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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Russert delivers Red Smith Lecture

Moderator of NBC's "Meet the Press" emphasizes importance of interview preparation



HALEY BEAUPRE/The Observer
Tim Russert, moderator of "Meet the Press," spoke Monday on the responsibilities of political journalists.

By CLAIRE REISING
News Writer

Tim Russert, moderator of "Meet the Press" and Washington Bureau Chief for NBC News, discussed journalists' responsibilities while interviewing political figures and gave the audience an idea of preparation involved for interviews in his lecture "When Politicians Meet the Press" as the keynote for the 25th Red Smith Lecture Monday in Washington Hall.

Robert Schmuhl director of Notre Dame's John W. Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, said Notre Dame President Emeritus Theodore Hesburgh instituted this lecture in 1983 to commemorate Walter W. "Red" Smith, who graduated from

Notre Dame in 1927 and won the Pulitzer Prize in 1976. Hesburgh also attended the lecture.

Red Smith's son, Terence Smith, introduced Russert, saying that this lecture is relevant to Indiana's current political climate.

"The timing of this lecture tonight with Tim Russert is pretty extraordinary, right in the heart of the most dramatic primary campaign that this country has seen in decades," he said.

Russert said his mission is to learn as much as he can about the guests' position on issues beforehand and take the opposing side, while maintaining a civil atmosphere on the show.

"I'm in a position to call them out and try to bring them back to

see RUSSERT/page 4

Festival to celebrate writers

Three women will read, discuss works

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

The University's first women writers' conference, "A Festival of Our Own," begins today and will continue to celebrate the accomplishments of female authors Wednesday and Thursday.

The conference, sponsored by the Department of English and the Creative Writing Program, will feature three female writers — Alice McDermott, Katherine Vaz and Lily Hoang.

Tonight features a public reception and with excerpts from McDermott, followed by a question and answer session. Wednesday night's highlight is a panel discussion, including all three writers and moderated by Sayers and senior Meghan O'Donoghue. The conference will finish with readings on Thursday night from Vaz and Hoang.

"We thought it was a natural for Notre Dame. So many students are of Catholic background and are practicing Catholics," English professor Valerie Sayers said. "We thought it would be really interesting to look at how women depict Catholicism [in their writing]."

McDermott, who will open tonight's events, is the winner of the National Book Award and the American Book Award for her novel "Charming

see WRITERS/page 4

Africa Week events celebrate culture

Schedule includes elements of Brazilian, African American, Latin American customs

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Notre Dame's annual Africa Week, which is dedicated to celebrating the beauty of the continent's culture, began a week of events with a traditional Mass Sunday.

Sponsored by the African Student Association (ASA), African Faith & Justice Network and African Working Group, Africa Week holds events to showcase the positive, cultural side of Africa, ASA member and week organizer Theo Ossei-

Anto said.

"You hear a lot about the bad things in Africa, but there is so much culture and beauty that people overlook all the time," he said.

The week's theme, "African Roots in Every Garden", contemplates the widespread influence of African culture. The events of the week will show "how African culture has influenced many cultures around the world," Ossei-Anto said.

The activities and events will incorporate elements of Brazilian, African American, and Latin American culture along with elements of African culture to demon-

strate the African influences in each culture and society, he said.

Tonight's event, a lecture co-sponsored by ASA and the Kroc Institute entitled "Catholic Peacebuilding in Africa", will feature three Catholic Bishops who have worked in Nigeria, Northern Uganda and Burundi, Ossei-Anto said. The talk will take place at 7:45 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium.

Africa Week continues Wednesday with a "Service Day" involving the Robinson Community Learning Center. Children from the center

will come to Notre Dame to hear a presentation regarding the theme of Africa Week, emphasizing the modern-day impact of African culture, Ossei-Anto said.

"Since a lot of kids are African-American, they will hear about how their culture has impacted music, dance and sports," he said.

Afterwards, the children will play soccer with students at Stepan fields.

Thursday's event, "By the Fireside: African Roots in Every Garden," is based on the old African tradition of

see AFRICA/page 4

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Group votes on three task force proposals

Leaders unanimously approves each report

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

In one of its final meetings of the year, the Campus Life Council (CLC) voted unanimously Monday on three end-of-the year task force proposals to be submitted to Notre Dame Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman.

"[These reports] will give Father Poorman an idea of what the task forces did this year," said senior Sheena

Plamoottil, head of the Task Force on Campus Environment. "They put [the task forces'] work on paper, and are open to [Poorman's] suggestions."

Plamoottil's task force's proposal addressed two topics, Sustainability of the Body and Sustainability of the Earth.

The Sustainability of the Body portion addresses the force's discussion on improv-

see CLC/page 4

Regina maintenance continues



LIZ HARTER/The Observer
Saint Mary's freshman Sarah Horn stands by a leak in her dorm room in Regina Hall Monday.

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Construction resumed on the roofs of Regina Hall, which has had leaky roofs for two years, in the fall semester of this year, said Bill Hambling, Director of Facilities at Saint Mary's.

"We started this roofing project last year and were unable to complete due to inclement weather," Hambling said.

Hambling issued an e-mail to Regina residents with a schedule for construction, which is set for completion by the end of this month.

"O'Laughlin is also undergoing similar work and everything from Regina and that work site is said to be cleaned up by May 2," he said.

Some students have found leaks in

see REGINA/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Dining Hall Doldrums

I'm usually not prone to rant. When I'm frustrated with something, I try to reason it out, think rationally, take a deep breath before venting out loud. I'll complain, but I try to avoid rants. There are exceptions. When one of my teams does something I don't like, I make sure the TV hears about it. And I absolutely cannot tolerate dining hall indecision.



Bill Brink

News Editor

This phenomenon has happened to everyone. On your way across the dining hall towards your next delicious menu item, you run into this guy: standing stock-still smack in the middle of everyone's way, he's slowly turning in circles as if in awe at the plethora of food at his disposal. He hasn't the foggiest idea what his stomach desires. When I get stuck behind this guy, I have to restrain myself from upending his tray so his applesauce splashes in his face.

I've developed a fool-proof route through the dining hall that ensures I never miss a special dish. (For the purposes of this column, I'm talking about South; North's layout is such a disastrous quagmire that navigating it with any kind of expedience is a complete shot in the dark.) I enter on the right. If I see a line by the Chinese food, I know it's General Tso's Chicken day and my search is over. If not, I swing around the Chinese and up the stir-fry line, scanning as I go to see what fruits accompany the sliced apples on my left and who's manning the stir-fry grill on my right. I cut across to the homestyle section, swing left near the grill, and then cut left again towards the pasta, leaning right to make sure I don't miss any mozzarella sticks or cinnabuns by the pizza. After I've passed the Mexican line, I've seen everything there is, I've made my decisions and I proceed to get my food.

I'm not saying everyone has to follow this pattern, but there needs to be premeditation before entering the dining hall. If your game face isn't on, everyone around you will know it, and you'll essentially be reduced to a traffic cone.

I'm not perfect. I've done it. I've been the guy who was overwhelmed by the choices and gaped at the different options available to me. (I partly blame the convergence of more than one delicious food on the same night. You can't serve peppered flank steak on the same night as General Tso's. It's not fair to ask college-age kids to make that choice.)

The final flaw I see most often is that people don't keep their head on a swivel. The dining hall is a crisscrossing, zig-zagging trail map of paths to and from different food stations. Everyone needs to imagine they're running a crossing route — keep your eye on the ball, or the food, but use your peripherals as well.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT AFRICA?



Mike Roscitt

junior
Stanford

"Matooke — its delicious."



Marco Magallon

freshman
Carroll

"The famous song 'Africa' by Toto comes to mind ..."



Jason Rodulfa

junior
Alumni

"The food — especially the free food today."



Gabby Tate

freshman
Pangborn

"Giraffes. I've just always loved them."



Jonathan Becker

sophomore
Morrissey

"The fashion — especially those buba's."



Adebola Giwa

junior
Alumni

"I get to wear my Buba around campus — and people like it."



DUSTIN MENNELA/The Observer

Senior Arlene Ortiz-Leyte serves herself free African food at the Coleman Morse Lounge Monday as part of a program to connect Notre Dame students with refugee families in the South Bend area during Africa Week.

OFFBEAT

Cashier throws cans of tobacco at robber

DES MOINES, Iowa — A cigarette store cashier has snuffed out a robbery. Police said a masked man flashed a knife at the Cigarette Outlet on Friday and forced one employee to the floor, then demanded money from another worker, Ruth Wright.

Instead of cash, Wright threw two cans of chewing tobacco at the robber, and one hit him in the face.

Officers said a customer then tackled the man, but the robber broke free and bolted out the door.

A cashier, Kittie Peacock,

said the store had been robbed at least once before.

13-year-old boy blows up 213 balloons with nose

BLAINE, Wash. — A 13-year-old boy is claiming the world record for blowing balloons with his nose. Using one nostril at a time, Andrew Dahl inflated 213 balloons within an hour Friday in the town's public library. His feat has been submitted for review by Guinness World Records.

His father, Doug Dahl, measured the balloons to make sure each was at least 20 centimeters, about

8 inches, the minimum diameter, and his mother, Wendy Dahl, kept the tally.

At one point he asked, "Does this count as practicing my trumpet?" His mother replied, "Only if you can play that with your nose."

It was his second try. In February he sent a videotape of himself inflating 184 balloons, only to learn that it didn't count because he handed them to his father to tie. This time he tied them off himself.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The play "The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus," a Christopher Marlowe play about a professor who sells his soul to the devil, will be performed April 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Decio Mainstage Theater at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play Toledo today at 6:05 p.m. at the Eck Baseball Stadium. Admission is free for students.

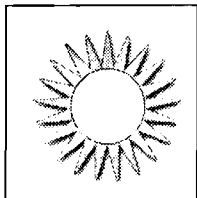
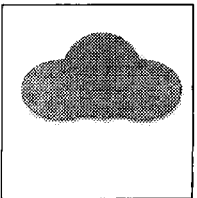
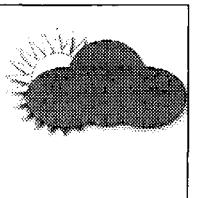
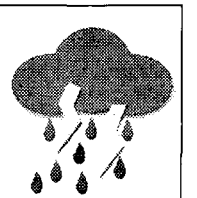
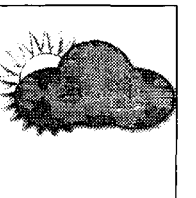

Archbishop Luis Augusto Castro Quiroga will deliver a lecture entitled "Columbia: The Church as Peacebuilder" Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

"Israel at 60," a celebration of Israel's 60th anniversary, will take place Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Eck Visitor's Center.

"A Festival of our Own: Women Writers at Notre Dame," an event featuring three women writers, will begin tonight at 6:30 p.m. in McKenna Hall.

"The Shirt" will be unveiled Friday at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Co-host of Mike and Mike in the Morning and former Notre Dame football player Mike Golic will be the guest speaker. Festivities begin at 4:30 p.m., and "The Shirt" will be revealed at 6 p.m.

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 57 LOW 49	HIGH 49 LOW 40	HIGH 67 LOW 50	HIGH 70 LOW 43	HIGH 60 LOW 40	HIGH 65 LOW 43

Atlanta 59 / 34 Boston 57 / 35 Chicago 60 / 32 Denver 78 / 41 Houston 74 / 44 Los Angeles 67 / 56 Minneapolis 70 / 39 New York 59 / 38 Philadelphia 55 / 36 Phoenix 56 / 40 Seattle 52 / 37 St. Louis 64 / 35 Tampa 68 / 48 Washington 58 / 39

ND hosts workshop on non-native animals

24 speakers from 14 countries attend event

Special to The Observer

Experts from around the globe gathered on the campus of Notre Dame from April 9 to 11 for the first international workshop on ways to reduce the risk from potentially invasive animals.

Non-native species invasions are a leading cause of the world-wide loss of native biological diversity and also are associated with disease risks to humans and both domesticated and wild species on which humans depend. The global costs of invasive species reach into the hundreds of billions of dollars each year, with millions of human livelihoods disrupted.

"Many countries continue to suffer needlessly from the importation of alien animals like the Burmese python in the U.S. that turn out to be harmful to us and our natural ecosystems," David Lodge, director of Notre Dame's Center for Aquatic Conservation, said. "If the U.S. would follow the examples from many other countries and adopt modern approaches to screening out harmful species, we could solve this problem, protect our native biodiversity, and make international trade more economically beneficial."

The workshop participants will next provide recommendations to the Convention on

Biological Diversity (CBD) to help prevent the introduction, through international trade, of non-native species that cause harm. Countries that are members of the CBD decided in 2006 that more efforts were required to lower the potential risks of organisms used, for example, in aquaculture, as pets, in aquariums, and as live bait.

The workshop featured 24 invited speakers from 14 countries and included experts from government agencies, relevant industries, universities and non-governmental organizations. Sessions focused on science, economics, different countries' practices, tools for sharing information, and international law.

Results of the workshop will be used by CBD member countries, pertinent international bodies, national policy makers, scientists and stakeholders in the live animal trade. The report, including a Web-based resource, will provide a broad picture of current and developing practices and tools for pre-import risk screening for a range of priorities and nations.

Organizers included the Global Invasive Species Programme, the IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group, Defenders of Wildlife, and Notre Dame's Center for Aquatic Conservation.

Benedict: Smart and savvy

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A theologian recalls the then-cardinal's deep understanding of Protestantism. A former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican was impressed by his interest in all things American.

Those who have met Pope Benedict XVI say the nation should expect a man who knows and admires much about the U.S., but also sees a culture in need of moral guidance.

Benedict arrives late Tuesday for a six-day visit to Washington and New York filled with high-profile events. He will meet President Bush at the White House, address leaders in Roman Catholic higher education, speak at the U.N., visit ground zero and hold two stadium Masses before leaving Sunday night.

It will be the first papal visit by Benedict since he was elected in 2005. However, the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger — who will celebrate a birthday and the anniversary of his election to the papacy while in the U.S. — traveled to America five times during his many years as the Vatican's doctrinal watchdog.

The Rev. David Wells, a theologian at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, a prominent evangelical school outside Boston, met Ratzinger years ago at a conference.

During a coffee break, the Roman Catholic cardinal picked up on a point Wells had made,

launching into a detailed discussion of the "Institutes of the Christian Religion," the seminal theological book by John Calvin and a key work on the Reformation.

"I was very impressed by the wide range of his knowledge, his lucidity and the grasp of the issues, both historical and contemporary," Wells said.

Benedict, a former theology professor, has made ecumenical outreach a cornerstone of his papacy, although he has upset some Protestants by affirming that the Catholic Church is the only "true" church. The pope is holding a prayer service with Protestant and Orthodox Christian leaders Friday night at a Manhattan parish.

Ray Flynn, the former Boston mayor who served as U.S. ambassador to the Vatican from 1993 to 1997, recalled Ratzinger walking by a newsstand outside St. Peter's Square where Flynn was looking at papers. Ratzinger stopped and discussed American current events with Flynn for nearly 20 minutes.

"I was just amazed by his level of curiosity and awareness about all that was taking place in the U.S.," Flynn said. "He kept using the phrase, 'the generosity of the United States.'"

Flynn is among those hosting a birthday party for Benedict on Wednesday night, his 81st birthday, in Washington. It's not clear whether the pope will attend. The party is among several events related to the visit that aren't on Benedict's official

itinerary. He is expected to meet privately with religious representatives and other leaders.

Some Catholics have expressed disappointment that the pope isn't visiting the Archdiocese of Boston. The clergy sex abuse crisis erupted there in 2002 with the case of one predator priest, then spread nationwide and beyond. Abuse-related costs, including massive settlements with victims, have surpassed \$2 billion for American dioceses since 1950.

However, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone — the Vatican secretary of state — told The Associated Press that Benedict will address the scandal during his trip and "will try to open the path of healing and reconciliation." A likely forum could be when Benedict speaks to priests during a Saturday morning Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the Vatican's U.S. ambassador, told The National Catholic Reporter that a meeting of the pope and victims is "within the field of possibility."

Karl Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic lay fraternal group, said Benedict doesn't get enough credit for his part in instituting reforms in the U.S. church in 2002 and 2003. At the time, he ran the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which reviewed all molestation cases against clergy worldwide.

A Festival of Our Own Women Writers at Notre Dame



Alice McDermott



Katherine Vaz



Lily Hoang

April 15 & 16, 2008
McKenna Hall,
University of Notre Dame

Tuesday April 15, 2008

7:00 p.m. Evening reading with Alice McDermott.
McKenna Hall Auditorium.
Question & answer session to follow.

Wednesday April 16, 2008

2:00 p.m. Panel discussion with Lily Hoang,
Alice McDermott, Katherine Vaz.
100 McKenna Hall.

7:30 p.m. Reading with Lily Hoang
and Katherine Vaz.
McKenna Hall
Auditorium and
Atrium.

For More Information

Please call the Creative Writing Program at
574.631-7526, or visit our web site at <http://www.nd.edu/~alcwp/womenwrite.htm>

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The Department of English
The Creative Writing Program



Africa

continued from page 1

gathering by the fire, Ossei-Anto said.

"In Africa, when [tribe members] returned at night, they would sit around the fire, and elders would lead the conversation, giving advice or telling a story," he said.

The talk will take place at 6:30 around the fireplace in the CoMô lounge. Event organizers invited four members of faculty, including University vice president John Affleck-Graves, to act as the elders and mentor the Notre Dame community around the fire, Ossei-Anto said.

The finale of Africa Week, Africa Night, will take place at 7:30 Saturday in Washington Hall.

"Africa Night is the embodiment of what Africa Week is," Ossei-Anto said. "The night is a showcase of

African culture: drumming, singing, dancing and anything that is part of the joyous and rich culture of Africa."

The show consists of different performance groups both on and off campus, including African dancers and singers, as well as Brazilian and Latin American groups to demonstrate the Africa Week theme of "African Roots in Every Garden," Ossei-Anto said.

"For example, Latin dancers will salsa to some East African music," he said.

"The night serves as a reminder that Africa is not just poverty. There is so much history and culture,

and we want to promote it on campus," Ossei-Anto said.

Tickets for Africa Night can be purchased for \$3 at the LaFortune Box Office or at the door. The proceeds from the night, as well as the money raised through sales of Africa Week t-shirts, will be donated to the Saint Joseph County's chapter of Red Cross Refugee program, Ossei-Anto said. Although the week is primarily about a celebration of African culture, he said, the money raised from the week will be donated to African relief.

"The night serves as a reminder that Africa is not just poverty. There is so much history and culture, and we want to promote it on campus."

Theo Ossei-Anto
Africa Week organizer

Contact Madeline Buckley at
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CLC

continued from page 1

ing student nutrition by examining campus dining halls.

The Sustainability of the Earth part examines University environmental concerns, namely the Green Summit, which addresses the "green" concerns of Notre Dame students and faculty.

The Student Development Task Force, headed by outgoing vice president junior Maris Braun, who was absent from Monday's meeting, addressed changes to be implemented to the College HAS Issues program.

Held during First Year Orientation, the program addresses gender relations issues, such as date rape, alcohol abuse and the impact of alcohol in decision making.

The major change to the

format of the program is to change venues — from the Joyce Center, where all first year students would convene for one large meeting, to the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, where students would meet in three smaller, more personal groups.

The final proposal, which came from the Community Relations Task Force, headed by sophomore Gustavo Gari, discussed improving relations between the Notre Dame campus and South Bend community.

The proposal aims to improve town-and-gown relations through increased dialogue. CLC members approved this proposal as well in a unanimous vote.

Incoming student body president Bob Reish and vice president Grant Schmidt, who were present at the meeting, will assume responsibility of CLC meetings in the fall.

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kperalta@nd.edu

Writers

continued from page 1

Billy." She is a Whiting Writers Award winner and author of six novels and the Richard A. Macksey Professor of English at Johns Hopkins University. She has also been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the PEN/Faulkner award.

McDermott's Irish Catholic heritage influences her writing, as much of her works focus on Catholics in a changing world, Sayers said.

"Her last novel really explored what it's like to be part of a devout Catholic family from end of World War II up to the Vietnam War," Sayers said. "It is about how faith changes through earth shattering events."

Vaz is a Briggs-Copeland lecturer in fiction at Harvard University and a former fellow of the Radcliffe Institute. She is the author of two novels, "Saudade" and "Mariana."

Sayers said Vaz's writing is "lush and poetic," and is largely influenced by her Portuguese roots.

Hoang received her Masters of Fine Arts from the University and has taught at Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Indiana University-South Bend. She is the author of "Parabola," which won the Chiasmus Press First Book Contest, and "Changing," which will be out this fall from Fairy Tale Review Press.

Much of Huang's work focuses on how martyrdom is important to her background, Sayers said. Huang "is a wildly experimental writer," Sayers said.

"[Vaz and Hoang] are so different in their approach and style. It will be fun to hear them back-to-back, each for half an hour," Sayers said. "We're hoping to make a big splash and keep [the conference] going for many years to come."

Sayers said the challenges that female writers continue to face today sparked the idea for the conference.

"Men are still taken more seriously as literary figures than women are," she said. "There still is much more of an emphasis on male writers

in classroom. We hope to counter balance this.

"You'd think we'd be past that point by now. One thing we've noticed over the years is that [the University] has invited a lot more male writers than women."

Sayers said it is natural that more male writers have been invited to the University throughout its history, considering that it only started accepting women in the early 1970s. She said, however, that there seems to continue to be a general trend in hosting since there have been approximately three times as many male writers invited on campus.

Sayers said she knew of a number of classes as well as book groups on and off campus who are planning to attend Tuesday night.

"We really think of the festival as directed towards undergraduate writers," she said. "The idea was that we would get three writers who would approach the theme from different places."

