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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Students interested in Iowa caucuses

Primaries hold national focus; ND groups eventually will support presidential candidates

By KATIE PERALTA and
JENN METZ
News Writers

When Notre Dame sophomores Lindsey Hough and Matthew Callanan return to their homes in Iowa for winter break, they will be tossed right into the center of heated political races, as Democrats and Republicans battle in the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 3.

The caucuses, the first primary competition in the country for the 2008 presidential candidates, have been a focus of national attention for weeks. Caucuses are different from

other primary elections in their form. Most primaries are decided by secret-ballot votes, but Iowa has a system that requires voters to assemble at an assigned location, listen to speeches by supporters of different candidates and publicly express support and be counted for one person running.

Sen. Barack Obama, a Democrat from Illinois, and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, a Republican, currently lead their respective parties in the state, according to a recent Des Moines Register Iowa poll.

Hough, of Shelby County, Iowa, said she plans to partici-

pate in the caucus in Des Moines.

"Both parties have their own set of caucuses in Iowa, and most of the top-tier candidates will travel around to different locations to speak," Hough said.

She said she plans to observe candidates before deciding whom she will support.

"I think I want to get a better feel for things, talk to a few people there [in Des Moines], before making up my mind," she said.

Callanan, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, also plans to participate in the caucuses.

"It is going to depend on my work schedule and everything, but I have not had that much

time to focus on the candidates," Callanan said. He said it was important to be informed about a candidate before he voted.

"You should know where a candidate stands," Callanan said.

The Notre Dame College Republicans and College Democrats have been spreading messages about Republican and Democratic themes to the University community.

Each group works to elect members of their own parties to political office by gathering support on campus.

see ELECTION/page 3

LaFleur to leave Sports Info Dept.

Women's Soccer SID spent 11 years at ND

By CHRIS KHOREY
News Writer

After 11 years in the Notre Dame Sports Information Department, Pete LaFleur is moving on.

LaFleur, a 1990 graduate of the University, will take a job as the public relations director for Geneva Glen summer camp in Evergreen, Colo.

During his time at the Sports Information Department, LaFleur worked with the hockey, golf, fencing, baseball and women's soccer teams and — like the rest of the sports information staff — worked at every home football game. He is known among reporters and co-workers for his in-depth game wraps, extensive historical knowledge and the little-known statistics that were hallmarks of his notes packages.

LaFleur said that his slogan in life has always been to go the "extra mile."

"That's kind of been my approach," he said. "I hope I don't ever seem like I'm over doing it, but I try to give stuff what it deserves, whether it's writing some-



LaFleur

see LEGEND/page 4

200-plus graduate in January

Students from '07, '08 classes receive degrees

By THERESA CIVANTOS
News Writer

Although most Notre Dame seniors will complete their degrees in May, 224 University students will graduate in January.

The number, however, includes graduate students as well as undergraduates, associate registrar Chuck Hurley said.

"About half of these students are part of the class of 2008 graduating early, and the other half are class of 2007 students graduating a little late," he said.

January 6, 2008, is the official date of January graduation. There is no graduation ceremony, but January graduates can join in the May commencement ceremonies with the rest of their class.

Students usually walk with their class, Hurley said, which means some January graduates walked in the ceremony last May while others will walk this May. August graduates also have the option of walking in the May ceremony.

Hurley said there are many reasons students graduate in January.

"There are so many special circumstances — everything from financial reasons to someone whose parent had cancer during their senior year so they took off a semester and came back to graduate," he said. "It's about what best fits that student."

see GRADS/page 6

Team wins, Bookstore discounts

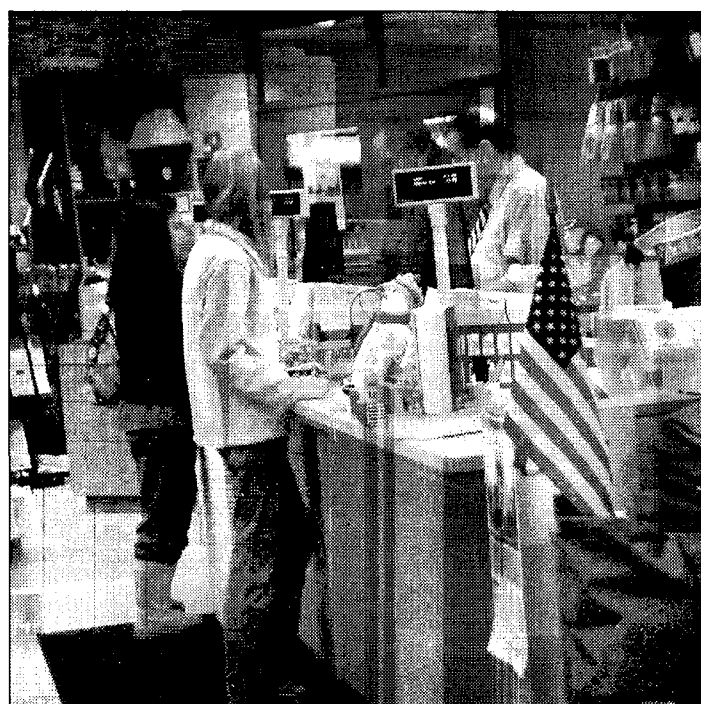
By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

A new partnership between the Shaheen Bookstore and the Saint Mary's athletic department means that when the Belles' basketball team wins, the campus benefits.

The Bookstore has teamed up with Saint Mary's athletic department for Monday Madness, a new fundraiser that discounts Bookstore merchandise the Monday after each home victory for the Belles.

Mike Hicks, director of campus stores, described the event as a "challenge" to cheer on athletic teams.

"There is a lot of spirit here at Saint Mary's," he said. "We want to show our support for the Saint Mary's



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Students purchase items at the Shaheen Bookstore Monday. The store puts merchandise on sale when SMC basketball wins.

see DISCOUNTS/page 4

NDSP warns of break burglaries

By JOSEPH McMAHON
News Writer

Local landlords and the Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) are encouraging students to safeguard their valuables as they leave for winter break.

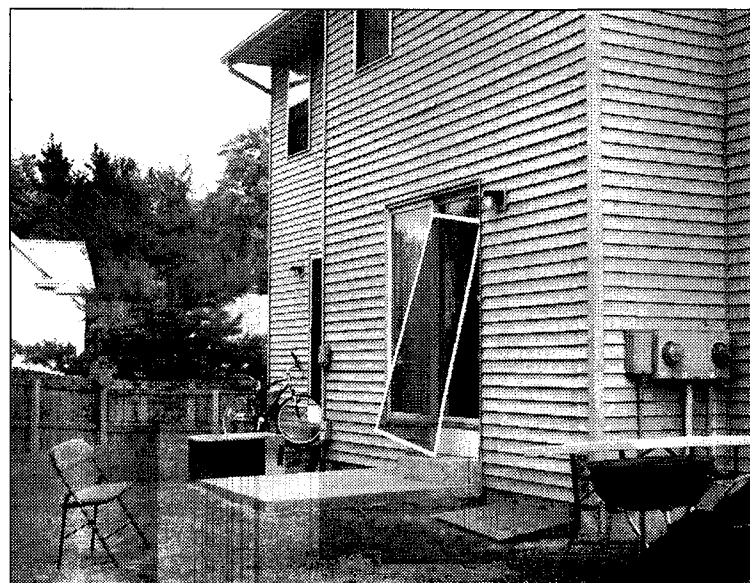
Burglaries and petty crimes on and off campus often increase just as breaks begin, NDSP said in an e-mail sent to the student body on Dec. 6.

"We often experience an increase in thefts just before breaks, especially from Library study areas and the dining halls," the e-mail said. "Maintain extra vigilance on your laptops, book bags, purses, etc."

For students who live off campus, NDSP is providing a Christmas storage option. Off-campus students can bring their valuables to the NDSP Investigation Section on the second floor of the Hammes Mowbray Hall on Wednesday or Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 3:30.

Many landlords, meanwhile, have begun hiring their own security teams to patrol their properties and protect students' valuables. Mark Kramer, who manages more than 150 properties, said there was an attempted break-in on his properties last year during Christmas break.

see SECURITY/page 6



Observer file photo

A door at Lafayette Apartments, a property owned by landlord Mark Kramer, hangs askew. Renters are warned to secure residences.

INSIDE COLUMN

Cover my car

I'm from Michigan. I downgraded in snow when I traveled south to come here for school. While most of campus freaks out about "South Bend winters," I wonder why we only have one measly foot of the white stuff and why whiteout conditions aren't a nightly occurrence.

Chris Khorey

Sports Editor

But there is one part of South Bend winter that I can't stand — wiping snow off my car.

Sure, I wiped snow off my car in high school. Every morning, I grabbed the brush from the back seat and knocked off whatever had accumulated.

But at Notre Dame, there's a huge difference. I don't drive every day. So when I go to collect my car from D2, I discover not only the snow from the night before, but the blizzard from last Thursday, the ice storm from two weeks ago, a layer of fossilized hail and the remnants of the tiny snowfall from before Thanksgiving that didn't even stick to the ground but managed to stay on my car.

And that's just on top of the car. Underneath and behind it is a layer of light brown sludge that the snow plow has packed in so hard I'm afraid it will dent my bumper if I try to drive through it.

Unlike the simple daily brush off, removing all of this snow is a solid half-hour job that requires both the brush and scraper ends of my handy snow-removal tool.

Sometimes it also requires a shovel. And it's not just the hassle of cleaning off a car covered with a week's worth of snow. That much cold water surround a car is absolutely awful for it. Every car stored in D2, D6 or the C-lot over the winter is slowly rusting away.

I have no recourse for this. All of campus parking is wide open to the elements.

But it doesn't have to be this way.

The University should cover all of its long-term parking (by which I mean certainly D2 and D6 and probably portions of the C-lot).

This fits right with Notre Dame's long term plan. In the D2 area, two new dorms are planned. They will take space away from D2 parking. So why not build another level on top of the existing lot? That would double the parking, and cover the cars below.

Of course, the second level would also need to be covered, so how about a nice-looking roof over the top?

The same thing could be built in D6, next to where the University (eventually) wants to build a hotel. It would provide extra parking for the guests, while allowing students covered parking — and saving us all from having to brush, shovel and scrape snow and ice off our cars.

So, administration, what do you think?

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

In the Dec. 10 edition of The Observer, the Scene section featured a picture which was cited as Silkk the Shocker. The rapper in the picture was actually Master P. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW DO YOU PLAN TO CELEBRATE THE LAST DAY OF CLASSES?



Eric Petrucci
*senior
Fisher*

"Lighting another candle on my menorah."



Courtney Hummel
*junior
Lewis*

"Going to the Toschi Station to pick up some power converters."



Lindsey Hough
*sophomore
Howard*

"Clover Ridge."



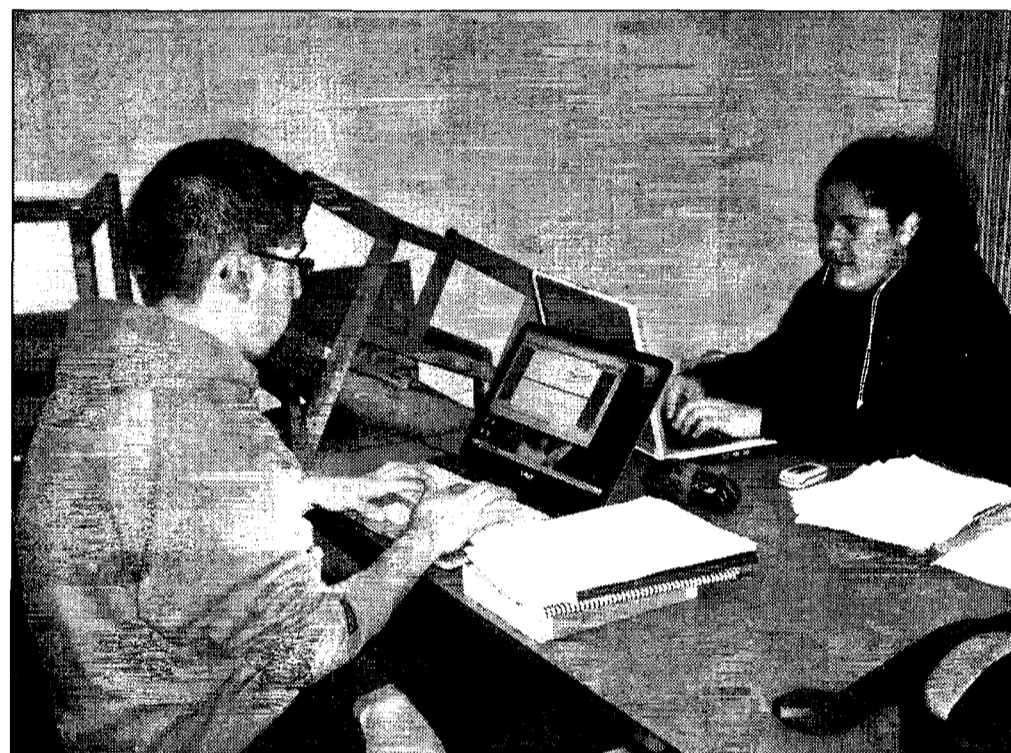
Allison Salmons
*junior
Lewis*

"Dreaming of the Bun Run."



Shea Streeter
*senior
Cavanaugh*

"Sorry ... it wouldn't be Observer appropriate."



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Sophomores Zach Montez and Cassie Montoya prepare for the last day of class on the first floor of Siegfried Hall.

OFFBEAT

Woman allegedly shoots men over decorations

BATON ROUGE, La. — Authorities say a Springfield woman was booked on attempted murder counts for allegedly shooting two men whose dog damaged Christmas decorations at her home.

Ethel Shannon McKinney, 28, was booked on two counts of attempted second-degree murder and illegal use of a weapon, Jason Ard, a spokesman for the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Department, said.

McKinney and her boyfriend got into an argument with the men over

the damaged decorations, and McKinney allegedly fired at the men, Ard said.

The man was hit in the upper torso and arm; the other, in an arm. Ard said none of the injuries were life threatening.

The incident happened around 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

Turkey crashes through window in home

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — The noise that Chuck Ritter heard while sitting in his living room was a turkey that crashed through a third-story bedroom window. Ritter, 83, was relaxing Saturday

when the uninvited guest arrived.

Ritter called Joe Battaglia, the on-call maintenance workers at his Traverse City apartment, and they tried to corral the 25-pound bird as it flapped around on the carpet amid blood and shards of glass.

After about 30 minutes of trying to ease the turkey toward the window with a broomstick and a fishing pole, Ritter cornered the bird, grabbed it by the neck and threw it out the window.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The last day of classes at Notre Dame is today.

There will be an Advent Penance Service today at 7 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The service will include prayer, music, reflection and Confession.

The ND Celebration Choir, Voices from Campus and Instrumentalists will perform at a benefit concert for Christmas at the first floor lounge, Coleman Morse Center, today at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free with a donation. All proceeds benefit the Holy Cross Literacy School and Boys Home, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The last day of classes at Saint Mary's will be Wednesday.

A Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Reading days at Notre Dame are tomorrow, Thursday and Sunday. Reading days at Saint Mary's are Thursday and Sunday.

Exams at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's will take place on Friday, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Father Jenkins, Father Hesburgh and other Holy Cross Priests will be signing a book compiled by two seminarians Friday in the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore from 1-4 p.m. The book is "The Cross, Our Only Hope. Daily Reflections in the Holy Cross Tradition."

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	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 37 LOW 27	HIGH 30 LOW 20	HIGH 33 LOW 23	HIGH 35 LOW 20	HIGH 30 LOW 18	HIGH 28 LOW 20

Atlanta 78 / 57 Boston 36 / 35 Chicago 35 / 19 Denver 23 / 12 Houston 77 / 65 Los Angeles 66 / 42 Minneapolis 25 / 6 New York 40 / 40 Philadelphia 42 / 42 Phoenix 58 / 41 Seattle 45 / 34 St. Louis 38 / 33 Tampa 83 / 61 Washington 47 / 46

Students have lunch with reformer

Revolutionary addresses SMC community at College's fifth Leadership Luncheon

By KRISTEN EDELEN
News Writer

Libusa Radkova, a reformer in her native country of Slovakia, sat down for lunch Monday with Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff during the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership's (CWIL) fifth Leadership Luncheon of the semester. Her visit came after a long journey from eastern Europe.

Radkova decided to travel

to Saint Mary's to learn about the CWIL-implemented Bridges Out of Poverty program. She intends to spend time at local non-profit organizations, such as the Hope Rescue Mission, and witness Bridges Out of Poverty in action — so she can bring ideas from the program back to Slovakia.

"It is very useful to see [social] problems from outside, from a point of different culture," she said.

Radkova spoke to 25 to 30 people, the largest audience at a CWIL luncheon yet,

about the state of social work and the problems with poverty in Slovakia. She also highlighted her own individual work and research as a social work professor at St. Elisabeth University in Bratislava.

The idea of charitable giving exists in the U.S., but not in Slovakia, she said. A great dependence on government was created during the totalitarian regime, which was ended in 1989 by the Velvet Revolution. But even today, she said, "a subtle but powerful fear exists" for citizens to engage in the previously outlawed idea of community.

Bonnie Bazata, the associate director for CWIL, said the idea behind the Bridges Out of Poverty model is to encourage a community to help alleviate problems surrounding poverty. She also suggests that a college can partner with the community to help solve these problems.

Radkova is considered revolutionary because she helped to pioneer social

work as a field of study at St. Elisabeth University, which was something original in her country.

Leadership Luncheons will continue next semester as often as once every two weeks. The next speaker will be Paula Dawning, the former superintendent of Benton Harbor schools in Michigan, who is a current member

on the College's Board of Trustees, Fritzler said.

Senior Sarita Fritzler, a student worker for CWIL, said speakers scheduled for each Leadership Luncheon are usually from the community and will always be women.

"But having Libusa, from abroad, was such a great opportunity," she said.

The CWIL and Board of Governance-sponsored Leadership Lunch series began this semester as an avenue for students at Saint Mary's to interact with women in the community, Fritzler says.

Contact Kristen Edelen at kede01@saintmarys.edu

Election

continued from page 1

Under current Student Activities Office rules, students cannot create groups to support individual primary candidates because those groups would be, by their nature, temporary. Furthermore, the CCC does not allocate funds to groups that support specific candidates for public office.

Senior Josh Kempf, the chairman of the College Republicans, said next semester, after many of the state primaries, the group will "jump into action."

"Because they are primaries, we as a club do not support any candidates," Kempf said, adding that members do tend to personally support various Republican Party candidates on their own.

After the primaries, Kempf said, College Republicans and College Democrats will begin their official support for their party's presidential candidate.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu and Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Libusa Radkove, a Slovak social worker and reformer, gestures as she speaks to a Saint Mary's audience Monday.

Write for
News.
631-5323

Men of Strength

"For when I am WEAK, then I am STRONG"
2 Cor 12:10

COMING SOON...

Legend

continued from page 1

thing, or researching it or just putting it in the right historical perspective."

LaFleur also takes pictures for the athletic department's Web site, und.com, during sporting events — something he said is "not in my job description," but which, he said, the athletes deserve.

"If you have the time and creativity to put something in that's going to make a difference to people's memories and their enjoyment, that's something that's always been important to me," he said.

On occasion, LaFleur includes statistics and notes that are comically obscure — to the point they are even noted by posters on Internet-message boards. One poster on NDNation.com gives out a weekly "Heisler Award," erroneously named after Senior Associate Athletic Director John Heisler, which is given to the strangest or most humorous stat included in that week's football game notes.

But a few jokes haven't stopped LaFleur from looking deep into the annals of Notre Dame athletics history to find tidbits to compare to today, as he did during the 2006 women's soccer season.

Then-sophomore forward Kerri Hanks scored 22 goals and 22 assists that season, both making her first in the nation. People knew that leading the nation in both categories was extremely rare, but they didn't know how rare until LaFleur looked it up — and found out that the only other college player to ever lead the nation in both categories was future U.S. national team star Mia Hamm.

LaFleur, who is considered by some to be the nation's best women's soccer sports information director, said because historical records for women's soccer were not well kept until recently, it

was hard work tracing the statistics back through the years.

"Nobody knew that," he said of the Hanks' statistic. "I had to research and turn over a lot of rocks to figure it all out. It really legitimized what Kerri did that season. People were like, 'Wow, she did something only the great Mia Hamm had ever done.'"

