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Beah speaks about war experiences

Author, activist fought as a child soldier in the Sierra Leone civil war for four years

By LIZ LEFEBVRE
News Writer

Ishmael Beah, author of "A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier," spoke Monday night in McKenna Auditorium about his experiences before, during and after civil war in his native Sierra Leone. Beah stressed in his presentation that he and his fellow countrymen did not lose hope in the face of violence.

Beah's life in rural Sierra Leone was interrupted by civil war when he was around 12 years old. After losing his entire immediate family in the

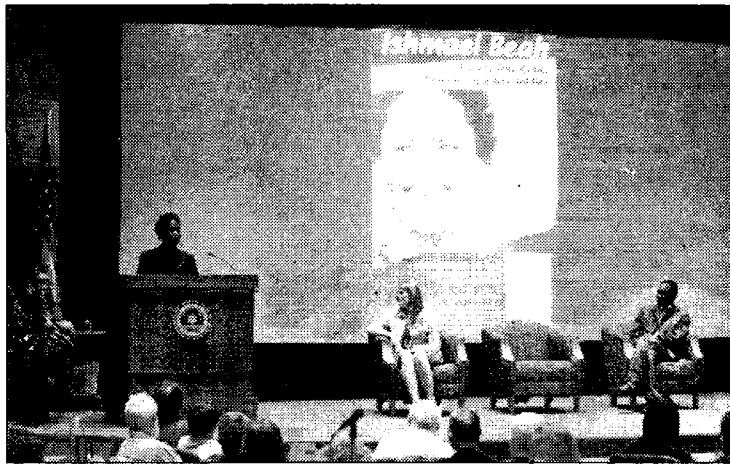
fighting, Beah was picked up by rebel soldiers and forcefully recruited as a child soldier in 1992.

"We all knew that you would be killed if you didn't fight or follow orders," Beah said of his time as a soldier.

During the war, Beah mentioned how he and the other children had to live through their fear to survive. Because staying alive meant that they had to kill, Beah noted how the child soldiers had to normalize their experiences.

"To live, someone else had to die on your behalf," Beah said.

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Author Ishmael Beah addresses an audience in the McKenna Auditorium on Monday night.

GreeND kicks off recycling campaign

By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

GreeND and the Office of Sustainability will kick off the second-annual Recyclemania campaign Tuesday as part of a nationwide competition and movement to promote recycling. The competition will continue until April 3.

"The campaign seeks to give the community an increased awareness of how we acquire waste and promote recognition that recycling is an integral part of maintaining sustainability," sophomore Regina McCormack, a GreeND committee member, said.

Last year's Recyclemania campaign included a 10-week campus-wide competition to see which residence hall could recycle the most materials.

"Data will still be compiled to measure the volume of recycled materials that the Notre Dame campus generates during the three-week campaign," McCormack said.

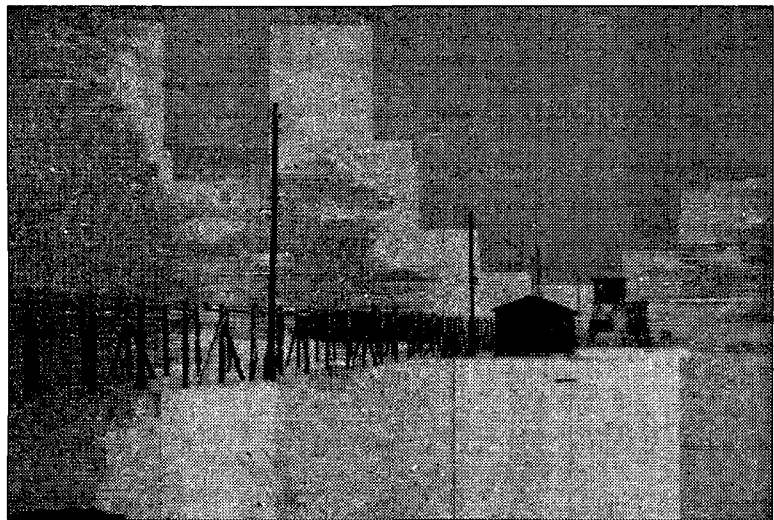
"This year the campaign is more educational in nature with the purpose being to raise general awareness of the need to recycle," she said.

The Recyclemania campaign will conclude with an art show competition in which the residence halls will enter creative sculptures or statues constructed of recycled materials. The art-work will be displayed and

see GREEND/page 4

Students visit six Holocaust sites over break

History course focuses on origins on anti-Semitism, rise of National Socialism



A cabin stands alone at the remnants of Majdanek, a concentration and death camp located outside of Lublin.

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

While some Notre Dame students jetted off to exotic locations to spend their Spring Break, a group of students ventured halfway around the world to explore various sites commemorating the Holocaust.

The trip was in conjunction with a class focused on the Holocaust taught by visiting professor of history Fr. Kevin Spicer.

The course "includes study of the origins of anti-Semitism, the rise of National Socialism, German Jews in the Weimar Republic and their exclusion

from public life under National Socialism, the euthanasia action, Reichskristallnacht, ghettoization, deportation and the concentration and death camps," according to Spicer.

Amber Rosenberg, a student in the class who went on the trip said that the Holocaust hit close to home.

"I decided to apply for the class because my family was fairly involved with the Holocaust and I've always been really interested in learning more about it," she said. "My grandma lived in Krakow when Poland was invaded and my grandpa did some undercover work for the

see HOLOCAUST/page 4

NDSP detains man in cell phone theft

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) arrested a man who fled campus after stealing a student's cell phone Wednesday March 4, according to Dave Chapman, assistant director of NDSP.

The man was detained on Notre Dame Avenue after a student reported his cell phone stolen in the Hesburgh Library, he said. The student gave a description of the adult male, which allowed NDSP to catch the man off-campus.

The man was charged with a Class D felony after the

police recovered the stolen cell phone, Chapman said.

Chapman said the student left his cell phone unattended on a table in the second floor of the Library. The student told police he saw the man take the phone from a distance.

"The subject yelled, 'hey that's my phone,'" Chapman said. "But the guy took off and left the Library."

Chapman said the student immediately called NDSP and gave a description of the man, which led to the recovery of the phone.

see THEFT/page 6

Campus celebrates St. Patty's Day

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Notre Dame students returned to campus Sunday looking forward to a fun St. Patrick's Day celebration Tuesday.

Senior Olivia Vervaeke plans to celebrate her last St. Patrick's Day at Notre Dame by going out.

"I've never been able to go out on St. Patrick's Day before," Vervaeke said. "I'm excited."

"I'll be going out, to a friend's house at first. Then probably some place in South Bend," Vervaeke said.

While skipping class is popular for quite a few of Notre Dame's students on St. Patrick's Day, Vervaeke is

planning on being present in classes.

"I'm planning on going to class, and then begin celebrating afterwards," she said.

Popular destinations for students Tuesday will include Corby's Bar, Fiddler's Hearth, and off-campus houses.

For some students, the holiday's inconvenient mid-week location means all work and no play. Freshman Greg Woods will be among those staying in.

"I'll be studying. I have an exam on Thursday," Woods said.

Freshman Olivia Covangelo will also be hard at work.

"I have physics homework due at 10 p.m., so I'll be busy," she said.

McGlinn resident assistant

Katie Begerow will be on duty on St. Patrick's Day and plans to step up precautions.

"I'll be keeping a more watchful eye," Begerow said. "[St. Patrick's Day] has a reputation."

This St. Patrick's Day will not be as celebrated as it would be if the holiday were on a weekend, according to Begerow.

"It's not a given that everyone will go out," Begerow said. "Many students have exams during the days following St. Patrick's Day."

However, she's not too upset about not being able to participate in the festivities.

"It'd be cool to go hang out somewhere, but oh well. It's my job."

see DAY/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Missing Music

Over break, I was trying to find a new pair of jeans when I noticed that the radio station the store was broadcasting was playing a M  lee song. This filled me with joy.

I'm sure many of you are now racking your brains, trying to find the significance in that. A song by M  lee? Who's that? A long lost band from the 80s? The newest sensation? Why, I simply must buy their CD on iTunes immediately!

... Okay, maybe not the last part, but let me enlighten you a little. M  lee is a contemporary band, no worries, and a very good one at that. They're an alternative rock group, with emphasis on the piano. And wonderful. Completely wonderful. Their first album is a little rough around the edges, but the second is full of feel-good songs that'll bring a smile to your face any day. I first found out about this wonderful band when they opened a concert I was at, and it was love the moment Chris Cron (the lead singer) jumped up on the piano stool for "Frequently Baby." This band should be all over the airways, and yet I've heard them on the radio maybe all of twice. Although, M  lee is doing better than most of my favorite bands- their song "Stand Up" is on the soundtrack for Sydney White.

However, this has brought me back to a problem that has long plagued me. Why are so many bands that are so good get absolutely no airtime, while I hear Taylor Swift and Carrie Underwood every twenty seconds? No joke, when "Before He Cheats" was new, I heard it on the radio twice in fifteen minutes. And I flipped stations while I was home, and heard "Love Story," beginning to end. Yes, on two different stations.

Now, I'm not saying that these artists don't have their merits and aren't enjoyable, but let's give some other artists some airtime! Now, maybe I'm not listening to the right stations, but I have never heard fantastic artists like Mae or Anberlin on the radio. How about Motion City Soundtrack? Jack's Mannequin? The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus? The only airtime I've heard these guys get has been on Pandora or Last FM.

The question I pose here is WHY. These artists are all brilliant — some are probably better than what we hear day in and day out! And yet the same songs remain on the air, played time and time again until I'm singing along despite the deep desire to plug my ears. Bands like M  lee get left behind so that "the popular songs" can be played every fifteen minutes. Wouldn't want us to forget the words, now, after all.

So, radio stations and anyone else, really, broaden your horizons. There's more out there than what we listen to every day, and it's a shame it can't make the broadcast playlist more than once in a blue moon.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kaitlyn Conway at kconway2@nd.edu

Kaitlyn Conway
Assistant Scene Editor

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE GREEN OBJECT?



Brian Dolinar
junior
Siegfried

"Soylent Green."



Mary Clare Murphy
junior
Lyons

"Flubber, because that's how I roll...or bounce?"



Jennifer Henzler
sophomore
Welsh Family

"Harry Potter's eyes."



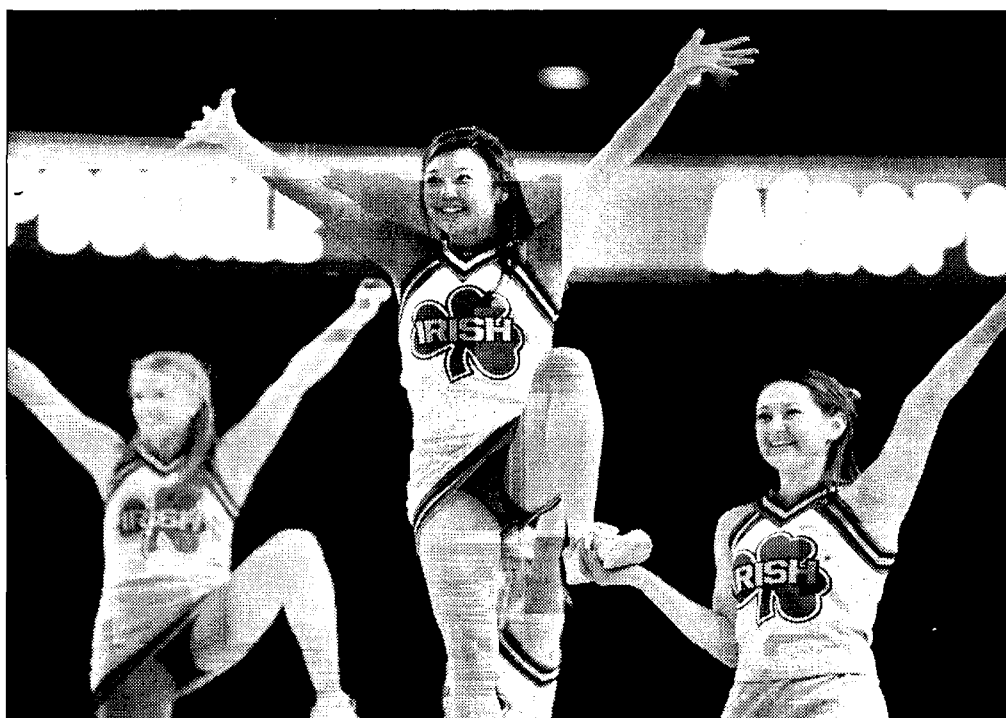
Johanna Kirsch
junior
McGlenn

"Yoda's lightsaber in action."



Chelsea Carey
sophomore
Badin

"Money. I'm a product of America."



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Notre Dame cheerleader Kelsey Ingram, center, performs during a timeout as the men's basketball team defeated Rutgers 61-50 in the first round of the Big East Tournament in Madison Square Garden in New York on Tuesday, March 10th.

OFFBEAT

Police arrest growling man on drug charges

MANSFIELD, La. — Authorities arrested a 32-year-old Texas man on drug charges on Thursday after construction workers saw him on his hands and knees, eating mud and growling like a dog. A woman who accompanied the man from Texas told investigators he had been wandering around the complex and eating dog food.

Sheriff's Lt. Horace Womack said a small bottle of PCP, a half-pound of marijuana and one-fourth ounce of crack cocaine

were seized during the man's arrest.

The man was booked with possessing all three drugs with intent to distribute them. He was placed in a cell where jailers at the DeSoto Detention Center could keep an eye on him.

'My name is Rip Van Winkle and I can't sleep'

CORVALLIS, Ore. — An Oregon man says people usually think he's joking when he introduces himself as Rip Van Winkle. But that's the name on his birth certificate. Really. Van Winkle told the Corvallis Gazette Times that his

father and grandfather were nicknamed Rip, but his dad made things official for his son, figuring the nickname would eventually stick to him too.

Now, he has a little fun with it.

"I went to the doctor's office," the 37-year-old contractor said. "My name is Rip Van Winkle, and I can't sleep."

He owns and operates Rip Van Winkle Residential Contract and Repair, and prides himself on being able to fix almost anything.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

St. Patrick's Day Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart today at 5:15 p.m. The presider will be Most Rev. Daniel Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of Peoria. The Folk Choir will provide the music for the Mass.

The Notre Dame Folk Choir will give a concert titled "Songs of Saints and Scholars" today at 6:45 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse lounge. The choir will perform its newest collection of Irish sacred music. The concert is free and open to the public.

Finance professor Carl Ackerman will lead a Senior Transition Seminar on personal finance Wednesday at 6 p.m. The seminar will be held at Legends.

Brittany Maier and the Notre Dame Hand Bell Choir will perform Wednesday at Washington Hall in a concert to support Disability Awareness Month. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to faculty, staff, and students. Parking and shuttle service will be available at Stepan Center.

Efren Rivera Ramos, professor of law at the University of Puerto Rico, will deliver a lecture titled "Territory, Citizenship, and Rights: The Challenges of Overcoming American Colonialism in Puerto Rico" Thursday at 4 p.m. The lecture will be given in 200 McKenna Hall and is open to the public. It is part of the Institute for Latino Studies' lecture series titled "Caribbean Flights: From the First Colonial Cities in America to Metropolis U.S.A."

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 73 LOW 44	HIGH 68 LOW 44	HIGH 54 LOW 30	HIGH 42 LOW 25	HIGH 49 LOW 30	HIGH 50 LOW 39

Atlanta 71 / 46 Boston 48 / 32 Chicago 71 / 44 Denver 70 / 38 Houston 81 / 53 Los Angeles 73 / 53 Minneapolis 56 / 35 New York 53 / 37 Philadelphia 55 / 36 Phoenix 87 / 60 Seattle 48 / 40 St. Louis 75 / 49 Tampa 80 / 60 Washington 56 / 41

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Diversity survey nearly complete

Task force recommends increasing awareness of multicultural events

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Campus Life Council (CLC) discussed improving the relationship between multicultural and international students and the rest of the University at its meeting Monday.

Diversity Council Representative Brigitte Githinji said that her task force sent out a survey to multicultural and international students to get their opinion on how well they have been integrated into University life. She said that she will be able to better understand the sentiment of those students once the survey is completed Sunday.

"So far what I see is a lot of people are not happy with the advertising," Githinji said. "Clubs do exist to bring awareness for certain cultures but nobody attends [their meetings] because the University doesn't advertise."

She said because students don't realize that these clubs are open to everyone, the clubs "feel more exclusive than inclusive." For example, only African American students tend to attend meetings for African American clubs.

One question that the survey asked was "Would you still come to Notre Dame now that you know what it's really like?" Githinji said.

She said that most people said that they would still come, but "only because it is a good institution."

Githinji said that once the final results come in, the task force will meet to decide what needs to be done. She said that right now, she sees "advertising and forcing people to branch out" as key issues.

CLC also discussed steps ways to improve the relationship between off-campus students and the University.

Student body president Bob Reish said the task force dedicated to this relationship divided their mission into two parts: the relationship between rectors

and off-campus students and the relationship between the University and off-campus students.

Badin Hall Rector Sr. Denise Lyon said that because of interactions at hall Mass, hall dances or hall sports, the task force decided that rectors do not need to have a formal role with off-campus students.

"Clubs do exist to bring awareness for certain cultures but nobody attends [their meetings] because the University doesn't advertise."

Brigitte Githinji
representative
Diversity Council

some of the off campus students," Lyon said.

Reish said his task force has comprised a list of questions to ask universities similar to Notre Dame about their off-campus

relationship in order to get a better idea of what should be done here at Notre Dame.

He said such questions being asked include: Does each university guarantee housing and if so, for how many years? Is there a specific individual responsible for off-campus life? If so, are they a university-paid official? Is there specific off-campus housing sponsored by the university?

Chief executive assistant Karen Koski reported her task force had a meeting with a representative from Office and

Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) and four resident assistants in order to see how the Medical Amnesty Policy would impact students on a practical level.

The Medical Amnesty policy would protect students who have been drinking from getting in trouble while helping an intoxicated friend who is hurt or sick.

Resident assistants provided information about the current policy that "as soon as there is an ambulance in the picture, students are automatically sent to Res Life," according to Koski. Koski said there was discussion about creating "something concrete" that resident assistants could hand to students if they have been "Res Lified" and don't know what to do.

The students could "fill [it] out and talk to someone about what to do when you are in the ResLife hearing to make sure you are presenting your story correctly," said Koski.

Koski also said there was a lot of discussion about the image of ORLH and how it affects student decisions.

"While a lot of students may feel that most of the time ResLife will act in a way that they will consider just, that's not enough to make them air on the conservative side when they are in a situation like this," Koski said.

"As it stands now, it is not part of the rectors' role to be in a formal relationship with off campus students, although almost one hundred percent of the rectors are in a relationship with some of the off campus students."

Sr. Denise Lyon
rector
Badin Hall

da.nd.edu, and plans to meet with the organizer in order to improve the Web site. He said after looking at Web sites from other schools, he wants to make the Web site "more appealing" with "better search features."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu@nd.edu

SMC first year 'fine' after being hit by car

Observer Staff Report

A Saint Mary's first year student was hit by a vehicle while crossing U.S. Highway 933/U.S. Highway 31 on her bicycle around 6:15 p.m. Monday night.

Karen Johnson, vice president of Student Affairs, said the student was "doing fine" and was expected to be released later that night,

according to a statement released by Gwen O'Brien, Director of Media Relations for Saint Mary's.

The first year student was not seriously injured, suffering only minor cuts and bruises, Johnson said.

St. Joseph County police, Notre Dame Security Police and Saint Mary's Department of Safety and Security all responded to the scene.

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Saint Mary's revamps student government

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY and SARAH MAYER
News Writers

Student body vice president and chair of the Constitution Committee Sarah Falvey presented the newly amended Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution to the Board of Governance (BOG) Monday, which passed the new document by unanimous consent.

The new constitution eliminates BOG and transfers the BOG's former responsibilities to SGA.

"I think the biggest change you will notice is that there will no longer be a BOG next year. Essentially, the SGA will be absorbing BOG," Falvey said.

The changes also shortened the constitution.

"We cut it down from seventy pages to thirteen pages," Falvey said.

The new constitution also states that a student can hold only one executive position during a school year.

"The idea behind that was to spread around kind of the wealth of the leadership on this campus, to encourage a lot of involvement, and also to prevent our students from getting overwhelmed in performing their duties to the best of their abilities," Falvey said.

Now that the constitution has passed through BOG, it will now be presented to the student body for a vote. Students will be able to log onto their PRISM accounts from Tuesday morning until Monday, March 23 to place their votes, Falvey said.

"It's not actually required that we send it to the student body, but the committee felt it was the right thing to do," Falvey said.

