

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 43 : ISSUE 66

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Balkan crisis leaves MBA students cold

Classmates on trip to Bosnia for business course face low temps as natural gas is cut off

By AARON STEINER
Assistant News Editor

Keith Flatley said it was a cold couple of days he and five other Notre Dame MBA students spend in Bosnia at the beginning of the month, as much of eastern Europe was affected by a cutoff of natural gas from Russia that began on Jan. 1.

The MBA students — traveling to Bosnia for a course called “Business on the Frontlines” — arrived in the country on Jan. 2. Shortly after their arrival, they were among the thousands affected by the gas cutoff. The Associated Press reported that tens of thousands of homes and buildings have been left without heat in freezing weather since the

disruption.

The cutoff stems from a dispute over pricing agreements between Ukraine and Gazprom, Russia's state-run monopoly that supplies natural gas to Ukraine and much of Europe.

As temperatures plunged to 6.8 degrees Fahrenheit in Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, Flatley said that students braced for the cold nights without heat.

“It was about 10 below Celsius,” Flatley said. “We just did what we could.”

While in the country, the students stayed in an apartment, which is heated by natural gas. Flatley said the group had an electric oven which they tried to use for heat, as well as a heat lamp in the bathroom.

Other than that, the stu-

dents bundled up on the cold nights, he said, and found as much heat during the day as possible.

“We’d be out all day, doing our work, [and] some of the buildings had heat,” he said. But the majority of businesses didn’t have heating.

“We found a couple places of heat,” he said.

The AP reported that sales of electric heaters soared, something Flatley confirmed in an e-mail from Jan. 7.

“There are lines forming at stores selling electric heaters. The price of an electric heater on Monday was under \$100 U.S.; it is now over \$200,” he wrote in the e-mail. “The heaters sell out within minutes of the stores opening.”

The infrastructure in Bosnia varies, Flatley said,

but natural gas heating is common, with much of it constructed since the Bosnian conflicts that left the country in shambles.

“When [Sarajevo] was rebuilt, because the electric grid was kind of shoddy, they basically redid the city with natural gas,” he said. In some cities, where natural gas is less common, there is a mix of firewood and electric heating systems, he said.

Flatley said the mood in the country wasn’t too negative.

“They’re tough people,” he said of Bosnians, noting they’ve endured far worse during years of bombings and conflict in the region.

“I think it was more an issue for us than for the people there,” he said.

see MBA/page 4

Professor Michael Signer dies

By JENN METZ
News Editor

Rabbi Michael Signer, Abrams Professor of Jewish

Thought and Culture at Notre Dame, died Saturday. He was 63. Throughout his career and ministry, Signer followed what he

once described as “the impulse to explore relationships between Catholics and Jews by

see SIGNER/page 3



Signer

Notre Dame fans enjoy Irish victory, ‘white sand Christmas’



JESS LEE/The Observer

Notre Dame seniors Brandon Frost, left, Alice Ciciora and Ron LaFalce, right, scored front row seats at the bowl game.

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

HONOLULU — Notre Dame seniors Alice Ciciora and Ron LaFalce spent several days touring the beaches and mountains of Oahu, but the highlight of their trip, they said, was watching Notre Dame end its nine-game bowl loss streak with a win against Hawaii.

The Notre Dame Fighting Irish defeated the University of Hawaii Warriors 49-21 in the Christmas Eve Sheraton Hawaii Bowl, and Ciciora and LaFalce were seated in the front row of Aloha Stadium to witness it.

see BOWL/page 4



JESS LEE/The Observer

Head coach Charlie Weis holds the Sheridan Bowl trophy on the field with quarterback Jimmy Clausen after the game.

Saint Mary's installs signpost

New campus landmark points, shows distance to study abroad locations

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's students exiting the east doors of the Student Center and Spes Unica Hall may have noticed two new signposts near both buildings.

While one might expect the signs to point visitors towards other buildings on campus, they actually point towards the eight countries in which Saint Mary's has study abroad programs. The signs also show how far away

the locations are from the College.

The signposts were purchased by the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) with funds from the Lilly grant, said Elaine Meyer-Lee, CWIL director.

“[The signs] are a visual reminder of the College's many opportunities to study abroad,” Meyer-Lee said.

Those opportunities include semester and full year programs in Maynooth, Ireland; Dijon, France; Innsbruck, Austria;

Seville, Spain; Rome, Italy; and Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, as well as summer programs in Seoul, South Korea and Beijing, China, all of which are included on the signs.

The College also offers a semester or full year in Fremantle, Australia; Mumbai, India; Cordoba, Argentina and a women's studies semester in Europe. There are also summer programs in Ecuador, Honduras and Greece, and semester break

see SIGN/page 6

Parking lot restrictions spur student discontent

By SARAH GUNN
News Writer

Saint Mary's students who commute to campus returned from break to find they will have a longer walk from the parking lots to the main parts of campus.

The Science Hall parking lot, on the northeast side of campus, has been restricted to students and is only open to faculty and staff.

Students may park in the

parking lot on weekends and on weekdays after 5:30 p.m., but many students expressed frustration with the new restrictions.

Senior Kristen Edelen, said the new restrictions are “ridiculous.” Since returning from break she has had two warnings and one parking ticket. The two warnings were a result of being “improperly parked” in the newly restricted science lot. Edelen said the

see PARKING/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Quiet coverage

I no longer have to take Jerome Holtzman's word for it. There is, in fact, no cheering in the press box.

For the past three and a half years, I've written for the news department and I've been content. My aspirations are more toward Bob Woodward and not as much toward Red Smith or Grantland Rice.

But for a few hours on Christmas Eve, I was nearly a sports reporter.

Kaitlynn Riely
Associate News Editor

And although the Notre Dame Fighting Irish defeated the University of Hawaii Warriors 49-21 in the last game I will ever see as an undergraduate, I did not cheer, clap or shout while I was in the Aloha Stadium press box.

I may have smiled.

Prior to Christmas Eve, the closest I'd ever come to covering a sporting event was writing a story about the new water ski club.

But The Observer sent me to Hawaii for the Sheridan Bowl to write an article about students who attended the game and I found myself sitting a few seats down from the stadium announcer and within viewing distance of Charlie Weis in the Notre Dame coaches' box.

My family sent me text messages asking me to take a picture of Charlie with my phone. I refrained, even though *No Taking Pictures with a Camera Phone in the Press Box* is a book that has not yet been written.

We arrived at the stadium just moments before kickoff, due to a faulty GPS system that, at one point in the trip, directed one of my colleagues onto a military base.

When we walked into the press box, everyone else was already seated, notepads and computers at the ready.

My two Observer colleagues, both veteran Notre Dame football reporters, took their designated seats at the front of the press box. I was given a seat in the second row, right behind them. They took out their laptops and opened up their Word documents and Excel spreadsheets and began entering drive yardage and pass completion data.

The reporter sitting next to me, whose name setting indicated he worked for a local Hawaiian paper, had his laptop open. He had already written the lede of his story, leaving blanks for the final score.

After every drive, he made notations in his notebook to track the progress of the game.

Up and down the rows, the men of the bowl game press corps were quietly watching and recording.

And there I was, sitting among them, just watching. I took out a notebook so I would be less conspicuous and started writing down some questions I'd ask of fans later.

That took about five minutes.

But I couldn't just sit there and watch while everyone else was obviously working. I'm sure no one was assuming I had an extraordinary game play memory.

I made a note each time Notre Dame scored. And again when Hawaii scored. I made a note about the Hawaiian shirts the coaches and managers were wearing.

It wasn't great sports reporting, but at least I didn't cheer.

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

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@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: SO, WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE AT HOME?



Alain Uwilingiyimana

senior
off-campus

"You don't want to know the answer to that question. I'm from Buffalo."



Colleen Cusick

freshman
Lewis

"Perfect. Just like the rest of Alabama."



Marcus Gatto

senior
Dillon

"Dreamy and balmy, with a 100 percent chance of romance."



Scott Feister

senior
St. Ed's

"[Wo]man. That's a really 'hard-to-answer' question."



Theo Ossei-Anto

senior
Zahm

"Worse. I'm from Buffalo."



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

A man dressed up as Santa cheers at the Christmas Eve matchup between the Notre Dame Fighting Irish and the University of Hawaii Warriors.

OFFBEAT

'American Idol' sues 'Stripper Idol'

AUSTIN — "American Idol" wants an Austin strip club to take it off. The company that owns the popular television show sued in federal court to stop the weekly "Stripper Idol" contest at Palazzo Men's Club. FremantleMedia North America also wants to seize Palazzo's profits from the amateur stripping contest.

In its lawsuit against Palazzo, FremantleMedia calls "Stripper Idol" a trademark violation that could mislead the public

to think the TV show sponsors the event, The Dallas Morning News reported in Tuesday editions.

Advertisements for the stripping contest use a logo with a "color scheme, design and font" similar to the TV show's. Waitresses at the club also wear T-shirts emblazoned with the logo, according to the lawsuit.

Men arrested for cutting in line

MUNCIE, Ind. — A 26-year-old man and his father were arrested after an off-duty Muncie police

officer complained about the man cutting in line at a Wal-Mart store. Police reports said Edward R. Pluhar Jr. of Frankfort cut to the front of the line at the Wal-Mart service desk Sunday. What he didn't know was that Officer Chris Kirby was waiting in the line.

Kirby said Pluhar refused when Kirby asked him to wait his turn. Pluhar's father, 61-year-old Edward R. Pluhar Sr., then asked Kirby if he wanted to step outside. That's when Kirby reportedly told the men he was a police officer.

IN BRIEF

Members of David Dorfman Dance will lead a Master Class with selected students from Clay High School's dance magnet program from 1-2:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The event is free. Contact Margot Borger at 574-631-2808 for more information.

University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore M. Hesburgh will speak about his friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King and his own experiences in the civil rights movement Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium of the Snite Museum of Art.

Josh Dorfman, the founder and CEO of Vivavi will deliver a lecture titled "Peering into the Green Future: The Trends and Innovations Forging an Abundant Society in Balance with Nature" Friday from 10:40 - 12:10 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

The Student Activities Office will host Late Night Ice Skating Friday from 9 - 11 p.m. at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. The event is free to Notre Dame students with an ID.

"Brian Brushwood: Bizarre Magic" show, which will take place Saturday from 9 p.m.-11 p.m. in Washington Hall, is free and open to students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
HIGH	13	6	8	7	15	15
LOW	-3	-13	-13	-5	10	12

Atlanta 52 / 32 Boston 36 / 21 Chicago 15 / 12 Denver 48 / 13 Houston 56 / 40 Los Angeles 68 / 52 Minneapolis 6 / -9
New York 29 / 26 Philadelphia 31 / 25 Phoenix 73 / 45 Seattle 49 / 37 St. Louis 36 / 19 Tampa 61 / 45 Washington 37 / 29

Research suggests winter babies face socioeconomic struggles

Special to The Observer

Many of us may often feel that we've been born under an unlucky sign. Now, new research by a pair of University of Notre Dame economists suggests that some of us are, in fact, born in an unlucky season.

In their paper, Kasey Buckles and Daniel Hungerman point out that a large body of previous research consistently has found that people born in

December, January and February are, on average, less educated, less intelligent, less healthy and lower paid than people born in other seasons.

A variety of explanations have been suggested for this phenomenon, including such social and natural factors as compulsory schooling laws, changes in climate and exposure to illness. However, the exact cause of the association between season of birth and later outcomes has never been

precisely clear.

In the new study, Buckles and Hungerman analyzed U.S. census data and birth certificates to determine if the typical woman giving birth in winter is any different from the typical woman giving birth at other times of the year.

They discovered that babies born in the winter are more likely to have mothers who are unmarried, who are teenagers or who lack a high school diploma. One explanation for

the seasonal patterns in births is that summer's high temperatures inhibit sperm production. This seems to affect lower socioeconomic status women more adversely, which could explain why there are relatively fewer births to these women in the spring and early summer.

Buckles and Hungerman also point out that there could be a "prom babies" effect, with winter births occurring nine months after end-of-year school celebrations.

brations.

The researchers also note that survey data has shown that women consider winter the least desirable season in which to give birth. Buckles and Hungerman suggest that women who are wealthier and more educated are better able to time their births to more desirable seasons.

The Notre Dame economists' findings are published in a National Bureau of Economic Research Working paper.

Signer

continued from page 1

encouraging students to investigate the darker moments of rivalry and even persecution that mark the pages of history to those invigorating engagements between scholars of our two communities."

A member of the faculty since 1992, Signer, an international scholar, was a professor of Jewish history at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles from 1974 to 1991.

Specializing in the fields of Judaism and medieval exegesis, Signer was interested in the multiple relationships between Judaism and Christianity.

Signer once said he cherished his years at Notre Dame because they offered him "the opportunity to engage in the day-to-day lives of Christian colleagues and students as they wrestle with what it means to live their tradition in the modern world. Their struggle to discover how their faith can guide them as they negotiate a path to discover meaning in the pluralistic society that sur-

rounds them without surrendering a distinctive religious identity awakens many echoes of the Jewish tradition which has in the past and continues to chart its course between assimilation and resistance to contemporary culture."

"We are saddened at the loss of our dear colleague Michael Signer," said John Cavadini, chair of Theology at Notre Dame. "His leading work in Christian-Jewish dialogue and his scholarship in medieval biblical exegesis made him a beloved teacher and scholar whose loss will be keenly felt not only by his colleagues and students in our theology department, but by the theological community worldwide."

Signer graduated from the University of California Los Angeles in 1966. He earned a master's degree from Hebrew Union College in 1970, the same year as his rabbinical ordination.

As a doctoral student at the University of Toronto, Signer became interested in interreligious affairs. While in Los Angeles, he taught Bible courses to Catholic seminarians, participated in dialogues between Catholic priests and rabbis and

organized retreats for his Catholic, Protestant and Jewish colleagues.

Signer taught courses at the Institut Kirche und Judentum at Alexander von Humboldt University in Berlin, for the Catholic theology faculty of the University of Augsburg and at several Catholic universities in Poland, including the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow.

He was the author and editor of numerous books and articles on topics ranging from Medieval Latin biblical commentaries to contemporary Jewish-Christian relations.

Signer was one of the authors of "Dabru Emet: A Jewish Statement on Christians and Christianity," a document signed by more than 220 rabbis and intellectuals from all branches of Judaism in 2000.

In 2005, Signer was designated a "Person of Reconciliation" by the Polish Council of Christians and Jews, an honor awarded annually to an individual advancing Jewish-Christian dialogue in Poland.

Signer also initiated and directed the Notre Dame Holocaust Project, an interdisciplinary group of faculty that

designs educational opportunities for the study of the Shoah.

Kevin Hart, currently the Edwin B. Kyle Professor of Christian Studies at the University of Virginia, co-taught a Philosophy and Theology seminar at Notre Dame that focused on the theme of revelation in Judaism and Christianity.

Hart told The Observer "the death of Michael Signer has opened a void in all who knew him."

Signer was especially talented at communicating with students, Hart said. He was "someone who could show them different ways in which to enter the vast, complicated, charged and wonderful world of modern Jewish thought and writing."

Hart and Signer co-edited a book titled "The Exorbitant: Emmanuel Levinas between Jews and Christians" that will be published by Fordham University Press this spring.

"His spirit will live on in that book, and in the many memories of him by his generations of students and friends: his intellectual generosity, his almost childlike delight in learning, and his love of argu-

ing about literature and theology," Hart said.

Signer is survived by his wife, Betty, and their daughters Aliza and Hanna. A funeral service will be held Wednesday at Mount Sinai Memorial Park in Los Angeles. Donations may be made in his memory to the Michael A. Signer Memorial Fund at Notre Dame or at Hebrew Union College in New York City.

Cavadini wrote in a letter posted on the Theology Department's Web site that he hopes to organize a memorial service for Signer sponsored by the department.

"I feel strongly that we should be able to commend him to the mercy and love of God in our own voices, and to memorialize his contribution in a way that is uniquely our own," Cavadini wrote in the letter.

The Department is setting up a fund, known as the Michael Signer Graduate Research Fund, to help graduate students pursue research interests. Contributions are being collected by Dorothy Anderson in 130 Malloy Hall.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Anonymous alumnus provides library gift

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame's Hesburgh Libraries and undergraduate and graduate students in the Mendoza College of Business are among the beneficiaries of a distinctive gift that Notre Dame received this year from a generous—and anonymous—alumnus.

This benefactor says he wanted to make a special expression of his gratitude to Notre Dame for the education he received and for the "vast professional alumni network which has helped me immensely in various business and professional communities." As a result, the libraries now have an "entrepreneurial spirit endowed business librarian" position supporting the ever-increasing needs at Mendoza and at the college's Mahaffey Business Information Center (part of the Hesburgh Libraries).

The endowed business librarian position carries no benefactor's name, but it does reflect the anonymous donor's recognition of changing times in the professional world, where he says "information is power" and there is a torrent of data available.

"Librarians are unsung heroes to a certain extent," says this unsung benefactor, who decided to bestow funding that would help both the libraries and busi-

ness students. "I felt it was important to do something with respect to business students who need to be able to process a tremendous amount of information" as part of "a practical approach to business education." For motivated students teamed with a highly skilled guide to the universe of facts and databases, "it can be a very collaborative situation," he points out.

The generous individual behind the new position is anonymous, but the holder of the new position is not. He is Stephen M. Hayes, the former "business services librarian," who has overseen the Mahaffey Center since it opened in 1995 and who has become known at Mendoza as an expert in and teacher of what he calls "competitive intelligence." He also has been part of teams teaching case studies in business research and a new "research challenge" initiative for undergraduates.

Hayes calls the endowment of a business librarian position "visionary," recognizing and nurturing a connection between the development of entrepreneurial skills and the mastery of information that supports good judgment. This collaborative approach to research goes way beyond merely "answering a question" with the limited knowledge gleaned from an Internet search engine.



Information Session for those interested in the position of Assistant Rector for University Residences

Thursday, January 15, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Law School Courtroom

OR

Monday, January 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Fischer Community Center

Light refreshments served

For further information visit
<http://osa.nd.edu/>

MBA

continued from page 1

When they asked natives about the situation, many commented that it was either Russia flexing its muscles, or Ukraine demonstrating its power.

"Some said it was Ukraine showing the [European Union] how much they depend on them," Flatley said. Ukraine is currently seeking to become a member of the EU.

Flatley said that the heat was finally turned on again the day before they left the country on Jan. 11.

During his time in Bosnia, Flatley and the other students who participated in the course studied the role of business in rebuilding post-conflict societies, according to a Mendoza College of Business press release. In addition to the trip to Bosnia, another group of students traveled to Beirut, Lebanon.

"If a country has negative GDP growth, they have a certain percent chance of falling into a civil war," Flatley said.

"If a country has already had a civil war, any negative growth really compounds their chance of falling into a civil war."

Flatley said the groups visited with various businesses and organizations and looked at ways of improving commerce in order to improve the stability in the countries visited. "Business on the Frontlines" is taught by associate professor of management Viva Bartkus, who spent time with students in both countries.

"After facing man's inhumanity in our generation, and within the last 10 years in Bosnia's case,

there is a real challenge to figure out how to re-knit these societies deeply divided by religion, ethnic groups and socio-economic class," Bartkus said in a press release. "We believe that business has a role in that, both international companies and local ventures. There is nothing to compare with the dignity of work and the ability to be able to look after one's family after war."

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

"It was about 10 below Celsius. We just did what we could."

Keith Flatley
MBA student

Parking

continued from page 1

parameters of the lot were not clearly defined so she parked in multiple places only to be warned or ticketed. The new parking directions "do not clearly identify the first three rows," she said, and that the e-mails sent to explain the rules "just don't cut it."

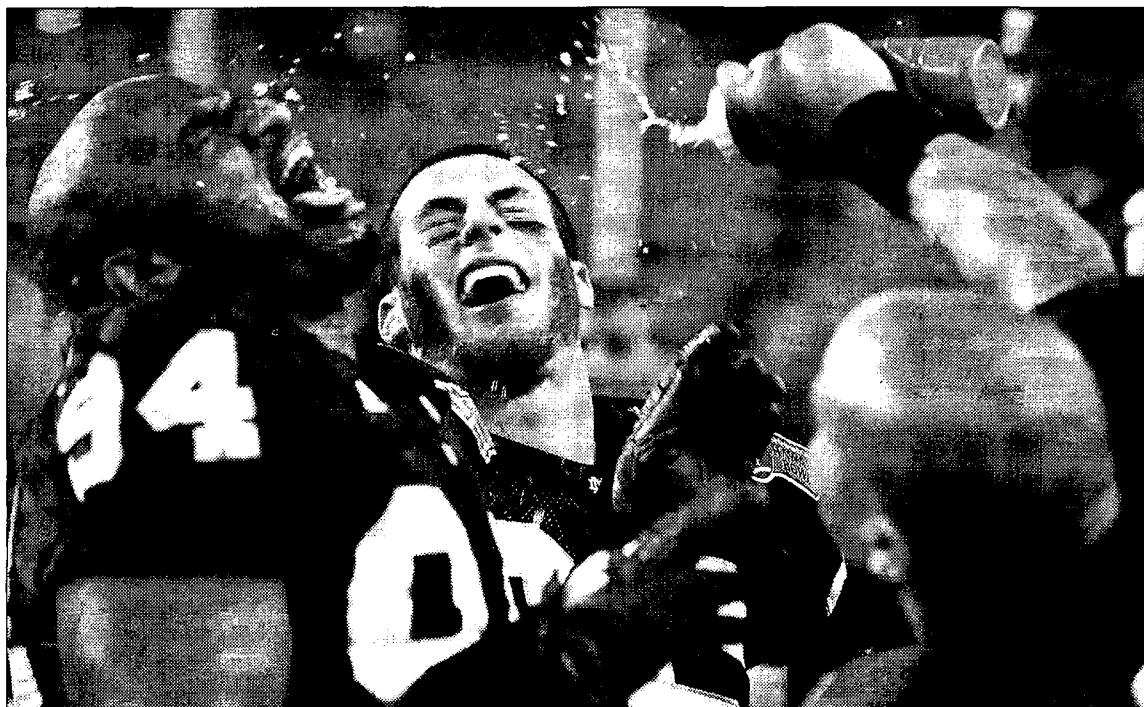
"Mass e-mails to students are efficient but not the most observed form of communication because we get so many," Edelen said. "I delete most of mine."