Because of LaFleur's research skills, he is often chosen to write historical features for und.com. He has written several obituaries for the Web site, including those for former football stars Angelo Bertelli, Leon Hart and Harry Oliver.

Most recently, LaFleur wrote the obituary for Ryan Shay, the former Notre Dame track star who died during an Olympic marathon trial in New York on Nov. 3. Upon seeing the story on the Web site, Shay's family contacted LaFleur to thank him.

"That makes it all worth-

while, when the family says it means something to them," he said.

His hard work has not gone unnoticed. LaFleur has earned several honors for his thorough media guides, including having the 2006 baseball media guide ranked No. 1 in the country by the College Sports Information Directors Association, commonly known as CoSIDA.

But all that hard work has taken its toll on LaFleur. He said when his friends come back from campus for football games, he rarely gets to spend much time with them.

"A lot of my friends will come back and I get to see them for like 10 minutes because I've got a soccer game on Friday, then the football game on Saturday and a soccer game on Sunday," he said.

LaFleur, who is unmarried and wants the time needed to start a family, said the rigors of his job limit how often he sees his relatives.

"I've had to miss a lot of weddings," he said. "For my nieces and nephews, I've

missed a lot of baptisms and stuff."

And because of that, LaFleur is returning to his roots. He attended Geneva Glen in his youth and worked as a counselor there during the summers in the early 1990s, just after graduating from Notre Dame.

In his new position, LaFleur will help Geneva Glen with their ambitious new marketing program, which includes upgrades to their Web site and brochures.

"It's more of a nine-to-five job than what I have now," he said.

But LaFleur won't completely leave sports behind. He said he plans to do freelance work, including possibly television and radio broadcasting. He is also considering starting a college fencing web site.

Both LaFleur's uncle and father graduated from Notre Dame, as did both of his sisters and three of his cousins. He lived in Holy Cross Hall before the dorm was torn down — and he stayed a few extra days to make sure he was the last one to live in it.

In addition to working for The Observer, Scholastic and the Sports Information Department while in school, LaFleur was also elected president of Holy Cross Hall.

LaFleur's first job after college was at the University of San Francisco, where he was paid \$5,000 a year to do stats for all of their athletic teams. The job only ran during the school year, so he returned to Geneva Glen to work during the summers.

In 1995, LaFleur took a job at University of Virginia, but only stayed there for a year before finding out about a job opening at Notre Dame.

As he gets ready to leave, LaFleur said he is trying to get as much work done as possible for the fencing team so as not to leave his co-workers out to dry.

"I've been working really hard to get ahead so I can just hand it off," he said. "I know what it's like when people leave and you have to pick up the slack. It's kind of been wearing me out a little."

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Discounts

continued from page 1

athletes and sports programs. This is an invitation to our campus to come out and cheer our teams onto victory."

Presently, the program only applies to the basketball team, but Hicks hopes to expand it to other sports teams, depending on its initial success.

"We have been working on this idea for some time. It is just a coincidence that we ironed out all the issues prior to the basketball season," he said. "We wanted to make sure that there would not be any problems with the athletic department if we offered a program like this."

The Bookstore will offer discounts on all clothing, contingent on the margin of the basketball team's win. A two-point victory warrants 20 percent off; four points, 40 percent. If the team wins by 10 or more, merchandise will be 50 percent off. No discounts will exceed 50 percent.

Students will only be eligible to receive the discounts the Monday following the game. They must bring a stamped program showing proof of attendance.

The discount program is in a pilot stage, but Hicks expects the program to continue for the whole basketball season, Hicks said.

Hicks hopes the program will encourage more students and faculty members to attend Belles athletic events.

"We feel that cheering on your team to victory is very rewarding," he said. "We hope that this program will encourage others to share in that reward."

Since the amount of discounts the Bookstore will give on Mondays is dependent on the basketball team's success, Hicks couldn't determine in advance the bookstore's profit margin or loss from the program. Hicks said he does not anticipate a negative effect on sales.

"We don't think this program should negatively affect our sales and profits," he said.

"We don't have any worries about losing money if the team does well. We hope and want the basketball team, as well as all of our SMC teams, to do well. We support Saint Mary's athletes."

The Belles' next home game is on Jan. 19 against Tri-State at 3 p.m.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

"We don't have any worries about losing money if the team does well."

Mike Hicks
director
campus stores

"This is an invitation to our campus to come out and cheer our teams onto victory."

Mike Hicks
director
campus stores

Rocco's
Restaurant

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Since 1951

Specializing in Italian Entrees

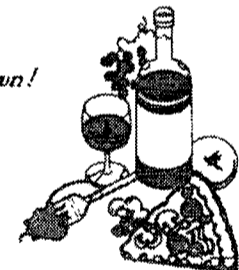
Tues. - Thurs.: 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Fri. - Sat.: 5:00 PM - 1:00 AM

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from 10am until 8pm

Sunday December 16th from Noon - 5pm

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selection of Irish Holiday Items

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Indians take diplomats hostage

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — A U.N. representative and three other people have been taken hostage by Indians, and federal officials were flying to the jungle on Monday to negotiate their release.

The Cinta Larga Indians invited David Martins Castro, a representative of the U.N. the High Commission for Human Rights, to a meeting Sunday on their reservation. Martins came with a federal prosecutor and two other people. The Indians prevented all four from leaving.

"Right now the situation is calm, the hostages are being well treated. We are only waiting" for Federal Indian Bureau President Marcio Meira to negotiate, police inspector Rodrigo Carvalho said by phone from the state capital of Rondonia.

Meira was flying to the reservation on Monday to negotiate their release, said a spokeswoman who declined to be identified according to agency policy.

British P.M. visits troops in Iraq

BASRA, Iraq — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown flew into southern Iraq Sunday to rally troops and confirm that Iraqi forces will take command of the last region under British control in mid-December.

Soldiers lined the staircases of an airport base to watch Brown arrive for his hourlong visit, offering thunderous applause as he praised their efforts to maintain security in the south.

"We have managed now to get Iraq to a far better position. ... We're able to move to provincial control and that is thanks to what you have achieved," Brown told soldiers.

NATIONAL NEWS

Attorney general admits to affair

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas' attorney general has admitted having an extramarital affair with a former staffer, and the governor said Monday he should resign if allegations including workplace sexual harassment are proven.

The former staffer filed a civil rights claim against Attorney General Paul Morrison last month with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. According to her account, the affair began in September 2005 and lasted about two years. Linda Carter also accused him of attempting to influence a federal lawsuit involving a political opponent.

Morrison, who is married and has three children, said Sunday that many of Carter's claims are "patently false," but he confirmed they had a relationship. A spokeswoman said he has no plans to resign.

N.J. near to ending death penalty

TRENTON, N.J. — New Jersey took a major step Monday toward becoming the first state to abolish the death penalty in more than 40 years, a change that is expected to become law within a month.

The state Senate approved a measure to replace the death sentence with life without parole, which would spare the life of a sex offender whose crimes sparked Megan's Law. The bill has the support of the Democrat-controlled Assembly and the Democratic governor.

New Jersey has eight men on death row and hasn't executed anyone since 1963. It reinstated the death penalty in 1982, six years after the U.S. Supreme Court allowed states to resume executions.

LOCAL NEWS

Factory worker killed in accident

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Authorities say the death of a worker at the South Bend Chocolate Company factory appears to have been an accident.

South Bend police say 49-year-old Gerald Barr was working alone when he died early Saturday morning.

Company president Mark Turner says Barr was cleaning a machine inside the Chocolate Company factory when he died, but it was hard to tell exactly what happened.

St. Joseph County Deputy Coroner Charles Hurley said the machine was running when Barr died, and his death appears to be an accident. The preliminary cause of death is listed as head trauma.

NORWAY

Gore accepts Nobel Peace Prize

Former VP tells big polluters to stand accountable, lead charge to reduce greenhouse gases

Associated Press

OSLO — Saying it's "time to make peace with the planet," Al Gore accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on Monday with a call for humanity to rise up against a looming climate crisis and stop waging war on the environment.

The United States and China — the world's leading emitters of greenhouse gases — will stand accountable before history if they don't take the lead in that global challenge, the former vice president said.

"Without realizing it, we have begun to wage war on the Earth itself," Gore said in his acceptance speech. "Now, we and the Earth's climate are locked in a relationship familiar to war planners: 'Mutually assured destruction.' It is time to make peace with the planet."

Gore was awarded the prize for sounding the alarm over global warming and spreading awareness on how to counteract it. His co-winner, the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, was represented by the panel's leader, Rajendra Pachauri.

They received their Nobel gold medals and diplomas at a gala ceremony at Oslo's city hall, while the Nobel prizes for medicine, chemistry, physics, literature and economics were presented in a separate ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden.

Gore urged government officials at a U.N. climate conference in Bali, Indonesia, to prepare the ground for quick negotiations on an emissions-limitation treaty to replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol on global warming.

Gore and Pachauri will leave for the U.N. meeting Wednesday. "I will urge the delegates in Bali to adopt a bold mandate for a treaty," Gore said.

In a speech that quoted Churchill, Gandhi and the Bible, Gore said the world's biggest producers of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases — the United States and China — must



Nobel Peace Prize winner Al Gore, right, accepts applause alongside co-winner Rajendra Pachauri following his acceptance speech Monday.

stop blaming each other for the stalemate over warming.

Instead, they should take the lead in solving a problem for which they bear a large responsibility, he said, or be "accountable before history for their failure to act."

He drew a parallel between leaders who ignore the climate crisis and those who didn't act as Nazi Germany rearm before World War II.

"Too many of the world's leaders are still best described in the words Winston Churchill applied to those who ignored Adolf Hitler's threat: 'They go on in strange paradox, decided only to be undecided, resolved to be irresolute, adamant for drift, solid for fluidity, all powerful to be impotent,'" Gore said.

He likened the current "planetary emergency" to wartime. "We must quickly mobilize our civilization with the urgency and resolve that has previously been seen only when nations mobilized for war," he said.

Although Pachauri described the threat largely in measured, scientific terms, he warned of a grim fate if greenhouse gases emissions are not limited. A warming climate could lead to swamped coastlines, disruptions to food supply, spread of disease and loss of biodiversity, he said.

"Neglect in protecting our heritage of natural resources could prove extremely harmful for the human race and for all species that share common space on Planet Earth," Pachauri said in his

acceptance speech. "It is within the reach of human society to meet these threats."

Before presenting the award to Gore and Pachauri, the chairman of the Norwegian Nobel awards committee, Ole Danbolt Mjoes, praised them for moving climate to the top of the world agenda.

"We thank you for what you have done for Mother Earth," Mjoes said.

Gore's wife, Tipper, in the audience with their four children, smiled broadly when he accepted the award, which includes a \$1.6 million stipend to be shared equally between the two winners. The audience, including Norway's King Harald V and Queen Sonja, rose for sustained applause.

Winter storm causes havoc across Midwest

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A wintry storm caked the center of the nation with a thick layer of ice Monday, blacking out more than 600,000 homes and businesses, and more icy weather was on the way. At least 15 deaths in Oklahoma and Missouri were blamed on the conditions, with 13 of them killed on slick highways.

A state of emergency was declared for all of Oklahoma, where the sound of branches snapping under the weight of the ice echoed through Oklahoma City.

"You can hear them falling everywhere," Lonnie Compton said Monday

as he shoveled ice off his driveway.

The National Weather Service posted ice and winter storm warnings Tuesday for parts of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Illinois. Missouri declared an emergency on Sunday and put the National Guard on alert.

Oklahoma utilities said a half-million customers were blacked out as power lines snapped under the weight of ice and falling tree branches, the biggest power outage in state history, and utilities in Missouri said more than 100,000 homes and business had no power there.

"If you do the math, probably one out of three Oklahomans has no electricity at this point," said Gil Broyles, a spokesman for Oklahoma Gas &

Electric, the state's largest utility.

Roughly 11,000 customers were blacked out in southern Illinois and more than 5,000 had no electric heat or lights in Kansas, where Gov. Kathleen Sebelius declared a statewide state of emergency.

At O'Hare International Airport, about 100 flights were canceled by Monday afternoon, with delays of about 45 minutes, said Chicago Department of Aviation spokeswoman Karen Pride. No flights were canceled at Midway Airport, but a handful of flights were delayed about an hour, she said.

Ice was as much as an inch thick on tree limbs and power lines in parts of the region.

Grads

continued from page 1

The biggest reason, Hurley said, is that students are trying to save on tuition. Some students come out of high school with AP credit, he said, so they can graduate early.

Senior Nicole Crnich, a double major in film, television and theatre and Japanese, will graduate in January. Crnich has applied to the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme, and if she is accepted, she will move to Japan to teach English. Crnich wants to spend time with her

family before her possible move.

"I love Notre Dame, but I'm really excited to graduate early," she said.

She said deciding to graduate a semester ahead of her classmates was a hard process.

"I made this big chart of pros and cons," Crnich said.

"There were so many pros," she said, which helped her tip the balance toward early graduation. "The money I'm saving is definitely a big issue.

"The biggest con for me was being so far away from my friends — because I'll be living in Chicago next semester — instead of five minutes away," Crnich said. "All of my closest

friends are going to be here next semester."

But Crnich said she is ready to graduate.

"I've been studying so hard for so long," she said. "I don't know if I could mentally handle another semester of working as hard as I have been."

Crnich still plans to walk at graduation in May.

"I'm very, very happy with my decision," she said. "I'm really satisfied with the time I've spent here at Notre Dame, and it's been enough for me."

Senior Angela Spisak, a political science major, has also decided to graduate in January. "It helped when I didn't get an RA position, so I didn't

have to be here all year," she said.

Spisak also intends to walk in the May ceremony.

Alex Renfro, a philosophy and Japanese major, will graduate in January, but he admits there are a lot of negatives in missing spring semester of senior year.

"You leave everyone — all your friends — behind," Renfro said. "You're on a totally different schedule. The things you're worrying about are totally different from the things they're worrying about."

"You feel like you have to tell everybody you're graduating early because you're like a

'special case,'" he joked. "When you tell people you're leaving early, they're like, 'Why would you want to do that?'"

Despite these drawbacks, "I'm kind of ready to get out there, out of the bubble," Renfro quipped.

He said money was the biggest factor in his decision to graduate early.

"It's been a crunch. I felt really rushed this semester," Renfro said of finishing his last semester at Notre Dame.

"I'm kind of ready to move on," he said.

Contact Theresa Civanto at tcivanto@nd.edu

Security

continued from page 1

Kramer decided he needed to increase the security around his properties this year when tenants experienced car break-ins.

"We take every precaution that we possibly can, and that includes hiring a private security company," Kramer said.

The Majestic Security Company patrols all of Kramer's properties from the evening until the early morning. Kramer Properties sent tenants an e-mail encouraging them to contact local police departments to request daytime house patrols during winter break.

"Plus the maintenance staff and myself always keep an eye on it," he said. After each student leaves for Christmas break, Kramer said either he or a member of his staff will go to the property to ensure that the doors and windows are locked and the alarm is activated.

"That itself probably prevents 99 percent of crime," Kramer said.

Kramer is not the only landlord to use a private security force. Judy Logan, the property manager for Castle Point Apartments, regularly has three night watchmen on duty. In addition, a local police officer lives in each neighborhood section of the large complex.

"We don't have a lot of crime," Logan said. "But we don't want to become vulnerable, so we take every precaution."

Although both landlords have faith in their security systems, they agree that ultimately it is the students that can best protect themselves by taking simple precautions. For example, Kramer encourages students to place all their valuables, such as a television, in a bedroom and then deadbolt the door shut.

Logan said the best thing students can do is to avoid becoming vulnerable.

"We are living in the wild, wild West," Logan said. "Everyone needs to lock their doors and make sure their balconies and patios are locked."

For students who want to protect their bikes from theft

and from the elements, NDSP is holding its Annual NDSP Winter Bike Storage Thursday and Sunday. Students can bring their bikes to the Notre Dame Stadium

between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Thursday and between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

Students who plan to leave their cars on campus during break are encouraged to park them in the D2 South Lot. The parking lot will be locked during winter break.

"The lot will receive special attention from NDSP patrols during the break," the e-mail from NDSP said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jcmah06@nd.edu



STUDY TIME

DeBartolo Hall

STUDY DATES AND TIMES:

Dec 12: 7am to 3:00am **Midnight Snacks!**

Dec 13: 7am to 3:00am

Dec 16: 7am to 3:00am

Finals Week: Dec 14, 15, 17, 18, 19: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

Dec 19: DeBartolo Hall closes 30 minutes after last exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

Midnight Snacks available only during Study days.

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs: Room 103, 104.

Coleman-Morse: Dec 12-19:

1st Floor: 7:00am-4:00am

2nd floor: 7:00am-3:00am

3rd Floor: 7:00am-12am

See Building Support Person Room 101 if you have a specific need.

O'Shaughnessy: Rooms available for open study except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

Dec 12, 13, 16: 8:00am to 1:00am

Dec 14, 15, 16-19: 6pm to 3:00am Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

Rooms: 106, 107, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 204, 206, 207, 208, 209.



Good Luck with Finals



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AMEX 2,426.84 +24.83
NASDAQ 2,718.95 +42.95
NYSE 10,104.42 +80.84
S&P 500 1,515.96 +11.30
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 16,037.72 +113.33
FTSE 100 (London) 6,565.40 +10.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.78	+1.17	152.08
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+2.12	+0.66	31.86
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+0.40	+0.21	52.54
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	+0.77	+0.21	27.66

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.70	+0.029	4.149
13-WEEK BILL	-1.66	-0.050	2.970
30-YEAR BOND	+0.65	+0.030	4.615
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.88	+0.031	3.539

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.42	87.86
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+13.30	813.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.15	92.48

Exchange Rates

YEN	111.8150
EURO	0.6797
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0061
BRITISH POUND	0.4885

IN BRIEF

Ecuador threatens to drill in reserve

QUITO, Ecuador — Ecuador will open bidding for a major oil project in a jungle nature reserve in June if the poor Andean country does not receive international funding to abandon the proposal, the oil minister said Monday.

The government is seeking a minimum of \$350 million a year from the international community for 10 years not to drill in the Ishpingo-Tiputini-Tambococha fields located in Yasuni National Park, in Ecuador's northeastern jungle. The money is to compensate Ecuador for income it would have generated by drilling for oil at the site.

The jungle area, which holds close to 1 billion barrels of crude, is part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Some environmentalists say the reserve has more varieties of plant life than the United States and Canada combined.

President Rafeael Correa has said Ecuador was not asking for the money as "charity" but as a way for the international community to recognize its "shared responsibility" for preserving Yasuni as a major source of biodiversity.

On Monday, Ecuadorian Oil Minister Galo Chiriboga told Telemazonas TV that if the money is not collected by June 15, bidding on the fields will begin the following day.

UBS loses \$10 billion from subprimes

ZURICH, Switzerland — UBS AG will write off a further \$10 billion in losses from the U.S. subprime lending market, the Swiss bank said Monday, and raise billions in capital through share sales to Singapore and an unidentified investor in the Middle East.

UBS said it will post a loss for the fourth quarter and may now record a loss for the full year as well. That comes on top of the 4.2 billion francs written off in its third quarter, making 14.2 billion francs (\$12.6 billion) in writedowns from the subprime crisis by UBS this year.

The Government of Singapore Investment Corp., a sovereign-wealth fund, is investing 11 billion Swiss francs (\$9.75 billion), while an undisclosed strategic investor in the Middle East is contributing 2 billion francs (\$1.77 billion).

As recently as the middle of November, UBS had predicted a profit for the fourth quarter despite ongoing speculation about its subprime holdings.

Auto industry hit by slow market

Nervous public blamed for sluggish car sales; workers forced to cope with changes

Associated Press

DETROIT — The N. Keller General Contracting Co. of Loxahatchee, Fla., probably should replace its 7-year-old Ford F-350 Super Duty pickup.

But business in Palm Beach County isn't what it used to be, and like many contractors who work in Florida's sluggish housing industry, co-owner Jennifer Keller isn't inclined to spend the money just yet.

Not exactly what Detroit's automakers, who have spent the past two years shedding thousands of jobs and restructuring to avoid the industrial graveyard, want to hear.