If the constitution fails to be passed by a majority of the student body, then it will be considered "null and void" for this year and the next amendment process will be left up to next year's committee, Falvey said.

Student body vice president Sarah Falvey presented her research regarding keeping the Student Center

open until midnight on weekdays and 2 a.m. on weekends.

"We looked at peer institutions and what amenities and services they have," Falvey said. "Some have post offices, game rooms, tanning salons and all kinds of things."

Falvey is sending a letter to the director of Student Involvement, Patrick Daniel, proposing the changes to the Student Center after comparing Saint Mary's to other women's colleges who have longer student center hours.

Three Dance Marathon committee members presented two separate co-sponsorships. Sophomore Mary Reilly, a member of the technology and letter writing committee, sophomore Katie Fadden, a member of Executive Council and first year Erin Chastain, a member of the letter writing committee, asked for co-sponsorships for paper, envelopes and stamps for the letter writing campaign.

"We ask each person to compile a list of addresses to send to their families," Fadden said. "We raise money to Riley and people donate knowing all the money is going to Riley. We really want to keep the costs of stamps and paper down."

The second co-sponsorship was concerning night of the event costs.

"We are getting food donated but it does not cover the cost of all the food with teachers and Riley parents coming," Fadden said.

Funds are needed for out-staffing security, building services to clean up and a tip for a DeeJay.

Other BOG news:

♦Adriana Rodriguez, representing the Student Diversity Board, announced that the Diverse Student Leadership Conference is this week. More students are registered this year than ever before.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharm01@saintmarys.edu and Sarah Mayer at smayer01@saintmarys.edu

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GreenD

continued from page 1

judged in the Dooley Room of the LaFortune Student Center on April 2. Prizes constructed of recycled materials will be awarded.

Students will notice many posters and displays advertising the Recyclemania campaign in the residence halls, dining halls and throughout the campus this week.

"The posters and displays feature campus celebrities such as Fr. Hesburgh, athletes, popular professors and other well-known individuals," McCormack said. They "aim to show that recycling is not just necessary, but can also be fun."

As part of Recyclemania and to further promote recycling and

sustainability on campus, GreenD will put on continuous short 15-minute visual presentations, titled Recycling 101, on March 19 and 31 in the Montgomery Room of LaFortune. Viewers will learn the "value of recycling, items which can and cannot be recycled, and how each individual's recycling efforts can make a difference."

GreenD will host a St. Patrick's Day party to kick off Recyclemania Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fieldhouse Mall.

"There will be cookies, drinks, free reusable cups, recycling displays and a raffle of prizes constructed of recycled materials and everyone is invited," McCormack said.

Contact Casey Kenny at ckenny@nd.edu

Beah

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"You dehumanize yourself when you kill someone else."

Beah was removed from fighting and placed in a United Nations-sponsored rehabilitation program in 1996. After attending a conference in New York about worldwide violence toward children, Beah was able to eventually come to the United States to finish high school and graduated from Oberlin College in 2004.

Beah began work on his book during his college years as media coverage of the war in Sierra Leone began in the United States.

Beah saw this coverage as sensationalized and presented without any human context. The media conveyed a sense of hopelessness in Sierra Leone, which Beah worried would cause people to disregard the situation there.

"Sierra Leone was never a hopeless country," Beah clarified. "Nothing can be done if you write something off as hopeless. Issues can be easily put off without human context - if you don't humanize an issue, people don't pay attention to it."

Frustrated with the media coverage and worried that people did not fully understand what happens during war, Beah published his book in 2007 to humanize the conflict and to help people understand both how children were dragged into the war but also brought out of the fighting.

"I wanted to try to help people understand how young boys in a peaceful society could grow up in such madness," Beah said.

While growing up, Beah learned the importance of oral tradition and storytelling. Most importantly, he learned the function of purpose and clarity within a story.

"When you destroy the facts of a story, you destroy its purpose. You need to have a purpose for telling a story. My purpose was to tell that [atrocities of war] were happening to human beings with same human tendencies as everyone else. We are all capable of losing our humanity."

"I will never forget what happened, but you learn to live with it. You can find good things out of horror, and you can appreciate what it is just to wake up and be alive," Beah said.

Beah is currently working in the Human Rights Watch Children's Division, as well as with UNICEF and the United Nations.

Contact Liz Lefebvre at clefebvr@nd.edu

Day

continued from page 1

Sophomore Katrina Corcoran will spend her St. Patrick's Day working at Recker's.

"I have the 10 p.m. to midnight shift," said Corcoran. She's not too worried about celebrators, though.

"I worked Halloween, and it wasn't too bad," said Corcoran. Like many others, Corcoran isn't too sure about the rest of her night.

However, Corcoran is excited for St. Patrick's Day.

"I love St. Patrick's Day because we're the Home of the Irish," Corcoran said.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

Holocaust

continued from page 1

Allies and then escaped Germany before Hitler came to power."

Including this trip as a part of the class is an essential aspect of studying the Holocaust, Spicer said.

"Although traditional classroom study is important, the uniqueness of the Holocaust may only be fully understood through visiting the historical sites," Spicer said.

Rosenberg said that the class has, thus far, focused on the history of the Nazi party and anti-Semitism.

"We were sort of setting the stage for how the Nazis were able to carry out the Holocaust," said Rosenberg. "We're talking about the people who worked in the Concentration camps the murderers really"

While in Europe, the students visited four different sites.

"I mean it was strange to be there and see it all. It was like we were stepping back in time," said Rosenberg. "We visited six camps, three of which were pretty intact and three of which were completely destroyed and just memorials."

The class began their trip with a visit to the former ghetto in Warsaw, Poland. At this location, there were various memorials, a Jewish Cemetery, as well as a synagogue.

Next, the group journeyed to Lublin, where they visited three different death camp memorials. Of these three, one camp, Majdanek, was also a concentration camp.

"At Majdanek we saw a mausoleum with a huge basin of human ashes. And it really sort of hits you that those were normal people who died and there were so many of them," said Rosenberg.

The students also visited Krakow, which is well known for its role in the movie "Schindler's List." While there, students saw Oskar Schindler's actual factory and the infamous death camp Auschwitz.

The final stop on the tour was Prague, where the group toured the Theresienstadt ghetto memorial and museums.

After the trip, Rosenberg said the power of the event started to sink in.

"Just to see the memorials and everything, you can't even begin to comprehend the magnitude. 6 million people were killed," she said.

This was not the first year that Spicer has taken students to Europe to visit Holocaust sites.

"This was the fifth time that I have offered a similar travel program related to my course on the Holocaust. Due to financial concerns, I altered the travel schedule to exclude visiting Berlin," said Spicer.

Without the visit to Berlin, more time was opened up to explore other venues that were closer to ones previously visited.

"Instead the travel program this year also included visits to the death camp memorials at Treblinka and Belzec - both within 2 hours driving distance of Lublin."

Now that the class has returned for the second half of the semester, its focus will shift to the topics of the evolution to genocide in Nazi-occupied Europe, the perpetrators of the Holocaust, the Jewish resistance and the Nuremberg Trials.

Although the trip dealt with heavy issues, Rosenberg said that the overall experience was a good one.

"It was an intense trip but we had a lot of fun too so it was a good balance," she said.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at eodonnell@nd.edu

Theft

continued from page 1

"I want to commend the student for calling us right away," Chapman said.

He said quick action by the student as well as NDSP led to the capture of the man.

Chapman said campus thefts of this nature are rare.

"It happens infrequently, but it does happen," he said.

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WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reformist pulls out of Iran election

TEHRAN — Iran's most prominent reformist, former President Mohammed Khatami, pulled out of the race against the country's hard-line president Monday, saying he didn't want to split the pro-reform vote in upcoming elections.

Khatami's entry into the race against President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad a month ago boosted the hopes of some among the reformists, who favor improving ties with the West and liberalizing Iran's conservative Islamic government.

But two other prominent reformists entered the race for the June 12 election after Khatami. One of them, former Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi, is a former hard-liner who Khatami has said has a better chance of siphoning conservatives' votes. With Khatami pulling out, Mousavi is now seen as the leading reformist candidate.

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations fail

JERUSALEM — The fate of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has become a collection of moving parts that somehow need to come together in a single package: an Israel-Hamas prisoner swap, a truce for Gaza, and new governments on both sides of the firing line that could pursue peace.

Prospects for success decreased significantly on Monday, when Egyptian-mediated talks for a prisoner swap — exchanging a captured Israeli soldier for hundreds of jailed Palestinian militants — ended without agreement, according to Israeli officials, dashing hopes that a deal was close.

Such a swap could have helped pave the way for a longterm Israel-Hamas truce deal that in turn might have opened the Gaza Strip's blockaded borders to allow for reconstruction after Israel's punishing offensive there.

NATIONAL NEWS

Evangelist faces abuse allegations

LITTLE ROCK — California lawyer Danny Davis has wanted to separate jailed evangelist Tony Alamo from the abuse allegations that trail his ministry.

"There is a man and there is the myth," Davis said. "He has become a myth in the character of this monstrous felony accusation."

That's what Davis told The Los Angeles Times in 1991 while representing Alamo in a child-abuse case that never went to trial. Now, almost 20 years later, the Beverly Hills lawyer apparently will defend the aging evangelist against federal charges that could leave him behind bars until his death.

Governors discuss Olson's parole

ST. PAUL — Gov. Tim Pawlenty sent a letter Monday to California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger asking him to prevent former 1970s radical and longtime fugitive Sara Jane Olson from returning to Minnesota to serve her parole.

Pawlenty urged Schwarzenegger, a fellow Republican, to consider the requests of the St. Paul Police Federation, the Los Angeles Police Protective League and the Los Angeles City Council to keep Olson in California after her release from prison, which is scheduled for Tuesday.

Olson, once known as Kathleen Soliah, has been serving time in California for her role in the attempted pipe-bombings of Los Angeles police officers and a fatal bank robbery near Sacramento in the 1970s.

LOCAL NEWS

Ind. debates unemployment insurance

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Senate Republicans have proposed a plan designed to fix the state's bankrupt unemployment insurance fund by increasing employer taxes overall, reducing benefits for some jobless people and tightening eligibility requirements.

"Our effort is to make changes in the system that are gradual but does put us on a definite path to solvency in our unemployment insurance trust fund," Senate Tax Chairman Brandt Herschman, R-Monticello, said Monday.

Vermont begins gay marriage hearings

Protesters fill state capital as lawmakers debate new bill to replace civil union law

Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. — Nine years after it played host to a bitter fight over civil unions, Vermont's Statehouse is again a gay rights battleground.

More than 200 same-sex marriage opponents, cheering and wearing buttons that read "Marriage — A Mother & Father for Every Child," converged Monday on Montpelier as lawmakers began a week's worth of hearings on a bill that would allow gay and lesbian couples to marry.

If approved, Vermont would join Massachusetts and Connecticut as the only U.S. states that allow gay marriage.

The measure would replace Vermont's first-in-the-nation civil unions law with one that allows marriage of same-sex partners beginning Sept. 1. Civil unions, which confer some rights similar to marriage, would still be recognized but no longer granted after Sept. 1.

Supporters cast the debate as a civil rights issue, saying a civil unions law enacted by the state in 2000 has fallen short of the equality it promised same-sex couples. Its appeal has declined, too: In 2001, the state granted 1,876 civil unions, compared with only 262 last year.

Passing a gay marriage bill "is one of the most important civil rights issues of our time," said Greg Johnson, a Vermont Law School professor who testified before the state Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday.

While the bill won't guarantee federal benefits, supporters say it would provide societal recognition, improve access to health benefits and eliminate one of two obstacles to federal protections such as Social Security survivor benefits.

Opponents say gay marriage would undermine traditional male-female marriage,



Supporters of same-sex marriage protest in California on March 4, 2009. Similar protests occurred in Vermont on Monday as hearings began on a bill to legalize same-sex marriage.

rendering men and women interchangeable and destroying the connection between children and marriage. They want the question put to voters in a referendum.

Legislative leaders announced two weeks ago that they intended to pass the bill — titled "An act relating to civil marriage" — before adjourning in May, and they have scheduled hearings to get testimony on the legal, social and practical implications of it.

A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday night at the Capitol, which was the epicenter of the fight in 2000, when the issue divided Vermont and partisans endured hate mail, threatening telephone messages and

tense public meetings.

More than a dozen lawmakers who voted for civil unions lost their seats in the ensuing election.

On Monday, opponents organized by churches and a pair of anti-gay marriage groups flooded the hallways of the Capitol and packed into a committee room for a strategy session with Stephen Cable, president of Vermont Renewal.

Supporters wearing lime-green buttons that read "From Legal Rights to Equal Rights" numbered about 50. Beth Robinson, chairwoman of the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force, said her side was focused on showing its strength in numbers on Wednesday for the public

hearing.

Robinson, a lawyer who worked on the court case that led to the creation of civil unions, told the Senate Judiciary Committee that civil unions were a "painful compromise" that left gay couples feeling like second-class citizens.

"It's the fact of that separation itself that does the harm. And that really does affect every member of the community," she said.

Statehouse security was beefed up for the day, but there were no arrests or problems — other than a scramble for seats in a 60-seat committee room, which forced some people to listen to the hearing from a hallway.

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa tries new Mass translation

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — A new translation of the Roman Catholic Mass that is to be introduced worldwide in a few years is getting an accidental trial run in South Africa, where some parishioners are complaining it's too hard to understand.

The controversy comes as Pope Benedict XVI travels Tuesday to Cameroon on his first papal pilgrimage to the continent that has the fastest growing congregation of Catholics.

Critics say the new, more literal word-for-word translation is part of an attempt to roll back the progress made decades ago when the church

halted its insistence on Latin.

Before Communion, for example, the prayer "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you" becomes "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof." "One in being with the Father" becomes "consubstantial with the Father" in the Nicene creed.

And the congregation's response to the greeting that opens Mass with the priest saying "The Lord be with you," changes from "And also with you" to "And with your spirit."

In a misunderstanding, some South African church leaders started using the new version prematurely in some parishes, even though the English-language prayers won't be approved for global use for at least a couple of

years. But instead of pulling back in the face of their mistake, they are continuing to use the liturgy.

Distribution of the prayers has fueled debate over whether the new translation — meant to more closely follow the original Latin text — will help deepen parishioners' prayer life or alienate them from the church.

"I think the church has been very lucky that the South Africans jumped the gun because it's showing the Vatican that there is going to be a worldwide problem when these new translations are put into effect," said Thomas Reese, a Jesuit priest and senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University.

Jury selection begins in abortion case

Potential members told they must set aside their personal views

Associated Press

WICHITA — Potential jurors in a criminal trial of one of the nation's few late-term abortion providers were told Monday to set aside their personal views about abortion, and at least one was dismissed after she said she couldn't.

"This trial is not a debate about abortion," Assistant Attorney General Barry Disney said as jury selection began in Sedgwick County District Court. "It is not about whether abortion is right or wrong. ... This trial is about whether the defendant has violated the law."

Dr. George Tiller is charged with 19 misdemeanors alleging he failed to obtain a second opinion for late-term abortions from an independent physician, as required by Kansas law. If convicted, the Wichita doctor could face a year in county jail or a fine of \$2,500 for each misdemeanor charge.

Tiller and his clinic have been a target of abortion opponents for decades. His clinic was bombed in 1985, and an abortion opponent shot him in both arms in 1993.

His attorney Dan Monnat hinted at the defense strategy while questioning potential jurors by saying Tiller has never "knowingly or intentionally" been financially affiliated with the doctor who provided second opinions.

"This trial...is not about whether abortion is right or wrong. ... This trial is about whether the defendant has violated the law."

Barry Disney
assistant attorney general
Kansas

Wichita was the site of the 45-day "Summer of Mercy" event staged by Operation Rescue in 1991. Those mass demonstrations and clinic blockades led to more than 2,600 arrests. One of those arrested, the Rev. Pat Mahoney, was back in Wichita on Monday for Tiller's trial.

"This case not only impacts Wichita, but it impacts the nation," Mahoney said.

Abortion opponents plan prayer vigils during the trial,

and abortion-rights supporters also plan demonstrations.

Disney told prospective jurors that prosecutors and defense attorneys agree that Tiller performed the 19 late-term abortions and that he was required to obtain a second, independent opinion. Jurors need only decide whether Dr. Ann Kristin Neuhaus, who provided Tiller with second opinions, had a financial or legal relationship with him, Disney said.

One potential juror was dismissed after saying she was biased against Tiller and would find it hard to let go of her anti-abortion views.

Another was let go after saying he has seen too much about the case in the media. A third man was dismissed because he did not understand English well.

Jury selection was to continue Tuesday.

Kansas law allows late-term abortions if two doctors agree that it is necessary to save a woman's life or prevent "substantial and irreversible" harm to "a major bodily function," a phrase that has been interpreted to include mental health.

Prosecutors contend Tiller broke the law because he had a financial relationship with Neuhaus, who has been granted immunity from prosecution and could testify.

Hoang: Constraints make writing easier

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

Lily Hoang, assistant professor of English at Saint Mary's College, is no typical writer. She boasts of putting more of an emphasis on form rather than plot and calls writers' block a "myth."

Hoang, who teaches in the English and Women's Studies Departments, shared excerpts from her work Monday in Stapleton Lounge to Saint Mary's students and faculty. She read from two of her published works, "Parabola" and "Changing."

She also gave a sneak preview into her newest book, "Evolutionary Revolution," a science fiction novel that will be released in 2010.

The reading was the second event in the Women's History Month series co-sponsored by the English and Women's Studies Departments. Professor Jennifer Zachman, introduced Hoang at the start of the event, described her colleague as a "ceaseless writer" who has two published works, an e-book and two more books that are currently in the publishing phase.

Hoang began her readings with an excerpt called "A Father, A Daughter" from "Parabola." The book's unique title references the parabolic constraints of the story. The book begins with chapter ten and ends with chapter ten.

Hoang prefers to write under constraints. She said that it eliminates the infinite possibilities of other creative writing that cause writers' block.

Before reading, Hoang gave a disclaimer to her work.

"I'd like to start with some-

thing kind of normal and then progressively get weirder," said Hoang. "And when I said that it [the writing] is kind of weird," said Hoang. "I meant that it is weird."

True to her word, Hoang's "A Father, A Daughter" was not traditional. Instead of being centered on a plot, it was a description of the relationship between a father and a daughter.

Hoang continued the reading with two short pieces from her book "Changing."

After reading from her published works, Hoang continued with the first ten pages of her unpublished science fiction novel. The novel is also under a constraint, although it is the most unconstrained of all of her works, Hoang said.

"Evolutionary Revolution" is based on Neutral Milk Hotel's album "Aeroplane Over the Sea," Hoang said.

The novel takes place in two times. One is prehistoric time with two species of man and the earth is only water. One species of man is the mermen who live under the water, the other, women called men who fly over the water and live on the moon.

The other, more recent time setting, features a girl named Chloe who wakes up with wings on her thighs and a two-headed boy.

During the set of readings, Hoang received several bursts of laughter from the attentively listening audience.

The event ended with a question and answer session between Hoang and her students and fellow faculty members.

Contact Megan Loney at
mloney01@saintmarys.edu

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Alumni Association honors two students

Special to The Observer

Matthew Gelchion, a senior from Bayonne, N.J., and Sophia Barbato, a master of divinity candidate from Bastrop, Texas, have been selected recipients of the Notre Dame Alumni Association's 2008-09 Distinguished Student Award and Distinguished Graduate Student Award for their outstanding academic performance and service to the University.

The students will be recognized at a luncheon in their honor April 24 on campus.

A political science and sociology double major, Gelchion has compiled a 3.95 grade point average and was named a Notre Dame Presidential Scholar last year. His commitment to service began with the Freshman Peer Leaders program for which he helped plan and lead a confirmation retreat for high school students in South Bend. He also served as a Mass lector in the Basilica and joined the Notre Dame Boxing Club to help raise money for the Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh. Last year, he chaired the Spiritual Committee on the Junior Class

Council.

Gelchion currently is serving as a resident assistant in Fisher Hall and senior mentor for Freshmen in Discipleship, Evangelization, and Service (FIDES) through Campus Ministry. In this role, he leads a group of seven first-year students in weekly discussions of faith, and helped plan the Class of 2009 retreat. He also is a mentor on the Lifeworks Dream Team, a group that helps instill confidence and inspiration in students in local schools.

Barbato has demonstrated exemplary service through Notre Dame's Center for Social Concerns, including conducting interviews for Summer Service Learning Program candidates during the last three years. In addition to leading the interview process, she facilitates follow-up discussions with the undergraduate students who participate. Because of her natural ability to make students comfortable, Barbato also was asked to interview student applicants for the Latino Leadership Internship Program, and she led the Holy Cross Mission in Education Seminar in January.



