences and their social implications. Judgments — political and personal — will be informed by an acknowledgment of the reality of peoples' behaviors, not by denying their existence.

Traditionally, maturing has meant information control. "Maturity" has been about carefully shaping an image of yourself, sharing only certain information and protecting other information from the public eye. Maturity has meant denying a part of yourself and your past.

Now, though, growing up will be different. The private will become the public — and we're better for it.

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major from Fairfield, Conn. He is starting to regret this column already, but owes credit to junior Joe Stranix for his moderating effect on the language used herein. He can be reached at anesi@nd.edu.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Enhance understanding of religions

When traveling throughout Spain last summer, conducting interviews with Muslim secular leaders for my Political Science thesis, none of my survey questions provoked quite as much thought as this one: Are Muslim and Western values compatible? It seemed that no one had a clear or easy answer. While I'll save my results for my thesis, I can say that Spanish Muslim elites certainly felt differently than the Spanish population overall. Many westerners felt that Muslim values were in great contrast to their own; Muslims themselves didn't quite feel that way.

Ignorance of Muslim culture and values, I'm sorry to say, is not merely a Spanish problem. Westerners, including Americans, lack a basic understanding of the differences and, more importantly, the common aspects between western and Muslim cultures and values. Notre Dame provides a perfect example

— we have one of the best theology departments in the country, if not in the world, but have only three classes on world religions for spring 2008. Everyone has to take biblical foundations, but there's no requirement and very little encouragement to take our theological and religious studies beyond that which is embedded in all aspects of Notre Dame, Catholicism. Imagine going to high school and only taking American history — it would certainly impact your understanding of the world.

We at Notre Dame will have an opportunity tonight to broaden our understanding of the religion of more than a billion people worldwide. Archbishop Celestino Migliore will present the Terrence R. Keeley Visiting Vatican Lecture, "Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation," at 8 p.m.

in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

Archbishop Migliore has been the Vatican Permanent Observer to the United Nations since 2002, and his presentation promises to be an enlightening one. Even after all my interviews, I still find my understanding of Islam and what it has in common with Catholicism sadly lacking. I look forward to hearing Archbishop Migliore speak on this very important topic, and I encourage everyone to attend as a way to broaden our view of the world. Hopefully this will be the first of many more events focusing not just on Catholicism, but also on how Catholicism can interact with the rest of the world.

John Grothaus
senior
off campus
Nov. 14

OBSERVER POLL

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Success is relative. It is what we can make of the mess we have made of things."

T.S. Eliot
British dramatist and poet

The 'lowest common denominator' in relationships

Last Thursday in FaithPoint, Father Lou DeFra wrote about the struggles many students have with pornography. Not surprising, he said, given the power of human sexuality, the easy accessibility the Internet offers, and the stresses and strains of life at a demanding university. I would like to expand on his valuable insights and offer the suggestion that part of the problem lies in our popular culture's acceptance of public sexual norms that are only a few steps away from what we dismiss, perhaps hypocritically, as pornography.

Kate Barrett

FaithPoint

Because our sexuality is so much a part of who we are as humans, we might not think of it immediately, but our societal obsession with physical perfection has likely provided much of the impetus for the misplaced attractions and desires that may lead people to pornography.

When the mainstream media can't even figure out the difference between real news and what Britney Spears wears (or doesn't wear — hey, maybe she just forgot...) to go out to the bars, it's contributing to the "outing" of what you might call "near-pornography." When breast implants are the latest go-to gift for girls

graduating from high school — high school! — presumably given to them by their own parents, it's all too easy to see that we've become a society for which the visual too often substitutes for the truly relational. Pornography is one — perhaps extreme — example of that. As Father Lou noted last week, "As intimate as the act of viewing pornography may feel in the moment ... the fact remains that no truly human relationship is ever formed." Much of what is socially acceptable (even though your mother may say, "You're going out dressed like that?"), though it may stop short of pornography, nonetheless glorifies the "eye candy" part of our sexuality rather than the deeper, more challenging, but ultimately longer lasting and gratifying (in the best sense of the word) friendships and love relationships we long for.

Everyone who has been accepted into Notre Dame really is, as Garrison Keillor claims about all the children of Lake Wobegon, "above average." Way above average, in fact. But guess what? You didn't get in because you're hot. And that won't help you graduate, or make friends or get a job, either. So can we do better than what our popular culture holds up as admirable? As tough as it may be in the face of so much pulling us in the other

direction, can we look to sources of depth and substance and courage for values worthy of our regard? Every single person reading this article has the opportunity of a lifetime — your lifetimes — to help build up the Kingdom of God, whether in your tiny little corner of the world or on a global scale. And you won't do it just because you can dress or walk or act in a way that leaves the opposite sex staring open-mouthed in awe and wonder.

There's no denying that we each have — or don't have — physical attractions to each other. That's as it should be. God gave each of us the gift of our sexuality as part of our created selves so that we would populate the world and know, through the love of another, a tiny piece of the amazing love God has waiting for us in heaven. We just can't let too much of our relationships (or lack thereof) be determined by the merely visual, whether in the destructive trap of pornography or the quietly pervasive demands of pop culture for over-the-top, leave-nothing-to-the-imagination, "mainstream" sexuality. Get above and beyond—far beyond—our lowest common denominator society and appreciate wholeheartedly the integrity of your relationships with your dearest friends. Reach out to someone who's lone-

ly, or who might feel marginalized or rejected and get to know what's great about that person.

Individually and collectively, we simply allow much too much of our own self-esteem and self-confidence to be determined by whether we think we're physically attractive enough, and whether or not we have curves or muscles in the right places.

Now, I'm not telling anyone to abandon their showers, combs, toothbrushes or trips to the laundry; or to bypass the Rock or the RSRC and head out instead for boxes of Krispy Kremes or the Value Meal #3 at McDonald's. But be confident in who you are and put just a little less stock in how you look as you step out of your door. Then the power and compassion of the Christian community Father Lou wrote of last week can take hold and break down the cheap grip of the superficial sexual messages that surround us.

Kate Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter about homosexuality spurs response

Check terminology

With the campus a little stirred up about gays and gay rights and gay sex, I think it's time we went back and took a second look at the old Catechism, lest we go the route of Mary K. Daly and start throwing around pejorative terms like "disordered" and "the homosexual lifestyle" ("Campus, Catholicism and homosexuality," Nov. 13).

While much of what Daly says in regards to the church teaching is accurate, she unfortunately makes the same misstep that so many Catholics have taken, and misinterprets Church teaching. Here is what the Church says: "Homosexual acts are gravely disordered." Here is what Daly says: "Homosexuality is intrinsically disordered." See the disconnect?

The church teaches that sexuality is a gift from God, not something chosen. As Father David Burrell notes on the Notre Dame Core Council Web site (corecouncil.nd.edu), "The Catechism of the Catholic Church takes pains to distinguish between homosexuality as an orientation, and homosexual acts." This means that there is nothing wrong with being a homosexual, according to the Church, the problem comes with homosexual acts. Merely having homosexual desires no more makes you a sinner than having a desire to play the cello makes you Yo-Yo Ma.

Perhaps I may be harping too much on the comment "homosexuality is intrinsically disordered," but it is necessary to do so in order to see where Church teaching is misconstrued: "Homosexual acts are gravely disordered" slowly becomes "homosexuality is gravely disordered" and eventually "homosexuals are gravely disordered." This misreading is what leads people to don shirts that say "Gay? Go to Hell." If they had wanted to be closer to the teachings of the Church, they probably ought to have worn shirts that replaced "Gay?" with, "Having gay sex?" As for the "Go to hell" bit, that is also a little misleading — there is no mention of 'hell,' per se, only a mention of disordered. But disordered in this sense merely means objectively disordered; that is, not ordered in such a way that is open to procreation, one of the Church's requirements of sexual intercourse. Because two men cannot

together produce a child, nor can two women, homosexual acts are said to be "objectively disordered." I hesitate to bring up other times when sex is not "open to new life," but I think anyone reading this letter can probably guess what I am talking about: contraception, oral sex and—you got it—masturbation. So perhaps people wanting to be true to their Catechism ought to wear shirts that say "Having Gay Sex? That's as objectively disordered as wearing a condom!"

Otherwise their interpretations of Catholic teaching leave a lot to be desired.

Michael Redding

senior
off campus
Nov. 14

Catholicism, homosexuality, and community

In Mary K. Daly's Letter to the Editor ("Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality," Nov. 13) she expresses disappointment that Notre Dame "does not (openly) accept, include and 'voice its solidarity with' the Church's teaching on the homosexual orientation and lifestyle." Her solution is to "implement an approach to working with the homosexual minority on campus that is holistically Catholic." This approach would not only incorporate inclusion, but also include "instruction on how to live" a chaste life in the context of Catholic Christian morality.

First, it is worth noting that the University does openly teach and discuss the Church's teaching on sexual acts between homosexual persons. In each CommUnity and Network session, the presenter first deconstructs the complicated formulations of Church teaching in the Catechism and presents them so that every student may fully understand the rich and intricate teaching offered by the Church. This gives students the power to speak from knowledge and not ignorance. Many resources (brochures, pamphlets, spiritual directors) are available in Campus Ministry. Every hall rector is fully versed in Church teaching.

These resources are the public face of the University, of our community. In developing an approach that is 'holistically Catholic,' however, we must balance the

role of the community and that of the individual. Dealing with an intimate aspect of an individual's personal and spiritual life requires utmost care and compassion. As a community, we are called to create a welcoming environment in which all members are free to develop their personality and discover personal traits — one of which (and I stress, only one of which) is sexuality. As individuals created in the image and likeness of God, their inherent dignity demands our sensitivity.

In encroaching on the personal sphere of one's being, the community must tread carefully. Who are we to judge a person's life circumstances or their personal faith experiences? This is best conducted and evaluated in a prayerful context of personal discernment with a spiritual guide. It is not the role of other students to scathingly declare, "Go to hell." It is not our place to decide whether someone is "Catholic enough."

In short, a supportive community in solidarity with its gay, lesbian, and bisexual members is not only the ideal community—it is the 'holistically Catholic' community. To minister to individual needs we must provide a safe space in which people feel they can explore their faith and reconcile themselves before God in a loving environment. This does not mean that Church teaching, in its fullness, should not be laid out or provided as a model.

Ultimately, however, after careful discernment, prayer, and consultation, it is for the individual to reconcile him or herself with the tradition, and the community's role to share the love and good news of Christ — not to declare judgments reserved for God.

Grant Van Eaton

senior
Sorin College
Nov. 14

Re-evaluating "teachings" on homosexuality

I read Mary K. Daly's letter ("Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality," Nov. 13) on the Catholic approach to including homosexual students with great interest, but also with some puzzlement. She reiterates a point made by many in regards to this issue, which is that the Catholic

Church does not consider homosexual people to be exceptionally flawed as human beings because they, just as everyone, were made in the image of God. However, as her letter states, "The Church does teach that homosexuality is intrinsically disordered and thus, for a person of homosexual orientation to act on those homosexual tendencies, to embrace the homosexual lifestyle, is morally sinful." I find it somewhat hard to swallow the attempted divide between a theoretical concept that is homosexuality and a living being, in this case a person, who is homosexual. My understanding (and someone please correct me if I am perpetuating a misinterpretation) is that conceptual homosexuality is an evil something-or-other, but when applied to a person, it is somewhat less evil because people are made in God's image, and God just chose to make them gay as well. Pardon the cliché, but this seems to be a rhetorical attempt on the part of the increasingly politically correct Church to have one's cake and eat it, too.

Can the idea of homosexuality even be coherent when divorced from the very context, i.e. life forms of two distinct sexes, from which it originates? If someone can formulate a clear explanation of what homosexuality is without making reference to a member of God's creation, my mind will be set at ease. If not, then it must be admitted that to say the state of homosexuality is intrinsically disordered or evil is to say that God has created some beings who are intrinsically disordered or evil. And that's not good news for anyone. The gay Catholics suddenly become anathema, and the leftover Catholics now must deal with the idea of a God who pulls dirty tricks akin to saying that the state of left-handedness is inherently disordered, then turning around and creating a bunch of left-handed people who, because of their God-given debility, must never be allowed to act upon their wicked impulse to write lest they threaten the sanctity of literature.

Nikki Huiras

senior
Badin Hall
Nov. 13

Q&A with 'Room' director

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Why do you believe Tony Kushner decided to give the play the name he did?

"The title comes from a misunderstanding or a mis-hearing. Kushner was at an exhibit of some sort that had video of an Agnes de Mille ballet playing on a TV set. From across the room, Kushner thought he heard the announcer say the name of the ballet was 'A Bright Room Called Day.' In fact, the name of the ballet is 'A Bridegroom Called Death.' A happy accident. In honor of Ms. de Mille, Kushner has named the lead character ... 'Agnes.'"

In what, if any, ways have you tried to put your own spin on the material?

"I don't have any kind of 'spin' per se. But if you are asking what I think the play is about, I can answer that. ['A Bright Room'] is about fighting historical amnesia by resurrecting historical truths that have been concealed or obscured. To redeem history by preventing the reoccurrence of similar disastrous mistakes in the present and future. "Also, I believe Kushner is telling us that in order for our political system to thrive and progress, it must make room for the voice of dissent."

In the past the theater department has used some very unusual sets. Is there anything unique about the play of this set?

"We have at least one large, theatrical moment. To say more would spoil the surprise."

The play features scenes involving a woman named Zillah who moves from Long Island to Berlin in 1990 out of protest of the growing power of the Republican party in the 1980s. Do you believe the play continues to have enduring relevance in terms of the current global political landscape?

"Yes, yes, it is hard to think of an American play that goes to the heart of so many contemporary political arguments. ['A Bright Room'], like Tony Kushner himself, is unabashedly political. "The characters in the play are vigorously engaged in a heated, political discourse not unlike the conversation among Americans today. The audience will recognize the zealots, the fence-sitters, the mercenaries, the revolutionaries, the puppets, the party-line-towers, and indeed, the devils that dot the American and global landscape."

How has your experience been in terms of working with the cast and crew?

"Fantastic. The actors are talented, smart and fearless. The designers are extraordinary. The crew is thoughtful and fastidious. As Zillah would say, I'm in 'pig heaven.'"

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MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By MARK WITTE
Scene Writer

"A Bright Room Called Day," written by Tony Kushner ("Angels in America"), opens with its characters gathered around a table, drinking to celebrate the New Year. However, by the play's close, only one of those characters remains.

The setting is Berlin. It's New Year's Eve 1932, and the lives of a couple, Agnes Eggling (Jennifer Betancourt) and Vealtine Husz (Brian DeSplinter), and their three friends — Annabella Gotchling (Madison Liddy), Gregor Bazwald (Luke Cieslewicz), and Paulinka Erdnuss (Erin O'Shea) — are about to undergo massive change, as is the Republic.

As the New Year begins, the Weimar Republic, holding an extremely shaky power over the country, is meeting strong opposition from the KPD, Germany's Communist Party. All three parties are rallying the masses and vying for power. Within six months, the Weimar Coalition is defeated. Within another month, the Nazi party takes the majority of seats in the German Parliament. Weimar Coalition and KPD members attempt to unify against the Nazis, but the plot ultimately fails, and Hitler is elected Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. It is in this period of turmoil that the hopes and dreams of the characters rise and fall.

United in their distaste for the Nazi party, the play's characters watch helplessly as fascism descends upon them. The play centers on their helplessness while raising questions about what an individual can do against the surging tide of unwanted political change. Despite this overbearing, oppressive gloom, the characters are a delightful bunch.