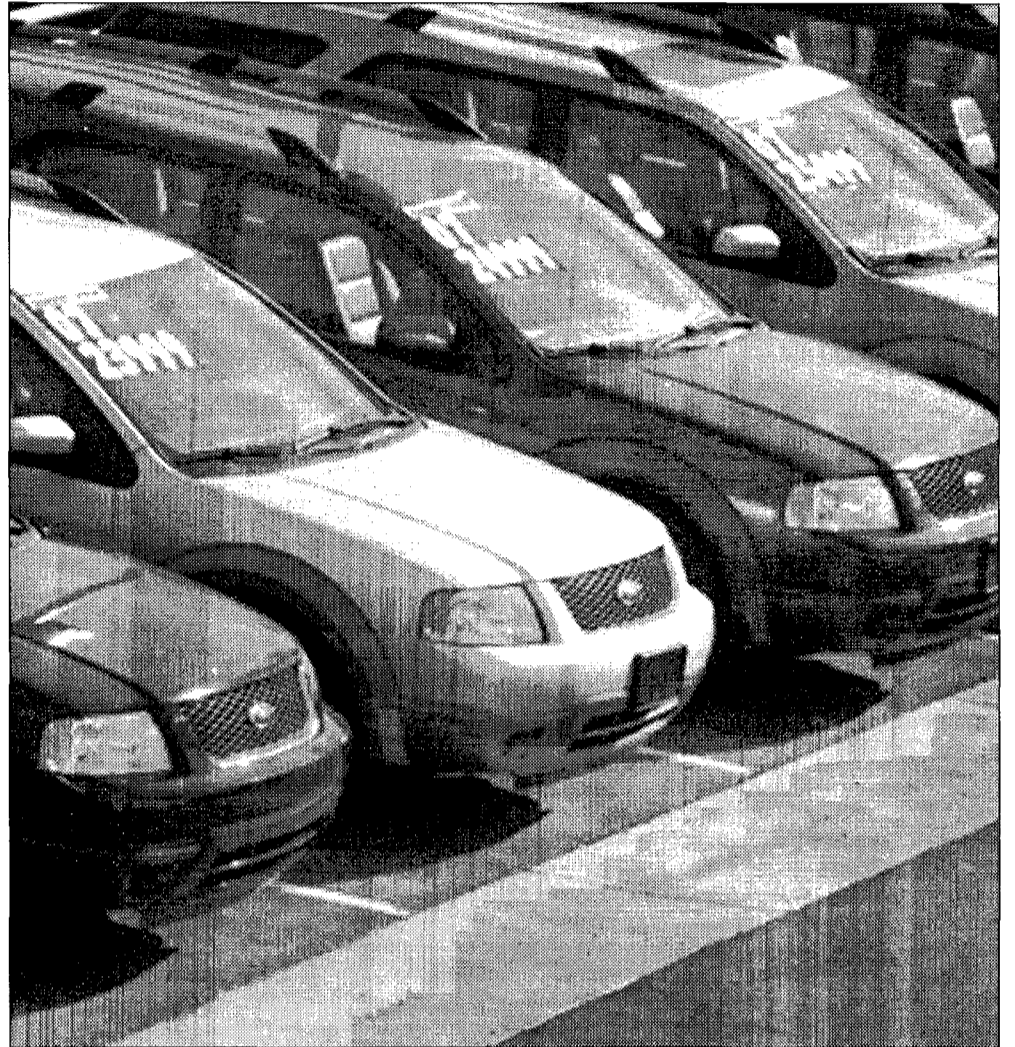
Just as they are about to reap savings from job cuts, globalization and a new cost-saving labor contract, and just as many of their new products are starting to sell, the auto companies are staring at a slowing U.S. market.

Because of the nationwide housing slump and the squeeze on credit, many auto industry analysts are predicting U.S. sales of just over 16 million vehicles this year. Many say that is likely to drop by 500,000 or more in 2008, the worst performance since 1998.

"The mode for next year seems to be get through the year," said Jeff Schuster, executive director of global forecasting for J.D. Power and Associates.

That's true for Keller, whose core business of remodeling stores has held steady, but concrete-cutting work on once-ubiquitous condominium projects has all but dried up.

The diesel-powered F-350, one of three pickups in the family owned company's fleet, still looks great and runs well, Keller said. Although they probably could afford to replace it now, they are too wary of the future to borrow



A row of unsold 2007 Ford Freestyles sit outside a car dealership in the Denver suburb of Lakewood, Colo. The auto industry is currently suffering from a surplus.

the money

"You don't want to take on an additional payment because you don't know where you're going to be six months from now," she said. "We're still doing OK, but we're smart enough to look at everyone else around us."

Trucks, including pickups and sport utility vehicles, still make up 53 percent of the U.S. auto market, according to Autodata Corp., and they generate a big chunk of the Detroit Three's revenue.

But sales of pickups, many of them used as work trucks, slow down when housing sales drop. Construction of

single-family homes in the U.S. in October skidded to the lowest level in 16 years, and pickup sales followed, sliding 11.2 percent in November and 5.5 percent for the year. That's particularly bad news for Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC, who are both introducing new versions of their flagship pickups in 2008.

"When housing goes down, trucks tank right along with it. There isn't any lag at all," said Erich Merkle, vice president of auto industry forecasting for the consulting firm IRN Inc. in Grand Rapids.

Throw in high oil prices, rising adjustable rate mort-

gages, sliding home values and the subprime mortgage mess and you've got a recipe for a down U.S. sales year for not just pickups but for all autos.

Many analysts say car and truck buyers may stay on the sidelines or look at used vehicles while the economy sputters.

Ed Wuerth, who owns an auto repair garage in Brownstown Township, Mich., south of Detroit, said he's already seeing people keeping cars longer and delaying repairs. Many complain about having to pay college tuition costs.

Newspaper mogul Black gets 78 months

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Former newspaper mogul Conrad Black was sentenced Monday to 6 1/2 years in prison, far less than sought by prosecutors, for swindling shareholders in his Hollinger media empire out of \$6 million.

"Mr. Black, you have violated your duty to Hollinger International shareholders," U.S. District Judge Amy J. St. Eve told the silver-haired millionaire member of the British House of Lords known throughout the newspaper industry for his lavish lifestyle and flamboyant use of words.

Black also was fined \$125,000 and ordered to pay part of \$6.1 million in restitution.

Prosecutors had asked for as many as 30 years in prison for the Canadian-born Black, saying he had not shown "one shred of remorse" for looting the company that once owned the Chicago Sun-Times, Daily Telegraph of London,

Jerusalem Post and hundreds of U.S. and Canadian community newspapers.

"Obviously, there's a great deal of relief" at the lighter-than-expected sentence, said Black attorney Jeffrey B. Steinback, who delivered a passionate, hourlong appeal for leniency.

Before the sentencing, lead prosecutor Eric H. Sussman urged St. Eve to impose a stern sentence as a warning to other potential corporate criminals and because that Black had not "shown one shred of remorse."

Defiant to the end, Black told the court that Hollinger's stock was still in double digits when he was removed as chairman and suggested its current value of less than \$2 a share was the fault of those who came after him.

"I do wish to profess my profound regret and sadness at the severe hardship of all the shareholders at the evaporation of \$1.8 billion in shareholder value under my successors," Lord Black of Crossharbour said.

But a shareholder, Eugene Fox, man-

aging director of Connecticut-based Cardinal Capital Management Co., gave a victim-impact statement urging St. Eve to punish Black in a way that would warn other executives not to defraud the shareholders. He said Black showed contempt for shareholders.

"He called us idiots and greedy fools," Fox said.

Reporters asked U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald if he was satisfied with the length of the sentence.

"Mr. Black is going to prison a convicted felon, convicted of fraud," Fitzgerald said. "So we proved the case. The bottom line is Mr. Black will do 6 1/2 years in jail. That's a serious amount of time."

St. Eve rejected a request from prosecutors to have Black locked up immediately and gave him until March 3 to report to prison. At Steinback's request, she recommended the federal correctional center at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, not far from the Palm Beach estate where Black has been living while out on \$21 million bond.

Court says judges have leeway in cocaine cases

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court, weighing in on an issue with racial undertones, ruled Monday that federal judges have broad leeway to impose shorter prison terms for crack cocaine in a case that bolsters the argument for reducing the difference in sentences for crack and powder cocaine.

The court, by 7-2 votes in the crack case and one other involving drugs, upheld more lenient sentences imposed by judges who rejected federal sentencing guidelines as too harsh.

The decision was announced ahead of a vote scheduled for Tuesday by the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which sets the guidelines, that could cut prison time for as many as 19,500 federal inmates convicted of crack crimes.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, writing for the majority in the crack case, said a 15-year sentence given to Derrick Kimbrough was acceptable, even though federal sentencing guidelines called for Kimbrough to receive 19 to 22 years.

"In making that determination, the judge may consider the disparity between the guidelines' treatment of crack and powder cocaine offenses," Ginsburg said.

Kimbrough, a veteran of the first Gulf War, is black, as are more than 80 percent of federal defendants sentenced in crack cases. By contrast, just over a quarter of those convicted of powder cocaine crimes last year were black.

The Sentencing Commission recently changed the guidelines to reduce the disparity in prison time for the two crimes. New guidelines took effect Nov. 1 after Congress took no action to overturn the change. Tuesday's vote is whether to apply the guidelines retroactively.

Monday's Supreme Court ruling grew out of a decision three years ago in which the justices ruled that judges need not strictly follow the sentencing guidelines. Instead, appellate courts would review sentences for reasonableness, although the court has since struggled to define

what it meant by that term.

The guidelines were established by the Sentencing Commission, at Congress' direction, in the mid-1980s to help produce uniform punishments for similar crimes.

Justice Samuel Alito, who with Justice Clarence Thomas dissented in both cases, said that after Monday's decisions, "Sentencing disparities will gradually increase."

The second case decided by the court did not involve cocaine. The justices upheld a sentence of probation for Brian Gall for his role in a conspiracy to sell 10,000 pills of ecstasy.

U.S. District Judge Robert Pratt of Des Moines, Iowa, determined that Gall had voluntarily quit selling drugs several years before he was implicated, stopped drinking, graduated from college and built a successful business. The guidelines said Gall should have been sent to prison for 30 to 37 months.

"The sentence imposed by the experienced district judge in this case was reasonable," Justice John Paul Stevens said in his majority opinion.

Stevens cautioned federal appeals courts to step in only when judges abuse their discretion.

Appeals courts in both cases tossed out the lesser sentences imposed by the judges. The Bush administration urged the Supreme Court to follow suit and order tougher sentences.

Monday's rulings could embolden trial judges to vary their sentences from the guidelines more frequently and diminish the chances that appeals courts will overturn those sentences, said Douglas Berman, a sentencing expert at the Ohio State University law school.

Kimbrough's case, though, did not present the justices with the ultimate question of the fairness of the disparity in crack and powder cocaine sentences. Congress wrote the harsher treatment for crack into a law that sets a mandatory minimum five-year prison sentence for trafficking in 5 grams of crack cocaine or 100 times as much cocaine powder. The law also sets maximum terms.

Bill Clinton aids Hillary's campaign

Former U.S. president tells Iowa crowd about his wife's intelligence

Associated Press

AMES, Iowa — Campaigning for his wife, former President Clinton says that when they were starting out he was so struck by her intellect and ability he once suggested she should just dump him and jump into her own political career.

That didn't happen, of course, and on Monday he gave an Iowa crowd his version of why it didn't.

"I thought it would be wrong for me to rob her of the chance to be what I thought she should be," said Clinton. "She laughed and said, 'First I love you and,

second, I'm not going to run for anything, I'm too hardheaded.'"

Hillary Rodham Clinton is running now, and husband Bill was stumping for her in the 2008 campaign's leadoff caucus state — two days after rival Democrat Barack Obama got a full weekend's worth of attention by bringing in talk show queen Oprah Winfrey to campaign for him.

The former president opened a two-day swing through Iowa on behalf of his wife, packing nearly 500 people into a theater on the campus of Iowa State University.

"She has spent a lifetime as a change agent when she had the option to do other things," he said.

"I thought she was the most gifted person of our generation," said Clinton, who said he told her, "You know, you really

should dump me and go back home to Chicago or go to New York and take one of those offers you've got and run for office."

Now that she's a New York senator and in a tight Democratic contest — with Illinois Sen. Obama and former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards — the former president said he wanted to persuade voters that she has "the best combination of mind and heart."

He offered a self-deprecating view of the couple's early life in Arkansas.


"When she came down there and we got married, I was a defeated candidate for Congress with a \$26,000 salary and a \$42,000 campaign debt," said Clinton. "If she were half as calculating as someone said, that's a really great way to run for president."

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Hayden called to explain CIA tapes

White House stays silent as Congress presses for answers

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress summoned CIA Director Gen. Michael Hayden to Capitol Hill to explain his agency's destruction of interrogation videotapes, as multiple investigations began into who knew about and approved the decision.

Hayden is to testify in a closed session Tuesday before the Senate Intelligence Committee, and on Wednesday before the House Intelligence Committee.

Among the questions he'll face is whether Congress was notified about the tapes' destruction. The chairman of the House panel, Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, said Hayden's assertion last week that lawmakers were informed "does not appear to be true."

Hayden told CIA employees on Thursday that the CIA had taped the interrogations of two terrorist suspects in 2002. He said Congress was notified in 2003 both of the tapes' existence and the CIA's intent to destroy them.

The tapes were destroyed in 2005 but Congress was not told until 2006 at the earliest. The House Intelligence Committee did not learn of the tapes' destruction until March 2007, and then indirectly during a general briefing about the CIA's interrogation program, Reyes said.

The tapes spanned hundreds of hours but "only a small fraction" showed the actual interrogation of the two men, a counterterrorism official said Monday.

Most of the tapes of one suspect, Abu Zubaydah, were to document his medical treatment, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the tapes are classified. Zubaydah

came into CIA custody with a gunshot wound and the CIA wanted to prove it gave him proper medical care in the event he died, the official said.

The Justice Department and the CIA's internal watchdog are conducting a joint inquiry into the matter to determine whether a full investigation is warranted. With that review ongoing, the White House counsel's office has instructed White House press secretary Dana Perino not to get into details with reporters.

"I think that that's appropriate, and I'll adhere to it," Perino said Monday. She said her previous statement remains accurate — that President Bush has no recollection of hearing about the tapes' existence or their destruction before being briefed about it last Thursday.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Monday she has no memory of the CIA videotapes.

Former White House counsel Harriet Miers did know about them, and recommended to the CIA in 2005 that the tapes not be destroyed, according to an official familiar with the probe. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak about the inquiry.

White House employees have been directed by the counsel's office to preserve all documents and e-mails related to the matter, Perino said.

Attorneys for one detainee say the destruction of the tapes may have violated a court order and have asked a federal judge to hold a hearing. In a court filing, attorneys for Yemeni national Mahmood Abdah point to a June 10, 2005, court order telling the government to "preserve and maintain all evidence and information regarding the torture, mistreatment, and abuse of detainees."

Shooter had history at school

Megachurch gunman was former student of missionary training center

Associated Press

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The gunman believed to have killed four people at a megachurch and a missionary training school had been thrown out of the school a few years ago and had been sending it hate mail, police said in court papers Monday.

The gunman was identified as Matthew Murray, 24, who was home-schooled in what a friend said was a deeply religious Christian household. Murray's father is a neurologist and a leading multiple-sclerosis researcher.

Five people — including Murray — were killed, and five others wounded Sunday in the two eruptions of violence 12 hours and 65 miles apart.

The first attack took place at Youth With a Mission, a training center for missionaries in the Denver suburb of Arvada; the other occurred at the New Life Church in Colorado Springs, where Murray was shot by a security guard, though investigators said he may have died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

"Through both investigations it has been determined that most likely the suspect in both shootings are one in the same," police said in court papers.

Colorado Springs police said the "common denominator in both locations" was Youth With a Mission. The training center maintains an office at the 10,000-member church.

"It appears that the suspect had been kicked out of the program three years prior and during the past few weeks had sent different forms of hate mail to the program and/or its director," police said.

Murray's relatives said they were grief-stricken and baffled.

"Our family cannot express the magnitude of our grief for the victims and families of this tragedy. On our behalf of our family, and our son, we ask for forgiveness. We cannot understand why this has happened," they said in a statement read by the gunman's uncle, Phil Abeyta, who fought back tears.

In a statement, the training center said health problems kept Murray from finishing the program. It did not elaborate. Murray did not complete the lecture phase or a field assignment as part of a 12-week program, Youth With a Mission said.

"The program directors felt that issues with his health made it inappropriate for him to finish," it said.

Police gave no immediate details on the hate mail. And the training center said that Murray left in 2002 — five years ago, not three — and that no one there can recall any visits or other communication from him since then.

Earlier Monday, a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity said it appeared Murray "hated Christians."

Investigators have not said whether Murray singled out his victims. But the two people killed at the church — sisters Stephanie and Rachael Works, ages 18 and 16 — frequented the training center, their uncle Mark Schaepe of Lincoln, Neb., told The Gazette of Colorado Springs.

Authorities searched the Murray house on a quiet street in Englewood on Monday for guns, ammunition and computers. No one was home when a reporter visited the split-level brick home

early Monday. Murray's father, Ronald S. Murray, is chief executive of the Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center in Englewood.

Matthew Murray lived there along with a brother, Christopher, 21, a student at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla.

A neighbor, Cody Askeland, 19, said the brothers were home-schooled, describing the whole family as "very, very religious."

Christopher studied for a semester at Colorado Christian University before transferring to Oral Roberts, said Ronald Rex, dean of admissions and marketing at Colorado Christian. He said Matthew Murray had been in contact with school officials this summer about attending the school but decided he wasn't interested because he thought the school was too expensive.

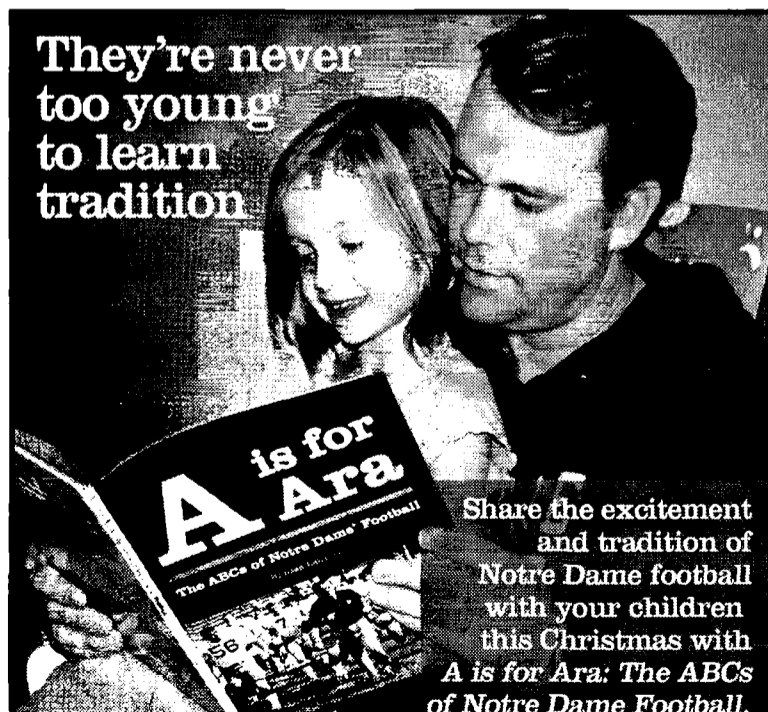
Police said Murray's only previous brush with the law was a traffic ticket earlier this year.

Senior Pastor Brady Boyd of New Life Church said the gunman had no connection to the church. "We don't know this shooter," Boyd said. "He showed up on our property yesterday with a gun with the intention of hurting people, and he did."

The gunman opened fire at 12:30 a.m. at the Youth With a Mission center. Witnesses said the man asked to spend the night there and opened fire with a handgun when he was turned down. They described him as a young man, perhaps 20, in a dark jacket and cap.

Later, at New Life Church, a gunman wearing a trench coat and carrying a high-powered rifle opened fire in the parking lot and later walked into the church as a service was letting out.

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12/15/07

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Compass of dissent

This past weekend saw the theatrical debut of another children's fantasy book adaptation: "The Golden Compass," based on the first volume in Philip Pullman's "His Dark Materials" trilogy. The movie has garnered a healthy share of media attention recently due to obloquy by various Christian organizations. The groups point to the blatantly anti-Christian, even anti-religious, tone of the book and movie. Some of these critiques make the mistake of trying to contain art rather than letting it speak for itself, good or bad, a misstep we can all appreciate here on campus.