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2,198	86	1,590	390,811,536
AMEX	1,303.11	+3.13	
NASDAQ	1,404.02	-27.48	
NYSE	4,728.91	+7.91	
S&P 500	753.89	-2.66	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,704.15	0.00	
FTSE 100 (London)	3,863.99	+110.31	

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+30.90	+0.55	2.33
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+7.29	+0.42	6.18
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-0.30	-0.23	75.86
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-1.95	-0.16	8.03

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+2.29	+0.066	2.95
13-WEEK BILL	+15.79	+0.030	0.22
30-YEAR BOND	+2.53	+0.093	3.77
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.19	+0.041	1.91

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.10	47.35	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-8.10	922.00	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+3.00	88.50	

Exchange Rates			
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EURO		1.2978	
CANADIAN DOLLAR		1.2713	
BRITISH POUND		1.4083	

IN BRIEF

Lending to businesses fell in January

WASHINGTON — The government said Monday that lending to businesses from the top banks getting bailout funds fell in January despite the billions of dollars the banks received in government support.

The Treasury Department said in a monthly report that lending on regular business loans and on business loans backed by real estate both declined in January, compared to December. The findings were based on reports filed by the top 21 recipients of rescue money from the government's \$700 billion financial bailout fund.

The report attributed the decline in loans banks made to businesses in January to weakening demand on the part of businesses, reflecting the dismal economy.

"Demand in commercial loans and commercial real estate continues to be limited by the economic downturn, as businesses remain cautious in taking on new debt obligations," Treasury said in the new report.

Government aids small businesses

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama freed billions of dollars to help the nation's small businesses on Monday, hoping to get credit flowing again to Main Street, not just Wall Street. He heaped praise on the little guys of American industry, often overshadowed in the blitz of government bailouts.

The centerpiece of Obama's latest plan will allow the government to spend up to \$15 billion to buy the small-business loans that are now choking community banks and lenders. That, in turn, could allow those banks to start lending money again to small companies to invest, pay bills and stay afloat.

"You deserve a chance. America needs you to have a chance," Obama said in an appeal to all those who run small businesses or hope to one day.

Obama's effort was, at one level, fundamental to helping the economy rebound. Small businesses have created about 70 percent of the new jobs over the past decade, and as their credit lines have dried up, so has their ability to thrive or survive.

Obama vows to block AIG bonuses

President speaks out against company's spending after receiving bailout money

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Joining a wave of public anger, President Barack Obama blistered insurance giant AIG for "recklessness and greed" Monday and pledged to try to block it from handing its executives \$165 million in bonuses after taking billions in federal bailout money.

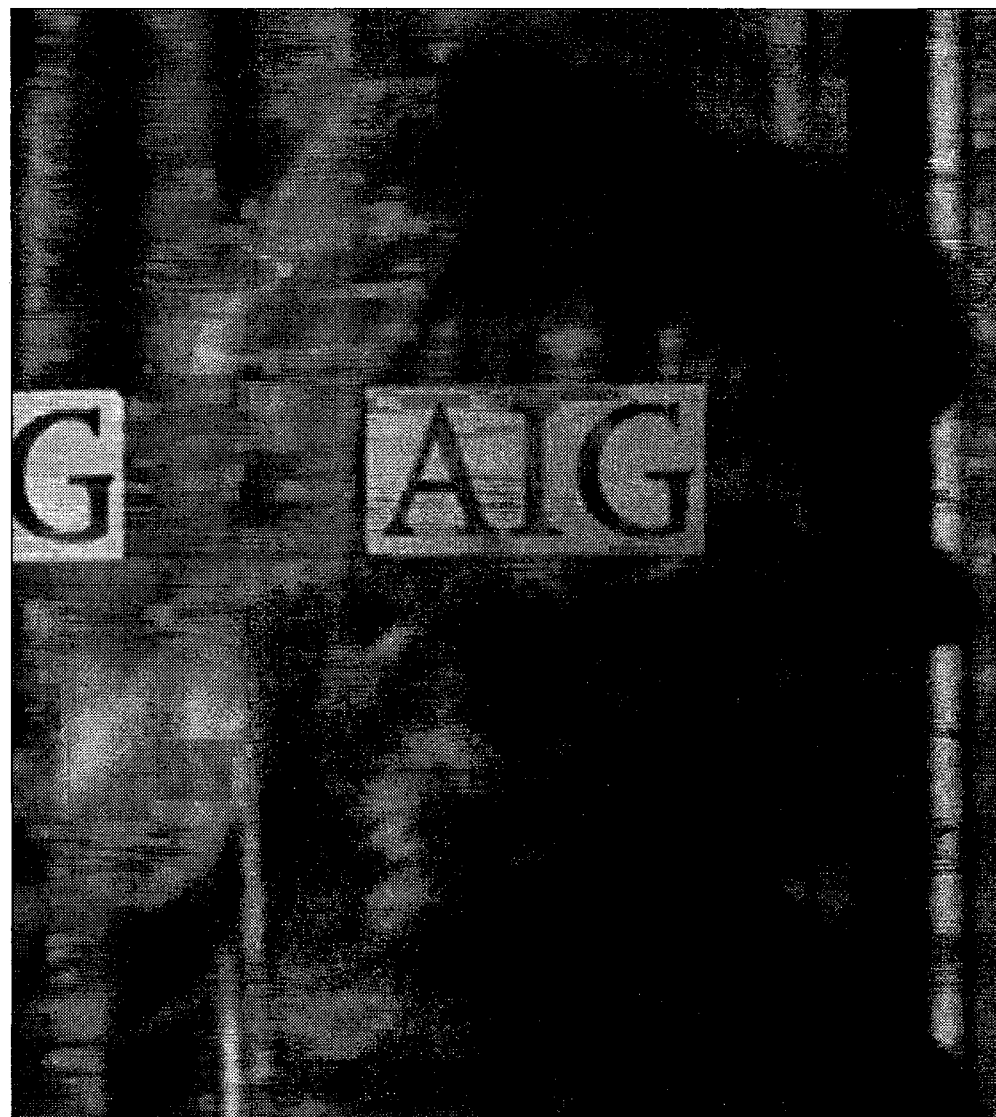
"How do they justify this outrage to the taxpayers who are keeping the company afloat?" Obama asked. "This isn't just a matter of dollars and cents. It's about our fundamental values."

Obama aggressively joined other officials in criticizing American International Group, the company that is fast becoming the poster boy for Americans' bailout blues.

The bonuses could contribute to a backlash against Washington that would make it tougher for Obama to ask Congress for more bailout help — and jeopardize other parts of the recovery agenda that is dominating the start of his presidency. Thus, the president and his top aides were working hard to distance themselves from the insurer's conduct, to contain possible political damage and to try to bolster public confidence in his administration's handling of the broader economic rescue effort.

David Axelrod, senior adviser to Obama, said in an interview with The Associated Press that there was no question that the bonuses and the public's anger over them could run many things off the rail. "People are angry because they've seen exhibit after exhibit of irresponsibility and people walking away with money in their pockets," he said. "It's undermined the discussion that we have to have."

Obama had scheduled a speech Monday to announce new help for



A woman enters an AIG building in New York on Monday. President Obama said he will prevent the company's payment of bonuses to its top executives.

recession-pounded small businesses. But first, he said, he had a few words to say about AIG. He lost his voice at one point and ad-libbed, "Excuse me, I'm choked up with anger here." It was just a light aside, but he meant the sternness of his remarks to come through.

"This is a corporation that finds itself in financial distress due to recklessness and greed," Obama declared.

He said he had directed Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner to "pursue every legal avenue to block these bonuses and make the American taxpayer whole."

Later, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said the administration would modify the terms of a pending \$30 billion bailout installment for AIG to at least recoup the \$165 million the bonuses represent. That wouldn't rescind the bonuses, just require AIG to account for them differently.

Axelrod called the bonuses "spectacularly tone-deaf."

He said the administration hoped the tough talk would result in voluntary action on the part of AIG and its bonus recipients, although that remains an open question. "All we can

do is administer this thing going forward," he said.

A call to AIG's corporate headquarters in New York seeking comment was not returned immediately late Monday.

On a separate track, New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo said Monday he would issue subpoenas for information on the bonuses after AIG missed his deadline for providing details. Cuomo said his office would investigate whether the employees were involved in AIG's near-collapse and whether the \$165 million in bonus payments were fraudulent under state law.

Madoff wife may need to forfeit assets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Prosecutors probing Bernard Madoff's massive fraud are determined to leave his wife with almost nothing after telling a Manhattan court that they consider more than \$100 million in assets, most of it listed in her name, the fruits of her husband's crimes.

The government even included a \$39,000 Steinway piano and \$65,000 in silverware, both owned by Ruth Madoff, in items it said it will try to force the Madoffs to forfeit. The list was in a three-page document filed in U.S. District Court late Sunday.

Brenda Sharton, a lawyer with a Boston firm representing several burned investors, said the government's aggressive approach with Ruth Madoff isn't surprising.

"I don't think it's unusual ... given the magnitude of the fraud," she said. "It would be unusual if they didn't go after whatever assets they can get."

Bernard Madoff, 70, has been living in a small cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in lower Manhattan since he pleaded guilty Thursday to securities fraud, perjury and nine other charges. He could be sent to prison for up to 150 years at a June sentencing.

If prosecutors get their way, the Madoffs will have to give up all their assets, including three properties listed solely in Ruth Madoff's name; a \$7 million Manhattan penthouse bought in 1984, an \$11 million Palm Beach, Fla., home purchased in 1994 and a \$1 million home in Cap d'Antibes, France. Another \$3 mil-

lion home bought in 1979 in Montauk is jointly owned by the couple.

The government also said Madoff and his wife should forfeit:

— \$10 million in furnishings for all of the homes, along with accounts in Ruth Madoff's name that hold \$17 million in cash and \$45 million in securities.

— "Bull," a \$7 million yacht in France and its \$1.5 million boat slip, and "Little Bull," a \$320,000 Montauk boat, all in Ruth Madoff's name, as well as a \$2.2 million fishing boat in Palm Beach, Fla., that is in Madoff's name.

— A 1999 Mercedes SLK convertible in Florida, a 2001 Mercedes station wagon and a 2004 Volkswagen, estimated to be worth a total of \$25,000.

IRAQ

U.S. military shoots down Iranian drone

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. jets shot down an Iranian unmanned surveillance aircraft last month over Iraqi territory about 60 miles northeast of Baghdad, the U.S. military said Monday.

A U.S. statement said the Ababil 3 was tracked for about 70 minutes before U.S. jets shot it down "well-inside Iraqi airspace" and that the aircraft's presence over Iraq "was not an accident."

An Iraqi official said the Iranian aircraft went down near the Iraqi border town of Mandali. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

The Ababil is believed to have a maximum range of about 90 miles and can fly up to 14,000 feet. It is primarily designed for surveillance and intelligence-gathering.

U.S. officials have frequently accused the Iranians of supplying weapons, training and money to Shiite extremist groups opposed to the U.S. military presence and to the U.S.-backed Iraqi government.

Iran has denied links to militant groups inside Iraq and says the instability in this country is a result of the U.S. "occupation." The Iranians consider the presence of about 140,000 U.S. troops in a neighboring country as a threat to their national security.

In Baghdad, a U.S. soldier was fatally injured during combat operations Monday, the U.S. said in a statement. No further details were released.

It was the first combat death reported by the U.S. military in Baghdad this month and the first among U.S. forces nationwide since March 7, when a soldier was killed in the Tikrit area.

U.S. casualties have dropped sharply since Iraqi soldiers and police have taken a greater role in security. President Barack Obama has pledged to withdraw all U.S. combat troops from Iraq by September 2010.

American combat troops are due to leave bases in Baghdad and other cities by June 30 under an agreement that provides for all U.S. forces to leave the country by the end of 2011.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki told The Associated Press on Sunday that U.S. troops may stay in some areas that are not completely secure even after the June 30 date.

He did not identify those areas, but U.S. and Iraqi troops are still trying to secure Mosul, the country's third-largest city where al-Qaida and other Sunni militant groups remain active.

Also Monday, a 12-year-old girl was killed when American soldiers fired at a vehicle speeding toward them and Iraqi police near Mosul, said the U.S. military. The military said the girl was standing about 100 yards (meters) behind the vehicle and was struck by a round.

But Iraqi police said the girl was shot while in a car with her father. The discrepancy could not be immediately explained.

Meanwhile, an Iranian opposition group said Monday that Iraqi troops tightened their siege of a camp north of Baghdad where about 3,500 of their members have been based for about 20 years.

The People's Mujahedeen said Iraqi troops have prevented food and fuel from reaching Camp Ashraf for the past six days — despite written guarantees by the Iraqi government that it would guarantee human rights of the residents.

But Iraqi national security adviser Mouwaffak al-Rubaie branded the allegations "totally baseless." He said People's Mujahedeen members had taken over a building belonging to the Iraqi army and were preventing soldiers from entering it.

"They have a huge propaganda machine all over the world and are known to exaggerate things," added al-Rubaie, whom the People's Mujahedeen said was behind the alleged crackdown.

Iran and the United States consider the People's Mujahedeen a terrorist group and Tehran has stepped up pressure on the Iraqis to close the camp. Iraq took over security for the camp from the U.S. on Jan. 1.

But the Iraqi government promised the U.S. that it would not force the group's members to leave against their will.

The People's Mujahedeen opposed Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi during the 1979 revolution but fell out with the clerical regime that replaced him. Saddam Hussein allowed the group to set up a camp during the Iran-Iraq war for staging raids across the border inside Iran.

U.S. troops disarmed the fighters and confined them to Camp Ashraf after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam.

Also Monday, residents of the Kurdish town of Halabja marked the 21st anniversary of the March 16-17 poison gas attack by Saddam's forces against Kurdish separatists.

The 1988 attack killed thousands of people and was the biggest use of chemical weapons against a civilian populated area in history.

Local officials and victims' relatives placed wreaths on a monument to the dead.

"The anniversary has become etched in the memory of many people," said Aras Abbadi, who lost 21 relatives in the attack. "Every year, we wait for the anniversary and condemn that deplorable attack committed by a dictatorial regime against its own people."

Another participant, Mariam Saleh, 59, pointed to a photograph on display that shows a truck full of victims.


"My family was in that truck," she wept.


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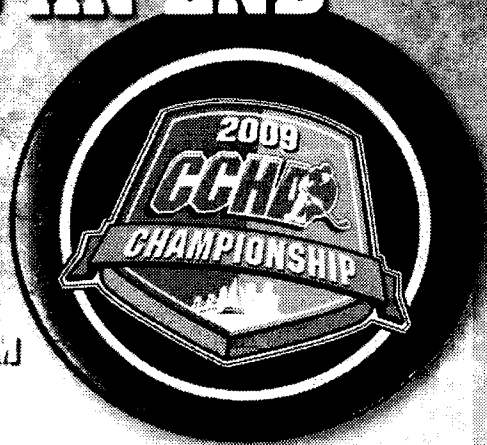
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Texas jail seeks to fix tarnished image

Associated Press

MONTAGUE, Texas — For months, perhaps longer, the Montague County Jail was "Animal House" meets Mayberry.

Inside the small brick building across from the courthouse, inmates had the run of the place, having sex with their jailer girlfriends, bringing in recliners, taking drugs and chatting on cell phones supplied by friends or guards, according to authorities. They also disabled some of the surveillance cameras and made weapons out of nails.

The doors to two groups of cells didn't lock, but apparently no one tried to escape — perhaps because they had everything they needed inside.

The jailhouse escapades — some of which date to 2006, according to authorities — have rocked Montague (pronounced mahn-TAYG), a farming and ranching town of several hundred people near the Oklahoma line, about 65 miles northwest of Fort Worth.

There were whispers in the past year about an affair between a female jailer and male inmate, but folks dismissed the rumors as small-town gossip. It was not until late last month, when a Texas grand jury returned a 106-count indictment against the former sheriff and 16 others, that the inmates-gone-wild scandal broke wide open.

The indictment charged Bill Keating, sheriff from 2004 until December, with official oppression and having sex with female inmates. The others indicted include nine guards — seven women and two men — who were charged with various offenses involving sex or drugs and other contraband. Four inmates also were charged.

Local, state and federal authorities are still trying to figure out how this small-town Texas jail was turned into something resembling a frat house.

The new sheriff, Paul Cunningham, said he was

stunned while touring the jail for the first time just hours after being sworn into office Jan. 1. He saw partitions made of paper towels that blocked jailers' view into cells, and pills scattered about.

Cunningham, who had not worked for the county before his election in November, immediately ordered the jail closed and moved the nearly 60 inmates to another institution.

"It literally scared me — not for myself but for the employees," Cunningham said. "How somebody kept from being killed was beyond me."

Cunningham, who defeated Keating in the Republican primary last spring, suggested that Keating lost interest in the jail after that and turned his back on the place.

Separately from the indictment, Keating, 62, faces up to 10 years in federal prison after pleading guilty in January to charges he coerced a woman into having sex with him by threatening to jail her on drug charges.

Keating's attorney, Mark Daniel, called the latest charges against the former sheriff "kind of silly in the face of the federal investigation, like piling on." He declined further comment.

The investigation began with a tip last fall from inside the jail.

An official received a handwritten letter on notebook paper from an inmate arrested on charges of kidnapping his girlfriend. The inmate, Luke C. Bolton, said they met in 2007 when she was a jail guard and he was behind bars on another charge. He said their sexual relationship started in a jail shower and continued during her late-night visits to his cell.

"I'm just reaching out for help to show (the jailer) is a person who abused her power. She broke the law by having sex with me in cell 16 while I was an inmate. ... Please help me. I am telling the truth. Everybody knows I am," Bolton wrote, offering to take a polygraph.

New Mexico man pleads guilty in attack

Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — A New Mexico man pleaded guilty Monday to mailing threatening letters containing suspicious powder to dozens of banks and federal offices across the country, federal prosecutors said.

Richard Leon Goyette, 47, of Albuquerque, accepted a plea agreement with prosecutors and pleaded guilty in federal court in Amarillo to one count of issuing threats and false information and one count of making threats and hoaxes, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas said in a statement.

He had faced 64 counts of making threats and hoaxes after mailing letters from Amarillo to 52 offices and banks in 11 states and the District of Columbia in October. No one was injured and the powder was found to be calcium carbonate, a major component of blackboard chalk.

Goyette, who remained in Randall County Jail on Monday, faces up to 15 years in prison, a \$500,000 fine and other penalties at his May 25 sentencing in U.S. district court.

"We felt that was a fair offer and it was in the best interest of justice," said Brooks W. Barfield Jr., Goyette's attorney. "He's certainly regretful and certainly feels bad for any distress or anxiety he may have caused anyone."

Goyette was working for a New Mexico energy provider at the time of his Feb. 2 arrest.

Authorities have said Goyette was apparently upset about losing more than \$60,000 in Washington Mutual Bank stock he held when the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation took it over in late September. The next day, the FDIC sold the bank's deposits, branches and loan portfolio to JPMorgan Chase & Co. for a small fraction of their combined value, documents

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Tuesday, March 17, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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The same Church, but not mine

I've been in Europe for six months now, but the most fulfilling Mass I've been to was three weeks ago. It was Ash Wednesday and my Austrian host sister and I went to evening Mass in the Stephansdom, the Vienna Cathedral.

I stared at the rafters, the gothic arches and stained-glass windows pointing towards God, in their magnificence effectively all but forgetting little me sitting inside on the makeshift bench above the concrete floor. From my football-field-away seat, I tried to catch a glimpse of the bishop as he consecrated the Eucharist and blessed the ashes. I couldn't see most of it, but what I missed I still caught on the HDTVs lining the cathedral's interior columns.

It wasn't the beauty of the building, the prominence of the presider, or the convenience of the transmission of the message that spoke to me during this mass. Rather, what really got me was the void that remained in my spiritual fulfillment even after all of that grandeur.

The songs keyed that in most of all; wide-ranging, dramatic choral pieces composed by Austrian greats. These pieces are beautiful and unquestionably genius, but they are not Church music. Not to me, at least.

I grew up in Georgia, where the

number of Catholics has significantly increased in the last 20 years, but is still a minority. Friends consistently reminded me that Jesus could save me if I would only become Christian and leave behind my Catholic ways (not an embellishment).

My parish was built in the 1970s, a true child of Vatican II. I had never sat in a Church with just one aisle down the center, a church without carpet, or a church with altar decorations fancier than the bronze lining on our glass altar table. The glass stood for transparency and inclusion, reminding you as you looked through it to the parishioners on the other side that we are all one body, one people.