Husz, a one-eyed revolutionary banned from Hungary and kicked out of Russia, now making films for the Germans — who he claims are all insane — is delightful in his anxious and epic take on life.

Gotchling is a hardworking member of the KPD, and her occasional arguments with Bazwald, a homosexual sex fiend, make for sharp comical relief.

Paulinka is a famous actress, evidently in love with the idea of selling one's soul to the Devil, yet holding a supreme distaste for "Faust."

She doesn't seem to understand the times, but nevertheless, she makes her opinion known:

"Psychoanalysis makes more sense than Communism."

Agnes, the focus of the tale, is a character perched on the border of joining the KPD and just plain staying out of the whole mess. Her character evokes a great amount of sympathy as she tries so desperately to hold onto a Germany she once knew and believes will soon return. There is a scene in the play where she tries to think of revolutionary lines, shouting, "The world is perched on the brink of..." Yet, she cannot seem to finish the sentence. Whether she doesn't know how to end it or whether she



LINDSAY POULIN | The Observer

From left to right, Erin O'Shea, Luke Cieslewicz, Madison Liddy, Jennifer Betancourt and Brian DeSplinter make up the core cast.

chooses to stay ignorant of the answer may be the underlying theme of the play.

But this is not simply a tale of Germany and Hitler. From the corner of the stage, behind a stack of books and a wooden desk, Zillah Katz (Juliana Halloran) sits throughout the duration of the play, reading what appears to be the story we are watching. Only she doesn't just read. Before the story is over in November of 1933, there will be eight interruptions from the radical, paranoid, Reagan-hating Katz, who actually lives about 50 years in the future in New York City. Her interruptions, which are more like tirades, carry an excessive amount of political zeal as she rips on the Reagan administration, even calling him the devil and comparing him to Hitler. Fortunately, the tirades carry enough jolly humor to overshadow their extreme politics.

The acting is entertaining and engrossing. Robin Witt's direction is wonderful, and on

the whole, a learning experience. Slideshows detailing the history of the period flash during scene transitions, keeping the audience occupied and informed. There is also a quite impressive show of theatrical spectacle about midway through the play when Husz literally calls up the Devil from beneath the ground. If the foreboding descent of Germany into evil has not been sufficiently foreshadowed by this point, the Devil makes it clear when he informs his stunned onlookers, "I have taken up temporary residence in this country."

At one point of the play, Husz says, "This age wanted heroes. It got us instead."

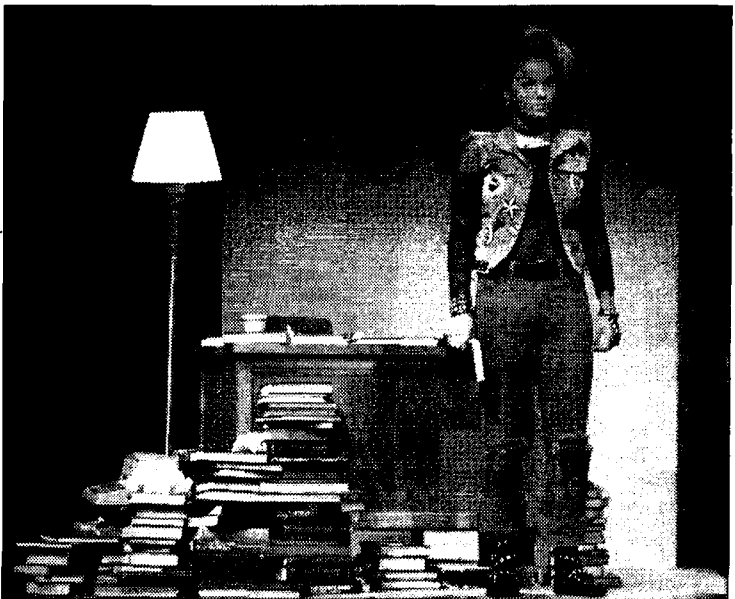
"A Bright Room Called Day" examines what it's like to be that "instead." Though it seeks to push a heavy political message, it is touching in its portrayal of hope, overshadowed by Hitler's dark, rising sun.

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LINDSAY POULIN | The Observer

Agnes Eggling (Betancourt) and Gregor Bazwald (Cieslewicz) are two friends who feel helpless against Nazism.



LINDSAY POULIN | The Observer

Zillah Katz (Juliana Halloran) from the 1980s interrupts the action in the play to rip apart Ronald Reagan's politics.



Suarez runs music race with neo soul sound

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

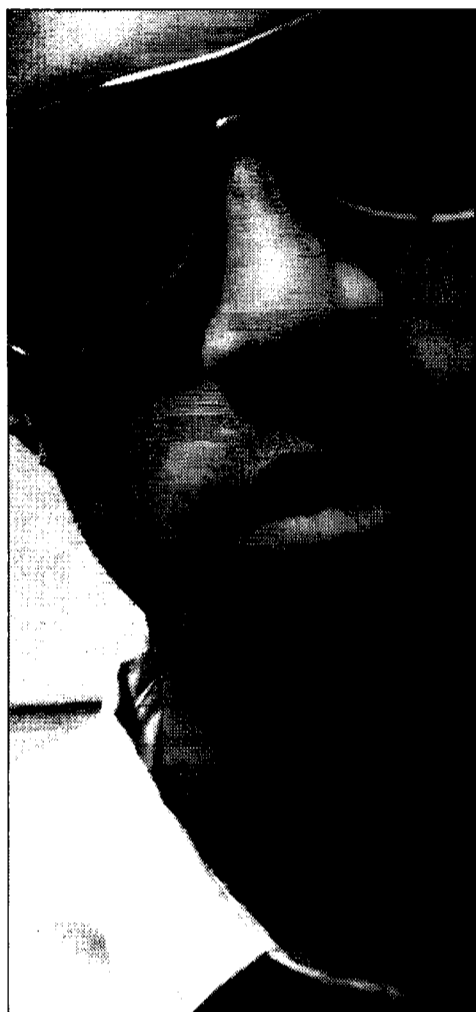


Photo courtesy of Brandon Hall
Napoleon Suarez, a former ND track star, returns to campus as a hip-hop artist.

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Former Notre Dame track star and 2004 graduate Napoleon Suarez has traded in his cleats and hit the track running as a burgeoning neo soul artist. Tonight his musical career takes a turn back to his alma mater as he plays the Legends stage at 10 as the centerpiece of its Neo Soul night.

As a junior and senior, Suarez earned Track and Field All Big East awards, propelling the Irish to the Big East title both years. He also began an amateur musical career, one that he eventually decided to pursue.

But not right away. After graduating in 2004, the former Keenan resident left his music behind for the world of business. "Just like everyone else, my main focus was to enter corporate America and work for a reputable company," he said. "I was pretty involved in the music scene while at school, but I was always pressured by family and friends to get a 'real' job after college."

After about six months of what he calls "the nine-to-five cubicle thing," Suarez decided to quit his job and return to his tunes full-time. The former track star started at a sprint, recording track after track while rededicating himself to his music, but his bank account couldn't keep up with him. He was forced to go back to work.

"My dream was dead," he said. "I went back to the cubicle but the itch never went away."

So he picked it back up, but the second time

**Napoleon Suarez
Legends
Tonight 10 p.m.**

around Suarez decided to expand his musical repertoire, rhyming as well as producing.

"I made a song," he said. "Then another. And another. Before I knew it I had a whole album done."

Suarez sent his album to family friends, and after receiving positive feedback, he decided to release it on Sept. 11, the same day Kanye West dropped his third album "Graduation." Suarez named his CD "Napoleon Dynamite" as a play on both the popular movie and the ND acronym.

As a neo soul artist, Suarez says his musical influences range everywhere from Tupac to Metallica and include artists like Kidz in the Hall, Skyy, Little Brother, Fall Out Boy, Coldplay, Lupe Fiasco, Jay Z, Nas and Gemini. He also pointed out the subtle difference between soul and neo soul music.

"Soul music taps into your soul and just makes you feel good inside," he said. "Neo soul music does that as well, but I feel it is more poetical. More sophisticated. It is less structured, giving you a little more freedom to say what you have to say without the restrictions of a rhyming pattern. The beats are less edgy but more thought provoking."

Suarez also credits superstar Kanye West with changing the nature of the hip-hop world and opening the door for artists such as himself.

"Although he was glamorizing his dropping out of college," he said, "he made it cool to be different."

West made a name for himself in the hip-hop community as a mold-breaker, with unconventional arrangements and songs that appeal to the college community.

"I really like bands and artists who take a different approach on music and who aren't scared to push the envelope," Suarez said. "Music is really moving in a whole different direction. I say it's revenge of the nerds because skateboarding and college have become huge in the hip hop community. It's cool to be different and many people are embracing that."

Like Kanye West, Suarez believes he offers an innovative approach as a performer. "As far as hip-hop is concerned, I consider myself the alpha entertainer," Suarez said. "I don't mean to come off as conceited, but I think that I bring a lot of unique things to the table."

Suarez writes all his own material in addition to producing his own music, which involves creating beats and composing songs. For this, Suarez has a studio inside his apartment, which allows him to engineer ideas into reality.

Suarez said his Notre Dame degree differentiates him from many other hip-hop artists today and "adds a unique flavor" to his music.

"I can't think of one artist right now that can speak for the college audience genuinely," he said. "I think the fact that so many young professionals are relating to my music separates me from the rest of the hip-hop community."

A New Jersey native, Suarez moved to Philadelphia after graduation, but said he is glad to be back on campus.

"It's really crazy to think that the last time I was there, they were taking money from me, but now that I'm going back they are paying me," he said. "It's funny how quickly things turn around in the music business."

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The Importance of Being Earnest opens at Saint Mary's

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

"The Importance of Being Earnest" opens tonight at Saint Mary's on the Little Theatre Stage. Originally penned by playwright Oscar Wilde, the comedy takes place in England during the late Victorian era.

Notre Dame sophomore Will Haley stars as Algernon Moncrieff, a role that has expanded his esteem for Wilde's masterpiece.

"I had read the play once," he said. "Performing it really gave me a new appreciation for [Wilde's] wit. Wilde supposedly modeled my character [Algernon] after himself."

When performing such a famous and hilarious play, Haley said the original text presented the cast with its most enterprising task: trying to live up to the billing of such a renowned work.

"Performing this show makes us all nervous," he said. "Trying to interpret the material onstage and make people think we didn't kill it is our greatest challenge."

"We're trying to elevate it in order to play up the humor. We have such a huge source. With all the wit that's in the show, that's where each actor can put his or her own spin on the material."

**"The Importance of Being Earnest"
Saint Mary's College
Tonight 7:30, Friday 7:30,
Sunday 2:30, 7:30
Tickets \$10, Seniors \$8, Staff
\$7, Students \$5**

[Mark Abram-Copenhaver] has been great about letting each actor make his or her own choices," he said. "He likes to leave a lot of it up to us, let us take the reins first and then push us in a direction. He's been phenomenal."

Stage manager Carole Deeter agreed. "Mark really looks for places where he can bring out things that are really funny in the script and

highlight them," she said. "So we tried to make sure those points are really emphasized. Almost every line in the play is a joke and very funny, so one of our approaches was to make sure everything funny will be perceived as funny."

Deeter also said the production drew from the original source material in designing the stage aesthetic for the show.

"One of the things we really were pulling for we got from the script," she said. "In the play, there's a line by Lady Bracknell that says, 'Algernon has nothing but looks—everything.' So for his apartment we lavished it out to make it look like he has everything and is everything. But he's really just an eccentric person."

"The Importance of Being Earnest" features a diverse, tri-college cast, including all four female actresses from Saint Mary's, three male Notre Dame students and one male Holy Cross student.

"The cast has gotten really close," Haley said. "It's the kind of play that allows that to happen. The cast has really bonded, and I think it shows in the chemistry onstage."

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Keenan presents philosophy event

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Keenan Hall will host a talk with philosophy professor Alasdair MacIntyre entitled "Why Philosophy Matters" tonight at 7 p.m. The event will take place in the basement of the dorm. The event was originally planned as a section event, but has since been broadened to include both the entire hall and any other interested people.

"Professor MacIntyre is one of the most renowned philosophers and professors here at Notre Dame," resident assistant Tae Kang said in an e-mail Tuesday. "He is truly a brilliant mind and has greatly impacted many students and academics."

Kang said he organized the talk to stress the importance and enduring relevance of phi-

losophy in social life, both here on campus and in the greater world.

"Often in the dorm, I hear lamentations of 'Why do I have to read philosophy? What's the point of reading these books by dead people? I don't understand this,'" he said. "I wanted

**"Why Philosophy Matters"
Professor Alasdair MacIntyre
Keenan Hall
Tonight 7 p.m.**

to address this view and show that philosophy is fundamental to how we function as a society and interact as humans.

"Philosophy matters because it is the foundation of our beliefs and views about the world. It is a great intellectual tradition handed down from men like Plato and Aristotle to Aquinas and Descartes to Mill and MacIntyre. We cannot have proper discourse without proper understanding of philosophy and truth."

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NBA

LeBron's triple-double not enough against Magic

Washington beats Indiana for second straight win; Atlanta beats Charlotte but loses Smith, Law to injury

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James heard the whistle and figured he was headed to the free throw line.

He got there. Just not to shoot.

Driving down the lane in the final seconds of overtime, James was tied up by Orlando's Hedo Turkoglu for a game-ending jump ball as the Magic, paced by Dwight Howard's 35 points and 16 rebounds, remained unbeaten on the road with a 117-116 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

Howard, almost unstoppable near the basket, made two free throws with 5.8 seconds left in OT to put the Magic up by one. Following a timeout, James, who finished with 39 points, 14 assists and 13 rebounds, took the inbound pass at the top of the key and quickly drove past Keith Bogans.

But as he approached the basket, James was wrapped up from the side by a helping Turkoglu, who had been called for a critical three-shot foul against James with 2.4 seconds left in regulation.

Orlando's forward got his hands on the ball but also appeared to make contact with James' forearms. Referee Leon Wood, though, signaled for a jump ball, and as Cleveland fans booed loudly, James walked around with a puzzled look on his face.

"I got there early enough to help Boges. I didn't foul him — this time," Turkoglu said, smiling.

James won the jump, but the ball was tipped out of bounds as the Magic improved to an NBA-best 5-0 on the road.

According to the Elias Sports Bureau, James is the first player to record that many points, assists and rebounds in a game since Wilt Chamberlain in 1968. However, he would have gladly traded the rare triple-double for a win.

"I went into the lane and I got grabbed," James said. "He had some of the ball, but he had part of my arm as well. Once I feel a little bit contact, I am trying to go up and get the shot off and hopefully they will call a foul. It didn't go our way."

Magic coach Stan Van Gundy was adamant that Turkoglu didn't foul James.