Contact Becky Hogan at
rhogan2@nd.edu

Russert

continued from page 1

out and try to bring them back to the point where they're giving an honest answer to an honest question," he said.

One example of this occurred in October 2002, when Russert said 80 percent of the American population supported going to War in Iraq and two-thirds of both houses of Congress voted to authorize it because of a "consensus" that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. He debated, however, whether or not leaders considered possible implications of war.

"There had been much discussion about the lead-up to the war and whether the appropriate questions were asked of our leaders," Russert said.

He said the Sunday before the war began, Vice President Dick Cheney was a guest on "Meet the Press" and made "a variety of assumptions" about the situation in Iraq, including that Iraqis would greet United States troops as liberators.

"At that time, I said, 'Mr. Vice

President, what if you are wrong? What if we are not greeted as liberators, but occupiers, and with a long, protracted, bloody battle [and] insurrection, particularly in the Baghdad area?' He said, 'I disagree. That will not happen,'" Russert said.

To ask difficult questions, Russert stressed that journalists must thoroughly prepare for their interviews. He said he reads several publications to follow current events.

"It is essential that I do what I didn't do when I was in college," he said. "I had been taught that if I read my lesson before class, show up in class on time ... review my notes after class, the exam would be easy. They were right. I did not do [that], but it is what I do now, each and every day."

With the variety of news sources available today, including politically biased pundits and "pamphleteers," Russert said the public, and not only journalists, should listen to multiple points of view.

"It is not enough to confirm your political views by only accessing and reading outlets that reinforce your views but do

not challenge them," he said.

Russert also addressed some challenges of interviewing politicians, including euphemistic rhetoric and their reluctance to alter their positions on issues.

"I am continually surprised that more politicians do not say, 'I have changed my mind. I did say that four years ago, but let me explain what I have learned since then and why I will vote differently next week,'" he said.

Even though "Meet the Press" gives politicians an hour of publicity, Russert said candidates are sometimes reluctant to appear on the show because of scrutinizing questions.

"A politician would much prefer that you would go to their website and look at their positions or look at their 30-second commercials than have to watch them struggle to answer a question on 'Meet the Press,'" he said. "But they also realize that there's sometimes no alternative, that it is part of the job ... to go before the American public and take account for [the questions]."

Contact Claire Reising at
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Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies

Colombia: The Church as Peacebuilder

Wednesday, April 16

Noon to 1:45 pm Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium

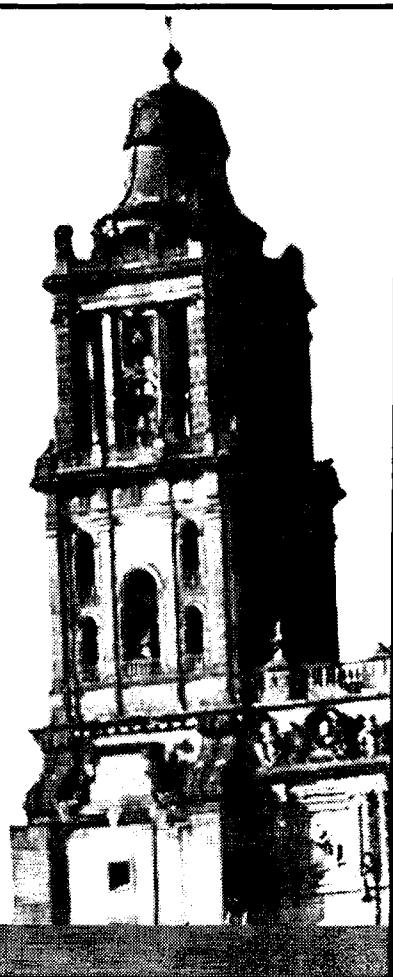
Featuring

Archbishop Luis Augusto Castro Quiroga, President, Episcopal Conference of Colombia

Archbishop Castro is one of the most important mediators between the Colombian government and the FARC, Colombia's oldest and largest guerrilla group. Join us to hear about the long-running conflict in Colombia, where the depth and scope of the Church's leadership in peacemaking is unmatched around the world.

Lunch will be served in the Hesburgh Center Great Hall at noon; the lecture will follow at 12:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies; Kellogg Institute for International Studies; and the Center for Civil and Human Rights.



WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. ally wins Italian primary election

ROME — Media billionaire Silvio Berlusconi won a decisive victory Monday in Italy's parliamentary election, setting the colorful conservative and staunch U.S. ally on course to his third stint as premier.

The victory in voting Sunday and Monday by parties supporting the 71-year-old Berlusconi avenged his loss two years ago to a center-left coalition.

"I'm moved. I feel a great responsibility," he said in a phone call to RAI public television while monitoring election results at his villa outside Milan. Italian news agencies said he had a private dinner with key aides.

Berlusconi capitalized on discontent over Italy's stagnating economy and the unpopularity of Romano Prodi's government.

Red Cross criticizes U.S. detainee policy

ABUL, Afghanistan — The Red Cross criticized the way the U.S. handles prisoners at the highly secretive Bagram military base, urging reforms Monday that would allow detainees to introduce testimony in their defense.

The criticism of the prison, which few outsiders have seen, goes to the heart of the system the Bush administration uses to justify holding detainees outside the U.S.

Jakob Kellenberger, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said many of the 600-plus detainees at Bagram complain they do not even know why they are being held. Kellenberger spent a half day at the prison during a one-week visit to Afghanistan that ended Monday.

NATIONAL NEWS

Delta, Northwest Airlines to merge

ATLANTA — A person familiar with the negotiations says Delta Air Lines' and Northwest Airlines' directors have approved a deal for Delta to take over Northwest and create the world's biggest carrier.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because an official announcement was expected later Monday, said the boards of both companies gave the deal the go-ahead.

The announcement will come a year after the two carriers emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Both carriers are losing money again but are in much better shape than the four much-smaller airlines that have filed for bankruptcy or gone out of business in recent weeks.

Polygamist sect faces custody trials

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Texas officials who took 416 children from a polygamist retreat into state custody sent many of their mothers away Monday, as a judge and lawyers struggled with a legal and logistical morass in one of the biggest child-custody cases in U.S. history.

Of the 139 women who voluntarily left the compound with their children since an April 3 raid, only those with children 4 or younger were allowed to continue staying with them, said Marissa Gonzales, spokeswoman for the state Children's Protective Services agency. She did not know how many women stayed.

LOCAL NEWS

Indiana's juvenile detention rates high

MUNSTER, Ind. — Just three states jail a higher percentage of their kids than Indiana, an advocacy group says in a report on the well-being of children.

Indiana's juvenile incarceration rate of 415.4 per 100,000 juveniles ages 10 and older in 2006 trailed only Wyoming (606.1), South Dakota (564.4) and Florida (451.8), the non-profit, nonpartisan Every Child Matters Education Fund reported recently in "Geography Matters: Child Well-Being in the States."

Vermont, at 72.4 jailed juveniles per 100,000, had the lowest rate.

Michael Petit, the group's president, said Indiana's high incarceration rate stemmed at least partially from the state's poor ranking in other areas examined in the report such as child welfare expenditures, infant mortality and births to teen mothers.

IRAQ

Iraqi troops free British journalist

CBS News reporter found and freed after two months of captivity in Basra

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi troops freed a kidnapped British journalist for CBS News on Monday after finding him hooded and bound in a house during a raid in a Shiite militia stronghold in Basra.

Richard Butler's rescue after two months in captivity was a welcome success story for the Iraqi military, which has been strongly criticized for its effort to impose order on Iraq's second-largest city, an oil hub 340 miles south-east of Baghdad.

It came on a day in which nearly 40 people were killed or found dead nationwide — half of them in bombings near or in the northwestern city of Mosul.

Roadside bombings killed two U.S. soldiers, one in Baghdad and the other in the northern Salahuddin province, the military said. At least 4,034 members of the American military have died since the war started in March 2003.

Butler, 47, was thin but in good condition and laughing as he was shown on Iraqi state television hugging well-wishers and greeting beaming Iraqi officials.

"Thank you and I'm looking forward to seeing my family and my friends at CBS and thank you again," said Butler, who was working as a producer for "60 Minutes" when he was kidnapped.

"I'm pretty weak and I've lost quite a bit of weight," he said later. "I'm looking forward to a decent meal."

Defense Ministry spokesman Mohammed al-Askari said the troops were not in fact looking for Butler. He said an army patrol conducting a sweep of the area responded after coming under fire from the house where he was being held in the Jibiliya neighborhood.

One of the gunmen was wounded in an exchange of fire and another was captured while two men escaped, he said.



British journalist Richard Butler was freed in Basra, Iraq on Monday. Butler, a reporter from CBS News, was held in captivity at a Shiite militia stronghold for two months.

When asked by al-Askari on Iraqi television if the Iraqi army was good, Butler said it was "brilliant."

"The Iraqi army stormed the house and overcame my guards and they burst through the door," Butler said. "I had my hood on, which I had to have on all the time, and they shouted something at me and I pulled my hood off."

Basra security commander Et. Gen. Mohan al-Fireji said Butler was sitting on the floor with his head covered by a sack and his hands tied when the troops stumbled upon him.

Butler had been held since Feb. 10, when masked gunmen seized him and his Iraqi

interpreter from Basra's Sultan Palace Hotel.

The interpreter was released within days, but Butler remained in captivity despite claims by radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's office that it was negotiating with the kidnappers for his release.

Harith al-Edhari, a director of al-Sadr's office in Basra, said the kidnappers had rejected their efforts and threatened him over the issue. "The kidnappers have nothing to do with the Sadrist movement," he said.

In London, British Foreign Secretary David Miliband thanked the Iraqi security forces "for the professionalism of the task they have

undertaken" and said Butler was in the care of the British consulate in Basra.

CBS News spokeswoman Sandy Genelius said the network was "incredibly grateful that our colleague ... has been released and is safe."

The gratitude was eagerly accepted by the Iraqi government, which has been embarrassed by the failure of a major offensive that began on March 25 to dislodge militia groups from Basra.

Iraqi security forces were surprised by the ferocious resistance mounted by the outnumbered militiamen, despite artillery and air support provided by U.S. and British forces.

J.K. Rowling testifies in copyright case

NEW YORK — J.K. Rowling testified before a packed courtroom in a lawsuit to block publication of a Harry Potter lexicon, telling a judge that the book amounts to a "wholesale theft" of nearly 20 years of her hard work.

"We all know I've made enough money. That's absolutely not why I'm here," Rowling told the judge in U.S. District Court.

The British author sued Michigan-based RDR Books last year to stop publication of Steven Vander Ark's "Harry Potter Lexicon," claiming copyright infringement. Vander Ark runs the popular Harry Potter Lexicon Web site, and RDR wants to publish a print version of the site and charge \$24.95.

Rowling claims the book is nothing more than a rearrangement of her own material and told the judge it copied so much of her work that it amounted to plagiarism.

"I think it's atrocious. I think it's sloppy. I think there's very little research," she testified Monday. "This book constitutes wholesale theft of 17 years of my hard work."

She also said she has recently started work on her own encyclopedia but does not expect to complete it for two to three years because she wants to do it right.

RDR's lawyer, Anthony Falzone, has defended the lexicon as a reference guide, calling it a legitimate effort "to organize and discuss the complicated and very elaborate

world of Harry Potter." The small publisher is not contesting that the lexicon infringes upon Rowling's copyright but argues that it is a fair use allowable by law for reference books.

The nonjury trial will be decided by U.S. District Judge Robert Patterson Jr., who must determine whether the use of the material is legal because Vander Ark added his own interpretation, creativity and analysis. The testimony and arguments could last most of the week. Rowling will spend her breaks in the seclusion of a jury room, away from fans of her wildly popular series.

The trial comes eight months after Rowling published her seventh and

Regina

continued from page 1

their dorm rooms.

"I know of several students that were upset about the leaks but felt better after our Maintenance Supervisor Timm Ringer spent time with them and explained what was going on," Hambling said.

While the construction has not impeded much of campus life, some students have found leaks in their dorm rooms. Regina resident Sarah Horn, a freshman, said she and her roommates first noticed a leak in their room when they returned from fall break in October.

"At first it was just a bubble like there was too much water underneath the paint [in the ceiling]," Horn said.

"Then it grew to what it is now."

Horn said the facilities department tried to fix the problem by painting over the bubbled ceiling in the fall, but the leak persisted.

"A week later it was bubbling and the paint started chipping off on to all of our stuff," she said.

Horn said she isn't sure what is going to happen with the ceiling but always worries that it may get worse when she's asleep or not in the room.

"There have been times when

I'm afraid I'm going to wake up in the middle of the night and the bed is just going to be soaking wet," she said. "I stripped my sheets before I went home for Christmas break because you just don't know if the ceiling is going to burst open and flood the room tomorrow."

She said the worst part about the leak isn't the fact that water is coming into the room.

"It's not just water, it's kind of like tar water," she said, describing the thick, brown color of the liquid. "It falls into our heater so it cooks the tar water and our room smells."

Hambling said the Facilities Department has spoken with students to make sure they feel comfortable in their rooms.

Administrators have been trying hard to keep residents comfortable and informed, freshman Christine

Dits said. A few students, like Dits, chose to move from their rooms. She moved from her original room on Regina's fourth floor to her current room on the first floor.

"The moving process went smoothly and I am enjoying my new spacious room," Dits said.

The leaks in her previous room were not unlivable, she said, but Toyin Adeyemi, Regina Hall Director, gave her the option of relocating and she took it.

There are plans for further

work on Regina Hall in the upcoming months, Hambling said in an e-mail. The building's lighting system is going to be upgraded to a more energy-efficient model, which will cut down heat emissions from the lights. This will allow for fewer costs in the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, he said in the e-mail.

This fall, there will be a building envelope study, he said. This study, he said, will allow Building Facilities to discover problems such as faulty insulation. It will also reduce heating and cooling costs and is another tactic to make the building more energy efficient, he said.

"The information gathered from this study will assist with our deferred maintenance budget," Hambling said.

Another issue students have been voicing concern about is the unused swimming pool adjacent to Regina Hall's South Lounge. It was drained and closed when students returned to campus in August 2006.

"[The pool has] too many leaks and it became very costly to maintain," Hambling said.

Building Facilities does not intend to renovate the pool, but steps will be taken to remove it. The intention is to remove the pool and the roof over it and widen the already existing courtyard within Regina.

"I'm not sure of the timing for this project as we are in the process of securing funding," Hambling said.

Mandi Stirone and Liz Harter contributed to this article.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

"I know of several students that were upset about leaks but felt better after our Maintenance Supervisor Timm Ringer spent time with them and explained what was going on."

Bill Hambling
Director of Facilities

Scientists: Quake to hit California by 2037

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — California faces an almost certain risk of being rocked by a strong earthquake by 2037, scientists said Monday in the first statewide temblor forecast.

New calculations reveal there is a 99.7 percent chance a magnitude 6.7 quake or larger will strike in the next 30 years. The odds of such an event are higher in Southern California than Northern California, 97 percent versus 93 percent.

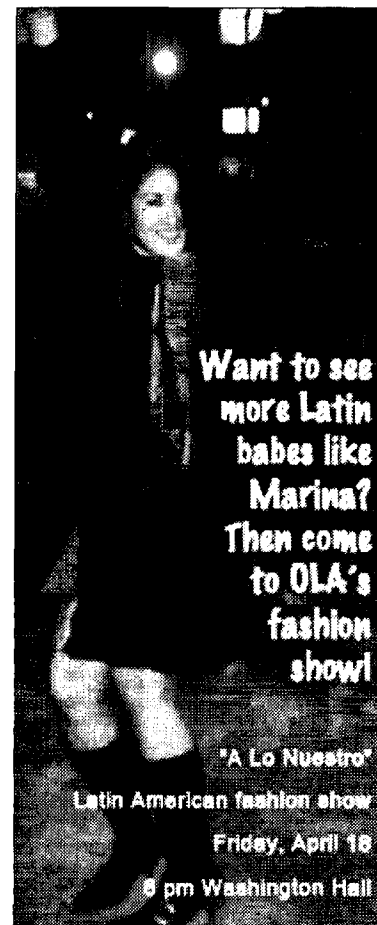
"It basically guarantees it's going to happen," said Ned Field, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Pasadena and lead author of the report.

The 1994 Northridge earthquake under Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley was magnitude 6.7. It killed 72 people, injured more than 9,000 and caused \$25 billion in damage in the metropolitan area.

The damage created by an earthquake depends greatly on where it hits. A 7.1 quake — much stronger than Northridge — hit the Mojave Desert in 1999 but caused only a few injuries and no deaths.

California is one of the world's most seismically active regions. More than 300 faults crisscross the state,

which sits atop two of Earth's major tectonic plates, the Pacific and North American plates. About 10,000 quakes each year rattle Southern California alone, although most of them are too small to be felt.



MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 12,302.06 -23.36

Up: 724 Same: 83 Down: 2,617 Composite Volume: 3,742,597,142

AMEX	2,253.90	-11.76
NASDAQ	2,275.82	-14.42
NYSE	8,922.84	-13.27
S&P 500	1,328.32	-4.51
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	12,917.51	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,831.60	-63.90

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
WACHOVIA CP (WB)	-8.13	-2.26	25.55
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-0.34	-0.45	132.93
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-2.35	-0.59	24.54
GEN ELECTRIC CO (GE)	-0.94	-0.30	31.75

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.92	+0.032	3.503
13-WEEK BILL	-7.33	-0.085	1.075
30-YEAR BOND	+0.91	+0.039	4.341
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.47	+0.012	2.586

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.62	111.76
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+1.70	928.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+3.00	71.38

Exchange Rates

YEN	101.0500
EURO	0.6316
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0202
BRITISH POUND	0.5068

IN BRIEF

Slight sales increase seen last month

WASHINGTON — Consumers, beset by a credit crunch, rising energy and food costs and a prolonged housing slump, boosted spending only slightly in March.

The gain reflected soaring gasoline costs rather than any real strength in demand, however.

The Commerce Department reported Monday that retail sales edged up 0.2 percent in March after a 0.4 percent decline in February. However, without a 1.1 percent jump in sales at gasoline service stations, retail sales would have been flat last month.

Economists said the March report did nothing to dispel their worries that the country has either toppled into a recession or is very close to a downturn as households have been battered by a series of blows and now are facing rising layoffs.

"Don't expect to see consumers return any time soon," said Bernard Baumohl, managing director of the Economic Outlook Group. "They're going to be hibernating for the balance of the year, nursing the wounds that stem from the worst job market in five years, the highest drop in home prices in more than half a century, record high gasoline prices and the worst credit crisis since the Great Depression."

Rockstar Corp. tentatively settles suit

LOS ANGELES — Former Blink-182 drummer Travis Barker has tentatively settled a lawsuit against the Rockstar energy drink company over the use of his picture to promote the product.

Terms of the settlement were not disclosed in court papers filed Friday in Superior Court.

A call to Rockstar Beverage Corp.'s attorney was not immediately returned Monday. Barker's lawyer, Gregory Weisman, said both parties were still working out terms. He declined to elaborate until the deal is completed.

Barker's lawsuit claimed invasion of privacy, unfair competition and misappropriation of his likeness to promote the product.

The lawsuit said the Rockstar Web site published a photo of the 32-year-old Barker "holding a can of one of Rockstar's beverages, and identifying him and his endorsement by name" without his consent. Ruling is pending.

U.S. food prices continue to rise

Business owners, consumers struggle with the worst food inflation in 17 years

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Steve Tarpin can bake a graham cracker crust in his sleep, but explaining why the price for his Key lime pies went from \$20 to \$25 required mastering a thornier topic: global economics.

He recently wrote a letter to his customers and posted it near the cash register listing the factors — dairy prices driven higher by conglomerates buying up milk supplies, heat waves in Europe and California, demand from emerging markets and the weak dollar.

The owner of Steve's Authentic Key Lime Pies in Brooklyn said he didn't want customers thinking he was "jacking up prices because I have a unique product."

"I have to justify it," he said.

The U.S. is wrestling with the worst food inflation in 17 years, and analysts expect new data due on Wednesday to show it's getting worse. That's putting the squeeze on poor families and forcing bakeries, bagel shops and delis to explain price increases to their customers.

U.S. food prices rose 4 percent in 2007, compared with an average 2.5 percent annual rise for the last 15 years, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. And the agency says 2008 could be worse, with a rise of as much as 4.5 percent.

Higher prices for food and energy are again expected to play a leading role in pushing the government's consumer price index higher for March.

Analysts are forecasting that Wednesday's Department of Labor



Sam Iliewat talks with a customer at his Wonder Bagels store in Jersey City, N.J. Monday. Iliewat posted a letter from his wheat supplier to help explain price increases.

report will show the Consumer Price Index rose at a 4 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year, up from last year's overall rise of 2.8 percent.

For the U.S. poor, any increase in food costs sets up an either-or equation: Give something up to pay for food.

"I was talking to people who make \$9 an hour, talking about how they might save \$5 a week," said Kathleen DiChiara, president and CEO of the Community FoodBank of

New Jersey. "They really felt they couldn't. That was before. Now, they have to."

For some, that means adding an extra cup of water to their soup, watering down their milk, or giving their children soda because it's cheaper than milk, DiChiara said.

U.S. households still spend a smaller chunk of their expenses for foods than in any other country — 7.2 percent in 2006, according to the USDA. By contrast, the figure was 22 percent in Poland and more than 40 percent in

Egypt and Vietnam.

In Bangladesh, economists estimate 30 million of the country's 150 million people could be going hungry. Haiti's prime minister was ousted over the weekend following food riots there.