James Dechant

Foregone Conclusion

Their concerns certainly hold merit. Pullman has described his books as being "about killing God" with the express purpose of undermining the basis of Christian belief. The trilogy is a modern reversal of "Paradise Lost" in which the characters celebrate rather than mourn their independence from the divine, a riff on the plot of Shelley's "Prometheus Unbound." Pullman is an outspoken, bellicose atheist who sees evil in all organized religions and regularly speaks out against ecclesial hierarchy.

The funny thing is, "The Golden Compass" and its sequels actually do a better job of making a case for humanism or atheism than they do attacking religious institutions — which would seem the easier target. The book promotes free human action and virtue without any divine referent and makes serious, ardent ideological arguments for atheism. Its attacks against the Church, however, are laughable. Pullman uses priests in the book as cookie-cutter villains who pursue and harass the protagonists, but he demonizes them so unequivocally that his puerile characterizations of their institution cannot be taken seriously.

The Church clergy who make up the film version's evil antagonists — here referred to as the Magisterium — are even more laughable as a mass-produced

pastiche. They sit in their tower plotting how to capture children and suppress the world's freedom. Sinister music accompanies their few brief scenes and Christopher Lee, legendary cinema villain, makes a short appearance as the token plotting mastermind.

In case you're wondering, the movie is an average flick overall. Director Christ Weitz has watered down the antireligious message considerably. The film moves quickly from one goal-oriented action scene to another without giving the characters much time to develop any of the book's philosophical themes, played down in this version. In short, the books are better.

Given the strident vitriol of "His Dark Materials," one can see why the Catholic League, an American anti-defamation organization, finds the movie upsetting. They say the film may bait viewers into buying the books for their children. Valid point. But their strategy for countering the book and film's message calls for a boycott of the movie.

Unfortunately, the League does not understand that calling for this boycott only brightens the spotlight on the film. Perhaps "any news is good news" goes too far, but calling for a boycott on a film or book is like asking for a host of media attention. The Catholic League hopes the film's box office take will disappoint because of their efforts. Instead, you can bet all the attention they give it will only spike profits, no matter their relation to projections.

The trilogy is profoundly anti-Catholic and anti-religious, even avowedly so. Nevertheless, there are elements in the books that make for a good story and a good tale — and many even make a good moral message. The plot is well paced and Pullman turns the book's universal themes into beautiful writing, particularly towards the trilogy's end. The Catholic League fails to recognize this redeeming content, but other groups do not.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops responded differently — and, as I see it,

much more intelligently. It acknowledges the bounty of offensive material in the book but notes its dramatic reduction in this adaptation. The bishops' Film and Broadcasting Office even gives the film a positive review and calls it "an exciting adventure story with, at its core, a traditional struggle between good and evil and a generalized rejection of authoritarianism." They cite the heroism and self-sacrifice exhibited by the film's altruistic characters. Moreover, they welcome the potential pedagogic value to be had in an honest inquiry of the book's contents. "Rather than banning the movie or books, parents might instead take the opportunity to talk through any thorny philosophical issues with their teens," they advise.

The film's varied responses from Christians should provide a lesson on how to deal with material that any group finds threatening or irreconcilable. Trying to control the media realm should be abandoned in favor of allowing art to speak its part. The message applies to everyone from governments keen on suppressing dissenters to colleges questioning the academic validity of performance art. Notre Dame itself hopefully learned a lesson when it questioned the place of "The Vagina Monologues" here on campus.

That doesn't mean art is free to do whatever it wants scot-free, but you cannot clamp down on it from an authoritarian position. Instead of the "don't touch," hands-off approach that the Catholic League advocates, we should adopt the constructive hands-on approach of the bishops. We must be willing to engage difficult questions and grapple with provocative themes. We must welcome dissent.

James Dechant will be spending his Christmas in the tropical paradise of western Kansas. Heretical and blasphemous reading material can be sent to him at jdechant@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Do not fear to be eccentric in opinion, for every opinion now accepted was once eccentric."

Bertrand Russell
philosopher

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Any word you have to hunt for in the thesaurus is the wrong word. There are no exceptions to this rule."

Stephen King
author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Comics offensively unfunny

Throughout this semester, the Observer comics have continually offended me — all of them. Is it their topics? Their style? Certainly not. Any style or subject can be made into something funny. Wait, that's it! They're just not funny — such that I feel truly offended. I can hardly recall any Observer comic inducing some sort of laugh from me. Perhaps a short guffaw from "Black Dog" or a chuckle from "Tastes Like Failure." Certainly nothing from the embarrassingly awful "Deuces Manor." But even those reactions are few and far between. I attribute this to the often weak punch lines from the first two, and the relative absence of one in the last.

I know that comedy is purely subjective, but am I really alone with my criticism? For instance, I don't

recall a single person among friends, classmates, and coworkers who has given me a positive response about the Observer comics. The best I have heard is "mediocre" or "Hey, they try." Maybe I should just ask more people; perhaps a random poll around campus would prove me wrong. But this late in the semester, that seems pointless.

Instead, I hope that The Observer prepares a clean slate for next semester and takes out every comic from its syndication to give others a chance. I think the best approach for this is to hold a one week tryout for new comics and let the readers decide. (Please, no voting by e-mail. I'm sure someone on the Observer staff can ask around during meal times.) I know that I am taking these comics rather seriously, but

previous Viewpoint letters prove I'm not the only one. "Offensive" material doesn't bother me, but bad material does. Newspaper comics give Notre Dame students, both artists and writers, a chance to practice their creative skills and present them publicly. Instead, these comics seem to be in The Observer just so there are comics in The Observer. There are Notre Dame students who would work hard to create quality comedic material for The Observer, and we owe it these people to give them a decent chance.

The comic to the right was drawn by the author of this letter.

Ryan Simmons
junior
Keough Hall
Dec. 9



Look at quality first

While I agree with Pat McHugh that "Pie is an overlooked dessert option" ("Dining hall menu needs adjusting," Dec. 7), I must comment that the pie offered at the South Food Market is subpar, mediocre at best. McHugh would like to rectify this perceived "lack of pie" with more of the same. This is simply not the correct path to take. Rather, South Food Market should seek out new vendors in an aggressive campaign to improve the quality of pie offered.

Only then should we begin to ask, "What is up with the Oriental line?"

Scott Vitter
sophomore
Alumni Hall
Dec. 9

EDITORIAL CARTOON



U-WIRE

Putting the 'can' back in 'candidate'

By the time classes resume for the spring semester, voting in the 2008 election will have already gotten underway. With the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary in the very near future (Jan. 3 and 8, respectively) the Daily would like to take this last opportunity to offer some parting reflections.

We're excited about the upcoming election for several reasons. Eight years of an administration that refused to face realities, both in the Middle East and at home, subverted the Constitution and never admitted its failings, was eight years too many. A new face in the White House is long overdue.

It has also been nice to see the concrete proposals that have been coming out of primary races thus far. Instead of spewing nebulous promises to end the war in Iraq and to fund universal health care coverage, campaigns have put forth specific timetables for withdrawal and precise health care plans.

In short, we are hopeful that the next year will bring fruitful debate and a truly new direction for the country. But there is one aspect of the political process that we hope won't be too prevalent in the coming months: Attempts from candidates to appear folksy, down-to-earth, and just like the Average Joe are not welcome, especially after nearly eight years of President Bush.

Bush represented the worst of this anti-intellectual streak. Although he comes from the most privileged of backgrounds, his feeble attempts at scholarship in school seemed to be a

personal way of rebelling against the elitist Ivory Tower.

A summa cum laude degree from Yale shouldn't be a prerequisite for presidency, but it sure doesn't hurt. What's most bothersome about Bush is his persistent lack of intellectual curiosity, manifested in the fact that he doesn't read daily papers and didn't seem interested in succeeding in higher education.

We aren't looking for a president with whom we can sit down and drink a beer. We don't want an Average Joe ascending to one of the most powerful positions in the Western World; we want to see a leader who jumps at intellectual and political challenges and who can relate to the population without reaching to the lowest common denominator.

A candidate who promises to be just like the rest of us isn't a leader at all, and being in tune with the needs of Americans does not equate to taking up the same entertainment and lifestyle choices of the rest of the country.

We hope that the coming months will feature rich debates that go beyond the clothing choice of candidates and instead serve as forums for nationwide discussions.

With any luck, the election will be headed in exactly that direction as we take up our books again in January.

This article originally appeared in the Dec. 10 issue of the Tufts Daily, the daily publication of Tufts University.

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

Staff Editorial

Tufts Daily

Tufts University

Please recycle The Observer.

Choir to perform concert

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

The Notre Dame Celebration Choir puts on its "Christmas at the CoMo" concert tonight at 7:30 in the Main Lounge of Coleman-Morse Center.

"This show is very similar to our previous shows in format," said alto Christine Gage, who has also sung as a tenor in past shows. The choir will perform a variety of Christmas music, including both familiar favorites and less common carols. Some of the tried-and-true tunes include "O Holy Night" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," while an example of a new song is "Do You Hear What I Hear."

"Whenever we perform, we include a few pieces that stretch us as a choir," Gage said. The group will perform a movement from Handel's "Messiah" ("And the Glory of the Lord") in addition to Gesu Bambino and the Candlelight Carol.

"These are our more technically complicated pieces," Gage said, "though I would have to say that all pieces have their difficulties."

The performance will feature a voluntary collection to assist a Holy Cross mission in disaster areas of Bangladesh in addition to a short presentation on the mission. International students will also speak briefly on Christmas traditions in other countries.

Of the choir ensemble's 40 members, singers and instrumentalists alike agreed that the Handel music posed the greatest challenge from a performance standpoint. "The most difficult piece in our repertoire for the concert would probably be 'And the Glory of the Lord' from Handel's 'Messiah,'" Celebration Choir president Chris Perkins said. Perkins is one of six tenors in the group.

The choir members will perform songs that challenge their limits as singers and performers. "The most difficult piece for us has been an excerpt from Handel's 'Messiah,'" cellist Brian Camus said. "This is the first time we have ever sang anything from this piece, so not only is it new but it is also quite challenging."

The choir added extra rehearsals due to the limited time between its last Stepan Mass performance and the "Christmas at the CoMo" concert.

"[The Handel piece] has a bunch of odd rhythms and entrances that took us awhile to get down," soprano Carolyn Shivers said. Shivers also said the Choir was able to select more difficult compositions to perform because it had more people than it has had in the past. "It's nice to have enough altos and sopranos to sing the divisi," she said. The divisi parts feature two or more notes written for each vocal part.

Even with the new music, the choir expects a show similar to years past. "The concert will be fairly reminiscent of past Christmas concerts," Perkins said. "We'll have plenty of traditional carols along with several newer pieces which should provide our audience with a wonderful way to usher in the Christmas season."

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MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

If you were a new indie rock band that made a stunning debut in the past five years, you put out another album in 2007 (The Arcade Fire, Iron & Wine, The Shins, LCD Soundsystem, Feist, Beirut). If you were an already established indie rock band with a long string of albums (Wilco, Ted Leo, Bright Eyes, White Stripes), you also put out an

album in 2007. As such, top-10 lists already creeping out on the internet and in the zines are bound to be weighed down by the big names. However, none of these bands/ musicians made my top 10 list. How come? While each put out pretty solid albums, they weren't phenomenal. To be blunt, it is the music lovers typical (and annoyingly over-used) statement, "Well, I liked their early stuff better." But it's true — mostly these bands borrow very heavily from the amazing albums they put out in the past few years: Arcade Fire's earth-shattering self-titled, Iron & Wine's memorable collaboration with Calexico, Beirut's exploratory Soviet sound, The Shins folksy Simon & Garfunkel style. They each have added some new complexities, and were even remarkable, but just not top of the pile. Others have stuck pretty much entirely in the same sound we're used to — Ted Leo, Wilco, etc. Good music, all of it, but too static, too safe, and we demand something new, something we haven't heard.

In summary, excitement and freshness was found elsewhere, outside the big names. Six of the following are nearly brand new artists, on their first album. These new faces have put out career defining debut records that can be likened to little else this year, full of compelling, captivating and enigmatic sounds. The remaining four (only two with more than two real albums) have altered their sound in a fresh and enlightening way that puts their new material at least on par with the songs that first took you by the hand and showed you something brilliant.

1. Jens Lekman, "Night Falls Over Kortedala." Possibly the most beautiful release of the year, while still remaining lighthearted; as inspiring or more so than the first time you heard Sufjan Stevens (also one of the best live acts of the year).

2. Fiery Furnaces, "Widow City." The brother-sister duo add some tough rock & roll elements to their quirky, literary and downright weird sound. You might even think the guitars resemble 70s rock, or grunge, but they are as inventive as ever, especially on the standout track "cabaret of the seven devils."

3. Ryan Adams, "Easy Tiger." His most refined and consistent album by far (of course, that is not saying much), this latest in a long line of records blends the bare elements of Heartbreaker with his unabashedly country twang. There is both the soul-baring honesty of Joni Mitchell and the cocky rock n' roller.

4. Chromatics, "Night Drive." Everything good about the 80s underground is distilled and redefined for a brighter and

slightly more fun generation of young music lovers. Vaguely sinister, but also lovely.

5. St. Vincent, "Marry Me." Competing with Jens for most beautiful record, every song is different, some jarring and some whisper soft, but all breathtaking.

6. Panda Bear, "Person Pitch." One of the first great records of the year, its cheery optimism is still getting played and talked about eight months later.

7. The 1900s, "Cold & Kind." For fans of Belle and Sebastian with a slightly country rock feel, very young and lively. Along with the Fiery Furnaces, this group is from Chicago, so you may get to see them soon.

8. Bat For Lashes, "Fur and Gold." Rather creepy at first with a slightly Arabian nights feel, dark and aromatic, honest but confusing, easy to get lost in, etc.

9. Kate Nash, "Made of Bricks." Alternately fun/spunky, endearingly innocent/naive and earnest/heartfelt, she replaces Lilly Allen as my favorite British girl singer.

10. Battles, "Mirrored." Weird, innovative, difficult, mind bending, CRAZY. And another phenomenal live show. Some congratulations are in order, of course, for all the bands listed in the first paragraph for continuing their fine careers — they certainly

have not slacked off. Particularly fun were the White Stripes, the Shins, Of Montreal, Deerhoof, and the Animal Collective. Also fantastic, although not albums proper, were the following: the stark and moving Neil Young "Live at Massey Hall 1971"; the sleek, dark and

sexy "After Dark" compilation of artists on the Italians Do It Better imprint (see the Chromatics); the noise-rock self-titled EP from Health. Finally, complements to MIA and Justice for my two favorite songs of fall 2007, "Paper Planes" and "D — A — N — C — E."

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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	Jens Lekman "Night Falls Over Kortedala"
	Fiery Furnaces "Widow City"
	Ryan Adams "Easy Tiger"
	Chromatics "Night Drive"
	St. Vincent "Marry Me"
	Panda Bear "Person Pitch"
	The 1900s "Cold & Kind"
	Bat For Lashes "Fur and Gold"
	Kate Nash "Made of Bricks"
	Battles "Mirrored"



Photo courtesy of rawkblog.blogspot.com

Jens Lekman, shown strumming onstage here, made Hoban's best-of list for 2007 with his album "Night Falls Over Kortedala."



MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

The year is coming to an end and the topic at the top of every music lover's mind is: The Best Album Lists of 2007. Whether you read them on the internet, refer to magazines, or just ask around, The Best Album list is a fun way to wrap up the year and see what new developments have occurred (or not) in music. The WVFI Music Committee offer you our favorites to read while taking a break from bio-chemistry chapters and crunching accounting problems.

Christine Nguyen

Scene & Heard

This year in top album lists there seems to be a disparity between actually quality records and what the industry thinks they need to acknowledge to keep their music cred flowing. Abysmal lists from several print magazines (Filter, Harp, UnCut) as well as trusted music blogs (My Old Kentucky Blog, seem to signal a need for reinvention).

After the top 10 there seems to be nothing more than a gamete of the best indie artists of the last five years filling up the rest of the amazingly long top albums lists. If a band made a fantastic album five years ago why is that an invitation for its mediocre album to invade 2007's lists? Is there a need for a top 100 if only 1-57 are actually deserving of any recognition? And why in the world is The Good, The Bad and the Queen getting into the top five?

We get it, you all miss the Gorillaz. However, TGTBATQ are not them, and even if Damian is heading up the project, gold does not flow from his fingertips. To be fair, going through other lists and voicing my dismay, makes me realize that I will never be able to make everyone happy, but nevertheless I present my list of best (read: personal favorites) of

the year.

Top Albums:

"Health," by Health

Health is pretty much the only experimental noise band that I can really stomach. Really I not only stomach it, but I really enjoy this noisy/trippy freshman album. This is saying a lot, as they have crafted some amazing amounts of chaos into controlled melodies while never losing the rawness of their sound.

"Sound of Silver," by LCD Soundsystem

Sure, some people don't like really good dance music that isn't techno. I'm not one of those people. I am normal. Therefore, I believe Sounds of Silver hits the spot when a dance party needs to be picked up.

"The Magic Position," by Patrick Wolf

Patrick Wolf's sophomore album proves him to be a proprietor of not only beautifully orchestrated songs but also in control of one of the most unique presences

in music. Sheer joy and cheeriness are contained the title track while the rest of The Magic Position never moves too far from his industrial background. A nice mix making for a truly interesting album.

"Rise Above," by Dirty Projectors

Rise Above is composed of some really unique sounds: bells, whistles, choir like hums, computer beats, etc.

However, The Dirty Projects have been making sounds that are totally accessible, while never leaving the listener board, though perhaps a bit confused.

"Cross," by Justice

French Pop is the new...everything that is great and good in music. Danceable, loud, and catchy as all out, Ed Banger Records' token child is push dance music beyond techno beats, filtering the obnoxious repetition of beeps and sirens for well-placed beats and stressed sounds. If "D.A.N.C.E" doesn't do it for you, you might consider dropping out and moving into a retirement home.

"Myths of the Near Future," by Klaxons

New Rave references aside, the band



Photo courtesy of deadoceans.com/.../dirtyprojectorspress.php

Dirty Projectors, pictured here, made good use of all kinds of sounds, including bells, whistles and computer beats, in making their album, "Rise Above."

has already voiced their distaste for the label. Klaxons are sonically beat driven, while keeping rock in mind. Anything that promotes kids dressed in neon thrashing around to post apocalyptic beats and lyrics based on futurist manifestos is worth a listen.

"Favourite Worst Nightmare," by Arctic Monkeys

The Arctic Monkeys are young, about our age, and part of me wants to say "look, we can make great rock music!" and the other side of me is green with envy for their talent and ability to take naiveté and turn it into songs about longing that never border on pathetic. It's as if they took all the most fun and most frustrating parts of youth and channeled them into tales that make nostalgia appear as fast as events occur.

"Back to Black," by Amy Winehouse

Despite the constant flurry of "Britain's version of Britney Spears" its hard to ignore that talent that ultimately catapulted Winehouse into celebrity. Her songs work both as throwbacks to 50's girl groups and fresh approaches to the female singer genre. Try and ignore her

messy beehive and whacked-out eyeliner and take a listen to "Love is a Losing Game" it will melt your heart.

"Night Drive," by Chromatics

The Chromatics mix lo-fi electronic beats with airy echo-y vocals, to create hauntingly beautiful songs. Minimal at their very best, Night Drive has the ability to sound full while sometimes employing no more than guitar and a voice, not a feat to be ignored.

"Easy Tiger," by Ryan Adams

Knowing fully that mentioning "that new Ryan Adams record" is the musical equivalent to the lead-up for a punch line, Easy Tiger presents itself as Adam's most accessible, maybe due to his sobriety. Not Heartbreaker, but still employing some serious sincerity and heart tugging lyrics, Easy Tiger is maybe "Adams Lite" presented to the public for pop consumption.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Christine Nguyen at asleepingly@gmail.com



Photo courtesy of berlinfestival.de/2006/wp-content/press/Klaxons.jpg

Klaxons released "Myths of the Near Future" in March. The group has been credited with starting the "New Rave" music movement.



Photo courtesy of weblogs.newsday.com/.../blog/images/arcticm.jpg

Arctic Monkeys dropped "Favourite Worst Nightmare" in April. The band continues to impress with its mix of high-energy guitars and distinct vocals.

NBA

Sixers continue surge with win over Rockets

Smith's monster game leads Hawks to third straight win while dealing Magic first losing streak of season

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Andre Iguodala and the suddenly successful Philadelphia 76ers gave one of the largest crowds of the season their money's worth for once.

The Sixers' only worry this week has been learning how to play with a huge lead instead of trying to rally against one.