Our songs reflected this unity through their sing-a-long ability (SAA, if you will). On a scale of one to 10 in SAA, I think American Southern Catholic churches would get an average of about nine, while Austrian churches chime in at about a two. For reference: ND's dorm masses range from 8.5-10 depending on the dorm, and the Basilica's SAA is closer to Austrian churches.

So as I sat there in the Stephansdom, wishing I could SA (sing along), I thought of what we would be singing then at home. One of my favorite Church songs comes only on Ash Wednesday, so I always look forward to it: "We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do/We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew/If all our world is ashes, then must our lives be true?/And offering of ashes, an offering to you ..."

I sat there and sang silently in my head. The symbolism of Ash

Wednesday is beautiful, that we admit and accept our humble beginnings, end, and our sins in between, but we offer that to God, who is the deeper meaning in our "world of ashes." The Vienna bishop conveyed just that message in his homily, but it didn't reach me like the song from home did.

Although the Catholic Church is universal, the Church I experience in Austria is not the Church I know at home. European Catholicism as a whole tends to be more awe-inspiring and less personal, but this variance does not exist strictly at international borders: many American Catholics prefer large churches with grandiose music and strict tradition. I'm not saying there is anything wrong with that, both forms of worship are beautiful and deeply spiritual.

But that's still not the Church that I grew up in. It's not the Church that shaped my faith and still today provides me with a sense of belonging. So much of religious fulfillment rests in the community and the atmosphere of worship. I continue to find comfort in the uniformity of the Catholic Mass, in its familiarity, but I somehow remain a guest in these European Churches and not a member.

Jackie Mirandola Mullen is a junior History and German major currently studying abroad in Innsbruck, Austria. She is sorry that this column has such a low SAA. She can be reached at jmirando@nd.edu

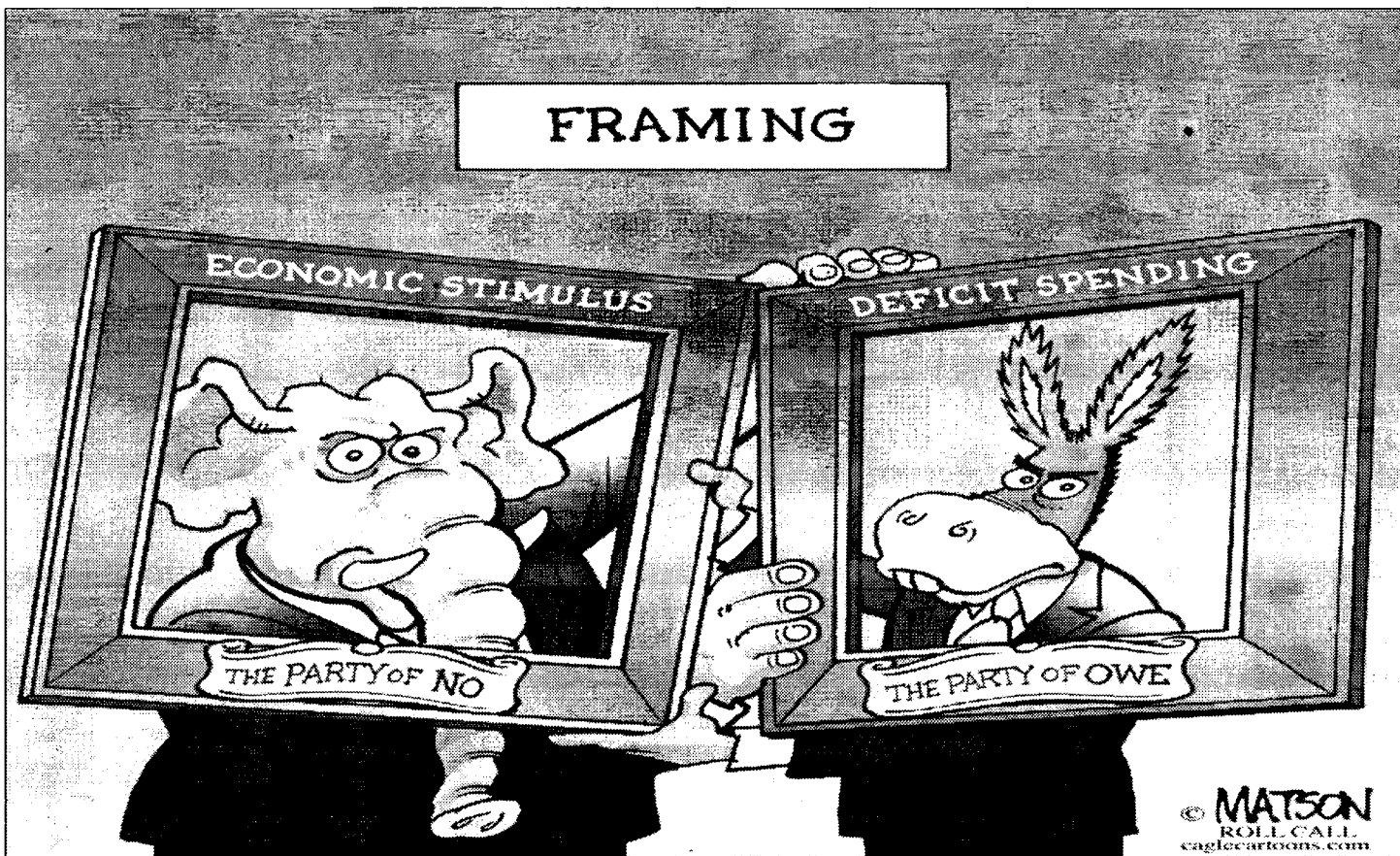
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Jackie Mirandola Mullen

Chlorofilled Cardboard

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Ninety percent of everything is crap."

Theodore Sturgeon
U.S. science fiction writer

**Submit a Letter
to the Editor at**
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."

Mahatma Gandhi
Indian political and spiritual leader

In vitro for eight

The California hospital where they were born calls them "Suleman Babies A to H." Their mother, Nadya Suleman, an unmarried, unemployed 33-year-old grad student, already had six children, ages two to seven, all through in vitro fertilization (IVF). She was surprised when the octuplets appeared after six embryos, conceived by IVF, were placed in her womb. She instantly became Octomom. Reaction, mostly critical, focused on Nadya's "irresponsibility" and the "professional negligence" of a physician who would perform IVF on a single mother of six.

The case, however, should prompt a reappraisal of the effects of IVF and related techniques on the human dignity of all those involved. On Sept. 8, 2008, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued, with the approval of Pope Benedict XVI, an instruction on bioethics, "Dignitas Personae" (The Dignity of a Person) (DP). DP presents the principles governing IVF and other types of artificial fertilization, as well as new techniques including gene therapy, therapeutic and reproductive cloning, the use of stem cells, both embryonic and adult, and the attempted hybridization of human and animal genetic elements. Space permits discussion here only of DP's treatment of IVF.

The opening sentence of DP states the theme: "The dignity of a person must be recognized in every human being from conception to natural death." DP builds on Humanae Vitae, the 1968 encyclical of Pope Paul VI which affirmed the inseparability on human initiative of the unitive and procreative meanings of the conjugal act. "The transmission of life," said DP, "is inscribed in nature and its laws stand as an unwritten norm to which all must refer." (6) The natural law dictates that the "authentic context" for the origin of human life is in the conjugal act, "open to life," between husband and wife. (6) The acceptance of IVF is a predictable result of the acceptance of contraception. Contraception seeks to take the unitive without the procreative, while IVF

takes the procreative without the unitive.

Hormonal or surgical techniques, however, that remove obstacles to natural fertilization, such as surgical repair of fallopian tubes, are encouraged by DP because none of them "replaces the conjugal act." (13) But techniques "which substitute for the conjugal act" (12), are unacceptable, including artificial fertilization, both heterologous (using the sperm of a third party) and homologous (using the husband's sperm). IVF, followed by transfer of the embryo to the womb, is such a technique.

In IVF, more embryos are produced than are intended to be placed in the womb. Some may be frozen for future use. Those with defects are "discarded." (15) More embryos are then placed in the womb than the number of children desired, "to increase the chance that at least one will implant in the uterus." (15) If, however, more implant than are desired, the answer is "embryo reduction" in which the extra children in the womb are "exterminated [by] selective abortion." (21)

Such a "purely utilitarian treatment" of human life is seen clearly in the genetic diagnosis made before transfer into the womb. "[A]n embryo suspected of having ... defects, or not having the sex desired, or having other qualities that are not wanted [is destroyed]." (22) Such reflects "a eugenic mentality that [measures] the value of a human life only [by] 'normality' and physical well-being, thus opening the way to ... infanticide and euthanasia." (22) "The acceptance of the enormous number of abortions involved in IVF illustrates how the replacement of the conjugal act by a technical procedure ... leads to a weakening of the respect owed to every human being." (16).

Remember that each embryo is a living human being. IVF affronts the human dignity of the embryo and of Octomom herself. One is treated as an industrial product, subject to quality control, and the other as a receptacle for that product subject to further quality control.

"The Church," said DP, "understands the suffering of couples struggling with problems of fertility. [T]he desire [for a child], however, should not override the dignity of [a] human life," nor can it "justify the 'production' of offspring." (16) And the desire not to have a child cannot justify the abandonment or destruc-

tion of a child once he or she has been conceived." (16)

IVF often requires repeated attempts to achieve success. Multiple oocytes (unfertilized eggs) can be taken from the woman and frozen for future use in "artificial procreation." Such is "morally unacceptable" (19), as are proposals to use frozen embryos for research or treatment of disease; such "would treat the embryos as mere 'biological material' and result in their destruction." (19)

Adoption of frozen embryos, who could be implanted in the adopting woman's womb and carried to term, could give them a chance to live. On the other hand, it would encourage, and materially cooperate with, the IVF industry by making adoption a profitable outlet for its "products." DP does not address these concerns, although it describes "prenatal adoption" as "praiseworthy [in its] intention of respecting and defending human life." (19) But then it concludes that, "all things considered, ... the ... abandoned embryos represent a situation of injustice which in fact cannot be resolved. Therefore John Paul II made an 'appeal ... that the production of human embryos be halted, taking into account that there seems to be no morally licit solution regarding the human destiny of the ... 'frozen embryos,' which ... should ... be protected by law as human persons." (19) A more detailed discussion by the Magisterium of the "prenatal adoption" issue would be helpful.

The "Suleman Babies A to H" ought to make us think. We can proceed down the path laid out by the contraceptive separation of life from conjugal love. That path leads not only to IVF but to other techniques discussed in DP, including embryonic stem cell research which taxpayers will now fund by order of President Obama, cloning and other refinements. They involve the acceptance of utilitarian murder on a mass scale. The alternative is to return to the natural law and the recognition of every human being, from conception to natural death, as a person who has, from God, a right to life that transcends the state.

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



Charles E. Rice

Right or Wrong?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bald is beautiful

In an effort to raise money for cancer, three Notre Dame girls (that I know of), including myself, have decided to shave our heads. In doing this, we hope to raise awareness about cancer and the importance of working together. Donations will go towards St. Baldrick's foundation, which in nine years has raised over \$50 million for childhood cancer research by shaving more than 72,000 heads in 18 countries and 48 US states. This event allows young cancer patients and survivors to be able to see how many people really do care.

I'm sure everyone who is reading this knows someone who has been affected by cancer. Take a second to think about that. That is a lot of people with cancer; even still, more and more people are being diagnosed with cancer everyday. I am fortunate enough to be healthy and to have the opportunity to become involved with this issue, as are the majority of the students here at this University, including you. Look around at how fortunate we all are. You are in college, at the University of Notre Dame. Each and every one of us has been very blessed with the opportunity to pursue our dreams. Some children with cancer may never have the opportunity to go away to college or even have the chance to apply to college for that matter. Realizing this makes hair seem insignificant. Shaving our heads may help you to realize how fortunate you are, especially since cancer is becoming more and more prevalent. I think there is more to life than appearance; so if

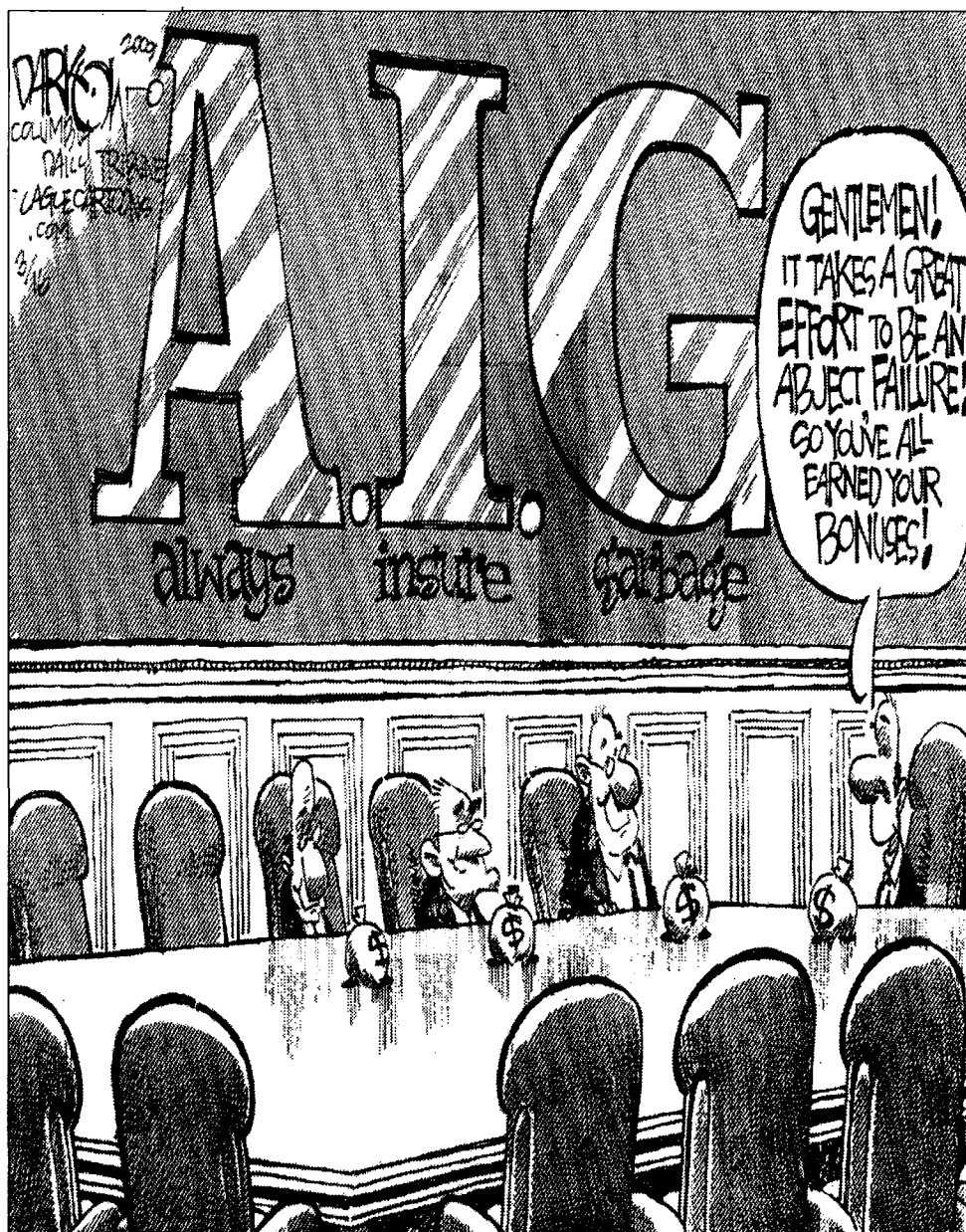
shaving my head can potentially save the lives of children, or take a step closer, then by all means, shave my head.

This is not at all about me though; nor is it about the others who are shaving their heads. It's about everyone we know who has, or has had, cancer. This effort involves all of us and we need to work together. These children need the help of the Notre Dame student body, which is known to work together, to live up to our hype. Together, we could potentially save, or prevent hundreds, hopefully more, from cancer. Who knows, maybe today we are even saving our own children in 15 years.

So on Friday, March 20, along with junior Molly McCarthy and senior Meghan Keefe, I am shaving my head. I'm asking you all to sponsor one of us. Go to <http://stbaldricks.org/>, click on "Find a Participant" at the top of the page, and type in one of our names as a shaver: Tiffany Robak, Molly McCarthy or Meghan Keefe, and SPONSOR US. It doesn't matter who you donate to, it all goes to the same cause. If you know anyone else, friends or family, who would be interested in donating to our cause, it would be greatly appreciated if you could forward the information on to them. We think it's worth it, and we hope that you do too.

Tiffany Robak
junior
Pangborn
Mar. 16

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Got Spring Fever?

Outdoor Dining in South Bend is the Cure

By ERIC PRISTER
Scene Writer

Ahh, springtime is upon us. The sun is shining, flip flops have reentered the fashion scene, and South Quad looks like someone let the convicts out of their cells for the first time in months. Now, in South Bend, that means very little, since pleasant weather lasts about as long as an average high school relationship, but at least the feel of spring has arrived.

One thing that is consistent in South Bend during the spring, just as it is year round, is that one must eat. What better way to celebrate the coming of rebirth and rejuvenation than to style your eating choices around the new season? For those who are forced to eat in the dining hall for every meal, either due to a lack of transportation or a moral obligation to use all fourteen meals each week, these suggestions will do you little good. Honestly, you should skip to the end of the article. But for someone who is looking to spread his or her wings and venture off campus, please continue.

For the rare Notre Dame student who finds his or her pockets overflowing with excess money, two choices exist. One, as the bumper sticker suggests, you could elect a democrat (which, it seems, has been the favored choice of the majority of the country). Or two, take a valued friend or the object of your affection to The Carriage House Dining Room. While outrageously expensive, The Carriage House not only offers incredible French cuisine, but also a beautifully decorated outdoor patio where one can enjoy the sunshine with their slightly overpriced but still extremely delicious food.

For everyone else who

finds money a bit harder to come by, K's Grill and Pub might be an option. Go to K's and order a hot dog, applesauce and potato chips and enjoy your meal in their outdoor seating area.

Another option for those who are over 21 is Simeri's Old Town Tap. Simeri's offers excellent sandwiches and other typical sports bar food, along with the option to sit outside at their patio, where live music is performed multiple times each week.

Chipotle is another favorite which offers outdoor seating. Its burritos and tacos are reasonably priced and it is a nice place for a quick off-campus meal, especially since it makes it possible to enjoy your meal and the balmy weather at the same time.

Restaurants such as Olive Garden, Applebee's and Panera Bread offer Notre Dame students a springtime feel even when the weather changes back to the perma-cloud to which South Bend has grown accustomed. These establishments have created a springtime feel with the style of food served and the bright and cheerful ambiance of the restaurant itself.

The best possible place for Notre Dame students to take advantage of the rare but beautiful spring weather in South Bend, though, is none other than Notre Dame itself. Order a pizza from Bruno's or Papa John's, have a Jimmy John's sub delivered, or run to LaFortune and order a seven-dollar-and-fifty-cent footlong from Subway (not as catchy as five-dollar footlong is it?). Take your meal outside with some friends and enjoy the beautiful weather in the most beautiful place South Bend has to offer, under the Golden Dome.

Contact Eric Prister at
eprister@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of <http://www.twincitiesdiningguide.com>

Enjoy your meal outside in the sunshine of spring.

Following Spring Fashion Down the Yellow Brick Road

By JESS SHAFFER
Scene Editor

You might have thought that "The Wizard of Oz" was a quaint, old movie with no real sustainable lessons, outside of now-clichés like "There's no place like home." But who knew that this fashion season "The Wizard of Oz" embodies all that is good, stylish and hip for people in the know. Even after decades have passed, re-watching this Technicolor classic might have you reevaluating and realizing that this season's style is "a horse of a different color."

Dorothy's Ruby Red Slippers

Pigtails and lacey white socks might have gone out when you graduated elementary school, but Dorothy's flashy accessories are still very in. Ruby red slippers come in many forms these days. Shiny new red stilettos never go out of style. Then again, they are not always the most comfy for everyday wear. Experiment with the wide varieties of flats out there. When trying out the clean, femininity of a ballet flat, avoid neutrals that will remind you of mundane winter wardrobes. Instead opt for bright colors, like green, yellow, pink and orange. Spring is a time for color, so it doesn't have to be Dorothy's ruby sequined shoes, but you should take a lesson from her book and give flashy accessories the good ol' college try. You might not be in Kansas any more, but you might like this new, colorful Technicolor world.