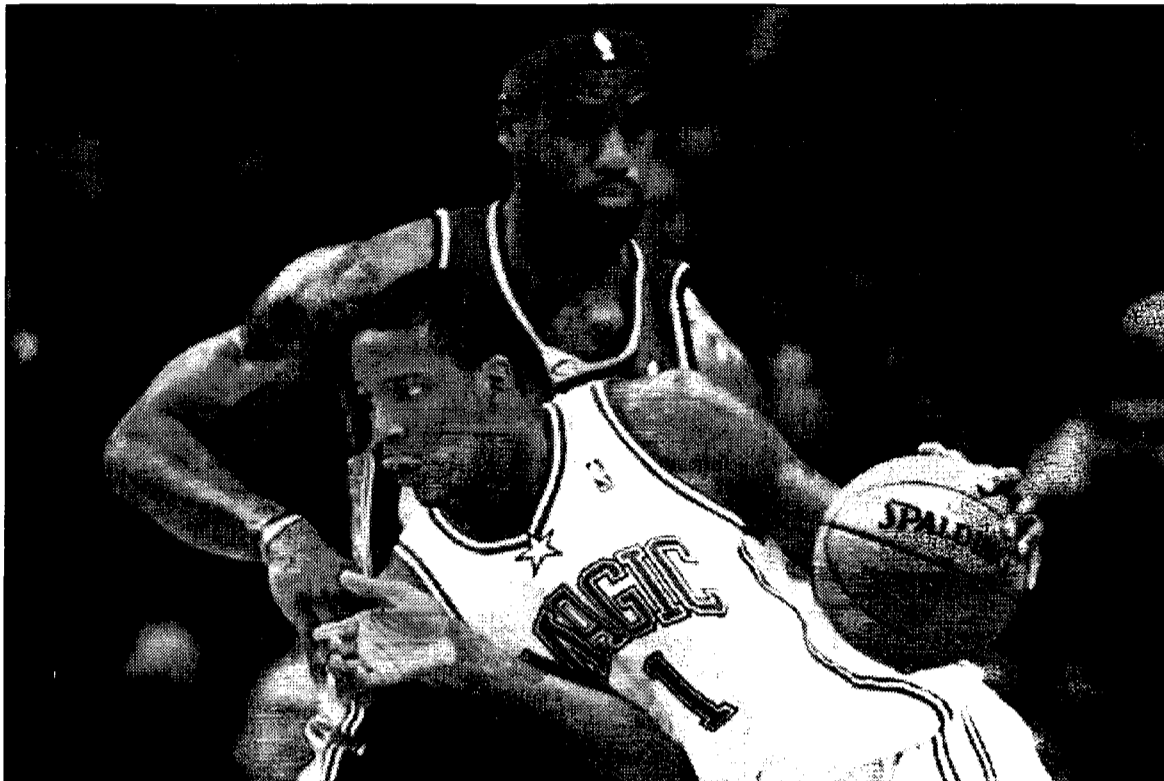
"That's a jump ball," he said. "I didn't see anything but Turk grab the ball. Turk got right there and got on the ball."

Wizards 103, Pacers 90

Coming off knee surgery, Gilbert Arenas is learning how to balance getting rest with avoiding rust.

He certainly had things figured out Wednesday night.

Arenas showed more spring in his step and more accuracy with his shot, finishing with 30 points, 11 assists and six rebounds to lead the



Magic guard Trevor Ariza tries to dribble around Cavaliers guard LeBron James during their game Wednesday. James had a triple-double, but Orlando won 117-116 in overtime.

Washington Wizards to a victory over the Indiana Pacers.

The All-Star guard has been taking it easy on days off and before games. But he decided he needed to get a feel for the basketball, so he went to the gym to shoot Tuesday night, then hoisted up 100 3-pointers before tipoff Wednesday.

"I was coming to games cold turkey, wasn't even getting the ball up, just banking off my natural ability, and I was struggling," Arenas said. "My handle wasn't as crisp."

Wait a second. So you haven't been warming up before games this season? What have you been doing?

"Chillin'. Resting. Resting the knee," Arenas said. "They told me to stay off the knee, so I stayed off of it."

Caron Butler scored 25 points, and Brendan Haywood had 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Wizards, while reserve Marquis Daniels led the Pacers with 19 points. The teams are heading in opposite directions, with the Wizards going 2-0 after an 0-5 start, and the Pacers going 0-5 after a 3-0 start.

"We've got to make some adjustments," said Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal, who had 17 points and nine rebounds. "We're a little concerned right now, but we don't feel like the year is over."

Arenas entered Wednesday shooting only 35.6 percent. But

he was at 50 percent against Indiana, going 9-for-18.

He also directed things well, getting his teammates involved in the flow of the offense. That, of course, is what thrilled coach Eddie Jordan.

"He's grown," Jordan said. "He's matured."

Hawks 117, Bobcats 109

The Atlanta Hawks have to wait to learn if their victory over the Charlotte Bobcats was a costly one.

Joe Johnson scored a season-high 34 points, Josh Childress added 23, also a season best, and the Hawks never trailed in beating the Bobcats on Wednesday night.

The Hawks, however, lost two starters with injuries.

"We have to evaluate them overnight and see where we are. We have to mix and match right now until we see what our injuries are. I won't know that until tomorrow," Atlanta coach Mike Woodson said.

Josh Smith, who had 15 points and five blocks, strained his left quad early in the third quarter and did not return. The Hawks also lost rookie point guard Acie Law with a left ankle sprain with 6:47 left in the third period. He had two points and six assists. Both did not return.

"We'll have an MRI tomorrow morning. I don't think it's really that bad," said Smith. "I don't take that long to heal."

Law was still hurting after the game.

"It's kind of sore right now, but I think it's only a bad sprain. I don't think it's broken. I'll come in for treatment tomorrow and we'll see."

The Hawks (3-4) are at home to Seattle on Friday night, then play Saturday at Milwaukee and return home for a game against San Antonio on Tuesday night.

Gerald Wallace and Jason Richardson led the Bobcats with 27 points apiece.

"We came out flat tonight," Richardson said. "They had the game won by the end of the first quarter. Joe Johnson is tough to deal with. There are a handful of guys in the league that are tough to deal with and Joe is definitely one of them."

The Hawks twice led by 18 points in the first half and were up 63-48 at the break behind Johnson's 20 points. Atlanta shot 24-for-35 in the first 24 minutes (68.6 percent). Wallace had 12 points for Charlotte and Richardson added 10.

Atlanta took the lead for good at 6-4. Charlotte never got closer than six points in the second half, trailing 69-63 on a basket by Richardson with 5:20 left in the third period.

"I wanted to come out and attack the basket early and get myself in a rhythm. We all did that, attacked the basket and didn't look for jump shots. That was the key," Johnson said.



Pacers forward Danny Granger is unable to shoot over Wizards guard Roger Mason during Washington's 103-90 win over Indiana on Wednesday.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 2 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

WANTED

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If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape.shtml>

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Manilow, are they going to allow you to box with your sweater vest on?

the kaffty beaver is looking for some quality wood

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, November 15, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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NCAA Football AP Top 25

	team	record	previous
1	LSU	9-1	2
2	Oregon	8-1	3
3	Oklahoma	9-1	4
4	Kansas	10-0	5
5	West Virginia	8-1	6
6	Missouri	9-1	7
7	Ohio State	10-1	1
8	Georgia	8-2	10
9	Arizona State	9-1	9
10	Virginia Tech	8-2	11
11	USC	8-2	12
12	Texas	9-2	15
13	Hawaii	9-0	14
14	Florida	7-3	17
15	Clemson	8-2	20
16	Virginia	9-2	23
17	Boise State	9-1	19
18	Boston College	8-2	8
19	Tennessee	7-3	22
20	Illinois	8-3	30
21	Cincinnati	8-2	27
22	Kentucky	7-3	24
23	Michigan	8-3	13
24	Wisconsin	8-3	32
25	Connecticut	8-2	16

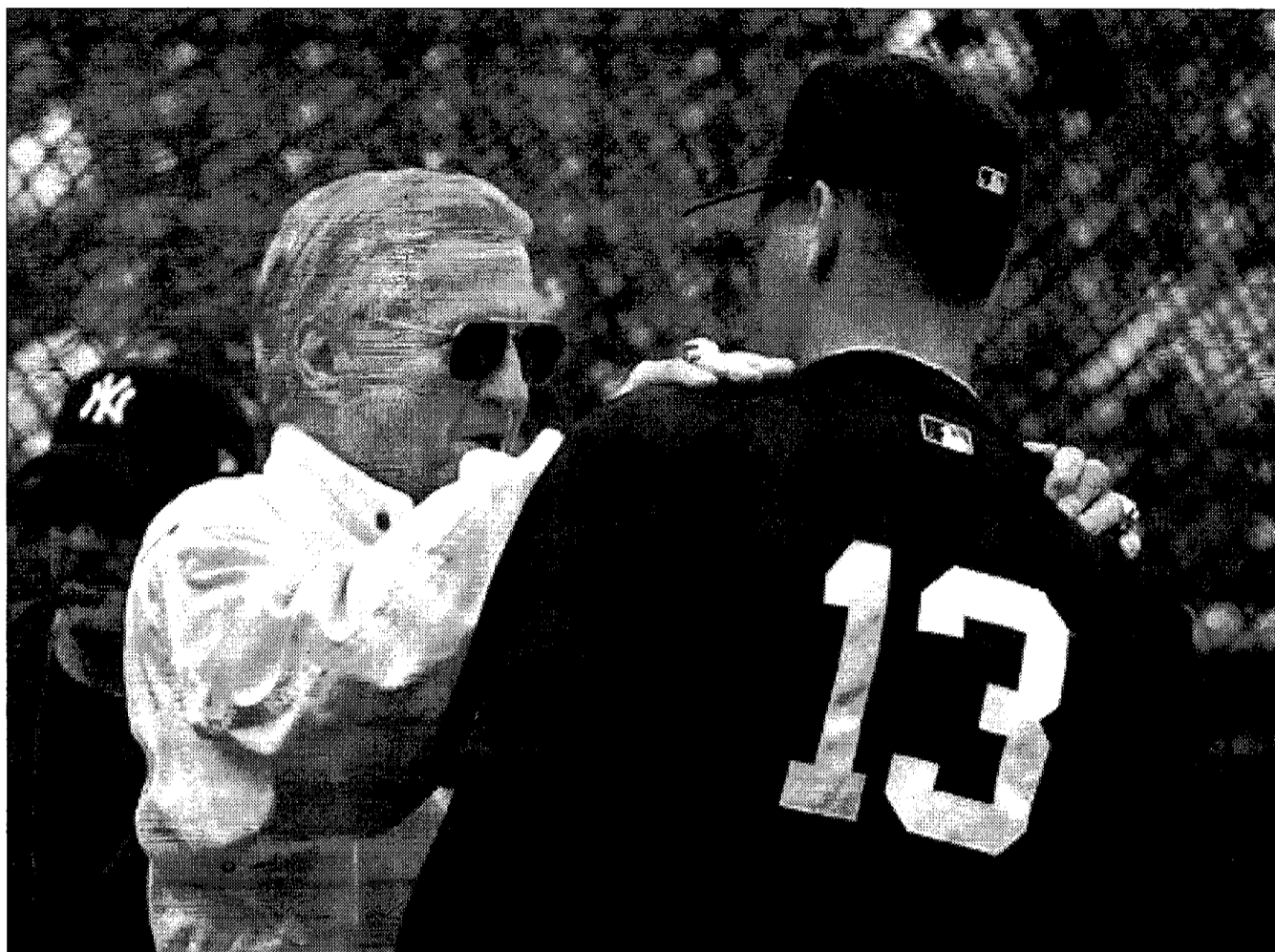
NCAA Football USA Today/Coaches' Poll

	team	record	previous
1	LSU	9-1	2
2	Oregon	8-1	3
3	Oklahoma	9-1	4
4	Kansas	10-0	5
5	West Virginia	8-1	6
6	Missouri	9-1	7
7	Ohio State	10-1	1
8	Arizona State	9-1	9
9	Georgia	8-2	10
10	Virginia Tech	8-2	11
11	Texas	9-2	14
12	Hawaii	9-0	12
13	USC	8-2	15
14	Florida	7-3	18
15	Boise State	9-1	19
16	Clemson	8-2	20
17	Virginia	9-2	21
18	Boston College	8-2	8
19	Tennessee	7-3	24
20	Kentucky	7-3	22
21	Illinois	8-3	29
22	Penn State	8-3	25
23	Michigan	8-3	13
24	Wisconsin	8-3	26
25	Cincinnati	8-2	28

NCAA Football BCS Rankings

	team	record	BCS avg.
1	LSU	9-1	.980
2	Oregon	8-1	.938
3	Kansas	10-0	.909
4	Oklahoma	9-1	.854
5	Missouri	9-1	.810
6	West Virginia	8-1	.786
7	Ohio State	10-1	.774
8	Arizona State	9-1	.750
9	Georgia	8-2	.672
10	Virginia Tech	8-2	.613
11	USC	8-2	.527
12	Florida	7-3	.505
13	Texas	9-2	.466
14	Virginia	9-2	.407
15	Clemson	8-2	.392
16	Hawaii	9-0	.386
17	Boston College	8-2	.363
18	Boise State	9-1	.262
19	Illinois	8-3	.245
20	Tennessee	7-3	.239
21	Michigan	8-3	.187
22	Cincinnati	8-2	.184
23	Kentucky	7-3	.174
24	Connecticut	8-2	.148
25	Wisconsin	8-3	.120

MLB



Yankees owner George Steinbrenner puts his hands on the shoulders of third baseman Alex Rodriguez during batting practice on Feb. 26, 2005, in Tampa, Fla. Rodriguez spoke to Yankees officials on Wednesday about staying with the team.

Alex Rodriguez tells Yankees he wants to stay

Associated Press

erly or whatever. "But the bottom line, the only thing that really matters, is he wants to stay a Yankee. And it could be very well that he's always wanted to stay a Yankee and we just didn't know it."

Rodriguez, likely to win his third AL MVP award next week, had not made any public statements since the Yankees lost to Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs. After consulting with his wife and family, Rodriguez reached out to Hank and his brother, Hal, through a third party.

"The past is the past. I don't know what brought about him approaching us," Yankees senior vice president Hank Steinbrenner said in a telephone interview. "I guess you could say things didn't go the way before that he intended on and weren't handled prop-

erly or whatever.

erly or whatever. "But the bottom line, the only thing that really matters, is he wants to stay a Yankee. And it could be very well that he's always wanted to stay a Yankee and we just didn't know it."

Rodriguez, likely to win his third AL MVP award next week, had not made any public statements since the Yankees lost to Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs. After consulting with his wife and family, Rodriguez reached out to Hank and his brother, Hal, through a third party.

"It became clear to me that I needed to make an attempt to engage the Yankees regarding my

future with the organization," Rodriguez said in a statement. "Prior to entering into serious negotiations with other clubs, I wanted the opportunity to share my thoughts directly with Yankees' ownership. We know there are other opportunities for us, but Cynthia and I have a foundation with the club that has brought us comfort, stability and happiness."

When first contacted, the Yankees wondered whether the message was serious. Before Rodriguez terminated his record \$252 million, 10-year contract on Oct. 28 — forfeiting \$72 million over the final three seasons — Boras told the Yankees they would have to make a

\$350 million offer just to get a meeting with the third baseman.

New York was notified of A-Rod's decision to opt out during Game 4 of the World Series, and the timing angered commissioner Bud Selig and his staff.

Hank Steinbrenner and general manager Brian Cashman said talks were over because the Yankees lost the \$21.3 million subsidy the Texas Rangers agreed to at the time of the 2004 trade that sent A-Rod to New York.

But after A-Rod hit the open market, the Los Angeles Angels were the only team that expressed a public desire to explore signing him.

IN BRIEF

Wedge and Melvin win Manager of the Year honors

CLEVELAND — Bob Melvin and Eric Wedge barely made a ripple as players. Backup catchers, they both batted a pedestrian .233 in the big leagues.

All that time spent pondering on the bench paid off. Far more successful in the dugout than on the field, they were honored Wednesday as managers of the year.

Wedge became the first Cleveland manager to win the AL award, chosen by a wide margin after the Indians and Boston tied for the best record in baseball. Melvin was the first Arizona manager to get the NL prize, picked after leading his young team to the top mark in the league.