Senior Kristin Amram was

also frustrated with the new restrictions, and said parking in the Opus or Angela lots means "it's a hike" to get to class. She said student parking should not have been eliminated from the science lot because "for the past two days since we've been back, the new lot for faculty hasn't even been half full. They could consolidate the faculty into one lot."

Especially with the winter weather and winter weather warnings into effect, the new regulations may bring even more student complaints to a head, Edelen said.

Contact Sarah Gunn at sgunn01@saintmarys.edu



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Asaph Schwapp sprays Justin Brown, left, and Pat Kuntz with a water bottle after the game. Temperatures in Hawaii hovered in the 80s during Christmas week.

Bowl

continued from page 1

The weeklong trip to Hawaii, the first time either of them have visited the state, was a Christmas present for both. Ciciora came to Hawaii with her parents and LaFalce came with his brother.

Neither Ciciora, of Chicago, nor LaFalce, of New Jersey, had a white Christmas, but Ciciora said they were content having a "white s a n d Christmas." And since it was negative eight degrees when they left Chicago and 80 degrees when they landed in Honolulu, they said they were fine trading Christmas trees and mittens for palm trees and leis.

Cold weather in the Midwest almost prevented Notre Dame senior Brandon Frost, who was born and raised in Hawaii, from returning home in time for the game. Wintry weather in Chicago delayed his flight for 10 hours, and then he had to spend the night in Los Angeles before he could get a connecting flight.

While Frost was making his way home, his mom went with friends to the airport to greet

the Notre Dame football team with leis.

Frost watched the game from the front row of Aloha Stadium, directly behind the Notre Dame team.

"We couldn't see a whole lot, but that's fine because we were interacting with the whole football team," he said. "We tried to give them our aloha spirit, and they needed it, because they were in Hawaii territory."

Although most of the stadium sported Warriors gear, Notre Dame had plenty of fans at the game, which reported the largest attendance numbers in Hawaii Bowl history, with 45,718 tickets issued. Notre Dame Assistant Athletic Director Josh Berlo told The

Observer in a Dec. 20 e-mail that the University had sold about 2,000 tickets to the game.

"There were more people cheering for Notre Dame than I expected," Frost said. "And that just shows that no matter where Notre Dame goes, we have a large following."

Notre Dame sophomore McKenna Nakamura, a native of Hawaii, said he wasn't sure which team to cheer for before the game started.

"I was a [Hawaii] fan when we were 0 and 12, so rooting

against them was hard for me," Nakamura said.

Nakamura compromised his loyalties by wearing a Notre Dame T-shirt and a University of Hawaii hat to the game. But he held a sign that said "Even Santa picks Notre Dame" and after the game was ecstatic about the Irish win.

"I'm so pumped about this," he said. "I never thought I'd get to see Notre Dame in my hometown."

The only negative part about the game, Frost said, was that the Notre Dame Marching Band was not present. After the game, to fill the void left by the band, Notre Dame players Pat Kuntz and Brian Smith led the Notre Dame football team and fans in singing the Alma Mater.

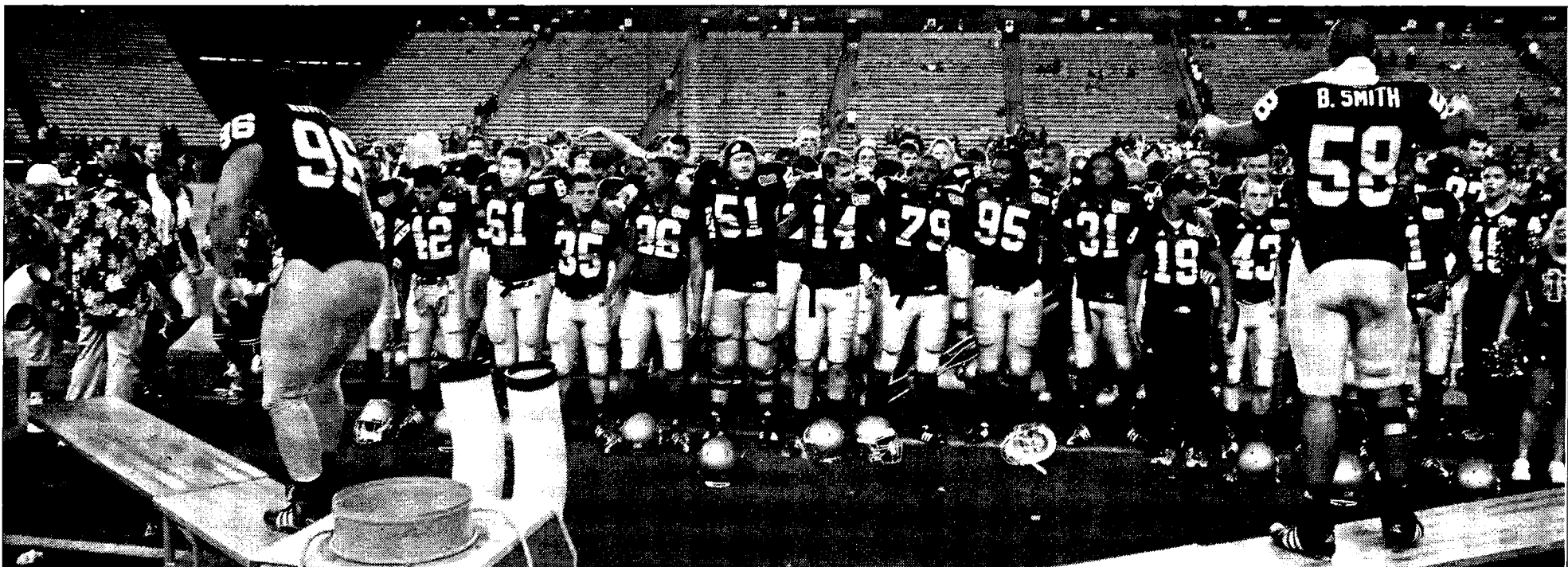
Frost was worried the Notre Dame players would have trouble acclimating to the weather, but said the team looked great and played much better than during the regular season. Frost said he was planning on celebrating the victory after the game and also attending Christmas Eve mass.

"I totally forgot tomorrow was Christmas," Frost said, "because I was just so focused on this game and our team."

But the victory was a great Christmas present, he said.

Notre Dame junior Jonah Bautista took some friends from Notre Dame surfing earlier in the week. He said his Christmas would almost be complete with a Notre Dame bowl victory.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu



JESS LEE/The Observer

Notre Dame football players Pat Kuntz and Brian Smith lead their teammates in singing the alma mater following their victory over the University of Hawaii Warriors.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Egypt pushes Hamas to accept truce

CAIRO — Egyptian mediators pushed the militant Palestinian group Hamas to accept a truce proposal for the embattled Gaza Strip in talks Tuesday, while the U.N. secretary-general headed to the region to join diplomatic efforts for a cease-fire.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon has backed the Egyptian truce proposal to halt the fighting, now in its third week. Before leaving New York for the Egyptian capital on Tuesday, he urged Israel and Hamas to accept a U.N. cease-fire resolution and allow humanitarian aid into Gaza.

"To both sides, I say: Just stop, now," Ban told a news conference Monday. "Too many people have died." He said Hamas militants who have been firing rockets into southern Israel "must stop, they must look to the future of the Palestinian people."

Latvian protesters clash with police

RIGA — A protest against economic reforms that drew thousands to Latvia's capital turned violent Tuesday as small pockets of rioters clashed with police and attacked government buildings.

Police responded by charging the crowd and shooting pepper spray as the rioters threw chunks of ice and rocks.

Three officers were seriously injured and 126 protesters were detained, Interior Ministry spokeswoman Sigita Pildava said. Emergency medical worker Vija Grigala told Leta news agency that 32 protesters were injured.

NATIONAL NEWS

Ariz. firefighters arrested for arson

PHOENIX — Four firefighters have been arrested on suspicion of igniting between 15 and 20 fires in western Arizona so they could get paid for fighting them, officials said Tuesday.

Authorities also charged two men suspected of setting fires to get money from the firefighters, and were seeking arrest warrants for two former firefighters who have moved out of state.

The firefighters worked at the fire district in Ehrenberg, a town of about 1,200 people and about 140 miles west of Phoenix on the Arizona-California line. They got \$10 an hour per fire.

Father sells daughter into marriage

SAN FRANCISCO — A California man has been arrested for arranging for his 14-year-old daughter to marry a neighbor in exchange for \$16,000, 100 cases of beer and several cases of meat, police said.

Authorities in Greenfield, a farming community on California's central coast, said they learned of the deal after Marcelino de Jesus Martinez, 36, asked them for help getting back his daughter after payment wasn't made.

Martinez was arrested Sunday. He's scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday in Monterey County Superior Court on felony charges of procuring a child under age 16 for lewd and lascivious acts, statutory rape and cruelty to a child by endangering health, according to the prosecutor.

The prosecutor's office said Martinez did not have an attorney of record yet.

LOCAL NEWS

Daniels warns lawmakers about budget

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mitch Daniels cautioned lawmakers about Indiana's fiscal challenges during his State of the State speech Tuesday night, saying that drafting a new two-year budget this session will be full of hard decisions.

But Daniels, sworn in to a second term on Monday, said spending restraints and other actions taken during his first term have left Indiana in better shape than many states and in a strong position not only to weather the economic hard times, but make progress.

"Thanks in large part to the people here assembled, we can speak tonight of challenge, but not crisis; issues but not emergencies," Daniels told a House chamber packed with legislators, judges and other dignitaries.

Gov. Blagojevich to preside over hearing

Illinois governor to swear in Senate that will decide if he will be dismissed from office

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The state Senate that will decide whether to throw impeached Gov. Rod Blagojevich out of office will be sworn in Wednesday by — who else? — impeached Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

In an ironic, surreal scene, the governor will preside briefly over the chamber that will hold his political life in its hands in less than two weeks. The opening of a new legislative session is normally an upbeat occasion, but how the senators and the governor will respond this time is anyone's guess.

"On one hand, it's a time of great celebration here in the Senate of a new beginning and new leadership," said Sen. Jeffrey Schoenberg, an Evanston Democrat. "On the other hand, there will be no denying the fact that the governor's participation in the proceedings will give it a character and flavor that many members would just as soon not experience."

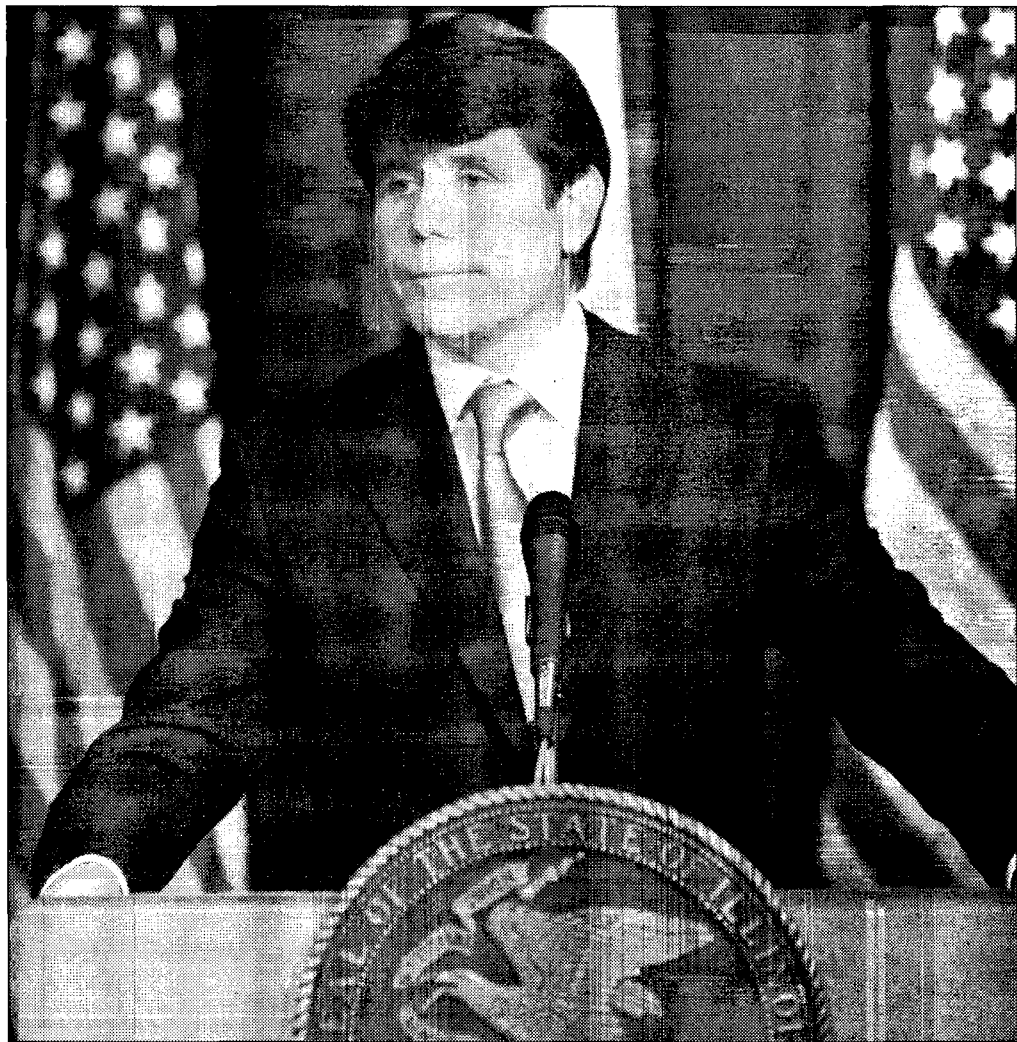
Blagojevich was impeached by the House on Friday, a month after his arrest on federal charges that he tried to sell official government action — including an appointment to President-elect Barack Obama's Senate seat — for campaign contributions or a plush job.

He's the state's first governor to face such censure and the first public official since a circuit judge in 1833 was impeached but acquitted. The Senate's trial is scheduled to start Jan. 26.

And nobody is certain how that will affect Wednesday's proceedings.

"The environment on Wednesday is going to be a tense one," said Sen. John Sullivan, D-Rushville. "The momentum builds up to that time. Hopefully we can get through that process without any incident."

The Constitution requires that the governor convene incoming Senates and preside until their members elect a leader. In this case,



Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich makes a statement at a news conference in Chicago on Friday after being impeached by the Illinois House.

president Emil Jones of Chicago is retiring and Democrats have chosen John Cullerton of Chicago to lead the chamber's majority.

The full membership must endorse Cullerton and Blagojevich will be invited into the chamber to preside until then. The process normally takes about 20 minutes.

"The applause, which is traditionally kind of thunderous, will be very subdued," said Sen. Christine Radogno of Lemont, who expects to become the Republican leader. "It will be out of respect for the office, certainly not out of respect for the individual."

Some in the capital speculated that Blagojevich could refuse to lower the gavel on

the new session — no Senate convened, no impeachment trial, the thinking went.

But as unpredictable as Blagojevich can be, with the Senate proceeding looming and federal prosecutors moving toward an indictment and possible criminal trial, he has also tried to show he's still in control as chief executive.

"The governor sees the swearing-in as his duty and obligation," spokesman Lucio Guerrero said. "It's part of his constitutional duties and he will carry them out."

Incoming president Cullerton says he hopes to move quickly with the trial and finish by Feb. 4.

"You don't want to have the cloud of an impeachment trial hanging over the normal, regular legislative ses-

sion," said Cullerton, a Chicago Democrat.

The House announced Tuesday that David Ellis, chief attorney to Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan, will prosecute the Blagojevich case before the Senate.

"We're not looking for a circus. We're not looking for surprises. I'm not hiding my evidence," Ellis said. "I think it's clear what we think."

Jones, leaving the Senate after 36 years in the General Assembly, has been Blagojevich's closest political ally, and has often sided with the governor over House Democrats, blocking progress on several issues. Jones called the allegations against Blagojevich "shocking."

GAZA

Israeli forces storm Gaza City neighborhood

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Terrified residents ran for cover Tuesday in a densely populated neighborhood of Gaza City as Israeli troops backed by tanks thrust deeper into the city and sought Hamas fighters in alleyways and cellars.

On the diplomatic front, Egyptian mediators pushed Hamas to accept a truce proposal and, in a hopeful sign, Israel sent its lead negotiator to Cairo for "decisive" talks on a cease-fire. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also headed for the region to join diplomatic efforts.

Israeli military officials say that depending on what happens with what

they described as "decisive" talks in Cairo, Israel will move closer to a cease-fire or widen its offensive. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were discussing sensitive policy matters.

Asked if Israel's war aims had been achieved, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak said: "Most of them, probably not all of them."

Israeli troops now have the coastal city of 400,000 virtually surrounded as part of an offensive launched Dec. 27 to end years of Palestinian rocket attacks on its southern towns.

Early Wednesday an Israeli warplane fired a missile at the former Gaza city hall, used as a court building in recent years, witnesses said. The 1910 structure was destroyed and many stores in

the market around it were badly damaged, they said.

Palestinian medical officials reported at least 42 deaths from the conflict on Tuesday throughout Gaza.

The Israeli military said three soldiers were wounded, including an officer who was searching a northern Gaza house when a bomb exploded.

Palestinian hospital officials say more than 940 Palestinians, half of them civilians, have been killed in the fighting. A total of 13 Israelis, 10 of them soldiers, have died.

Palestinian rocket fire has dropped significantly since the offensive was launched. Some 15 rockets and mortar shells were fired toward Israel Tuesday, causing no injuries, the army said.

Clinton plans fresh approach to diplomacy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday that she intends to revitalize the mission of diplomacy in American foreign policy, calling for a "smart power" strategy in the Middle East and implicitly criticizing the Bush administration for having downgraded the role of arms control.

At a daylong confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, President-elect Barack Obama's choice for secretary of state sailed smoothly through an array of non-contentious questions until two Republican committee members pressed her to take additional steps to ensure that former President Bill Clinton's global fundraising work does not pose even an appearance of conflict with her role as the chief U.S. diplomat. She balked, saying disclosure rules already in place were carefully crafted and adequate to avoid any conflict.

Clinton appeared headed for easy confirmation. She encountered no challenges to her basic vision for foreign policy.

Clinton, who will relinquish her seat in the Senate when confirmed, spoke confidently of Obama's intentions to renew American leadership in the world and to strengthen U.S. diplomacy.

America cannot solve the most pressing problems on our own, and the world cannot solve them without America," she said, her daughter Chelsea seated behind her in the audience. "The best way to advance America's interest in reducing global threats and seizing global opportunities is to design and implement global solutions. This isn't a philosophical point. This is our reality."

In laying out a general outlook for American foreign policy under Obama, Clinton spoke in a clear, unhurried voice and looked at ease. She made it plain, citing policy themes that were familiar from Obama's presidential campaign — and in many cases her own — that the incoming Democratic administration wants to elevate the role of diplomacy. She and Obama contend that the Bush administration relied too heavily on the military to carry out foreign policy and that it leaned too much on ideology and too little on pragmatism.

The Foreign Relations Committee planned to vote on Clinton's nomination on Thursday. If it approves her, she could gain full Senate confirmation as early as Inauguration Day.

The Senate also held confirmation hearings for other Obama choices for Cabinet and top White House positions. Appearing were Peter Orszag, to head the Office of Management and Budget, and Robert Nabors II, for deputy director of OMB; New York housing official Shaun Donovan, to be secretary of housing and urban development; Steven Chu, to head the Energy Department; and Arne Duncan, as education secretary.

Chu promised that if confirmed as energy secretary he

will aggressively pursue policies aimed at addressing climate change and achieving greater energy independence by developing clean energy sources. At his hearing, Duncan said that the No Child Left Behind law should stop punishing schools where only a handful of kids are struggling.

Obama's choice to run the Treasury Department and to lead the economic rescue effort disclosed to senators Tuesday that he failed to pay \$34,000 in taxes from 2001 to 2004, a last-minute complication in an otherwise smooth path to confirmation. Timothy Geithner paid most of the past-due taxes days before Obama announced his nomination in November, an Obama transition official said. The unpaid taxes were discovered by Obama's transition team while investigating Geithner's background, the official said.

Sign

continued from page 1

study abroad opportunities in Jamaica, Haiti and a program called "From Poland to Prague," which takes students to Warsaw, Czestochowa, Auschwitz, Krakow and Prague.

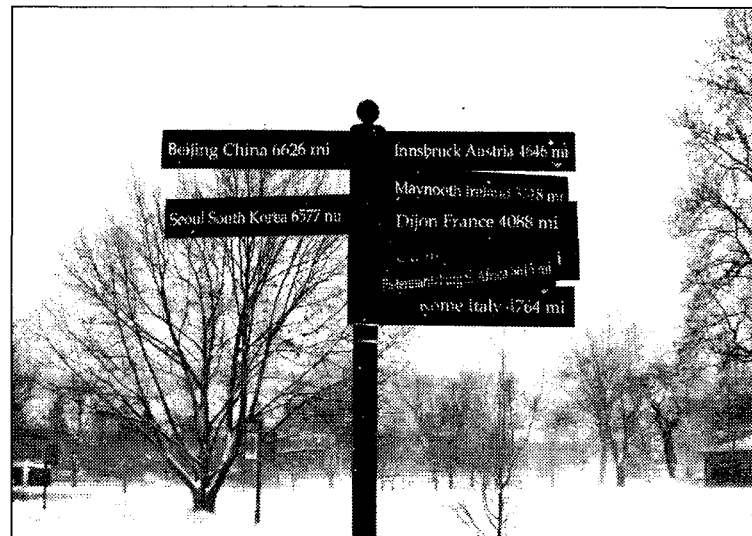
"We felt that they could be a useful symbol for the broader internationalization called for in [President Carol Ann Mooney's] Strategic Plan [for the College]," Meyer-Lee said.

The building and grounds crew installed the signposts shortly before Christmas break.

Senior Deanna Molosky said she was pleasantly surprised to see the signpost outside of the Student Center. She said it reminded her of the Peace Pole which the Sisters of the Holy Cross have in front of the Church of Loretto on campus.

Molosky spent her fall break in Monterrey, Mexico on a service project and said there was also a Peace Pole there.

"The Peace Pole is what immediately jumped into my mind when I saw it followed closely by my memories of my recent journey to Mexico," she said.