Iguodala scored 16 points, Andre Miller had 17 points and 12 assists and the Sixers led by as many as 31 points in a 100-88 victory over the Houston Rockets on Monday night.

"I don't think about being up by 30, I think about playing good basketball," Iguodala said.

Not even Ed Stefanski, hired last week as team president and general manager, could have predicted a turnaround quite like this. The Sixers are on a three-game winning streak for the first time this season and used all sorts of new and unique lineups to throw off the Rockets.

Willie Green scored 20 points for the Sixers and Kyle Korver had 14.

"Nobody seems to be in a funk right now," Iguodala said.

The Sixers took advantage of a scheduling break to go on their first winning streak. The first two wins were against the New York Knicks, and the road-weary Rockets were playing their second game in two days after losing at Toronto.

The Sixers can make it four straight against the NBA-worst Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday.

"We've got to keep this up. We can't lay down," Iguodala said.

Tracy McGrady scored 12 points for the Rockets before leaving the game in the second half with a sprained right ankle. Bonzi Wells scored 24 points, Luther Head had 18 and Yao Ming 12. The Rockets played without Rafer Alston, out with a groin injury.

"They were quicker in every phase," Rockets coach Rick Adelman said. "We didn't have any energy. We'll look at it and evaluate it. Everybody has to evaluate how they can do better."

Sixers coach Maurice Cheeks said he planned to stick with his new game plan of expanding beyond an eight-man rotation, an idea that blossomed shortly

after Stefanski was hired, and almost everyone played at least 10 minutes.

Yes, the score was one reason for the bloated minutes for subs like Rodney Carney. But rookies like Thaddeus Young and Jason Smith received substantial playing time in the first half and helped the Sixers take an early double-digit lead that was never really threatened.

The Rockets opened the fourth quarter on a 15-2 run that was about two quarters too late. They cut the deficit to 10 points with 1:50 left, but it really didn't matter at that point to the Sixers.

"We have to learn how to play with that type of lead," Cheeks said. "I hope we have a lot of them."

Samuel Dalembert, who grabbed 13 rebounds, set the tone early with his stiff rejection of a shot by McGrady that Iguodala quickly converted into a thunderous dunk on the other end.

The Sixers had another one for the highlight reel when Young surprised Yao and stripped him of the ball under the basket, passed the ball out to Miller who hit Korver for an open 3. That capped a 15-2 run and helped the Sixers take a 56-42 lead into halftime.

Miller swiped the ball midway through the third and dished to Iguodala, who went the length of the court for a breakaway, one-handed pump slam that stirred a rare enthusiastic crowd.

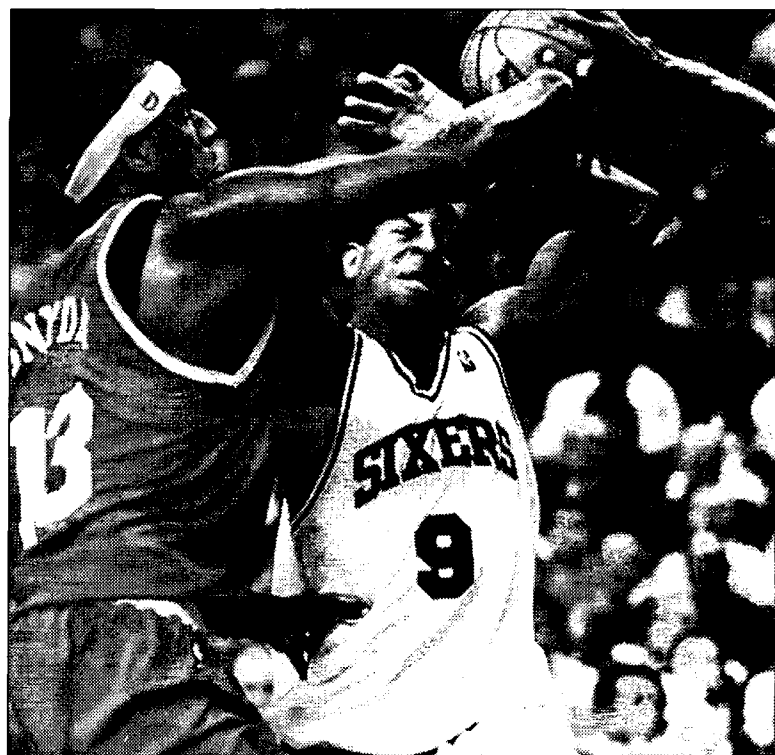
"I feel like we're playing with more energy and our defense has been there," Korver said. "We're finally scoring some points and if we're able to do that and still play solid defense, we're going to be OK."

Hawks 98, Magic 87

Josh Smith remembers losing. The Atlanta Hawks forward had more rebounds Monday night than his team had wins in his entire rookie season.

Smith had 25 points and a season-high 16 rebounds as the Hawks evened their record at 10-10 with a victory over the Orlando Magic.

"This win is real big — just for us to get to .500," said Smith, who added four blocks and five assists. "I have been on this team since day one, when we won 13



Rockets forward Kirk Snyder, left, tries to stop Sixers forward Andre Iguodala during Philadelphia's 100-88 win Monday over Houston.

games [in 2004-05]."

The Hawks dealt Orlando its second straight loss, and won their third straight, picking up a potentially important game over the Southeast Division-leading Magic (16-6).

The Hawks led all but the opening 90 seconds, and held Orlando's prolific 3-point shooters in check almost all game. Orlando shot a season-low 39.7 percent, though Atlanta wasn't much better. The Hawks shot 42.7 percent, but capitalized on 19 Magic turnovers for 29 points.

"We did make some mistakes, but I actually thought a lot of it was them," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "They've got great, great quickness as a team, and good length. I thought they made it very, very difficult on us to get quality shots — they contested shots better than anybody that we've played against."

Joe Johnson scored 24 points for Atlanta — 11 in the first quarter — and Anthony Johnson had 15 points and five assists.

Hedo Turkoglu led Orlando with 22 points, while Dwight Howard had 14 points and 18 rebounds, Rashard Lewis scored 15 points and Keith Bogans

added 12. Howard was just 6-of-14 from the free throw line.

The loss meant Orlando's first losing streak this season.

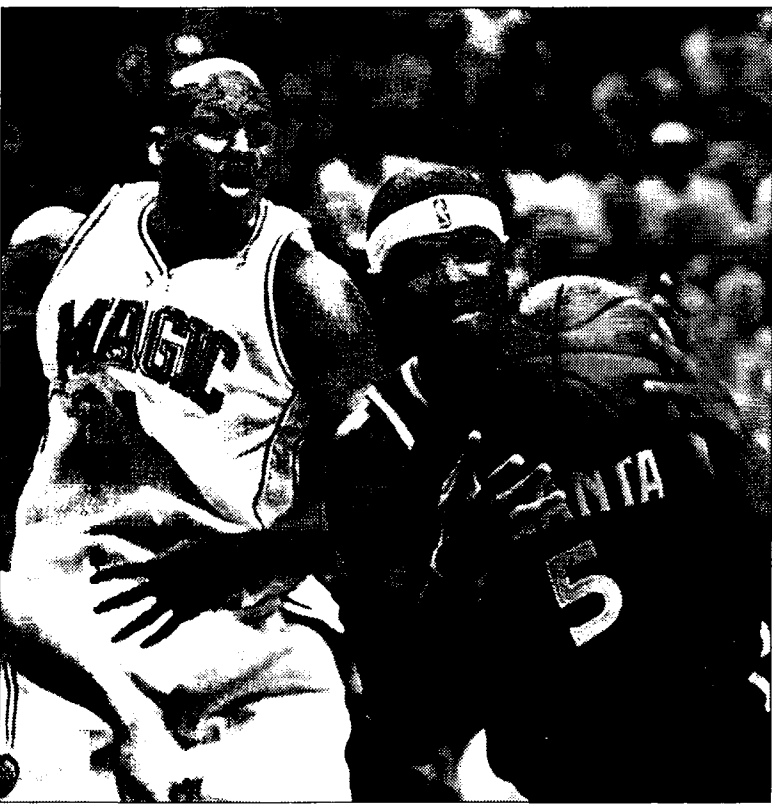
"It's frustrating, of course, we lost the game, but it's not the end of the world," Lewis said. "We're still 16-6, one of the best records in the league. This happens in the NBA — we lost two in a row."

Atlanta led 49-41 at halftime, and blew the game open early in the third quarter with an 8-2 run over a 1:45 span. The Hawks took their biggest lead, 59-44, on Marvin Williams' turnaround jumper with 8:55 left in the third quarter.

The Magic finally made a run two minutes later. Despite missing several open shots — including at least three open 3s — Orlando finished the quarter on a 12-4 run and trailed 69-63 entering the fourth.

The Magic drew to 75-72 on consecutive 3s from Turkoglu and Keyon Dooling, then didn't score for the next 3:42.

"They made a couple, but I thought we defended the 3-point line well tonight," Hawks coach Mike Woodson said. "We just had a total 48-minute ballgame that was right on the money."



Hawks forward Josh Smith, left, grabs a rebound in front of Magic forward Maurice Evans during Atlanta's 98-87 win Monday over Orlando.

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.

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JAN. 16. GOOD LUCK WITH
FINALS AND
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When the Jets beat the Patriots this
Sunday:
— great Jets win? OR...
— greatest Jets win?

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
New Jersey	16-10-3	35	9-0-1
NY Rangers	16-12-2	34	4-5-1
Philadelphia	15-10-2	32	4-4-2
Pittsburgh	15-12-2	32	7-2-1
NY Islanders	14-12-2	30	3-5-2

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Ottawa	18-7-3	39	3-4-3
Boston	15-10-2	33	6-3-1
Montreal	14-11-4	32	3-6-1
Toronto	12-12-6	30	5-4-1
Buffalo	13-13-1	27	7-3-0

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Carolina	16-12-3	35	4-6-0
Atlanta	14-14-1	29	5-4-1
Tampa Bay	13-13-3	29	3-5-2
Florida	13-15-1	27	6-4-0
Washington	10-17-2	22	4-5-1

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Detroit	21-6-2	44	8-1-1
St. Louis	16-10-1	33	6-3-1
Columbus	13-11-5	31	4-4-2
Nashville	14-11-2	30	5-4-1
Chicago	14-13-2	30	4-5-1

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Vancouver	16-10-3	35	6-2-2
Minnesota	16-11-2	34	6-4-0
Colorado	16-12-1	33	5-5-0
Calgary	12-13-5	29	4-4-2
Edmonton	13-16-1	27	6-4-0

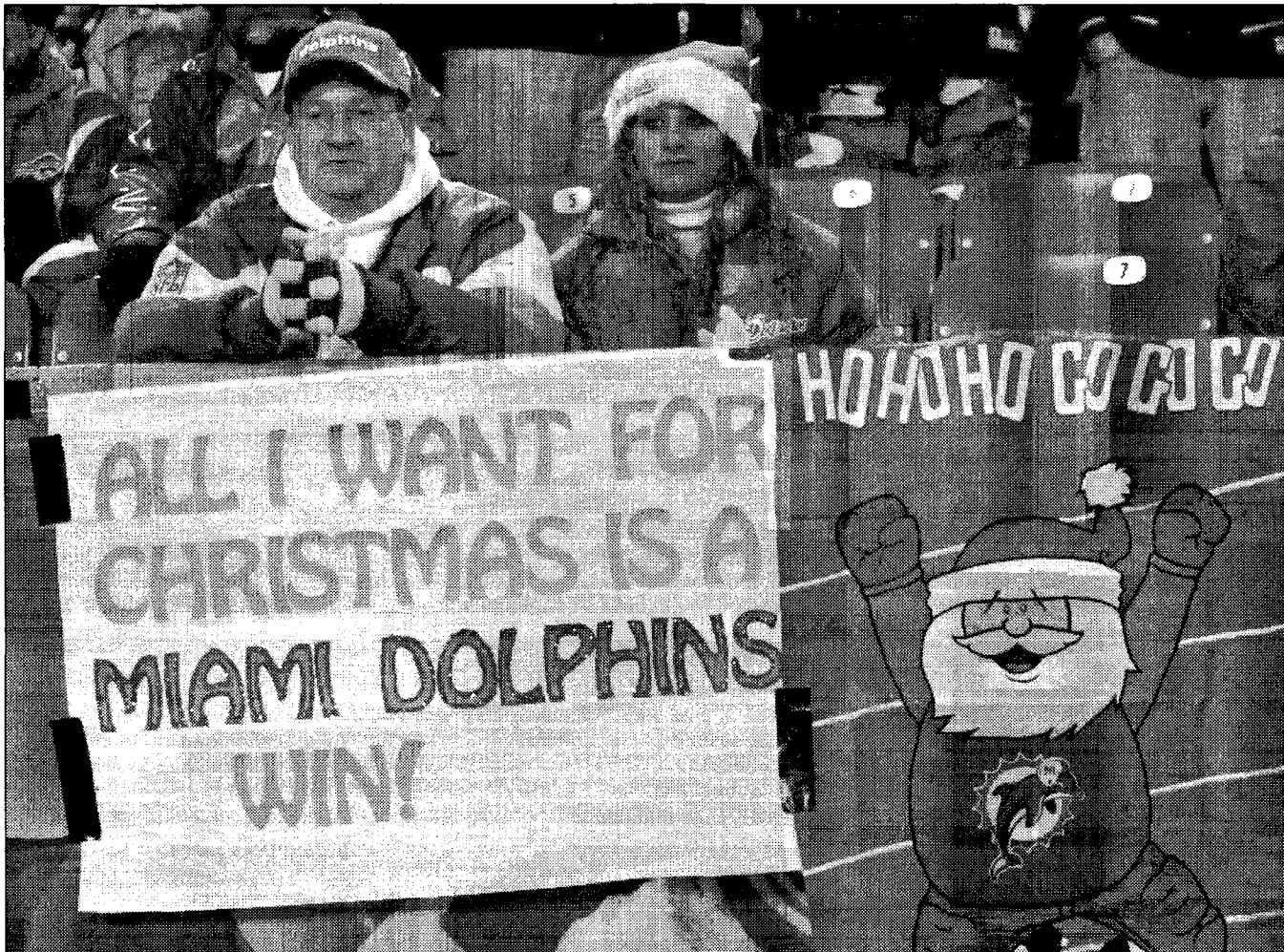
Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
San Jose	15-9-4	34	6-2-2
Dallas	15-11-4	34	6-4-0
Anaheim	14-13-4	32	4-5-1
Phoenix	13-15-0	26	5-5-0
Los Angeles	11-16-2	24	3-6-1

NCAA Women's Basketball AP Poll

team	record	previous
1 Tennessee	7-0	1
2 Connecticut	7-0	2
3 North Carolina	10-1	3
4 Maryland	13-1	4
5 Stanford	7-1	5
6 Rutgers	6-2	6
7 Georgia	9-0	7
8 LSU	6-2	8
9 Oklahoma	6-2	9
10 Baylor	6-0	10
11 California	8-1	11
12 Texas A&M	8-1	12
13 West Virginia	8-1	13
14 Auburn	9-0	14
15 Duke	7-3	15
16 DePaul	7-0	16
17 NOTRE DAME	8-1	17
18 Arizona State	5-3	18
19 Ohio State	6-2	19
20 Texas	7-2	20
21 Michigan State	7-2	21
22 Oklahoma State	8-0	22
23 Vanderbilt	8-3	23
24 Wyoming	8-1	24
25 Old Dominion	6-3	25

NFL



Two hopeful Dolphins fans invoke St. Nick's help Sunday during Miami's 38-17 loss to Buffalo. The loss dropped the Dolphins to 0-13, causing worries about Miami coach Cam Cameron's job security.

Cameron faces questions after 0-13 record

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — When Cam Cameron began his first training camp as an NFL head coach in late July, he said he was unfazed by the many challenges facing the Miami Dolphins.

"I'm not a worrier," he said. "I don't go down that road."

Maybe that's why Cameron appeared remarkably relaxed Monday. He even cracked a hint of a smile a couple of times.

Most coaches would be ready to explode or implode. An 0-13 record

tends to have that effect. But Cameron calmly repeated the pledge to perseverance that has become his mantra.

"We've said it all along: We're not in the position we want to be in," he said. "But we have to face it. We need to deal with it. We need to attack it."

The clock is running. Cameron has been on the job nearly 11 months and still seeks his first victory, which raises a question: How much longer does he have with the Dolphins?

His job may be in jeopardy after only one season if he becomes the first

coach to go 0-16.

"We are all in this thing together," Cameron said.

But his future may hinge on his players, a scary proposition because the team that may be remembered as the most woeful in NFL history seems to be getting worse.

The Dolphins have lost their past two games by a combined 78-30. In Sunday's 38-17 loss at snowy Buffalo, Miami had a franchise record eight fumbles and tied a team record by giving up 24 points in the first quarter.

The defeat was Miami's 16th in a row — a season's

worth.

"Obviously it hasn't gotten easier," Cameron said.

The Dolphins are last and least in the league by such a wide margin they're already virtually assured of the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft for first time.

Owner Wayne Huizenga last spoke to the media in October, when he said Cameron had done a "great job" keeping the team together and the atmosphere positive despite an 0-7 start. But Huizenga must be alarmed by the direction of a franchise that has become a national punch line.

IN BRIEF

Vick sentenced on charges of dogfighting, lying

RICHMOND, Va. — Michael Vick was sentenced to prison Monday for running a dogfighting operation and will stay there longer than two co-defendants, up to 23 months, because he lied about his involvement when he was supposed to be coming clean to the judge who would decide his fate.

The disgraced NFL star received a harsher sentence than the others in the federal conspiracy case because of "less than truthful" statements about killing pit bulls.

Vick said he accepted responsibility for his actions, but U.S. District Judge Henry E. Hudson said he wasn't so sure.

"I'm not convinced you've fully accepted responsibility," Hudson told Vick, who arrived in court wearing the black-and-white striped prison uniform he was issued when he voluntarily surrendered Nov. 19 to begin serving his sentence early.

Tibet barred from forming own Olympic team

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — The International Olympic Committee has rejected an attempt by Tibet to field its own team at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

More than 100 Tibetan supporters — including some Buddhist monks — waved banners and Tibetan flags outside the IOC headquarters Monday, as delegates from the unofficial Tibetan National Olympic Committee met with the organization's officials to discuss the request.

"The IOC is not in a position to accept our application," said Wangpo Tethong, a president of the Tibetan group.

Michel Filliau, a senior IOC official who took part in the meeting, said a rule change in 1996 meant only national committees from countries recognized by the international community can take part in the Olympics.

Royals' Guillen backed by Union in steroids case

NEW YORK — The players' association filed a grievance Monday to overturn the 15-day suspension given to Kansas City Royals outfielder Jose Guillen for violating baseball's drug program.

Guillen and Baltimore's Jay Gibbons were suspended last Thursday by commissioner Bud Selig following media reports that they received human growth hormone after January 2005, when it was banned by baseball. Gibbons chose not to contest his penalty.

Arbitrator Shyam Das will decide whether Selig's suspension of Guillen was proper. The penalty is to be served at the start of next season.

"It's been agreed that the matter needs to be resolved prior to opening day," said Michael Weiner, the union's general counsel.

Guillen has not been charged by the government with a crime, and he is not known to have failed a drug test.

around the dial

NBA

Supersonics at Bulls
8:30 p.m., WGN

NFL

Tampa Bay's QB expected to return

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — For the first time in three weeks, there's definitive word on Jeff Garcia's sore back.

The Tampa Bay quarterback is expected to return to the line-up this week after missing two games and most of a third with a lower back bruise that has kept opposing teams guessing about his availability.

Coach Jon Gruden said Monday that despite vague statements he made about Garcia's status leading up to games against New Orleans and Houston, he never planned to play him against the Saints or Texans.

"I just don't think the opponent needs to know exactly who to prepare for," Gruden said, emphasizing he's confident the 37-year-old now has had adequate time to recover from the injury and will play Sunday against the Atlanta Falcons.

"I don't believe I should apologize, but I don't feel like we have to divulge everything or let everyone know exactly where it is in terms of the timetable for Jeff. We felt it was a two-week injury. ... We feel we did the right thing, the only thing to let the injury get better."

Garcia, injured Nov. 25 on the first play of a victory over Washington, practiced last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, fueling speculation he might be ready to play against Houston. Gruden waited until just before kickoff to reveal that backup Luke McCown would start.

The coach said Garcia probably could have played, but declaring him the third quarterback was "what we felt was the best interest of Jeff Garcia and

his health."