Wedge and Melvin are among nearly a dozen former catchers who manage in the majors.

"There's been quite the trend," Wedge said on a conference call. "The catcher has to be aware and knowledgeable of every aspect."

Freeney's season over, placed on injured reserve

INDIANAPOLIS — Dwight Freeney's season is over, and now Simeon Rice has a chance to start anew in Indianapolis.

Freeney, the three-time Pro Bowl defensive end and highest-paid defender in the league, was placed on injured reserve Wednesday by the Colts. He's scheduled to undergo surgery later this week or early next week on his injured left foot.

The blow is potentially devastating to Indianapolis, which has already been depleted by injuries. Seven starters missed Sunday's game in San Diego, and Indianapolis lost four more starters, including Freeney, during the game.

"Dwight is a player you cannot replace," former Pro Bowl safety Bob Sanders said. "But we'll continue to move on, continue to get better. We'll put new guys in and continue to roll. That's what Dwight would want us to do."

O.J., two co-defendants ordered to stand trial

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson must face trial on kidnapping, armed robbery and other charges stemming from a suspected sports memorabilia heist, a justice of the peace ruled Wednesday.

Justice of the Peace Joe M. Bonaventure ruled after a preliminary hearing on the charges and arguments against the case by attorneys for Simpson and co-defendants Clarence "C.J." Stewart and Charles "Charlie" Ehrlich.

No charges in the 12-count complaint against the three men were dropped. Kidnapping convictions could result in a life sentence with possibility of parole. Armed robbery convictions would require some time in prison.

The case stemmed from a Sept. 13 confrontation in a casino hotel room where Simpson and a group of men are accused of stealing items from two sports memorabilia dealers.

around the dial

NBA

Spurs at Mavericks
8 p.m., TNT

MLB

Red Sox, Athletics to open season in Japan

Despite chance to pitch in homeland, Matsuzaka may miss trip due to timing of pregnant wife's due date

Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox will open the 2008 season in Tokyo, and the World Series champions could be leaving Japan's biggest baseball star behind.

Pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka might miss Boston's March 25-26 series against the Oakland Athletics at the Tokyo Dome because his wife is expecting to deliver their second baby around that time. Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said the team and the commissioner's office were aware of the potential conflict.

"We're hopeful that their second child will be born at such a time to allow him to participate," Lucchino said Wednesday in a conference call. "We are hopeful, but we do recognize that he has an important obligation with respect to the birth of that child."

Matsuzaka's first child was born in Japan. It's not clear whether the Matsuzakas plan to deliver in Japan or the United States this time.

The Red Sox paid a record \$51.11 million for the rights to talk to Matsuzaka last offseason and another \$52 million to sign him for six years. He went 15-12 with a 4.40 ERA as a rookie, and after stumbling in his first two playoff starts he won his last two to help the Red Sox win their second World Series in four seasons.

Even if he can't pitch in his homeland, the Red Sox won't be visiting empty-handed. Lefty Hideki Okajima, who was a key part of the Boston bullpen in the regular and postseason, could return to the stadium where he spent most of his 12-year Japanese big league career.

The Japan trip had been in the planning for months as baseball officials tried to make the trip more comfortable for the players and gain their consent. Lucchino said the team would fly on a "bigger, better" plane, and stop in California on the way back for three exhibition games against the Dodgers and their U.S. opener at the A's on April 1.

Pitcher Curt Schilling said on a Boston radio stadium the players met last week and discussed their concerns.

"They're trying to build in safeguards around it, and if they can do that, from a travel standpoint, it's a great idea," he said. "I'm not going to pitch over there, so I'm going to have fun. But this is definitely going to present a challenge and the one thing I know is this organization will do everything it can to make sure we're rested and ready to go when it kicks off for real."

To ease the discomfort, there will be days off after crossing the Pacific and before the games in Oakland. Also, the Red Sox and A's will be allowed to leave three players, probably pitchers, behind and add three others to their roster for the Japanese portion of the trip.

"As much as MLB wanted us to go, and thought it was important that we go, we were concerned with what impact it would have on our players and the competitiveness of the schedule next year," Lucchino said. "Only

recently when the details were made concrete could we consider it."

Here's how the schedule works out:

—The Red Sox and A's will play exhibition games on March 22-23 against Japanese teams.

—Boston and Oakland will open the 2008 season with games on March 25-26; Oakland will be the home team. The Red Sox will leave after the second game and, because they cross the international date line, arrive in Los Angeles the same day.

—Boston will take March 27 off and then play a three-game exhibition series against the Dodgers, with two games at Dodgers

Stadium and one planned for the Los Angeles Coliseum, where the Dodgers played for four seasons after moving West from Brooklyn 50 years ago.

—The Red Sox and A's will resume their regular-season schedule with a two-game series at Oakland April 1-2.

The Japan visit is one of two Asian trips Major League Baseball hopes to make next year. Talks have been under way for months to have the Dodgers and San Diego Padres play exhibition games in Beijing, most likely on March 14-15, at the ballpark to be used for the 2008 Olympics.

That would be Major League Baseball's first trip to China.

Boston and Oakland will be the third set of teams to open the regular season at the Tokyo Dome, following the New York Mets and Chicago Cubs (2000), and the New York Yankees and

Tampa Bay Devil Rays (2004). A scheduled 2003 series between Oakland and Seattle at the Tokyo Dome was canceled because of the threat of war in Iraq.

"Opening our regular season in Japan for the third time is another example of Major League Baseball's commitment to continue the global growth of the game," commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement.

Also Wednesday, the Red Sox announced their 2008 schedule and ticket prices, which rose about 9 percent. Field box seats will cost \$125, up from \$105, while upper bleachers and

standing room remain at \$12 and \$20, respectively.

"We need revenue to fuel the vision that we have, and the vision is for a competitive, entertaining, winning team, year-in and year-out," Lucchino said. "Revenue is the gasoline that makes the car go in those directions."

Lucchino also raised the specter of the New York Yankees, who will move into a new stadium in 2009.

"We're also aware that there will be some major changes in our division," he said. "They will have a gigantic increase in revenue."

"We're hopeful that their second child will be born at such a time to allow him to participate."

Larry Lucchino
Red Sox president

"We need revenue to fuel the vision that we have, and the vision is for a competitive, entertaining, winning team, year-in and year-out."

Larry Lucchino
Red Sox president



DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS COURSE OFFERINGS SPRING 2008

CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

CLAS 10200 GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY T. Mazurek (MWF 12:50-1:40)

A survey of the mythologies of ancient Greece and Rome, tracing their transmission and influence down to the present day.

CLAS 30120 THE GREEKS AND THEIR GODS I. Torrance (MWF 3:00-3:50)

An introduction to the varied and unique religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Greeks.

CLAS 30210 ROMAN LAW AND GOVERNANCE T. Mazurek (MWF 9:35-10:25)

An introduction to the nature and influence of Roman law, one of the most celebrated and distinctive elements of ancient Roman culture.

CLAS 30323 SPORT AND SPECTACLE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD J. Banta (T R 3:30-4:45)

An introduction to the centrality of athletics and spectacle in ancient Greece and Rome.

CLAS 30330 THE GREEK AND LATIN ORIGINS OF MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY D. Ladouceur (T R 11:00-12:15)

An introduction to the ancient Greek and Latin languages that enables students to appreciate the rich vocabulary of modern medicine.

CLAS 40355 GREEK AND ROMAN EPIC POETRY C. Schlegel (T R 9:30-10:45)

A detailed study of the major epic poems of the classical literary tradition—the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* of Homer, the *Aeneid* of Virgil, and the *Metamorphoses* of Ovid.

LATIN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

CLLA 10001 AND 10002 BEGINNING LATIN I AND II (4 credit hours) Instructor and times vary with section.

An introduction to the fundamentals of Latin grammar and vocabulary, preparing students to read original Latin texts.

CLLA 20003 INTERMEDIATE LATIN Instructor and times vary with section.

A review of grammar with careful reading of classical Latin authors such as Cicero, Catullus and Ovid.

CLLA 20004 READING AND WRITING LATIN PROSE D. Ladouceur (TR 12:30-1:45)

An introduction to stylistic analysis of classical Latin prose through close readings of Cicero and the younger Pliny and through Latin composition exercises.

ARABIC AND MEDITERRANEAN MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

MEAR 10002 FIRST YEAR ARABIC II Instructor and times vary with section.

A basic introduction to all aspects of the Arabic language through a comprehensive and integrated method focusing on language proficiency in all areas of the language including speaking, reading and writing.

MELC 20080 WOMEN IN ISLAMIC SOCIETIES A. Afsaruddin (T R 12:30-1:45)

A broad survey of women's and gender issues in various Islamic societies, with a focus on the Arab Middle East.

MELC 30040 CHRISTIANITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST J. Amar (T R 3:30-4:45)

An introduction to the largely untold story of Christianity that expresses itself in the native Aramaic language and culture of the Semitic East.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Recent wins resurrect Georgia's SEC title hopes

Four straight victories have Bulldogs back in hunt for conference crown, but Georgia still needs Tennessee to lose again

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — A little over a month ago, Georgia coach Mark Richt stopped talking about the Southeastern Conference race. He figured there wasn't any point after the Bulldogs were blown out by Tennessee.

These days, the Bulldogs can't help but think about their title hopes.

No. 8 Georgia (8-2, 5-2 SEC) has won four straight, including huge victories over Florida and Auburn, and goes into its final conference game leading the SEC East.

"Oh yeah, that's on all our minds," freshman linebacker Rennie Curran said. "I know for a fact that all the guys want that ring. We all have in the back of our minds the possibility of going to the SEC championship game. That's why we're working extra hard."

Georgia also needs some outside help.

While Tennessee (7-3, 4-2) is a half-game behind the Bulldogs, the Volunteers will win the East with victories in their final two games against Vanderbilt and Kentucky.

That's because the Vols hold the tiebreaker edge over Georgia with their 35-14 victory on Oct. 6, the very game

that seemed to deliver a knockout blow to the Bulldogs' hopes.

"Right now, we're just worried about winning out," safety CJ Byrd said. "We can't control what Tennessee does, how they play this game or that game. We've just got to try to win the rest of our games and hopefully it will all play out."

The Bulldogs hardly have a gimme in their SEC finale Saturday. They host No. 22 Kentucky (7-3, 3-3), which beat Georgia a year ago, is the only team to knock off top-ranked LSU this season and hasn't given up on forcing its way into the East mix.

Facing such a dangerous team, the Bulldogs know they can't get distracted time watching the scoreboard for updates from the Tennessee-Vanderbilt game.

"We've got to take care of our business," safety Kelin Johnson said. "We all know the SEC is unpredictable right now. There's a lot of ball left. A lot of teams are still in it. We've just got to keep working hard. All we can do is take care of ourselves."

Indeed, four teams — Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Florida (7-3, 5-3) — are within one loss of each other in the SEC East. Only South Carolina and Vanderbilt have

been eliminated.

By contrast, the Western Division race is over. LSU will be in Atlanta on Dec. 1 to face whoever emerges from the down-to-the-wire race in the East.

"We've got to beat Kentucky for anything to matter," Georgia quarterback Matthew Stafford said. "That is what's on our minds. I don't know even know when Tennessee plays. Who are they playing this week? I don't even know."

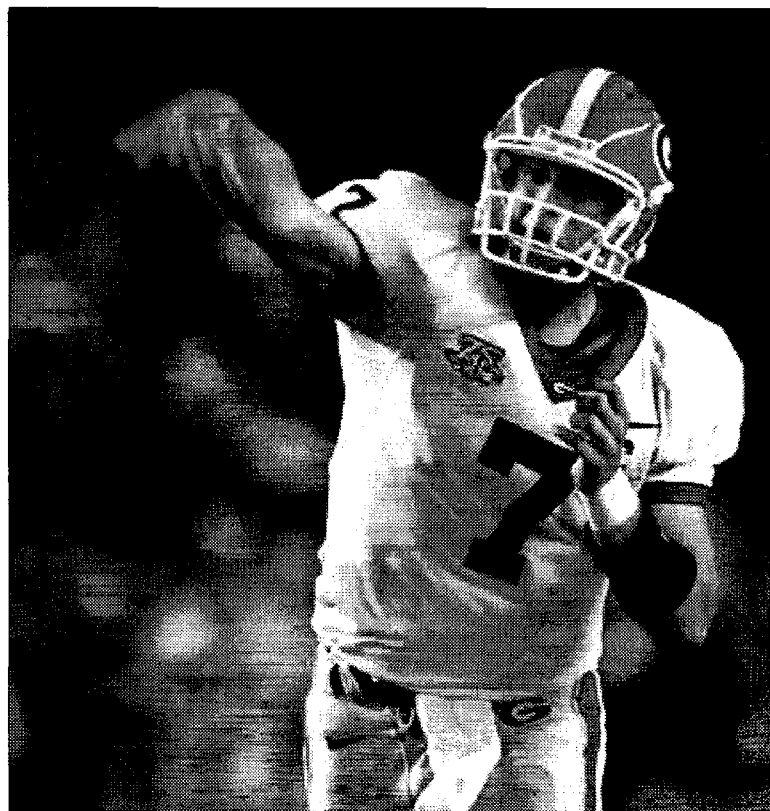
Told it was Vanderbilt, Stafford didn't miss a beat.

"We've just got to concentrate on us more than anything else," he said.

Still, the Bulldogs have reason to be proud of themselves for turning things around. They failed to score a touchdown in a home loss to South Carolina early in the season, and put up very little fight when Tennessee raced out to a big first-half lead in Knoxville.

After that, Richt challenged his players to show more emotion. They took him up on it against Florida, the entire team storming the end zone after the first touchdown in a 42-30 victory.

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs wore black jerseys for the first time in the modern era against Auburn, giving them



Bulldogs quarterback Matthew Stafford throws a pass during Georgia's 45-20 win over Auburn on Nov. 10.

an emotional lift that paid off with a 45-20 triumph.

"After Tennessee, a lot of guys thought we were down and out of the picture," Stafford said. "But we fought back and had some big wins."

If Georgia can win one more — and Tennessee loses one along the way — the Bulldogs will play for an SEC championship they wouldn't even talk about a little over a month ago.

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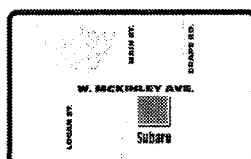
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NHL

Hull to return in star role for Dallas

Associated Press

DALLAS — Eight years after Brett Hull won the Stanley Cup for the Dallas Stars, his job is to find the players who can bring them another one.

As the Stars' new interim co-general manager, count on the always-opinionated Hull being blunt about what the team needs.

"You just can't snap your fingers and go, 'Let's be the Russians,'" Hull said Wednesday. "We're going to get together and figure out the best way to make that happen."

Stars owner Tom Hicks fired Doug Armstrong on Tuesday and replaced him with Hull, added to the Dallas front office last year, and Les Jackson. The change came after the Stars' 7-7-3 start that followed three straight first-round playoff exits.

The shake-up continued Wednesday with Stars president Jim Lites being replaced by Jeff Cogen, who was plucked from the front office of Hicks' baseball franchise, the Texas Rangers. Cogen had the same role with the Rangers.

Jackson was the Stars' assistant GM.

With Dallas embarking on such an internal overhaul, one of Hull's first gestures as GM was to throw his support behind sixth-year Stars coach Dave Tippett, whose contract expires after the season.