Still, the higher U.S. prices seem eye-popping after years of low inflation. Eggs cost 25 percent more in February than they did a year ago, according to the USDA. Milk and other dairy products jumped 13 percent, chicken and other poultry nearly 7 percent.

Blockbuster bids to takeover Circuit City

Associated Press

DALLAS — Blockbuster Inc., which has been busy trying to fix its own movie-rental business, is making a hostile takeover bid of just over \$1 billion for Circuit City Stores Inc. with dreams of creating a huge chain that would sell electronic gadgets and rent movies and games.

The offer is larger than Blockbuster's entire stock market value, but Chief Executive James Keyes said he was confident his company can swing the deal and that the move has the support of one of his board members, financier Carl Icahn, who could help with financing.

Icahn, Blockbuster's largest shareholder, did not return calls for comment.

Keyes said combining the companies would create a 9,300-store chain that could sell portable devices and entertainment for them, much like Apple Inc.'s stores. The larger Circuit City

stores would have movie-rental stores inside, and Blockbuster locations would offer a limited selection of electronics.

News of Blockbuster's bid for Circuit City, valued at up to \$1.35 billion, sent the struggling retailer's shares up 27 percent on Monday. Blockbuster shares fell.

Circuit City, the nation's second biggest consumer electronics chain, said it doubted Blockbuster could finance the deal and has resisted opening its books.

Analysts said Blockbuster, which is undergoing its own turnaround effort, could be getting more than it can handle in Circuit City. The chain has been fighting a losing battle against rival Best Buy Inc.

"Blockbuster is not thinking through how difficult the big-ticket consumer-electronics business is. It's pretty audacious ... to the point of potentially reckless," said Michael Pachter, an analyst with Wedbush Morgan Securities.

"Look what happened to CompUSA and Good Guys and Ultimate Electronics," he said, ticking off the names of chains that failed. He said Circuit City could continue losing market share to Best Buy.

BMO Capital Markets downgraded Blockbuster stock. Analyst Jeffrey Logsdon said he couldn't understand the strategic value of a hostile bid for Circuit City. He warned the fight could distract the movie-rental company from its own recovery.

Blockbuster has struggled for several years to compete with cheap DVDs from retailers such as Wal-Mart Stores Inc., video on demand from cable and satellite TV operators, and the by-mail rental service of Netflix Inc.

Since joining Blockbuster last summer, Keyes has dumped online customers who were costing more money than they brought in, and bought Movielink, a digital movie-downloading service operated by major Hollywood studios.

Threatening messages close 3 midwest colleges

St. Xavier University, Malcom X College, Oakland University shut down due to graffiti

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A message scrawled in a university bathroom — “Be prepared to die on 4/14” — left not just the college’s campus empty Monday, but also those of two adjoining high schools and a pair of nearby elementary schools.

After the precautions were taken at St. Xavier University on the city’s southwest side, Malcolm X College evacuated students and canceled daytime classes Monday after a similar threat was found in a bathroom at the campus west of downtown. And Michigan’s Oakland University was closed Monday because of threatening graffiti mentioning April 14.

The closures, two days before the anniversary of the Virginia Tech killings and two months after the deadly rampage at Northern Illinois University, illustrate the challenge such threats pose to school administrators, who have to decide just how seriously to take them.

“I can see why they’re doing it for the safety of the kids. But I see it as over the top,” said Lynn Ruggiero, whose daughter is a freshman at one of the high schools that shares a campus with Xavier and closed Monday.

Ruggiero said she figures whoever wrote the threat “is getting a certain satisfaction” from putting thousands of Chicago students out of class. Still, she knows school officials have a hard time pleasing everyone.

“If they hadn’t closed, people would have said, ‘How come you didn’t?’”

St. Xavier and Malcolm X are located about 15 miles apart, and despite the fact that the threats had similar wording, there was no indication they were related, Chicago police spokeswoman Monique Bond said. The graffiti at St. Xavier was widely publicized over the weekend, and also contained in updates the college placed on its Web site.

While St. Xavier decided Friday to close until further notice, classes at Malcolm X resumed late Monday afternoon after bomb-sniffing dogs swept the campus.

Oakland University, an 18,000-student state school about 20 miles north of Detroit, planned to resume classes Tuesday. The graffiti that prompted its shutdown

also made a reference to “4/14” but didn’t specify a type or time of an attack, university spokesman Ted Montgomery said.

School administrators’ decisions about handling threats can be made easier by having a plan in place should a crisis arise, said Larry Consalvos, senior vice president at iXP Corp., a security consulting firm which works with universities on campus safety. Knowing how they’ll deal with the chain of command, first responders, communication and alarm systems is vital, Consalvos said, and allows administrators to decide when to monitor a situation and when to shut down a campus.

“I don’t think you can be cavalier about the seriousness of any threat,” Consalvos said.

In the Chicago area, two elementary schools and two high schools near St. Xavier decided to cancel classes Monday after a Saturday morning meeting between school officials and city police.

The fact that the threat mentioned a certain date helped administrators at Evergreen Park Southwest Elementary decide to shut down, district superintendent Craig Fiegel said. Other schools in the district — located in the village of Evergreen Park, next to Chicago — canceled outdoor recess and PE classes Monday.

Fiegel called such violent graffiti “the new bomb threat,” remembering a time in the 1960s when bomb threats were regularly used to close down institutions. And he said he worries that the closures could encourage other people who get a kick out of causing chaos.

“At what point is it serious and at what point do you have to go on with it?” Fiegel said.

Edelena Lee was one of a number of students arriving for class Monday afternoon at Malcolm X who had not heard of the threat, or that the school had been locked down. Despite disappointment that she may have wasted a trip to campus, she had no problem with the decision to close the school, particularly so soon after a gunman opened fire and killed five students and himself in February at NIU, about 65 miles west of Chicago.

“I think people have issues nowadays,” said Lee, 30. “You can never be too cautious.”

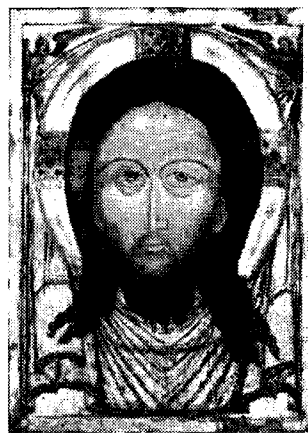
“I don’t think you can be cavalier about the seriousness of any threat.”

Larry Consalvos
senior vice president

“At what point is it serious and at what point do you have to go on with it?”

Craig Fiegel
district superintendent

COMMUNITY of SAINT’EGIDIO



PRAYER FOR PEACE

TUESDAY APRIL 15 AT 7:00 P.M.

LADY CHAPEL, NOTRE DAME BASILICA

The Community of Sant’Egidio, begun in Rome in 1968, is a Catholic Lay Association, a movement of lay people dedicated to prayer, charity, and living the Gospel message. Today there are over 60,000 members in more than 70 countries. In 2001 the Community of Sant’Egidio received the Notre Dame International Award for its work in international peace negotiations, including ending the civil war in Mozambique in 1992, and for its service to the poor around the world.

THE NOTRE DAME COMMUNITY PRAYS ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE NOTRE DAME LOG CHAPEL AND ON THURSDAYS AT 8:30 P.M. AT ST. AUGUSTINE’S CHURCH. OUR SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY IS AT CARDINAL NURSING HOME IN SOUTH BEND ON THURSDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

For more information contact
Richard_Lasalvia@sbcglobal.net



ISRAEL AT 60

Past, Present, and Future

Thursday, April 17, 2008

6:00 to 8:30 PM

THE ECK VISITORS CENTER AUDITORIUM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Past and Future of Israel
Dr. Alan Dowty

Professor Emeritus of Political Science
Senior Associate in Middle Eastern Studies
University of Notre Dame

**Israeli Palestinian Peace:
Can it be a reality today?**
Dr. Andy David

Deputy Consul General of Israel
to the Midwest
Israeli Consulate Chicago

**A Mideast Strategic Overview:
An Israeli Perspective**
Dr. Chuck Freilich

Senior Fellow, Kennedy School of Government
Former Deputy Israeli National Security Adviser
Harvard University

Sponsored by the Department of History, the Department of Political Science, and the Abrams Chair of Jewish Thought and Culture



Please recycle the Observer.

ZIMBABWE

Court rejects election appeal

Opposition party calls national strike, Tsvangirai claims election was rigged

Associated Press

HARARE — Zimbabwe's High Court rejected an appeal Monday for the immediate release of presidential election results, dashing hopes for an end to a paralyzing political crisis and prompting the opposition to call a nationwide strike.

Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai says he won the March 29 election outright and has accused President Robert Mugabe of holding back the results to try to maintain his 28-year grip in power. Independent tallies show Tsvangirai won, but did not receive enough votes to prevent a runoff.

Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change had hoped the court — though stacked with Mugabe loyalists — would force the election commission to release the results after a 16-day wait. The commission, which published results for parliamentary and local elections within several days of the election, said it can't release the presidential results until it investigates electoral anomalies.

In rejecting the opposition petition, the court ruled that the commission's explanation was "legally valid," and said the electoral body "has not strayed from the law." Government spokesman Bright Matonga praised the ruling and dismissed charges the court was biased.

"The electoral commission should be allowed to do its

job," he said.

Tsvangirai accused the election commission of working for the ruling party.

"Now, for the next three or four weeks, [the commission] will drag the time, while people get beaten and while a new electoral environment is being created," he told South Africa's independent e-tv station.

The opposition and human rights groups said ruling party militants have been waging a campaign of violence against opposition supporters ahead of a possible second round of voting.

Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights said it had documented at least 130 attacks on opposition or independent poll monitors. Two people were killed and 29 hospitalized with serious injuries, director Irene Petras said.

The MDC called a nationwide strike for Tuesday in what would be the first major protest since the election.

The police have banned all political rallies, and opposition officials said Tuesday's action would be a quiet "stayaway," not a raucous strike complete with street protests.

"People are not going to go to work. They are going to be in their homes, expressing their dissatisfaction,"

MDC spokesman Nelson Chamisa said.

Past strike calls have been met with resistance by impoverished workers, who can't afford to lose even one day's wage in an economically ravaged country suffering 80 percent unemployment.

Meanwhile, opposition officials said violence was spreading.

Looting and arson attacks since Thursday in the northern Mutoko district — a former ruling party stronghold that voted for the opposition — have forced scores of villagers to flee their homes, the MDC said Monday.

Armed assailants broke into the home of a woman who had worked as an MDC polling agent and slashed her arms with knives as they interrogated her, the party said in a statement. Another was attacked with an ax, the party said. Medical staff at a Harare clinic said they treated several people from the area for broken bones, cuts and severe bruising.

State Department spokesman Tom Casey repeated the U.S. call for the Zimbabwean electoral commission "to let the votes be counted, to release those results, and to do so immediately."

He said that as long as the electoral commission refuses to release the results, "the situation is going to remain tense, and their failure to do so only raises more suspicions about what really happened in the process of that vote-counting."

"People are not going to go to work. They are going to be in their homes, expressing their dissatisfaction."

Nelson Chamisa
MDC spokesman

"Now, for the next three or four weeks, [the commission] will drag the time, while people get beaten and while a new electoral environment is being created."

Morgan Tsvangirai
opposition leader

ISRAEL

Carter offers to meet with top Hamas leader

Former U.S. president claims ostracizing anti-Israel movement is counterproductive

Associated Press

AIRPORT CITY — Former President Jimmy Carter defended his plan to meet with the top leader of the violently anti-Israel Hamas movement, saying Monday he hopes to become a conduit between the Islamic militant group and Washington and Israel.

Isolating Hamas is counterproductive, Carter said. Hamas rules the Gaza Strip but is ostracized by Israel, the U.S. and European Union as a terrorist group.

"I think it is absolutely crucial that in the final and dreamed-about and prayed-for peace agreement for this region that Hamas be involved and Syria will be involved," he told a business conference outside Tel Aviv.

"I can't say that they will be amenable to any suggestions, but at least after I meet with them I can go back and relay what they say, as just a communicator, to the leaders of the United States," he said.

The U.S., EU and Israel have blacklisted Hamas for its history of killing some 250 Israelis with suicide bomber attacks and its refusal to renounce violence and recognize the Jewish state.

Israel's top leaders are boycotting Carter during his nine-day Mideast trip, in part because he plans to meet later in the week in Syria with Hamas' exiled supreme leader, Khaled Mashaal.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Tom Casey said the U.S. government has "made clear our views that we did not think now is the moment for him or anyone to be talking with Hamas."

U.S. officials will be "happy to hear" Carter's reflections on his visit with Hamas, but that they aren't likely to change the

administration's views on the militant group, Casey said.

The Democratic chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee criticized Carter for meeting with Hamas. Carter "in effect is undermining a current policy which is not just American but held by many others," Rep. Howard Berman of California told The Associated Press.

Carter also offered to relay Hamas' views to Israel. If the U.S. agrees to hear what Hamas says, "I hope then the Israeli government will deign to meet with me — they have so far refused," he said.

President Shimon Peres, Israel's ceremonial head of state, was the only leader to meet with Carter since he arrived Sunday. Peres, a fellow Nobel Peace Prize laureate, criticized Carter for planning to meet with Mashaal, calling it a "very big mistake," a Peres spokeswoman said.

A schedule released by Carter's aides showed no plans for talks with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni or Defense Minister Ehud Barak.

The cold shoulder is a highly unusual brush-off to a former U.S. leader — especially one so closely linked to Mideast peace-making.

Carter brokered Israel's historic peace accord with Egypt in 1979, the first treaty it signed with an Arab country. But his popularity fell in Israel after he published a book two years ago drawing comparisons between Israeli policies in Palestinian areas and apartheid in South Africa. The planned talks with Mashaal only fueled Israeli anger.

In an interview published Monday in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, Carter said he intended to use his meeting with Mashaal to press for return of three Israeli soldiers captured by Hamas and the Lebanese Hezbollah militia. He said he would also try to get Hamas to accept an Arab plan for peace with Israel.



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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Tuesday, April 15, 2008

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Let's talk about alcohol, baby

I have no problem with drinking per se. On the contrary, it can not only be un-sinful, but positively good. Enjoying a beer can make you a humbler, more grateful, better person. Ben Franklin said beer is proof that God loves us and wishes us to be happy. There are surely other proofs, like a baby's smile, but good beer can help one realize that behind all appearances in this vale of tears, the ultimate reality is joy. Didn't Housman write that ale does more than Milton can to justify God's ways to man? Catholics can boast, among others, Chesterton and Walker Percy as able apologists for beer and bourbon, respectively. David Allan Coe couldn't have written The Greatest Song Ever ("... I was drunk the day my Mom got out of prison...") without some liquid inspiration. I trust teetotalers as little as I trust vegetarians (I'lliter-was both, by the way), and as C.S. Lewis observed, there's a certain sort of evil man who wishes to deny others the honest delights he's given up himself. We're right to be suspicious about condemnations of drinking.

You'd have to be dumb or dishonest, though, to believe that recent condemnations of drinking in these pages — or those that appear almost annually — have been directed toward this sort of drinking, that goes with gladness of heart and bonhomie. Nor is it just the amount of consumption that's been criticized. There's all kinds of drunkenness, after all. There's just-lost-my-job drunk, just-got-engaged drunk, serviceman-on-leave/liberty drunk, alcoholic/can't-cope-with-life drunk, etc. The sort of alcohol abuse I saw most often at Notre Dame, though, and the sort people find most annoying, is look-at-me-aren't-I-cool! drunk. And if you wonder how I can tell, I promise you it's not too hard. Plus, I've

been there myself.

The recent criticisms of alcohol abuse at Notre Dame — it's unhealthy, it's immoral, it's inconsiderate, bad decisions often follow — have been somewhat amusing. News flash, Earth to responsible people: those whose actions you're criticizing don't care. In fact, these criticisms just reinforce their decision to drink. These consequences of drinking just make it all the more attractive to them. They think they're being quite transgressive, after all. Do you think they really didn't know someone else has to clean up their messes, and someone else has to listen to their noise?

What I'd argue instead is that acting like you've just discovered alcohol and want everyone to see, far from showing the world how cool you are, actually just suggests — strongly — that you were terribly sheltered in high school. Whenever I saw someone at Notre Dame who began half his sentences with "I was soooooo wasted...", I thought, "Mommy still tucks him in when he's home."

I'm not suggesting it's good to go through high school drunk. But better high school than college. The immaturity associated with binge drinking and related behaviors is more age-appropriate for high schoolers. High school's largely a waste anyway, needlessly long and hardly challenging (I say this as a high school teacher).

But college should be different, right? I deeply regret that not every day I spent at Notre Dame was special, the kind I'd remember forever. I wish I'd made more of the opportunities I had there — even academic ones. With no fiber of my being do I wish I'd spent a single night stumbling around drunk at The Linebacker, acting like an ass, full of low-quality beer I didn't even like, only to wake up the next day unable to remember that night or go to class. Yet people even brag about such escapades.

Besides thinking it's somehow impressive, there's another unfortunate reason so many college kids get so drunk so

often. They can't think of anything else to do, and only large quantities of alcohol can make milling around aimlessly in the dark at Turtle Creek, for instance, into something more than a deeply dismal experience. I learned long ago that even shop class could be fun with a heavy buzz. But shouldn't college students be able to find activities that don't require inebriation to make them enjoyable?

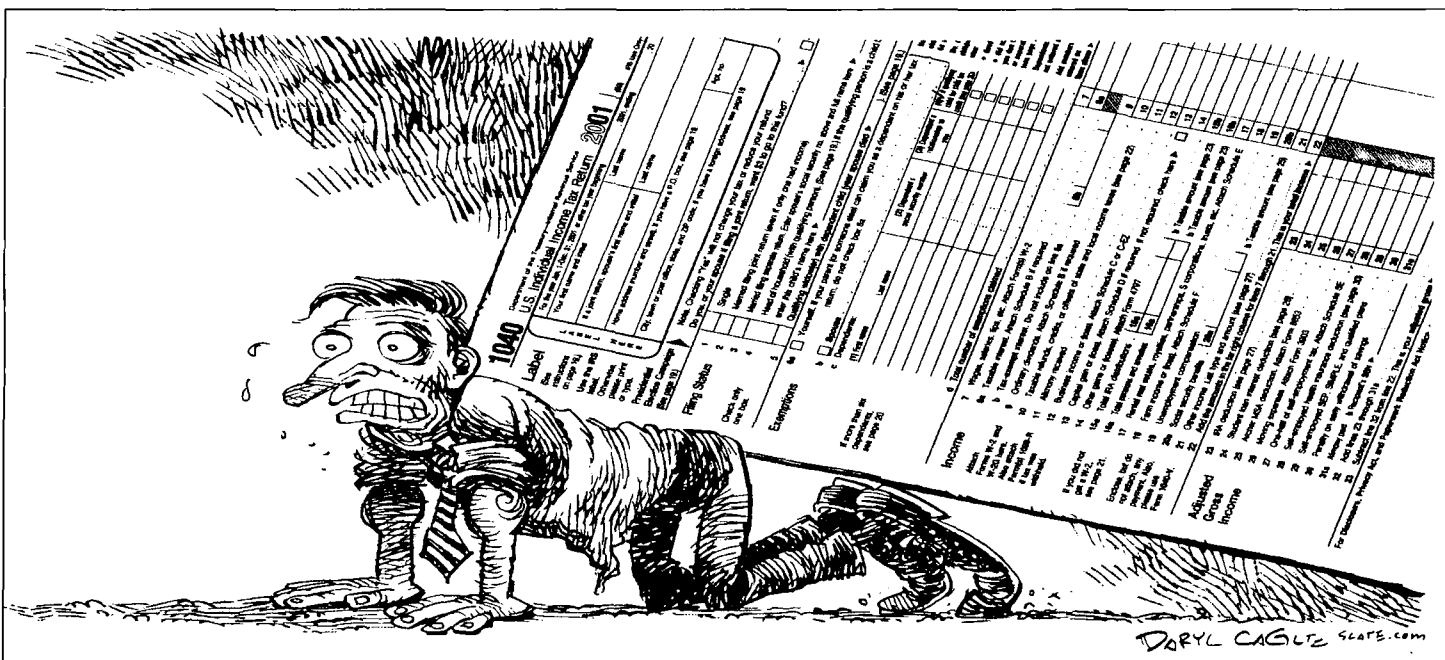
If you drink heavily because you truly enjoy it — not for your image, or to avoid boredom, or because you don't know how to socialize sober — then cheers, tip a glass for me sometime. The rest of you might want to read C.S. Lewis' "Screwtape Letters". Somewhere in there, he explains that the devils will draw us to hell by true pleasures, but they'd rather not. They're much more delighted by the sorrows of those who realize only too late that not only hadn't they done right, they hadn't even done what they really wanted. Make no mistake, you can drink your soul dead, and that's sad enough. But how sad, how pitifully sad, it'd be to drink your soul's ruin, only to look back and think, "It wasn't even really that much fun. I wish I'd just been bowling instead ..."

I welcome the inevitable hate mail. But please, when you tell me how many kegs you and your buds have "killed", or how much time you spend at whichever dives, explain why I should be impressed. And do try to write without the heavy snarky sarcasm — "You're awesome, I wish I could be like you" — that lately has seemed like the only method of disagreement in this newspaper. It's not very clever, or funny.

Greg Yatarola is a 1999 alumnus. He directs the discriminating drinker to the beer & wine place right next to the gas station on that road that goes out to T.G.I. Friday's. It's better than South Bend deserves. He can be contacted at greggy@hotmail.com

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Any fool can tell the truth, but it requires a man of some sense to know how to lie well."