"A lot of guys can play hurt. Jeff clearly could have played," Gruden said. "It was our decision as an organization to hold him for two games."

McCown threw for 266 yards and no interceptions, but was sacked four times and lost a fumble that set up a touchdown in a 28-14 loss that stopped the Bucs (8-5) from clinching the NFC South.

While Gruden is looking forward to getting his regular starter back on the field, he said he saw enough from McCown the past two weeks to feel better about the team's back-up situation.

Bruce Gradkowski replaced Garcia against the Redskins, but was so ineffective after Tampa Bay took an early lead that Gruden sent Garcia back into the game in the fourth quarter. McCown had a big day passing and led a last-minute TD drive to beat the Saints two weeks ago, but was not nearly as sharp against the Texans.

"Clearly there were seven or eight plays in the game that weren't as good as the others, but I'm really pleased with what he's done," Gruden said. "There's still plenty of room to grow, but I think what we all see is a big, athletic guy that has promise and potential to be outstanding."

Garcia may be back, but receiver Ike Hilliard's status is less certain. He left Sunday's game with what Gruden described as an upper back injury that trainers were still evaluating on Monday.

Without the sure-handed Hilliard, who has a team-leading 58 catches for 663 yards and is the Bucs' most effective receiver on third downs, the Bucs converted just 3-of-13 third-down plays.

"I just don't think the opponent needs to know exactly who to prepare for."

Jon Gruden
Buccaneers coach

NCAA FOOTBALL

FSU coach will stay another season

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Jimbo Fisher will succeed Bobby Bowden as Florida State's next football coach — someday.

President T.K. Wetherell designated offensive coordinator Fisher as "head coach-in waiting," but skipped out of a somewhat unusual news conference Monday without answering questions about the contracts that are not yet finalized.

Bowden, major college football's winningest coach, agreed to return for a 33rd season with options to stay longer.

"Every year I'll just re-sign it and tell 'em if I want to coach another year," Bowden said. "I couldn't ask for anything better than that."

Bowden, Fisher and interim athletic director Bill Proctor all skirted questions about what Proctor described as "agreement(s) in principle" that give "stability to our program."

Bowden, 78, said he supported the plan brought to him last week by the president and Proctor, who have both known the coach since the early 1960s.

"I think it's a great plan," Bowden said. "Hey, you get 78 years of age, it's hard to say how you're going out, but we've got a plan. It kind of all started with my contract."

Bowden, whose present five-year deal with the school expires in three weeks, made just over \$2 million in 2006, state records show.

"My position hasn't



Florida State coach Bobby Bowden speaks at a news conference Monday. Bowden will coach again in 2008.

changed. As long as I'm healthy," he said, "[and] if I can win enough games."

It's the falloff in wins in recent years that has increased focus on Bowden's age.

"I do have an obligation to the university to win enough ball games," said Bowden, who is 14-11 the past two seasons heading into a Dec. 31 Music City Bowl game against Kentucky.

Fisher, a disciple of the Bowden coaching family who played and coached for Terry Bowden, spent much of his time praising the family patriarch and avoiding details on

what exactly he agreed to.

"This gives me some peace," said Fisher, who has not been a head coach before. "I'm content to wait for it."

Terry Bowden, who has been out of coaching for a decade since being fired at Auburn, helped persuade Fisher to take the offensive coordinator's job earlier this year. The job opened when younger brother Jeff Bowden was bought out by dissatisfied boosters late in the 2006 season.

A West Virginia native, Fisher was paid roughly \$420,000 as offensive coordinator this year.

Notre Dame Football

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NFL

After scandal, Jets will play Patriots

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Bill Belichick has been watching videotape of the New York Jets — the kind that won't cost him \$500,000.

The kind that could help his Patriots stay unbeaten next Sunday by beating the team that turned him in for having an on-field camera snoop on the sideline.

In preparing for Sunday's 34-13 win over Pittsburgh, Belichick studied tape of a game three weeks earlier when the Jets upset the Steelers 19-16 in overtime.

"My impression of them was in the Pittsburgh game they played very well. And they beat Pittsburgh," he said Monday. "They have some outstanding players."

Belichick didn't mention Jets coach Eric Mangini, his former defensive coordinator who blew the whistle on him after New England's 38-14 season-opening win over New York — the first in a string of 13 wins that leaves the Patriots just three short of a perfect regular season.

In the first quarter of that game, the Jets had a Patriots sideline camera shut down. They complained the Patriots were trying to steal their coaches' defensive signals in violation of league rules.

The punishment: NFL commissioner Roger Goodell fined Belichick \$500,000 and the team \$250,000 and took away one of the Patriots two first-round draft choices.

Is it payback time? Will the juggernaut accused of running up the score in some blowout wins make those look like squeakers?

Belichick wasn't saying.

He was asked five times at his news conference Monday about the impact of the spying scandal on Sunday's rematch and responded with his stock answer: Belichick will prepare the same way he does for all games.

Any added motivation? "We're

going to approach it like every other game."

And what is that approach? "Just the way we've done all of them. Come in, look at the film, get together a game plan, try to figure out the best way to attack and defend them. Try to win."

Whether Belichick or his players reveal their true feelings, the complaint about the camera should provide extra incentive. It did when New England crushed San Diego 38-14 three days after Goodell slapped the Patriots and their coach for the shenanigans.

"After everything that went on this week, we wanted to do our best for Belichick," Tom Brady said after the win over the Chargers.

And just last week, they used Pittsburgh safety Anthony Smith's guarantee of a victory to fire themselves up.

"We took it as a challenge. We were going to come out here and show them what we had," said Jabar Gaffney, who burned Smith for a 56-yard touchdown reception.

Even Belichick, who rarely criticizes an opponent, took a public swipe at Smith after the game.

"We've played against a lot better safeties than him," Belichick said.

But he was back in his bland mode Monday: "There's no points for any quotes that were or weren't in the paper. (The) plays that we executed well, we gained yards on. The plays that we didn't, we didn't gain yards on and there were some of both."

The Patriots had pulled out their previous two games by three points each with fourth-quarter comebacks against losing teams. Then they dominated the Steelers, as they did most of their first 10 opponents, when their average victory margin was 25.4 points.

Tom Brady threw for 399 yards and four touchdowns and wasn't sacked by a defense that had allowed the fewest yards in the NFL.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Illini go to Rose Bowl for fifth time

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — The score at halftime was 56-3. Most of Penn State's starters spent the second half parked on the bench, and by the time the game finally ended, Illinois had given up the most points in Memorial Stadium history.

Even for a program used to mediocrity, that loss in October 2005 was a debacle.

"During the game, I said, 'I've never been here before.' We were getting killed," Illinois coach Ron Zook recalled. "I said, 'Fellas, this is as bad as it's going to get. It will never be any worse than it is tonight.'"

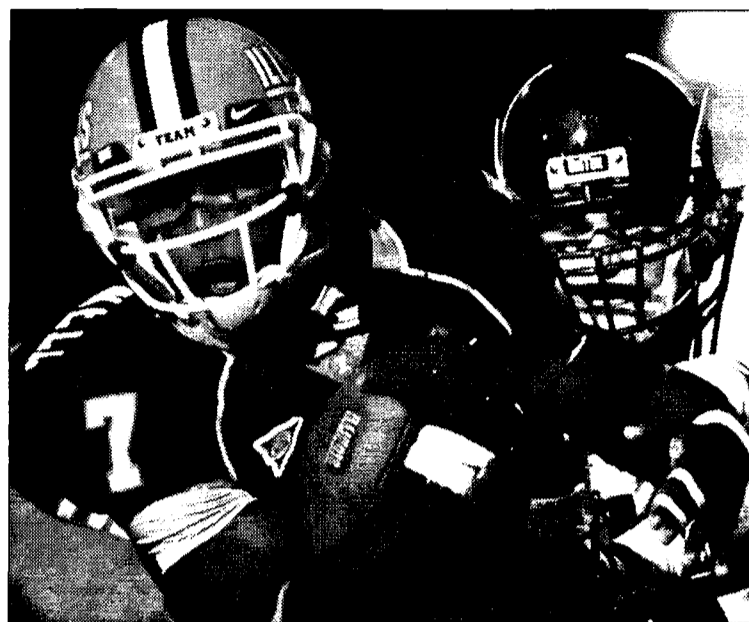
In the silence and humiliation of that awful night, the seeds for a turnaround were planted. Two years later, the Illini are one of the biggest surprises in college football. Their 9-3 record is a seven-game improvement from last year, and earned them an unexpected Rose Bowl date with USC.

It is only the fifth time in school history — and first time since 1983 — that Illinois will go to Pasadena.

"I expected to be in a bowl game," junior linebacker Brit Miller said. "But to end up in the Rose Bowl was not expected at all. If someone would have told us we'd end up in the Rose Bowl in camp, we probably would have looked at them a little differently."

Doing things differently is what Zook set out to do when he arrived three years ago, six weeks after being fired at Florida.

Illinois was hardly a Big Ten power or even a contender, really. At least, not in the last



Illini quarterback Juice Williams escapes Northwestern's linebacker Adam Kadela during Illinois' 41-22 win on Nov. 17.

50 years. The Illini would usually put together one impressive season a decade, but records of 4-6, 6-5 and 5-5 were more typical. After Illinois went to the Sugar Bowl after the 2001 season, five losing seasons followed.

"You don't go to college saying, 'I want to be on a losing team.' Everybody wants to win," said linebacker J Leman, who won only eight games his first four years at Illinois. "To go 2-30 in your own conference, where you're supposed to be competitive, at a school like Illinois, that's not something to be very proud of at all."

Perhaps worst were the expectations. Or lack thereof. While a 7-5 season would be a disappointment at Ohio State or Michigan, that was consid-

ered a great year at Illinois. And those years when the Illini went 2-9 or 0-11? Well, basketball season was right around the corner.

"I remember two years ago, it was the last game of the year, we came out against Northwestern and there were like 20,000 people," Miller said. "It felt like we were back in high school again."

But Zook saw potential at Illinois. He already had established himself as one of the country's better recruiters — he recruited most of Florida's national championship team last year — and despite his struggles with the Gators, he was confident he was a good coach. He and his staff just needed the right setting, the right players and time for their system to take hold.

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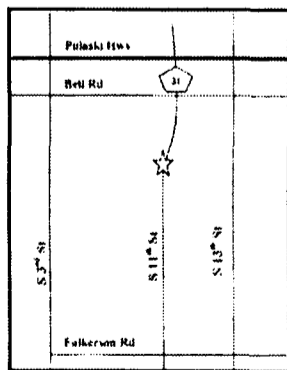
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NBA

Cavs welcome back James and Varejao

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James' injured finger passed the required practice test. It's game time.

James, who has missed Cleveland's past five games — all losses — with a sprained left index finger, is expected to be back in the lineup on Tuesday night when the Cavaliers host the Indiana Pacers.

Following practice on Monday, James said the finger has improved and that he didn't have any problems with it after two days of contact. The Cavaliers' megastar sounded confident that he would dress for the Pacers.

"We're going to leave it as a game-time decision," he said. "I've been through two contact practices OK. We'll see what happens."

James has been wearing a protective glove over the knuckle on his finger, which was injured on Nov. 28 when Detroit forward Nazr Mohammed whacked his hand while he was driving for a shot in a loss to the Pistons.

"It's better than it was a week and half ago," James said. "The pain is going away little by little. It's not 100 percent at all right now and it probably won't be until the offseason, and I don't have an offseason until 2009."

He will play for the United States in the Beijing Olympics this summer.

James, the NBA's leading scorer who was playing some of

the best ball of his career when he got hurt, was surprised the Cavs played so poorly without him.

"Offensively not as much, but defensively we struggled," he said. "You have mental lapses offensively, but you can't have those defensively no matter who is playing. We had a couple games where we just didn't give effort."

Along with James, the Cavaliers may welcome back forward Anderson Varejao on Tuesday. Varejao, who ended a contract holdout by signing a three-year, \$17 million deal last week,

was in Canada getting his work visa.

If the Brazilian gets back in time, Cavs coach Mike Brown said he would likely play him against the Pacers.

Anderson's return, along with guard Larry Hughes being back after missing time with a leg bruise, has renewed confidence for the Cavaliers, the defending Eastern Conference champions who are off to a 9-12 start.

"It's starting to feel good around here, especially the last couple days of practice," James said. "Everyone is back now so we're ready to start playing winning basketball again."

James, who had never missed more than four games in a season, said not being able to play has been excruciating.

"It's not good for me," he said. "It's not like I'm learning anything from watching. I don't learn nothing from watching. It's tiring. I could really fall asleep on the bench if I wanted to."

"We're going to leave it as a game-time decision."

LeBron James
Cavaliers forward

"It's starting to feel good around here, especially the last couple days of practice."

LeBron James
Cavaliers forward

NFL

Colts could set NFL win record

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Tony Dungy spent nearly two decades trying to get to 12 wins in a season as a coach.

In Indianapolis, it has become part of the Colts' annual routine.

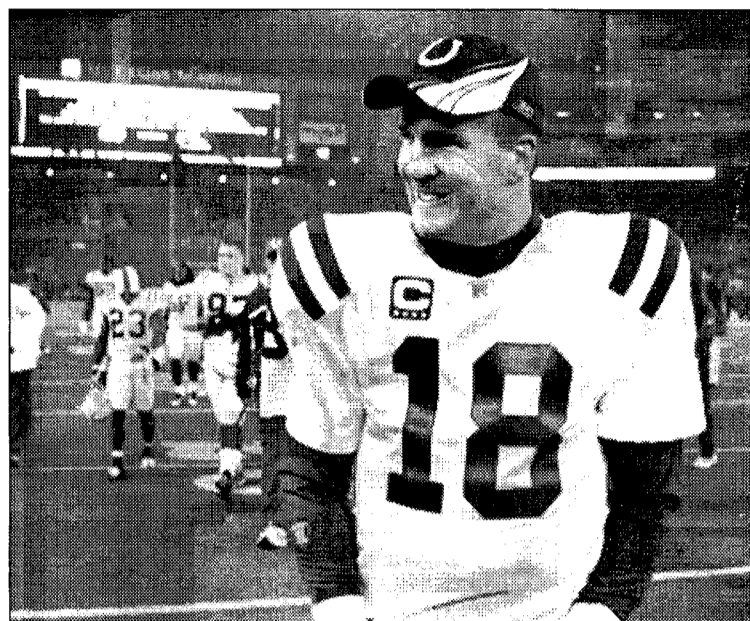
After wrapping up their eighth playoff appearance in nine years Sunday and all but clinching their fifth straight AFC South title, the Colts stand on the precipice of another historic achievement. By winning just one of its final three regular-season games, Indy will become the first team in league history with five straight 12-win seasons — something even the perfect Patriots can't claim.

"I was wondering about it," the Colts coach said Monday, a day after winning in Baltimore. "It's not easy to do. Before I got here, I had never coached on a team that won 12 games. I played on a team in Pittsburgh that won 14 once, but it's hard to do year in and year out."

Especially in today's challenging environment of salary cap restrictions, tougher schedules and, of course, the propensity for season-altering injuries. None of those potential obstacles, however, has derailed the Colts (11-2).

Only one other team, the Dallas Cowboys from 1992-95, won 12 times in four straight years. The Colts can break that mark Sunday at Oakland or by winning either of their final two home games.

Given the way Indy has performed over the past month, the milestone seems a lock.



Colts quarterback Peyton Manning walks off the field after Indianapolis' 44-20 win over the Ravens on Sunday.

After starting 7-0 and then enduring a two-game slump in November, the Colts have rebounded with four straight wins — each more impressive than the last.

They survived a low-scoring affair to beat Kansas City; recovered from a 10-0 first-quarter deficit at Atlanta to win 31-13; took control quickly against Jacksonville and held off a late rally for a 28-25 victory; and built a 30-0 second-quarter lead Sunday en route to a 44-20 drubbing of the Ravens.

They've even won those games without injured Pro Bowl receiver Marvin Harrison and Pro Bowl defensive end Dwight Freeney, who is out for the season after having foot surgery.

So how have the Colts per-

severed?

"It takes everyone," Dungy said. "We've had contributions from everybody on this 53-man unit. That's what you try to do when you go to training camp is develop a 53-man roster in which everyone contributes."

In the Colts' case, Dungy truly means every one.

Of the nine defensive linemen listed on the active roster, eight have at least one sack. Nine players have interceptions and eight offensive players, including such previously anonymous names as Luke Lawton and Kenton Keith, have scored touchdowns.

Yet they've won seven games by at least 18 points and have overcome a grueling schedule.

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STUDENT ACTIVITIES
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NHL

Capitals upset breaks Devils unbeaten streak

Auld makes 44 saves as Bruins beat Sabres; Wings top Predators

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It seemed like another mismatch. The New Jersey Devils, who hadn't lost in regulation in 11 games against the team with the fewest points in the NHL.

Instead, two unknowns led the Washington Capitals to a 3-2 win that snapped the Devils' point streak at 10 on Monday night.

Jeff Schultz, who had just one goal in his first 59 NHL games, scored for the second straight game. Quintin Laing, stuck in hockey obscurity, netted his first overall.

Schultz and Laing are a great match for coach Bruce Boudreau, who knocked around the bushes for decades. Since Boudreau was promoted from the AHL's Hershey Bears to succeed Glen Hanlon on Nov. 22, the Capitals have improved — going 5-3-1.

One of those losses was last Friday against New Jersey, and Boudreau blistered his team for its slow start. On Monday, Boudreau joked about the suddenly crowded press room.

"It's getting ridiculous," he laughed.

Two of the players he coached in Hershey — Schultz and Laing — were suddenly stars. Boudreau was especially pleased for the 28-year-old Laing, playing just his eighth NHL game — his fifth with Washington.

"That's a guy who's toiled for most of his life [in] the low minors. To score the winning goal in an important game for us, that's a really cool thing," Boudreau said.

Laing scored the final goal for the Capitals on a rebound of John Erskine's shot at 18:08 of the second period to give them a 3-1 lead — and he has plans for the puck.

"I won't let it out of my sight," Laing said.

"It was kind of a harmless shot. ... I would have liked it to have been the insurance goal, but the game-winner I'll take."

Schultz, with whom he played at Hershey, is suddenly turning into a scorer.

"Evidently, but I never would have thought it," Boudreau said.

The Devils lost for the second consecutive night after winning nine straight. They earned one point Sunday during a 1-0 overtime defeat in New York against the Rangers. New Jersey hadn't been beaten in regulation since another 1-0 loss on Nov. 16 to the New York Islanders.

The Devils took a 1-0 lead when John Madden scored at 5:56 of the first period. He flicked the puck to the left of goalie Olie Kolzig for his eighth goal of the season. Brian Gionta sent a pass to Madden from behind the net.

With the Capitals on a power play, Nicklas Backstrom slickly maneuvered through two Devils defenders and scored the tying goal through the pads of Kevin Weekes, who started in goal for the first time since Nov. 12. Victor Kozlov sent a pass from just behind the net to Backstrom.

Schultz, who didn't have a goal in 38 games last season, fired a shot from the right circle that beat Weekes and gave the Capitals a 2-1 lead. Alex Ovechkin had an assist, giving him nine points (four goals and five assists) in five games.

Bruins 4, Sabres 1

Alex Auld is quickly earning the respect of his Boston teammates.