"We believe wholeheartedly that he can lead this team to where we want to go," said Hull, who left the Stars for Detroit and won another Stanley Cup in 2001-02 before Tippett took over the next season.

The retired NHL great, whose 741 goals rank third on the career list, is a sentimental choice for Stars fans who remember Hull knocking in the Stanley Cup-winning goal in triple overtime against Buffalo in Game 6 of the 1999 finals.

But the Stars' recent playoff fortunes have been less rosy. Dallas hasn't won multiple series in the same postseason since

2000, when it lost to New Jersey in the finals. The Stars have reached the second round just twice since then, the last time in 2003.

Hicks, when asked how far he thought Dallas was from returning to its glory days, said "about three more rounds of the playoffs."

Hicks said although he couldn't hire a "world-class general manager in the middle of the season," he believes Hull can make the moves necessary to help the Stars get younger and faster.

"Hockey in the old days was easy," said Hicks, who signed Hull as a free agent the summer before the Stars won the Stanley Cup. "You just went out and spent money. Go get Brett. You can't do that anymore."

Goalie Marty Turco, a teammate during Hull's last two seasons in Dallas, is among the Stars players satisfied with the new boss.

"He was a guy you looked up to, a potential Hall of Famer," Turco said. "His knowledge and intelligence speak for themselves in my mind. He led by example. He played on a lot of good teams. He's used to the pressure."

Of course, Hull was known as much for shooting his mouth off as he was for scoring during his playing career. In St. Louis, his 11 years with the Blues were marked by a long public rift with the front office. His outspoken nature helped land him a studio analyst job with NBC last season.

If Hull doesn't agree with Tippett's philosophy on the ice, there's no doubt he won't keep it private.

"He'll hear what I think," Hull said. "But it's up to him whether he goes with it or not."

The 43-year-old Hull also was candid about his rise to the top of the Stars organization, saying he didn't expect to be in this position so soon.

"My credentials are good, but that doesn't mean you're just going to step in," he said. "I never thought it was going to be like this."

NBA

Marbury rejoins team after fine

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stephon Marbury rejoined the New York Knicks in Los Angeles on Wednesday, one day after skipping a game at Phoenix.

It's unclear whether the star guard will play against the Clippers.

Earlier Tuesday, the team fined Marbury more than \$180,000 for missing the Suns game, the latest clash between the disgruntled point guard and coach Isiah Thomas.

The Knicks sent Marbury a letter informing him of the fine, according to a person with knowledge of the penalty who spoke to The Associated Press on Wednesday. He requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss it. The Knicks would not confirm the fine.

According to the NBA's collective bargaining agreement, players are docked 1/110th of their salaries for a missed game without a reasonable excuse. With Marbury scheduled to earn \$20.1 million this season, that would be about \$182,800.

Thomas brought Marbury back to his hometown in a trade with the Suns on Jan. 5, 2004, and the two enjoyed a close relationship while Thomas was solely the team president. But things changed when he took on the job of coach as well before last sea-

son.

They clashed early last year after Thomas benched him in the second halves of two games, though they patched things up and Marbury played well the second half of the season.

But any problems on the court were minor compared to Marbury's strange summer.

He behaved erratically during a televised interview, then testified in a sexual harassment trial against Thomas

and Madison Square Garden that he had a sexual encounter in his truck with a team intern. Marbury was smiling and singing on his way out of the courthouse.

Marbury also was forced to apologize after defending Michael Vick's participation in dogfighting.

The Knicks hoped their summer of woes would be forgotten once the season started, but instead they've blown up on their first road trip.

Marbury played poorly down the stretch in New York's 75-72 home loss to Miami on Sunday, and the Daily News reported Tuesday the Knicks were trying to reduce Marbury's role or get rid of him entirely.

That created tensions between Marbury and Thomas — Westchester County neighbors who share the same agent. The two reportedly even fought on the

plane to Phoenix, which the Knicks denied.

"There is no truth to that whatsoever," said Knicks spokesman Jonathan Supranowitz, who was on the flight.

Marbury then left the team in Phoenix, telling the New York Post on Tuesday he had permission from Thomas. Thomas would not confirm that, but did say the team would welcome back Marbury.

Thomas refused to discuss any potential penalties against Marbury before the game Tuesday, saying the matter would be kept "in-house."

Several of Marbury's teammates said his departure took them by surprise, but they expressed no hard feelings.

"You always support your teammates," forward Jared Jeffries said Tuesday night. "A lot of people on the outside don't understand what guys go through with their family, their friends, with this team, with anything. Whenever somebody goes through a tough time you support your teammate."

Messages left for the agent, Jordan Bazant, were not immediately returned.

Marbury is still one of the Knicks' best players, averaging 15.2 points and 6.8 assists. He is under contract with the Knicks through next season, scheduled to earn about \$42 million. That makes him difficult to trade, especially since he has created problems off the court and never won a playoff series on it.

"You always support your teammates."

Jared Jeffries
Knicks forward

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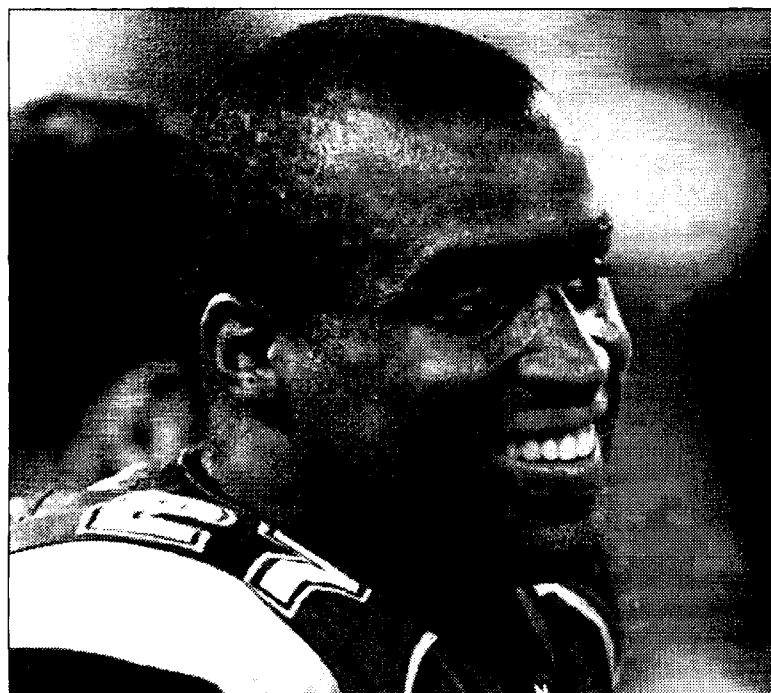
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NFL

Williams back in Miami after 18 months away

Dolphins welcome back 2002 leading rusher



Argonauts running back Ricky Williams stands on the sideline during Toronto's pre-season game against Hamilton June 2, 2006.

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — Ricky Williams' suspension ended after more than 18 months when he was reinstated Wednesday by the NFL, and the winless Miami Dolphins might welcome him back.

The 2002 league rushing champion was scheduled to fly to South Florida for a physical Thursday and meet with coach Cam Cameron, said Williams' agent, Leigh Steinberg.

The first-year Miami coach, whose team is 0-9, said he talked with Williams by phone for "five or six minutes" Wednesday, but hadn't made a decision about activating him.

"I want to see where he is, and also let him know where we're headed, and we'll go from there," Cameron said.

Cameron has been mum for months regarding whether he would want Williams back. But Steinberg said he was encouraged by a phone conversation Wednesday with Matt Thomas, Dolphins general counsel-football administration.

"His indication was they were interested in Ricky," Steinberg said. "The spirit of the discussion was welcoming. It was a very similar discussion to what you would have regarding a draft choice or any returning player. The only contingent was whether they would have him practice Friday or Monday."

The return of Williams would be only part of backfield shake-up. Rookie quarterback John Beck was promoted to the first team Wednesday and will make his NFL debut Sunday at Philadelphia.

The 30-year-old Williams, who has played in only 12 games since the start of the 2004 season, was suspended in April 2006 after violating the league drug policy for the fourth time. His return was delayed when he tested positive again for marijuana last spring.

He played in the Canadian Football League last season and applied for reinstatement Oct. 1.

Williams is eligible to attend team meetings and practice immediately, but the earliest he

would be allowed to play in a game would be against Pittsburgh on Monday night, Nov. 26. The team will have a roster exemption for up to two weeks if and when he starts practicing.

"Ricky worked extremely hard to meet the requirements for reinstatement," said his attorney, David Cornwell. "He is grateful for commissioner Goodell's decision. Ricky is committed to making the most of the opportunity to rejoin the NFL."

Williams rushed for 3,225 yards in the 2002-03 seasons after being traded to the Dolphins from New Orleans. He retired in 2004, traveling in India and Australia before returning to the Dolphins in 2005, when he ran for 743 yards alternating with rookie Ronnie Brown.

Brown is on injured reserve, leaving the woeful Dolphins short on running backs.

As part of the NFL drug program, Williams underwent therapy for the past 57 months in Boston and benefited from the treatment, Steinberg said.

"This is the program working exactly as it should — treating a player for an underlying life problem in a positive and sophisticated way, and returning him to health," Steinberg said.

Steinberg said Williams has been working out and weighs a fit 230 pounds.

"The Dolphins, or whatever team, is getting a highly motivated player with a new lease on life," Steinberg said.

Perhaps the Dolphins can be persuaded. In May, when discussing Williams' most recent relapse, Cameron said it's difficult to salvage the careers of troubled players.

"The easiest predictor of future behavior is previous behavior," the coach said.

That comment, however, was made nine losses ago.

Coincidentally, Miami general manager Randy Mueller traded Williams to Miami when both were with the Saints. Since that deal, the Dolphins have endured a playoff drought now in its sixth season, the longest in franchise history.

NFL

Croyle keeps composure

Kansas City's rookie QB looking forward to first career start

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — It's hard to believe Brodie Croyle is not nervous.

Not only is Kansas City's second-year quarterback about to make his first NFL start, he's doing it on the road, in a roaring RCA Dome. And he's facing the defending champion Indianapolis Colts, who will be smarting from a second straight loss.

Besides that, he will be competing against one of the game's great quarterbacks. Peyton Manning may be angry after throwing six interceptions Sunday night at San Diego.

And if all that is not enough, the soft-spoken Alabama native will be directing an offense that has struggled all season and is ranked 30th in a 32-team league.

"It's a tough position for him to be in," tight end Tony Gonzalez said with a slight grin. "But he raised his hand to play quarterback."

Daunting or not, Croyle is keeping that hand high in the air.

"What better stage can you go into?" he said Wednesday after his first full practice as the starter.

"Going in there and playing one of the best quarterbacks that's ever played, playing a great defense — defending Super Bowl champs. You just go in there and play. I'm anxious. I'm ready to get in there. It's something I've been working for since I was a young kid. It's finally here."

Chiefs coaches and front office executives are also saying, "It's finally here."

They drafted the strong-armed Croyle out of Alabama two years ago hoping to find someone for new coach Herm Edwards to build an offense around.

After Trent Green got traded to Miami, everyone figured Croyle would win the job in training camp.

But, turnover-prone, he played himself right back onto the bench and veteran Damon Huard was handed the job. But Huard never found any rhythm behind an aging and ineffective offensive line that seemed to highlight his own shortcomings.

Finally, Croyle was sent into action in the third quarter against Denver on Sunday when Huard was knocked woozy after committing his third turnover.

Now it's time for the young quarterback his teammates call a "gunslinger" because of his strong arm to take control.

"I'm just going to go in there, try to play well and win some games. When we do that, leadership kind of comes."

Brodie Croyle
Chiefs quarterback

Surrounded by a veteran offensive line, a three-time Pro Bowler at running back and an eight-time Pro Bowler at tight end, he's not likely to start barking out orders.

"For a guy who's never started a game, for him to come in and try to give a rah-rah speech ... that would probably not go too far or go too well," Croyle said. "I'm just going to go in there, try to play well and win some games. When we do that, leadership kind of comes."

He does acknowledge having a few butterflies.

"I'm anxious," he said. "I'm ready to get in there."

Edwards agrees it's not the time or place he would have chosen to break in a young quarterback.

"That's football," Edwards said. "He's going to find out a lot about himself. You want to play quarterback? OK, play quarterback. Would you like a better scenario? Yeah, but it didn't work out that way. He'll get a home game, but right now he's got to go on the road."

"He'll grow from it. Whatever happens to him, he will learn from it."

The Chiefs (4-5) have been giving Croyle almost as many practice snaps with the first team as Huard.

"That'll be a big help for everybody," Gonzalez said. "It's not like we're seeing something that we haven't seen before. Brodie is prepared. He's been prepared since the beginning of the season. I think he's going to respond well."

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NCUA

LPGA

Sorenstam attempts to avoid winless season

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — This might be as true as any measure of Annika Sorenstam's year. At the season-ending ADT Championship, she didn't even get an audience with the Donald.

Donald Trump has been the unofficial host of this event since it came to his Trump International course six years ago. He usually plays the pro-am with the top player on the LPGA Tour, which usually is Sorenstam. But not anymore.

It was not surprising for him to play Wednesday with Lorena Ochoa, the No. 1 player in women's golf whose season has been so dominant that even with a record \$1 million going to the winner, the Mexican star still has the money title locked up.

The real surprise is Sorenstam.

Who could have ever imagined that a player who has averaged nearly eight victories a year since 2001 would arrive at the ADT Championship trying to avoid her first winless season since she was a soft-spoken rookie in 1994?

Or that she only qualified last week for the 32-player event that she has won four times?

"It's not a year that is something you really put on a resume," Sorenstam said.

But there's a good reason for her becoming just another face on the LPGA Tour this year. Sorenstam was diagnosed with back and neck injuries in April after a lackluster start to her season, and she wound up missing nearly two months of competition. Even when she returned at her Ginn Tribute, and for the final three majors, she was hardly at full strength.

And the landscape of the LPGA Tour changed before her eyes.

First came Ochoa, replacing her at No. 1 in the world ranking this spring and stretching her lead to leave no doubt who's the best. Then came Suzann Pettersen, who won her first major among five LPGA titles this year.

Sorenstam is stuck on 69 victories, still third on the career list in LPGA history. For most of this decade, her only rival seemed to be Kathy Whitworth and her record 88 victories, and it most thought it was only a matter of time before Sorenstam caught her.

Rest easy, Kathy.

"It wasn't until those few years when I was really hot and I was winning events that I thought, 'Well, maybe that's even possible.' Now, it's just getting back to the game and even trying to win one event," Sorenstam said. "Right now, I don't really have that in my sights. It's not something that motivates me. I'm focusing on next season and giving it my all."

She still has one last shot.

The ADT Championship presents perhaps the quirkiest format of any tour. The field will be cut

to 16 players after two rounds, and the slate will be wiped clean. Another cut will be made after the third round Saturday to eight players, and again their scores will be erased. Sunday brings an 18-hole shootout, with \$1 million going to the winner.

Sorenstam was never crazy about the winner-take-almost-everything format when it was created, knowing that someone could get hot for one round and beat her out of the money title. No need to worry about that now.

She has played a career-low 12 times because of her injury, and a tie for third last week moved her up to No. 25 on the money list. It was the first time all year she has strung together three straight top 10s, and Sorenstam is starting to get back into a groove.

Sorenstam has said she has only felt competitive in five tournaments she has played this year, and it's tough enough to win on the LPGA Tour even at 100 percent strength.