The Scarecrow's Plaid

If you only have a fashionable brain, you probably can't help but noticing the influx of plaid. This plaid is not just for the cornfields of rural towns but also for hip city streets and cool, casual wear for college students. Plaid doesn't have to be for farmers or cowboys. Nor does it have to be cognitive of 90s grunge. While it might not be the most overtly posh or haute couture style statement, it's easy to wear

and is cropping up everywhere. Button downs are the most obvious form of plaid, but you'll also find it in dresses, shoes and even pants. Avoid looking to ready for a long day with cornstalks and shy pairing plaid with things like straw hats or cowboy boots. Instead look for chic, simple, clean lines to go with this, the Scarecrow's, style statement.

The Tinman's Metallics

Though the ice of winter has melted, icy metallic have not died with the receding frost. The Tin Man wanted a heart, and though they might not be warm tones, there is a lot to love about metallic. Gold, silver, bronze, as well as icy blues and pinks have been very popular in the last year. Shimmery tops for parties bring the flirty, fun atmosphere of spring even into the darkest depths of dorm parties, Fever, or Finny's. Be forewarned, the eye-catching nature of metallic may draw attention to less flattering areas of the female form. In other words, with Stacy and Clinton-esque directness, don't wear metallic pants, unless you want an endless amount of attention paid to your thighs, hips and butt. Instead, use metallic to accentuate your assets with sexy tops and fierce icy accessories. Have a heart, and give metallics a chance.

The Lion's Ruffles

The Lion's luscious curls are remarkably evocative of ruffles that can be seen on runways in shows and street corners. Ruffles are a hip way to add daring volume to any outfit. If you're timid (not necessarily cowardly) like our dear friend the Lion, you can try small amounts of volume with a small line of ruffles around the top of a dress or top. For the more adventurous, you can employ ruffles all over dresses and tops. Also ruffles are very chic on accessories. Try ruffles out in a variety of styles and colors, for a fresh, flirty spring style.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu



Green Humor: Jokes for St. Patrick's Day

By CORNELIUS ROGERS

Scene Writer

1) How many Irish guys does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

Ten. One to hold the lightbulb and nine to drink Guinness until the room starts spinning!

2) A man walks into a bar in New York City on St. Patrick's Day and orders a Guinness. When he receives it, he turns to the man next to him and says "You know, lad. It's time like these that make me remember my childhood in Ireland."

The man next to him says "I grew up in Ireland me'self. Whereabouts are ye from?"

"Dublin."

"You don't say! I'm from Dublin as well. What street did you grow up on?"

"St. Mary's street."

"St. Mary's street! I grew up on St. Mary's street as well."

The bartender leans over to one of his other patrons and says, "It's going to be a long night. The O'Malley brothers are drunk again."

3) What do you call an Irishman who gets drunk and passes out on your porch?

Patio Furniture (Patty O'Furniture)

4) What do you call an Irishman who is so drunk he is bouncing off the walls?

Rick O'Shea

5) Three Irish guys walk out of a bar.

6) An Irish priest is sitting in a confessional booth waiting for people to come in. Finally, a drunk man stumbles in, on the other side of the wall. The priest can clearly smell the liquor on his breath. The man is silent for a long time. The priest is wondering if he is contemplating his sins or not. Finally, the drunk man says, "Hey, do you have any toilet paper on your side?"

7) An Irish man came home to his wife one day. His wife noticed that the man was much happier than usual. "Honey," she said, "Is there something you want to tell me?" "Yes," he replied, "I found a leprechaun's pot of gold. You have to see it. I put it in the garage." When the wife saw what was in the garage, she told her husband, "That's pyrrhite (fool's gold). You thought you had a leprechaun's pot of gold, but all you really have are a bunch of sham rocks."

8) An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman were reading a newspaper article about which nationalities' brains were for sale for transplant purposes. An Irishman's or a Scotsman's brain could be bought for £500 but an Englishman's brain cost £10,000. That proves," said The Englishman, "that Englishmen are much cleverer than Irishmen or Scotsmen." "No it doesn't," said The Irishman, "it just means that an Englishman's brain has never been used."

Contact Cornelius Rogers at crogers1@nd.edu

Everyone loves an Irish Playlist!

By LILLIAN CIVANTOS

Scene Writer

Obviously, Notre Dame is the No. 1 place to be if you want to celebrate anything Irish. So here's some music to help set the St. Patrick's Day mood for you.

"Johnny Tarr" - Gaelic Storm

This music defines the Irish pub song. And we all know how the Irish feel about pubs.

"Where the Streets Have No Name" - U2

U2 is the single most-grossing Irish band of all time, so they should be on any St. Patrick's Day soundtrack. According to some sources, this song is a subtle tribute to Ireland.

"Come On Eileen" - Dexy's Midnight Runners

The Celtic-style fiddle in this classic song carries listeners back to the Emerald Isle. Interesting fact: "Come on Eileen" reached No. 1 when it aired on Irish radio, and held that spot for 11 weeks.

"Brown Eyed Girl" - Van Morrison

Another native Irish band, and a hit song about the beautiful Irish women.

"Danny Boy" - Multiple artists

This song is the Irish anthem for Irish-Americans. Its bitter-sweet lyrics will stir your soul, no matter which of the many artists' renditions you choose.

"Green and Red of Mayo" - The Saw Doctors

The Saw Doctors are an incredible home-grown Irish group. This moving song describes Ireland's natural beauty, and actually mentions St. Patrick.

"Rebels of the Sacred Heart" - Flogging Molly

What Irish playlist would be complete without Flogging Molly? Get your blood pumping with this fast-paced Irish-Catholic melody.

"Molly Malone" - Multiple artists

Also known as "Cockles and Mussels," this song is another tribute to an Irish girl. It's also an Irish classic, dating back to the 1870s. Some consider it the unofficial anthem of Dublin city.

"Breathless" - The Corrs

One of Ireland's best pop groups sings a catchy, beautiful love song.

"Sunday Bloody Sunday" - U2

This song describes the 1972 Easter Sunday massacre in Ireland, "Bloody Sunday."

"Dreams" - The Cranberries

This lovely melody is by another of Ireland's top musical acts.

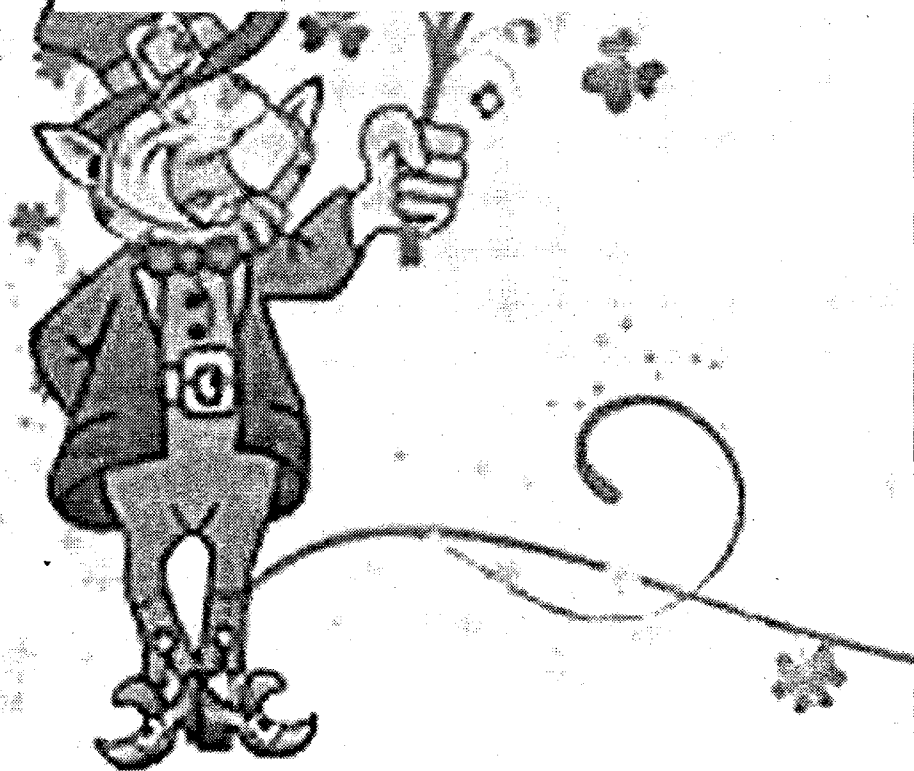
"Isle of Innisfree" from The Quiet Man

The Quiet Man is an essential Irish film. It includes beautiful scenery shot in Ireland, and the dynamic acting duo of John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. This sweet song captures the spirit of the Irish countryside.

"When Irish Eyes are Smiling" - Multiple artists

The name says it all. Here's hoping that your Irish eyes are smiling today. Happy St. Pat's!

Contact Lillian Civantos at lcivanto@nd.edu



NBA

Rockets snap Hornets' 5-game win streak

Durant scores 25 points as Thunder shock Spurs in Popovich's 1,000th game as San Antonio's coach

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Ron Artest scored all of his 18 points in the second half, and the Houston Rockets overcame the absence of center Yao Ming in a 95-84 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Monday night.

Luis Scola and Aaron Brooks each scored 14 points, and Scola had 12 rebounds to help the Rockets end New Orleans' five-game home winning streak.

Chris Paul had 29 points and 11 assists, while David West had 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Hornets, who've lost two straight.

Yao sat out with flu-like symptoms and Dikembe Mutombo started in his place.

Carl Landry and Von Wafer each scored 12 points and Shane Battier 11 as the Rockets, holding on to the third seed in the Western Conference, prevented the Hornets from passing them in the standings.

The Hornets appeared to be taking control of the game early in the second half, when alley-oop dunks by Julian Wright and Tyson Chandler highlighted an 8-0 Hornets run to give New Orleans a 55-44 lead. Houston coach Rick Adelman quickly called timeout, and the Rockets returned in far better form.

Artest, who'd missed his first 11 field goals, got his first points on free throws, then made his next four shots and added an assist on Scola's driving scoop during a 16-2 spurt that put Houston ahead 62-59.

New Orleans got only five points the rest of the quarter, all from Paul, whose floater as he was fouled cut Houston's lead to 67-64 heading into the final period.

James Posey's 3 to open the fourth quarter tied the game, and the Hornets led 75-73 on Posey's baseline drive with 7:01 to go.

Houston responded with an 8-0 run during which Landry swatted away Paul's floater and later hit two free throws. Artest also scored during the surge.

After West's jumper briefly stopped to run, Artest scored again on a driving layup and Landry dunked on a fast break to make it 85-77 with 3:47 left. The Hornets were stagnant after that, and Chandler fouled out while battling Landry for a rebound with 1:18 to go.

Despite the absence of Yao, Houston finished with a 38-37 edge in rebounding. Mutombo scored only one point but had six rebounds and blocked Wright three times on drives to the hoop, wagging his finger

every time.

Houston used a 14-3 run, highlighted by Landry's two dunks, to take a 34-26 lead early in the second quarter, mostly with Paul on the bench. Houston was shooting better than 54 percent when Brent Barry's fade off the glass gave the Rockets a 39-31 lead, and New Orleans trailed 41-33 when Paul returned with a little under seven minutes left in the second quarter.

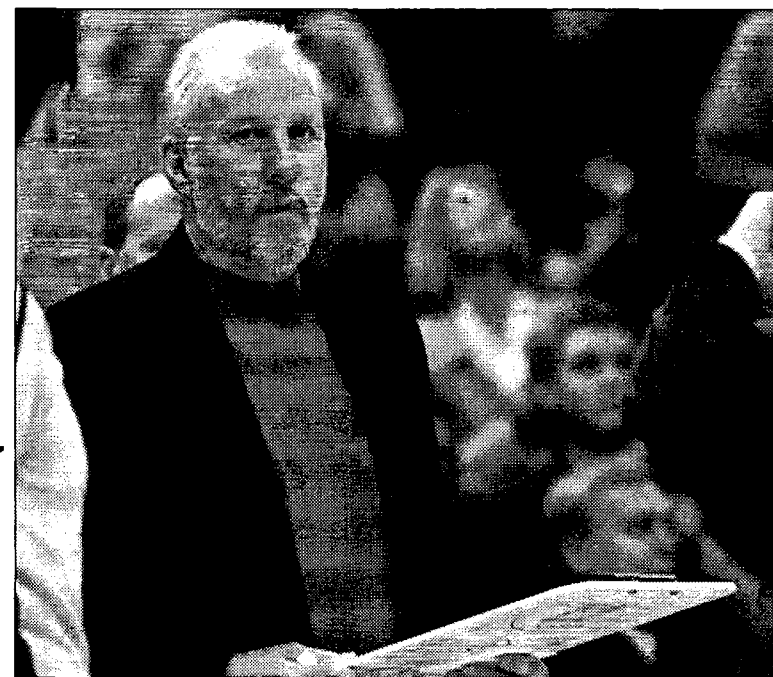
The Hornets immediately pulled back ahead as Paul scored eight points, six on free throws, during an 10-0 run.

The Rockets went about 6:30 without a field goal during that spurt, which Houston finally snapped on Scola's short jumper to tie the game at 43. Paul, who had 10 points in the second quarter, added a fade-away in the final seconds to give New Orleans a 47-44 lead at halftime.

Thunder 78, Spurs 76

Kevin Durant scored 25 points, Thabo Sefolosha added 12 and the Oklahoma City Thunder spoiled Gregg Popovich's 1,000th game as San Antonio's coach by beating the Spurs on Monday night.

The Thunder didn't lead until midway through the fourth



Spurs coach Gregg Popovich approaches his team during a timeout in San Antonio's 78-76 loss to Oklahoma City on Monday.

quarter, but kept San Antonio to its season low in scoring and escaped when Tony Parker missed a 3-pointer from the left side in the closing seconds.

Popovich could only shrug with his palms of his hands pointed toward the sky as the clock struck zero.

Parker scored 28 points to lead San Antonio, and Tim Duncan had 14 points and 12 rebounds. Matt Bonner added 10 points.

Oklahoma City won for the fourth straight time at home.

Popovich became the 24th coach to reach 1,000 games and only the seventh to do it with one team. Only Phil Jackson (731) and Pat Riley (716) had more wins in their first 1,000 games than Popovich, who is 676-324.

But after a stellar start, San Antonio didn't look much like the team with the second-best record in the Western Conference.

The Thunder, who trailed by 17 in the first quarter, took their first lead at 70-67 on Chucky Atkins' 3-pointer from the left wing with 7:37 left. Durant pushed the edge to 76-72 with a jumper from the left wing, and the lead was back to four when Russell Westbrook answered Parker's two free throws with another jumper at 2:19.

Popovich stood with his arms crossed as the Spurs' chances slipped away, with Nenad Krstic snagging an offensive rebound in the final two minutes to let Oklahoma City drain the clock further.

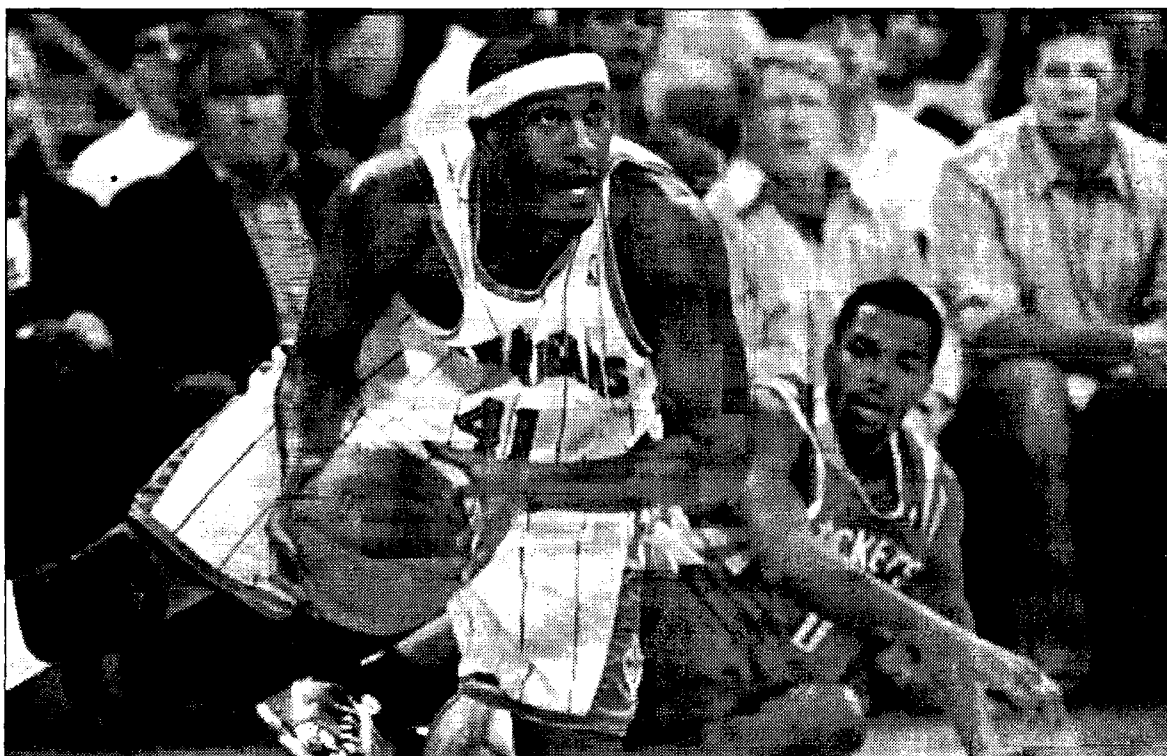
The Thunder improved to 19-48, moving within one win of last season's win total, by committing only three turnovers in the second half after a miserable start.

San Antonio capitalized on six early giveaways by the NBA's most turnover-prone team to open an early 27-10 lead when Drew Gooden followed his put-back dunk with a jumper from the left elbow to finish a string of eight straight Spurs points.

But then it was San Antonio that got careless with the ball. Parker and Duncan combined for seven of the Spurs' nine turnovers in the second quarter, and the Thunder used a 17-2 burst to close the gap to 38-36 on Jeff Green's layup with 2:52 left before halftime.

Duncan picked up a technical foul late in the stretch when Derrick Collins whistled the player for saying something to him after a missed jumper along the left baseline.

The Spurs then rebuilt their lead to 11 before allowing the Thunder to rally back and tie it at 63 on Durant's jumper to open the fourth quarter.



Hornets forward James Posey beats Rockets guard Aaron Brooks to a loose ball during the first half of Houston's 95-84 win over New Orleans on Monday. The Rockets were without center Yao Ming

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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PERSONAL

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osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assistance-for-pregnant-students.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit Support Services for Victims of Rape & Assault at:

http://osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assault/

Quizzes on sporcle.com that actually exist:

-We Didn't Start the Fire (name everything mentioned in the Billy Joel hit)

-I'm Too Sexy (name everything that Right Said Fred is too sexy for)

-Retired Atlantic Hurricanes (hurricane names no longer in use)

-Mitchell Report (name every player named in the infamous steroids report)

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Men's Tennis Division 1 Top 25

team	points
1 Stanford	87
2 Virginia	86
3 Ohio St.	71
4 Georgia	70
5 Tennessee	66
6 Texas	65
7 Illinois	62
8 Southern California	61
9 Florida	59
10 Mississippi	58
11 Kentucky	55
12 Baylor	53
13 UCLA	50
14 Pepperdine	48
15 Florida St.	47
16 Louisville	45
17 Arizona	42
18 Tulsa	36
19 Wisconsin	33
20 Alabama	31
21 Oklahoma St.	31
22 Washington	31
23 Wake Forest	30
24 Minnesota	29
25 NOTRE DAME	29

NCAA Women's Golf Division 1 Top 20

team	points
1 Arizona St.	25
2 UCLA	24
3 Southern California	23
4 Virginia	22
5 Alabama	21
6 Oklahoma St.	19
7 Wake Forest	18
8 Auburn	17
9 Duke	16
10 Georgia	15
11 LSU	14
12 Pepperdine	13
12 Purdue	12
14 Vanderbilt	11
15 North Carolina	10
16 Denver	9
17 Michigan St.	8
18 California	7
19 Louisville	6
20 Arizona	5

NCAA Men's Lacrosse Division 1 Top 15

team	points
1 Virginia	180
2 Syracuse	161
3 Princeton	158
4 Cornell	137
5 NOTRE DAME	133
6 Johns Hopkins	129
7 Maryland	128
8 North Carolina	127
9 UMBC	101
10 Duke	100
11 Georgetown	84
12 Hofstra	78
13 Massachusetts	61
14 Loyola (Md.)	56
15 Navy	49

NFL



Family and friends of the missing football players met at the U.S. Coastguard station in St. Petersburg, Fla. Marquis Cooper, Corey Smith and William Bleakley went fishing and never returned.