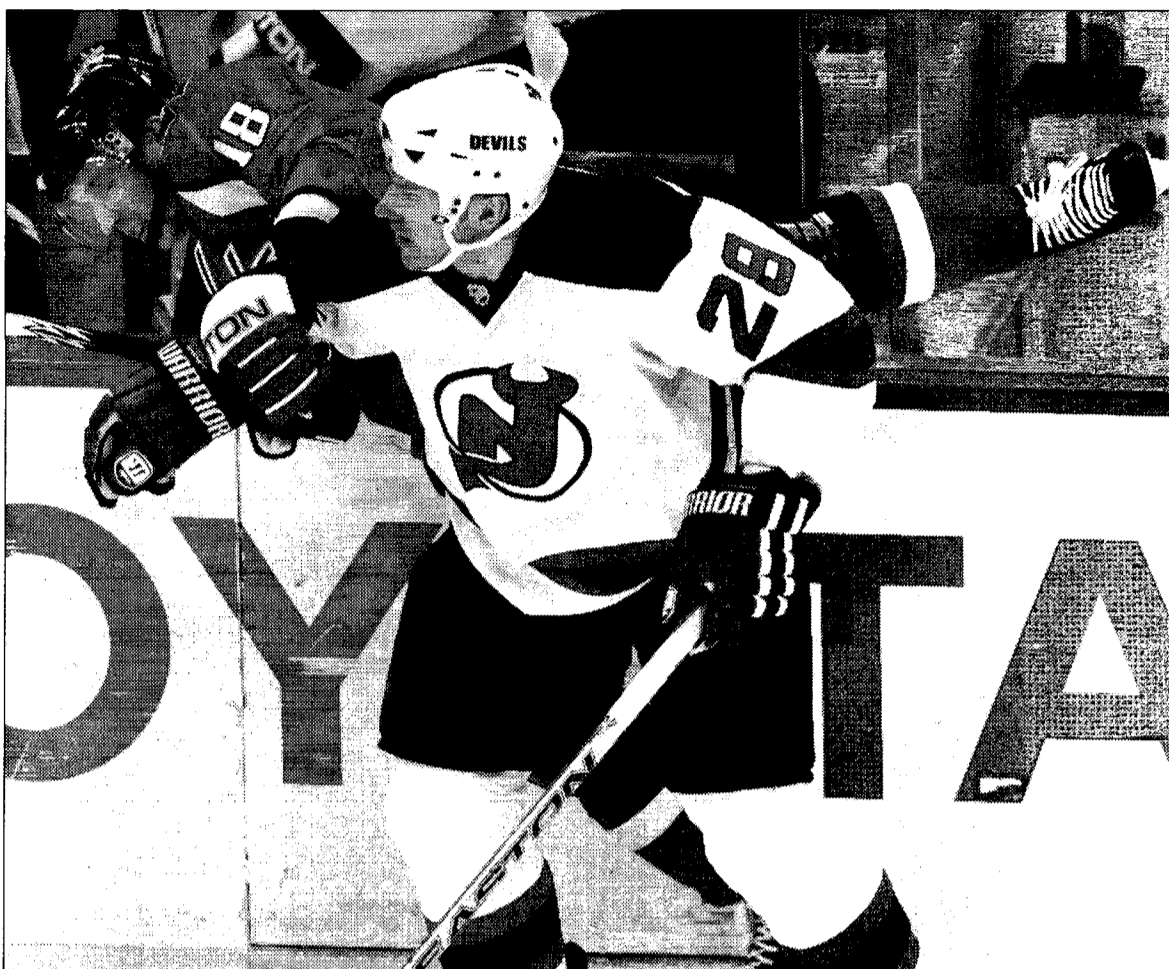
Auld made 44 saves in his second start since being acquired from Phoenix on Thursday, and Marc Savard had a goal and assist to lift the Bruins to a win over the Buffalo Sabres on Monday night.

Auld was spectacular in his second straight win, and made several scintillating saves in the second and third periods when Boston was outshot by a 33-15 margin.

"When he played for Florida last year he had our number, so I knew he was a good goaltender," Savard said. "Phoenix had a lot of goalies, so their loss is our gain right now for sure."

The 26-year-old Auld was just 3-6 with a 3.54 goals-against average and one shutout in nine games with the Coyotes this season before being assigned to San Antonio of the AHL. He made 25 saves in his Boston debut Saturday at Toronto, a 2-1 Bruins win.

"I have a lot of confidence in what I can do, but at the same time you don't want to get too ahead of yourself," Auld said. "I feel I can play in this league and I feel it's where I belong."



Devils forward Karel Rachunek checks Capitals' defenseman Matt Pettinger into the boards in Washington's 3-2 win over New Jersey Monday. The Devils had not lost since Nov. 16.

Despite Auld's play, Boston coach Claude Julien said Tim Thomas will continue to be Boston's starter when he fully recovers from a groin injury sustained last week. Still, Julien praised Auld's showing against the Sabres.

Red Wings 2, Predators 1

Tomas Kopecky and Valtteri Filppula scored and the Detroit Red Wings won their seventh

straight, over the Nashville Predators.

Martin Gelinas scored for Nashville.

Kopecky opened the scoring 7:10 into the game, firing a one-timer from inside the right circle that found the net between goalie Dan Ellis and the left post.

At 15:06, Filppula was awarded a penalty shot after he was tripped by Jerred Smithson

while he skated toward the net. Ellis went low to block the shot, and Filppula shot it over the goalie.

The Predators cut the Detroit lead to 2-1 with 24 seconds left in the second period. After failing to score on three power-play attempts in the period, the Predators got a short-handed goal. David Legwand was skating in on a breakaway and lost the puck.

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7:00 PM LECTURE

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David T. Link, PhD, is the Joseph A. Matson Professor and Dean of Law Emeritus of the Notre Dame Law School and a transitional deacon with the Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

ND SWIMMING AND DIVING

Athletes to train in Florida

By JARED JEDICK,
CHRIS DOYEN and
SAMANTHA LEONARD
Sports Writers

The most important part of the season is here for the men's and women's squads as the teams put in hard work that they hope will pay off down the road.

The women get a much-needed break and are permitted to return home for Christmas. Irish women's assistant coach Joel White said time the swimmers spend with their families is key for establishing the mental and physical endurance necessary for their difficult upcoming training schedule.

"The girls get to go home for seven days, the most ever," White said. "They need the rest to be ready for the remainder of a really long season that lasts until July and the Olympic trials."

The men will get to take a break from swimming until Dec. 28. Once training resumes, the squad's intensity level will pick up considerably.

"We'll want to recuperate from exams, and we want everyone to be with their families for Christmas, but once we get back, we have a few weeks where we'll be training with great intensity," men's head coach Tim Welsh said. "The schedule goes straight on through the Big East Championships in February."

Following the almost month-long break from competitive action, the men will

head to Boca Raton, Fla. to train beginning on Dec. 30. The athletes will then travel to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for their first-ever dual meet with Louisiana State on New Year's Day. The Irish will look to build on a solid showing at the Ohio State Invitational and hope to see improvements based on their rigorous training.

The men, who are 2-3 in dual meets, will face an LSU squad that has been dealt losses by national powerhouse Stanford and conference foe Georgia. Most recently, the Tigers were runners-up to Florida State, finishing a convincing second at the Georgia Tech Invitational.

The most recent CSCAA national rankings indicate the meet should be competitive. LSU is ranked 21st with 92 points, while Notre Dame is only two points behind in 22nd.

Following the holiday showdown with the Tigers, the Irish will stay in the Sunshine State and travel to Boca Raton for the Saint Andrew's Invitational on Jan. 5.

The women, meanwhile, will head to Miami to train as soon as their break is over on Dec. 27.

The team will follow a rigorous schedule of training for a few days, then competing

in a meet against LSU on Jan. 2. After that event comes several more days of training before the squad finishes up with a meet against the University of Miami.

"It's our last push," women's head coach Carrie Nixon said. "The girls are only able to get through it based on their great dedication and their support for one another."

"The girls are able to get through it based on their great dedication and support for one another."

Carrie Nixon
Irish women's head coach

The training is not easy, as the women will be putting in days of intense physical conditioning: more than four hours of swimming practice every day in combination with dry-land circuits, weight training, cardio and yoga.

The team hopes this last push will leave it well prepared for the postseason. The men and women want to take this time to perfect their techniques and their tempo for the upcoming Big East finale.

The women will return to competition in South Bend against Michigan, Indiana and Illinois on Jan. 10. The Irish hope to earn as many NCAA national championship automatic qualifications as they can.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@ndu, Chris Doyen at cdoyen@ndu and Samantha Leonard at sleona01@saintmarys.edu

Busy

continued from page 24

the Otterbein O Club Tournament and games against Kenyon (3-5) on Dec. 28 and either Franklin (4-3) or host Otterbein (4-4) on Dec. 29.

The Belles will visit Alma (3-4, 1-0) on Jan. 5 and Albion (6-1) on Jan. 9 before classes resume on Jan. 14.

Saturday's 82-68 victory at Tri-State gave Saint Mary's its first conference win and marked the beginning of eight straight games on the road for the Belles. The team has yet to win consecutive games and has struggled with in-game consistency, especially during second halves of contests.

The Belles have led at half-time in six of their seven games, outscoring opponents 240-178 in the opening period. But the team has been outscored 246-227 following intermission.

Henley said her squad has to display better fundamentals in order to reach a more consistent level of play.

"We need to continue to improve on our team defense and shutting down opponents in the paint, and we also need to focus on limiting our turnovers and taking away second shot opportunities from opponents," the coach said.

Despite the Belles' early struggles, Henley is encouraged by her team's efforts, especially the contributions of senior guard Alison Kessler (16.6 points, 6.0 rebounds per game), junior forward Erin Newsom (11.6 points, MIAA-high 9.7 rebounds) and sophomore forward Anna Kamrath (10.7 points, 8.1 rebounds).

"At this point in the season, this team has shown that they can score a lot of points and that our transition game is pretty good," Henley said.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

UL's Pitino still looking for 500th career win

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Rick Pitino isn't much on nostalgia.

The game ball from his first win as a college head coach, a 75-71 win by Boston University over St. Peter's as a fresh-faced 26-year-old on Nov. 28, 1978? Missing. Ditto for most of the mementoes from Pitino's 30-year coaching career.

"I have no idea where most of them are, probably in storage somewhere," he said.

That doesn't bode well for the ball Pitino will be handed after claiming his 500th victory as a college head coach. His first shot at joining the 500-win club was denied Saturday, when the 14th-ranked Cardinals lost 70-65 to Dayton.

His next opportunity will come against Purdue in the John Wooden Tradition next Saturday in Indianapolis.

Reaching 500 wins is rarified air to be sure, but there's still a whiff of missed opportunity for the only coach in NCAA history to lead three different teams to the Final Four.

Pitino spent eight years coaching in the NBA during two stints with the New York Knicks and one with the Boston Celtics. If he'd been in the college ranks those years, adding the 23.5 wins per season he's averaged in 21 years as a college coach, he'd be on the cusp of 700 wins by now.

The number rises considerably if you bump the wins per year to 30.8 — what Kentucky averaged under Pitino in the five years before he bolted for the Celtics in 1997. It was a heady pace that could have put the 55-year-old on track to surpass 1,000 career victories.

Mention to Pitino that his sojourns in the NBA might have cost him a shot at becoming college basketball's winningest coach, and he admits there were things he sacrificed by leaving the comfort of the college game.

"From the standpoint of missing out on some golden years at the college level, there's no doubt I did that," he said.

How golden? He's younger

than almost all of the 16 active Division I coaches ahead of him in career wins, and none of them spent nearly a decade outside of the college game during their prime.

Ask if he ever wonders what would have happened if he'd been able to resist the lure of the NBA, and he admits there are times he looks back at the brash young coach who kept one eye on the court and the other looking for the next opportunity and wishes he would have relaxed and just enjoyed what was in front of him.

"I was so anxious to move on and prove myself both financially and personally for myself and my family," he said. "I look back and I look at mistakes I've made, and the one thing I preach to everybody is learn from the past, don't live in it. Plan for the future, but don't live in it."

"At Providence I was enjoying it. At Kentucky we had it rolling. I don't think there was a program any hotter at the time," added Pitino, who won the national title with the Wildcats in 1996 and lost to Arizona in the national championship game a year later. "I wonder how long we could have kept it going."

He'll never know.

By '97 he had restored Kentucky's reputation. But having grown up in the Northeast watching the battles between the Knicks and the Celtics, Pitino couldn't resist the opportunity of trying to resurrect the NBA's most storied franchise.

"I thought that type of situation would be fun, it's what gets you going," he said.

It ended up not going anywhere. Pitino's collegiate success never fully translated to the pros, though he maintains the lessons learned with the Knicks and the Celtics made him a better coach.

"It made me more mature, much more understanding of why you win and why you lose," Pitino said. "Although we lost and there were some rough times, I wouldn't trade the adversity."



Lunch and Conversation

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, December 13
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch at the Co-Mo.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Lunch will be served



FOOTBALL

Weis to sign autographs

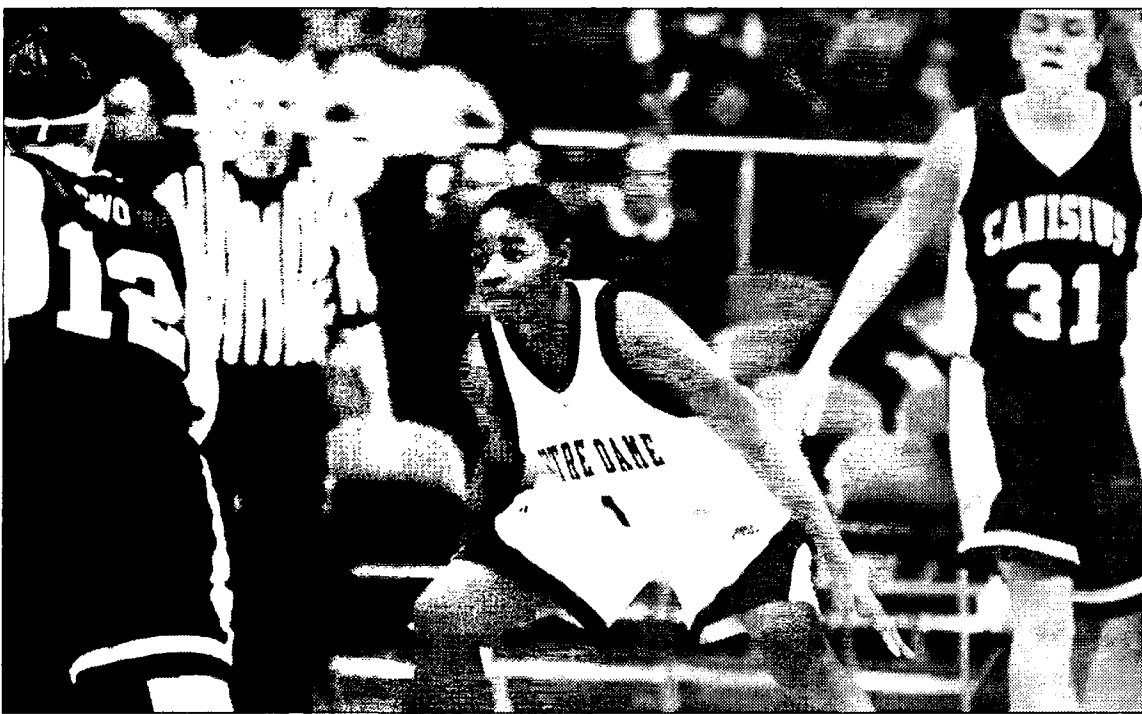
Special to the Observer

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis will be available to autograph up to two items Friday for any student, faculty or staff member at Notre Dame, Saint Mary's or Holy Cross. Weis will sign at 8 a.m. in the Guglielmino Auditorium.

"There have been numerous inquiries regarding whether I'd be available to

sign potential Christmas gifts for people this year," Weis said in a statement. "As opposed to having people try to catch me early in the morning or late in the evening outside the Gug, I thought it would be best to set up an organized signing period. Therefore, I'll get off the road from recruiting Thursday night and will sign for everyone who shows up Friday morning."

All students or employees must have valid identification verifying their affiliation with Notre Dame, Saint Mary's or Holy Cross and enter through the west door at the Guglielmino Athletics Complex by 8 a.m. on Friday morning. Weis will autograph up to two items for everyone who arrives by 8 a.m. Everyone interested must arrive at the Guglielmino Complex before that hour.



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish guard Tulyah Gaines defends on the perimeter during Notre Dame's 93-47 win over Canisius Nov. 27 at the Joyce Center.

Valpo

continued from page 24

year."

Valparaiso (3-5) presents a threat to Notre Dame's low post play and also boasts a formidable perimeter game, McGraw said.

"They have more speed in the post," McGraw said. "They have the ability to shoot the three. They're smart, they run good stuff on offense. It's a really tough matchup for us."

But McGraw said freshman forward Devereaux Peters will give Valparaiso problems inside.

"She plays well in the center spot. She's a tough matchup for them," McGraw said. "She's a shot blocker, she can rebound, she can do a lot of things."

Peters and fellow freshman forward Becca Bruszewski have settled into their roles for the Irish. Peters started strong, but McGraw said she has recently improved her ability to stay focused after getting in foul trouble. Peters had two fouls in the first 15 minutes against Purdue Saturday, but McGraw said she retained her composure in the second half.

"I thought Saturday she did a great job in the second half," McGraw said. "Normally she gets really down on herself when she gets a couple of fouls but I thought she really came out in the second half and played great, maybe her best game of the season."

Bruszewski, McGraw said, settled into a groove after some offensive adjustments.

"She was still trying to find her place on the team in terms of her role and what was expected of her," McGraw said.

Bruszewski made quicker progress on the defensive end of the floor, and McGraw said that

enabled her to show coaches what she can do in game situations.

"In the Maryland game I felt like we needed defense, so it was a good opportunity for her to come in, and she played really well," McGraw said. "So it was a confidence boost for her, but it also gave us a chance to see what she's capable of doing."

McGraw said she talked with Bruszewski about her shooting habits and told her to look for different types of shots than those of centers Melissa D'Amico and Erica Williamson.

"She started doing that in practice. She started getting different kinds of shots," McGraw said. "I think she just needed to feel comfortable."

After facing Valparaiso, the Irish are off until Dec. 21, when they play IUPUI on the road. Playing over the break, McGraw said, can help forge a better atmosphere for the players.

"I think it's a little easier because there's no school," McGraw said. "There's no studying, there's no tests, so it's all basketball. I think that's a little more fun. They get to bond really well, so the chemistry's always good."

Notre Dame will play the Volunteers at home before traveling to face Louisville and West Virginia. McGraw's philosophy is consistent no matter who the Irish face, she said.

"We tell them the same thing," McGraw said of her message to the team.

Not only does her style stay constant, but she said the team, in effect, polices itself.

"This is a team that's never satisfied when they come out of a game," McGraw said. "The Bowling Green game, they were really disappointed with the way they played. It's not enough for them just to win. They know they have to play better in order

to get better. They're pretty focused on one game."

Contact Bill Brink at
wbrink@nd.edu

Big East

continued from page 24

road.

The first game comes against San Francisco three days before Christmas. Notre Dame will enter the contest riding a five-game winning streak and looking to extend its record-setting streak of 25 straight victories at the Joyce Center.

The Dons are 4-5, with losses to Oklahoma and Oregon in their only two matchups with power conference opponents so far. They have games against UC-Irvine and Long Beach State before taking on the Irish.

After Christmas, Notre Dame will play Brown and North Florida on Dec. 29 and Dec. 31, respectively. The Bears are 5-4 this season, including a 74-55 win over Eastern Michigan, a team the Irish defeated 76-65 on Dec. 1.

The Ospreys, who hail from Jacksonville, Fla., are 1-6 this year, with only their only win coming at home over Concordia on Nov. 16.

On Jan. 3, Notre Dame begins its Big East schedule with a showdown against West Virginia. The Mountaineers are 7-1; the only blemish on their record is a two-point loss to No. 12 Tennessee on Nov. 23.

Two days after that, Connecticut comes calling at the Joyce Center. The Huskies are 6-2, with both losses coming against ranked teams — Memphis and Gonzaga.

Finally, to conclude winter break, Notre Dame travels to Milwaukee to take on Marquette. Coming off a big win over Wisconsin this weekend, the Golden Eagles are 6-1. Only a four-point loss at Duke blotches their resumé.

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

Lightning

continued from page 24

develop the tournament.

The St. Pete Forum — home of the tournament and the Lightning — will host the 2012 Frozen Four. The owners wanted these games played there in order to build up a college hockey fan base over the next five years.

Jackson said his team benefits from the tournament-style play.

"Anytime you play in a tournament you are playing for something," Jackson said. "It simulates Joe Louis [Arena, the venue of the CCHA

Championship] or [an NCAA] regional tournament. It simulates the Frozen Four."

The Irish won the CCHA tournament at Joe Louis Arena last season, but lost 2-1 to Michigan State in the regional tournament one game shy of the Frozen Four.

Jackson says his team still has work to do but is hoping to put itself in good position heading into the playoffs.

"We want to solidify home ice in the playoffs and get ourselves in position to do some damage in the playoffs. That's all you can ask is to get yourself in that position," Jackson said.