Samuel Butler
English satiric author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

T.V. and friendships

I write in response to Nikki Huiras ("Why stop at alcohol?" April 14) and her claim that television is detrimental to student academics, health and social lives. Despite the fact that I'd like to point out that she is illegitimizing a large group of people majoring in Film, Television, and Theater, I would like to refute many of her claims.

First of all, considering our high graduation rate, Notre Dame students are hardly failing. I myself watch television several hours a day, but I am far from failing and that is despite the fact that I watch "America's Next Top Model." I also resent the insinuation that I would be boring because I watch a lot of T.V. I think T.V. has helped me learn more about the world through things like news and the History Channel, therefore becoming better informed and therefore interesting. Second, as far as the fact that T.V. is bad for your health by impairing vision and encouraging weight gain. It is true that T.V. can do that, but I would argue that spending hours sitting around reading and doing homework can do the same thing. I think most students make sure they fit physical activity into their lives. Finally, T.V. has helped my social life in many ways. Often, T.V. is a way for me to instantly connect with someone I have just met. We discover we like the same show, have long conversation, get together to watch show, bond, become best friends. When I was traveling in Switzerland I made friends with an Australian girl over conversation that began due to a mutual like of the show "Friends." We still remain great friends a year later. I have connected with my mom as we watched "Gilmore Girls" together, laughed over "The Office" with my dad, bonded with my sisters over "Jon and Kate Plus 8," just as Nikki connected with her grandmother with religious T.V.

I don't make any claim that T.V. is completely good, but it is certainly not quite the demon that Nikki makes it out to be. Therefore, I will end my comments as I watch reruns of "Full House" and reminisce about the good times I had watching it with my sisters while growing up.

Molly Rivard
senior
Welsh Family Hall
April 14

Abortion not a Holocaust

First of all, I don't want to discuss pro-life vs. pro-choice in this letter but rather the usage of the Holocaust in connection with abortion. Coming from a country which was engaged in the mass-killing of Jewish people under Hitler, Austria, I was surprised to what extent the Holocaust is used for pro-life propaganda here in the United States. I was even more surprised when I read the sentence "Though educating everyone about the holocaust of our time is essential [...]" on the homepage of Notre Dame Right to Life

(<http://www.nd.edu/~prolife/legislation/>). The Notre Dame pro-life group should consider a few facts before using the term: Abortion is not the result of a centuries old Anti-Semitism which cumulated in the industrialized extermination of Jewish women, men and children throughout Europe. Abortion is not comparable to the total war launched by the Nazis. Abortion is not comparable to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. The singularity of the Holocaust is not comparable to any other event in human history. Hence it is disrespectful to the dead and to Jewish people today to consider abortion as a Holocaust. It is morally wrong and in my eyes disgusting to trivialize the suffering and death of millions of people who died during the Nazi terror regime in order to use it for certain propaganda purposes. I don't know if it is either a lack of historical knowledge or simply an intellectual shortcoming to connect the Holocaust with abortion, but I know that it is absolutely inappropriate for a group at a high profile academic institution like Notre Dame.

Florian Ploczek
graduate student
off-campus
April 10

Girls in the Glee Club

I just listened on iTunes to a great version of our Victory March. Unfortunately, it was by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It sounded great because it was co-ed. I LOVE our Glee Club but with women being over 50 percent of the student population, shouldn't it be co-ed?

Alex Calabrese
alumnus
class of 1975
April 7

GOP misunderstood

This is a direct response to a letter recently written to The Observer titled, "GOP not pro-life" (April 9). Francisco, I find what you wrote not only appalling but very invalid. You, as so many people interested and involved in politics, make dumb generalizations about Republicans — we only care about whites, upper-middle and upper class people, Catholics, men and ourselves (people exactly like us). Please read clearly — you are wrong. Maybe you should realize that we care about our nation, its status, and the people living in it — all of them. How can you say that "Catholic pro-lifers" do not care about women, those being tortured, the poor, the environment, or those around the world who need our help? That is ridiculous; I guarantee they overlap on more occasions. Do not be so inclined to think that people who feel strongly about not killing babies and are pro-life have no other views. They even care about Liberals like you and only

want you to understand their views; they are not just trying to be a "beacon of light and truth" like we all do when we argue our opinions. Overall, what I must say is if we want to talk about generalizing political parties, then you, as a liberal, must not care about babies and our nation's security among many other things. I, on the other hand, will simply say your argument is completely flawed; also, you may want to think twice about writing such statements that make not only you look bad but your beloved Democratic party. I am pretty sure even Hilary Clinton wouldn't make such a dumb and untrue statement. Oh, and just so you are aware, my vote goes to John McCain for the 2008 presidency not just because he is pro-life.

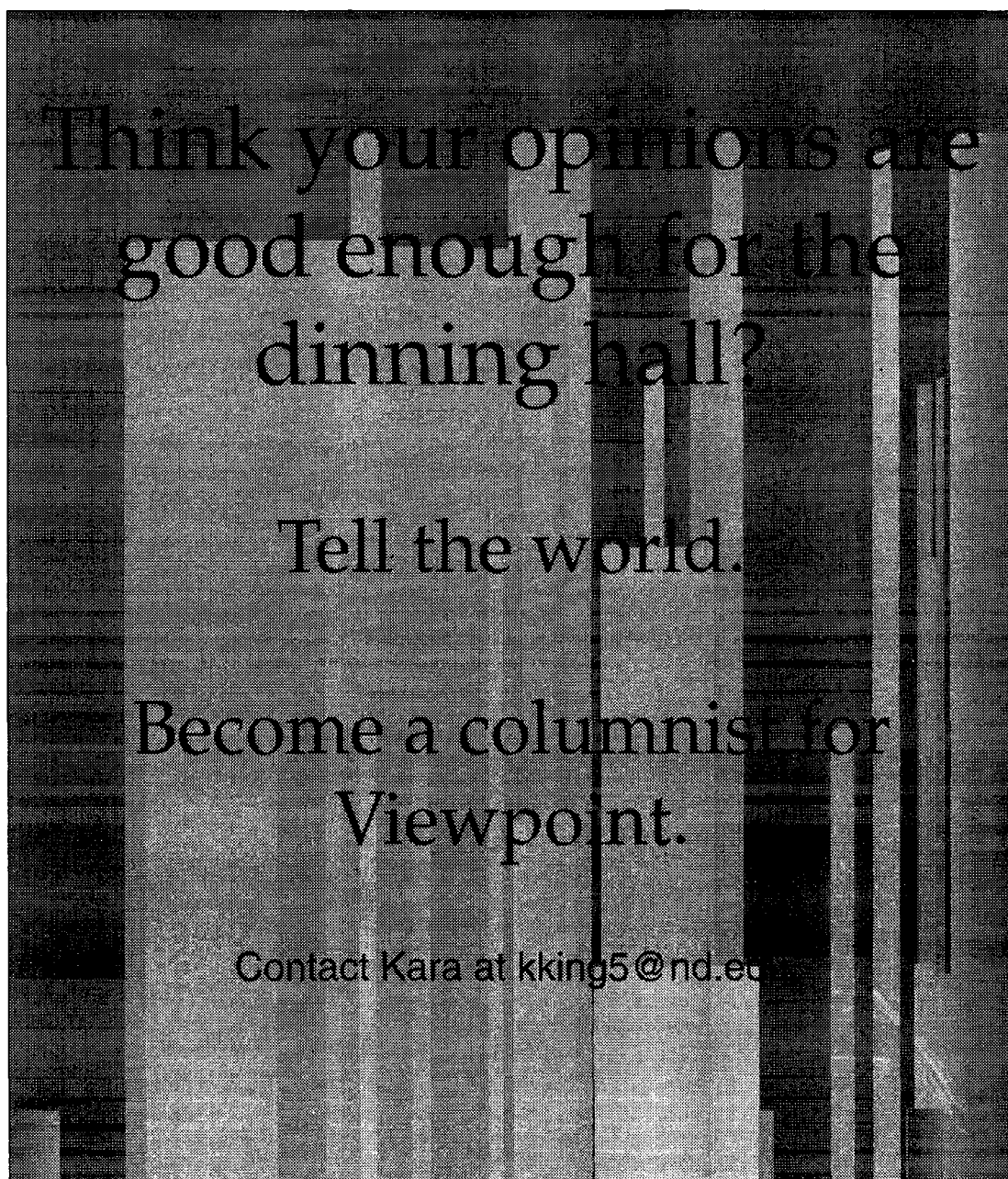
Kevin Kimberley
freshman
O'Neill Hall
April 9

Ticket prices too high

It's that time again. The ice has thawed, spring is in the air, and student ticket booklets have gone on sale. The Administration has simplified the process by making the switch to an online exchange (for a \$5 surcharge), but its policy of taking advantage of student demand remains the same. When the class of 2008 arrived for their first season in 2004, season ticket books were \$159. The cost for the upcoming season is \$195, nearly a \$40 increase in four years. This year's cost is down from last season due to the fact that the Irish only play six games at home in 2008, but the reduction from last year's total of \$208 is only thirteen dollars. Watching the home opener

last year was certainly worth about \$13. Although the student body is grateful for the fact that we have the privilege of guaranteed season tickets, it is disheartening that the University continues to habitually raise prices for a good that they know full well has an inelastic demand, while they continue to raise costs for tuition. Let's hope that Coach Weis and the boys in blue and gold provide some justification for the University's shameless financial excesses.

Ryan O'Connor
junior
abroad
April 14



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Dave Matthews Barack Obama

Scene & Hear

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH DAVE MATTHEWS

Dave Matthews, the popular vocalist and guitarist best known for fronting his eponymous Grammy-winning rock band, has been actively campaigning for Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.). Matthews spoke with *The Observer* last week about Obama, politics and his band's recent music projects before taking the stage at Indiana University for a free acoustic concert promoting Obama's campaign, attended by over 17,000 students. Guitarist Tim Reynolds accompanied Matthews at the Indiana concert. Reynolds is Matthews' long-time friend and playing partner who has played at Notre Dame's Legends club twice in recent years. "It's an interesting time," said Matthews about the 2008 presidential race. "It's been about 40 years since we've had a candidate that really inspires young people in a large way."

Bob Costa

Scene Writer

Matthews publicly announced his endorsement of Obama in February, via a letter to fans. Matthews' campaign activities for Obama are not his first foray into politics. Dave Matthews Band played on the 2004 "Vote for Change" tour with artists such as R.E.M. and Bruce Springsteen. They also played at President Bill Clinton's Inaugural Ball in January 1997.

A big part of why Matthews supports Obama's campaign is the Illinois senator's position on the war in Iraq. But Matthews sees more than just an anti-war appeal in Obama.

"A big part of it, for me, is the dimension of his ideas," Matthews said. "I think he does have real plans, although often the argument against him is that he's all talk in a way. I think his ideas are real and I think his plans are real."

"But more than that is sort of a philosophy that goes along with what he says. I think what this country needs more than anything is a leader that will inspire us to do our best and to get involved in the political system. I think it's really important that we have someone that raises our stakes, or makes us feel as though we are more than a consumer — that we're citizens."

Matthews and his band have sold 31 million albums in the United States and won a Grammy

Award in 1997. Beyond his band's success, Matthews said he feels that it is important for him to speak up on national issues.

"I believe that everyone should have their own opinion and I believe everyone should act on what they think is right in a democracy," Matthews said. "But, I don't mind standing up and saying what I believe. Hopefully I can inspire some people to register to vote and hopefully most of those will register to vote and go for Obama."

Matthews does not worry about any negative response among conservative fans or supporters of Sen. Hillary Clinton's campaign.

"I don't think that I inspire a backlash," Matthews said. "I do think that it's important for us to say what we think. I don't think that it'll alienate my fans, they'll probably just check their messages while I'm talking, if they really don't want to listen, and just wait for me to start singing."

The concert in Bloomington was overflowing with college students — the bulk of Matthews' fan base.

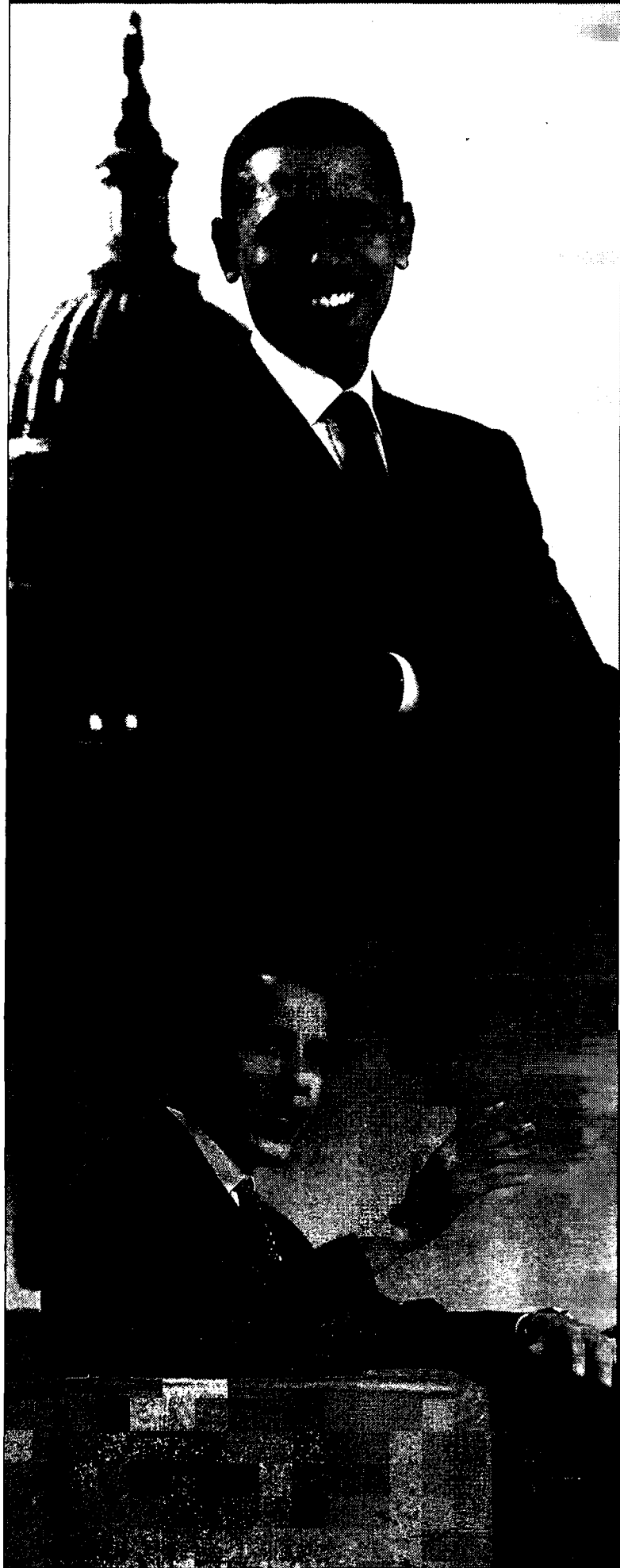
"Young people have been excluded, just uninspired to a large degree, by the political system here in America for quite a while," Matthews said. "Often, the views that they reflect are the views of their parents."

Matthews was passionate when speaking to reporters about why the 2008 campaign offers many young people the opportunity to engage in politics.

"The candidates are really interesting in this race and may well inspire kids to change their minds and get more involved," Matthews said. "I think the young vote, in a sense, is the most important vote because it's the vote for their future. They have the most at stake and they have big ideas. Getting those qualities involved in the political system will improve it."

Matthews, who spent part of his youth in South Africa under apartheid, was impressed by Obama's March 18 speech in Philadelphia on race in America in the wake of the fracas over videos of sermons given by Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Obama's former pastor from Chicago.

"I admired his response to the scandalous allegations about him being connected to the state-



s campaigns for ama on tour

d by Bob Costa

ments of his pastor," Matthews said. "I thought his response was to make it into an opportunity to discuss race relations, rather to react and start defending himself. It was a beautiful speech. I was surprised by the eloquence of it — in the midst of all that scandal and the sort of fast-editing of news channels — that what he said cut through so beautifully."

Matthews believes that Obama's eloquence on America's race relations is a major factor in his admiration of the Democratic senator.

"[Race] is an issue to me that has been swept under the rug in this country," Matthews said. "Somehow people don't feel it needs to be addressed, we just pretend it's somehow past and that we'll get over it eventually. I think the way [Obama] addressed it was incredible, actually."

Reynolds publicly supported progressive Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich in his 2004 and 2008 campaigns for the Democratic Party's nomination for president. Matthews was quick to point out that he supports Kucinich as well. "Dennis Kucinich is awesome," said Matthews, adding that he and Reynolds "agree on political issues more than disagree."

Outside of his political activities, Matthews has been busy as of late, including talking with the Dalai Lama in Seattle and recording a new studio album with his band. Reynolds joined Dave Matthews Band in the studio for the first time since 1998. Reynolds has been happy with the recording process so far. "It's really great," Reynolds said. "It's a lot of fun."

"We [DMB] are laughing a lot, which I think is important," Matthews said about his band's current studio work. "We're all writing together."

Dave Matthews Band, a member of the RCA label, last released a studio album in 2005, produced by Mark Batson and entitled "Stand Up." Reynolds and Matthews released a live album of their acoustic show at Radio City Music Hall in 2007. Their current recording sessions are different than for "Stand Up," Matthews said.

"It's a change right now," Matthews said. "It's difficult to be in an organization, a group of people, in a gang that stays the same for so long. There's a lot of crap that comes along with it. This time, for whatever reason, it's really open

and we're in each other's faces a lot. It's good."

Green Day and Goo Goo Dolls producer Rob Cavallo is turning the knobs for DMB this time in the studio. Matthews has been impressed by Cavallo's work.

"He's just sort of slipped in like one of us," Matthews said. "He's very subtle. I enjoy having him there. He's very involved in the whole process. We're all very calm in there and the music is what seems to be inspired."

Reynolds, who last played at Legends in February with his band TR3, played a seventeen-song set in front of a capacity crowd at Indiana. The set was highlighted by a lush rendition of the Dave Matthews Band rarity "The Dreaming Tree," Reynolds' solo on his instrumental song "Stream," and a funky take on "Save Me," a track off Matthews' 2003 solo album "Some Devil."

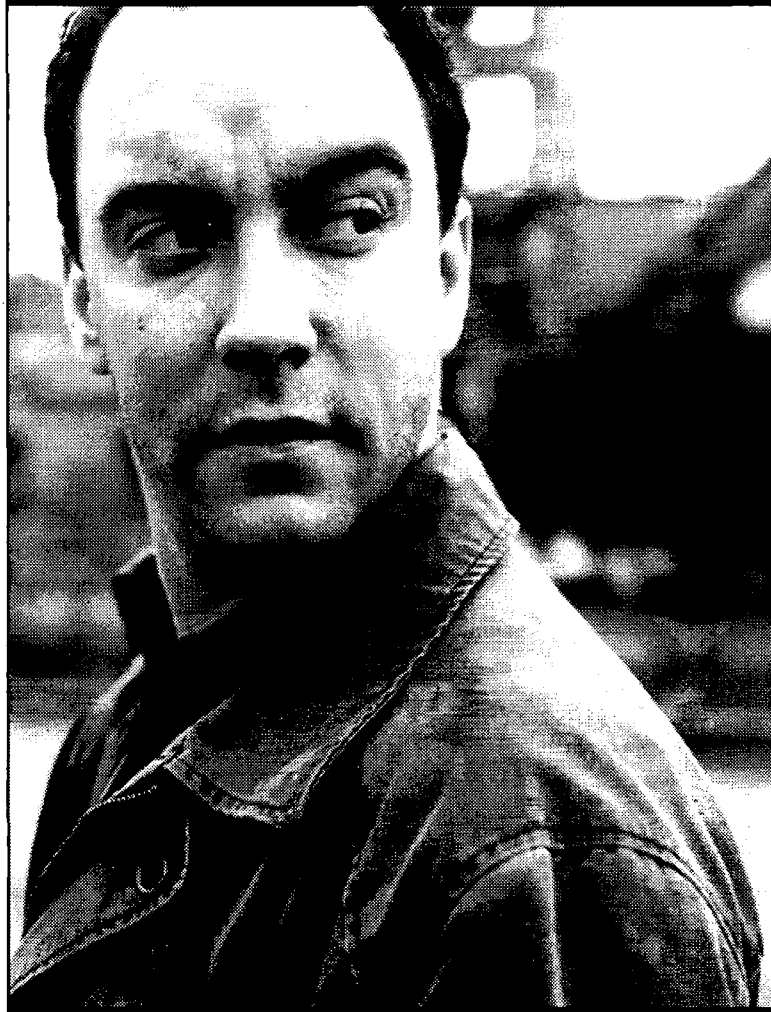
Reynolds and Matthews, when they're together, bring out the best in each other. Backstage, Reynolds and Matthews were amiable with Obama staffers and other reporters, ribbing each other good-naturedly and laughing in the Hoosiers' locker room under the Assembly Hall bleachers.

Matthews first met Reynolds in the late-1980s in Charlottesville, Va., where Matthews was a bartender and Reynolds was an older, well-known local musician. Soon after they met, Reynolds and Matthews began to play music together, with Reynolds eventually encouraging Matthews to begin his own band. How does Reynolds explain the unique chemistry between these long-time friends? "It's the Einstein equation," said Reynolds with a laugh.

Reporter Bob Costa's interview with Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds will air on NDtv on Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at 11:00 PM ET. NDtv is available on channel 53 on the Notre Dame and St. Mary's College campuses, as well as channel 121-8 on Comcast Digital in the South Bend, Ind., area.

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

Bob Costa can be reached at rcosta1@nd.edu



CLUB SPORTS

Sailing headed to Pre-Nats

Special to the Observer

Sailing

Notre Dame placed fourth at the MCSA CO-ED Championships at Minnesota's Columbia Yacht Club this weekend, qualifying for the pre-national competition in Los Angeles in two weeks.