"I'm going to play the best I can this week, but it's not do-or-die if I don't win," she said. "Like I said, I'm just happy to be here playing. The expectations are a lot more different than they were last year. I've always been one of the favorites coming into this week, but this year is very different. And it's just something I have to accept."

Remember that rivalry she once had with Karrie Webb? In a way, it's been revived. Webb hasn't won this year, either.

Webb, coming off a year in which she won her seventh major, isn't sure what the future holds for Sorenstam, noting that the Swede is starting to get involved with business ventures, from opening a teaching academy to creating a brand to launching a new Web site.

"If Annika puts her mind to wanting to play good golf, she will," Webb said. "I don't doubt that for a second."

It has been a strange year, indeed, although Sorenstam won't call it a complete bust.

Wearing a neck brace, she opened her academy at the Ginn Reunion Resort in Orlando in April. She is designing two golf courses. And she got engaged. Off the course, it's been one of her best years.

The question is whether she can find the drive to hit full speed inside the ropes again. She met with all her sponsors last month and told them that she would step away early next year and concentrate fully on golf, quite a concession from someone who is hands-on in just about everything she does.

"I do feel like I have kind of come to the back nine of my career," Sorenstam said. I've done a lot, and I'm satisfied in a lot of things. I've achieved so much more than I ever thought I could. Yeah, there are times when I have to kick myself a little bit and go out there, but I think the injury has kind of helped me to spark the interest a little bit again."

"It's not a year that is something you really put on a résumé."

Annika Sorenstam
LPGA golfer

"If Annika puts her mind to wanting to play good golf, she will."

Kari Webb
LPGA golfer

NCAA FOOTBALL

Juice is worth the squeeze

Illinois quarterback leads resurgence under Zook's guidance

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — On a Saturday night in mid-September, the 19-year-old face of Ron Zook's plan to rebuild Illinois football was pouting.

The Illini had just beaten Western Illinois 20-0. The shutout was nice against an overmatched opponent, but the offense was sluggish and quarterback Juice Williams was a ho-hum 12-for-24 for 123 yards and no TDs.

"I was pretty down on myself, walking around by myself, alone, being quiet," Williams said this week. "It was kind of selfish on my part."

Two months later, Williams' star has never shone brighter.

Williams turned in the game of his life last Saturday in the Illini's 28-21 stunner over No. 1 Ohio State. He was 12-for-22 for 140 yards and four touchdowns passes and ran for 70 yards on 16 carries. When Illinois was trying to seal its first victory over a top-ranked team since 1956, Williams ran for three key first downs and the Illini kept the ball for the final 8:09.

"I always wanted to get this team turned around," Williams said, "but I didn't expect (it to be so fast)."

He's not alone.

Williams, whose given name is Isiah, came to Illinois in 2006 from Chicago Vocational, the same Southside high school that produced Illini Hall of Famer Dick Butkus.

Williams was Zook's first big-name recruit with Illinois, the first sign the master recruiter might be able to convince talented kids to spend four years at a school that hadn't had a winning season since 2001.

Williams was a rarity: a top-notch Chicago prospect who chose Illinois over Notre Dame or any of several dozen other top football programs around the country.

At 6-2 and 220 pounds, he was compared to Michael Vick — a big, fast, athletic quarterback who could beat teams with his feet or his arm.

No pressure, kid.

Williams played in every game as a freshman, starting most of them.

But he struggled, completing less than 40 percent of his passes and throwing as many interceptions — nine — as touchdowns.

The Illini finished 2-10.

Zook has consistently defended his young quarterback. Before this season started, he pointed out to anyone who would listen that Williams' passing stats were weighed down by a lot of dropped balls.

The high-energy coach also regularly reminded reporters and boosters that Williams was still just a kid.

"People might have forgotten, gosh, he's only a sophomore," Zook said.

Williams is a run-first quarterback. He's Illinois' second-leading rusher, behind tailback Rashard Mendenhall, with 638 yards on 127 carries. Most of the quarterback's yards are the product of the option Illinois frequently runs out of its no-huddle, spread offense.

Williams and Zook say the quarterback has matured and is more likely to wait for a receiver to come open, but Williams is still only 10th rated passer in the Big Ten. He has completed 56 percent of his passes for a modest 1,278 yards — 116 a game — 12 TDs and nine interceptions.

Zook has pulled Williams several times this season, benching him when he struggled in favor of redshirt freshman Eddie McGee.

The strategy worked against Penn State and Wisconsin, with McGee running the ball on key plays that either sealed or led to wins.

The two quarterbacks have said they're good friends and insisted there's no quarterback controversy. Williams has called McGee his relief pitcher.

Williams, however, hasn't been benched the past three weeks, and in each game he's gotten a little better, looked a more comfortable in the pocket, and thrown better passes.

"That's the Juice that we see at practice every day," senior offensive lineman Martin O'Donnell said. "We know that

he has the ability to make those plays."

Williams says he's seeing the game in a way he's never seen it before, focusing on his receivers more than the seven or eight defenders coming at him.

"The game is really starting to slow down for me," he said. "I'm extremely confident right now throwing the football around."

Two weeks ago, in a 44-17 win over last-place Minnesota, Williams had what was to that point the best game of his career. He was 14-of-21 passing for 207 yards and two touchdowns, and ran the ball for another 133 yards and another TD.

Then came Saturday in Columbus.

The four touchdown passes — to four different receivers and none to favorite target Arrelious Benn, who left the game with a concussion — were impressive.

But it was only a warm up for the last drive.

With just under 7 minutes to play, the Illini were up 28-21 and faced a fourth-and-inches at their own 33.

With Illinois lined up to punt, Buckeye coach Jim Tressel called a timeout, giving Williams a chance to lobby Zook for a change of plans. Some teammates say that, under the circumstances, Williams is the only player who could have talked Zook into what was a huge gamble.

"I said, 'Coach, you don't think we can get a half an inch?'" Williams said after the game. "He said, 'If you don't get it, I'll hurt you.'"

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NHL

Jagr keeps Brodeur from 500 wins

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Jaromir Jagr and the three rookies.

It's not a rock band or a children's book. It's the formula the New York Rangers used to deny Martin Brodeur his 500th NHL victory.

Jagr scored a power-play goal in the second period, and the rest of the Rangers' offense against Brodeur in their 4-2 win over the New Jersey Devils on Wednesday night was provided by the young trio of Nigel Dawes, Brandon Dubinsky and defenseman Marc Staal.

"It's a great mix. It reminds me of teams we had here," said former Devils forward Scott Gomez, who had two assists. "They've answered the bell and the challenge and we expect it."

Gomez withstood the boos he heard every time he touched the puck in his first game back in New Jersey since leaving the Devils for the Rangers as a free agent this past summer.

He has a seven-game point streak, which has coincided with the turnaround of New York's season. The Rangers are 2-0 halfway through their four-game road trip and have won seven of eight while allowing just 11 goals.

Dawes got the Rangers even at 1 in the first period, Dubinsky gave them the lead in the second, and Staal pushed the advantage to 4-1 in the third.

"They are the future of our team," Rangers coach Tom Renney said. "They have to contribute. That's why they're here."

Henrik Lundqvist made 22 saves to earn his first road win of the season (1-5-1), and should be back in goal Thursday when the Rangers face first-place Philadelphia. He was sharp following his first day off Saturday after playing the first 16 games.

He got the best of Brodeur.

"It feels good," Lundqvist

said. "It's great for him to reach that, but not tonight. It was our win. We played a really good road game."

Now the Rangers (10-7-1) trail the Flyers by one point in the Atlantic Division.

Brodeur was 9-0-1 with a 1.18 goals-against average in the 10 previous home games against the Rangers, all at the Meadowlands.

"He had so many good games against us," Jagr said. "He loves to play against the Rangers. It's nice to get him back a little bit."

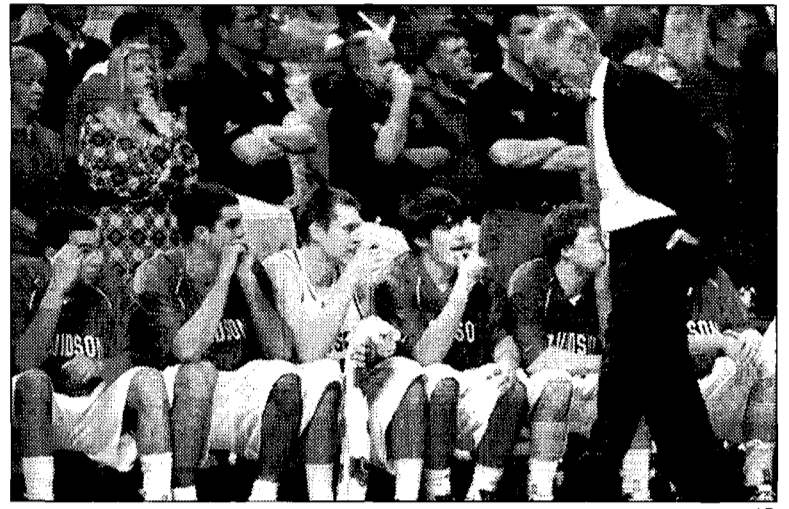
"I respect him so much. It's not easy to stay on top of your game for so many years."

After the teams traded goals in the opening 2 minutes, Dubinsky snapped a 1-1 tie — off an assist from Jagr — with his second goal.

Jagr, who showed fine stick-work throughout, netted his fourth and first on the power play to give the Rangers a 3-1 lead with 33.4 seconds left in the middle period.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Davidson nearly upsets No. 1 UNC



Davidson coach Bob McKillop and his team were less than a minute away from upsetting North Carolina in their season opener.

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Top-ranked North Carolina avoided an early season upset.

Just barely.

Wayne Ellington scored 20 points and made key plays late to help the Tar Heels avoid a major scare and a subpar second half from Tyler Hansbrough to beat Davidson 72-68 on Wednesday night.

Trailing for much of the second half, North Carolina (1-0) closed the game strong. Ellington's free throw with 3:44 left put the Tar Heels ahead to stay. His jumper with just over a minute left made it a three-point game. Ty Lawson then hit three of four free throws in the final 30 seconds to preserve the win.

Hansbrough had 14 points and 14 rebounds, but he was ineffective in the second half and got into foul trouble.

Stephen Curry scored 24 points for Davidson (1-1), which nearly became the latest small school to knock off a major school.

With Mercer beating Southern California and Gardner-Webb stunning Kentucky so far, Davidson was bidding to join the early season surprises. The Wildcats returned all five starters from last season's team that won a school-record 29 games before losing to Maryland in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

They had a tough time stopping Hansbrough early.

Hansbrough, the leading vote getter on The Associated Press' preseason All-America team, dominated the first half with 12 points and 11 rebounds to help North Carolina rally from an

early seven-point deficit to take a 38-31 lead.

But Hansbrough and the Tar Heels went cold to start the second half. Hansbrough also lost his cool to help Davidson's comeback.

Hansbrough was called for a foul on Andrew Lovedale while fighting for position on the perimeter with 17:07 left. The two starting jawing and then Hansbrough gave him a slight shove. Referee Mike Wood immediately called a technical foul on Hansbrough, and Davidson turned it into four consecutive points to take a 39-38 lead.

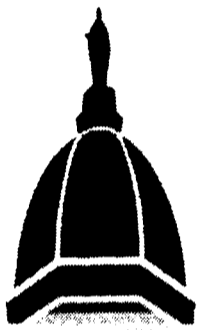
Hansbrough went more than 7 minutes without scoring to start the second half and Davidson built a 50-46 lead on Will Archambault's 3-pointer with just under 10 minutes left.

The Tar Heels, who missed 12 of their first 14 shots to start the second half, started going inside with Ellington getting key hoops with Hansbrough on the bench with four fouls.

Danny Green added 11 points for North Carolina, which overcame 19 turnovers to avoid an embarrassing start to a season that began with national title hopes.

Curry, the son of former NBA 3-point specialist Dell Curry, was only 8-for-22 from the field and 2-for-12 from 3-point range. Jason Richards added 12 points and eight assists, but Davidson hit just 4-of-22 3-point attempts and was out rebounded 40-33.

It was the start of an ambitious schedule for Davidson, which also plays No. 2 UCLA, No. 13 Duke and No. 21 North Carolina State.



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NBA

Sonics top Heat in Wade's first game this year

Seattle picks up first win in nine-game-old season against Miami

Associated Press

MIAMI — Kevin Durant said it felt like Seattle won a world championship. Pat Riley sounded as if his championship feeling couldn't have been farther away.

And the Seattle SuperSonics were more than happy to ruin Dwyane Wade's comeback game.

Chris Wilcox scored 20 points, Damien Wilkins added 19 and the SuperSonics spoiled Wade's return to the Heat lineup by beating Miami 104-95 Wednesday night — Seattle's first win in nine games this season.

Durant, the highly touted rookie, finished with 18 on 6-of-16 shooting for Seattle, which stormed out to a 20-point halftime lead to negate whatever emotional lift Miami got from Wade's comeback from offseason surgeries on his left knee and left shoulder.

"It feels good to get that monkey off our back, but at the same time we are not a satisfied team," said Delonte West, who scored 16 points and hit a clutch 3-pointer late to seal the win. "We are still hungry and at the end of the day, we are still 1-8."

On this night, 1-8 felt supremely better to Seattle than 1-7 does to Miami.

Wade scored 15 points in 25 minutes on 5-for-9 shooting for Miami, which is 0-4 at home for the second time in franchise history.

"I'm excited. I came out of the game healthy and got some things I can look at to build on," Wade said. "But as a team, it hurts to lose another ballgame, especially at home, in front of our fans."

Ricky Davis scored 19 points on just 5-for-18 shooting for Miami. Jason Williams scored 14, Alonzo Mourning added 13 and Shaquille O'Neal finished with 10 for the Heat.

Since winning the 2006 NBA title in Dallas, Miami has gone 45-49 — and Riley has seen enough.

"Unless you feel like you have something at stake or something to lose as a player, then things won't change," Riley said. "If you don't feel like the Heat mean something to you ... you have to have a real meeting with yourself about what you care about. I don't see a team that really feels like they have anything at stake here. They come in, they play, they get beat, they go home, they go out into the night."

The Heat were down by 23 early in the fourth quarter, before an 18-3 run led by Wade made things interesting.

He had assists on Miami's first four baskets of the spurt, then banked in a jumper and added a fifth assist on Williams' 3-pointer that got the Heat within 94-83.

Davis' three-point play cut the lead to eight, but West's 3-pointer — Seattle's 10th of the game — restored the Sonics' double-digit lead and essentially sealed the outcome.

"Our guys competed tonight," Sonics coach P.J. Carlesimo

said. "They came out in the third quarter with energy and after Miami made their great run at the end of the third, we started the fourth with the same way."

By the time Wade entered the game, Seattle had Miami in a hole.

The Sonics led 22-12 with 4:49 left in the opening quarter, when Wade entered amid loud roars from the home crowd. He missed his first jumper, a 20-foot try from the right baseline about 2 1/2 minutes later, but soon looked like the Wade of old.

Wade's first basket was a long jumper and his second was an acrobatic layup, replete with a tumble to the court —

like he did so many times in his first four seasons. He dove for loose balls, didn't seem to shy from contact and showed flashes of the explosiveness that was missing late last season when the knee pained him.

It just wasn't enough.

The Sonics shot 49 percent in the first half, were 7-for-11 from 3-point range in the opening two quarters and outrebounded Miami 30-15 over that stretch to take a commanding 61-41 lead into intermission.

Even after all those eye-catching numbers, one stat stood out: 14-0.