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu

*"Anytime you play
in a tournament you
are playing for
something."*

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

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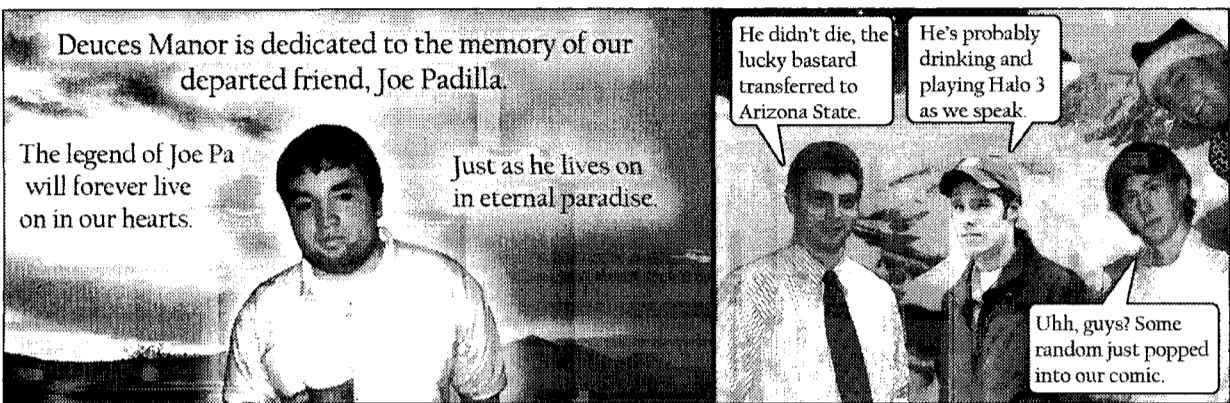
BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



DEUCES MANOR

MATT HUDSON, ANDY MANZA & PAUL TASSINARI



TASTES LIKE FAILURE

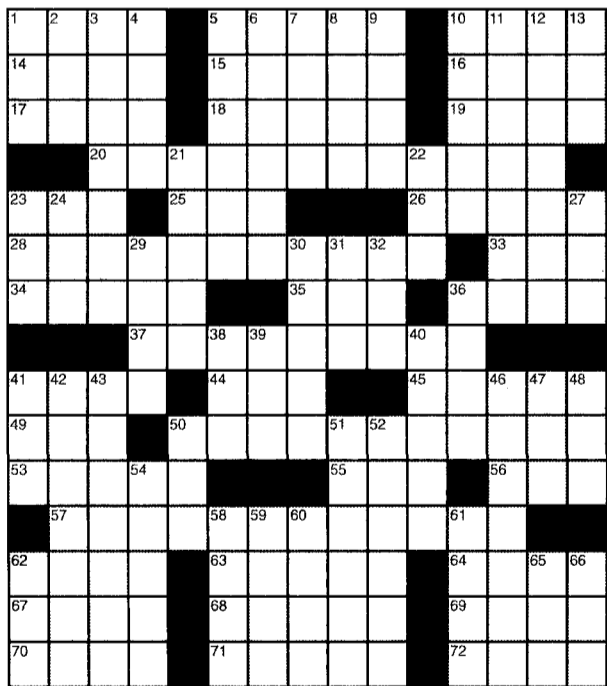
RICH PROTIVA & ANDY SPANGLER



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Peak
 - 5 Chattered incessantly
 - 10 TV horse introduced in 1955 ... or a Plymouth model introduced in 1956
 - 14 Partiality
 - 15 Seeing red
 - 16 Prime draft status
 - 17 Drug-yielding plant
 - 18 Opposite of serenity
 - 19 Cartoonist Al
 - 20 Scary sound from the ocean?
 - 23 Park, e.g., in N.Y.C.
 - 25 "Sting like a bee" athlete
 - 26 Having seniority
 - 28 Scary sound from a war zone?
 - 33 Juliet's season
 - 34 Kodiak native
 - 35 Physics unit
 - 36 Theory's start
 - 37 Scary sound from a cornfield?
 - 41 Splinter group
 - 44 Motel-discount grp.
 - 45 Sales slips: Abbr.
 - 49 Galley implement
 - 50 Scary sound from a steeple?
 - 53 Tedious
 - 55 Boot part
 - 56 "Whew!"
 - 57 Misspell, say, as a ghost might at 20-, 28-, 37- and 50-Across?
 - 62 Abominate
 - 63 African antelope
 - 64 Hot rod's rod
 - 67 Lackawanna Railroad
 - 68 Countryish
 - 69 Boot part
 - 70 Card game for three
 - 71 Walk leisurely
 - 72 Stealth bomber org.
- Down**
- 1 Charles Gibson's network
 - 2 A.F.L. —
 - 3 Cane cutter
 - 4 Biblical son who sold his birthright
 - 5 Wavelet
 - 6 Language whose alphabet starts alif, ba, ta, tha ...
 - 7 Child's caretaker
 - 8 Suffix with hypn-
 - 9 Part of a bottle or a guitar
 - 10 Kind of point
 - 11 Helpless?
 - 12 Filled to the gills
 - 13 Big fat mouth
 - 21 Country just south of Sicily
 - 22 Moo goo gai pan pan
 - 23 Lawyers' org.
 - 24 Kilmer of "The Doors"
 - 27 Irvin, classic artist for The New Yorker
 - 29 Cowlick, e.g.
 - 30 Fit for a king
 - 31 Blunder
 - 32 "Long ___ and far away ..."
 - 36 Creep (along)
 - 38 Name that's an anagram of 27-Down
 - 39 ___ de mer

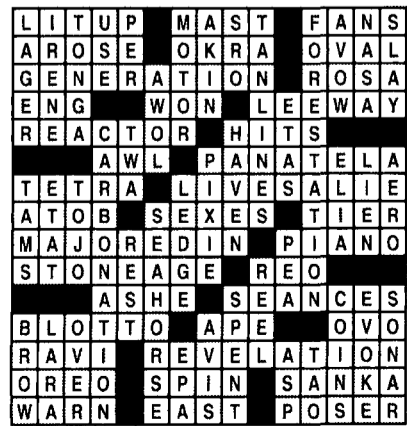


Puzzle by Gary Steinmehl

- 40 Egyptian dry measure equal to about five-and-a-half bushels
- 41 Soak (up)
- 42 Tag for a particular purpose
- 43 Neighbor of Slovenia
- 46 Co. addresses, often
- 47 A duo
- 48 Crafty
- 50 Tournament pass
- 51 Like some music
- 52 Musically improvise
- 54 Sport utilizing a clay disk
- 58 Hospital shipments
- 59 Styptic agent
- 60 Part of a fishhook
- 61 Island with Waimea Bay
- 62 Gentlemen
- 65 Meadow
- 66 Shoemaker's helper, in a fairy tale

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

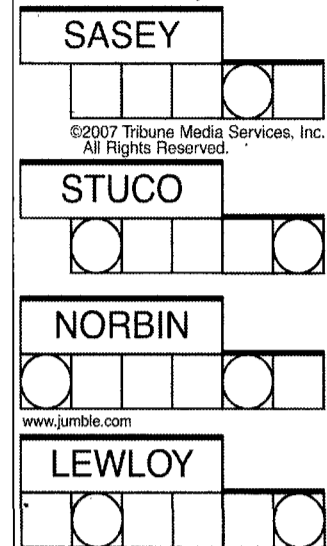


JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



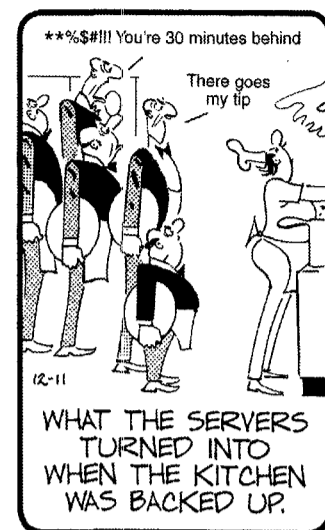
Print answer here:



(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TABOO FABLE SPEEDY HOOKUP
Answer: Often follows when a business falls into the red — THE BLUES

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Raven-Symone, 22; Kenneth Branagh, 47; Michael Clarke Duncan, 50; Susan Dey, 55

Happy Birthday: You must move with the times but don't force change. There is money to be made if you put in the time and are willing to compromise. Fighting, being difficult to get along with, overreacting or inflating your worth will all lead to your demise. A partnership will be necessary so keep things amicable. Your numbers are 8, 14, 26, 28, 31, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Gains are apparent if you are aggressive and follow through. Be proactive and go the distance whether it is a mental or physical journey. Don't deal with personal issues or spend too much time at home today. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A relative or old friend will shed an interesting light on a problem you face. Love is in the stars and a change in the way you approach someone will lead to a much better partnership. Restrict your spending. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be daunted by the changes brought on by other people. By accepting what's going on, you will strengthen your own position. Someone you are in a partnership with may throw you a curve ball. Walk away or simply decline the offer. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will do much better if you don't get emotional about changes going on around you at work. The less fuss made, the better off you'll be. A love interest is looking very positive. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a step in the right direction and you will find you have plenty of followers. Strategize each move to optimize your good fortune. This isn't the time to show anger -- set a positive example. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do a little shopping or plan to meet someone you enjoy for lunch but don't stick around home where things are likely to go wrong for you. This isn't the best time to make changes to your residence or to give someone you live with an ultimatum. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will have some wonderful gift ideas for the special people in your life. Travel plans should be in the works. Don't limit yourself because someone tries to tell you that you can't do something. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your mind may be on how you are going to come up with the money you need to get through to the end of the year. Trust in your own ability, creative accounting and intuition. There is much to be gained if you don't sabotage yourself. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You probably won't listen to anyone, including me today but, if you let things go to your head or you think or do things too extravagantly, you will end up paying for it. Be more patient and less of a know-it-all. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will have to keep a secret. If you share your plans with anyone, he or she will spill the beans. A different or unusual way of presenting something you can offer will probably lead to advancement for you. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The help you offer others will pay big dividends. You will have some interesting ideas but don't go too far off the beaten track. Someone who depends on you may get on your nerves. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can work effectively on something special or creative. Putting your efforts into an idea you have can lead to your own financial freedom. You will find the perfect gift for someone today. 2 stars

Birthday Baby: You are dynamic, creative, curious and a little impulsive. You are emotional, demanding and like to be in control. You are always searching for a new thrill.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

What break?

Squad prepares for busy schedule after first semester ends

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Classes may be ending, but for Notre Dame, the work is not.

Valparaiso will come to South Bend to face the No. 17 Irish (8-1) Wednesday in Notre Dame's final game before winter break. Notre Dame has six games over the holiday, including contests against Tennessee, Louisville and West Virginia after Christmas Day.

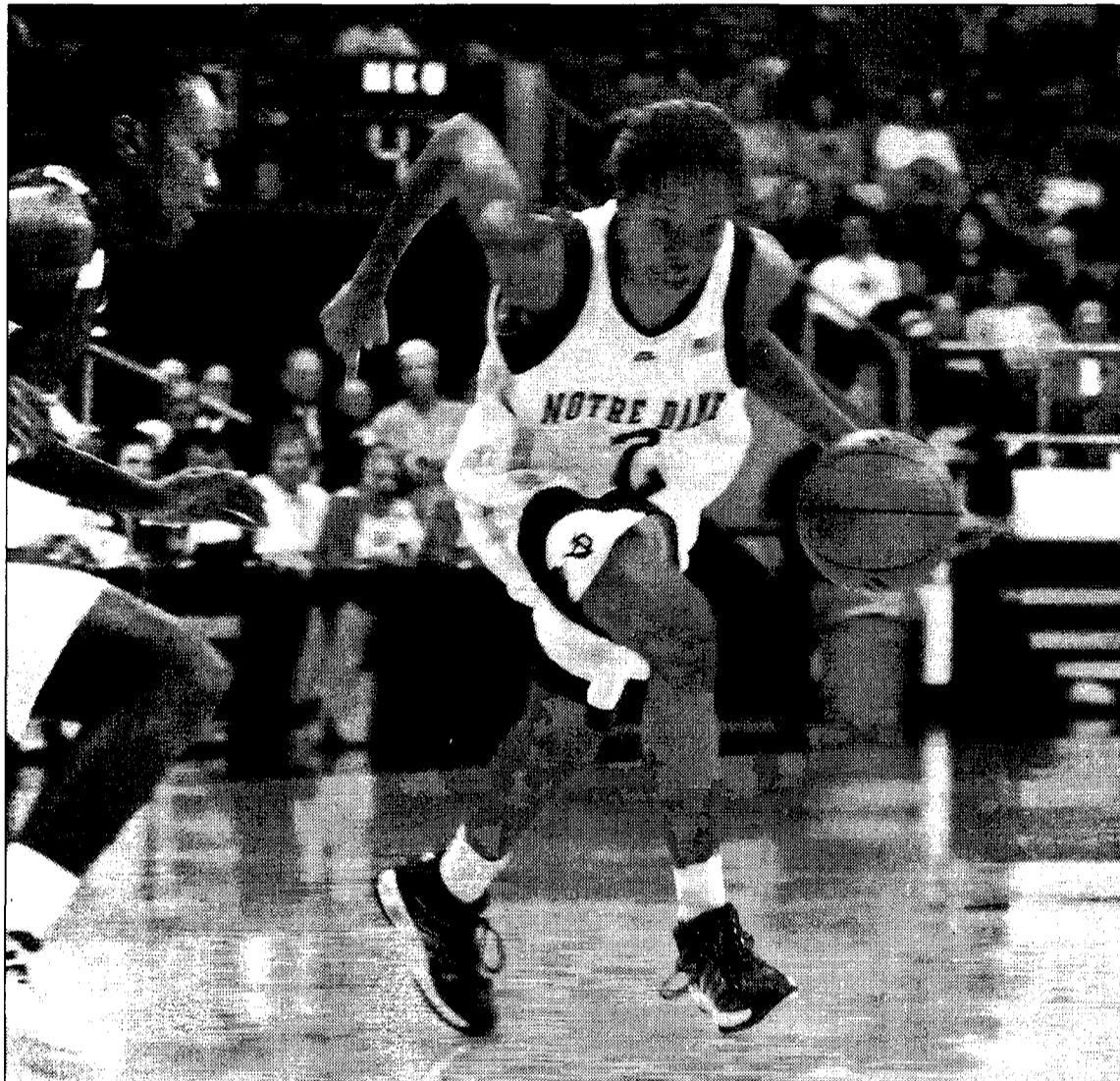
Notre Dame defeated Valparaiso by one point last season when then-senior guard Breona Gray hit a free throw to give the Irish the win with one second remaining.

"We're definitely not taking them lightly," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of the Crusaders.

Valparaiso has won its last three games. In each, guard Agnieszka Kulaga has led the team in scoring with 21, 18 and 25 points. Her season scoring average is also a team-best at 13.8 points per game.

"[The Crusaders are] just going to keep getting better as they go," McGraw said. "Now they're playing much better than they were at the beginning of the

see VALPO/page 22



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish senior guard Charel Allen dribbles past a Western Kentucky defender during Notre Dame's 78-59 win on Nov. 13. The No. 17 Irish will play Valparaiso Wednesday at the Joyce Center.

SMC BASKETBALL

Team set for busy few weeks

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's (3-4, 1-1 MIAA) will have to keep focused as the Belles head into a stretch that will see them play seven games between Dec. 21 and Jan. 9. That break schedule includes a pair of tournaments and three conference matchups.

"We have a lot of basketball to play over the holiday break from classes, so maintaining our focus will be key," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "There are no bad teams in the MIAA, just bad records. You have to be prepared every night you step on the court to play, and you can never overlook an opponent."

The Belles will play Hope College (7-0, 1-0) to open the Hope Classic in Holland, Mich., on Dec. 21. That game will count toward the MIAA standings. Saint Mary's will face either North Park (0-6) or Hanover (4-2) in the second round of the tournament the next day.

Saint Mary's will then travel to Westerville, Ohio, for

see BUSY

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish gear up for league play

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

He'd like to play every night.

But right now, Notre Dame guard Kyle McAlarney has other things on his mind. It's finals week.

"I have a couple of papers and my exams start[ed] Monday," said McAlarney, who already took his first exam — for a half-semester course.

The Irish (7-2) don't play again until Dec. 22 against San Francisco and didn't hold full team practice Monday, and will not practice today or Wednesday.

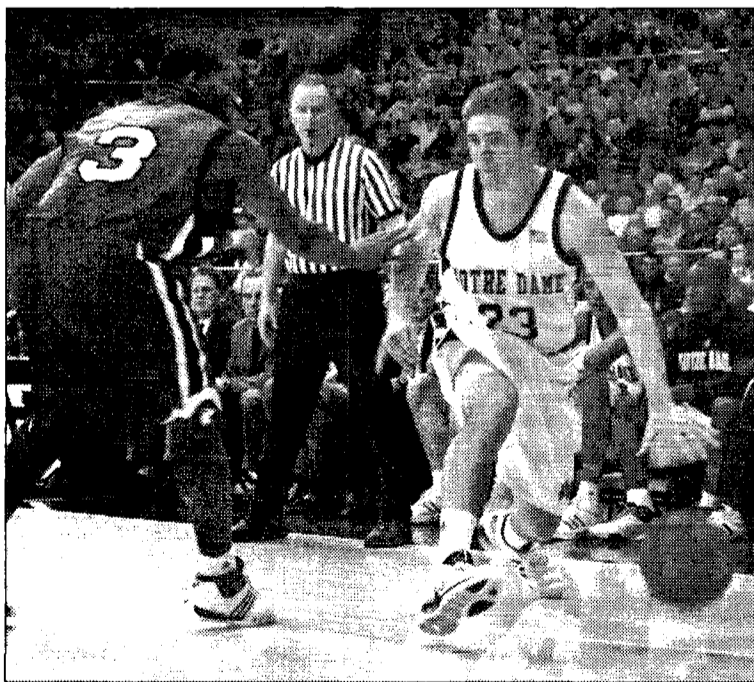
"We have to focus on academics," McAlarney said.

While the players study, coach Mike Brey is out recruiting. Brey left Sunday and will return Wednesday, and is focusing his sales pitches mainly on high school juniors.

"With a few weeks off, it puts me in a position to get on the road for about four days," Brey said. "It gives me a chance to get out and see some key kids."

Coaches cannot comment on specific recruits under NCAA rules.

But even with Brey out of town, the players will still be in the gym, though not as a complete unit. They will work out every day, and, in position groups of three or four, they will



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish junior guard Kyle McAlarney dribbles during Notre Dame's 108-62 win over Northern Illinois Saturday.

work on individual skills with assistant coaches.

"We usually get in an hour or so per day," junior guard Ryan Ayers said. "We go in and lift and get some conditioning in."

With two weeks of downtime before the next game, Ayers said the Irish will try to work on fundamentals.

"We want to use this as a chance to get better as a team,"

he said. "We'll be antsy, but it'll be a good time for us."

When Notre Dame does retake the court in its uniforms, the Irish will have three non-conference games and then begin their Big East slate. Overall, the team has six games during Christmas break — five at the Joyce Center and one on the

see BIG EAST/page 21

HOCKEY

Jackson will not play 'patsies' during break

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

As the college hockey world enters its annual three-week hibernation, No. 6 Notre Dame finds itself in a very familiar position.

At the onset of the break, the Irish (16-4) have a virtually identical record and ranking to last year's 16-3-1 team. After starting 4-3, coach Jeff Jackson has pulled together his young and talented squad to win 12 of its last 13 games against some of the country's top teams. Two of the team's four losses have come against top-five teams (a pair of 3-1 losses to No. 2 Miami and No. 4 Denver).

"I think we started this year with a lot more questions than last year ... but once we got those answered we started to show we could be a pretty good team," Jackson said. "I think we are as far if not further ahead than we were last year."

But the second half of the season will bring plenty of obstacles for Notre Dame. The Irish are slated for two-game series with both No. 1 Michigan and No. 5 Michigan State in January.

Notre Dame's next game will be on Dec. 29 against No. 9 Massachusetts at the Lightning College Hockey Classic in St. Petersburg, Fla. If they beat the Minutemen, the Irish will play the following night in the championship game against either No. 3 Colorado College or No. 16 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

The Irish won the first-ever Lightning Classic last season in late November, beating Air Force 2-0 in the final. This time around, the competition will be much stiffer.

"I wanted UMass and Colorado College in there because I know they are both good programs. Now that tournament is shaping up to be one of the best in the country," Jackson said. "I didn't want to go in and play a bunch of patsies."

The third-year coach has played a big role in setting up the tournament and increasing the talent level during his time at Notre Dame. Jackson has a personal connection with one of the members of the Tampa Bay Lightning ownership group, and the pair has worked together to

see LIGHTNING/page 22