LIZ HARTER/The Observer

A sign pointing to Saint Mary's study abroad program locations is a new feature on the College's campus.

Molosky also said the sign is a great way to showcase and remind students of the international opportunities available to them.

"It also seems like it would be a great memory jogger for those who have been to those fabulous places," she said.

Senior Angela Siler agreed, saying she wasn't sure why the signposts were installed when she first saw them, but likes that she

has the visual reminder of Seville, Spain on campus since she studied abroad there in Fall 2007.

"Whenever I see the sign I think about my wonderful experience in Seville," Siler said. "And even though it says that Seville is 4,126 miles away, seeing the sign makes it seem like it's not that far."

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

In Honor of MLK Witness to a Movement:

The story
behind the
Smithsonian
photo of
MLK
and
Father Hesburgh



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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones	8,448.56	-25.41
Up: 1,947	Same: 99	Down: 1,829
Composite Volume: 1,393,616,052		
AMEX	1,405.00	-15.94
NASDAQ	1,546.46	+7.67
NYSE	5,538.84	-12.19
S&P 500	871.79	+1.53
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	8,413.91	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	4,399.15	-27.04

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+0.18	+0.16	87.11
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+5.36	+0.30	5.90
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	-6.82	-0.78	10.65
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+1.37	+0.15	11.10

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-0.52	-0.012	2.297
13-WEEK BILL	+61.54	+0.04	0.105
30-YEAR BOND	+0.90	+0.027	3.017
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.90	-0.013	1.428

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.19	37.78
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+0.04	820.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.45	85.00

Exchange Rates

YEN	89.3900
EURO	0.7581
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2232
BRITISH POUND	0.6892

IN BRIEF

Missing pilot tied to Delta bankruptcy

ATLANTA — Missing investment manager Marcus Schrenker's theft conviction, involvement in securities lawsuits filed against him by past clients and questions about whether he was reporting all of his income to the IRS started to unravel more than two years ago in an unlikely place for the aviation buff — Delta Air Lines' bankruptcy case.

Schrenker, whose small plane crashed Sunday night en route to Florida in what may have been an attempt to fake his own death, over the years convinced dozens of active and retired Delta pilots to allow him to manage their retirement accounts.

"He had a way about him — you trusted the guy," David M. Smith, one of the retired pilots, said Tuesday. "He was very credible. He talked a good story. So, we entrusted him with a task he never produced."

WellPoint barred from adding patients

INDIANAPOLIS — WellPoint Inc. said Monday the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services suspended the company from enrolling new patients in the health insurance Medicare Advantage plan and the prescription drug benefit, Medicare Part D.

WellPoint, the nation's largest managed-care company based on membership, said it has been working with the federal agency over the past six months to resolve issues identified as a result of both internal and government audits.

"Due to a sharp increase in the past twelve days in beneficiary complaints about WellPoint and WellPoint's self-disclosures regarding beneficiaries being denied prescription drugs, CMS is taking this immediate action to ensure that WellPoint focuses its efforts on correcting its significant compliance problems before further expanding the number of enrollees in its Medicare plans," the agency said in a notice to WellPoint.

The Indianapolis company in a statement said that its work included "detailed action plans" to the agency. The company also said it had "engaged an independent third party to provide CMS with ongoing assessments regarding our compliance, including verification of systems, processes and procedures."

Obama pushes for fund approval

President-elect pledges that billions of dollars will help those facing foreclosure

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tested before taking power, President-elect Barack Obama privately delivered a pre-inauguration veto threat to fellow Democrats on Tuesday, saying they would not deny him use of the remaining \$350 billion in federal bailout funds.

Obama coupled his threat with a promise to revise elements of the original bailout program that have drawn widespread criticism, pledging that billions will go toward helping homeowners facing foreclosure. Several Democrats said his commitments, to be made in writing, would be enough to prevent an embarrassing pre-inauguration drubbing for the president-elect when the Senate votes this week.

"This will be the first vote that President-elect Obama is asking us for. I'll be shocked and I'll be really disappointed if he doesn't get it," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, an independent Democrat from Connecticut.

"This is a new beginning."

Behind closed doors, Obama also urged lawmakers to act quickly on the massive economic stimulus measure that his aides have been negotiating with congressional officials. The legislation will blend federal spending with tax cuts, and could reach \$1 trillion in size, a measure of the nation's economic woes.

Several Democratic officials described a bill very much in flux. They said lawmakers were discussing allocating as much as \$80 billion over two years to help shield schools from the impact of state



President-elect Barack Obama and others leave a Democratic policy luncheon on Capitol Hill in Washington yesterday.

budget cuts and roughly \$40 billion for traditional anti-recession transportation programs such as highway and bridge construction.

Additionally, they added that there was money tentatively set aside to fund a \$25-a-week increase in unemployment benefits as well as a 15 percent boost in food stamp benefits. There was support in the Senate for funds to upgrade military barracks, as well. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to disclose

details.

Democratic leaders in the House and Senate hope to have the legislation ready for Obama's signature by mid-February, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., held a late-afternoon meeting on it.

"We've made great progress, and we fully intend to meet our deadline," Pelosi, D-Calif., told reporters. She disclosed no details.

For Obama, attendance at the Democrats' weekly closed-door lunch was a

homecoming of sorts, a return to the Capitol where he arrived as a newly elected senator only four years ago.

Reid called it a "love-fest," and said the president-elect was greeted with a five-minute ovation by Democrats happy to have the White House back after eight years of Republican rule.

Sen. Carl Levin said the session had a sentimental tone at times, despite the magnitude of the nation's economic woes and the challenge Obama and fellow Democrats confront.

Clinton's donors under investigation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton, President-elect Barack Obama's choice for secretary of state, rejected calls Tuesday for more details about donors to her husband's foundation, saying she has revealed enough to avoid even the hint of conflicts. An Associated Press review found that Clinton stepped in at least a half-dozen times on issues involving businesses and others who later gave to the charity.

Clinton said as secretary of state she will not be influenced to act on behalf of her husband's contributors, which include foreign governments. "It will not be in the atmosphere," Clinton said.

Richard Lugar of Indiana was among GOP senators on the Foreign Relations Committee pressing for full transparency about contributors to the William J. Clinton Foundation and one of its main projects, the

Clinton Global Initiative.

Under an agreement with Obama, Bill Clinton recently released the names of donors to his foundation, a nonprofit that has raised at least \$492 million — including millions from Saudi Arabia and other foreign governments — to fund his library in Arkansas and charitable efforts worldwide on such issues as AIDS, poverty and climate change. He pledged to release similar information annually. The donor list doesn't provide exact amounts, background on donors such as their employers, or the dates of donations.

Lugar, the committee's top Republican, urged Hillary Clinton to immediately disclose donations of \$50,000 or more; alert ethics officials when any gift of that size is pledged or given by a foreign entity, whether an overseas government, individual or business; and reveal the year a donation was made and the amount, or at least the range, of a donor's giving in that year.

Revealing pledges is particularly important, Lugar said: "So if we're going to have an argument it happens right then, and therefore if it's not a good idea, that it's stopped and the compromise for the State Department, for foreign policy, for you is prevented as rapidly as possible, within days rather than in months or in years."

Clinton noted that under the agreement, foreign government pledges will be submitted to the State Department for review. She said it was unprecedented for a former president to agree to the disclosure her husband has, and that she was confident the current arrangement would avoid even the appearance of conflicts of interest.

"I don't know who will be giving money. That will not influence," Clinton said. "When the disclosure occurs, obviously it will be after the fact, so it would be hard to make an argument that it influenced anybody because we didn't know about it."

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 8

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic year; \$55 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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A simple plea

Goatwhore.
What comes to mind when you read that word? I think the only legitimate answer to that is the amazingly talented blackened death metal band formed in New Orleans in 1997.

That's right.
Goatwhore.
And don't you ever call them a metal band. They're blackened death metal. What is blackened death metal you might ask?

Well, as Wikipedia tells me, blackened death metal (also called "death/black metal" or "black/death metal") is a fusion genre of extreme metal utilizing elements of death metal and black metal.

"But surely there cannot be this many genres of metal?"

Oh, I was once as innocent and naïve as you. But as it turns out, after listening to countless lectures on metal music from my good friend Paul, metal is as diverse a species as homo sapiens. There's heavy metal, death metal, black metal, grindcore, rapcore, nu metal, the ever popular groove metal, folk metal and my personal favorite — Viking metal, a veritable Wonka factory of metal.

Now of course you raise the very important question, "Am I supposed to care about all of this garbage?" Yes, actually, you are — and here's my first point: there are so many genres of metal that a new metal band can potentially come into existence and claim it is its own genre simply by saying it has fused the styles of two different bands who have done the same thing before them. There aren't this many genres of metal because the music is different enough for such variations to exist; this "genre"-fication exists because otherwise new metal bands get pegged as being followers. And we all know you cannot be a fol-

lower and still be metal (exclamation point).

But then what does this discussion of metal say about music as a whole? Surely such an underground style as metal can't represent the entirety of the music industry. Well, I tend to think that it can, especially when it's one of the best-selling genres in the business. It may pain me to realize that, but as Paul tells me — metal fans are billions strong.

So now the problem isn't metal, the problem is music. What kind of an industry could let itself get so out of hand? A world completely controlled by the economic interests of record executives and production teams. Yet that's what the industry has always been. For instance, rock bands in Britain weren't getting enough publicity because of the Beatles, so along came the concept of the "British Invasion" and every Herman's Hermits or Dave Clark Five cashed in. But the demands of an industry didn't cripple music as much as they do now.

Today we see people inventing genres that don't logically make sense as a cheap tactic to sell more records. Executives have found a perfect way to convince avid music fans that what they're producing is new and different, and therefore really, really awesome. Musicians, influenced by such action, have followed suit: we've seen how Eric Cartman learned that in order to sell a million records, all he had to do was form a Christian rock group. Yes, even religion has been exploited so more money can be made.

And it's not just music. Look at higher education. Young academics seeking advancement opportunity have to find niche markets. An appreciation of a holistic and comprehensive understanding falls by the wayside as more profit can be culled from ever-increased specificity.

So what can we do? Will "genre"-fication last forever? If it does it could have lasting ramifications and repercussions. Once enough of a precedent has been set wealthy and powerful individuals will start to believe that the

model will work everywhere. The government will decide to stop legislating on behalf of the country and only legislate in favor of the personal desires of the Congress. Doctors will only work on projects that profit them personally — there go our hopes of curing diseases like Cancer and Alzheimers.

Personally, I don't think music "genre"-fication will continue forever, but we have to be careful in how we handle the problem. Here's my plan. First step: stop the problem at its source, which as I pointed out is metal. We need to condense all different forms of this branch of rock into one category, one place where Cannibal Corpse and Metallica will be forced to compete against each other in the market. The heightened economic competition will lead to a natural survival of the fittest; metal fans will be forced to choose to listen to only the best the unified genre has to offer. From here, the number of metal bands will dwindle until the population becomes sizable enough to be ignored by the main-stream media. Once these groups are denied attention, people will stop listening. And then, after people stop listening, the music industry will get the memo.

I started with metal and I ended with metal; the chiasmus of my column shocks even me as I review it. But it ultimately became necessary to promote a change that will aid our culture. Eliminating metal will bring us to a new place, a better place, a safer place. My friend Paul isn't going to like this news, but I think he'll realize that it's for the greater good.

Stop listening to metal and you'll save the world ... or at least you'll stop promoting what I consider to be the most annoying form of music out there. Maybe that's why I wrote this column. A-thank you.

Andrew Miller is a senior English major. He can be contacted at amille15@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading."

Henry Youngman
U.S. comedian

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The art of progress is to preserve order amid change."

Alfred Whitehead
English mathematician

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Union sentiments misplaced

A group of us Food Service employees have to wonder just who the people are that CLAP represents. Ranging in service for this fine University from five to 19 years, we would like to thank the University for all it has done for us and the community, from the wonderful support to paid vacations and sick time.

Unfortunately, there are some that either haven't worked at a diner or other food establishment or it's been so long they have forgotten what that used to be like. I value the thought of the University to pay for our children's secondary education. We hope this is just a few disgruntled people who are just getting the attention of some well-meaning students that are trying to do the right thing. We hope these fine students can find more positive places for their energy to go. We hope we speak for the vast majority of staff and faculty in saying NO to any talk of a Union.

Glad to be at ND,

Colin Layman
cook
South Dining Hall
Dave Shidler
maintenance technician
North Dining Hall
Dec. 9

My future career plans

As a senior, my friends have been constantly asking me what my plans are for next year. Being a History major that has no intention of going to Law School, my answers have been varied and usually sarcastic. However, thanks to The Observer, I know what I want to do.

I will spend all my time reading The Observer, finding something that bothers me. Then I will write a scathing Letter to the Editor about how things have changed from "the good ole days" when I was a student. Judging by how many alums have been doing it recently, it must pay pretty well.

Paul Macias
senior
St. Edward's Hall
Dec. 9

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U-WIRE

Product downsizing cheats consumers

You wouldn't pay the same amount for half a sandwich as you would for a full one. You wouldn't pay for a "supersized" meal and be content with the regular size. So why are you paying for full-sized groceries and receiving minis?

Natalie Hein

UCLA Daily Bruin

Perhaps you've heard of downsizing in reference to layoffs – a practice that, as students, does not necessarily affect us. But our sinking economy is causing downsizing in areas beyond the job market. Downsizing, in terms of selling less product in a standard package for the same or higher price, is becoming more popular. This means fewer potatoes to chips in a bag, less cereal in a box while you're still paying as high a price as ever. And you thought the recession wasn't affecting you.

As our country's economic activity continues to diminish, the cost of raw materials continues to climb. Over the past few years, manufacturers have made budget cuts everywhere they could, due to the rise in cost of raw materials.

Yet manufacturers have reached the point where there's not much fat left to trim, and so their financial burden has been passed down to us, the consumers. But because of our competitive market, manufacturers and retailers are reluctant to raise the price of their product outright. They fear breaking a popularly accepted price point because doing so would give their competition the upper hand. Surely, the last time you bought paper towels, you scanned the aisle for the lowest price for the most rolls. Knowing this consumer trend, manufacturers and retailers often opt for a sneakier price-increase tactic: downsizing their product.

Changes in product sizes are virtually unnoticeable to the undiscerning eye. A box of Apple Jacks now holds 15 ounces where it once held 17. Fruit Loops now hold 17 ounces where they once held 19.7. A Hershey's bar that was previously eight ounces is now 6.8 ounces and

parades around as a "Giant bar." Frankly, with so many weight-loss-centered New Year's resolutions, a cut in portion sizes isn't really the worst thing for the American consumer. It is the deceptive nature of these downsized sizes that is really the key issue.

A sneaky case of Cottonelle bath tissue downsizing was recently unrolled by an online source, mouseprint.org, that works to expose fine print in advertising. They visually compared two packages that both claimed to hold 304 sheet rolls with each sheet measuring 4.2 by 4.0 inches. Yet, one package was noticeably taller than the other. After contacting the company and learning of the company's downsizing from 4.5 inch sheets of bath tissue to 4.2, the site deduced that some of the older 4.5 width rolls were put into a newer wrapper that had the new lowered sheet count and narrower width on the label. They speculated that the packaging mistake was perhaps "an interim step in the downsizing process to hide the change for anyone comparing the older label to the newer one."

Such hurdles to fair-price-comparisons should not be placed in our market. What's more is that in many cases, a downsize cannot even be detected through side-by-side comparison.

I didn't notice downsizing until I was helping my mom cook dinner over break. A box of Dreamfields pasta, weighing one pound, used to fit perfectly into a canister in our kitchen. I watched my mom empty the contents of the box into the canister, and to my surprise the pasta did not reach the top. Something was wrong. I checked the box. The box that used to read 16 ounces now read 13. There was no discount for the missing three ounces, but rather a price increase. What's more troubling is that according to a Nielsen report from this past summer, products like dried pasta are supposed to be unscathed by our economic downturn. The inaccuracy of this assertion supports a different claim that 2009 will hold a commodity cost increase double that of 2008, leaving no product immune to downsizing.

This supermarket shrinkdown is surely shielding us from the reality of our economic situation. We are witnessing few price increases at the grocery store, yet prices have skyrocketed. The American consumer did not consent to having the wool pulled over her eyes. According to Nielsen, 47 percent of American consumers would prefer to buy larger products for more money than having their normal portions downsized, while only 9 percent of surveyed Americans showed support for downsizing.

Manufacturers are thus not only miniaturizing their products, but also minimizing the consumer's influence in the marketplace by forcing us to comply with a price-increase strategy that we would otherwise oppose.

Downsizing has more of a downside than just being deceptive. It produces "upsized" waste. With fewer plastic baggies in a box, there is more waste per baggie as the box is more quickly emptied and discarded, and a new box is purchased just to reach the same fate. Downsizing also leads to bungled recipes. A recipe that calls for a can of Starkist tuna will now come out less fishy due to the shrunken content in the cans.

The unknowing consumers don't know to adjust their recipe to the new smaller portions until it's too late, and who has time to calculate conversions for the missing ounce or two here and there?

As college students, our purse strings are already tighter than most, and we tend to rely on price-comparison shopping to help us budget. Yet fair comparisons are far more difficult to make, now that downsizing has confused the market against our will. Manufacturers and retailers should be increasing prices outright instead of trying to sneak them under our noses. They've downsized their product, not my intelligence, and I'm not fooled.

This column first appeared in the Jan. 13 edition of The Daily Bruin, the daily paper of the UCLA.

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

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'SLUMDOG' IS TOP DOG AT THE GLOBES

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

The big winner at the 66th Annual Golden Globe ceremony on Sunday night was "Slumdog Millionaire," the film about an impoverished teenager, Jamal Malik, from the streets of Mumbai who is accused of cheating on India's version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" After the votes were tabulated, the Hollywood Foreign Press honored the film with four awards including Best Motion Picture — Drama, Best Director, Best Screenplay and Best Original Score. This was a surprising sweep for a semi-Indie film originally playing in only select cities, but a well-deserved one. The film is an innovative story of Jamal looking back on how he discovered each of the answers to the game show throughout his difficult life.

Another big winner of the evening was Kate Winslet who was honored with Best Actress — Drama for "Revolutionary Road"

and Best Supporting Actress for "The Reader." Winslet was absolutely giddy during her acceptance speeches, and seemed genuinely surprised and grateful at both her wins. Overall it seemed like a good night to be from the United Kingdom as Sally Hawkins, Simon Beaufoy, Danny Boyle and Colin Farrell joined Winslet in winning.

Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Drama was handed out to Mickey Rourke for "The Wrestler" who seems to be this year's comeback kid. He joked that Robert Downey Jr. should give the speech for him, but he did a good job himself with a heartfelt speech thanking those who took a chance by casting him. Intriguingly, Darren Aronofsky, the film's director, gave him the finger (although the West Coast missed it due to the 7-second delay). "The Wrestler" was also praised for Best Original Song, which was written and performed by Bruce Springsteen. Springsteen thanked Rourke for inspiring him to write the song, as the two have been

longtime friends. Springsteen also joked that this was the only time he would ever be in competition with Clint Eastwood and it felt pretty good.

On the television side of the things the HBO mini-series "John Adams" dominated with four awards, as did NBC's "30 Rock" which went home with three. Two actors from "30 Rock" also stole the show with hilarious acceptance speeches. Tracy Morgan garnered laughs when he accepted the Globe for Best Series Musical or Comedy instead of Tina Fey, the show's producer, writer, creator and co-star. He explained that he made a deal with Fey that if Barack Obama won he would speak for the show from now on. Then he exclaimed, "I am the face of post-racial America. Deal with it, Cate Blanchett!" Later on in the evening when Tina Fey won herself for Best Actress Musical or Comedy she rocked the house by berating online users that hate on her and instead told them to, "...suck it."

In a touching moment, Christopher Nolan, director of "The

Dark Knight," accepted the Best Supporting Actor award on behalf of the late Heath Ledger. Ledger received a standing ovation from the crowd for his wicked turn as the Joker. Nolan said it best, that, "He will be eternally missed, but he won't be forgotten."

A surprising win went to Anna Paquin for her starring role in the new HBO vampire show "True Blood." Paquin is excellent as Sookie Stackhouse, the southern gal in love with a vampire, but she was up against some stiff competition. On the other hand, it was not surprising at all that Pixar's "Wall-E" won for Best Animated Film.

In the end, the evening was a star-studded affair complete with Stephen Spielberg being honored with the Cecil B. DeMille/Lifetime Achievement award. Even those who didn't win anything, like the fan favorites Brad Pitt and Angeline Jolie, still added to the glamour by looking beautiful while doing it.

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Recapping fashion at the Golden Globes

By ADRIANA PRATT
Scene Writer

Cleavage was the name of the game at this year's Golden Globes. Almost every dress highlighted the actress' busts by tightening the material around her mid-section and avoiding the usually present necklaces, drawing further attention to the lady's upper-half, where one would naturally expect to find jewels dangling around the collarbone. Hayden Panettiere, in a deep purple sequined design from Gianfranco Ferre, exhibited this look well. Many others also captured the same feel including Eva Longoria Parker, Anna Paquin, Rumer Willis (who stunned viewers in a beautiful purple Reem Acra gown and eclipsing her status of being just Bruce Willis and Demi Moore's daughter), Tina Fey and Drew Barrymore (who unfortunately looked like an 80's prom nightmare with her over-teased hair and far too-pale blue mermaid gown). It almost felt like in the hopes of being anti-Hollywood with their

lack of over-powering jeweled necklaces, they all cemented the look as the ultimate Hollywood trend.

Blake Lively did not hit it off with her gown on the red carpet. Was the color fabulous? Yes. Was the sequined beading fabulous? Yes. Were her hair and makeup fabulous? Yes. Then what could possibly be the problem for this fashion icon? Well, it was very difficult to focus on all of those wonderful attributes when Blake Lively's periwinkle Nina Ricci gown was just a little too tight. Though Blake Lively has a wonderful figure and is a gorgeous girl, all eyes were drawn to her mid-section, which wasn't flatteringly displayed by the dress she chose. Stars need to take into account the highlights and shadows that will be created when they walk; the red carpet and Lively's gown turned features that weren't bad into major faults because of the ill fit of the otherwise beautiful dress. Tips on the proper fit of a gown could have been taken from the beautiful Megan Fox who alluringly shimmered in a Ralph Lauren confection of gold and glitter or Beyonce who always looks fabulous

because she chooses gowns that flatter her shape, skin tone, and personality.