That was Seattle's first-half scoring advantage when O'Neal was on the floor. He played 4 minutes, 23 seconds of the half, going into the break with no points, no shots, no rebounds, three fouls and two turnovers.

Wade's return couldn't come at a better time for the Heat, who entered averaging an NBA-worst 83.3 points. But having Wade, who averaged a career-high 27.4 points

last season, is sure to help.

"It isn't going to be one man that's going to turn this around," Riley said, echoing a line Wade has used in recent days. "He will change the game for us, as he progresses in live action."

Wade had surgery on his left shoulder and left knee May 15, and was told by doctors that the rehabilitation process would last six months. Thursday is the six-month anniversary of those procedures, and Durant was almost wide-eyed after his first matchup with the 2006 finals MVP.

"Even though they say he is not 100 percent, he is amazing," Durant said.

"Even though they say he is not 100 percent, he is amazing."

Kevin Durant
Seattle forward

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Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only peace dude!)

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- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
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OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER. THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

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#10 HUNTER'S CLUB®

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#11 COUNTRY CLUB®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

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Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

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Gray

continued from page 28

So Gray, after undergoing physical therapy to strengthen her inner quad muscles, had to start from scratch — a trying experience, to say the least.

"My first run back, I just did one lap around the lake at Notre Dame," Gray said. "It was probably the worst thing I've ever done because it was so hard and I felt so out of shape. Now I totally understand why people never want to start running, because it was terrible — but once I was able to break through that wall, I got back into shape."

After running in just two races as a sophomore, Gray came back "with no expectations other than to stay healthy," she said.

"Runners are a unique breed," Gray said. "We're kind of crazy as far as mental strategies go. I just want to feel good when I'm running, stay healthy and feel strong. Improving my time every week is definitely something I want to do, but I just want to feel good when I'm running."

And, other than some brief bouts with tendonitis in her feet

and her Achilles, Gray has remained injury-free, much to the credit of her head coach.

"Jackie and I have worked closely to figure out how to keep me healthy," Gray said, noting the more structured training regimens and the added expectations of Bauters, who became head coach before Gray's sophomore year.

"I've gotten to know a lot about what my body can and cannot handle over the past four years. Without [Bauters], I wouldn't have been able to get to this level."

For all Gray has taken from Bauters, she has given it all back to the program — and then some, Bauters said.

"The girls on the team see Megan's success and believe in it. They believe in themselves and their ability to do things that once seemed out of reach," Bauters said.

"Nothing can top giving the gift of confidence to a group of young, talented women. Success is contagious, and they all want to be a part of it, which is a really exciting thing."

A change in attitude around the program was evident, Bauters said, even in her pre-season meetings with the team. She noted freshman Mary

McDonnell, who has made nationals a concrete goal for herself, despite injuries throughout her rookie season.

"[McDonnell] is focused, she is driven, but mostly, she has a great role model," Bauters said.

That role model, without a doubt, is Megan Gray.

"Going into this season, I was hoping to run with [Gray], and I hoped she would push me to new goals and better times," said McDonnell, who has benefited from Gray despite her injuries. "Megan has really helped in the process of recovering from my injury by giving me advice ... and she has been a great friend and role model."

Even though Gray's college cross-country career will end Saturday, her legacy ensures "there's more to come in the future" for Saint Mary's, Bauters said. Gray, meanwhile, has faith that her coach will take her younger teammates to new heights.

"Jackie is amazing, and there's no telling where this program can go from here with her leadership," Gray said. "I may have accomplished some firsts for the Saint Mary's cross country program, but I know I won't be the last or only."

The Division III Cross Country Championships will start at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Olaf's in Northfield, Minn.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

"The girls on the team see Megan's success and believe in it."

Jackie Bauters
Belles coach



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Sophomore forward Justin Morrow carries the ball downfield during Notre Dame's 1-0 win over St. John's Sunday.

Seed

continued from page 28

less of their performance this weekend, but the Irish's tournament seed will depend on the amount of games they win over the next four days.

Case No. 1 — the Irish lose Friday's semi-final match against DePaul.

"If you lose Friday, you might still squeeze into a top-16 seed, and you might not," Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

The top 16 teams in the NCAA Tournament are guaranteed a first-round bye and a home game in the round of 32. In 2005, failing to get a top-16 seed, the Irish had to defeat Western Illinois in the first round and win at defending national champion Indiana in order to reach the round of 16. Compare that to last year, when the Irish secured a top-16 seed, allowing them to reach the round of 16 with a bye and win at home over Illinois-Chicago.

Case No. 2 — the Irish beat DePaul on Friday before falling to the Louisville/Connecticut winner in the championship Sunday.

"[Getting to the final] would pretty much guarantee you a top-16 seed, maybe even a top-eight seed," Clark said. "It's hard to predict because other team's results will play a role as well."

Sneaking into the top-eight seeds would guarantee Notre Dame not only a first-round bye and round of 32 home game but also a home game in the round of 16, should the Irish advance that far.

With ten teams ranked ahead of them in the polls, if the Irish only advance to the Big East finals they would need a fair amount of favorable results from teams currently ranked ahead of them in order to achieve a top-eight seed. Likely, the Irish would need No. 10 Tulsa, No. 8 Boston College and

No. 4 Virginia Tech to all lose before reaching their respective conference title games.

Case No. 3 — Notre Dame wins the Big East Championship.

"We'd be in a very strong position," Clark said. "It'd certainly put you as a top-eight seed and possibly a top-four seed."

Obtaining a top-four seed would guarantee that Notre Dame's path to the Final Four in Cary, N.C. runs through South Bend. It would also likely ensure that the Irish would not play teams like No. 1 Connecticut and No. 2 Wake Forest until they reach the Final Four.

Whether winning the Big East championship nets the Irish a top-eight or top-four seed depends on other results, too. Still, capturing Big East Championship would likely include a win over No. 1 Connecticut, which plays Louisville in the other Big East semi-final on Friday.

A Notre Dame victory over Connecticut is certainly not out of the question, as the Irish were only 15 minutes away from defeating the No. 1 Huskies in October before playing to a 3-3 draw.

Securing home games all the way through the Elite Eight would be a big boost for Clark and his squad. The Irish have accumulated a stellar record of 6-1-3 at Alumni Field this season while posting a mark of 5-2-2 outside of South Bend.

"For a lot of reasons, a home game is really important," Clark said. "It's one of these things that teams win more home games than road games. It's familiarity. They know the field."

"The other thing from our point of view is that, coming to the end of the term, it's important not to miss class time with the academic pressure we have."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

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Sunday, November 18th (2nd Round)

Game 3 @ 1 pm: Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2

First 100 ND, HCC & SMC
students to each game will
receive FREE admission!

Seniors

continued from page 28

before that first season. Soon after arriving for preseason workouts as freshmen, the team headed to Brazil for an exhibition tour.

"It was interesting because we came in [to Notre Dame] the night before we left for Brazil," senior goalkeeper Lauren Karas said. "It was just kind of scary because the team all knew each other and [the freshmen] didn't really know what was going on."

But the crew of rookies, which included current seniors Karas, captain Amanda Cinalli, midfielder Ashley Jones and forward Susan Pinnick, got to know each other very well in Brazil.

"There was no time to be shy and let people come to you," Karas said. "You just had to get along immediately or it was going to be a long trip."

Four years later, the seniors have endured their most turbulent season since arriving at Notre Dame. After starting 3-4-1, the Irish won their last 10 regular season games before winning two postseason games to reach the finals of the Big East tournament. On Sunday, the seniors failed to capture their third conference championship as they fell to West Virginia in a shootout.

But despite the difficulties the team has endured, Karas said being a member of this squad has been most rewarding.

"This is the best team we've had in that we all get along and I'm so excited to see everybody every day for practice," Karas said.

The Irish know they have a legitimate shot at another national championship to book-end their careers with triumphs.

"I just want everybody to feel that sense of accomplishment that we had [as freshmen]," Karas said. "[The fact] that we worked our butts off every day, we came to school before the preseason [paid off]."

Whether the seniors end their careers with a disappointing loss or another NCAA title,

Waldrum said they already have a huge impact for the Notre Dame soccer program.

"I think they're one of the winningest programs in the nation over those four years," Waldrum said.

"You've got to give them a lot of credit for what we are."

The seniors have posted a combined record of 87-9-3 in their four seasons. But Waldrum also praised the class for its dedication off the pitch.

"This particular class has not only been great on the field, but great ambassadors for the program," Waldrum said. "Community service and [public relations] and just things we do off the field, they've been great with that. And that's just as important as what goes on on the field."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

"I think they're one of the winningest programs in the nation over those four years."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

Smyth

continued from page 28

the end of the camp to decide who would make the varsity squad," said Smyth, a senior, "and I took sixth on the team after only a week of 'real' training."

He didn't hesitate to move even further up those ranks.

"By the end of the season I was our No. 2 guy and my interest in the sport was officially sparked," he said.

The improvement shown in his first season as a runner hasn't waned. From last year's regional meet where he finished eighth overall, to the 2007 Great Lakes Regional, Smyth knocked nearly 45 seconds off of his time and vaulted seven positions to win the meet. Part of that improvement can be attributed to the fact that, for Smyth, there is no off-season.

"Consistency has been the key," he said. "I built off of the solid track season that I had last spring, put in some serious summer training, and set some high expectations for myself this fall."

All of that work has now paid off, as Smyth became only the second runner in Notre Dame's history to take first in the NCAA regional meet. The enormity of that accomplishment is not lost on Smyth.

"We follow in the footsteps of those who have come before us," he said. "We are chasing

after their achievements and records every time we toe the line. The Luke Watsons, Ryan Shays, Kurt Benningers, Thomas Chamneys, and others are the precedent for current runners like myself and my teammates."

Smyth will have the added benefit of having raced at nationals each of the past two years. That experience will help Smyth overcome some of the intangibles that can get in the way for inexperienced runners.

"I feel better prepared for any nerves, tactics or conditions that may be thrown at me."

Patrick Smyth
Irish senior

"I feel better prepared for any nerves, tactics or conditions that may be thrown at me," he said.

Fortunately for Smyth, the teammates who have been supporting and running with him all sea-

son will join him at the NCAA Championships. The team received one of the at-large bids distributed by the NCAA following the regional meets.

"My teammates mean everything to me," said Smyth. "When it starts to really hurt that last [two kilometers] of the race, you always press a little bit harder and pass a few more people knowing that you have six other people behind you with ND on their chest doing the exact same thing."

The Irish runners will look to help each other when the meet begins in Terre Haute, Ind., on Nov. 19. The team is hoping for a top 10 overall finish, while Smyth is hoping to do the same on an individual level.

Contact Chris Doyen at cdoyen@nd.edu

Recruits

continued from page 28

Erica Williamson and freshman Devereaux Peters had won state championships in high school.

"All-Star Girls Report" ranked Novosel the No. 32 player in the nation. McGraw said Novosel can score both inside and out, a combination that the Irish are currently missing.

"Novosel is kind of a cross between [freshman guard] Brittany Mallory and [sophomore guard] Ashley Barlow," McGraw said. "They've helped us a lot and so if we get someone else in that style I think that's going to be really good for us. She's going to help us right away."

Solomon, a 6'2 forward from Detroit Country Day School in Oak Park, Mich., knows junior wide receiver David Grimes. They both attended Saint Martin de Porres High School before the school closed. Solomon talked to Grimes when she made her visit to campus, McGraw said.

"They did get to speak before the pep rally," McGraw said. "We always look on the rosters and see if there's a connection somewhere."

Solomon tore her ACL in February 2006 and did not play for much of last season. But she received all-state and all-county honors three times. McGraw liked the athleticism she will bring.

"She attempted a dunk in a game last year, and it just rolled off the rim," McGraw said. "She's athletic, she can rebound, she's got great hands, she's really quick in the post. She's somebody that we're really looking forward to be helping us inside."

Despite her 6'2 frame, Watson played many different

positions at Ionia High School in Ionia, Mich., where she averaged 24 points and eight rebounds per game last season.

"She's the biggest wing we've ever had. She's 6'2 and plays point guard for her team," McGraw said. "She's the jump center, plays the point, does the shooting, guards the other team's best player. She's a great passer."

Watson broke the school record for career points by the end of her junior season. As a freshman, she led the state of Michigan in three-point percentage, hitting 45.2 percent of her shots behind the arc. She received all-state, all-city and all-conference honors in each of the past three seasons.

The Irish recruited well in the Midwest, something McGraw said was one of the

program's goals.

"We want to be the school that everybody in the Midwest looks at as the best program," McGraw said.

Notre Dame may not be done recruiting, however. Losing senior guard Tulyah Gaines to graduation will leave a defensive gap that McGraw said she doesn't yet know how to fill.

"When I watch Tulyah right now, I just wonder what we're going to do without her defense next year," McGraw said. "It's a little bit of a hole, I think, in our game plan that we don't have that great defender. That's something I think we really are thinking about right now, do we want to bring somebody in late to fill that spot?"

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish guard Ashley Barlow defends against WKU's Jessica Magley during Notre Dame's 78-59 win over the Hilltoppers on Tuesday.