Other qualifying teams edging out the Irish were Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan. Trailing the Irish were Northwestern, Toledo, Chicago, St. Thomas, Miami, Michigan State, Iowa and Ohio State. The Irish A team finished third and the B team sixth in their division races.

Earlier, the club qualified for nationals in team racing, to be held this summer in Newport, R.I. The results are even more impressive given that most of the team's competition consists of varsity programs.

Men's Volleyball

Notre Dame finished 21st in the NIRSA Collegiate Volleyball Sport Club Championships over the weekend, a drop-off from top-10 finishes the past two seasons.

In the opening round of play in the tournament held in Dallas the Irish made a statement against Utah. Behind the middle hitting of sophomore Alex Lewis the Irish rolled the Utes in straight sets, 25-18, 25-21.

Notre Dame's momentum continued against No. 29 Texas A&M in its second match of the day. The offense was clicking as the Irish controlled the first game behind libero John Tibble.

The Aggies fought back to take the second game, but Notre Dame was just too strong, and prevailed 25-19, 21-25, 15-9.

The match of the day matched the Irish up against No. 5 Virginia Tech. The Irish may have been outsized, but they were not out-hustled. The Irish refused to let a ball drop, making the Hokie offense work for every point.

The play of Bryan Winther and the outside hitting of Mark landolo, who led the Irish to a victory in consecutive games, 25-23 and 25-22, fueled Notre Dame's offense.

The Irish opened play on Saturday by rallying against Buffalo, 20-25, 25-10, 15-12. Aggressive serving and inspired defense by Jason Healy helped the Irish cause. Immediately afterwards, the Irish were pitted against Long Beach State. The outside hitting of senior Daniel Zibton was strong, but proved to be

not enough against the high-powered offense of Long Beach.

The Irish loss caused a three-way tie in pool play. In order to achieve a top-10 finish, the Irish had to win a one-game playoff against Buffalo. Coming off of five straight games, Notre Dame took the court for the last time on the day. The unrelenting schedule took its toll as the rested Buffalo squad took the tiebreaker, 25-21.

On the last day of the team's season, Notre Dame had an opening round match against Midwestern foe Grand Valley State. The Irish rushed to an early lead against the Lakers, largely in part to the attacking and blocking of right side, Tim "Sleepy" Goldsmith.

The lead was never given up as Notre Dame cruised to a first game victory.

The Lakers were apparently not ready to head home yet and pushed back, taking the second game and forcing the match to a third. Notre Dame refocused and controlled the final game, taking the match, 25-21, 21-25, 15-13.

In the last match of the season the Irish faced rival Marquette. Marquette jumped to a large early lead that carried to the end. Down 24-20 and facing game point, Notre Dame rallied behind strong serving and blocking to send the game into extra points.

Untimely errors by the Golden Eagles opened the door for the Irish to snatch the game, 28-26. Marquette again gained an early lead in the second, and prevailed 25-21. After a back and forth affair, Marquette won a close third game, 15-12, as the Irish closed out their season.

Bowling

This past weekend, Notre Dame traveled to Oberlin, Ohio, to participate in Oberlin College's Unconventional Tournament. Kent State defeated Oberlin in the finals to win the tournament for the 10th consecutive year.

Under the leadership of club president and captain Nick Manieri, the bowling club finished fifth in the tournament with a head-to-head record of 2-3. Manieri finished his collegiate bowling career with an average of 190 for the weekend and a high game of 245.

Nick finished in ninth place individually and in the highest game of the tournament, second only to Kent State's Kevin Kommel perfect score of 300.

The club's top woman bowler this weekend was Becky Caples

with a 177 average and a high game of 185 for the tournament. The team was also helped by the efforts of freshman Allie Hensley, who had a 156 average and bowled a high game of 180.

Lindsey Zimmerman, Alex Desch and Tracy Welch subbed in and out throughout the tournament and contributed to the team's performance this weekend.

Rugby

Notre Dame's rugby club fell to the Michiana Men's team, 24-7 this weekend in Elkhart. Andy Mullen registered the lone try for the Irish, with Don Greiwe scoring on the conversion. The game was tied at the half, but Michiana dominated the scrums in the second half and controlled the pace of the game.

The Irish will return to action at home this Saturday as they host Ohio State at 1 p.m. on the West Quad Field.

Women's Water Polo

Notre Dame won the Midwest Division Championships this weekend in Dayton, Ohio, and secured a bid to the National Collegiate Club Championships.

The Irish faced Washington University of St. Louis in the first round, decisively winning 16-1. Maggie Hyde kept the cage clear, and 10 players scored in the game.

Ali Durkin and Kat Kennifer led with three goals each, and Kelly Horner and Cristina Romano each had 2. Betsy O'Neill, Kristin Harchut, Adeline Dozois, Ali Schilling, Beth Nagel and Bridget O'Neill rounded out the scoring.

In the second game of the day the Irish went up against host Dayton, and came away with another strong victory, winning 15-1. Horner led the Irish with a hat trick, and Romano, O'Neill, Schilling and Meghan Pearl each had another two.

On Sunday, the Irish faced Grand Valley State in the championship game. The Irish started strong, but the Lakers matched their intensity, and the first half ended with the Irish leading, 5-4.

In the second half, Notre Dame found the back of the net eight times, and won the division, 13-6. Horner led the Irish with 5 goals, and O'Neill, Kennifer and Romano each added two. Harchut and Durkin completed the scoring, and Betsy O'Neill made 7 saves in the cage.

The Irish will head to Portland, Ore., for the National Tournament on May 1.

MLB

Orioles get home win

Associated Press

Kevin Millar finally fulfilled his role as a cleanup hitter, and Matt Albers stepped out of the bullpen to fill a void in the starting rotation. Together, they carried the surprising Baltimore Orioles to another home victory.

"The team's back on track," said Millar, who homered and had three RBIs in Baltimore's 4-3 win over the Toronto Blue Jays on Monday night.

Millar went 3-for-22 during a road trip in which Baltimore lost four of six. Serving as the No. 4 hitter in the lineup since the offseason trade of Miguel Tejada, he was batting .227 with one home run and four RBIs before hitting cleanup against Toronto.

After tying the game with a first-inning RBI single, Millar hit a two-run homer off Dustin McGowan (0-1) in the fifth to put the Orioles ahead 3-1.

"The guy had a 96, 97 mph fastball," Millar said. "He was pounding me in. I was sitting on a breaking ball — it seems like with runners in scoring position he always went to that — and I got one."

That sent the Orioles to their sixth straight home win and enabled Baltimore to break a first-place tie with Toronto in the AL East.

Albers (2-0) allowed one run, five hits and a walk in five innings to earn his first AL win. Obtained in the deal that sent Tejada to Houston, Albers started 18 games last season but began his first season with Baltimore in the bullpen.

The right-hander pitched 6 1-3 scoreless innings of relief before receiving a spot start because of a doubleheader last week. He was 3-13 lifetime as a starter with Houston, including 3-11 last year, but on this night he did precisely what was required.

"We were satisfied with what he did for us," manager Dave Trembley said.

Jim Johnson pitched 2 1-3 innings of two-hit relief, Jamie Walker and Chad Bradford each got an out in the eighth and George Sherrill worked the ninth to earn his sixth save in six tries.

Adam Jones tied a career high with three hits for the Orioles, now 6-1 at Camden Yards.

"I am here for whatever the team needs," Albers said. "I'll probably be back in the bullpen the next couple days and I will be ready to go. I'm just trying to help this team

win. That's the main thing."

Alex Rios had a pinch-hit, two-run homer in the ninth — the first runs this season against Sherrill — and Vernon Wells had two hits and an RBI for the Blue Jays, who were coming off a three-game sweep of Texas.

"They outpitched us, outplayed us and outhit us," Toronto manager Manager John Gibbons said. "But we hung tough. We made a run, we made a scare."

McGowan gave up three runs and 10 hits in six innings. Although he worked out of several jams, the right-hander paid dearly for his poor pitch to Millar.

"I just hung a curveball. That's all you can say about that one," McGowan said. "He crushed it."

McGowan is 0-3 in seven career appearances against Baltimore and owns a 7.45 ERA at Camden Yards.

"I guess you could say they hit me pretty well," he said. "I guess everybody's got a team like that."

After Wells hit a two-out RBI single in the first inning for Toronto, Millar singled in a run in the bottom half. The score remained tied until Millar connected in the fifth after a two-out walk to Nick Markakis.

Ramon Hernandez added a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Pirates 6, Dodgers 4

Nate McLouth extended his season-opening hitting streak to 13 games with a two-out, three-run homer off closer Takashi Saito in the ninth inning, and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the stunned Los Angeles Dodgers 6-4 Monday night for their fourth straight victory.

Saito (1-1) was trying to save the win for countryman Hiroki Kuroda, who made his Dodger Stadium debut. But the right-hander gave up a one-out single to Jose Bautista and a two-out single to pinch-hitter Adam LaRoche before McLouth drove a 1-0 pitch deep into the right-field pavilion for his second homer this season.

McLouth is one of three players to hit safely in each of his team's first 13 games this year, along with Kansas City's Billy Butler and the Dodgers' James Loney. Loney's streak is the Dodgers' third-longest to open a season since the team moved from Brooklyn to Los Angeles in 1958. Steve Garvey hit in 21 straight in 1978, one year after Ron Cey opened the season with a 17-game run.

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PERSONAL

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Adjectives on the typewriter. He moves his words like a prize fighter

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AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NBA

Eastern Conference

team	record	GB
Boston	64-16	-
Detroit	57-23	7
Orlando	50-30	14
Cleveland	44-36	20
Washington	42-38	22
Toronto	40-40	24
Philadelphia	40-40	24
Atlanta	37-43	27
Indiana	35-45	29
New Jersey	33-47	31
Chicago	31-49	33
Charlotte	31-49	33
Milwaukee	26-54	38
New York	23-57	41
Miami	14-66	50

Western Conference

team	record	GB
LA Lakers	56-25	-
New Orleans	55-25	.5
San Antonio	54-26	1.5
Utah	53-27	2.5
Houston	54-26	1.5
Phoenix	53-27	2.5
Dallas	50-31	6
Denver	49-32	7
Golden State	48-32	7.5
Portland	40-40	15.5
Sacramento	38-42	17.5
LA Clippers	23-57	32.5
Memphis	22-58	33.5
Minnesota	21-59	34.5
Seattle	19-62	37

Nike/Inside Lacrosse Men's Rankings

team	record	points
1 Duke	12-1	353
2 Syracuse	10-1	349
3 Virginia	10-2	314
4 Cornell	9-2	272
5 Georgetown	7-3	261
6 UMBC	8-3	228
7 Maryland	7-4	217
8 Navy	9-3	214
9 Army	8-3	192
10 Johns Hopkins	4-5	190
11 Ohio State	8-3	167
12 North Carolina	7-4	162
13 NOTRE DAME	7-2	157
14 Brown	8-2	143
15 Bucknell	9-2	142
16 Loyola	6-4	113
17 Denver	9-4	98
18 Drexel	10-3	81
19 Princeton	6-4	79
20 Hofstra	6-4	27

around the dial

MOTOCROSS
Moto X Championships
3:00 p.m., ESPN2

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL
Team USA vs. Arizona
7:00 p.m., ESPN2

NCAA



Kansas State forward Michael Beasley, left, made the announcement at a news conference on Monday to enter into the NBA Draft after only one season of college basketball.

Beasley leaves Kansas for NBA Draft

Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — After putting together one of the best freshman seasons ever, Michael Beasley is headed to the NBA.

Kansas State's All-American freshman announced Monday that he will skip his final three seasons to enter the June 26 NBA draft, where he could be the No. 1 overall pick.

"It's time to take my game to the next level," Beasley said as his family and several teammates looked on. "I think I proved myself over the course of the season. I just think it's time for new

challenges."

Beasley dominated his lone college season, averaging 26.2 points and becoming just the third freshman in NCAA history to lead the nation in rebounds at 12.4 per game. He had the second-most rebounds and third-most points by a freshman in NCAA history, helping Kansas State to its first NCAA tournament victory in 20 years.

Beasley also was a consensus All American, was named Big 12 player of the year and finished second to North Carolina's Tyler Hansbrough for numerous player of the year awards.

An agile, 6-foot-10 power forward, Beasley is exceptionally versatile, able to power his way inside or step out to the perimeter, shooting 37 percent from beyond the arc.

NBA officials came out in droves to watch him play at nearly every game and some general managers spent three to four days at a time in Manhattan, leading to speculation that Beasley would be the No. 1 overall draft pick if he left school early.

Millions of dollars awaits Beasley in the NBA, but it still wasn't an easy decision to leave

school.

He spent the weekend debating whether he should stay or go, talking with family, friends and coaches about the NBA. It wasn't until Monday morning, just hours before his self-imposed deadline, that Beasley made his final decision.

Beasley said at the start of the season that he wanted to play at Kansas State for four years, that he had made a commitment and wanted to earn a degree. He started hinting that he might not stick around early in the season and ultimately decided the money was just too much to pass up.

IN BRIEF

Nuggets' Anthony charged with drunk driving

DENVER—NBA All-Star Carmelo Anthony was arrested early Monday on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, hours after his worst game of the season.

The Denver Nuggets forward was arrested on Interstate 25, police said. He was alone in the car and pulled over for weaving and not dimming his lights.

Detective Sharon Hahn said Anthony failed a series of sobriety tests. He was charged with DUI, then taken to police headquarters before being released to a "sober responsible party," Hahn said. Anthony is due in court May 14.

Anthony was named an All-Star starter for the first time this year. He's fourth in the NBA in scoring (25.8) and is averaging a career-best 7.4 rebounds.

In February, Anthony was ticketed in Colorado for driving 25 mph over the posted speed limit. A hearing is set for next month.

Henrick Motors ends drought in Phoenix

CHARLOTTE, N.C. —For the first seven races this season, a car not owned by Hendrick Motorsports went to Victory Lane.

All seven times, people wondered what was wrong with NASCAR's best team.

In the eighth race, Jimmie Johnson shut everybody up.

With a gutsy call from crew chief Chad Knaus to not stop for gas when the rest of the leaders were too scared to stretch their fuel to the finish, the two-time defending series champion finally gave Hendrick his first win of the season Saturday night at Phoenix International Raceway. It was the deepest into the season owner Rick Hendrick had gone without one of his cars winning since 2003, when Jeff Gordon won the ninth event of the year.

"We're back," Johnson said from Victory Lane.

Lel sets new record at the London Marathon

LONDON — Martin Lel set a course record of 2 hours, 5 minutes, 15 seconds to capture his third London Marathon in four years. His victory came despite wind and rain that hit the field late in the race and a slightly altered route because of a gas leak on a road just over Tower Bridge.

Irina Mikitenko of Germany captured the women's race in only her second marathon attempt, winning by 25 seconds.

While the weather ruined prospects for a world record, this was the first time the top three finished under 2:06. It was also the first time in 4 1/2 years anyone other than Haile Gebrselassie broke that mark. Gebrselassie holds the world record at 2:04:26.

TRACK AND FIELD

Allegations against Olympian dismissed

Associated Press

Track and field's world governing body dismissed doping allegations against former Olympic sprint champion Maurice Greene, throwing its support behind the man who once held the 100-meter world record.

Greene also denied the accusations, which were made by a witness in a U.S. government investigation into sports doping and reported this past weekend in the New York Times.

"None of this is new," International Association of Athletics Federations spokesman Nick Davies told The Associated Press. "There is no reason to take action against Maurice."

Davies said the IAAF would continue to use Greene as one of its goodwill ambassadors to promote the sport in the run-up to the Beijing Olympics.

"With every ambassador we do an immediate check with the doping department," Davies said by telephone from IAAF headquarters in Monaco. "In this case they said, 'No, we don't have anything.'"

The Times reported that the witness, Angel Guillermo Heredia, said he advised and supplied banned substances to track coach Trevor Graham and athletes including Greene

and Marion Jones.

"I read about this guy and this rumor four years ago," Davies said.

Citing court filings, the Times said that Heredia — identified as Source A in the documents — agreed to be a cooperating witness when investigators confronted him with evidence of his own drug trafficking and money laundering. The newspaper said Heredia provided prosecutors with the names of elite athletes, including 12 Olympic medal winners, who allegedly used performance-enhancing substances, and also provided documentation.

Among his clients, the Times said Heredia identified Greene, a two-time Olympic gold medalist and five-time world champion who never previously has been linked to doping. Greene, who retired in February, never failed a doping test.

Greene told Britain's Daily Telegraph that he had met with Heredia but did not receive or use any drugs.

"This is a bad situation for me," he was quoted as saying in Monday's editions. "My name's coming up in something and it's not true. ... I have met him before and when he was talking to me, I told him I don't believe in this stuff."

MLB

2-10 Tigers looking for answers

Associated Press

Edgar Renteria joked that he didn't know English when asked if he had a moment to talk about the struggling Detroit Tigers.

The reporter then replied in broken Spanish: "You said this was like a Dream Team in Lakeland. Why are the Tigers 2-10?"

In any language, the team with baseball's worst record and second-highest payroll is stumped for answers.

"I don't know," Renteria said Monday before Detroit hosted the Minnesota Twins.

The Tigers were a popular pick during spring training not only to play in the postseason, but to win their first World Series title since 1984.

History is not on their side.

No team that started 2-10, as Detroit did, has won a World Series and just three rallied from such a rough start to even be in the playoffs: the 1951 New York Giants, 1974 Pittsburgh Pirates and 2001 Oakland Athletics.

"All of baseball is surprised and alarmed at what's going on with the Tigers," Twins outfielder Michael Cuddyer said. "But nobody in this clubhouse and nobody in this league is writing them off."

"When you know the type of players they have, you know they're not going to stay down for long."

That's the Tigers are hoping

because their payroll is nearly \$139 million.

Detroit's top acquisition — Miguel Cabrera — is not the only one off to a poor start, but his lack of production stands out because the team decided to pay him \$152 million-plus over the next eight seasons.

Cabrera averaged 32 homers, 115 RBIs while hitting .318 the previous four seasons in Florida, sensational statistics that just Albert Pujols and Vladimir Guerrero matched in those categories since 2004.

But entering Monday's game, the third baseman was hitting just .175 with a homer — on opening day — with only one RBI since his Detroit debut.

Cabrera declined comment before facing the Twins, but told reporters Sunday he was embarrassed and felt like everybody was laughing at him.

Detroit manager Jim Leyland said he told Cabrera to just be himself and not to worry.

"He's obviously pressing," Leyland said. "A lot of times, not just Miguel Cabrera, but anybody that signs a big contract and gets off to a slow start people get on them."

"But we haven't hit as a team. Miguel Cabrera isn't the one that hasn't hit."

Leyland's right.

Reigning AL batting champion Magglio Ordonez is hitting .234. Placido Polanco, Gary Sheffield and Ivan Rodriguez

all had sub-.200 batting averages through Sunday.

Entering Monday, despite a lineup with seven All-Stars, Detroit ranked last in the majors in runs, hits, slugging percentage. The Tigers tied for the most double-play groundouts and were next to last in batting average and extra-base hits.

The pitching has been bad, too.

Detroit has the worst ERA in the majors — about six runs a game — and had matched the baseball high for walks going into the series opener against the Twins.

Ace Justin Verlander is 0-2 with a 6.52 ERA, a stunning start for the only pitcher in baseball history to throw a no-hitter, start a World Series game, be a Rookie of the Year and an All-Star in his first two full seasons.

Three other starters — Kenny Rogers, Nate Robertson and Dontrelle Willis — are a combined 0-4 with ERAs ranging from 6.52 to 7.84 after a combined seven starts.

The Tigers' defense has been average, ranking in the middle of the pack in errors, but a miscue Sunday seemed symbolic as Cabrera tripped on the third-base umpire's foot to foil his shot at an easy catch.

"That tells you how bad it's been going for us," Leyland said Sunday after the Chicago White Sox shut out Detroit for the second straight game.

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NBA

Rondo leads Celtics to 99-93 win over Knicks

Brown lifts Cavaliers 91-90 over Sixers; Wizard's backups knock Pacers out of playoffs; Bulls beat out Bucks

Associated Press

With his three All-Star teammates resting, Rajon Rondo had 23 points and 10 rebounds, leading the Boston Celtics to a 99-93 victory over the New York Knicks on Monday night in what may have been Isiah Thomas' final home game as Knicks coach.

Boston improved to 65-16 despite giving Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen the night off. Sam Cassell added 22 points for the Celtics, who learned during the game they will face the Atlanta Hawks in the first round of the playoffs.

Nate Robinson scored 26 points, and David Lee had 12 points and 16 rebounds for the Knicks, who fell to 23-58 and need a win in their season finale at Indiana to avoid tying the franchise record for losses, last matched two years ago during Larry Brown's lone season.

Donnie Walsh, who replaced Thomas as team president earlier this month, has said Thomas will finish the season as coach before he decides on next season. Walsh said he has no timetable, other than wanting the situation settled before the draft, but realizes the speculation involved means he probably needs to announce his decision much sooner.

Thomas, who was booed during pregame introductions and in the final minute, wouldn't say if he even wanted to be the coach next season, only that he's always done whatever the Knicks have asked of him. He added before the game he wouldn't be thinking that this could be the end.

"I haven't really let my mind

go to that place," he said. "Whatever Donnie wants of me and whatever he wants me to do, I'll do."

Boston coach Doc Rivers said before the game he wanted his Big Three to play just one of the final two games and instead opted for the home finale Wednesday against New Jersey.

Allen and Pierce watched the early action from the bench before joining Garnett, who stayed in the locker room throughout. They missed an impressive performance from their point guards.