Anne Hathaway looked sophisticated and elegant in her navy blue and black hand-pleated bustier gown from Armani Prive, which was accented with cool blue highlights. Though the shape wasn't the best seen, the gown was definitely a winner because of the color choice and the daring and eye-catching material used. January Jones also picked an extremely beautiful color to compliment her light blonde hair and pale complexion and her icy blue Versace gown did just the trick. The classiest act of all Sunday night was Kate Winslet in her black belted Yves Saint Laurent gown, and not just because she has a British accent. Her hair, makeup and dress looked every bit the part of a Golden Globe winner, and that she was, scooping up two Golden Globes in the Best Actress category for "Revolutionary Road" and Best Supporting Actress category for "The Reader."

Cameron Diaz looked better than usual in a creamy rose colored Chanel gown, though her fashion

sense is still a little off when it comes to awards shows. She seems to want to stand out for her choices, and that she does, though not always for the right reasons. Another actress who really nailed it with her gown choice though was Isla Fisher, the star of "Confessions of a Shopaholic" who looked fantastic in her form-fitting pleated peach-toned Carlos Miele gown. The wrapping of the pleats in a diagonal zigzag across her front created a wonderful accent and gave her a look of fluidity that exuded maturity and grace. The Golden Globes' fashion choices this year were definitely an improvement from the last (which was cancelled because of the Writer's Strike) and the reappearance of exciting colors and shapes righteously adorned Hollywood's finest on Sunday evening. With such a great show of designer gowns this January, one can only imagine what will be in store for the upcoming and most exciting awards show of the year: the Academy Awards.

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IRISH INSIDER

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

THE
OBSERVER

Notre Dame 49, Hawai'i 21

Mele Kalikimaka

It was a Merry Hawaiian Christmas for the Irish as they rolled to a 49-21 blowout in the Hawai'i Bowl



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Senior captains David Bruton, left, David Grimes, center, and Maurice Crum hoist the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl Trophy on Christmas Eve following their final collegiate game. The captains finished their career full of ups and downs on a high note with a 49-21 win over Hawai'i in Honolulu.

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

HONOLULU, HI – Christmas came a day early for the Irish this year, and their stockings were stuffed to the gills with points and records.

Notre Dame ended its 15-year, nine-game bowl win drought with a 49-14 rout over the Rainbow Warriors in the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl.

"I think it will be a happy time for our players," Weis said. "It's been a long time since we've won a bowl game."

Leading the way for the Irish offensive attack was sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen. Clausen threw for 401 yards and five touchdowns in only two and a half quarters of work.

"It felt great," Clausen said. "The coaches had us very prepared, but I have to give a lot of credit to the offensive line, I think I got hit maybe one time tonight."

Clausen completed 22 of his 26 pass attempts and the four

that hit the turf were all catchable passes. Clausen set Notre Dame records in the game for yards per pass attempt (15.42), passer rating in a bowl game (277.63) and passing yards in a bowl game (401). His 84.62 completion percentage was the second highest in NCAA bowl history. Only Georgia's Mike Bobo topped him when he went 26-for-28 in 1998.

"[Clausen] was as accurate as I've ever seen him. He was outstanding," Hawaii coach Greg McMackin said.

The sophomore Southern California native said that a few days relaxing on the beach may have been just what he needed to get back on track.

He threw his first touchdown pass with 10:25 left in the first half. After stiff-arming defensive lineman David Veikune, he hit senior wide receiver David Grimes on the run in the back of the endzone.

After that it became the Golden Tate show.

On the third play of Notre Dame's next drive Clausen and

his sophomore receiver connected for a 69-yard bomb on a play action pass to put the Irish up 21-7.

"I honestly didn't think I was going to get very many go routes," Tate said. "But Jimmy gave me the signal and I just stuck them inside and he threw it up and made some perfect passes."

With one second remaining in the half Clausen found Tate again for a touchdown from 18 yards out. The play was challenged but upheld by the officials.

The duo completed their hat trick midway through the third quarter with another long pass on a 3rd and 20 from the Hawaii 40-yard line. Tate set Irish records for most receiving touchdowns and yards in a bowl game.

Tate also returned a punt for a touchdown in the third quarter that was called back because of a roughing the punter penalty. He and Clausen shared the MVP honors for their work in the game.

Both players benefited from

Weis calling plays from the press box throughout the game. "It was ten times easier, it was like night and day," Weis said.

It was the first time Weis had not been on the sidelines since 2001 when he was an offensive coordinator with the New England Patriots. He decided to coach from the booth because of the pain he was in from his bad knees. Weis said that the view helped him but he couldn't imagine making a regular habit of not being on the sidelines — despite the fact that it led to five touchdown passes.

Clausen's fifth came on the opening drive of the second half when he marched the Irish 88 yards down the field on six plays.

Freshman running back Robert Hughes started the drive with back-to-back 14 yard runs. Then sophomore running back Armando Allen scampered 41 yards down the sideline on a screen pass. Two plays later, Weis called almost the exact same play and Allen

took it 18 yards for a touchdown.

"Armando has always been a playmaker for us," Weis said. "He got it done in all three facets tonight."

Allen also returned a kickoff for a touchdown late in the third quarter to put Notre Dame up 49-14. The 96-yard return was the first by a Notre Dame player since Vontez Duff ran one back against Navy in 2002.

"We talk about it all the time in meetings, it was one thing we really wanted to accomplish this year. Unfortunately, we had to come to Hawai'i before we got it done but, hey, I can't complain," Allen said.

The return came seconds after Hawai'i quarterback Greg Alexander threw his second touchdown pass of the game to senior wide receiver Aaron Bain. Bain had 109 yards receiving in the game and was named the Warriors' MVP.

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player of the game

Jimmy Clausen
Irish quarterback

Clausen set Notre Dame bowl records for just about every quarterback category in the book en route to a big win.

stat of the game

277.63

Jimmy Clausen's passer rating, which was one of his many Notre Dame records.

play of the game

Golden Tate's 18-yard TD catch

With one second remaining in the first half, Tate tip-toed the corner of the endzone for his second touchdown of the game.

quote of the game

"I told the team the only thing I wanted for Christmas was a bowl win. It wasn't too much to ask."

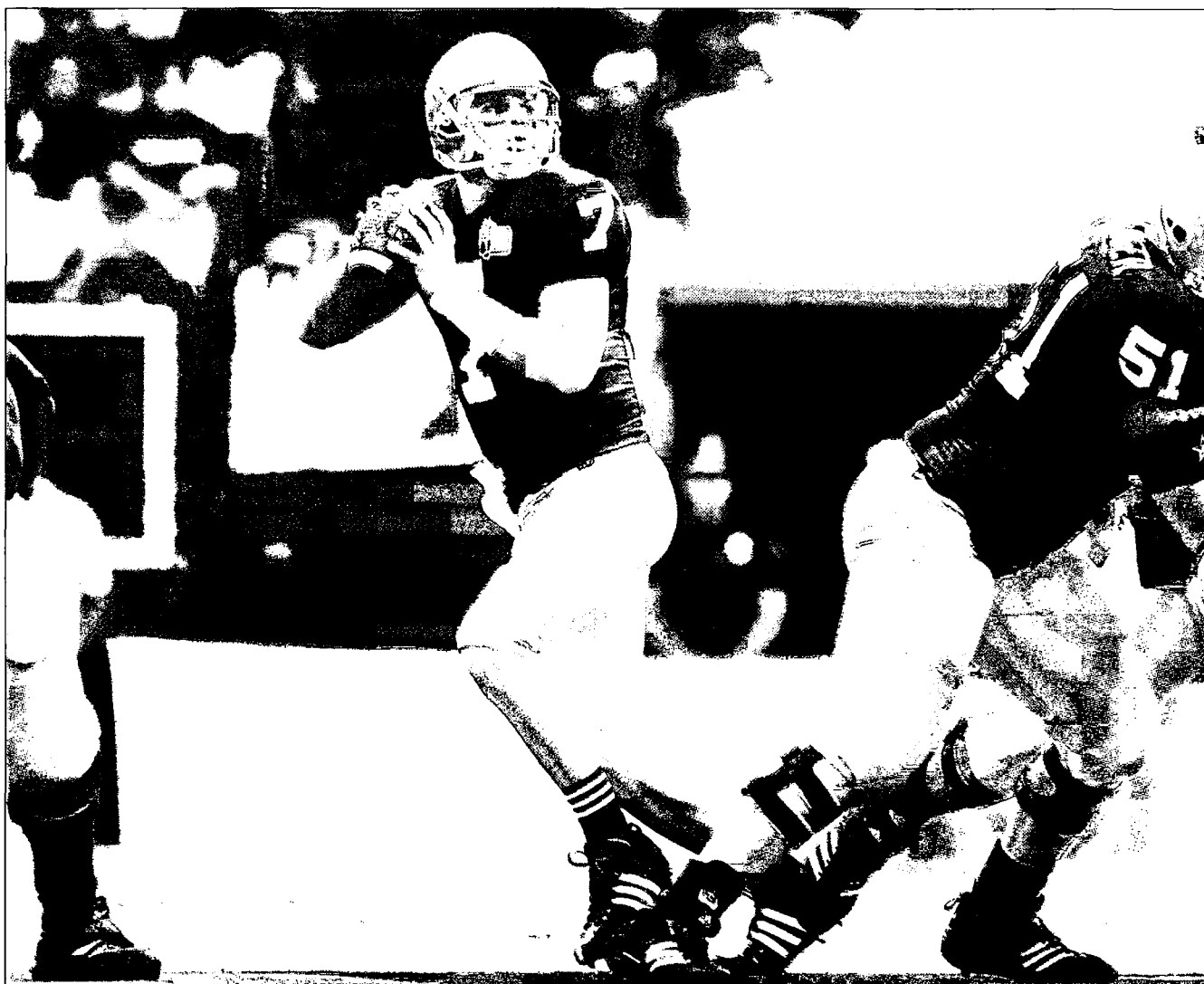
Charlie Weis
Irish coach

report card

- A** **quarterbacks:** Clausen's numbers do all the talking. The sophomore was as accurate and efficient as any quarterback in the country this postseason.
- B** **running backs:** The Irish only picked up 76 yards on the ground, but they weren't asked to do much more. Allen also had a few big catches on screen plays.
- A** **receivers:** Golden Tate was untouchable against a clearly overmatched Hawaii secondary. Grimes ended his career on a high note and Rudolph and Grimes both played well.
- B+** **offensive line:** The big guys up front weren't perfect, but they were pretty close. Clausen was sacked only once in the game and the run game was sufficient.
- B+** **defensive line:** Eight sacks for a loss of 55 yards is a great night. Hawai'i did lead the nation in sacks allowed, but the Irish line deserves credit for reaking havoc in the backfield all night.
- B** **linebackers:** Harrison Smith and Steve Quinn both added to the sack total. The linebacking corps did everything they needed to do.
- B+** **defensive backs:** Senior safety David Bruton ended his career with an interception and a fumble recovery. Alexander did pass for over 300 yards, but he needed 44 attempts to do it.
- A** **special teams:** Armando Allen returned Notre Dame's first kickoff in five years and Tate almost added a punt return. The kickoff team had plenty of work and looked solid.
- A** **coaching:** Despite a week full of distractions and a month of criticism, Weis and his staff had their boys ready to play. They were clearly the better prepared team.
- 3.55** **overall:** Notre Dame made it back on the Dean's List to start the second semester. There wasn't too much to complain about in this performance.

adding up the numbers

- Teams that won bowl games during the 14-years Notre Dame went between bowl wins. **89**
- 6 The number of players who have over 1,000 yards receiving in a single season at Notre Dame. Golden Tate became this sixth against Hawai'i.
- Irish kick returns between Armando Allen's touchdown and the last kick run back for a touchdown in 2003. **262**
- 41 Games since Notre Dame has scored 49 points in a game. The last time was a 49-21 win over Purdue in 2005.
- Consecutive Irish drives that ended in the endzone. The stretch lasted over two quarters. **6**
- 46 Notre Dame's average starting field position in the third quarter was the Hawai'i 46-yard line.
- The combine completion percentage for backup quarterbacks Evan Sharpley and Inoke Funaki who went 7-for-7. **100**
- 477 Kickoff yards for Irish kicker Ryan Burkhart who kicked off eight times in the game.



Irish quarterback Jimmy Clausen drops back for one of his 26 pass attempts. Clausen had clear throwing lanes and open receivers throughout the game and finished with 401 yards passing and five touchdowns.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish headed in right direction

Things could not have gone much better for the Irish in paradise.

After a week spent sunbathing, surfing, shutting down water parks and apparently a few very productive practices, Notre Dame took the field.

The 70 degree temperature and soft Pacific breeze made for pretty nice game conditions. There was even a rainbow on the horizon.

The Irish took advantage by racking up enough records and gaudy stats to make a freezing, bitter loss to Syracuse a month earlier almost seem like a bad dream.

Almost.

As nice as the blowout victory was, the real story of the Irish football season was the struggles in the second half of the year or more importantly how to fix them. The offense certainly looked fixed against Hawai'i. It looked good enough to give most of the Irish nation ridiculous expectations for next season. But don't confuse one very good performance against a shaky defense with the kind of offense that wins championships. There is still plenty of work to be done.

If the Hawai'i Bowl proved anything, it was that the program as a whole is headed in the right direction.

That progress starts at the very top. If there is any honeymoon period for an athletic director, Notre Dame's Jack Swarbrick didn't have very long to enjoy his. Before the end of his first semester at the reins he had a very difficult decision to make with what must have seemed like the entire world looking over his shoulder.

The athletic department made a poor decision four years ago when they signed Weis to a contract that would make Scott Boras blush. Luckily, this time around the pow-

ers that he took a second to stop and think about what they were doing.

Colleges all over the country have been embarrassing themselves for the past few months with coaching changes — Auburn and Boston College we're looking your way — but Notre Dame managed to avoid that group.

Does the rout in Honolulu erase a 9-15 record over the past two years? Absolutely not, but it's a step in the right direction.

Weis called the shots from his perch in the press box and the team looked fired up throughout the entire game on the sidelines. Both were a very stark contrast to embarrassing losses against Boston College and the Orange during the regular season.

Weis said that he couldn't picture himself staying in the booth in the future, but it could be a winning recipe. Crutches and all, Weis still managed to make it to the field to celebrate with his boys during the fourth quarter. He didn't say specifically, but Weis made it seem like when the knees heal up he will be returning to the sidelines. Does anyone have Tonya Harding's number?

The success continued to trickle down to the field and nowhere was it more apparent than with embattled sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen. His stats (22-of-26, 401 yards passing, and five passing touchdowns) are a little bit misleading — they could have been much better.

The four passes that fell incomplete were all well thrown balls, two should have been catches and the other two could have been. The 400 yards passing and five touchdowns were jammed into less than two-thirds of the game. Clausen's day was over with 7:22 left in the third quarter.

Weis attributed Jimmy's big day to a month of slowing down and working on basic fundamentals. Maybe it was the extra practice. Maybe the So. Cal. native just needed a little sun and sand to get comfortable. Maybe it was a non-existent Hawai'i pass defense. Whatever the cause, the effect was fun to watch and showed that the young gunslinger was moving in the right direction.

The rest of Clausen's teammates followed suit. Hawai'i head coach Greg McMackin said that having freshman wide out Michael Floyd back from injury helped his other receivers, especially Golden Tate.

Floyd is obviously a huge asset for the Irish, but Tate didn't need anyone's help on Christmas Eve.

He was unstoppable. He proved that on his punt return for atouchdown where he single-handedly beat all 11 Rainbow Warriors down the field only to have it called back on a roughing the punter penalty.

Tate and Clausen definitely stood out, but the team also played as a unit with several guys stepping up as role players. Armando Allen and Robert Hughes were both big assets to the offense out of the backfield. On the other side of the ball, Ethan Johnson had a huge game with two sacks, almost matching his total for the regular season. Senior linebacker Steve Quinn also had a career day with a sack and five tackles.

From top to bottom Notre Dame was the better team in a postseason matchup for the first time in over a decade, which is clearly moving in the right direction.

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

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Dan Murphy

Sports Editor

He didn't say specifically, but Weis made it seem like when the knees heal up he will be returning to the sidelines. Does anyone have Tonya Harding's number?

Celebrating the end of a drought

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

The mix of emotions on the field after Notre Dame's 49-21 win over Hawai'i in the Hawai'i Bowl on Dec. 24 stretched from bewildered to jubilant to comic.

And who can blame them? The players had just ended a nine-bowl game losing streak in a convincing fashion.

The bewildered: quarterback Jimmy Clausen, whose 401 yards passing and five touchdowns in about three quarters of play electrified Notre Dame's offense. He walked around with the giant Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl trophy with a confused look on his face, shouting, "Where do you want me to put this?" to no one in particular. Whether he was bewildered by his strong performance or the fact that he got stuck with the heavy trophy was anyone's guess.

The jubilant: pretty much everybody else. As soon as the final whistle sounded, senior safety David Bruton screamed, "I'm free! I'm no longer Irish." Running back Armando Allen donned the leprechaun's hat, and Bruton waved the Irish flag.

Defensive back Sergio Brown, disappointed with his view of the celebration, hopped on freshman Mike Golic Jr.'s shoulders. "I come to Hawai'i to do two things," he says, channeling his inner Duke Nukem: "Kick some a** and chew bubble gum. And guess what: I'm all out of bubble gum."

This prompted a round of makeshift Hawaiian cheers — 'aloha' and 'mele kalikimaka' were really all anybody knew.

Dan Wenger wanted a better view too, but nobody had the power to get him up high enough.

The comic: who else but defensive tackle Pat Kuntz, signing autographs near the tunnel before heading to the locker room. While signing helmets and shirts, he made sure to protect his name. "These better go for at least 50 bucks," he shouted to the fans.

The players' reaction came as no surprise considering the end of Notre Dame's regular season. The Irish lost four of their last five, threw up a goose egg at Boston College, fell in the final minute on senior day to Syracuse and couldn't cover the 31.5-point spread against USC. Coach Charlie Weis' job hung in limbo for a few days, and the Irish, who looked like they had erased all memories from last year's 3-9 season, slipped closer to their previous persona.

The perception that little had changed stayed with the fans and made Hawai'i a trendy upset pick. Some questioned why



Notre Dame fans who made the long hard journey to Honolulu celebrate the first Irish bowl win in 14 years.

Notre Dame should go to a bowl at 6-6, let alone get a week in Honolulu.

But after the game, Weis said Clausen's success stemmed from the bowl bid and the extra time the team had to practice.

"One of the reasons for going to a bowl game at 6-6 is all those extra practices," Weis said. "Things that in the hectic schedule of a normal week, you don't have time to focus on, you can work on."

Clausen said he worked on the little things, like footwork, during the three weeks Notre Dame had to prepare for the bowl game. It showed: 22-of-26, 401 yards, five touchdowns, and new Notre Dame bowl records for completion percentage, yards and touchdowns.

And the celebrations continued. Weis' Hawaiian-style Notre Dame shirt looked suspiciously damp and red, as if someone had dumped a cooler of Gatorade on him.

Linebacker Brian Smith stole injured freshman Kallen Wade's crutch to use as an oar on top of a bench. Players, families, coaches, coordinators, cheerleaders, assistants and managers embraced left and right, happy to be, as Kuntz said, part of "the team that did it."

The Irish fans, about 150 of them, stayed well after the final play and watched the celebration. Then they honored the team with an impromptu alma mater.

But receiver Golden Tate seemed to want more. Not more celebration, but more success. "I'm going to enjoy Hawai'i," said Tate, who had six catches for 177 yards and three touchdowns and shared the MVP with Clausen. "I don't want to come back here for a bowl again."

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scoring summary

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
ND	7	21	21	0	49
UH	0	7	7	7	21

First quarter

Notre Dame 7, Hawai'i 0
Robert Hughes 2-yard touchdown run with 3:07 remaining.
Drive: 9 plays, 87 yards, 4:45 elapsed.

Second quarter

Notre Dame 14, Hawai'i 0
Jimmy Clausen 14-yard pass to David Grimes with 10:25 remaining.
Drive: 6 plays, 53 yards, 2:09 elapsed.

Notre Dame 14, Hawai'i 7
Greg Alexander 10-yard pass to Aaron Bain with 8:12 remaining.
Drive: 6 plays, 56 yards, 2:06 elapsed.

Notre Dame 21, Hawai'i 7
Jimmy Clausen 69-yard pass to Golden Tate with 6:49 remaining.
Drive: 3 plays, 79 yards, 1:18 elapsed.

Notre Dame 28, Hawai'i 7
Jimmy Clausen 18-yard pass to Golden Tate with 0:01 remaining.
Drive: 8 plays, 67 yards, 3:53 elapsed.

Third quarter

Notre Dame 35, Hawai'i 7
Jimmy Clausen 18-yard pass to Armando Allen with 10:50 remaining.
Drive: 6 plays, 88 yards, 2:52 elapsed.

Notre Dame 42, Hawai'i 7
Jimmy Clausen 40-yard pass to Golden Tate with 7:22 remaining.
Drive: 5 plays, 50 yards, 2:23 elapsed.

Notre Dame 42, Hawai'i 14
Greg Alexander 21-yard pass to Aaron Bain with 4:25 remaining.
Drive: 6 plays, 81 yards, 2:51 elapsed.

Notre Dame 49, Hawai'i 14
Armando Allen 96-yard kickoff return with 4:12 remaining.
Drive: 0 plays, 96 yards, 0:13 elapsed.

Fourth quarter

Notre Dame 49, Hawai'i 21
Inoke Funaki 27-yard pass to Michael Washington with 1:45 remaining.
Drive: 6 plays, 80 yards, 2:06 elapsed.

statistics



passing

Clausen	22-26-0	Alexander	23-39-1
Sharpley	2-2-0	Funaki	5-5-0

rushing

Hughes	17-68	Pilares	2-19
Gray	5-22	Funaki	1-15
Allen	4-15	Libre	1-12

receiving

Tate	6-177	Bain	8-109
Rudolph	4-78	Salas	7-76
Grimes	4-34	Washington	6-96
Hughes	3-27	Lane	4-29
Kamara	3-21	Pilares	3-16
Allen	2-59		
Floyd	2-17		

returns

Allen	2-116	Lane	5-107
Tate	2-26	Torres	1-24

tackles

McCarthy	7	Elimimian	9
Brown, S.	6	Mouton	7
Quinn	5	Fonoti	7
Smith, H.	5	Leonard	7
Bruton	4	Robinson	5

Irish fill up the record books in Hawai'i

By BILL BRINK and DAN MURPHY
Sports Editors

Notre Dame set new Hawai'i Bowl records in passing yards, passing touchdowns, completion percentage, player receiving yards and touchdowns, longest pass, total offense and longest kick return.