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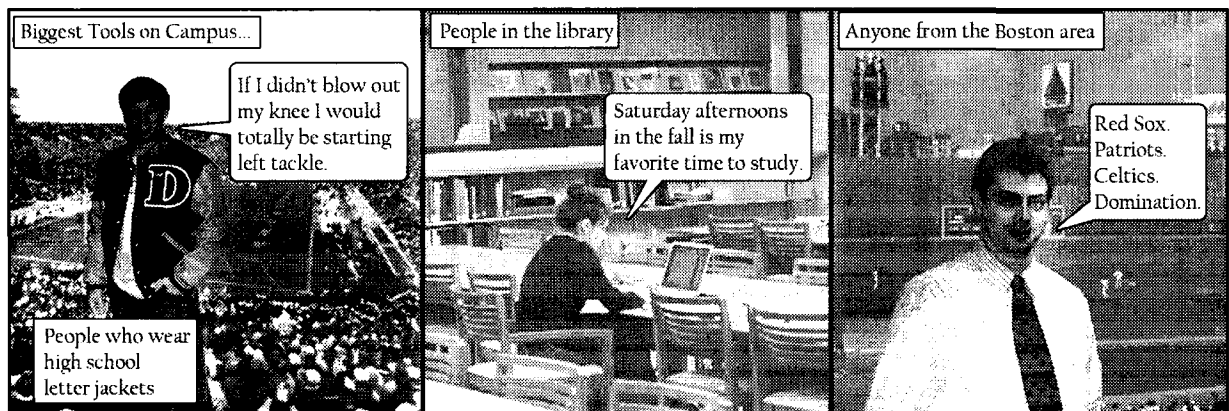
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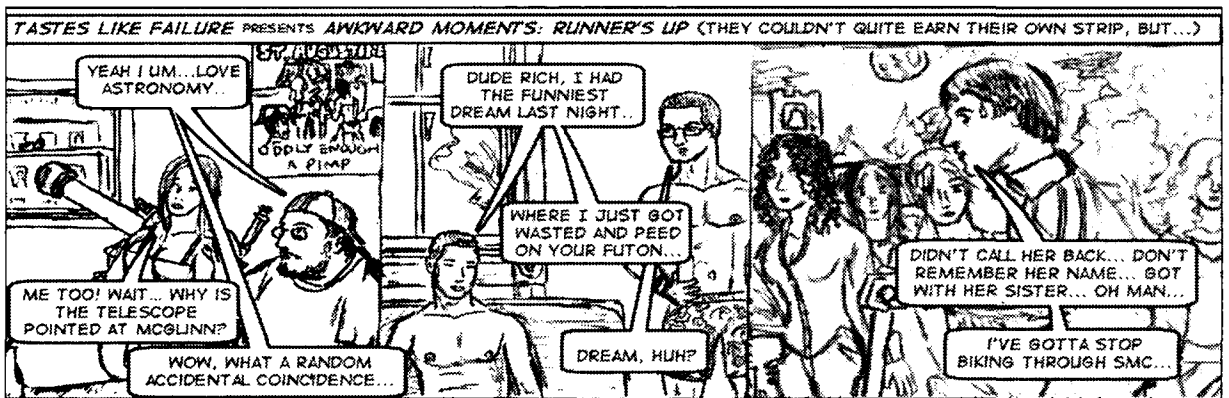
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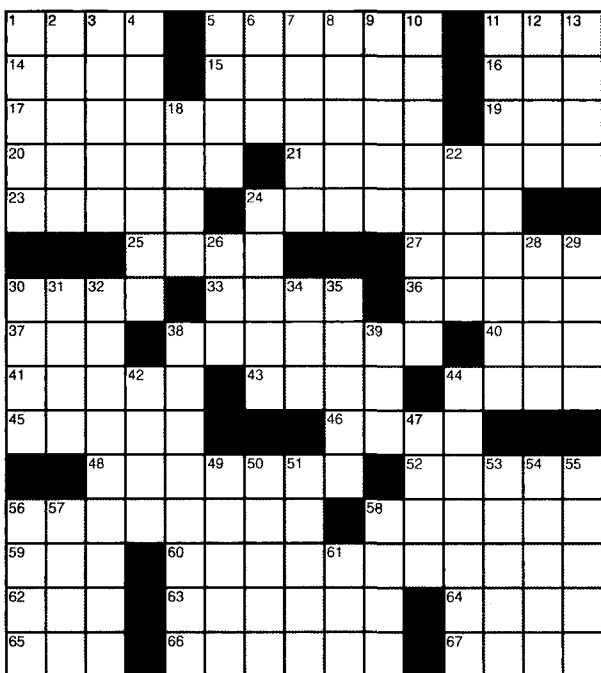
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Twinge
 - 5 W.W. II blast makers
 - 11 Realm of Proteus, in Greek myth
 - 14 ___ patriae
 - 15 Pack again, as hay
 - 16 ___ Rose
 - 17 Leading Russian in the 32-Down
 - 19 One to one, e.g.
 - 20 Regard
 - 21 Attitudes
 - 23 Pilgrim in Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales"
 - 24 Florida island resort
 - 25 Once, once
 - 27 Prayer word
 - 30 Paul McCartney played it for the Beatles
 - 33 NASA launch vehicle
 - 36 Record producer Davis
 - 37 Connection for an electric guitar
 - 38 Newsmaker of October 4, 1957
 - 40 Result of a road emergency
 - 41 Be hot under the collar
 - 43 New Mexico county or its seat
 - 44 Basted
 - 45 Orders
 - 46 Korea's Syngman
 - 48 "20 Hrs., 40 Min." author, 1928
 - 52 Catch on the range
 - 56 Detroit suburb named for the plants the area was once overgrown with
 - 58 Blocked, as a harbor, with "up"
 - 59 Victorian ___
 - 60 Leading American in the 32-Down
 - 62 Twitch
 - 63 Personally handle
 - 64 Egg on
 - 65 Bridge topper?
 - 66 Finishes
 - 67 Earl, for one
- Down**
- 1 One with checks and balances?
 - 2 Beguile
 - 3 Durango direction
 - 4 Distresses
 - 5 Composer Khachaturian
 - 6 Have a hand out, say
 - 7 Future senator who delivered the 2004 Democratic convention keynote address
 - 8 California county
 - 9 Shrovetide dish
 - 10 Remit
 - 11 38-Across, e.g.
 - 12 "No ___"
 - 13 Stein fillers
 - 18 "The Waltons" actor
 - 22 Dump, e.g.
 - 24 Show pride, in a way
 - 26 Bonehead
 - 28 Profess
 - 29 Chopped
 - 30 Odist, e.g.
 - 31 Parisian possessive
 - 32 Event started by 38-Across

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	C	A	L	P	A	M	A	S	S	T	D	S
O	M	N	I	A	L	A	C	T	O	H	O	T
F	O	U	R	T	E	E	N	R	E	D	E	R
A	N	T	I	T	A	X	E	N	A	B	L	E
I	C	E	S	A	M	M	O					
O	L	A	F	H	I	T	M	E	A	G	A	I
R	O	S	I	E	A	I	D	S				
D	O	U	B	L	E	O	R	N	O	T	H	I
L	E	N	D	A	U	D	I	O				
I	L	L	T	A	K	E	O	N	E	M	O	T
M	E	A	N		M	E	T	A				
P	A	T	T	E	R	S	S	C	R	A	P	E
E	S	E	R	O	L	L	T	H	E	D	I	C
D	E	N	A	D	U	E	L	N	I	E	C	E
E	S	T	S	E	E	M	E	A	N	S	E	L



Puzzle by Sheldon Benard

- 34 ___ Pi (dessert lover's fraternity?)
- 35 Stallion's sound
- 38 Enterprise log entry
- 39 Suffix with sheep or goat
- 42 1972 Wimbledon winner Smith
- 44 Arctic newborn
- 47 First name at the 1986 Nobel Prize ceremony
- 49 Van ___
- 50 "___ flowing with milk and honey" (Canaan, in the Bible)
- 51 Tears
- 53 Intimidate, in a way, with "down"
- 54 Suit material
- 55 Comparatively unconventional
- 56 Kind of cheese
- 57 Newsman Seavard
- 58 Butcher's, baker's or candlestick maker's
- 61 Disco guy on "The Simpsons"

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HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

DAUGY
OOCCA
MIRSUQ
ROOLBE

Answer here: " " (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: DRAFT NOBLE KOWTOW GADFLY
Answer: When the nature camp cut its rate, the nudists — GOT A LOT "OFF"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Travis Barker, 32; Yanni, 53; Condo-leeza Rice, 53; Prince Charles, 59

Happy Birthday: Don't let personal and emotional issues cause you to make mistakes this year. Separate business and domestic situations. Lean toward what is working for you until an opportunity arises for resolution. Don't lose productivity because you are emotionally distracted. Your numbers are 6, 11, 14, 27, 40, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Disregard what others say and do today. If you let your emotions get the better of you, nothing will be accomplished. Someone is likely to disagree with you regarding your work choice. 2 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The opportunity to find out more about a different culture or tradition will enhance the way you view your own background. A short trip will lead to learning something new or signing up for something you can use in the future. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll be thinking big and reacting quickly. Be sure you have your facts straight. Keep your money in a safe place and don't sign any legal documents. Don't let someone you are captivated by influence your decisions. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotional issues will be on the rise. You have to refuse to get worked up over nothing. Sometimes it's better to know where you stand so you can move on to better things. Right now change is a good thing for you. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): More effort put into what you do to earn a living and how well you get along with your peers will pay off in the gains you make. You will have insight into the people around you, so use this to your advantage and you will make headway. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look for the best route and you will head in a new and prosperous direction. Don't let someone else's problems become your own. Separate yourself from the people who are dragging you down, costing you too much or taking advantage of you. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let your emotions get the better of you. If you jump to conclusions or take it upon yourself to resolve issues before you have all the facts, you could make a costly emotional mistake. A trusted friend can help you see your situation clearly. 2 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take a step forward without fearing that you will end up back where you started. You can interest the people you meet with the ideas you have. A change in your current situation will lead to a deal, publishing, more education or even a trip. 4 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't mix business with pleasure or you will get more than you bargained for. Take the safe route today. Production, not big talk, will be what counts. Do what you say and do it quickly. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can usually hold things together pretty well but, today, your emotions may play havoc with you, especially if someone you care about is giving you a hard time or going through difficulty. Money can be made if you take a little different approach. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Love is on the line. Say what you think and let your feelings be known. Lend a helping hand to someone in need or an organization that can use your expertise. Don't keep secrets. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get serious about your beliefs, attitudes and goals. There is plenty of opportunity but don't wait for it to come to you. You don't have to start big -- baby steps will be a good beginning. 4 stars

Birthday Baby: You are a thinker, a solutions-finder, a steady and all-round person who can adjust to whatever situation you are in. You have great stamina and courage.

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In a class of their own

After four incredible years, four seniors are down to their last shot

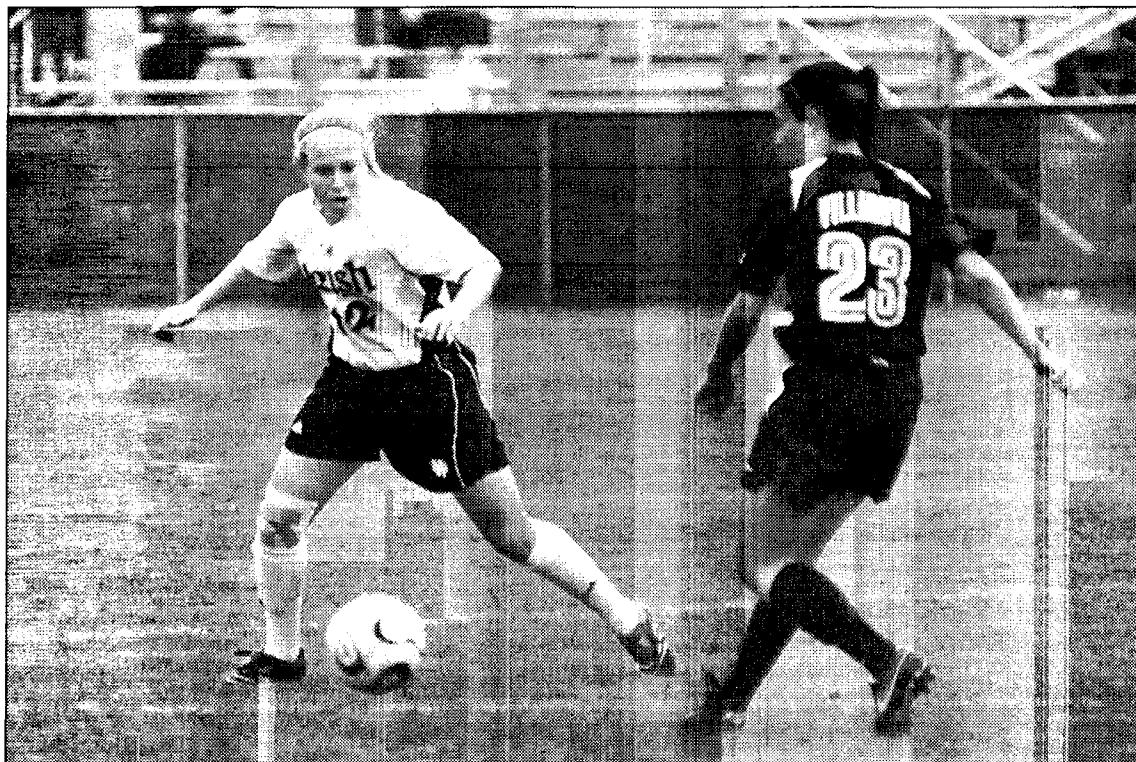
By **FRAN TOLAN**
Sports Writer

Coaches often implore their teams to play every game like it's their last. Notre Dame's senior class needs no such motivation.

As the Irish prepare for the first round of the NCAA Tournament against Loyola (Ill.) Friday, the seniors realize they have no more room for error.

"After this, there are no more opportunities [for them]," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "The next loss and the season's over and these girls know that."

The group of fourth-year players, who were part of a national championship team as freshmen, immediately bonded



IAN GAVLIK/The Observer

Senior midfielder Ashley Jones dribbles during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Villanova on Oct. 14 at Alumni Field. Jones scored a goal and had two shots on net against the Wildcats.

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MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Smyth runs for history at NCAAs

By **CHRIS DOYEN**
Sports Writer

Patrick Smyth was a born runner, but for the first 14 years of his life, he didn't know it. Smyth's sister, Kathleen, was the one who opened the door to Smyth's running success.

Kathleen Smyth broke state track records in the 400- and 800-meter races, and earned a full scholarship to run at Boston College.

Kathleen's former coach invited Patrick Smyth to a camp the summer before he entered high school, calling it a conditioning opportunity. From there, Smyth's natural abilities set him on the path that has led him to the NCAA Championships. "There was a time trial race at

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SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Gray overcomes injury to set pace for Belles' program

Senior will run in the Div. III Championship

By **MATT GAMBER**
Sports Writer

When Megan Gray crosses the finish line at the Division III National Championships this Saturday, it will mark the end of a four-year career in which Gray

accomplished a series of firsts in a cross country program that she has helped to redefine.

"Megan has been a turning point for Saint Mary's cross country," said third-year coach Jackie Bauters, calling Gray a "driving force" for the up-and-coming program. "If you would have asked five years ago if Saint Mary's would ever make it to the national meet, people would probably laugh. We're on

the map now."

Gray became the first Belles runner to be named to the all-MIAA first team and the first to qualify for nationals — and she did both twice. She finished first for Saint Mary's in every race over the past two seasons, and she captured the individual title in three meets.

"I couldn't be more proud or happy for her to have achieved everything she has over her

career," Bauters said. "She deserves everything she's worked for. I just wish she had another year with us."

Gray's road to success, however, was not always a smooth one. In the spring of her freshman year, Gray was slowed by knee trouble that was eventually diagnosed as patella femoral pain syndrome, a result of a runner's natural tendency to overdevelop the outer quadriceps.

"I'd never really done any leg lifting at all because my coaches had always told us that running was enough of a workout," said Gray, who suffered "a runner's equivalent of torture" by not being able to run the summer before her sophomore year. "Coming back for my sophomore season, I was out of shape and had no base at all."

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MEN'S SOCCER

NCAA seeding on the line

Conference tourney will determine spot

By **GREG ARBOGAST**
Sports Writer

The Irish will have home on their minds when they take the field in the Big East semifinals against DePaul on Friday night in Storrs, Conn.

That's because this weekend's matches will determine the amount of home NCAA Tournament games the Irish will get to play. It will also determine whether the Irish will get a first-round NCAA Tournament bye.

The men's NCAA Tournament selects 48 teams with nearly half the available slots going to conference tournament winners and the remaining slots going to at-large bids. At 11-3-5, No. 11 Notre Dame is not in danger of missing the tournament regard-

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JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Irish freshman Josh Thiermann celebrates his goal in a 1-0 win over St. John's in Notre Dame's first Big East tournament game Sunday..

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

McGraw snags three top recruits early on

By **BILL BRINK**
Sports Writer

Three highly-lauded high school players signed letters of intent to Notre Dame during the early signing period, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said Wednesday.

Natalie Novosel, Erica Solomon and Kellie Watson will make up part of the class of 2012. The players will contribute early next season, McGraw said.

"We have more players coming in that can really help us right away," she said. "I'm excited about the depth of the class, with three players coming in, all coming from really good programs."

Novosel, a 5-foot-11 guard from Lexington, Ky., will be Kentucky's first representative

on the Notre Dame women's basketball team. Novosel averaged 18.2 points per game and 8.5 rebounds per game at Lexington Catholic High School last season and led her team to three straight Kentucky state championship games.

All three players come from successful programs, something McGraw said she looks for when recruiting players.

"I think it's important to get winners," McGraw said. "I think that's what we've looked at, when you look at our classes — the last two — they come from some great programs, state championship-type programs. You have to have that competitiveness and you have to know how to win."

McGraw noted that sophomores Melissa Lechlitner and

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