Rondo made the first basket of the fourth quarter to wipe out the Knicks' last lead, and later in the period converted a difficult three-point play, knocking in a jumper while being hit in the face by Renaldo Balkman to make it 84-79.

Cassell buried two 3-pointers in the final 3:41, the last extending Boston's lead to 95-88 with 56 seconds to play. The Celtics beat the Knicks for the sixth straight time, sweeping the series for the first time since the 2002-03 season.

Knicks rookie Wilson Chandler, who had been playing well lately, sprained his left knee in the third quarter. X-rays were negative.

Cavaliers 91, Sixers 90

Devin Brown sank two free throws with 0.2 seconds left after Philadelphia was brought back from the locker room and the game seemingly over to lift the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 91-90 win over the 76ers on Monday night.

The Sixers appeared to have won after Lou Williams hit a fadeaway jumper with 5.1 seconds left — his second go-ahead

basket in the final minute.

Instead, Brown was fouled by Samuel Dalembert with only a couple of ticks left. The Sixers thought the game was over and ran off the court, while the refs huddled at midcourt to look at the replay. The Cavaliers stayed on the bench, with some peeking over and hoping to hear the decision.

After the play was reviewed for a few minutes, Dalembert was hit with his sixth foul. The Sixers had to come back and watch Brown stun them for the controversial win.

Sixers coach Maurice Cheeks argued with the refs and guard Andre Miller punted the ball in frustration.

LeBron James scored 27 points, Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 22 and the Cavaliers clinched home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

The defending Eastern Conference champs and No. 4 seed Cavaliers get to start their title defense at home against the Washington Wizards. The Cavs and Wizards will play in the first round for the third straight year.

Miller scored 26 points and Williams had 21 for the struggling Sixers, who have lost all the momentum built during a torrid 11-4 March that shot them up the East standings. Philadelphia (40-41) has lost three straight and dropped under .500 for the first time since they were 34-35 on March 21.

While the 76ers already secured a playoff spot, they were trying to stay out the seventh seed and avoid a first-round matchup with Detroit. They also need a win Wednesday at

Charlotte in the season finale to reach the .500 mark for the first time since 2004-05.

Williams scored 11 points in the fourth, hitting one big shot after another to rally the Sixers back from 12 down early in the quarter.

James fired an overhead pass to Ilgauskas, who easily spun around Dalembert for an uncontested layup and an 87-86 lead.

Williams and Brown exchanged layups and the Sixers trailed by one. Then Williams buried a 19-footer from the right side and the Fan Appreciation Crowd erupted in cheers one final time in the regular season.

In a flash, the win was gone.

So was any shot of the Sixers finishing with the sixth seed in the East. The Raptors earned that with a win over Miami and Philadelphia will play Detroit in a first-round series.

The Cavaliers lost guard Sasha Pavlovic to a sprained left ankle in the third quarter. Pavlovic, who averaged 7.5 points, was fouled on a baseline jumper and badly twisted his ankle on an awkward landing.

Miller scored 14 straight points for Philadelphia from 3:24 of the second quarter to 3:27 of the third when he finally got some scoring help from his teammates.

The Sixers pulled as close as three points in the third quarter, but James hit a 3 in the final seconds for a 67-59 lead heading into the fourth.

Wizards 117, Pacers 110

The Washington Wizards' backups were more than enough to eliminate the very sub-.500 Indiana Pacers from the playoff race, 117-110 Monday.

Coach Eddie Jordan went to his bench early and often, getting 31 points from Roger Mason, 14 from rookie Nick Young and little resistance from the Pacers' defense.

The Wizards, who have won five of six, entered the game with a chance to gain home-court advantage in their upcoming first-round playoff series against Cleveland. Even so, Washington gave Gilbert Arenas the night off and gave Caron Butler another night to recover from a bruised knee.

And the Cavaliers won in Philadelphia to guarantee finishing ahead of Washington in the Eastern Conference.

Once the game was under way, the starters frequently gave way to the reserves, creating a remarkably casual feel given its playoff implications. Before a crowd that mostly sat on its hands, the Wizards' reserves outscored the starters 70-47. The disparity was even greater after DeShawn Stevenson left early in the second half with a sore back.

The Pacers needed to win their last two games and have Atlanta lose two straight to make the playoffs. They didn't put up much of a fight until the very end. The Wizards never trailed, led by 17 in the second quarter, by 22 in the third and by 18 — 101-83 — early in the fourth. They didn't let Indiana within double digits again until Danny Granger hit a 3-pointer to make the score 112-105 with 1:11 to play.

David Harrison's dunk cut the lead to six with 29 seconds left, and an 8-second violation by the Wizards was converted into a 3-

pointer by Marquis Daniels with 18 seconds to go. But the Wizards made four free throws in the final 20 seconds to hold on.

Then again, the Pacers had to feel lucky to be in the postseason running considering the loss dropped them 11 games below .500 in the mediocre East. They worked themselves into contention by winning four straight earlier this month, but couldn't beat lottery-bound Charlotte on Saturday or Washington's second-team Monday.

Indiana finishes the regular season Wednesday at home against New York, while Washington wraps up the same night at Orlando.

Arenas, playing limited minutes as a reserve since returning from knee surgery, was given a precautionary rest day. Butler missed his second consecutive game with the sore knee.

They weren't missed. Mason was 7-for-9 on 3-pointers, and Andray Blatche grabbed 11 rebounds as Washington dominated the boards 58-31.

Granger had 35 points and nine rebounds to lead the Pacers. Indiana played without center Jeff Foster, who bruised his right knee in the loss to Charlotte.

Bulls 151, Bucks 135

Luol Deng scored 32 points on 15-of-20 shooting and Ben Gordon added 29 points as the Chicago Bulls fell just short of a franchise record for points and shooting percentage with a 151-135 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night.

The Bulls also got 22 points and 15 assists from Chris Duhon, and three other players finished in double digits as Chicago fell four points short of the franchise regulation record set in 1990.

The Bulls shot 67 percent from the field, just off a franchise high set in 1981, but the highest ever allowed by the Bucks.

Milwaukee, which lost its seventh straight, showed just how little it has improved. The defense has declined under coaches Terry Stotts and Larry Krystkowiak, marking a new low in front of general manager John Hammond, who was hired on Friday.

The lone bright spot for the Bucks was rookie Ramon Sessions, who set a franchise record with 24 assists, three more than Guy Rodgers had in Milwaukee's sixth game as a franchise on Oct. 31, 1968 against Detroit. Sessions also scored 20 points — the first 20-20 with points and assists in franchise history.

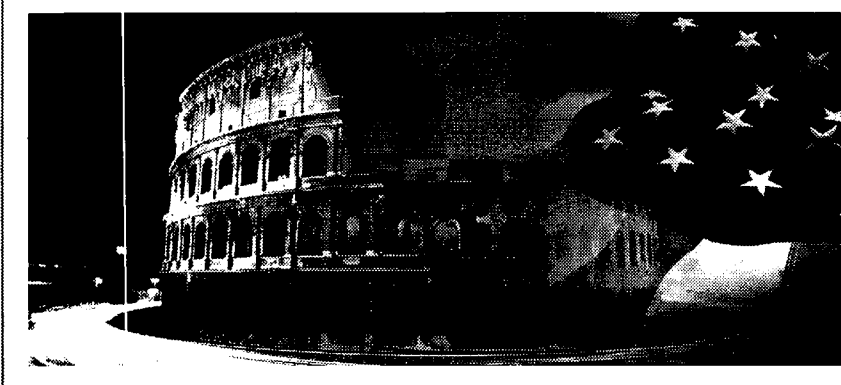
Andrew Bogut scored 25 points, while Michael Redd and Charlie Villanueva each had 22 points. Villanueva scored 18 of his points in the first quarter as the Bucks took an early 12-point lead.

Milwaukee, which lost for the 12th time after leading by double digits, gave up 42 points in the second quarter as Chicago took an 81-71 halftime lead. That was 13 more points than the Bulls scored in a half this season and 14 more than they scored in a game in a loss at Minnesota on Jan. 30.

The Bulls kept extending the lead, hitting the century mark with 6:52 to go in the third quarter off Tyrus Thomas' jumper, and holding a 120-101 lead going into the fourth quarter.



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MLB

Johnson makes season debut in Giants 5-4 win

Associated Press

Randy Johnson had a hard time finding the strike zone in his season debut, eight months after back surgery.

Still, the San Francisco Giants didn't get many good swings against him.

The Big Unit did not allow an earned run in five innings, settling down to finish with seven strikeouts and four walks before San Francisco rallied against Arizona's bullpen for a 5-4 victory over the Diamondbacks on Monday night.

The Giants loaded the bases in the seventh with no outs against reliever Chad Qualls (0-1), who allowed Ray Durham's tying RBI groundout followed by Bengie Molina's go-ahead sacrifice fly.

Keiichi Yabu (1-1), who pitched after undergoing dental surgery earlier in the day, worked two scoreless innings for his first win in nearly three years. He beat the Giants on May 20, 2005, with the Oakland Athletics.

Conor Jackson drove in three runs for the Diamondbacks, who had their eight-game winning streak snapped Sunday against Colorado and lost consecutive games for only the second time this year.

Johnson walked slowly to the mound, head down and already holding a 2-0 lead after Jackson's two-run homer in the first. He was one of only a few players to wear short sleeves on a blustery Bay Area night, when the first-pitch temperature was 52 degrees.

Jackson also added an RBI double in the third and Justin Upton had a run-scoring single that inning.

Arizona got a scare in the bottom of the eighth when third baseman Mark Reynolds fell over the railing of a photo well while trying to catch Eugenio Velez's foul ball and banged his face on a lower rail. His teammates ran to him and called for the trainer. Reynolds was slow getting up but stayed in the game.

Brian Wilson finished for his fourth save in five chances.

Johnson gave up three hits and three unearned runs. It took him five pitches to throw his first strike after a four-pitch leadoff walk to Randy Winn. He struck out Aaron Rowand on an 83 mph slider, then gave up another four-pitch walk to Durham before retiring Rich Aurilia on a called third strike. Johnson got out of the inning on 18 pitches, eight for strikes.

The Giants tied the game on Winn's two-run bloop single with two outs in the second, then Rowand followed with an RBI double to left and Johnson received a mound visit from pitching coach Bryan Price — Johnson's pitch count already at 43.

He had not pitched in the big leagues since a 9-5 loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers last June 28, before his August operation.

The 44-year-old left-hander topped out at 93 mph with his fastball. Manager Bob Melvin said beforehand he didn't have a pitch count for Johnson, who went 4-3 with a 3.81 ERA last season. He finished at 90 pitches with 49 strikes.

Johnson underwent surgery

to repair a herniated disk each of the past two seasons. Last year, he had only 3.5 months to recover before spring training and believes he rushed back too soon. He also had back surgery in 1996.

San Francisco starter Jonathan Sanchez allowed four runs — three earned — and six hits in five innings.

Royals 5, Mariners 1

Two years ago, Zack Greinke left spring training determined never to play baseball again. Now, the Kansas City right-hander looks like one of the best young pitchers in baseball.

Greinke was dominant again Monday night, tossing a five-hitter as the Royals opened a seven-game road trip with a 5-1 win over the Seattle Mariners.

The 24-year-old Greinke (3-0) was efficient throughout, changing speeds and locations with all his pitches while inducing Seattle's batters into weak groundouts and flailing swings. Only one ball was hit hard all night, a drive from Yunesky Bencanourt that Mark Teahen made a leaping catch on against the wall to end the eighth.

Otherwise, Seattle never threatened against Greinke.

"Just letting them put the ball in play for the most part," he said. "As long as they aren't getting in scoring position, I can be aggressive for the most part. ... It's been working out so far."

Greinke left the Royals during spring training in 2006 for what the team said was personal reasons. He returned to the team in September of that season after being diagnosed by a psychologist with "social anxiety," and learning that it wasn't baseball he disliked.

Since that personal breakthrough, Greinke has continued to develop into the pitcher Kansas City expected when it selected him in the first-round of the 2002 draft.

Greinke followed up teammate Brian Bannister's complete game on Sunday with a gem of his own on a chilly night in Seattle. He struck out four and got three double plays while facing only three batters more than the minimum.

Though his ERA rose from 0.60 to 0.75, Greinke matched Bannister with his third win and barely stayed ahead of him in their friendly challenge to have the lowest ERA.

"That's one thing we're kind of going at each other with," Greinke said. "At least I am."

Greinke threw 107 pitches and walked one, working at least eight innings for the second consecutive start. He shut down the New York Yankees in his previous outing. It was his third career complete game and the sixth in the American League this season.

Just one Seattle baserunner advanced past first base against Greinke, who retired 18 of his final 20 batters.

"You never knew what was coming and he threw them all for strikes," Seattle's Richie Sexson said.

Greinke got all the runs he needed in the second inning, thanks to a pair of longballs from an offense that entered the night with just five homers, the fewest in the AL.

Billy Butler homered into the Kansas City bullpen leading off the second to extend his career-best hitting streak to 13 games. Former Mariner Jose Guillen followed with a double to deep right-center and two batters later Miguel Olivo, another former Seattle player, homered to left-center on a 2-2 pitch. It was Olivo's first homer since Sept. 12 with Florida.

"You feel so good playing behind our pitching staff right now you want to do everything you can for them," Butler said.

The Royals added another run in the seventh as Seattle's bullpen continued to struggle. Sean Green took over for starter Jarrod Washburn starting the seventh and allowed two singles and a walk to load the bases. Ryan Rowland-Smith took over and gave up a sacrifice fly to David DeJesus, but escaped the inning without further damage.

Kansas City scored again in the eighth off Roy Corcoran. Second baseman Jose Lopez dropped the transfer of a potential inning-ending double play, and Olivo and John Buck had consecutive singles to plate another run.

Washburn's only problems came in the second, when the Royals forced the left-hander to throw 30 pitches. Washburn (1-2) allowed three runs and six hits, striking out six.

"Just one bad pitch, the changeup to Olivo," Washburn said. "I don't like second guessing myself, but I wish I wouldn't have thrown a changeup in that situation."

Seattle's only run came in the third when Ichiro Suzuki barely beat out a double-play attempt, allowing Brad

Wilkerson to score from third.

Athletics 2, White Sox 1

Greg Smith's pitches gave the Chicago White Sox plenty of trouble. The rookie's move to first had them leaning the wrong way, too.

"I've been able to use it a lot, really. I don't try to pick a guy off. If he gets picked off, fantastic," Smith said Monday night after earning his first major league win by pitching the Oakland Athletics to a 2-1 victory.

"When I was with the Diamondbacks, they were really big on shutting down the running game," said the left-hander, who came to Oakland in the deal that sent Dan Haren to Arizona. "That's what I've incorporated and every so often I'll pick a guy off."

Making his second big league appearance, Smith (1-0) gave up one run and six hits over seven innings on another cold night at U.S. Cellular Field, where the gametime temperature was 42 degrees. And he outpitched Mark Buehrle to get the win.

Smith was able to thwart former Athletic Nick Swisher's third-inning steal attempt by making a quick throw to first and catching him leaving early. And in the seventh, he caught Jermaine Dye leaning at first after Dye started the inning with a single.

"It wouldn't appear that was his second time out in a major league uniform on the mound like that," Oakland manager Bob Geren said. "He does a nice job controlling the running game. We saw that a lot in Arizona. That's part of his total game. He's difficult to run

on and he throws strikes. That's a good combination."

Kurt Suzuki went 4-for-4 for the A's, who are 6-1 on their first road trip of the season. They improved to 9-5 overall for their best start through 14 games since opening 10-4 in 1992.

They closed out their latest win when Huston Street got through a shaky ninth to pick up his fourth save in five chances.

He allowed a one-out single to Dye and threw a wild pitch that allowed pinch-runner Brian Anderson to move to second. Street hit A.J. Pierzynski with a pitch before striking out Carlos Quentin and getting Joe Crede on a comeback to end it.

Swisher, traded to the White Sox from the A's in January, had two singles and a walk against Smith while playing against his former team for the first time.

After Swisher's one-out single in the sixth, Orlando Cabrera followed with a single to left and Swisher dashed to third, just beating Emil Brown's throw with a headfirst slide. Jim Thome's RBI grounder cut Oakland's lead to 2-1.

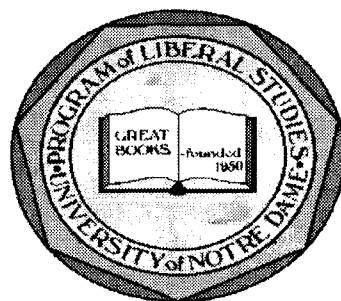
"It was fun seeing some of the guys," Swisher said. "It was a little different to go out and play against them."

Chicago entered the game with the highest-scoring offense in the AL and had put up 11 runs against Detroit on Sunday with bases-loaded homers by Paul Konerko and Crede.

"They've been swinging good. I saw the two grand slams yesterday," Smith said.

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MLB

A-Rod hits homer No. 521 in Yankees' 8-7 win over Rays

Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez reached another milestone. Robinson Cano made sure it came in a victory.

Cano's pinch-hit homer snapped an eighth-inning tie, and Rodriguez hit No. 521 to match Hall of Famers Ted Williams and Willie McCovey on the career list during the New York Yankees' 8-7 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday night.

"It definitely humbles you," Rodriguez said. "I'm at a point in my career where you do some things and you start touching some of these names. It's hard to believe."

With shortstop Derek Jeter back in the lineup, Yankees starter Ian Kennedy cruised into the seventh inning with a 7-2 lead before he was hit on the right hip by Jason Bartlett's line drive.

The infield single knocked a hobbling Kennedy out of the game, and Tampa Bay hit three quick homers off New York's bullpen before the inning was over to tie the score at 7.

Carl Crawford hit a two-run homer off left-hander Billy Traber. B.J. Upton added a two-run drive off winner Brian Bruney, then rookie Evan Longoria connected against Bruney (1-0) for his first major league home run.

But Cano, who entered hit-

ting .170 and was rested by manager Joe Girardi, came off the bench to put the Yankees back in front with a long homer to right off Al Reyes (1-2).

"I think the team needed it a lot more than Robby," Rodriguez said. "Robby is going to be fine. Robby is a great hitter. He's going to hit well over .300, and probably make the All-Star game."

It was Cano's second career pinch-hit shot.

"I hope to start from here," he said.

Mariano Rivera got four outs for his fourth save in four opportunities.

Kennedy said he was sore in the muscle area just below the hip bone, but expects to make his next start.

Rodriguez connected in the first inning against Andy Sonnanstine and finished with four hits. A-Rod tied Williams and McCovey for 15th place on the career home run list.

The homer also was A-Rod's 176th with the Yankees, moving him past Bobby Murcer for 19th on the franchise list. The slugger, who went 4-for-5, also scored his 500th run with New York on the homer.

Rodriguez has 36 games with four or more hits.

Johnny Damon and Morgan Ensberg also homered for the Yankees, who scored more than six runs for the first time this season.

"A good character game," Girardi said.

Jeter returned to the lineup after missing the previous six games with a strained left quadriceps and went 2-for-5 with two RBIs.

"Everything feels fine," he said.

"I didn't run as hard as I could. It's probably more mental than anything."

Kennedy allowed three runs and eight hits in six-plus innings.

Damon put the Yankees ahead with a leadoff homer in the first.

Rodriguez made it 2-0 later in the inning on his third homer of the season. The 448-foot drive to left stopped an 0-for-9 slide.

Ensberg extended the advantage to 3-0 with a second-inning homer.

Damon drove in two more runs with a double and Jeter hit a two-run single as the Yankees took a 7-1 lead in the fourth.

Sonnanstine gave up seven runs and nine hits in 3 1-3 innings.

"I'd like to have the A-Rod one back because up until tonight he hadn't gotten me before," Sonnanstine said. "But he's one of the best hitters in baseball."

Crawford got the Rays to 3-1 on a sacrifice fly in the third. Eric Hinske hit a run-scoring double one inning later.

"I love the fight," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "We've got to stop making the mental mistakes that prevent us from winning games like tonight."

Tigers 11, Twins 9

Finally, the Detroit Tigers lived up to the hype at the plate.

Ivan Rodriguez hit a tying two-run triple in a six-run eighth inning then scored the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly to lift the high-priced Tigers to an 11-9 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Monday night for their first win at home.

"That's what everybody expected from this lineup," said Carlos Guillen, who drove in three of Detroit's 10 runs in the sixth and eighth innings. "But we have to be more consistent because it's a long season."

The Tigers, whose payroll is nearly \$139 million and trails only the New York Yankees, won for the first time in seven games at home and improved to 3-10 overall.

They scored a season-high in runs and had a season-high 16 hits.

"You saw a little of what the Tigers can do when you don't make pitches," Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We couldn't stop them."

Detroit still has the worst record in baseball, but that didn't stunt its feel-good night.

Rodriguez pumped his right fist and screamed with joy when he hit his clutch triple and clenched his throwing hand again as he slid home just ahead of the tag on Jacques Jones' liner to left.

The Tigers sold 32,000 tickets on the crisp, cool night and many fans booed early and often as errors and weak at-bats helped Minnesota take a 9-4 lead after hitting in the seventh.

But for the several thousand supporters that stuck around, they had a chance to cheer wildly as Detroit won for the first time after trailing following the sixth, seventh or eighth inning.

Justin Morneau — one of four Twins to drive in two runs — hit a two-run single to help the Twins score four in the seventh to take a five-run lead.

It wasn't enough.

Rodriguez hit a solo homer in the home half off right fielder Denard Span's glove.

In the eighth, Magglio Ordonez hit an RBI double and Guillen had an RBI single before Rodriguez hit his two-run triple.