"We came here knowing that Hawai'i has good offensive firepower," Weis said. "We wanted to mix the run and the pass, and get them out of their Cover Two."

Sophomore wide receiver Golden Tate also picked up several records of his own. He became the sixth Irish receiver to pick up over 1,000 yards in a season and he also set bowl record for most touchdowns (3) and receiving yards (177).

"I had no clue that I was in the record books, but I'll take it. It's a great tradition," he said.

Tate and Jimmy Clausen

split MVP honors for the game.

Bird's-eye view

Irish coach Charlie Weis called the plays from the press box rather than on the sideline against Hawai'i. He said he took a shot for the pain in his knee, resulting from torn ligaments he sustained during the Michigan game when a player was blocked into him. The shot, however, sent pain into his calves and feet and rendered him unable to walk.

Weis said coaching from the press box was 10 times easier — "Calling the game was pretty sweet up there" — but said as a coach, he wants to be on the sideline.

Pouring on the pressure

The Irish defense also had a big night out with seven sacks and five more passes tipped at the line of scrimmage. Freshman Ethan Johnson and senior Steve Quinn led the way with two apiece.

"It was a good chance to try

to make some plays. I tried to do that and I made some plays tonight," Johnson said.

Darius Fleming, Maurice Crum and Kerry Neal all got to the quarterback as well. Hawai'i quarterback Greg Alexander was no stranger to defensive linemen. The Rainbow Warriors gave up a total of 56 sacks this season.

Off to the Races

With just over four minutes remaining in the third quarter sophomore running back Armando Allen returned a Hawai'i kickoff 96 yards for a touchdown to make the score 49-14 for the Irish.

"It was open and once I saw that I was just thinking I can't fall. I was just riled up that we finally got one, its been a long time," Allen said.

It was the first kickoff return for a touchdown for any Notre Dame player since Vontez Duff returned a kick in a 30-23 win over Navy in 2003. It was also the first return ever in the Hawai'i Bowl. Allen finished the game with 180 all-purpose

yards including an 18-yard touchdown on a screen pass to start the second half.

The Name Game

The Irish wore their names on the back of their jerseys for the first time in over 20 years against Hawai'i. The last time was in the 1987 Cotton Bowl when Texas A&M beat Notre Dame 35-10.

The jerseys were a flashback to a tradition during the Ara Parseghian years when the team would regularly put names on their jersey for the bowl games only.

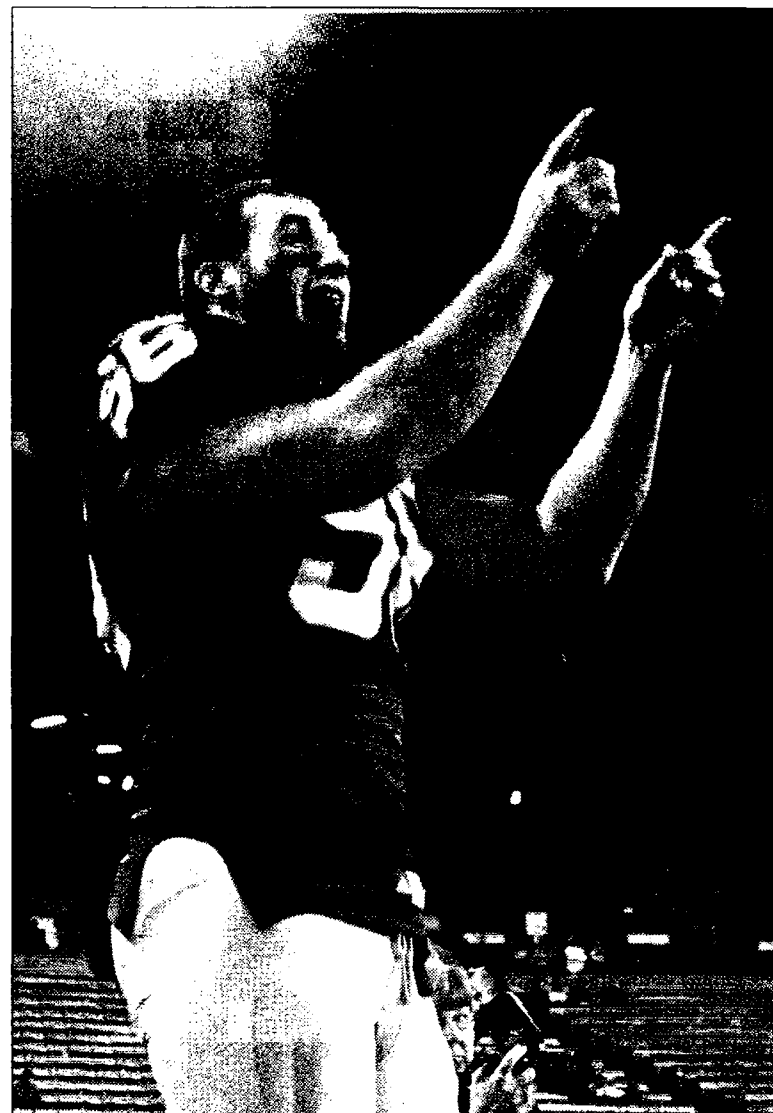
Aloha Coaches

Offensive coordinator Mike Haywood and defensive line coach Jappy Oliver both coached their finals games for Notre Dame in Honolulu. Haywood will be the head coach at Miami (Ohio) next year and Oliver is pursuing other coaching opportunities.

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JESSICA LEE/The Observer



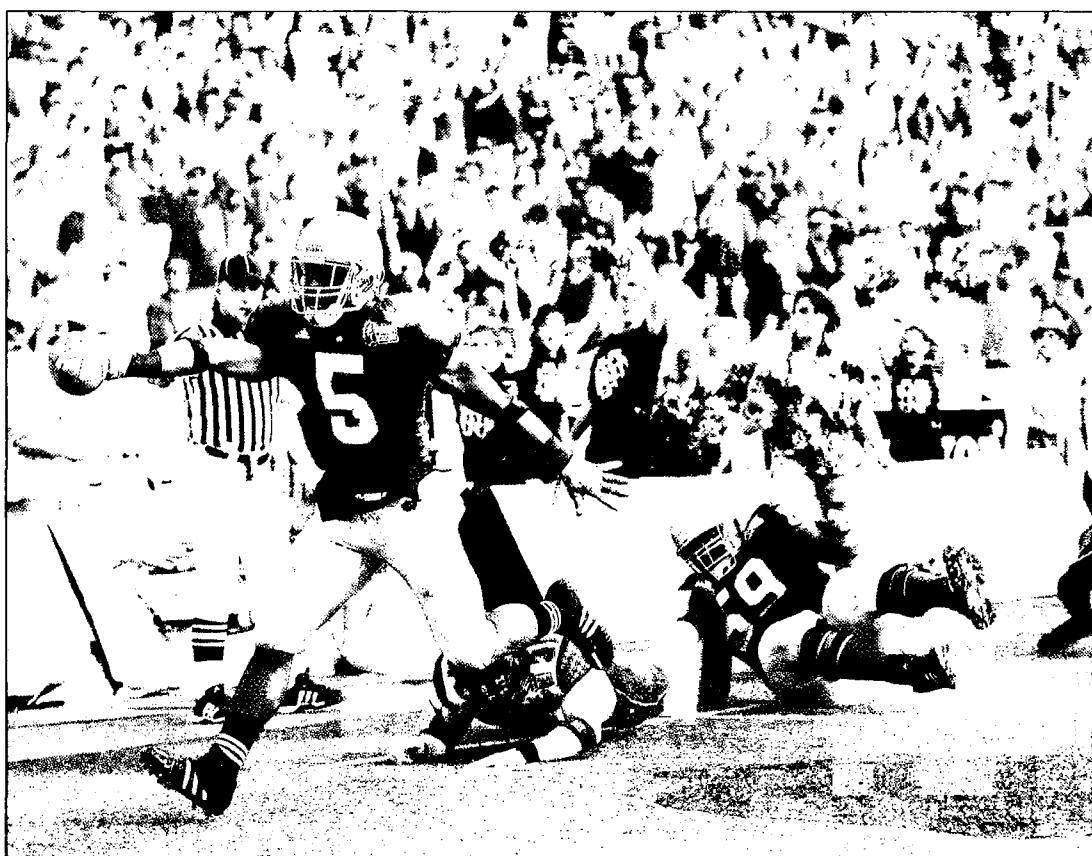
JESSICA LEE/The Observer

One shy of a Hawaii 5-0

Notre Dame flew southwest to spend its Christmas in Honolulu with plenty to prove. The Irish were coming off a disappointing end to their season, head coach Charlie Weis needed a chance to prove his critics wrong, and the whole team was trying to snap an NCAA record nine game drought in the postseason.

The Irish accomplished all of their goals and then some. Sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen exploded for 401 yards passing and five touchdowns through the air. He and his teammates tore apart the Notre Dame and NCAA record books by hanging 49 points on the clearly overmatched Rainbow Warrior defense. On the other side of the ball, the defense was not to be outdone. They posted eight sacks, five tipped passes, an interception and a fumble recovery against the high-flying Hawaiian offense.

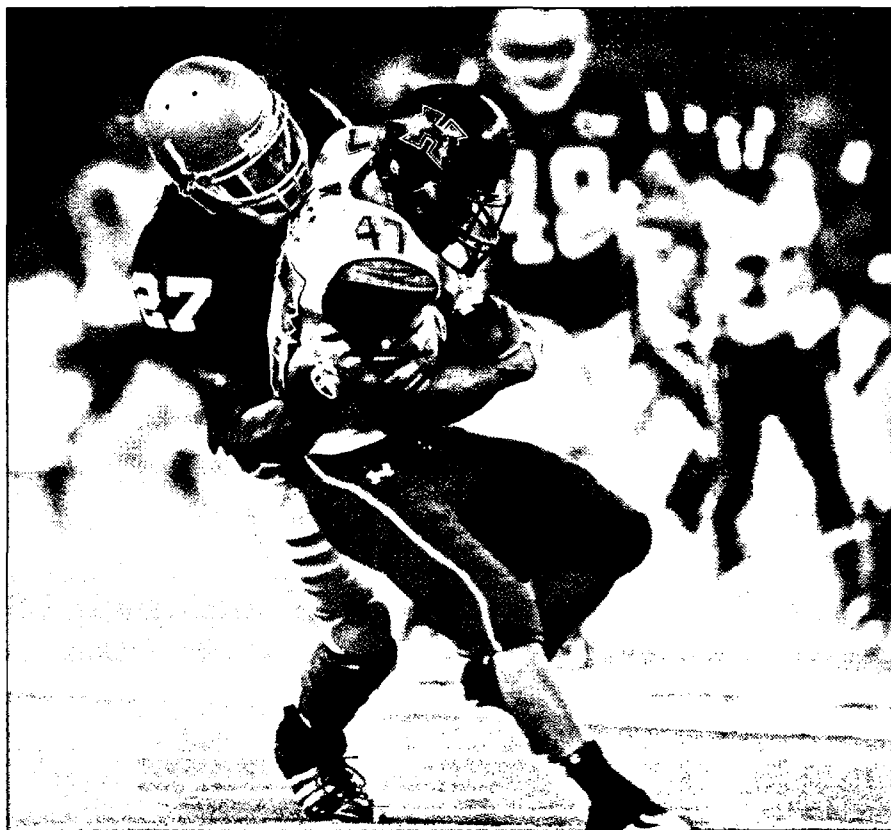
Notre Dame's senior captains all road into the sunset in style. Safety David Bruton had two turnovers and wide receiver David Grimes hauled in a touchdown pass in the second quarter. Coaches Mike Haywood and Jappy Oliver also had sweet goodbyes as they finished their final games on the Irish sidelines.



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Clockwise from top, Golden Tate sheds a defender after one of his six catches; Senior Pat Kuntz strikes up the band for the alma mater; Armando Allen celebrates one of his two touchdowns; Tate avoids tacklers and sideline ads in the third quarter; Senior David Bruton takes down a Hawai'i receiver for one of his four tackles in Honolulu.

By ADRIANA PRATT
Scene Writer

In the heart of Mumbai's overwhelmingly impoverished and overcrowded slums lives orphan Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), the 18 year-old hero of "Slumdog Millionaire" who brings hope to his lost childhood love and the millions of Mumbai's destitute inhabitants when he lands a spot on India's version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

As he answers more and more questions correctly, suspicions mount that this barely educated boy who has lived on the streets the majority of his life might be cheating and he is taken in for governmental questioning when the show breaks for the evening. After being physically tortured and intimidated by the impatient Indian police, he finally confesses to how he knew each answer and the revealing anecdotes he shares covering events from his childhood to the present day show how honest and how pure this gem from the slums really is.

Irish director and Golden Globe winner Danny Boyle calls this masterpiece his "love letter to Mumbai," and does his best to capture the prominent role the belief in destiny plays in the Indian culture by using it

as the motivating factor that drives the actions of his protagonist. In an interview with Fox Searchlight Pictures, he says of the multitude of Indians living in poverty, "They accept, you know, maybe what we would regard as a terrible condition of life... They accept that — that that is their destiny." The Indian belief that they are in the place they are supposed to be allows them to accept and cope with their living conditions and the situations they are placed in and it is this belief in destiny fused with the Western belief in controlling your own destiny that drives Jamal Malik's pursuit of a better life.

The pursuit of his fate begins shortly after being orphaned when young Jamal realizes that all he has to rely on for his survival is his older brother Salim (Madhur Mittal). While he and his brother flee the Hindu-Muslim conflict in his village that was responsible for the death of his mother, they come across a dirty lonely girl abandoned in the streets and from the moment Jamal's eyes fall on this intriguing and innocent orphan named Latika (Freida Pinto), he knows she is the third musketeer he and his brother Salim have been missing.

He is quick to fall in love with her in the most innocent and childlike of ways and, though separated from her multiple times throughout his life, manages to find his way back to her even though as time goes on, it gets more and more dangerous to do so. Because Jamal knows he is destined to be

with Latika, he refuses to give up his pursuit of her and it is this belief in destiny that drives his final desperate attempt to reunite with her by appearing on and determinedly winning "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

"Slumdog Millionaire" is a tale that enlivens the human spirit while teaching valuable and important lessons about human nature and one's responsibility for his or her own actions. The personalities of each character remain consistent from childhood to adulthood, revealing the concept that actions taken as a child are often good indicators of the type of person someone will grow up to be.

This winner of four Golden Globes, including Best Director, Picture, Screenplay and Score truly deserves every award that comes its way. The roles were perfectly cast, the plot and screenplay indulged the audience with a bittersweet taste of life on the Mumbai streets, and the fusion of Indian beats and American hip-hop mirrored the audiences' desire to run with Jamal, Latika, and "Slumdog Millionaire" away from life's hardships and into the winner's circle.

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Slumdog Millionaire

Directed By: Danny Boyle
Starring: Dev Patel, Madhur Mittal, Freida Pinto



BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

Forty minutes before "Valkyrie" began, I was wondering when it was going to start. Forty minutes into the movie, I was wondering the same thing.

It's nice to see that the film's director, Bryan Singer is a nature lover.

Shane Steinburg
Scene & Heard

After all, he cast a cardboard box for the lead role... Oh, wait, never mind, that's just Tom Cruise doing his best impression of someone with no acting ability. Oscar anyone?

However, a one-eyed, patch-wearing Tom Cruise isn't the star of this spectacle. No, he is forced to share the spotlight with a terribly cast Adolf Hitler armed with a noticeably horrendous German accent. Honestly, Sasha Baron Cohen would have been a more convincing Hitler. Believe me, the first time he opens his mouth, if you haven't already realized from the first half hour of the film, you will know that you've thrown your money away. May I suggest sleeping as an alternative? I know I did, and I will say, not only was it refreshing, but it was the best part of

the film — other than the nachos and cheese I was munching on.

In the back of my mind though, I vaguely remember this one moment during the film when I was, dare I say, intrigued. Not by the film of course, but by the mystery surrounding the failure of the film's subject, a failed plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler. This ill-documented and historically forgotten attempt to put to a stop to Hitler's

ambitions and end WWII finally received the attention it has deserved ever since it's unraveling. What was the plot? Why did it fall apart? These questions act like ticks and eats at you, causing you to actually watch the film, or at least its unfulfilling climax.

The film follows Colonel Stauffenberg (Tom Cruise), who after being wounded while on duty in North Africa joins up with a group of high-level German military officials (all of whom have English accents no less) who hatch a plot to kill Germany's Fuhrer. From there the first half of the film is spent working out the assassination plot's details at a snail-pace until, at about an hour in, suspense actually

settles in for a moment but is just as quickly killed because Singer reveals his hand too soon.

The film ends with what was probably meant to be a poignant scene during which all the main conspirators are shot to death by firing squad one-by-one, with Tom Cruise dying last. Its falls as flat as it possibly could though, acting more as a call to laugh out loud than a reason to feel at all sad for the one-eyed scientist and his Queen-loving comrades.

I have much respect for the men who actually had the sense to realize that what Hitler was doing was not only wrong for Germany, but also morally wrong, and who so bravely tried to overthrow him. As for all who so dreadfully put together this dry, better-forgotten film, all I can do is ask that if the theater will not give me my money back, will you?

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

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Valkyrie

Directed by: Bryan Singer
Starring: Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh, Bill Nighy, Tom Wilkinson



'VALKYRIE' falls apart

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

NHL

Oilers net first road win over Caps since 1997

Heatley, MacAmmond and Fisher each light the lamp helping the Senators end their five-game losing streak

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dwayne Roloson's saves and Steve MacIntyre's first career goal provided an early lift. Then, Erik Cole took command.

Cole scored three goals, Gilbert Brule added a goal and an assist, and the Edmonton Oilers beat Washington 5-2 Tuesday night, handing the Capitals their third consecutive loss.

Roloson made 34 saves and MacIntyre got his first NHL goal for the Oilers, who won their second straight game. It was Edmonton's first victory on the road against the Capitals since Jan. 26, 1997 at USAirways Arena in Landover, Md.

"Once Mac scored, I knew it was one of those rare games where you could get away with a few things," Oilers coach Craig MacTavish said. "Rollie was super-sharp early when he needed to be. We mismanaged the puck early — a little rattled, I think, by the threat and the skill."

But the Capitals never flexed their offensive muscle, despite outshooting Edmonton 36-23.

Mike Green had a goal and an assist and Tomas Fleischmann also scored for Washington, which lost a second straight home game for the first time this season and is now 18-3-1 at Verizon Center. The three straight losses match a season high.

Cole, who played frequently in Washington during six seasons with the Carolina Hurricanes before an offseason trade to the Oilers, knows how important

good goaltending can be early against the Capitals' fearsome offense.

"Rollie really held us in there in the first period until we seemed to get our bearings. And it was a great goal by Mac, a big goal. It really lifts our spirits," Cole said. "We went out in the second period with more conviction and I think we controlled the play the way we wanted to."

The Capitals squandered a 19-9 edge in shots in the opening period, as MacIntyre and Cole tallied 1:11 apart for a 2-0 Edmonton lead.

MacIntyre one-timed a short pass from center point at 12:59 and, with the Capitals' Alexander Semin off for hooking, Cole poked in the rebound of Sheldon Souray's long drive for his ninth goal.

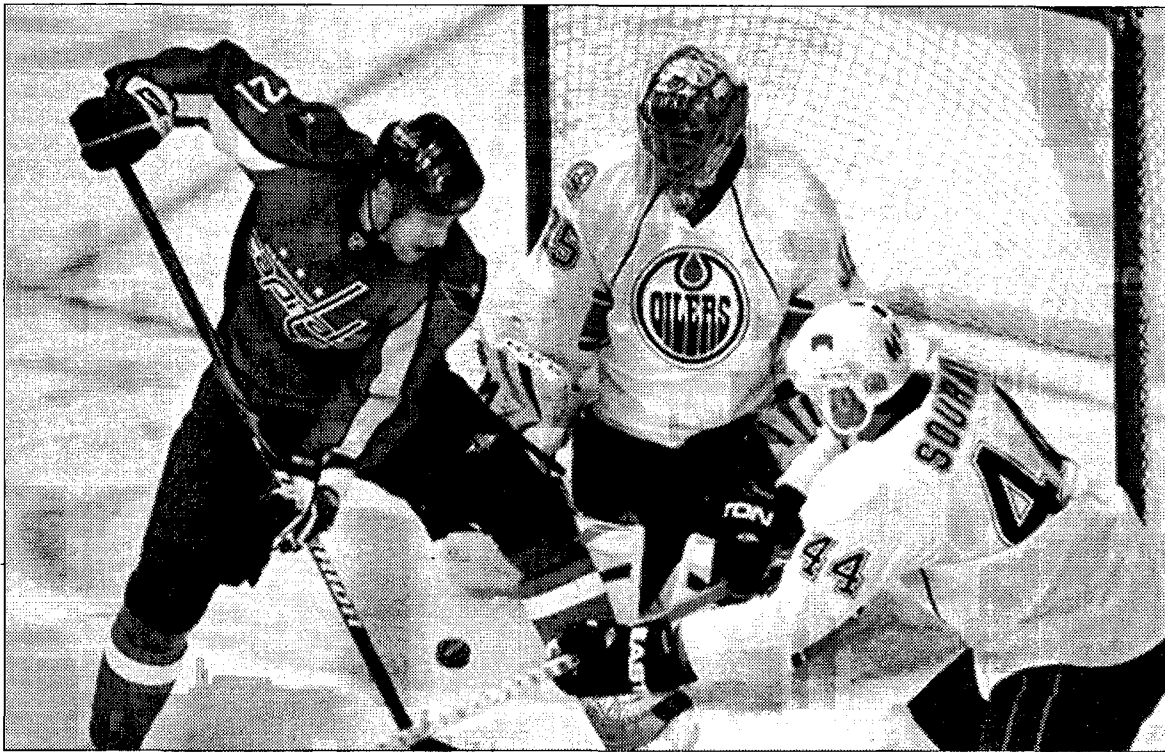
"I closed my eyes, shot the puck and fortunately it went in," MacIntyre said. "You grow up dreaming about playing in the NHL and you go out there [and score] against some pretty good players. It feels pretty good."