Cooper, Smith lost at sea in wreck

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Two NFL players may have died just a few hours after their fishing boat capsized in rough seas and possibly before rescuers were even alerted that they and two others were lost off the west coast of Florida, according to Coast Guard records.

The lone survivor, Nick Schuyler, told the Coast Guard that one by one, the other three men took off their life vests and disappeared during the ordeal that began the evening of Feb. 28, according to a 23-page report provid-

ed to The Associated Press Monday under a Freedom of Information Act request.

The Coast Guard report, which redacts the men's names, says the group went roughly 70 miles — or 62 nautical miles — to fish for amberjack. Besides the 24-year-old Schuyler, also aboard the 21-foot Everglades boat were Oakland Raiders linebacker Marquis Cooper, free-agent NFL defensive lineman Corey Smith, who played for the Detroit Lions last season, and former University of South

Florida player William Bleakley. The bodies of Cooper, Smith and Bleakley have not been recovered.

Around 5:30 p.m., the report said the group ran into trouble: Their anchor was stuck. Schuyler told investigators that he believed it was caught in a coral reef and they tried to free it, but water filled the boat and it capsized.

Tossed into the frigid water, the men managed to grab their life vests. Schuyler, also a former South Florida player, said they held on to the boat for four

hours. But as the night wore on, their will to survive appears to have weakened and the effects of hypothermia were likely setting in.

Schuyler told the Coast Guard that one of the men "freaked out" and took off his life vest and disappeared that night.

Another started getting unruly, throwing punches and later took off his life jacket, dove under the water and was never seen again. The third man thought he saw land nearly two days after the boat capsized and decided to swim for it.

IN BRIEF

Stallworth investigated for killing pedestrian

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Miami Beach police are awaiting the toxicology report for Cleveland Browns wide receiver Donte Stallworth before releasing information into his car accident that killed a pedestrian.

Police spokesman Juan Sanchez said Monday that the routine blood work had not made it to the lab yet. Sanchez said results are expected to be released by the end of the week.

Authorities said Stallworth was headed toward the beach when he hit 59-year-old Mario Reyes with his Bentley on Saturday morning on a busy causeway linking Miami and Miami Beach.

Stallworth was cooperating with police and no charges have been filed. A message seeking comment was left on the voicemail of his agent, Drew Rosenhaus.

Attendance down at Big Ten Tournament

INDIANAPOLIS — Ticket sales fell about 15 percent for this year's Big Ten men's basketball tournament, and organizers blamed the drop on the struggling economy.

The Indiana Sports Corp. says that 68,098 tickets were sold for the four-day tournament at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis that ended Sunday. That is down from last year's 80,012.

Purdue's appearance in the championship game Sunday against Ohio State didn't boost the crowd figures. The game drew 12,526 fans, down from 14,579 last year when Wisconsin defeated Illinois at Conseco, which holds 18,345 fans.

Sports Corp. spokesman John Dedman says the strength of the event shows in that the attendance drop wasn't greater considering the extent of the recession.

Phillies' Cole Hamels out with elbow injury

CLEARWATER, Fla. — World Series MVP Cole Hamels left training camp Monday and flew to Philadelphia to have his left elbow examined by Phillies team physician Dr. Michael Ciccotti.

"He's had a little bit of a persistent soreness in his elbow. We do not believe it's serious," Phillies general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. said. "But at least at this time we thought it was important for Dr. Ciccotti to check him out and see if there's anything more serious than we think it is."

The 25-year-old left-hander made his first Grapefruit League start Wednesday. He pitched in an intrasquad game Sunday and didn't report any pain during four innings.

Hamels feels tightness in his elbow between innings and after he's finished pitching for the day.

around the dial

NCAA Basketball Notre Dame vs. UAB 9:00 p.m., ESPN2

MLB Chicago Cubs vs. Los Angeles Dodgers 3:05 p.m., MLB.TV

MEN'S DIVING

Divers' season comes to end

By MIKE GOTIMER
News Writer

Notre Dame ended its diving season this past weekend at the NCAA Zone Meet at the University of Minnesota after no Irish diver advanced to the NCAA Championships.

Although the Irish didn't send a diver to the NCAA Championships for the second consecutive season, the young Notre Dame squad did post a strong performance in the meet.

"It was a pretty solid performance," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "It's always a very, very, very tough meet, but our young divers performed well. There was a lot to

build on."

Notre Dame senior captain Michael Bulfin, who was an All-American in 2008 after scoring for the Irish at the NCAA Championships, was hampered by an illness that led to a 23rd place finish in the preliminary heat of the 1-meter event with a score of 257.45. However, he was able to rebound with an 11th place finish in the 3-meter event with a score of 681.25.

Sophomore Eric Lex had an impressive showing, leading the Irish with a score of 603.05 off the 1-meter board, which was good enough for 11th place. He followed it up with a 17th place finish off the 3-meter board with a score of 632.90. Lex and Bulfin were the

only two Irish divers to advance to the finals in the 3-meter event.

Junior Caleb Dunnichay finished one spot behind Lex in the 1-meter event with a score 587.35. Sophomore Nathan Geary also made the finals for the Irish in the 1-meter, finishing 18th with a score of 564.20. Sophomore Wes Villafior continued to improve, posting a score of 239.50 in the 1-meter event and the 258.25 in the 3-meter event.

Although the Notre Dame diving team is done for the season, the Irish swim team returns to action at the NCAA Championships on March 26 in College Station, Texas.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles off to fast start after trip to Florida

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's started off its season with a string of victories over break on a trip to Fort Myers, Fla. playing in the Gene Cusic Classic. The Belles went 9-1 for the week, one of their most successful starts to the season in school history.

"I was very happy with our play this week. Our defense was solid and our pitching was fantastic," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said.

Saint Mary's played doubleheaders each day in the tournament, opening the week with two victories on Mar. 8. The Belles took down Drew University (N.J.) 3-2 in the morning on junior Ashley Peterson game-winning RBI to plate junior Maureen Healy. Freshman pitcher Angela Gillis stuck out five and allowed zero walks in her first collegiate action. The Belles finished off the day with a 5-2 win over Wheaton College (Mass.). Peterson and senior Ashley Fusaro hit back-to-back home runs to secure the win. Fusaro's shot was the 15th of her career. Freshman pitcher Monica Palicki allowed only six hits over the seven innings and had four strikeouts in the game.

On Monday, Mar. 9, the wins kept coming for the Belles. Palicki led the team to a 5-0 win over Worcester Polytechnic Institute, allowing only two hits and striking out five. Peterson and Healy went 3-4 in the game with Peterson knocking out her second home run in two days. Later in the day, the squad won an 11-1 victory over Wheelock (Mass.). Gillis pitched her second collegiate win, allowing only one run and striking out five in six innings before freshman Symone Pompey closed out the game.

Day three saw Saint Mary's record move to 6-0 with wins over SUNY Oswego and Fitchburg State. The Belles won 10-2 over SUNY Oswego in six innings before the game ended due to the

mercy rule. Four players had multi-hit games, led by Lauren Enayati, who went 3-3. Palicki gave up five hits in six innings with one walk. Against Fitchburg, Gillis moved her record to 3-0, allowing only four singles with eight strikeouts.

The Belles suffered their first loss Wednesday afternoon against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (N.Y.), going 1-1 for the day with a win versus Elms (Mass.). They won 3-1 over Elms led by Enayati going 3-4 from the plate. Gillis allowed just three hits while striking out five. RPI beat the Belles 14-4, but Peterson continued her impressive start to the year, going 4-for-4 offensively with a double and a triple while scoring a pair of runs. Palicki got her first career loss, putting her at 3-1.

Saint Mary's finished up their season with a pair of wins on Thursday against Curry and Bowdoin Colleges. They won 5-0 over Curry with five Belles having multi-hit games, including Fusaro going 4-4 and scoring two runs. Palicki allowed only three hits and struck out four in the win. In their final game of the week, Enayati hit a bases-loaded triple in the top of the seventh to break a scoreless tie and give the Belles a 3-0 lead. Two batters later, Peterson drove in Enayati for the fourth run of the game. Gillis improved her record to 5-0, allowing four hits over seven innings with zero walks.

Looking back on their first week of play, Sullivan was more than satisfied with her team.

"We really had a team effort to win nine of our 10 games. Everyone on this team has a role and contributed greatly to our performance. Ashley Peterson and Ashley Fusaro were incredible both offensively and defensively. Hayley Bojorquez kept us in our first game by throwing out a runner at home from right field, which she did twice during the week."

It's hard to say what our best win was this week, but I was especially happy with our games against Wheaton and Bowdoin," Sullivan, a 2004 Saint Mary's graduate, said. "Both schools have excellent programs and we had to play our best to beat both teams."

Saint Mary's looks to keep their luck going as they open their home play with a doubleheader against Goshen College at 3:30 today. Goshen didn't have a team last season, so the Belles are unsure of what to expect from this rookie team.

"We have more experience, but they will definitely challenge us," Sullivan said. "I am hoping to keep trying out different line-ups and batting orders in these early non-conference games in order to prepare for our conference opener on March 30."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at
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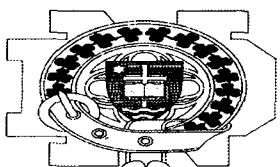
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dwartko@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish finish 12th at LSU

By ALEX WEST
News Writer

Three Irish players shot a 1-under in the third round of the LSU Cleveland Classic on Sunday, but the Irish squandered several shots, and finished 12th. Freshmen Becca Huffer, sophomore So-Hyun Park, and senior captain Lisa Manunu each carded a 1-under 71 for the third round.

Coach Susan Holt was disappointed with her team's performance. "It was an easy course, but it served as an equalizer for all the teams," Holt said. "We didn't take advantage of [the course]."

Despite posting the good scores, Holt believes that all of the players will say they could have performed better.

"We missed a lot of puts and made a lot of mistakes," Holt said. "You make a couple of mistakes and you find yourself in a position that you shouldn't be in."

Huffer led the Irish with a 54-hole total of 217 to finish in a tie for 16th for the tournament. Also adding to the Irish's total last weekend were sophomore Katie Conway and junior Annie Brophy who added third round scores of 78 and 76 respectively.

Sunday marked the second time that Huffer had scored under par in her career. The first time came back in September on the final day of the Mary Fossum Invitational. Sunday also was the second time this season that the Irish have had three players with

scores in red numbers. The third round team total of 288 was tied for the fourth lowest mark in the program history.

Holt hopes that her team takes away some reality of the type of competition they are playing against this season.

"We need to perform better or we will continue to fall short of the mark," she said.

To add to the Irish's frustrating weekend, travel problems caused the Irish to arrive back in town a day later than expected, missing the prime practicing conditions Monday. The Irish travel to Austin, Texas next on Wednesday for this weekend's Betsy Rawls Invitational.

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ND TRACK AND FIELD

Notre Dame wraps up indoor season

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame track and field team wrapped up their indoor season over break with the Alex Wilson Invitational March 6 and 7, as well as the NCAA Championships over the weekend.

The event, held at Loftus Sports Center, was a "last-chance" meet for athletes to punch their ticket to nationals. At this two-day event, 95 athletes from all over the country set NCAA qualifying marks.

For the Irish, pole-vaulters Mary Saxer and Matt Schipper had already punched their ticket to NAAs, and junior Joanna Schultz and senior Patrick Smyth joined them this weekend. Matt's brother Kevin Schipper, who was hoping to qualify as well, just missed the mark with a jump of 5.07 on the pole vault. Sophomore Greg Davis finished second in the weight throw with a mark of 18.26 meters.

The four qualifiers made the trip down to College Station for the NCAA championships this past weekend. At the meet, Schultz earned her first All-American honor

with an eighth-place finish in the 400-meter run. Smyth, in the 3000, also placed eighth, which was good enough for his sixth All-American honor. Saxer finished ninth with a height of 4.05 meters and Schipper finished fourteenth.

Schipper sang the praises of teammate Patrick Smyth and his importance this season.

"I think major credit for the team's success this season needs to be credited to senior Patrick Smyth of the distance corps," said Schipper. "Smyth truly exhibits what Notre Dame track and field idealizes. When you train around athletes like Patrick Smyth every day, success becomes a habit. The people you put around you become your family."

The meet marks the official end to the indoor season, so the Irish will now gear up for outdoors. The first meets, the Arizona State Invitational and the Stanford Invitational, are both scheduled for March 27-28. The team will be building up for the outdoor Big East Championships beginning on the first of May.

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WOMEN'S ROWING

Rowers aim for successful year

By CHRIS MASOUD
News Writer

The Irish are poised to repeat the success of last season as they begin their quest for a sixth consecutive Big East championship.

Notre Dame is coming off an outstanding season in 2008 that saw the Irish finish the season ranked 18th overall in the nation, the third-straight year the team ended the season ranked.

Irish head coach Martin Stone is fully confident in his varsity rowers who he said can make a serious impact through the regular season and beyond.

"We have an outstanding group of seniors on this year's team who want to leave a lasting legacy in our pro-

gram," Stone said to und.com.

Led by recently-selected senior captains Lauren Buck and Christine Trezza, the Irish hope to make a statement this Saturday when they compete against a much-improved Michigan State team.

Since the 2006-07 season, Buck and Trezza have been rowing together on the varsity eight boat for the Irish, while also rowing on the same novice boat during their freshman season in 2005-06.

"Lauren and Christine have distinguished themselves throughout their career and it is a tribute to their leadership abilities and the respect that they have from their teammates that they have been selected captains for this season," Stone said. "Lauren, Christine and all of our sen-

iors will do a great job of leading our team this year."

A three-year varsity veteran and two-time monogram winner, Buck has earned recognition as a member of the Big East Academic All-Star Team each of the past two seasons.

Not to be outdone on the water or in the classroom, Trezza has been selected as a member of the Big East Academic All-Star Team each of her first three years on the varsity squad for her scholastic accomplishments.

Anchored by a talented cast of veterans and supported by the raw talent from key underclassmen, the rowing team aims to chop the waves to the NCAA Championships in May.

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mgamber@nd.edu.

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame records three wins over break

By NATHANIEL LEE
News Writer

The 9th ranked Notre Dame Women's Lacrosse team turned in an impressive string of victories during Spring Break, beating No. 13 Dartmouth and No. 15 James Madison as well as Hofstra to improve to 6-1 on the season.

Senior attack standout Jillian Byers, who recently set Notre Dame's all-time scoring record, notched her 200th career goal while leading the team through the games. Adding to her accolades was Byers' selection as Big East Offensive Player of the Week.

"The spring break teams mean a lot for our national picture, they are all good teams," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "Treating it like a business trip and staying focused is the key to winning."

Starting off the break was a

trip to New Hampshire to face Dartmouth. The Irish got off to a slow start, allowing the Big Green to score the first six goals of the contest, and failing to record a shot until 17:34 left in the first half. The Irish turned up the pressure, though, forcing turnovers in the mid-field, and sophomore Ansley Stewart notched the first goal of the contest for Notre Dame with 10:37 left in the first half. As the opening stanza wound down, the Irish continued to turn up the intensity, and cut the Dartmouth lead to 8-5 by halftime.

After the break, Notre Dame came out with guns blazing in the second, and tallied eight unanswered goals to snag a 13-8 lead with 14:04 to go. Dartmouth never recovered and Notre Dame took the contest 16-11. Pacing the Irish was Byers' three goals two assists and Junior Gina Scioscia's three goals one

assist. Stewart, along with fellow sophomores Kailene Abt's and Kaitlin Keena's had two goals apiece. Senior Erin Goodman picked up the win in net for the Irish.

"I have been watching Jillian for four years now, and she is a great athlete," Coyne said of Byers. "She reads the play so well."

Next, the squad met James Madison as they travelled to sunny Orlando, Fla. The Dukes jumped out early, holding a lead of 6-3 halfway through the first. The team traded goals before Abt notched two in a row, tying the contest. As the clock wound down in the first half, James Madison scored again twice to take a 9-7 lead into halftime. Once again the Irish came out of the break aggressively, going on a four-goal run with scores from Scioscia, Byers, Blaney and sophomore Jackie Doherty.

Up on the Dukes 11-10 with 19:52 left in the Game, Notre Dame built on its lead and took the contest 16-12, with Goodman earning another solid win in goal.

The Irish came home to round out the break, hosting Hofstra at the Loftus Sports Center last Saturday. The Pride got on the board first, but Notre Dame had quick answers from Blaney and Byers. The teams traded goals, until the Irish scored three unanswered to take a 9-5 lead with 10:26 left in the half. Hofstra surged in the final minutes, but Blaney scored again in the final seconds to take a 10-8 lead into the break.

Notre Dame opened the second with a 4-1 run, but Hofstra answered again to cut the lead to two goals. The Irish held on and took the high-scoring contest 17-15 for their 5th straight win. Goodman tallied seven

saves for another win between the pipes. Byers led the Irish with six goals and one assist, and Scioscia notched four goals and two assists.

Coyne said that the offensive outburst was a result of hard defensive work to take the ball away from opponents.

"Turnovers are what we have been working on in practice," Coyne said. "Our game plan is in part forcing opponents to lose possession and capitalizing on those opportunities by staying focused."

The Irish will look to continue their winning ways as they host Rutgers tonight at the Loftus Sports Center at 7:00 pm. The Scarlet Knights (3-3) will be the first Big East opponent for the Irish, and are coming off a 24-1 thrashing at the ends of No. 1 powerhouse Northwestern.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish pick up road wins

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

A week-long road trip to warmer weather proved more than satisfying for the Irish who came away with victories over Duke and South Florida before dropping their final match against Georgia Tech this past week.

"Spring break is always great for us because we get to practice and play outside for the first time all season," senior captain Kelcy Tefft said. "It's a difficult adjustment but I think everyone played really well."

Last Wednesday, No. 4 Notre Dame continued their winning ways, downing conference foe South Florida 5-2 in Tampa, Fla.

The Irish jumped out early clinching the doubles point behind 8-4 victories by the No. 2 ranked doubles team of Tefft and freshman Kristy Frilling and the team of juniors Cosmina Ciobanu and Kali Krisik. The doubles squad of junior Colleen Rielley and freshman Shannon Mathews also won their match to complete the sweep.

Notre Dame did not sit idly on its lead, putting the match out of reach after the third singles match by claiming the decisive fourth point.

Frilling claimed the first victory in singles play with a 6-2, 6-0 result in the No. 2 singles match. Mathews followed with a 6-2, 6-3 win in the No. 5 match before

Ciobanu clinched the match for Irish with a dominating 6-0, 6-1 victory in the No. 4 match.

Thursday, the Irish extended their winning streak to eight games with a comeback victory over the No. 3 Blue Devils in Orlando.

"This win proves to us that we have a very strong singles lineup," Tefft said. "Getting the doubles point is very important, but it also shows us that we can win big matches even if we lose that first point."

In the doubles competition, Notre Dame dropped its first two matches to fall behind 1-0, failing to clinch the doubles point for the first time since its loss to top-ranked Northwestern back in February.

This time the Irish found a way to bounce back.

In the closest match of the day, Tefft edged her opponent 7-6, 7-6 in the No. 1 singles match to even the score at one.

Tefft's close win sparked a vigorous Notre Dame comeback that saw the Irish go 5-1 in singles play to take the match convincingly.

Frilling and Ciobanu followed suit with 6-4, 6-2 and 6-1, 7-6 wins, respectively, to put the Irish on the cusp of victory. Mathews and Krisik then put the Blue Devils away with 6-3, 6-3 and 6-3, 6-2 victories, respectively.

Saturday, Notre Dame ran into an opponent who was more than up to their challenge. The Yellow Jackets proved too much, defeat-

ing the Irish 4-3 in Atlanta.

Notre Dame got off to a similar start as they had in previous outings claiming the doubles point behind victories from the squads of Tefft/Frilling and Ciobanu/Krisik.

Unfortunately, things didn't go the Irish's way in the singles competition.

Tefft and sophomore Kristen Rafael were the first to fall putting Notre Dame behind 2-1. Ciobanu answered with a 6-3, 6-1 victory to tie it up at two.

After Frilling dropped a tough, three-set match to her opponent, Mathews answered with a 6-1, 6-0 victory to pull back to within a tie with only one match remaining.

Krisik dropped the final match of the day in three sets to her opponent, ending Notre Dame's eight match winning streak.

Disappointed, but not discouraged, Tefft said this loss will help the team in the long-run.

"Three matches in five days is a lot, but it is what we will have to do at NCAAs," she said. "I think it was good for us to see three tough teams that close together to show us what kind of shape we need to be in for the NCAA tournament. It was a tough loss, but I think we can learn a lot from it."