"The most glaring point of the game was the fact that a club was 2-10, gets within one then gives up four and battles like they did," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said. "I think that says a lot about this team."

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NCAA FOOTBALL

McFadden ready for life in the pros

Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — From the outside, it looks like an ordinary home. A small one-story building on a side street near the Arkansas State Fair Grounds.

It's a bright, sunny Saturday in this low-income community. The neighborhood is quiet.

Step inside the front door, and enter a different world.

This is the world of Darren McFadden — or more specifically, the world of Mini Muhammad. From a comfortable seat in her cramped living room, she tells the story of her superstar son — the biggest name in this year's NFL draft.

"We're all having fun. We're all happy for Darren. He done brought a little bit of excitement," Muhammad says. "We normally have excitement, but he's brought some good excitement."

Muhammad's life has had more than its share of bad excitement. She speaks openly of her past drug use — and the obstacles McFadden faced growing up surrounded by gang violence. In a couple weeks, though, McFadden will realize a football player's dream. The star running back out of Arkansas is expected to be one of the first players drafted.

Muhammad plans to be there in New York when that happens, but right now she's seated across from a fancy television set. That, her seat and a couple small couches are about all that can fit in the living room. On the wall behind her is a picture of McFadden in action, a couple defensive players chasing in futility.

ty.

"Darren is in Tampa," she says. "He was just in Boston — I keep getting them mixed up. He was just in Boston Tuesday, and he was somewhere else Friday."

In a couple weeks, McFadden will know where he'll start his pro career. Then he'll sign his first pro contract.

"Everybody probably thinks that we're like, 'Oh, we're going to buy this, we're going to buy this.' That has not even occurred to us," Muhammad says. "We're concentrating on Darren. We want him to get out there and be the best in what he's doing out there. ... Really, it hasn't even dawned on us about Darren going to the draft. It won't dawn on me until I'm there at the thing."

Mike Conley Sr., who represents McFadden, stands outside the house a short while later. Muhammad wants the agent around when she's talking about her son, but Conley is mostly an observer as the running back's talkative mother tells the family's story.

"Mini tells you like it is," Conley says. "There's no scripts, no censoring."

Conley is familiar with the changes families face as they prepare for the financial benefits of athletic stardom.

"They really don't have a conceptual idea of the money Darren can make, which is not a bad thing," Conley says. "To be honest with you, none of us would, coming from most of our backgrounds."

McFadden's family is used to the limelight.

MLB

Manny's blast gives Red Sox win

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Manny Ramirez wasn't sure if Indians closer Joe Borowski threw him a fastball or a changeup.

He was certain of one thing, however.

"It was right there," he said.

Then, it was over there.

Ramirez hit a two-run homer — No. 493 of his career — and Boston, down one entering the ninth inning, rallied for three runs against Borowski for a 6-4 win Monday night over Cleveland in a stunning rerun of last October's AL championship series.

Ramirez's shot to left off Borowski (0-2) was just the latest Red Sox comeback against the Indians. Last fall, Boston rallied from a 3-1 ALCS deficit to beat Cleveland and advance to the World Series. The stakes weren't nearly as high this time, but the Red Sox came through again.

And so did Ramirez, who hit his 132nd career home run at Progressive Field, which was known as Jacobs Field during the eight-plus seasons he played in Cleveland.

"Manny took such a pretty swing," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said.

With the Indians leading 4-3, Borowski, whose every appearance is an adventure, came in to try to close it out.

But the right-hander, who led the AL with 45 saves in 2007, gave up a leadoff double in the ninth to Julio Lugo,



Red Sox outfielder Manny Ramirez celebrates after his two-run homer gave the Red Sox a 6-4 win Tuesday.

snapping the shortstop's 0-for-16 slump. Coco Crisp sacrificed on a bang-bang play at first and Dustin Pedroia followed with a sacrifice fly to deep left, scoring Lugo to tie it 4-4.

With the Indians shifted to the right, David Ortiz dropped a bloop single into left — his second hit. Ramirez then belted Borowski's first pitch into the left-field seats, a place he frequently visited with long balls while a member of the Indians.

The homer — his 16th against his former team — tied the long-haired hitting machine with Hall of Famer Lou Gehrig and Fred McGriff for 24th on the career list.

Borowski has blown two

saves in a row, and is so concerned about a loss in velocity that he's going to have his arm examined.

"I'm grasping at straws. I think we're going to get it checked. Maybe it's nothing, maybe it is. It's driving me crazy, too," he said.

Mike Timlin (1-1) pitched a perfect eighth and Jonathan Papelbon worked the ninth for his fifth save. But Boston middle reliever Julian Tavarez was the unsung star. He worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth by striking out Ryan Garko and Jason Michaels to keep the Red Sox down 4-1.

"Tavarez gave us a chance," Francona said. "That's not going to happen all the time."

NBA

Struggling Spurs edge out Sacramento 101-98

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Heading into the playoffs hoping to defend their title, the San Antonio Spurs will clearly need to step up their game if they want to repeat.

Tony Parker tied his season high with 32 points and added 11 assists as the struggling Spurs managed to pull out a 101-98 victory Monday night against the depleted Sacramento Kings.

The victory, coupled with Houston's loss to Utah, put the Spurs in position to clinch third place in the conference for a second straight season. The Spurs, who defeated Cleveland in the NBA finals a year ago, play Utah at home Wednesday to conclude the regular season.

San Antonio has lost three of its last six games, including a humbling 90-64 defeat on April 4 in Utah. The Spurs lost to the Lakers by 21 points on Sunday and were embarrassed last week in a 96-79 loss at home to Phoenix.

"It's been the way we have lost lately, games have been getting away from us," Spurs reserve forward Ime Udoka said. "We've gone through some scoring droughts, so it was good

to get over 100 points tonight."

Still, the victory left no one in the Spurs' locker room giddy. Tim Duncan left for the team bus almost immediately after the game and didn't talk to the media, and Spurs coach Gregg Popovich was brief in his comments, talking about the Kings and not his team.

"We had a tough loss against the Lakers, so we needed this," said Parker, who scored eight points in the fourth quarter, when the Spurs were outscored 22-18. "We got Utah next. The West is so hard that we need to get as high a seed as possible."

Trailing by four points in the closing minute, John Salmons scored inside and was hacked by Tim Duncan, who fouled out. Salmons made the free throw, pulling the Kings to 99-98 with 14.3 seconds left.

Then Michael Finley made two free throws with 11.8 seconds left. Looking to send the game into overtime, both Francisco Garcia and Quincy Douby missed 3-point attempts and San Antonio held on.

"I thought Francisco got fouled at the end there. A lot of times the ref's just not going to give you that," said Kings coach Reggie Theus, who was playing without three starters.



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Bookstore

continued from page 24

was able to work the inside and score solid baskets in the post.

One reason for the solid inside game was the play of Winiarski, who nailed clutch jumpers and acrobatic shots.

"Although he looks like Baloo, I still love him," said Wakim, referencing the bear from Disney's classic "The Jungle Book."

Blue Steel's Goliath was consistently out of position at both ends of the court, camping out in the high post on defense and waited from beyond the arch offensively.

Wakim'ole took charge of the baseline in the second half, using it for drives and baselines to pull away late.

Defensively, Wakim'ole took advantage of sloppy passing and ill-advised drives to force turnovers throughout the game. Guard Pat Richel alone accounted for double-digit steals.

Wakim'ole — comprised entirely of Dillon residents — will take on Nunc Dominatus, a team comprised of mostly priests, including former Dillon assistant rector Fr. Pete McCormick.

"We're not worried. God doesn't take sides," Wakim said. "We're all His children."

No. 3 Castle Point 21, Western Conference 19

In one of the best games of the tournament so far, Castle Point, the third ranked team in the tournament and defending champion, pulled out a close victory against the determined Western Conference.

The game was close throughout, but Castle Point was able to pull it out in the end, despite a valiant comeback attempt headlined by Western Conference freshman Grayson Petersen-Fitts, who made two field goals to bring it within two points before Castle Point was able to put the game away, and come out with a win.

Castle Point was lead by junior Richard Jackson who had 6 points in the first half alone to propel his team to an early 11-9 lead.

The defense of the Western Conference kept them in it, and they were led on that end by freshman Buchi Offodile who had four blocks to keep his team in the game.

In the end, turnovers prevented the Western Conference from pulling off the upset, and let Castle Point keep their dreams of repeating as tournament champions alive.

What was perhaps most upsetting for the Western Conference was the loss that ended their seniors' hopes for a Bookstore crown.

"It is tough for the seniors to go out with a loss, but this game exemplified what Bookstore Basketball is all about."



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Brandon Loolan of Ain't Got No Big Man Hands drives for a layup against the Chu Ballers, who beat Big Man Hands 21-13.

Petersen-Fitts said.

No. 1 Kramer Properties 21, Clients No. 10-14 5

Clients No. 10-14 lost a hard-fought matchup to top-seeded Kramer Properties last night in front of several dozen rabid fans at the Bookstore Courts.

"I wetted two three balls," leading scorer Tae Andrews said in a post-game interview. "We pretty much all bought into the team concept. We all drank the Kool-Aid before the game, if you know what I mean."

Andrews went 2-6 from the field, including a missed dunk and two would-be three-pointers. However, due to Bookstore Rules, the long jumpers only counted for a pair of points.

Andrews' teammate Chris McGrady contributed another basket en route to the loss. "I knew that taking it to the basket wouldn't work against the taller defenders and I was too far away to dunk," McGrady said. "So while I was in transition I pulled up and made it splash-splash. What can I say? My jumpshot smells like pancakes."

Team captain Sean McGarvey contributed another would-be three-pointer. "I hit my shot early on," he said, "and then they switched up to six foot two Chris Devitt to block my shot."

Teammate Matt Bold agreed that the Clients found themselves outmatched. "While we were athletically superior, they had the luck of the Irish on their side," he said of his opponents. Ballhandler Joe Runde agreed that the Clients suffered from an off shooting night. "Our offense stank like a turtle cage," he said.

A Bit Underrated 21, Discount Cash Flow 18

No. 27 A Bit Underrated

proved their name was accurate last night as they defeated No. 18 Discount Cash Flow.

Starting off the game with a 3-0 lead, A Bit Underrated showed their skills from the start. With strong passing and sharp shots, Discount Cash Flow couldn't keep up in the beginning. They tried calling out plays and taking multiple shots, few of which were making it into the basket or even on the boards. What the Cash Flow boys could do well in the first half was foul, which they did often in the start of the game.

"It was harder than we expected," A Bit Underrated's captain David Pope-Davis said. "It was a great team effort, and everybody was hitting their shots."

While Discount Cash Flow struggled getting the ball into the basket, A Bit Underrated had no trouble. Making shot after shot, they kept the ball moving up and down the bookstore court as they kept a three point lead for most of the first half.

The baskets continued for the Underrated players against the feeble Cash Flow defense. Key to Underrated's lead was their constant rebounding. Discount Cash Flow struggled to box out the Underrated players, and towards the end of the half, stopped attempting to rebound altogether.

At the half, A Bit Underrated led Discount Cash Flow 11-6, but the Cash Flow players weren't ready to give up entirely just yet.

Discount Cash Flow started the second half off strong, scoring twice before A Bit Underrated had a chance to score once. They stepped up their defense as well, forcing the Underrated players to work harder for their shots. The game began to be one of who wanted to win more.

Cash Flow tied the game at 15, but was unable to hold on for long. A Bit Underrated took back their lead, scoring four more points before Discount Cash Flow got another basket. However, the Underrated's lead soon was in jeopardy as the Cash Flow players moved the score to 19-18, Underrated. However, A Bit Underrated pulled out the win with two back-to-back baskets, beating Discount Cash Flow 21-18.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu, Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu, Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu, Pete Reisenauer at preisen@nd.edu

Captain

continued from page 24

the No. 1 lacrosse high school in the nation. There, Kemp competed in lacrosse, hockey, and football, and lettered in all three sports.

Upon graduation, Kemp had a tough decision to make — Notre Dame, Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland, Georgetown and Loyola University all served as quality education and lacrosse options for the nationally recruited goaltender.

"Since as long as I can remember, a family friend always told me that I would be a great fit at Notre Dame," Kemp said. "He said I would fit in academically, athletically, and socially. That immediately got me interested in the school."

Kemp also said that he chose Notre Dame because of the sincerity and integrity of the coaching staff and academic support staff.

As a finance major graduating in May, Kemp faces another crucial decision point in his life. Despite several job offers, Kemp remains undecided

about his career.

"I have had several offers for a job next year but have not accepted one yet. I would have had to relocate if I were to accept any of the offers and I am attempting to stay in the DC area," he said. "I also do plan to continue playing lacrosse. The MLL is a great opportunity that I believe I will be lucky enough to be granted."

The Major Lacrosse league began play in 2001. There are now 10 teams nationwide—six of which are located in the east coast area.

As for now, Kemp remains focused on the rest of the season. The Irish hope to perform well enough in the remainder of their games this year to earn a bid into NCAA Tournament.

"We expect to win the national championship, it is a mindset that we have taken on," Kemp said. "We know that we are going to have to work hard for it and a championship won't be handed to us, yet we as a team believe that a national championship is a realistic goal."

Contact Ellyn Michalak at emichala@nd.edu

NHL

Wild top Avalanche on Bouchard's clutch goal

Associated Press

DENVER — The Minnesota Wild and Colorado Avalanche are so evenly matched that neither team can win in regulation and what keeps separating them in overtime is a funny bounce.

Pierre-Marc Bouchard took the pass from Brian Rolston from behind the net and sent it past Jose Theodore 11:58 into overtime to give the Wild a 3-2 win over the Avalanche on Monday night.

It was the third straight overtime game in this first-round series, with the Wild winning two of them.

Going back to 2003, the teams have played five straight overtime games in the playoffs, all of which ended in 3-2 scores.

The Wild, which snapped a five-game road losing streak in the playoffs, were outshot 40-30 in regulation but controlled the extra period with most of the action in the Colorado zone, outshooting the Avalanche 11-7.

Theodore made great save after great save and the Avs caught all kinds of breaks. But just like in the two games that the teams split at the Xcel Energy Center, when the game-winners glanced off skates, there was a fluke ending to this one.

It looked like there was going to be an icing call but the puck took a strange carom off the backboards and bounced off the side of the net. Rolston beat Avs defenseman Jeff Finger to it, then passed it into the slot for Bouchard's first career playoff game-winner.

"It was an icing call, I guess it took a weird bounce and our defenseman went the wrong way so they were able to get the puck," Theodore said. "Then they attack right away with a couple of guys. It was more of a bad bounce than anything."

Rolston said he was "a little

surprised myself, it came out and I had about two or three guys to give the puck to."

In these games, between these teams, the go-figure finishes have been the norm.

"We liked the fact it was going to be icing," Colorado coach Joel Quenneville said. "It took a funny hop."

"We were fortunate on the last goal," Wild coach Jacques Lemaire said. "I guess he thought there was an icing. The puck never got across the other side of the net, so Rolston could get it and make that play to Bouchard. It's strange the way it happened, but sometimes you need a break to win, and we got it."

Still, the Avs were kicking themselves for getting outplayed in overtime again.

"What I expect of myself is to make big saves, especially in overtime. Then again, anything can happen, and we saw another kind of weird bounce," Theodore said. "That's pretty much how the series has been played so far. We've got to turn the page and bounce back."

The teams return Tuesday night for Game 4, a rare back-to-back in the playoffs that was necessitated by the NBA's Denver Nuggets having the court Wednesday night for their regular-season finale.

That could hinder Avs left wing Peter Forsberg, who's still dealing with a balky ankle and sore groin after rushing his return to the ice following his reunion with the Avalanche at the trade deadline.

Forsberg, 34, has been roughed up in this series, too, getting held and grabbed and thrown to the ice as he was in the second period, when Sean Hill wrapped him up for a take-down that resulted in a matching minor.

Of equal concern for the Avalanche is their third-period letdowns, including Theodore's.

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Wildcats

continued from page 24

The pitching staff will have to be at its best against a Wildcat offense led by junior shortstop Tammy Williams. Williams is leading the nation with an astounding .525 average on the season to go along with seven home runs and 26 RBI.

The Irish have gotten most of their offense on the season from senior second baseman Katie Laing. Laing is hitting .361 on the year with six home runs and 41 RBI.

Notre Dame will try to become the first team to beat Northwestern in Evanston this year, where the Wildcats are undefeated.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles to battle Bethel in conference match

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will take on the Bethel College today in a cross-town rivalry match for their second of four home matches in a row.

The Belles (6-9, 2-3 MIAA) are coming off a conference win against Tri-State this Saturday where they beat the Thunder 8-1. The Lady Pilots have played two matches since opening their spring season, going 1-1 and moving their overall record to 10-4.

Against Tri-State Saturday the Belles managed to show the consistency they have been lacking this season. Winning two of the three doubles and sweeping the singles, Saint Mary's managed to grab the second conference win they had been looking for since beating Olivet 9-0 on April 1.

"Tri-State was a good win for us, and I think we can get a few more in a row this week," sophomore co-captain Lisa Rubino said. "We hope to keep our momentum going right up to the conference tournament."

Leading the doubles was the No. 1 pair of sophomore co-cap-

tain Camille Gebert and freshman Jillian Hurley, who won their seventh match this season with an 8-1 win over Tri-State's Amanda Waidely and Dana Dunham.

The No. 2 duo of Rubino and freshman Betsy Reed fought back against Kara Kauffman and Amanda Steiner after struggling early in the match, but were unable to make a full recovery, losing 8-5. Freshmen Franca Peluso and Jessica Kosinski defeated Stephanie Steiner and Jen Wall 8-5 to win the doubles division for the Belles.

In singles, Saint Mary's success continued with each match. No. 1 singles Gebert defeated her opponent 6-1, 6-1 for her seventh win this spring. Hurley, at the No. 2 spot, carried on her strong season with thirteenth win, improving her record to 13-2 on the year.

The Belles will play the Lady Pilots at 4:00 this afternoon at Saint Mary's for the Belles' third home match this season.

"I hope our team stays healthy and focused," Gebert said. "There's a lot of tennis left, and a big chance for us to surprise some teams."

Contact Meghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

Toledo

continued from page 24

homeruns to go with his .346 average and 23 RBI. However, the power comes with a price — Sharpley leads all Notre Dame batters with 27 strikeouts, 12 more than the next closest player.

Leading the Rockets at the plate are junior third baseman Jake Oester and freshman right fielder Dan Sherwood.

Oester leads is tied for the team high with five homeruns and leads the squad in batting average with a mark of .371 in addition to his 21 RBI, good for second place.

Sherwood is right behind his teammate, hitting .370 with three homeruns and 11 RBI.

Toledo's pitching has been its weak point so far this season, allowing an average of 11.1 hits per contest to go with its 8.5 runs per game. In addition, Rockets opponents are batting a combined .314, making it tough for the offense to keep the squad in games.

Following the contest, Notre Dame will travel to U.S. Cellular Field, home of the Chicago White Sox, to face Northern Illinois in a non-conference game Wednesday.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu



Sophomore infielder Ryne Intlekofer slides home to score a run in Notre Dame's 8-6 win over Valparaiso on April 8.

NBA

Boozer, Jazz defeat Rockets

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Jazz avenged losing their home opener by running away with the finale and putting themselves in position for home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

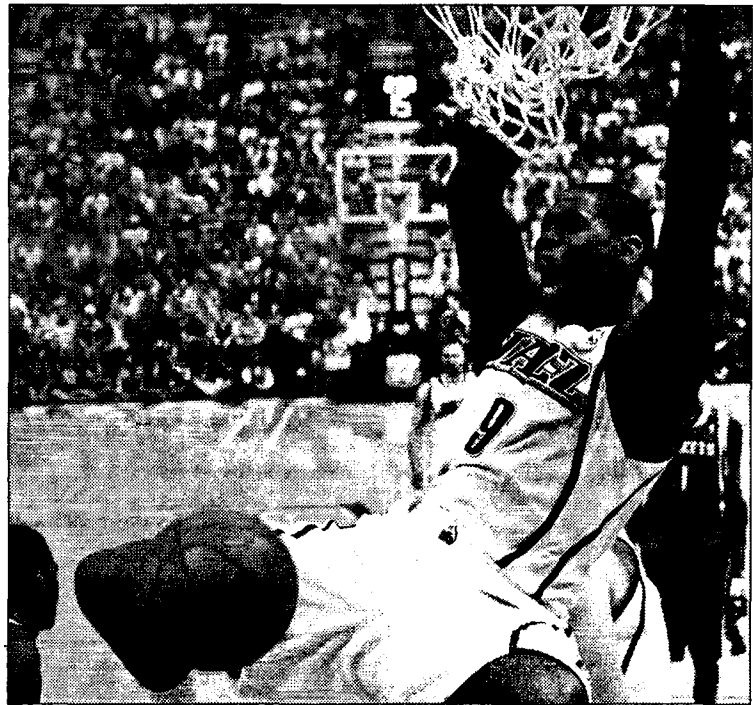
The Jazz beat Houston 105-96 on Monday, pulling even with the Rockets in the muddled Western Conference standings with one game to go in the regular season.

Houston was the first team to visit Utah during the regular season and also the last. The Rockets won here Nov. 1, spoiling Utah's home opener, but the Jazz ended up clinching the season series 2-1 by winning Monday. The Jazz went 37-4 at home, where they hope to be playing this weekend in the first round of the playoffs.

"It changes every day, so we'll see what happens," said Carlos Boozer, who had 21 points and 11 rebounds in his 51st double-double of the season Monday. "The competition is phenomenal in the Western Conference."

Both the Jazz and Rockets are 54-27, but Utah would hold the tiebreaker if the records are still identical after Wednesday. Utah can clinch home-court advantage for at least the opening round with just one more win. Unfortunately for the Jazz, that game is in San Antonio, where Utah has lost 17 straight regular-season games.