MacTavish sensed MacIntyre had delivered the pick-me-up the Oilers desperately needed.

"I've seen a lot of things happen in games, but this is," MacTavish said, his voice trailing off as he shook his head in disbelief. "Their skill guys had four or five point-blank opportunities and then Mac buries his first. I figured it was going to be a good night. Everybody was energized by that."

In the first period, the Capitals struggled.

"When it gets to the point



Washington forward Brooks Laitch lets the puck fly through his legs as Oilers defenseman Sheldon Souray and goalie Dwayne Roloson attempt to defend. The Oilers won Tuesday's game 5-2.

where everyone wants to be the scorer and nobody wants to be the mucker, you are not going to do anything," Washington coach Bruce Boudreau said. "Everybody's waiting and when you put a skilled lineup together, ... everybody needs to do the grunt job. Until we get that happening, we're not going to score a lot of goals."

Brule made it 3-0 2:15 into the second period, splitting two defensemen between the circles and knocking a right-wing feed from Kyle Brodziak past Jose Theodore.

The Capitals finally got on the board thanks to a strong effort by Fleischmann, who netted his career-high 14th goal. Fleischmann wove through four defenders in the Oilers zone before flicking the puck over Ro

Ottawa 5, Carolina 1

OTTAWA — The Ottawa Senators got much-needed offensive production from some struggling sources to end their most recent skid.

Dany Heatley, Dean McAmmond and Mike Fisher scored and Ottawa stopped a five-game losing streak with a 5-1 win over the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday night.

Heatley, who was replaced by Fisher on the Senators' first power-play unit, scored his first goal in nine games early in the first before McAmmond ended a 21-game drought midway through the opening period to put Ottawa up 2-0.

"We played a good game," said Jason Spezza, who set up Heatley's goal. "Two guys

scored goals, I think it helps their confidence, and it's nice to get contributions from everyone tonight and I think that can go a long way for our club, so we're happy with the result."

Antoine Vermette added the Senators' third goal with 26 seconds remaining in the second and Fisher — who played his 500th regular season game — scored on a power play midway through the third for his first goal in 20 games.

"Any time it's been a while it definitely feels good," Fisher said. "I've just got to keep going."

Chris Phillips scored his fourth goal with 4:47 remaining.

Brian Elliott made 23 saves in his second straight start for the Senators, who lost 2-0 to the New York Rangers on Saturday in their first home game following a 1-6-1 trip.

"I don't know, I think the guys are confident in themselves," said Elliott, who was called up from Binghamton of the AHL on Friday. "It's a good team in there and it's kind of a mystery why we're at the bottom of the standings, but if we keep playing games like that I don't think we'll be there for long."

Joe Corvo scored on a power play in the second for Carolina, which has lost three straight.

Cam Ward, pulled after allowing three goals in Saturday's 5-1 loss in Boston, stopped 35 shots in his ninth straight start for the Hurricanes.

"He obviously does the best he can every night and things

fall squarely on our shoulders, the guys who are playing in front of him right now," Corvo said.

Jarkko Ruutu returned to the Senators' lineup after serving a two-game suspension for biting Sabres forward Andrew Peters' gloved hand in a 4-2 loss in Buffalo one week earlier.

Heatley scored 3:45 in when he was left unguarded in the slot. The two-time 50-goal scorer drove in to beat Ward for his 17th goal of the season after taking Spezza's centering pass when Carolina defenseman Joni Pitkanen and Dennis Seidenberg both converged on the Ottawa center as he drove the right side.

"Yeah, that wasn't a particularly well sorted out 2-on-2, was it?" Hurricanes coach Paul Maurice said. "We've had a lot of new partners and they're still working with each other."

Heatley hadn't found the back of the net since Dec. 23, when he scored twice — the only two goals in his previous 15 games — in a 6-4 loss in Philadelphia.

McAmmond ended a 21-game goal drought to put Ottawa up by 2 at 11:09 as the Hurricanes' defense let down Ward once again.

Carolina defenseman Niclas Wallin turned over the puck to McAmmond in the neutral zone and the Ottawa center drove in on a breakaway and beat Ward for his second goal of the season.

Corvo drew the Hurricanes within 2-1 when he drove a slap shot past Elliott from the left point at 8:27.



Ottawa center Dean McAmmond celebrates a goal during the Senators 5-1 win over Carolina Tuesday.

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Leo pimps _____. Leo pimps _____. I just want to tell you that I'm here to be whatever you want me to be... no no really, like if you to come into my room, grab a Coke...

I'm so confused right now

swagger

U

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AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

Men's Basketball AP Top 25

team	points
1 Pittsburgh	1,798
2 Wake Forest	1,686
3 Duke	1,678
4 Connecticut	1,549
5 North Carolina	1,461
6 Oklahoma	1,440
7 Michigan State	1,356
8 Syracuse	1,232
9 UCLA	1,222
10 Clemson	1,153
11 Texas	1,009
12 NOTRE DAME	1,008
13 Georgetown	908
14 Marquette	752
15 Xavier	710
16 Arizona State	573
17 Butler	521
18 Minnesota	508
19 Purdue	490
20 Louisville	433
21 Baylor	364
22 California	299
23 Villanova	229
24 Tennessee	198
25 Michigan	153

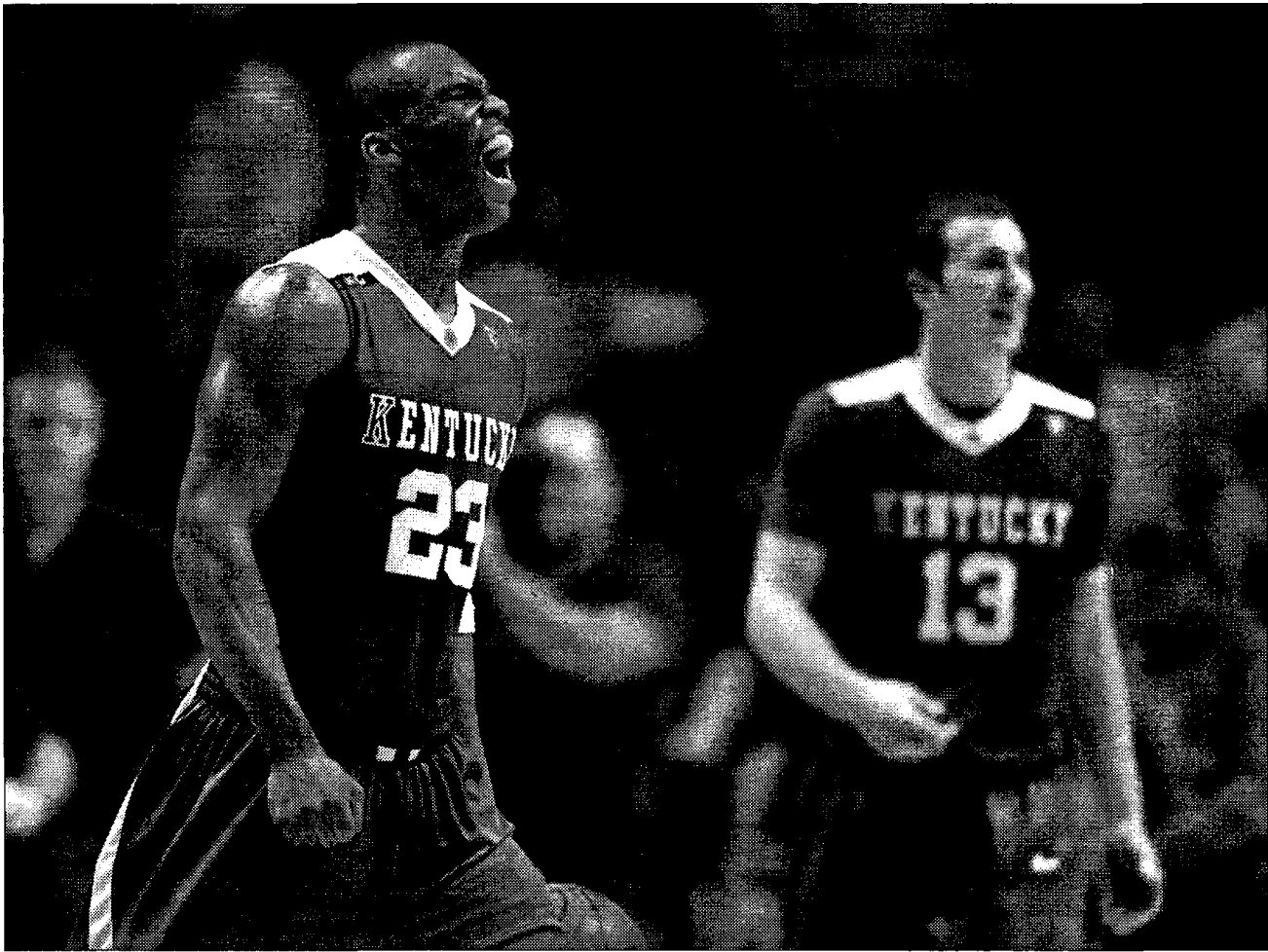
Women's Basketball AP Top 25

team	points
1 Connecticut	1,125
2 North Carolina	1,080
3 Oklahoma	1,003
4 Duke	946
5 Baylor	921
6 Auburn	858
7 Louisville	827
8 Texas A&M	819
9 Stanford	776
10 NOTRE DAME	758
11 California	647
12 Maryland	630
13 Tennessee	626
14 Virginia	512
15 Ohio State	501
16 Texas	498
17 Kansas State	410
18 Vanderbilt	330
19 Florida	329
20 Iowa State	208
21 Marist	157
22 Oklahoma State	139
23 Rutgers	115
24 Georgia Tech	86
25 New Mexico	62

MIAA Basketball Conference Standings

team	conference record
1 SAINT MARY'S	6-0
2 Hope	4-1
3 Adrian	3-2
4 Alma	3-2
5 Calvin	2-3
6 Albion	2-3
7 Olivet	2-3
8 Trine	2-4
9 Kalamazoo	0-6

NCAA BASKETBALL



Kentucky's Jodie Meeks celebrates during the Wildcats' 90-72 win over Tennessee Tuesday. Meeks scored 54 points and hit 10 3-pointers in the game, breaking a 39-year-old school record in the process.

Meeks drops 54 in Kansas rout

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Jodie Meeks was just trying to get a victory. He didn't fathom having a chance at earning a spot among Kentucky's greatest players.

Meeks scored a school-record 54 points to help Kentucky cruise to a 90-72 win over No. 24 Tennessee on Tuesday night.

"It means a lot to be in the same sentence as Dan Issel. It's mind-boggling," he said. "I was just out there playing to win."

Meeks, who broke Issel's 39-year-old record of 53 points set at

Mississippi, was mobbed by his Kentucky teammates in the middle of the Thompson-Boling Arena court, where the Wildcats (13-4, 2-0 SEC) handed the Volunteers their third loss in January.

The Southeastern Conference's leading scorer surpassed his previous high of 46 points, which he set Dec. 20 against Appalachian State, with 4:50 left as he hit an open 3, one of 10 3-pointers he would make for the night. He set the record with free throws with 1:31 left.

Meeks entered the game ranked fourth in the nation in scoring with an average 24.2 points per

game.

"I have never seen anything like it," Kentucky coach Billy Gillispie said. "Jodie Meeks had 46 against Appalachian State, and they are a nice team, but not near a team the quality of Tennessee and on the home court."

The 54 points was also the biggest individual SEC performance since Chris Jackson's 55 for LSU against Mississippi in 1989.

"There have been so many great players — this is the greatest basketball tradition in the world at the collegiate level — and to be able to put your name up there with some

of those greats is quite an accomplishment," Gillispie said.

Down by 6 at the half, Tennessee (10-5, 1-1) cut Kentucky's lead to 43-41 on a fastbreak basket by Wayne Chism a minute and a half into the second half.

But the Vols' spotty defense couldn't contain Meeks, who hit a layup and two 3-pointers to help the Wildcats on a 10-0 run that gave them a 53-41 lead. Even contested shots sank perfectly through the nets.

"Defensively we tried to guard him as a team," Tennessee coach Bruce Pearl said.

IN BRIEF

Atlanta reaches preliminary deal with Lowe

ATLANTA — The Braves bounced right back from the disappointment of losing John Smoltz.

Determined to rebuild a once-proud pitching staff that fell into disarray, Atlanta reached a preliminary agreement Tuesday on a \$60 million, four-year contract with Derek Lowe and finalized a deal with Japanese all-star pitcher Kenshin Kawakami.

Just like that, the Braves' rotation — once the most dominant in baseball — suddenly looks a whole lot stronger with spring training just a month away.

"You've got to have pitching," manager Bobby Cox said. "You could have the best hitting team in the history of baseball and you still may not get it done. We will feel confident now that whoever toes the mound on any particular night, we've got a good chance of winning."

Boston College hires Spaziani as head coach

BOSTON — Frank Spaziani stayed at Boston College, even though he was disappointed when he was passed over for the head coaching job in 2006.

That loyalty paid off Tuesday when the longtime assistant was promoted to the top spot.

The 61-year-old who built top defenses during his 10 years as coordinator succeeds Jeff Jagodzinski, who was fired last Wednesday after two seasons when he interviewed for the New York Jets coaching job after being told he would be dismissed if he did so.

"The fact that he (Spaziani) really wants to be here at Boston College and bleeds maroon and gold, that was extremely important," athletic director Gene DeFilippo said, "but it wasn't the most important factor."

Trial about Burress' car lease to begin today

LEBANON, Pa. — Plaxico Burress is in court again.

A civil trial is scheduled to begin Wednesday in Pennsylvania to determine how much the New York Giants wide receiver will have to pay in damages over a car he leased that ended up being impounded by New York City police.

New York police said Tuesday that they impounded the car in August 2005 in connection with a shooting in the Bronx. Arrests were made, but the records were sealed and police gave no other details about the incident.

Court papers in Pennsylvania say a Lebanon County car dealer allowed Burress to borrow a 2004 Chevrolet Avalanche worth more than \$36,000 in exchange for Burress agreeing to sign autographs at promotional events.

around the dial

NBA

Lakers at Spurs
9 p.m., ESPN

NCAA

Syracuse at Georgetown
7:30 p.m., ESPN2

NFL

Changing of the guard takes place in Seattle

Exuberant, intense and defense-oriented, Mora takes over for Holmgren bringing a different look to the Seahawks

Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Jim Mora threw his hands above his head. He punched the air. He made sharp, slicing motions with his hands for emphasis.

He talked of running at 5:30 a.m., wearing a headlamp, up his favorite mountain outside Seattle. No switchbacks, straight up. Like most of his coaching career.

"I'll be there Friday morning, if anyone wants to join me," Mora said, a smile flashing across the 47-year-old's boyish face.

Then he nearly hyperventilated talking about defense, the side of the ball that has been a relative afterthought for the head coach in Seattle for the last quarter century.

No, this is definitely not Mike Holmgren.

The Seahawks officially transitioned on Tuesday away from a grandfatherly guru of quarterbacks — who never ran on the practice field, let alone up mountains before dawn — to a defensive mind with seemingly endless energy when they introduced Mora as their seventh coach.

The team announced this move 11 months ago, after Holmgren decided 2008 would be his 10th and last leading Seattle.

Mora is Seattle's first head coach with a background on defense since its original one from 1976-82, Jack Patera.



Jim Mora talks to reporters about the intensity of Seattle fans during a press conference Tuesday. The press conference was held to introduce Mora as the new coach of the Seahawks replacing Mike Holmgren who retired after the season.

Mora, the former defensive coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers (1999-2003), will likely call Seattle's defense with the help of defensive coordinator Casey Bradley, whom Mora hired from Tampa Bay this week.

That means Seattle's

defensive backs coach the last two years is getting close to \$5 million per season, about double what the Falcons were paying him when they fired him as head coach on New Year's Day 2007. In Mora's three seasons in Atlanta, the Falcons were 26-22 and played in

the 2004 NFC championship game before he was fired on Jan. 1, 2007.

The 2008 Seahawks limped through a lifeless, injury-filled season to finish 4-12 and out of the playoffs for the first time in six years. Mora stayed silent because he didn't want to upstage Holmgren's farewell.

No one will associate Mora with "silent" or "lifeless" in 2009.

"We believe we are going to get it right. We are going to regain our winning ways. The excitement is real," Seahawks chief executive Tod Leiweke said. "At the core of our optimism is Jimmy Mora."

Yes, even though everyone knew it was coming, Day One of the change was a jolt.

Mora talked of Seattle, where he went to high school and college while his father was an assistant at the University of Washington, hosting a championship-winning parade starting at the Space Needle and ending at Qwest Field.

So what that the only men's professional team in Seattle to have one was the recently departed SuperSonics of the NBA — in 1979 — or that Holmgren got to the Super Bowl only to lose three years ago?

The former walk-on line-backer at Washington appeared composed and said he was "incredibly humbled" as he talked about replacing the 10th winningest coach in NFL history. Under Holmgren, Mora said he learned patience. He learned compassion with players while maintaining an appropriate authority. He said he passed up other opportunities to be a head coach in the last two years because he was absorbing lessons that will make him a better coach than he was for the

Falcons.

But when he was asked about defense — "my passion," he called it — Mora suddenly looked as if he was about to bust out of his blue suit and matching tie. He looked like he was ready, eight months early, to take the field for his first game leading the team he grew up watching.

Not to coach. To play in it. "We're not going to rebuild! We're not going to reload! Every single year is about winning the Super Bowl championship!" Mora said. "Number one, we've got to take back the dang NFC West."

Seattle finished last in pass defense and 30th in total defense in 2008. An undersized, weak and injured pass rush left smallish defensive backs vulnerable.

Mora said his defense would attack until it hurt them as much as the opponents.

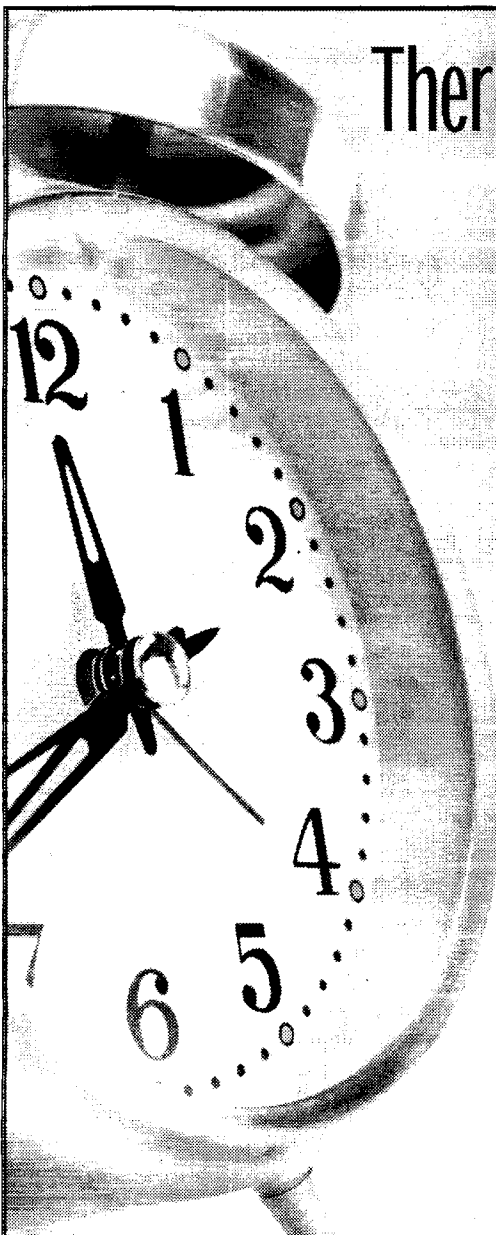
"I've been telling guys, 'Be in great shape. Be ready to run and chase the ball for a long time,'" said Seahawks defensive end Patrick Kerney, who went to his first Pro Bowl with Mora coaching him in Atlanta.

Holmgren compiled results worthy of the Hall of Fame with a meticulous, controlled passing game. Mora talked of a "change in emphasis," to a run-first approach of new offensive coordinator Greg Knapp.

Knapp was Mora's offensive coordinator in Atlanta. Knapp's offenses have ranked in the league's top 10 in rushing in all eight seasons he has been a coordinator.

"I believe in playing with a bit of stinger," Mora said.

Not that he needed to. His charged, debut appearance as the Seahawks' head man had already said that.




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MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL

'09 Gators' bite not as sharp

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The Florida Gators own four of the last six national championships handed out in football and men's basketball.

It's unlikely they can make it five of seven.

Although Florida (14-2, 1-0 Southeastern Conference) has won eight in row heading into Wednesday's game at Auburn, coach Billy Donovan realizes his team has many of the same flaws that kept the Gators out of the NCAA tournament last year for the first time in a decade.

Florida has struggled rebounding, defending the paint and the 3-point line, and matching up against athletic teams. Donovan has tried to camouflage those weaknesses with an occasional press, some traps and an up-and-down tempo designed to force opponents into ill-advised shots.

So far, so good. The Gators have won 11 of 12 and even beat Mississippi last weekend despite getting outrebounded 46-22. But Donovan believes things have to change for his team to have sustained success this season.

"There's definitely some deficiencies and things we have," Donovan said. "Every team has it. There's no pure team that has no weaknesses. But the good teams identify what their problems are and what they've got to do to mask them or overcome them or really confront them in a way that they say, 'There's a commitment where we're not going to let this happen.'"

"Some of the things on

our team have been exposed, but now do we really confront those things? We have to find a way to confront them."

Florida won consecutive national championships with one of the most complete teams in recent years. The Gators could score inside or out, run the floor with anybody or slow it down and create open shots. Corey Brewer and Leeham Humphrey were solid perimeter defenders, and Al Horford and Joakim Noah forced teams to reconsider driving the lane.

Florida's best attribute this season?

"I think we move the ball really well," forward Chandler Parsons said.

"We've got a whole bunch of unselfish guys that really like to pass the ball and find the open man. And when you have a guy open, he's going to knock the shot down."