The Irish will return home this Friday to face No. 27 Vanderbilt at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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MLB

Pudge signs 1-year contract with Astros

Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — The Houston Astros and catcher Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez are closing in on a \$1.5 million, one-year contract, a person familiar with the talks told The Associated Press on Monday.

The deal would contain \$1.5 million in performance bonuses based on games and plate appearances, the person said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not yet been announced by the team.

"There isn't anything certain yet. Right now the only team I have is Puerto Rico," said Rodriguez in Spanish in Miami before meeting Venezuela in the World Baseball Classic. "There's interest, but I haven't received a call yet. Let's wait and see what happens in the coming hours or days."

Houston needed a veteran catcher to replace Brad Ausmus, who became a free agent and signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Astros have several young catchers in camp who need time to develop. Houston used Ausmus, J.R. Towles and Humberto Quintero at the position last season.

It appeared earlier that Quintero would be the starter

this season, but he'll likely move to a backup role.

Rodriguez's talks with Houston were first reported by espn.com.

"It's very important for me (to be a starter) because I feel good enough to play every day," Rodriguez said. "I feel very good, ready to play a whole season."

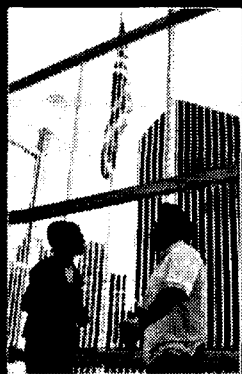
He added that his splay with Puerto Rico probably boosted his bid to find a regular-season team.

"It helps a lot for some players like myself, who still don't have a job. I think this Classic has been a very important factor."

Florida also had inquired. Rodriguez helped the Marlins win the 2003 World Series.

"There was some interest and we'll leave it at that," Marlins vice president of baseball operations Larry Beinfest said. "Obviously, we have a lot of affection for Pudge and what he did in '03. There was interest there, and he made another choice, and that's the way it goes. Hopefully, it works out for him."

The 37-year-old, a 13-time Gold Glove winner, began last season in Detroit, was traded to the Yankees in July and hit .276 with seven homers and 35 RBIs in 115 games.



Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath (2006) Directed by Sharat Raju & Valarie Kaur

NR, 88 minutes, English & Punjabi languages with English subtitles

Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath is the first feature-length documentary film about hate violence in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. The film weaves together a personal journey and cross-country road trip with an authoritative examination of race, religion, and American identity.

Valarie Kaur was a 20-year-old college student when she set out across America in the aftermath of 9/11, camera in hand, to document hate violence against Sikhs, Muslims and Arabs. She continued to capture unreported stories as a student until she joined writer-director Sharat Raju and his team in 2004. With grassroots donations, the team retraced Kaur's steps in 2005, revisiting her original interviewees and speaking with scholars and lawyers about the larger historical and political context. From the still-shocked streets of Ground Zero to the desert towns of the American West, her epic journey confronts the forces unleashed in a time of national crisis – racism and religion, fear and forgiveness – until she finds the heart of America, halfway around the world.



Valarie Kaur and Sharat Raju will discuss their film following the first screening.

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish split 10 games over break

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The Irish have a long way to go as they head into Big East play.

Notre Dame (8-10) split its 10 games over spring break, winning three of four at the UNLV Invitational in Las Vegas before dropping three of five at the Judi Garman Classic in Fullerton, Cal. The squad made a pit stop in Los Angeles in between the two invites, losing to No. 5 UCLA.

"We accomplished a lot of good things and had a lot of great individual performances," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "But we went out there to make a name for ourselves and we didn't do that. We wanted to win all 10 ball games."

The trip started well enough for the Irish, with two Mar. 7 wins — a 7-0 shutout of Texas Tech and a 5-2 decision over UC Santa Barbara.

Sophomore Sadie Pitzenberger stood out for the Irish with a total of six hits on the day, but the day ended in a slightly unusual way. The Gauchos threatened in the seventh with the Irish up 5-2, putting two runners on with no outs, but it was over with one swing. Freshman Alexa Maldonado caught a fly ball in center field and relayed it to sophomore Katie Fleury at second. She then tossed it to junior first basemen Christine Lux, who stepped on first for a triple play to end the game.

On the second day in Las Vegas, the Irish defeated Texas Tech 5-0 but fell 5-3 to UNLV.

Junior transfer Alexia Clay had her first hit in an Irish uniform with a two-run triple in the bottom of the second, and sophomore pitcher Jody Valdivia did not allow a hit until the sixth inning. She gave up just two hits and a walk while fanning seven.

The second half of the trip featured games against four Top-15 teams. Notre Dame's win over No. 9 Oklahoma on Mar. 12 was its first over a Top-10 team since 2005.

Gumpf said the high level of competition would help her team improve.

"For the most part we did a heck of a job," she said. "It has made us a better team because we know what we need to do to win, and I think we'll be able to do that."

In the Garman Classic, though, the Irish defense cost the team.

On Mar. 12, the Irish lost an extra-inning game 1-0 to Penn State. Senior pitcher Brittany Bargar took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and gave up only two hits overall, but the winning run scored after Penn State's Sam Hovanec reached on an error and was singled home.

In the win over Oklahoma, the Irish had a 3-1 lead committed three errors in the seventh inning that allowed the Sooners back into the game. Lux scored the winning run in the bottom of the frame on an error by Oklahoma pitcher Allee Allen.

In a loss to No. 12 Arizona on March 14, the Irish allowed five unearned runs to cross the plate on two errors.

Gumpf said the defensive struggles should not be a problem in the long run.

"It's only a concern of mine if it becomes a concern for them," she said. "I think the more we get outside, the more we'll improve."

The Irish ended the trip with a 3-0 loss to No. 6 Arizona State. They hung with the defending national champions for most of the game, but were not able to capitalize on opportunities and stranded seven runners on the day.

"Our production is really half big, half small," Gumpf said. "We're going to take whatever they give us. We did a great job of taking advantage of situations against Oklahoma and Texas Tech. But we weren't consistent enough with that. We fell short."

The Irish will host a double-header against Toledo in their home opener Wednesday.

Note:

♦ Sophomore Brianna Jorgensborg was named Big East Player of the Week on March 9 following her performance in the UNLV Invitational. She went 5-for-9 in the four-game stretch with three triples and two home runs. She was also the first Notre Dame player ever to triple in three straight games.

"She came out and literally hit the cover off of the ball," Gumpf said. "She played the way not many people do over a weekend."

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NCAA BASKETBALL

NCAA regulates tournament travel

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Cheese? Check. Parkas? Check. Cards for Euchre? Check. If ever a car pool were in order, now is the time for Marquette and Wisconsin fans.

With three conferences getting seven teams in the NCAA tournament, another two sending six and rules about who can play each other when and where, there was just no way to keep everyone close to home. And don't think the NCAA selection committee didn't try.

"Somebody has to go West, and some West team has to go East," said Xavier coach Sean Miller, whose Muskateers are joining Wisconsin, Marquette, Florida State and Cornell out in Boise, Idaho, a place you really can't get to from here — not without a connecting flight or two, anyway.

"I'm just happy we're going somewhere."

Ever since Maryland, Georgetown and George Mason — Washington, D.C.-area schools separated by about 30 miles — wound up in the same regional bracket in Boise in 2001, the NCAA

has done its best to keep teams as close to home as possible. Instead of locking schools into regional groupings, four teams are now put into a "pod," and two pods are placed at each first-round site. The teams go back to their assigned regionals the second weekend of the tournament.

The goal is to limit the travel for schools and their fans, not to mention cut down on the number of classes players miss. And in many cases, it works. North Carolina is playing in Greensboro, N.C., the first weekend, about as close to home as it gets without being in its own gym. Villanova can practically walk to its first-round game at the Wachovia Center.

But the NCAA still has that rule prohibiting teams from the same conference from meeting before the regional final and another preventing a team from playing on its home court, which makes for some interesting mixing and matching. That's how Arizona, Arizona State and Utah all wound up in Miami for the first round, while UCLA is flying clear across the country to Philadelphia.



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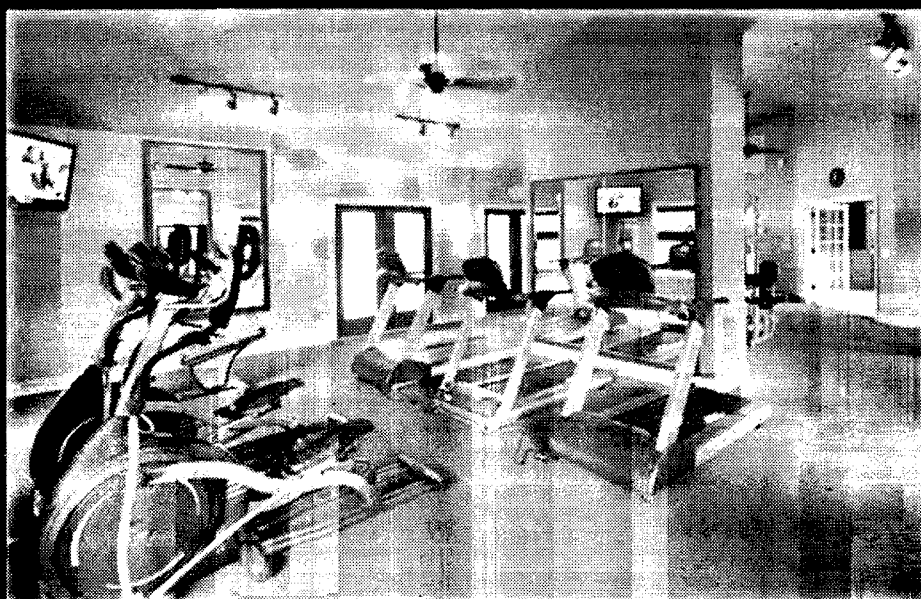
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NOW LEASING

MEN'S GOLF

Golfers earn top finishes on break



Notre Dame junior Doug Fortner watches his shot during last April's Spring Invitational. Fortner led the Irish to two top-five finishes last week.

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

The Irish covered 4,000 miles in four days, picking up two top-five finishes in the process. Hardly what you'd call a break.

In what was possibly its finest set of performances of the season, Notre Dame scratched out a second-place finish at the Palmas del Mar Intercollegiate in Humacao, Puerto Rico, on Wednesday, before taking fifth place at the Border Olympics in Laredo, Texas, over the weekend. In Puerto Rico, junior Doug Fortner earned his fourth career top-five finish after carding a one-under 215 to take a share of fourth place.

Irish head coach Jim Kubinski sees the results as a confirmation of his maturing team's potential.

"Our guys are realizing they have the physical skills to compete with any team in the country," Kubinski said. "They're a talented and young group. It's one thing to walk around saying you can compete with the best. Our guys are starting to believe it now."

The team opened its spring break tour with a trip to the Palmas del Mar Golf Club in Humacao. Shooting an uneven 299 in the opening round at the par 72, 6,931-yard Flamboyant Course, Notre Dame rallied behind Fortner's second-round 68 that placed the squad in third at the end of two rounds. Fortner's rocky final-round 76 was offset by sophomore Connor Alan-Lee's scintillating, career-best 68, vaulting Alan-Lee to 11th and the team into second. The Irish finished with a 12-over par 876 (299-284-293) to claim runner-up honors, six shots behind tournament champion Virginia Commonwealth in the ten-team field.

Fortner finished tied for fourth with a one-under par 215 (71-68-76), and Alan-Lee's four-over 220 placed him 11th (77-75-68). Sophomore Jeff Chen and freshman Chris Walker each shot final-round 75s to end up sharing 15th at six-over par. Chen battled a 103-degree fever to earn his best finish of the season. Freshman Max Scodro took

his fourth top-30 finish in five career events, finishing in 22nd with a 224, while sophomore Dustin Zhang rebounded from an opening-round 80 to end with a 226 in 26th place.

After Wednesday's finish, the Irish traveled 4,000 miles between three flights to get to the Laredo Country Club (par 72, 7,241-yards) for Thursday's practice round. Despite jet lag and fatigue, Notre Dame opened the tournament with scores of 303 and 289, good enough for 5th for Friday's 36-hole start.

"I think they played more on adrenaline that first day," Kubinski said. "After all the travel and the 11 hours out on the course, they turned in a 289. Pretty impressive. They're getting better. They're believing."

A final round 299 gave the Irish a 27-over-par 891 on the tournament, putting the team in fifth place, fourteen strokes behind champion Baylor in the field of sixteen.

Chen followed his Palmas del Mar performance with an 11th-place finish after carding a 5-over 221 (77-72-72) for the weekend. Kubinski praised Chen's consistency and maturity after his solid outings last week.

"[Jeff] has been the steadiest player on our team," Kubinski said. "He took advantage of his opportunities early on, and it was like a light bulb turning on. You could just see his confidence grow almost immediately."

Fortner (75-72-77) and Zhang (76-73-75) each turned in eight-over par 224s to fall to 26th place in the field of 88. Scodro tied for 42nd place at 12-over par 228 (75-78-75), while Alan-Lee finished in 64th with a 18-over par 234 (81-72-81). Walker, who competed as an individual participant for the Border Olympic, ended his weekend tied for 77th at 21-over par (237, 76-83-78).

Notre Dame returns to the links this weekend at the Schenkel E-Z-Go Invitational in Statesboro, Georgia. The tournament will be held March 20-22 at the Forest Heights Country Club.

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SMC TENNIS

Belles open season in Orlando

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

The Saint Mary's tennis team kicked off the season with a tough lineup of non-league opponents on their spring break trip to Orlando, Fla.

The Belles compiled a 4-4 record through Thursday under the direction of first year head coach Dale Campbell.

"I think we fared pretty well on this trip given our experience," Campbell said. "It was a good team effort, especially since we played a lot tougher teams than we usually face at this point early in the season."

In their season opener, the Belles rolled over St. Francis (Ill.) 9-0. Sophomore Jillian Hurley won at No. 1 singles 6-1, 6-2, followed by junior Camille Gebert's 6-2, 6-1 and sophomore Jessica Kosinski's 6-1, 6-0 wins at No. 2 and No. 3 singles. Hurley and Gebert captured No. 1 doubles 8-3, while Kosinski and Sophomore Betsy Reed teamed up for the No. 2 doubles win.

On the second day of competition, Saint Mary's beat Aquinas 7-2 before falling to

Bethel 9-0. Hurley won her first match at No. 1 singles 6-3, 6-0 before falling to Bethel's Ayda Ardila 6-2, 6-2. In the second spot, Gebert defeated Aquinas' Emily Decker 6-2, 6-1 before falling to Bethel 6-0, 6-1. Hurley and Gebert defeated Aquinas' top doubles team 8-3 before falling to Bethel's best pair 8-0.

Saint Mary's bounced back with another dominating 9-0 win over Bryn

Mawr, though. The Belles

dropped only one set through then entire match. Hurley beat Karen Ginsburg 6-3, 6-0, while Gelbert took her match 6-2, 2-6, 6-0 and Kosinski won 6-1, 6-3. At No. 5 singles, Belles sophomore Jessica Camp dominated twelve straight games to win 6-0, 6-0. Once again, the and

In their next two matches, the Belles were edged 5-4 by Haverford and fell to No. 22 College of New Jersey 8-1. Against Haverford the top two doubles teams were barely bested, with the first Belle win coming at No. 3 doubles behind sophomore Mary Theresa Lee and Camp's 8-4 win. Reed, Camp and sophomore Laura Arnold all picked up wins in singles.

"We have really been improving as a team. Our goal is to win the conference championship."

Dale Campbell
Belles coach

Against New Jersey, Gebert snagged the only win defeating Stefanie Haar 6-2, 6-4. In their final match of the trip, the Belles

bounced back with another dominating performance over Lincoln University, 9-0.

"I think we played best against New Jersey," stated Campbell. "They are a really good ranked team, and I saw a lot of players stepping up to face the challenge."

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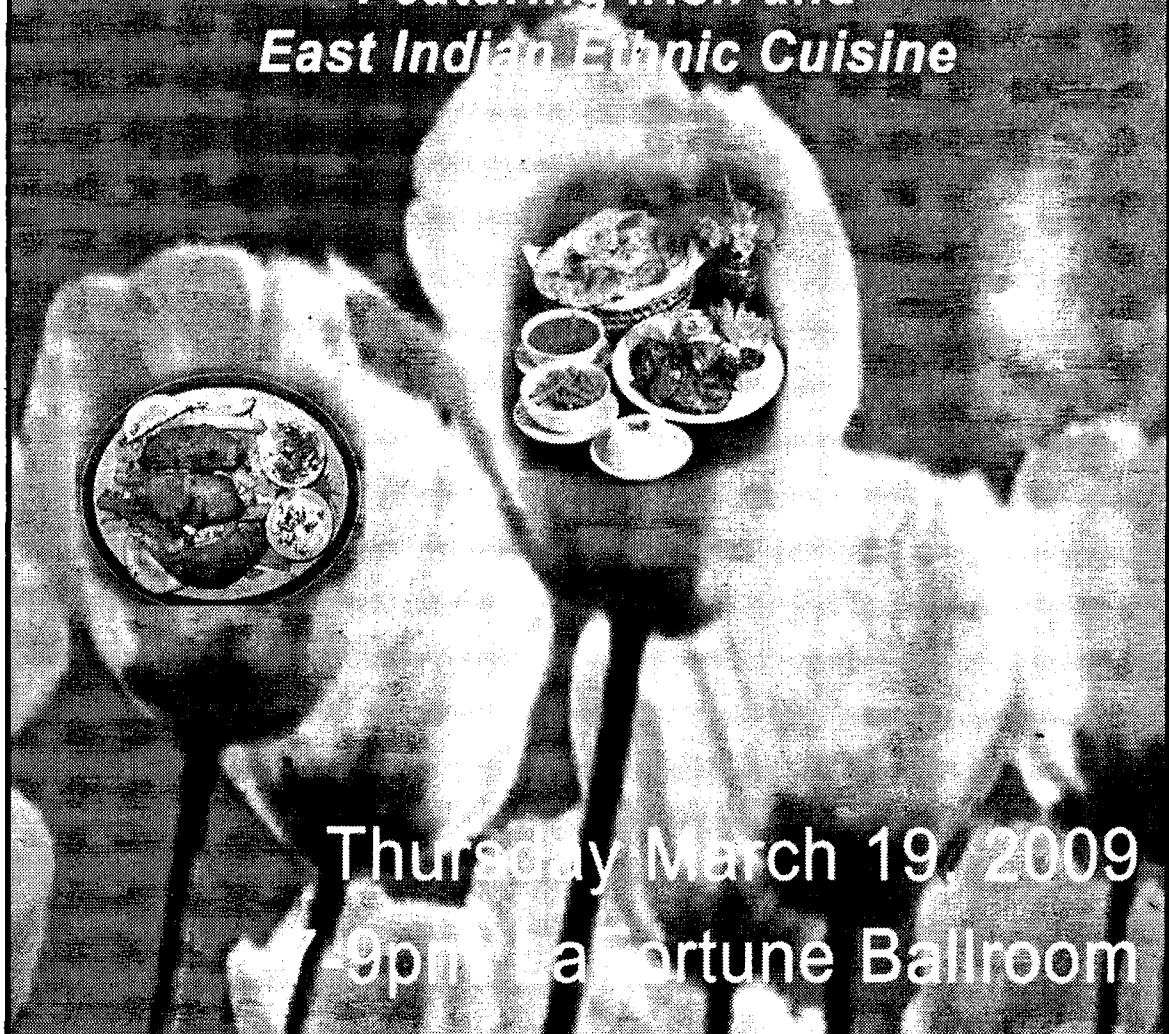
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NIT

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Tuesday at 9 p.m. in the Joyce Center. How do the Irish feel about that?

"Numb is a good word," senior guard Kyle McAlarney said. "But I've tried to focus on, 'Let's win the NIT.' It's something special. You can put a banner up here. Getting to the NCAA Tournament was something we wanted to accomplish, but I think we had a good grip on reality when things really weren't going that well."

Things really weren't going well for the Irish when they lost seven-straight games over the span of 26 days in January and February — a prolonged losing

streak that was the main reason the Irish were practicing during the NCAA Tournament Selection Show on Sunday instead of watching it to see where they would be seeded.

Notre Dame's fate was sealed last week when the Irish were knocked out in the second round of the Big East tournament. After a sloppy first round 61-50 win over Rutgers, Notre Dame fell to the Mountaineers 74-62. The Irish dug themselves a 18-point halftime lead, and despite a second-half rally, couldn't recover.

"I think I knew going all the way through February that this could be our destiny," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "I think when you were up against the wall coming off a seven-game losing streak, you're very realis-

tic about where you could end up at the end of the day."

Brey added: "Certainly we're disappointed we're not in the NCAA, but you can't get distracted by that."