"It's good to be in a predicament where you hold your own destiny," said Utah's Ronnie Brewer, who scored 12 for Utah. "That's what I like. I don't like depending on other people."



Jazz guard Ronnie Brewer dunks in the third quarter of Tuesday's 105-96 Utah win over Houston.

The Jazz and Rockets could end up meeting in the first round of the playoffs for the second straight year. Houston closes the regular season at home Wednesday against the Clippers. If the Rockets win Wednesday and the Jazz lose to the Spurs, Houston would host the first two games of a series against Utah.

The Jazz would prefer to make just one trip to Texas this week.

"Somewhere along the line, we're going to have to learn how to win on the road some way," Utah coach Jerry Sloan said.

Utah could tie San Antonio with a win on Wednesday and own the tiebreaker by winning three of four against the Spurs.

The Rockets, who have lost two straight after winning five in a row, never recovered after Utah's 35-point second quarter.

Mehmet Okur added 12 points and 13 rebounds and Deron Williams finished with 17 points and nine assists for the Jazz, who won for the sixth time in seven games and finished with their best home record since winning 38 games in 1996-97.

Tracy McGrady and Luis Scola scored 22 each for Houston, which fell short with a late rally after trailing by 17 at the end of the third quarter. The Rockets made six 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to make it closer, but couldn't overcome Utah's huge lead.

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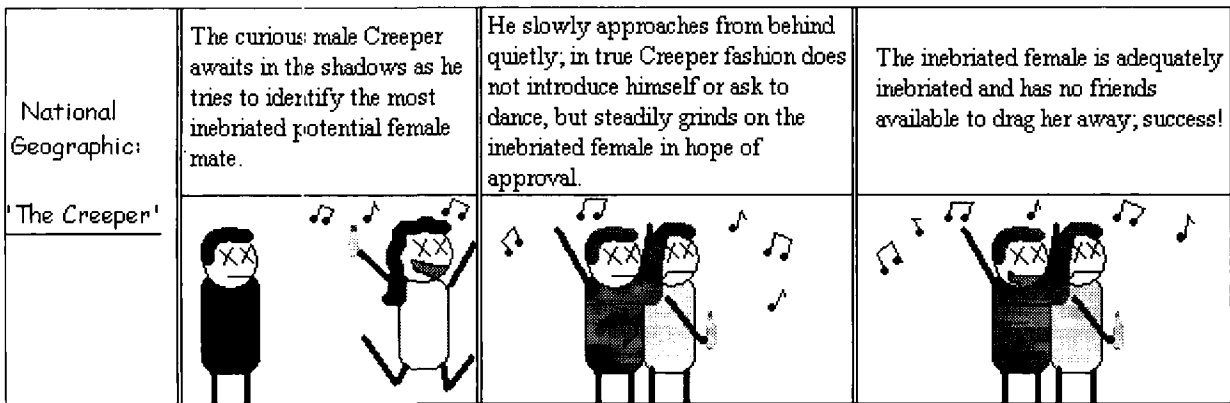
BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



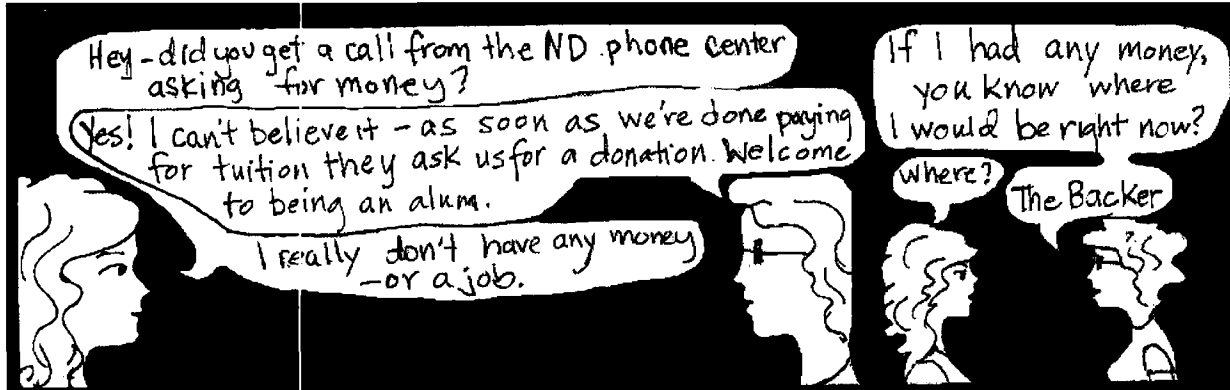
LOLLERSKATES

DIDIER LEWIS



ANOTHER UNFUNNY COMIC

SARAH MUSCARELLA & LIZ MURPHY



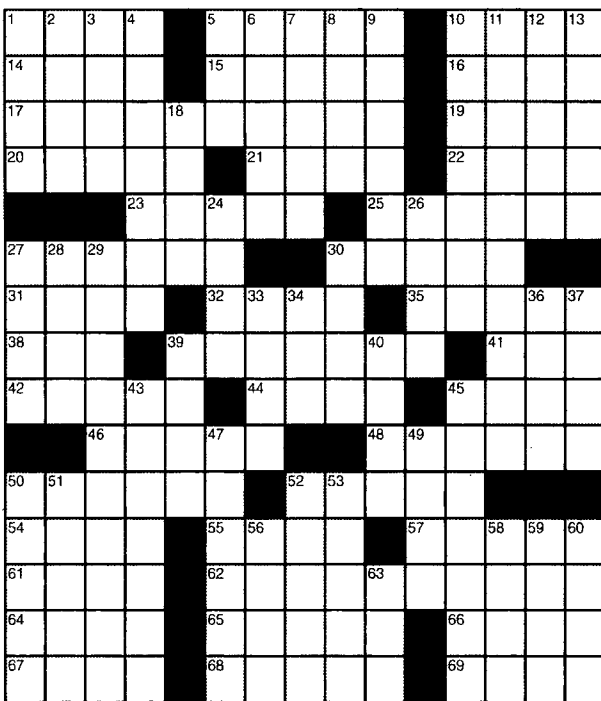
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 It's full of holes and traps
 - 5 Gastric juices, e.g.
 - 10 Remnant of a tattoo removal, maybe
 - 14 Zone
 - 15 Herb popular in Indian food
 - 16 Staff note
 - 17 Glam rocker's accessory
 - 19 Jessica of "Fantastic Four" films
 - 20 The "F" in the equation "F = ma"
 - 21 Pat on the back, as a baby
 - 22 Sleigh
 - 23 Get up
 - 25 Loathes
 - 27 Usurer's victim
 - 30 Throat condition
 - 31 Parisian streets
 - 32 Tiptop
 - 35 Drained of color
 - 38 "What ___ the odds?"
 - 39 Dump's (on)
 - 41 Guitarist's guitar
 - 42 Succeed in life
 - 44 It fills barrels
 - 45 Freshly
 - 46 Make believe
 - 48 Espy
 - 50 Like trees on a prairie
 - 52 Hooh
 - 54 "Mr. ___ risin'" (classic Doors lyric)
 - 55 One always on the lookout for a deal
 - 57 Hotel room posting
 - 61 Wife of Osiris
 - 62 Director's cry ... or a statement about 17-Across and 11- and 29-Down
 - 64 Longtime Yugoslav chief
 - 65 Flood preventer
 - 66 Surrounding glow
 - 67 List ender
 - 68 Play to the back of the audience
 - 69 Longings
- Down**
- 1 Sailor's hook
 - 2 Nabisco cookie
 - 3 King who was the father of Cordelia
 - 4 Moneybags types
 - 5 Starting pitcher
 - 6 Places to park
 - 7 Saturate
 - 8 New Look designer
 - 9 Answer in anger
 - 10 Overhead shots
 - 11 Transparent packaging material
 - 12 Color meaning "caution" on 13-Down
 - 13 See 12-Down
 - 18 Guitar ___ (hit video game series)
 - 24 Oil-rich land
 - 26 They're uplifting

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MARIE ADDS ACT
AMANDA NUDE RHO
TONSIL GETAGRIP
ENGTEAL EONS
GETOUTOFTHWAY
ERTE READ
URSA HEADGEAR
GETTHISSTRAIGHT
HOUSESAT ROSE
LAGMAST
GETALOADOFTTHAT
ANON YOUR FUN
GETALIFE SONATA
OREOVER ENACTS
NOD BYES GETIT



Puzzle by Kevin Donovan

- 27 Bummer
- 28 Money since 2002
- 29 Taco alternative
- 30 Coal bed
- 33 Extended family
- 34 Stereotypical tattoo
- 36 Company V.I.P.
- 37 Former speaker Gingrich
- 39 "Exodus" author
- 40 Long-gone bird
- 43 Kind of can
- 45 Eroded
- 47 Like caresses
- 49 Writer Pound
- 50 Beat, biblically
- 51 Take as a given
- 52 "Wonderfull"
- 53 Wedding band, maybe
- 56 Polite way to interrupt someone
- 58 Loyal
- 59 Pull in
- 60 Watering holes
- 63 "Get it?"

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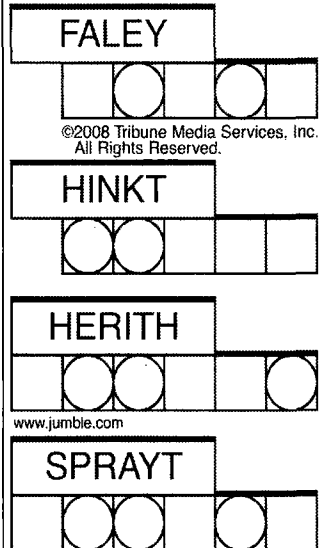
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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

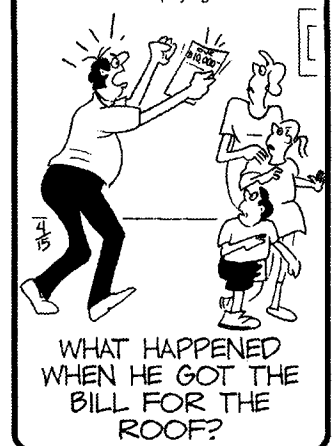
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



A: HE THE " (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: NOTCH ADULT GOITER SAVORY
Answer: When the ballet star helped her dance mate, she did a - GOOD "TURN"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sarah Michelle Gellar, 31; Robert Carlyle, 47; Brad Garrett, 48; Julie Christie, 67

Happy Birthday: As long as you don't get caught up trying to keep up with everyone around you, you'll be fine. Be smart, think things through and don't compare where you are or who you are to others. Focus on reaching your goals. Think forward, not backward, and you will see the future quite clearly. Your numbers are 1, 15, 23, 26, 39, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are in a high cycle and can build momentum, popularity and future prospects. Children will respond well to you, so set your rules and stick to them. Progress will be yours. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let emotions lead you in the wrong direction. You can have the best of both worlds if you are precise and choose your options appropriately. Don't go over someone's head if you don't like something. Use proper channels. Power is within reach. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The more comfortable and fun you make your surroundings, the more you will attract fun-loving individuals to share your space. Love is in the picture so block out time for someone you think is special. Use your vision and take action. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A trip may not pan out as planned. An older experienced individual can help you acquire what you want or hold on to what you've got. You will have trouble with someone looking for a handout. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let emotional matters get to you; instead, clear misconceptions promptly. You have lots to gain if you are efficient. When romance comes into the picture, you can win someone's heart and make a commitment. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your seriousness will work in your favor with personal issues or matters concerning your home. However, lighten up regarding money matters and entertainment. Someone from your past can help you rediscover something you used to enjoy. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let laziness stand in the way of doing things that could lead to interesting events or meeting someone you may partner with personally or professionally. A serious look at how you can reform something that is not working well will help you build confidence and put you in an authoritative position. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Go about your own business and don't be fooled by anyone who professes to know everything. Trust your own judgment and make decisions based on what you know is fact. A quick trip will prove you are right. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen and observe. Now is not the time to come across as a know-it-all. Complaints are likely if you are too brazen or erratic in your actions and decisions. Love is on the rise. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't give in to pressure, especially the kind that might cost you financially. You can wrangle your way into a key position if you refuse to donate or let someone else handle your cash. A trip will bring you knowledge. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Listen to an ultimatum someone is giving you. It won't pay to have to backtrack because you thought you were in control. A partnership can be good as long as you are fair and keep things equal. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Throw yourself into your work. Do things with your peers, colleagues or fellow students. Find out all you need to know to succeed. Listen and observe but don't complain or get angry. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive and bright and tend to take on too much. Ability and determination will lead you to victory. You are aggressive, reactionary and a spectacular addition to any group.

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MEN'S LACROSSE

Four-year starter Kemp stars, provides leadership in net

As the season rapidly comes to a close, senior captain Joey Kemp reflects on his experience as a four-year starting goaltender for the Irish and looks forward to the opportunities available in the future.

Elynn Michalak

Sports writer

"My experience with my team has been great. There is nothing like playing the sport you love with forty-five of your best friends," Kemp

said. "The camaraderie that we share can't be replaced."

A two-time All-America honoree, Kemp was named the 2007 Great Western Lacrosse League player of the year. He currently ranks first in Notre Dame program history in career goals-against average and holds a .618 save percentage and 26-11 overall record. This season Kemp's effective goaltending skills have allowed his team to maintain a 7-2 record and a No.11 national ranking.

Kemp has been a crucial member of the Irish squad since his freshman year when he relieved senior goaltender Stewart Crosland in Notre Dame's narrow loss to Cornell. The Potomac, Maryland native appeared in all 11 games that season, and with nine starts, Kemp was named the Great Western Lacrosse League rookie of the year.

"My favorite Notre Dame memory would have to be my first start. We were playing

in front of nearly 10,000 fans," he said. "The atmosphere was incredible. We won the game 9-7 and to get your first career victory against a team with such rich lacrosse tradition as North Carolina is something I won't forget."

Kemp cites both his brother C.J., the 2002 GWLL player of the year for Fairfield, and his hometown as strong influences on why he began to explore the sport.

"I started playing lacrosse

in 2nd grade. My older brother played goalie so like any other younger brother I imitated my older brother," Kemp said. "Lacrosse is very popular in Maryland, especially the area that I live in. It is very common to see kids throwing the ball in the front yard or shooting on a goal after school."

After discovering his natural ability for lacrosse, Kemp attended Georgetown Prep.

see CAPTAIN/page 21

BASEBALL

Ready for liftoff

Rockets come to Eck to face streaking ND

By **LORENZO REYES**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's early season struggles seem like ages ago.

For the Irish (21-9-1, 10-2), poised pitching and streaking bats have made the difference. Headed into today's game against Toledo (9-19, 3-6), the Irish are making an impressive run near the midpoint of the season, riding an eight-game winning streak to the top of the Big East standings.

The Rockets, on the other hand, are hanging around the cellar in the West Division of the Mid-American Conference. First pitch is set for 6:05 p.m. at Franck Eck Stadium.

The Irish winning streak has been led by sophomore outfielder A.J. Pollock and junior pitcher David Phelps. Both players swept the Big East honors this past week earning player of the week and pitcher of the week, respectively.

For Pollock, it marked the sec-

ond week in a row that he had taken the award for his recent play. In the five games this past week the outfielder hit an impressive .579 in addition to a pair of doubles and triples, a homerun, five RBI and eight runs scored.

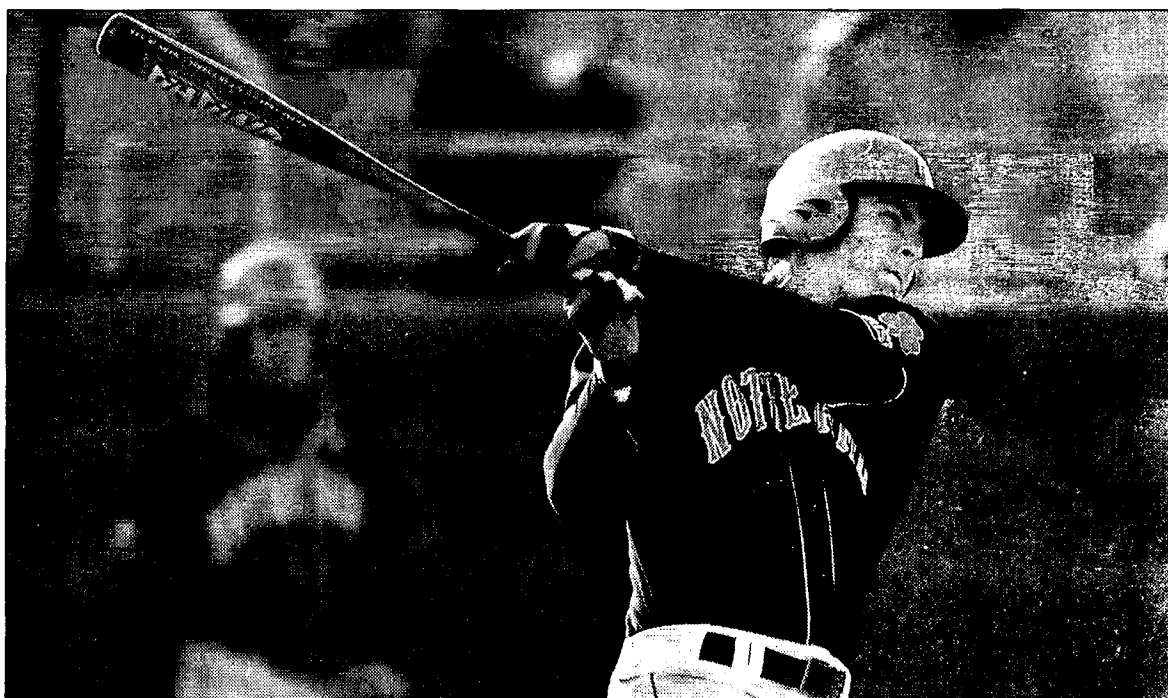
Pollock leads the Irish in batting average, hits, RBI, stolen bases, triples and multi-hit games thus far in the season.

Fortunately for Notre Dame, the sophomore shook off his early season slump, in which he hit .176. Since then, he has erupted for 47-of-105, helping spark the offensive production that has helped the Irish win 14 of their last 16.

As well as his success from the plate, Pollock has flashed his talents with his glove. During the five-game span, the sophomore recorded 10 outs without committing an error.

Phelps picked up his award thanks to his solid effort against the Wildcats Friday. In the 2-1 victory, the junior was one out away from his sixth complete game of his career tallying eight strikeouts to go with only two walks and no earned runs.

After giving up an unearned



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Freshman first baseman David Casey bats in Notre Dame's 13-8 win over Manchester on April 9. The Irish enter today's game against Toledo on an eight-game winning streak.

run in the second inning, Phelps didn't lose focus, inducing 12 groundball outs and five hits en route to his fourth win of the season.

In addition to Pollock's offensive prowess, senior outfielder Ross Brezovsky has excelled with the bat, going .373 with 24 RBI and three homeruns.

The power threat in the Irish lineup is junior Evan Sharpley who leads the squad with seven

see TOLEDO/page 22

ND SOFTBALL

Irish travel to take on No. 14 Northwestern

By **SAM WERNER**
Sports Writer

The Irish travel to Evanston, Ill., tonight to take on No. 14 Northwestern in a challenging break from Big East play.

The Wildcats are currently second in the Big Ten with a 9-1-conference record and a 23-10 mark overall. Notre Dame, meanwhile, is unranked in either major poll, but are tied for third in its conference with a 7-3 Big East record.

Both teams are playing their best coming into the matchup, with Northwestern having won 10 of its last 11 games

and Notre Dame taking 10 of its last 12 tilts.

A great deal of Notre Dame's success can be attributed to junior pitcher Brittany Bargar. The right-hander sports a 20-7 record on the season to go along with a miniscule 0.78 ERA. Bargar and freshman Jody Valdivia have shut down opposition bats this season, combining for all the Irish wins and striking out a total of 265 batters on the year. In Notre Dame's last series against Rutgers, Bargar pitched a complete-game one-hitter for a 1-0 Irish win.

see WILDCATS/page 22

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Wakim'ole edges Blue Steel

Underdog uses defense to overcome height disadvantage, net upset win

By **JAY FITZPATRICK, MICHAEL BRYAN, MEAGHAN VESELIC, & PETE REISENAUER**
Sports Writers

Wakim'ole took down No. 14 seed Blue Steel 21-16 in one of the few upsets in the round of 64.

The game was never in doubt as Wakim'ole built a quick lead and never let Blue Steel back in the game.

Wakim'ole pulled out the win despite having a distinct height disadvantage. Blue Steel had a near 7-footer who towered over the rest of the players. But during the second half, Wakim'ole

used a swarming defense to shut down the colossus – and the rest of their opponents.

"[Center Chad Krause] did a good job manning up the whole game," guard Pat Richel said.

In the second half, Krause made a courageous play, taking a charge from the gargantuan Blue Steel center.

Even though Krause manned up against Blue Steel's center most of the game, forward Mark Witte blocked a layup attempt in the first half. After the swat, Witte let out a primordial scream, energizing his team and the crowd.

"I saw him coming, I lined up, and I jacked it," Witte said of the block.

Point guard Michael Wakim had a different approach on the play.

"[The block] gave us the strength to slay giants," he said.

Blue Steel picked up a lot of unnecessary fouls throughout the game, costing them points and possessions. In fact, the final shot of the game was a free throw made by forward Ryan Winiarski, who banked the shot off the glass.

"Ryan proved to all of South Bend that banks are, in fact, open on Monday nights," Richel said.

Even with a leviathan on their opponents' roster, Wakim'ole

see BOOKSTORE/page 21