The Gators lead the league in assists and 3-pointers, and rank second in turnover margin. But they're 10th in rebounding, and last in blocked shots and 3-point defense.

"We've definitely got to be better at other things," Parsons said. "We've got to shoot the ball more consistent, we've got to block out better, we've got to defend better. There's a lot of things we need to work on. We're definitely a team in progress."

Donovan expects improvement, but he might

have to live with the limitations that stem from having 6-foot-8 forward Alex Tyus playing center and less athletic big men Dan Werner and Chandler Parsons lining up alongside him in the frontcourt.

The Gators, who lost center Marreese Speights to the NBA last summer, had hoped to get some inside presence from 6-10 centers Kenny Kadji and Eloy Vargas as well as fellow freshman Allan Chaney. But Donovan said they have other shortcomings preventing them from logging many minutes.

It could get better next season with the addition of 6-10 Georgetown transfer Vernon Macklin, but Donovan cautioned against considering Macklin the answer to the team's post woes.

"Believe me, he's not our problem-solver in that area," Donovan said. "Sometimes when a guy's not playing or a guy's sitting out, it looks like, 'OK, when this guy gets there.' Believe me, he's not. But I think he can help."

In the meantime, the Gators might have to keep finding ways to win despite their problems. They did win three of their last six games — against Georgia Southern, Stetson and Ole Miss — despite giving up a combined 56 offensive boards.

"We've got to get tougher as a team, definitely," guard Nick Calathes said. "I think that's one our main things we've got to work on. Obviously defense and rebounding, that goes to toughness. We've just got to bring it in practice. That's how we get better and ready for games."

"There's a lot of things we need to work on. We're definitely a team in progress."

Chandler Parsons
Florida forward

"There's definitely some deficiencies and things we have."

Billy Donovan
Florida coach

NFL

Pioli latest piece of Patriots' tree to branch

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Scott Pioli, who helped build and lead a dynasty in New England, is now in charge of a Kansas City franchise which hasn't won a playoff game in 14 years.

The 43-year-old Pioli will be introduced on Wednesday as Chiefs general manager, replacing Carl Peterson.

"He will have complete charge of football operations," Ryan Petkoff, a spokesman for Chiefs chairman Clark Hunt, told The Associated Press. "He will report only to Clark."

The fate of coach Herm Edwards and his staff was not immediately known.

Pioli, who became vice president of player personnel for the Patriots in 2002

and spent nine years working with head coach Bill Belichick, also interviewed for the general manager vacancy in Cleveland.

He inherits a young team coming off a 2-14 season, but is stepping into a situation that seems ripe for a quick turnaround.

The fan base is loyal, though restive, and the team will be playing next year in a virtually new stadium. Arrowhead, which opened in 1972 and is notorious for being loud and rough on visiting teams, is undergoing a \$325 million renovation, which includes new luxury boxes, wider concourses and enhanced amenities in addition to new practice facilities, an enlarged indoor field and a brand new state-of-the-art headquarters building.

In addition, the Chiefs are about \$32 million under the salary cap, extra money that will come in handy because KC owns the overall No. 3 pick in the draft. Besides that, there are a number of promising young players who Edwards was

counting on as the foundation of his rebuilding project.

Pioli, the son-in-law of Miami Dolphins boss Bill Parcells, has been honored many times for his contributions to the Patriots' three Super Bowl championships. With Pioli working with Belichick, the Patriots used an effective mix-and-match of trades, free agent signings and draft selections to dominate the league. In 2007, six players drafted by Pioli and Belichick made the Pro Bowl.

"We are very excited to welcome Scott to the Chiefs," Hunt said in a statement. "With his proven track record of success, Scott is the finest player personnel executive in the NFL, and we look forward to his leadership in building a championship organization."

Patriots owner Robert Kraft praised Pioli as an "integral part of the many championships the New England Patriots have celebrated this decade."

"Scott is a great evaluator of talent," Kraft said. "He is thor-

ough in his evaluations, extremely organized and has done a tremendous job mining all possible resources to help coach Belichick and his staff field the players needed to win consistently. He has played an important role in building a championship tradition with players that I am proud to call Patriots."

Pioli's NFL career started when Belichick hired him as a pro personnel assistant for the Browns in 1992. Belichick then brought him to New England shortly after he became head coach of the Patriots.

From 2000-08, the Patriots were an NFL-best 102-42 in the regular season and rang up 14 playoff wins.

"To sum up in words everything Scott Pioli has meant to this organization and to me personally would be difficult, if not impossible," said Belichick. "From the day I met him, he has demonstrated a passion for football and respect for the game that is second to none."

A club spokesman confirmed there had been no determination made on Edwards' status. That may have been a point of discussion between Pioli and Hunt when they negotiated their deal. Hunt signed off on the rebuilding project that Edwards launched this year and said in training camp he knew it would be a painful process early on.

And it certainly was. Beset by injury, including season-ending mishaps to the top two quarterbacks, the Chiefs beat only Oakland and Denver and set a number of team records for defensive futility. Their 10 sacks were an NFL-low since the stat was kept beginning in 1981.

Yet, when he announced the resignation on Dec. 15 of president, CEO and general manager Peterson, Hunt said he thought Edwards was the best man for the Chiefs program going forward. But he also said the new general manager would have "significant input" into the final decision.

"To sum up in words everything Scott Pioli has meant to this organization and to me personally would be difficult."

Bill Belichick
Patriots coach

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would like to applaud the following
Multicultural Hall Commissioners for their
outstanding work in promoting diversity
efforts within the ND residence halls during
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**Brandi Allen – Badin Hall
Chelsea Carey – Badin Hall
Danielle Hoehn – Lyons Hall
Minyoung Kim – Badin Hall**

**Tej Mudigonda – St Edwards Hall
Lexie Perreras – Badin Hall
Joseph Scolaro – Morrissey Manor
Marissa Villano – Lyons Hall**

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MEN'S SWIMMING

ND opens spring season ice cold

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

For its annual winter break training trip, Notre Dame spent time in San Juan, Puerto Rico for rigorous training. When the Irish returned, a loss to Louisville brought them back to reality.

In an open-air, 10-lane lap pool, the swimmers and divers trained twice a day, then lifted weights and did other dry-land workouts for all-around training.

"[The practices] brought our team closer because it was necessary to rely on each other to reach the level or training we desired," sophomore Pat Augustyn said.

To depart from the normal

practices, they participated in an informal meet against both Southern Illinois University and LaSalle University while in Puerto Rico on a different part of the island.

On the way back to South Bend, the team made a stop at Louisville, currently ranked No. 16, for a conference meet, but a 178-117 Cardinal victory dropped the Irish conference record to 3-4.

"We saw to our potential, although we came up a little bit short in the end," Augustyn said.

In the 200-free, John Lytle (1:40.51) came in a close second, and Andrew Hoffman (1:43.51) came in fourth.

The 200-medley relay team, composed of Mitchell Sherman, Marshall Sherman,

Patrick Augustyn and David Anderson, finished in third place (1:37.06), unable to keep up with two accomplished Cardinal backstrokers.

Irish swimmers Michael Sullivan and Bill Bauman finished first and second respectively in the 200-individual medley.

In the three-meter diving event, Caleb Dunnichay took first with 369.80 points, followed by Irish divers Eric Lex in second place and Wesley Villafior in third.

The season picks up again on Jan. 16 for a home meet against Northwestern.

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Barnes heaps praise on squad

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

Heading into the second half of the season, the No. 25 Irish looks to build on major individual successes as the post-season nears.

First-year head coach Brian Barnes said he hopes team leaders such as sophomores Samantha Maxwell and Amy Wren Miller and senior Christa Riggins can lead the young squad to a 13th consecutive Big East Championship and an impressive showing at the National Championships.

"We do have several potential All-Americans swimming over at Rolfs Aquatic Center," Barnes said. "We are about to begin the championship portion of our season with the Big East Championships in February and the NCAA Championships in March."

Last Saturday the Irish improved their dual-meet record to 3-1. They pounded Toledo 268-83 and fell to No. 2 Northwestern in the last event of the meet, 178-173. The Wildcats edged

Maxwell, who set school records in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke earlier this season, won two individual events and a had a hand in the victorious 400-medley relay. Sophomore Heidi Grossman and Junior Natalie Stitt led the diving squad to take the top spots in both the 3- and 1-meter dives respectively.

Another key matchup is on the horizon for the Irish as they travel to Louisville for a Big East meet with the No. 20 Cardinals Saturday. The following weekend, Notre Dame will host the Shamrock Invitational as a final tune-up for the Big East and National Championships.

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"We do have several potential All-Americans swimming over at Rolfs Aquatic Center."

Brian Barnes
Irish coach

out the Irish by less than four-tenths of a second in the final event.

BOWLED OVER



Sophomore running back Robert Hughes looks for a hole during Notre Dame's 49-21 win over Hawaii Dec. 24 in the Hawaii Bowl. Hughes rushed for 55 yards and a touchdown.

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Incomplete Irish squad impresses

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Senior Billy Buzaid followed freshmen Jordan Rincon in taking the top two spots in the men's 600 at the Indiana Opener in Bloomington, Ind. Saturday.

The meet at Indiana University was the team's first since the Blue-Gold Meet before Christmas Break, and only its second meet overall.

Rincon's time of 1:20.46 bested Buzaid by only 0.4 seconds.

In the women's 600-meter dash, sophomores Kelly Langhans and Natalie Johnson also finished first and second, running times of 1:33.47 and 1:34.65, respectively.

Most of the team was allowed to enjoy the extent of their holiday break, and thus less than 25 athletes competed Saturday, yet the list of positive starts to the season continues. Senior Anna Weber qualified for the NCAA Championships in the women's weight throw with a throw of 19.18 meters, finishing only a half meter out of first and earning second. Weber also placed seventh in the shot put at 14 meters.

Sophomore Justin Schneider took fourth in the men's 800 with a time of 1:56.81. Coach Joe Paine described Schneider's performance as "pretty good, since he's a decathlete."

Junior Eric Quick placed second in the long jump by leaping 7.13 meters, or over 23 feet.

"Eric Quick had an exceptionally good opening performance," Coach Paine said.

Senior Mary Saxer won the women's pole vault with a height of 4.00 meters. Junior Joanna Schultz came in third in the women's 200 meters with a time of 25.10, and Schultz took fifth in the 400 meters by posting a time of 56.29 seconds.

Finishing fourth in the women's 800-meter run was junior Elizabeth Myers at 2:15.76, and freshmen Maddie Buttinger finished fourth in the high jump with a height of 1.70 meters.

The men's team received fourth-place finishes from junior pole vaulter Matt Schipper as he cleared 4.90 meters, and sophomore shot putter Denes Veres took fourth with a 16.58 meter toss.

The solid start to the season left Paine looking to the future.

"Where we really want to run well is the Big East meet," Paine said. "This was just one small step to getting the team ready for the Big East."

On Friday, the Irish return to the Loftus Center to host the Notre Dame Indoor Opener, and next week host a quad meet with Marquette, Michigan State and Wisconsin.

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MLB

Padres to give Prior yet another chance

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Right-hander Mark Prior, who has missed more than two full seasons because of shoulder problems, and infielder Chris Burke agreed to minor league contracts with the San Diego Padres on Tuesday and were invited to spring training.

Prior signed with the Padres as a free agent prior to the 2008 season but missed the entire year after undergoing surgery on his right shoulder on June 4, the latest medical setback to a once-promising career.

Prior also missed the 2007 season after undergoing surgery on the same shoulder that April.

He last pitched in the big leagues on Aug. 10, 2006, with the Chicago Cubs. He was 1-6 with a 7.21 ERA that season.

Padres general manager Kevin Towers said Prior threw off a mound on Friday for the first time since surgery, and the report from team trainer Todd Hutcheson was good.

"The last surgery benefited him a great deal," Towers said. "It looks like his mechanics are back in line again and he has good carries on his

throws when he's doing long tosses.

"He's had quite a few surgeries, and we're hoping this one certainly fixed any issues he had," Towers said. "I hate to put any timelines on it, but we hope he's pitching competitively at the start of the season. If it's not in the big leagues, then maybe a few starts in the minor leagues."

Prior will make \$1 million if he's on the big league roster. His salary is not guaranteed.

Prior was once thought to be the Cubs' ace of the future. In 2003, he finished third in the NL Cy Young Award voting, was 18-6 with a 2.43 ERA and struck out 245 in 211 1-3 innings.

That October, he was on the mound for Game 6 of the NL championship series against Florida with the Cubs leading the series 3-2. Chicago led by three runs in the eighth inning before the Marlins, perhaps helped by fan Steve Bartman's play on a foul ball at Wrigley Field, rallied to win. Florida won Game 7, then went on to win the World Series.

Prior has won just 18 games since then.

He grew up in San Diego and was the second pick overall in the 2001 amateur draft.

Hoyas

continued from page 20

that two days later with a home win over Georgetown, then ranked No. 10 in the country. Then after fending off a pesky Seton Hall team, Notre Dame experienced possibly its most crushing loss of the season Monday night, falling 87-73 in overtime to No. 20 Louisville — a game Notre Dame would've loved to have, considering Louisville was the first of five ranked teams. Notre Dame will face over the next 17 days. Notre Dame's next four opponents — Syracuse, Connecticut, Marquette and Pittsburgh — have a combined record of 14-1 in conference play.

Louisville 87, No. 12 Notre Dame 73 (OT)

Notre Dame's dynamic and multi-faceted offense could only muster two points over the final 10:35 against the Cardinals Monday night and Louisville, behind 24 points and 16 rebounds from Terence Williams, escaped with a win in a game Notre Dame let get away.

The Irish held a 71-67 lead with 5:35 left in regulation, but Louisville came back to tie with a layup from Samardo Samuels with 3:22 remaining.

For the rest of regulation, Notre Dame tightened the screws on Louisville defensively, and didn't allow the Cardinals to score, but the Irish couldn't score either. Guard Tory Jackson, who had seven turnovers to go along with nine points and six assists, missed a layup. Forward Luke Harangody, who turned in another strong performance of 28 points and 13 rebounds, missed a pair of jumpers.

Despite that, Notre Dame had a chance to win on the last shot, but Jackson could find nothing as he penetrated and threw the ball into the backcourt. The Irish were called for a backcourt violation with 0.8 seconds left. Louisville's Will Scott missed a last-second 3-pointer and the game went into overtime, where the Cardinals kicked it up a notch and left a gassed Notre Dame in its wake.

Samuels, who finished with 18 points and six rebounds, started off overtime with a jumper. Zach Hillesland scored quickly with Notre Dame's lone field goal of the 10:35 drought, to tie it at 73. Then Earl Clark, who had 15 points and 10 rebounds including a thunderous dunk over Harangody in the first half, answered right back with a three and the rout was on.

Louisville used its full-court pressure against Notre Dame after every made basket. The pressure contributed to Notre Dame's 15 turnovers. And in a common theme that has developed this year for Notre Dame, Louisville outrebounded the Irish 48-43 and had 19 second-chance points to Notre Dame's seven.

No. 13 Notre Dame 88, Seton Hall 79

After its emotional win over Georgetown, Notre Dame needed a late run to put away Big East bottom feeder Seton Hall. In the process, the Irish collected their 20th consecutive Big East home victory tying the conference record set by Pittsburgh during a stretch spanning 2001-2004.

Uncharacteristically poor

shooting by Notre Dame kept the Pirates in the game for much of the evening. The Irish shot only 41.9 percent from the floor — over four percentage points below their season average.

Harangody was partly responsible for that low percentage, making only eight of 23 from the field, but the junior was also the catalyst for the Notre Dame's late run that put away the Pirates. Harangody's put-back with 9:55 remaining tied the game and sparked a 13-4 run by Notre Dame. Harangody finished with 30 points and 16 rebounds.

"Coach said during the game to just keep going at it, and I did," Harangody said. "I finally started going to work a little bit in there. Not one of my best days, but it still felt good."

Tory Jackson and Kyle McAlarney also made significant contributions for the Irish as each player finished with 18 points.

No. 13 Notre Dame 73, No. 10 Georgetown 67

Irish coach Mike Brey put his faith in Luke Harangody, and the reigning Big East Player of the Year didn't let his coach down.

With 15:17 left in the second half and Notre Dame up by six points, Harangody picked up his fourth foul. Brey would sit the junior for less than four minutes before Harangody returned to lead the Irish to victory, scoring 10 points and grabbing five rebounds down the stretch.

"When you're an older player, a veteran player, my feeling is sometimes coaches sit guys with foul trouble too much. He's played a lot of basketball," Brey said. "I talked with him when I took him out. I told him, 'I need you to be smart.'"

Guard Kyle McAlarney also found his shooting touch against the Hoyas. After making only one of five 3-pointers in Notre Dame's loss to St. John's, the senior sharpshooter connected on five of 11 treys and finished with 17 points.

By beating Georgetown, Notre Dame defeated one of the only two Big East teams that hasn't fallen to the Irish during their current home winning streak. Rutgers, who visits the Joyce Center on Feb. 25, is now the only team remaining.

St. John's 71, No. 13 Notre Dame 65

The Red Storm stunned the Irish with a 71-65 upset. Harangody recorded 28 points and 14 boards but Notre Dame's four-game win streak came to a surprising end. Red Storm guard D.J. Kennedy had 20 points and 10 rebounds in his team's biggest win in years.

No. 13 Notre Dame 92, DePaul 82

The Irish opened up conference play on New Year's Eve with a 92-82 win over DePaul. All five Notre Dame starters finished with double-digit scoring totals and senior Zach Hillesland dropped a career-high 17 points. Luke Harangody, the reigning Big East player of the year, finished with 26 points and 16 rebounds.

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Hope

continued from page 20

what it takes to compete in this league as well as finding the balance between academics and athletics."

Senior Erin Newsom scored 14 points in the game after being honored for having the most rebounds in school history.

Next, the Belles went on the road and beat Adrian 74-69 in another conference game. The Belles barely escaped with a win but remained undefeated in the

conference.

Mahoney again chipped in 17 points and five assists for the Belles, while Newsom scored 17 points of her own to put her past the 1000-point mark for her career. Beier rounded out the double-digit scorers with 14.

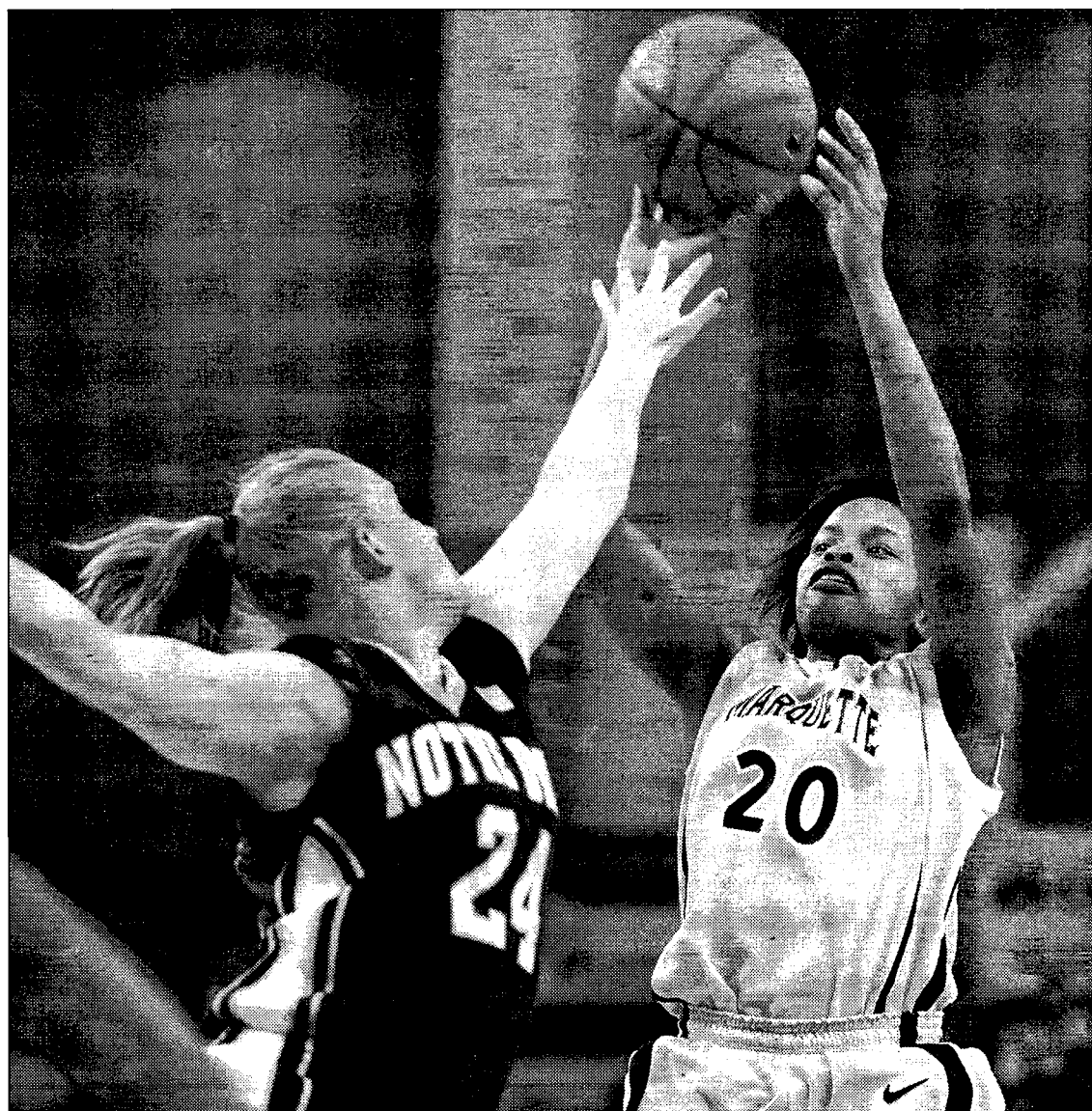
"I think we see all the conference teams as big rivals," Newsom said. "Some schools are seen as tougher teams to beat like Hope and Calvin, but we try to go into every conference game with the attitude that we need to play our best in order to win, regardless of the team we're put up against."

In their final conference game of the break the Belles pulled out a win over Alma, 69-47. Every Belle saw action in the game which created a balanced attack that left the Scotts at bay in the victory which improved the Belles to 6-0 in conference play this season.

Beier again racked up 14 points in the victory and Newsom added 12 points and two steals.

The Belles will host Albion College today at 7:30 p.m.

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Irish senior guard Lindsay Schrader tries to block Krystal Ellis' shot during Notre Dame's 75-65 loss to Marquette Tuesday. Schrader had seven points in the game.

Eagles

continued from page 20

Hall, DePaul and Georgetown to open conference play, and got a large contribution from center Erica Williamson. Williamson scored a career-high 20 points in Notre Dame's 86-62 win over DePaul, then broke it the next game. She dropped 21 in an 84-63 win over Georgetown.

◆Novosel was named the Big East Freshman of the Week twice, on Dec. 29 and Jan. 13. She averaged 15.5 points in two games last week. Freshman forward Kellie Watson has also been named freshman of the week twice, making this the first time Notre Dame has ever had two players win the honor twice.

◆Because of the injuries Notre Dame has sustained, the

Irish added junior walk-on Alena Christiansen to the roster on Dec. 19. Christiansen played Bookstore Basketball in her first two years at school. In high school, she was a two-time all-state selection at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Fort. Lauderdale, Fla. She averaged 15 points per game as a senior. And, today is her 21st birthday.

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Check out The Observer's sports blog, Observersportsblog.21cr.info, for more information about your favorite Irish teams.

Hanks

continued from page 20

released by the athletic department. "I will always treasure the friendships I made at Notre Dame and will carry those memories with me forever."

Hanks led the Irish to the National Championship game against North Carolina, where the Irish lost 2-1 on Dec. 7. Before that, the Irish had not lost all season.

Hanks beat out North Carolina's Casey Nogueira and UCLA's Christian DiMartino. She holds 67 school records and was a four-year All-America selection. She ranked fifth in the nation in 2008 with 20 goals, third in assists with 15 and second in points with 55. "I'm just so proud of her and all that she's accomplished during her four years at Notre Dame," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said in the state-

ment. "She's evolved into a complete player on the field and a complete person off of it. The caring, compassion and generosity she shows, not only to her teammates, but to everyone she comes in contact with, is second to none. She is someone that has set a standard that others will be compared to for years to come."

She was the Big East Offensive Player of the Year, a four-time conference Offensive Player of the Week and was a first-team all-conference selection.

Hanks also won the 2008 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, presented to the senior athlete who combined on-field performance with service.

Hanks is the fourth Irish women's soccer player to win the Hermann Trophy, presented annually by the Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis, Mo.

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"I'm just so proud of her and all that she's accomplished during her four years at Notre Dame."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

Streak

continued from page 20

"I don't think the team played great as a whole," he said. "We were definitely a little rusty."

Against Minnesota-Duluth, the Irish started hot, with two goals in the opening period from senior Garrett Regan. Senior Erik Condra added an empty-net goal with one second left in the game to give Notre Dame a 3-1 win and the Shillelagh Tournament title. Irish goalie Jordan Pearce was named the tournament's most outstanding player.

"I give them a lot of credit because it looks like we came back in good shape," Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said. "I thought we played really well against Duluth Saturday night."

Jackson said he was pleased with the outcome of a tournament as a whole, and credited Associate Athletic Director Tom Nevala for organizing it.

"He did an outstanding job in making it a first-class event," Jackson said. "I thought it was a huge success and I know that we're looking at doing it again next year. With a full year to actually market it and sell it, it would be an outstand-

ing tradition."

The Irish continued their winning ways last weekend against Alaska, eking out 2-0 and 3-0 wins in games that entered the third period scoreless. In the first game, junior Ryan Thang notched a goal at 11:40 of the final period, and Condra added an empty-netter to clinch the game. In the second game, Hanson snapped the deadlock at 5:53 of the third period with his team-leading 14th goal of the season. Ryan added another at 12:28, and Thang notched an empty-net goal to finish the scoring.

Jackson said his team's ability to wait for the right chance was crucial in the wins over the Nanooks.

"When you're playing against teams that stress a lot of defense, it's hard to generate scoring chances," he said. "So you're going to have to be patient."

Hanson echoed his coach, saying that it was important that the team remained calm, even if they weren't scoring goals.

"If we got ahead of ourselves or got a little antsy and took a stupid penalty, they definitely had the ability to capitalize and then just pack it in for the rest of the game," he said.

Jackson also praised Pearce for his back-to-back shutouts.

"He's been a rock all season," he said. "And I think this weekend was

just a culmination of it."

The wins maintained Notre Dame's hold on the top spot in the CCHA, giving the Irish a five-point cushion over Miami (OH).

The four wins to start the second half are a stark contrast to last year when the Irish, hot going into the break, went 2-5-1 and struggled for much of the second half before rebounding in the NCAA Tournament.

"Going through that last year, I think it really gave us a lot of experience," Hanson said. "Before Christmas break we had a team meeting where we really stressed the importance of guys staying in shape over break."

The Irish haven't lost since an Oct. 25 defeat to the hands of Miami (OH), but Hanson said while winning was obviously a good thing, the team wouldn't rest on their laurels.

"It's something to be proud of," he said. "But it's also something that we can't get caught up in."

Jackson was more frank with his evaluation of his team's success.

"We're not going to win every game the rest of the way," he said. "We just have to be prepared so that when we do lose, we bounce back well the next game."

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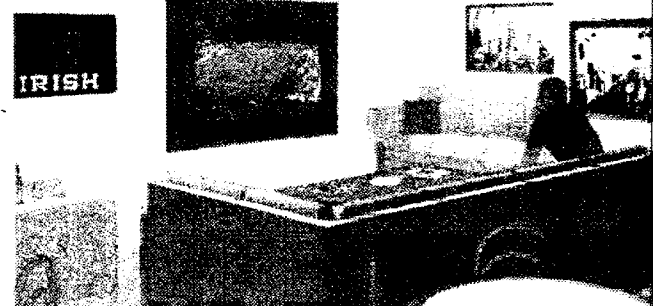
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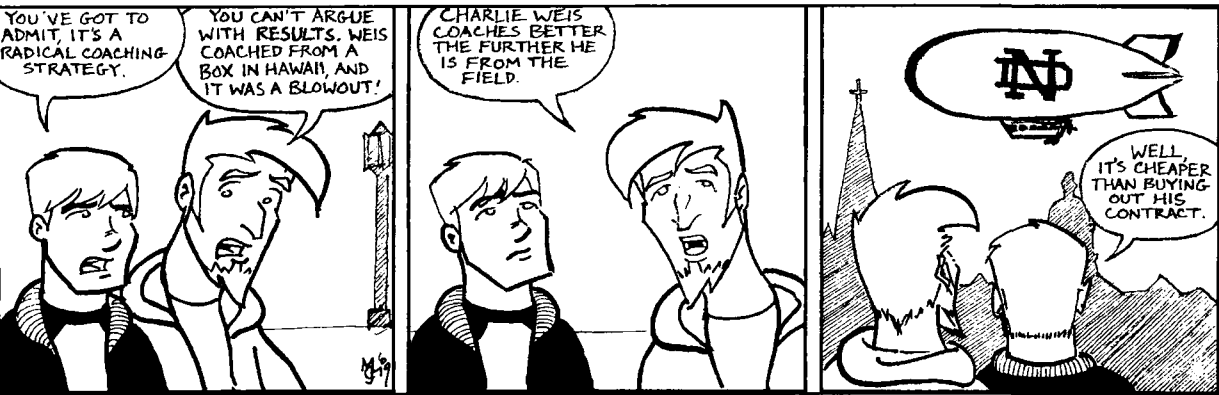
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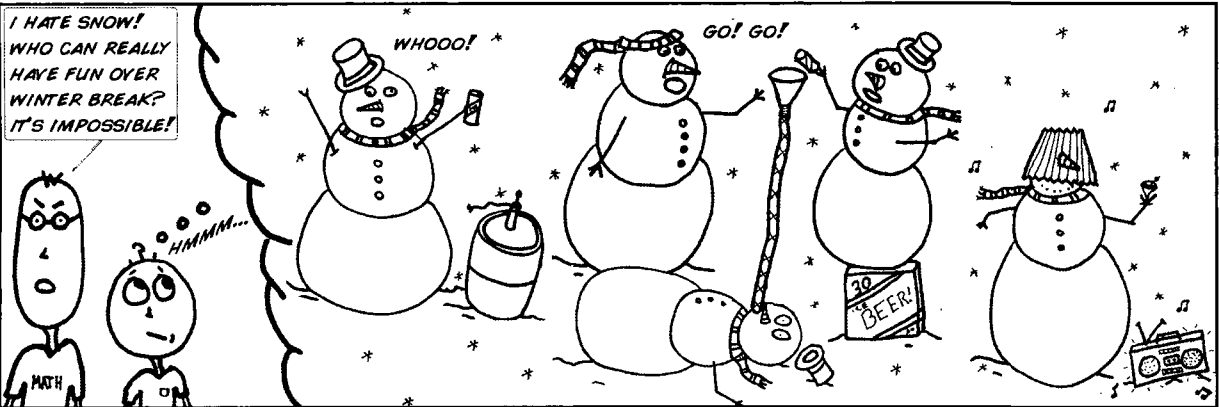
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Michael Mikuska



The Dome Piece

David Cavadini



Crossword

Will Shortz

- Across

1. Cavern

6. Famous

9. Bone: Prefix

13. Mimicked some farm animals

14. Application

15. "___ to please"

17. Song of praise

18. Longtime morning TV host

20. Iowa, for one

22. "From my perspective ..."

23. Remote mail service: Abbr.

24. "And the ___ goes to ..."

26. Ranch extension?

27. Award place for a green ribbon

29. Discern

31. Stretched much too far, as language

32. Invite for

38. "Yes"

39. Soviet military force

42. A, as in Augsburg

43. Part of U.N.C.F.

45. Hors ___

47. Mesopotamia, today

50. ___ luxury

51. Call letters?

53. Fab

55. Lots of caresses, e.g., for short

57. Relative of a kingfisher

59. Had dinner at a restaurant

62. Be idle

64. Rubbish

65. Query at a poker table

66. E-mail suffix

67. Expected
- Down

1. Band boosters

2. Condition in outer space

3. Ingredient in a witches' brew

4. Check again, as the books

5. "Enid and ___ dine" (palindrome)

6. Cadge

7. Prolific Asimov

8. Intimates

9. Mice catchers

10. Congers

11. Kraut modifier

12. Kid's song refrain

16. Mohawked actor of 1980s TV

19. It rotates ... and may be rotated

21. ___ Dame

25. Lose hair

28. Uproar

30. Easy two-pointer

31. Common alloy component

32. Literature class reading

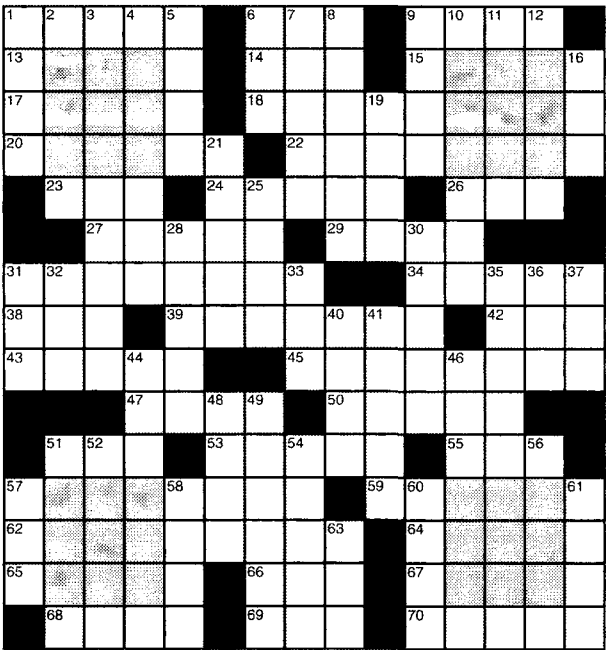
33. Pop

35. Out of whack

36. Liaison

37. Slip-___ (some shoes)

40. It must be cast



Puzzle by Joe Krozel

41. Stiller's partner

44. Walgreens rival

46. Reject, as an incumbent in an election

48. Memo start

49. Lines

51. Language quintet comprising the only elements in the shaded boxes

52. Prepare for a drive

54. Gearshift sequence

56. Make aware

57. Globe circler of 1889-90

58. River through Pisa

60. Seminary degs.

61. Actress Daly

63. Husband-and-wife team, e.g.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Jumble

Henri Arnold
Mike Argirion

JUMBLE

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

DUSEE

ATTIR

HALIDA

HERNET

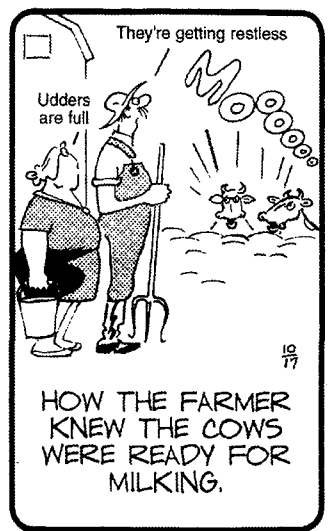
Ans: HE THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SMOKY LOFTY GLOOMY LOTION
Answer: When he was told about the hole in the wall, the cop said he'd — "LOOK" INTO IT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Horoscope

Eugenia Last

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Orlando Bloom, 32; Stephen Hendry, 40; Julia Louis-Dreyfus, 48; Richard Moll, 66

Happy Birthday: You must be strong this year, if you want to maintain your status quo. Unusual changes regarding work will take you on an adventure that, in the end, will have positive results. Keep your ideas and your plans on a small scale for now; there will be time to expand when the economy is better. Your numbers are 9, 13, 18, 28, 34, 39, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't spare any expense when it comes to what you really want. You can budget elsewhere. You can make a great impression by doing a first-class job in both your personal and professional life. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do things you enjoy instead of taking on what others request you to do. You will meet people who interest you and who make better friends and companions. Physical activity may not be your first choice but it will get you moving and stimulate your senses. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It's time to reevaluate your situation and do something about it. If your relationships are dragging you down, discuss the problems you are experiencing and, if you do not get any cooperation, it is probably time to move on. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't be shy when there is so much to be done. A change at work will be to your benefit in the end, so don't make a fuss. Getting involved with someone unusual will give you a new lease on life. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of responsibilities and you will be praised for your ability to get things done. Once you put your duties behind you, you can enjoy a pastime that will allow you to feel free and easy about your life and your future. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A personal message can be sent if you are prompt and focused on getting what you want. Honesty and sincerity will be what count in the end. Love is in the picture and a social evening will pay off emotionally. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you mix business with pleasure or share your thoughts, you may be taken advantage of or used for someone else's benefit. Focus quietly on your work until you are in a position to take a piece of the action. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be very secretive about your plans. If someone gets wind of what you are doing, he or she will steal your ideas and run with them. Protect your interests and your future. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have to draw the line between thrill-seeking and experiencing a little adventure. Don't take a risk or you may end up in a very uncertain position. Travel can be interesting but is not necessary this time around. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't rely on what you are told. Dishonesty is prevalent. Do your own research and you will avoid an unsavory situation. It's best not to take on a partner if you can get a job done on your own. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do not overdo it in any way. You'll be tempted to overspend, overindulge and make unrealistic promises. Back off before you let your emotions take over and lead you into difficult situations. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't get dragged into something you aren't ready to deal with yet. You don't want to be put in a position where you have to make a decision you are not prepared to make. Someone isn't likely to be honest with you. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are strong, steadfast and attracted to the unusual. You are compassionate and work for reform. You are a strong leader.

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

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Two for the show

Hanks brings home second Hermann Trophy, one of four players ever to win two

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

It may not ease the pain of losing a National Championship, but being named the best player in the country can't hurt.

Irish senior forward Kerri Hanks won the MAC Hermann Trophy, awarded to the best Div. I player, for the second time in four years, becoming the fourth player ever to win the award twice. She joins Mia Hamm and Cindy Parlow from North Carolina and Christine Sinclair from Portland State, the other two-time recipients.

"I'm grateful to everyone at Notre Dame — my teammates, coaches, staff and our fans who are the greatest in the country — for all of their support, not only this year but throughout my career," Hanks said in a statement

see HANKS/page 18



JESS LEE/The Observer

Senior forward Kerri Hanks runs during Notre Dame's 1-0 win over Stanford in the semifinal game of the College Cup on Dec. 5. Hanks is the fourth player to win two Hermann trophies.

HOCKEY

Winning streak still intact

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

The Irish picked up right where they left off before Christmas break, winning games against Union, Minnesota-Duluth and Alaska to run their unbeaten streak to 18 games.

After a three-week break, Notre Dame returned to action on Jan. 2 and 3, hosting the Shillelagh tournament against Union, Minnesota-Duluth, and Massachusetts-Lowell.

In the first game against Union, the Irish fell behind 1-0 after the first period, but rebounded thanks to goals from senior Justin White and sophomore Ben Ryan. Junior Dan Kissel added a third-period goal to secure the win and a spot in the tournament title game against the Bulldogs. Despite the win, senior Christian Hanson said he thought the team could have played better.

see STREAK/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Marquette hands Irish first conference loss, snaps ND win streak

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

A sweet winter break came to a bitter end in Milwaukee Tuesday night.

Angel Robinson scored 19 points and led Marquette to a 75-65 upset of No. 10 Notre Dame at the Al McGuire Center, snapping Notre Dame's seven-game win streak.

Krystal Ellis contributed 18 points on 7-of-13 shooting, and the Golden Eagles outscored Notre Dame (14-2, 3-1 Big East) 45-31 in the second half.

The game was tied at 52-52

with 10:18 left in the second half, but Marquette (11-6, 2-1) went on a 23-13 run to take control.

"We missed some shots and they made some big plays," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in a telephone interview after the game. "We fouled a little bit, and they made their free throws."

Notre Dame shot only 38.8 percent from field goal range and 57.1 percent from the foul line. This season, Notre Dame has made 69.5 percent of its foul shots, 10th out of 16 Big East teams.

Guards Ashley Barlow and

Melissa Lechlitner each scored 15 points for the Irish.

"Barlow played well. I was happy with her game," McGraw said. "She got a lot of steals, she made some threes, she had a good game. Lech is a fighter. She's doing everything she can to win the game."

Forward Becca Bruszewski scored 12 on 6-of-11 shooting and Natalie Novosel had 10.

Robinson also pulled down nine rebounds in the game. McGraw said Robinson improved her performance from previous games.

"She made her shots," McGraw said. "She played prob-

ably a little better than she's been playing lately.

Marquette out-rebounded Notre Dame 42-35 and scored 24 fast-break points to Notre Dame's 12.

The Irish led by as many as eight in the opening minutes of the second half, but Robinson hit a game-tying 3-pointer with 12:47 remaining. Notre Dame kept it close once Marquette took the lead, but the Golden Eagles hit their foul shots; they made 17 of 22, or 77.3 percent.

Marquette led 17-8 with 10 minutes left in the first half, but Bruszewski sank a layup to bring Notre Dame within three.

Watson hit a 3-pointer to give Notre Dame its first lead since the opening minute, 24-23, with 4:36 left in the first half. Notre Dame led 34-30 at the half.

Notes:

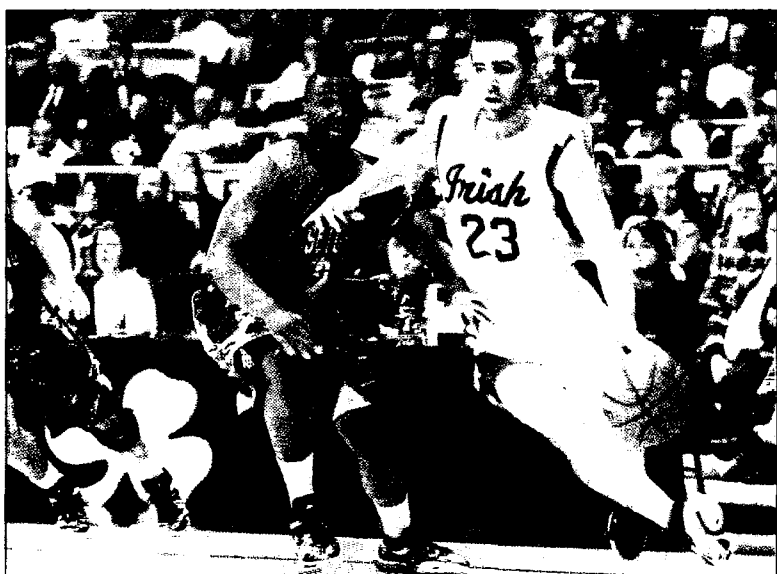
◆ No matter that No. 10 Notre Dame lost two regular contributors to torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tears. Tuesday's defeat was the first since an overtime loss to Michigan on Dec. 10 and the first conference loss after the team started Big East play 3-0.

Notre Dame defeated Seton

see EAGLES/page 17

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cards stuff Irish in overtime



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish guard Kyle McAlarney drives to the hoop during Notre Dame's 88-79 win over Seton Hall Saturday.

By CHRIS HINE, GREG ARBOGAST and FRAN TOLAN

Sports Writers

It was no secret heading into this season that the Big East was going to be the most grueling conference in the country.

Through five Big East games, Notre Dame (12-4, 3-2 Big East) has already experienced a season's worth of emotions. After beating DePaul in the conference opener, Notre Dame felt the unexpected and disappointing low of losing to the bottom-dwelling St. John's in Madison Square Garden, only to follow

see HOYAS/page 17

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles beat first ranked team since going D-III

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The Belles broke new ground over the break and accomplished something they've never done.

Saint Mary's bounced back from an early deficit to defeat No. 1 Hope College 91-84, winning the first game over a ranked opponent since joining Div. III over 10 years ago.

"Our team never gave up in the Hope game," head coach Jen Henley said. "We were down 10 points with 6:15 left to go. We did a nice job on the boards down

the stretch and our bench gave us a lift on the offensive end."

Senior Nicole Beier had a breakout second half to lead the Belles in scoring for the game. Beier scored a career-high 25 points, 17 of those coming in the second half of the game.

Freshman Patsy Mahoney also stepped up for the Belles, scoring 18 points and 11 in the second half.

"I think our freshmen have adapted well to their first season of college basketball," Henley said. "I believe they understand

see HOPE/page 18