The distractions have certainly died down in the past week. Now, there is no more speculation, no more what-if scenarios to play out for Notre Dame to get into the NCAA Tournament. It's happened, the Irish didn't make it in, and for the team and its fans, it's painful.

The healing process begins tonight against UAB, and so does the chance to hang a championship banner in the Joyce Center, though hardly the banner the Irish and their fans expected to see hanging at the beginning of the season. All that's left to do is play.

"We had time to digest this," senior forward Zach Hillesland said. "When we lost to West Virginia, the writing was pretty much on the wall that we were probably not going to make the NCAA Tournament. When we finally found out it was just, 'Let's go and get ready now, let's get ready to play.'"

After saying their goodbyes to the home fans following their 74-55 win over St. John's, Notre Dame's four seniors will play at home, at least one more time.

"It's a little weird," McAlarney said. "You think at senior night, 'Wow this is probably my last game here,' but it could play into our hands a little bit and we're on our home court, so we're going to keep it going as long as possible."

If the Irish kept it going as

long as possible, they'd end up back at Madison Square Garden playing for the NIT title to earn a small amount of redemption and consolation during such a tough season.

"At least from the standpoint of being a senior, it's win or your career is over," Hillesland said. "Playing with these guys the past four years has been a great experience and something I'm not ready to end right away."

Student tickets will be distributed at Gate 3 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The first 1,000 students in attendance, with a Saint Mary's, Holy Cross or Notre Dame student ID will receive a free ticket. All other tickets will cost \$5.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

UNC

continued from page 24

but we didn't play well."

There wasn't much time for the Irish to celebrate the win, as the squad had to travel to Bethesda, Md. to take on Bucknell. Corrigan, however, was confident in his team's ability to focus.

"By the time we got to the Bucknell game, I knew our guys would be ready to play," he said. "I was concerned because Bucknell's a very good lacrosse team, but I wasn't concerned that we were going to overlook them or that our guys would still be celebrating the win from Sunday. We had moved on pretty well, the guys were pretty focused."

The Irish, though, started slow, trailing 4-2 midway through the third quarter. Four straight goals gave Notre Dame the lead for good, though. This time, sophomore midfielder Scott Brenneman notched a hat trick, the first of his career.

Corrigan said that, while he thinks his offense still has room to grow, he was happy with the balanced scoring. So far this year, six Irish players have tallied hat tricks.

"If they take away one thing, it should give us something else," Corrigan said. "So, if as you go through the season they defend one guy or one particular action, it gives you something else on the other side of the field."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Texas

continued from page 24

it's a very successful trip," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "The biggest and most consistent thing is that we played good defense for all nine games, and our pitching was fairly strong. And our hitting started coming around at the end of the trip."

Notre Dame's road swing began at the Rice Classic in Houston, where the Irish edged Oral Roberts — a team receiving votes in most polls — 2-1 on March 6.

"It really set the tone for our trip," Schrage said. "We faced [Jerry] Sullivan, who's one of the top pitchers in the country, and to be able to beat him — [sophomores] Cole Johnson and Todd Miller matched him pitch-for-pitch, and we had some timely hitting. That was really a statement game for us saying, 'Hey, we could beat anybody.'"

Senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes drove in the winning run in the bottom of the eighth, and Johnson (1-0) gave

up just one hit over six innings, striking out a career-high seven. Miller (1-2) threw two innings of one-run ball to earn the victory, and junior Steven Mazur (2-1) picked up his first save of the year with a perfect ninth inning.

Sullivan went 9-2 a year ago and hadn't lost in his last 15 appearances, and Schrage said that victory was a major confidence boost to his squad.

The next day, the Irish were blanked 9-0 by national power Rice as the Owls batted around in both the third and fourth innings, scoring five and four runs, respectively. All-American Ryan Berry, the reigning national pitcher of the week, threw a two-hit shutout for his second straight complete game.

"We had the one bad inning and other than that, we ran into a really good pitcher there," Schrage said.

"[The 2-1 win against Oral Roberts] was really a statement game for us saying, 'Hey, we could beat anybody.'"

Dave Schrage
Irish coach

The Irish finished the Rice Classic on March 8 with a 7-3 win over Washington State, a team Schrage said could be one of the best in the Pac-10 conference by season's end. Junior Eric Maust (2-0) threw seven solid innings, giving up

two earned runs in picking up the victory in a game the Irish never trailed.

Notre Dame then traveled to San Antonio and beat Grambling State twice — 3-2 last Tuesday and 10-7 Wednesday.

Junior center-fielder A.J.

Pollock blooped a jam-shot into left field for a single and the game-winning RBI with two outs in the bottom of the ninth after the Tigers tied it in the top half of the inning off Mazur, who then earned the victory. Freshman Steve Sabatino (1-0) struck out nine Tigers the next day for his first career victory.

Notre Dame saw its three-game win streak snapped by Illinois State lefty Ryan Copeland in a 3-2 loss Thursday in the opener of the Irish Baseball Classic in San Antonio. But the Irish recovered, scoring 28 runs over's their next three games to beat Trinity 11-8 and sweep a double-header with Texas-Pan American 10-7, 7-2.

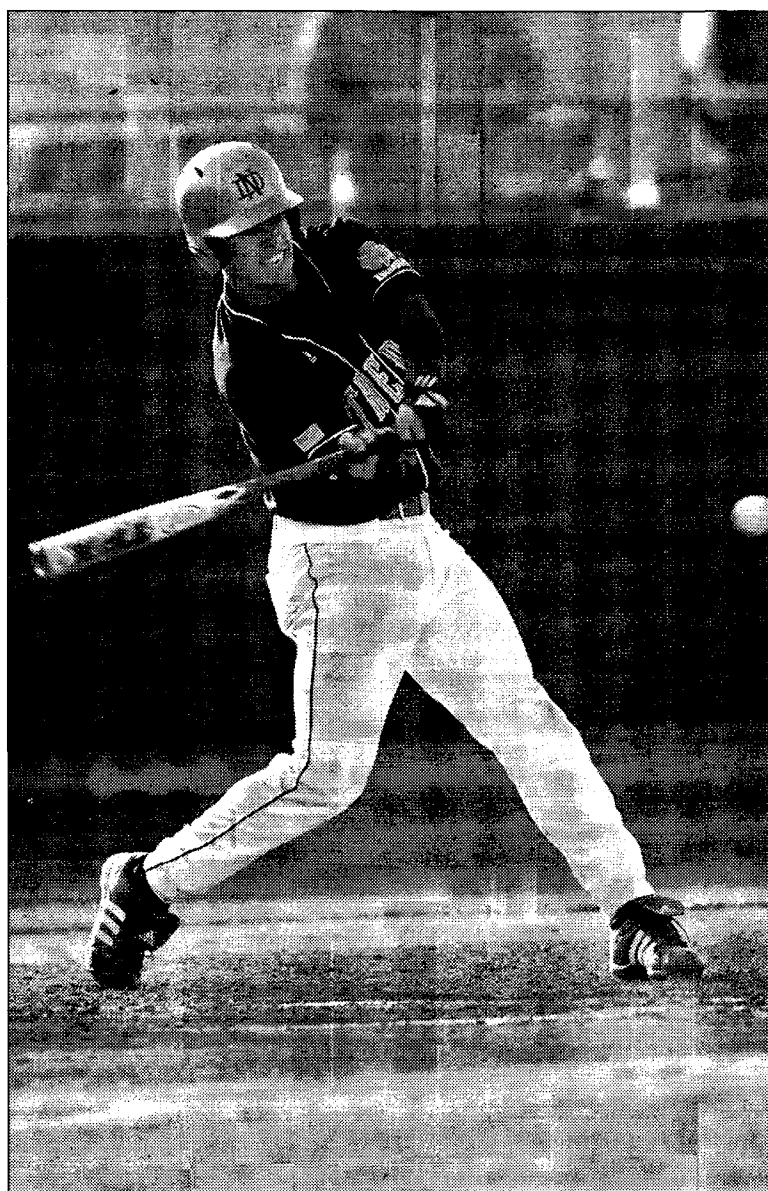
"We talked to our team, and whether we have to win 2-1 or 11-8 ... Each game is different, and that was kind of exhibited on this trip," Schrage said. "We had both kinds of games to deal with, and our kids responded."

Notre Dame hasn't entered its home opener — which is today at 5:05 p.m. against Ball State (9-7) — with double-digit wins since 2004, when the Irish started 13-2 and won a school-record 51 games in capturing the Big East's regular season and tournament titles.

Today's contest begins a stretch of seven-straight home games for Notre Dame, which hosts Valparaiso (5-9) tomorrow before opening Big East play Friday against Seton Hall (7-5), with whom the Irish will play three games in three days.

"We always look forward to playing at home in front of our fans," Schrage said. "It's a place we've had success, and we're excited to have a little stretch here of having some home games."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu



Irish sophomore Mick Doyle takes a swing during a game against Manchester last April 9th. Notre Dame sits at 10-5 so far this season.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

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CCHA

continued from page 24

petition during a 5-0 rout Friday that included four first-period goals. The No. 8-seeded Mavericks (15-17-8, 8-13-7-3) played Notre Dame close on Saturday but fell 1-0 as the Irish swept the best-of-three series and earned the right to play Northern Michigan in Friday's 4:35 p.m. semifinal at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

"We played a tough team," Jackson said. "I thought in the second two periods [Friday night] and all three periods tonight it was an even hockey game. We really only handled them in one period out of six. I think that they deserve a lot of credit for the way they competed here."

The Irish buried the Mavericks in the first period Friday. Sophomore left wing Calle Ridderwall's unassisted goal just two minutes in proved to be the game-winner.

Sophomore center Ben Ryan made it 2-0 five minutes after Ridderwall's tally on a power play goal off assists from senior captain Erik Condra and sophomore defenseman Ian Cole.

With just over four minutes to go in the period, freshman right wing Billy Maday scored his 15th goal of the season off a brilliant pass from junior defenseman Kyle Lawson. Junior right wing Ryan Thang, fresh off a right ankle injury that had kept him out since Feb. 6, gave the Irish a 4-0 edge two minutes later with a quick wrist shot from the left circle.

"Our guys were flying in the first period," Jackson said. "That's as good a period as maybe we've played all season long. We were buzzing."

The Mavericks pulled starting

goalie Jerad Kaufmann in favor of Jeremie Dupont to start the second frame, but that wouldn't help them get past Pearce, who was flawless in making 30 saves. Sophomore right wing Ryan Guentzel capped the scoring late in the third period by putting home his own rebound.

Pearce stole the show again on Saturday, when senior center Justin White's goal 2:30 into the game proved to be the difference. Kaufmann left his net to try and play a puck out of the Nebraska-Omaha zone, but junior left wing Dan Kissel got to it and centered it to White, who flicked it into the still-vacated cage.

"It's been our bread and butter a lot this season, these fast starts," White said. "We try to prepare as well as we can, so anytime we can get that first one, it's big for us."

For the second straight night, Pearce made 30 saves and recorded a shutout, his school-record and NCAA-leading eighth of the season and the 12th of his career, which ties him with 2007 grad David Brown. Pearce also leads the country in wins with 28, and Saturday night's victory was the 57th of his career — another new Irish record.

"It's a great honor," Pearce said. "I'm sure the way this program is going, it's going to be broken by the next goalie that comes through. At least I have it for now, and it's nice to have."

Some of Pearce's shutouts this year have been the products of Notre Dame's stifling defense and its domination of opponents, but Saturday, Pearce had to make spectacular save after spectacular save not just to keep his shutout intact, but to send the Irish on their way to Detroit.

The Mavericks had several chances on rebounds, but Pearce stopped every one — even as sticks were flying and players from both

teams were colliding into him. He made saves with his glove, blocker, stick and even his skate on one wrap-around opportunity in the third period.

"Tonight he just looked like he wasn't going to give up a goal," Jackson said. "He had that look about him and that confidence like there was nothing getting by him tonight."

Notes:

◆Northern Michigan (18-16-5, 11-12-5-3), the No. 6 seed, beat host Miami (Ohio) on consecutive nights to advance to this weekend's CCHA semifinals. After the third-seeded RedHawks (20-12-5, 17-7-4-2) won Friday's opener 3-2, the Wildcats earned a 3-2 overtime win Saturday before winning the series with a 3-1 victory Sunday.

◆The second CCHA semifinal will feature Michigan, the No. 2 seed, and Alaska, the No. 4 seed, in an 8:05 p.m. matchup. The Wolverines (28-10-0, 20-8-0-0), the nation's No. 3 team, swept Western Michigan 5-2, 6-1, while the Nanooks needed three games to dispose of Ohio State. First-team all-conference goaltender Chad Johnson made a season-high 43 saves in Alaska's 1-0 series-clinching victory Sunday.

◆The winners of Friday's two semifinals will play in the CCHA Championship at 7:35 p.m. Saturday at Joe Louis Arena. The losers of Friday's contests will play at 3:35 p.m. to determine the tournament's third-place team. Last year, Notre Dame lost to Miami (Ohio) in its semifinal before falling to Northern Michigan in the consolation game.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Selection

continued from page 24

not," McGraw said. "We're playing at home, that's the most important thing to me. I don't think seeds are that important."

The Irish play the winner of No. 2-seed Texas A&M and No. 15 seed Evansville if they win.

The bracket brings family and former teammates together. While at St.

Joseph High School, Lechlitner played with current Minnesota forward Kristen Dockery.

Lechlitner said their parents talk, but the girls don't talk basketball, and that she hopes local St. Joseph fans come to watch.

"Hopefully get a few more St. Joe fans, parents maybe bringing some of the kids to the game," she said.

Should Evansville upset Texas A&M, the Irish, if they win, could have a rematch between freshman guard Natalie Novosel and her sister Shannon, a senior at Evansville. The Irish beat Evansville 96-61 on Nov. 19 at the Joyce Center.

The matchup presents a scary case of déjà vu. In 1994, No. 10 seed Minnesota defeated the No. 7 seed Irish, 81-76, at the Joyce Center.

The Irish have a week to rest and practice. McGraw

said practice will intensify and the coaches need to keep an eye on it.

"Tomorrow will be really physical and intense," she said. "We'll probably have to slow them down a little because they're so ready right now, and they want to play right now. I think we'll have to gauge that and determine how long we want to practice."

Junior guard Ashley Barlow agreed.

"We're going to be working hard," she said.

"It's not like we're going to try to injure each other or injure the practice players, we're just going hard, trying to be amped up, ready to play."

Since the games are at home, the Irish will have a different atmosphere entering an NCAA Tournament game, McGraw said.

"We're in the dorm, going to class on Friday, we're going to practice regular time, we're in our locker room," McGraw said. "I think a lot of things there are the same. Sometimes you wonder about the whole tournament feel, you know, being in the dorm and playing in the NCAA tournament. We might stay in the hotel Saturday night to get a good night's rest, just to make it feel a little more like a tournament atmosphere."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

"We're playing at home, that's the most important thing to me. I don't think seeds are important."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

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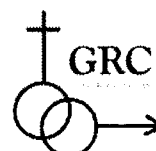
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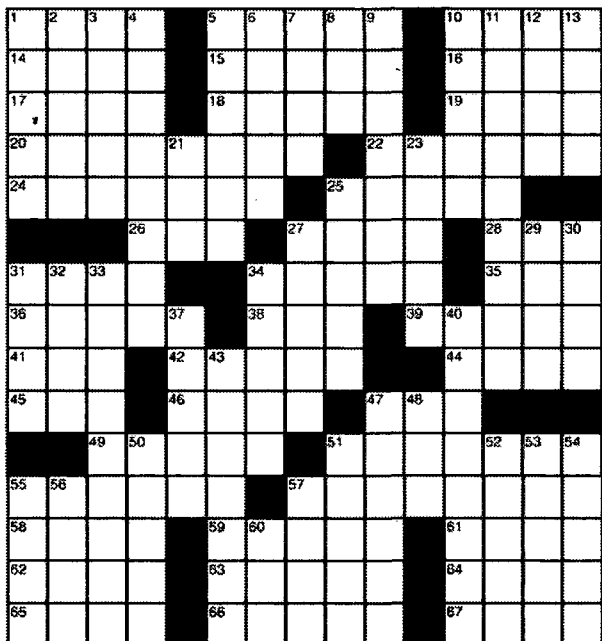
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Turkish ____
- 5 Dutch ____
- 10 Like horses' hooves
- 14 Bush not seen much nowadays
- 15 Toward the Arctic
- 16 Sioux City's locale
- 17 Lampblack
- 18 Measure of prevention or strength?
- 19 Superheroes battling the evil Magneto
- 20 Russian ____
- 22 Swiss ____
- 24 Now and again
- 25 Military pooh-bahs
- 26 Preceders of xis
- 27 Buck's tail?
- 28 Cap with a pom-pom
- 31 Semicircular building extension
- 34 Australian ____
- 35 American ____
- 36 Light wood
- 38 The Buckeyes, for short
- 39 Skirt
- 41 Italian ____
- 42 Canadian ____
- 44 Union agreements?
- 45 Golf peg
- 46 Scientistologist Hubbard
- 47 Hill, in Haifa
- 49 Spanish verse
- 51 Operatic movement circa 1900
- 55 Danish ____
- 57 Portuguese ____

- 58 Very much
- 59 Appetite stimulant
- 61 Collector's suffix
- 62 Place to order a sandwich or espresso
- 63 Sturdy chiffon
- 64 Put out
- 65 Ivan or Feodor
- 66 French ____
- 67 Spanish ____

- Down**
- 1 Iraqi seaport
- 2 Going on
- 3 Lake catch
- 4 Crisis center connections
- 5 Govt. securities
- 6 Licks soundly
- 7 White-tailed eagle
- 8 Takeoff and landing
- 9 Brandon Lee's last movie
- 10 Boxcars
- 11 Locale for a pioneer family
- 12 Is in the red
- 13 Hamlet, e.g.
- 21 Part of the Australian coat of arms
- 23 Outlander in Hawaii
- 25 Brand of razors and coffee makers
- 27 Burning issue



Puzzle by John Underwood

- 29 Fashion designer Gucci
- 30 Ladies of Versailles: Abbr.
- 31 Not much
- 32 Double time, for one
- 33 Convertible
- 34 Après-ski drink
- 37 Better trained
- 40 Slanderer
- 43 Tiny marcher
- 47 Kind of farmer
- 48 Leandro's partner in a Mancinelli opera
- 50 Prized fur
- 51 "Let's go, amigo!"
- 52 Hindu wise one
- 53 Bouncing off the walls
- 54 Speak before throngs
- 55 Agreement
- 56 "Tis a pity"
- 57 Lisa with a "mystic smile"
- 60 Grande opening?

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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REDO AGREE DRAY
TWOVIRGINS EIRE
ELLIS GTO CADS
ELEC SPELL
BATTERUP STAVES
AIR SARAN CREDO
TSAR TVSET ENGR
ELVES ETAIL UAE
SEEPED STEELERS
LEXUS OSHA
JAVA SAT ATSEA
OBIT TRADERVICS
ELSE EGRET INCH
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Judah Friedlander, 40; Lauren Graham, 42; Bernardo Bertolucci, 69; Jerry Lewis, 83

Happy Birthday: Too much to deal with and not enough time to make things go the way you want will be challenging. This is a year when you must focus, concentrate and tunnel in, getting to the point that will make the biggest difference to your future. Set a pattern that will allow you to speed up the process of completion. Your numbers are 4, 12, 13, 26, 29, 33, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be careful with your money. A contract or chance to negotiate a better deal or even barter for a good price will all be necessary if you want to put a little aside. Make some improvements that will help you to market your talents. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let your stubbornness keep you from accomplishing what needs to be done. Put your feelings aside and work alongside others, even if you don't necessarily agree with them. Anger will get you nowhere. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do whatever has to be done without hassle. As soon as you let others meddle or interfere, you will lose your pace and end up foregoing your original plan. Make decisions that can affect your professional outlook without letting your emotions take over. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't get all upset about what's happening around you. In the end, it will be to your benefit to accept and adapt to the changes that unfold. Emotional outbursts will lead to mistakes and mishaps, setting you back financially and possibly physically. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may feel like spending but you shouldn't. Love and adventure are likely to overpower you, making for an exciting but expensive day. Think before you decide to go overboard in any way. Excess will be your enemy. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stick to your own devices and let others do as they please. A service or idea you have that brings more leisure time or comfort to others will turn out to be a lucrative investment. Explore the possibilities. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can talk your way in or out of anything. Your opinions will be taken seriously and help to get things underway will be offered. You have lots to gain from interacting with people from different backgrounds. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use your ingenuity to come up with whatever solution you need to move forward with a project. Talk is not going to get things done but actions will. Put your ego aside, admit if you need help and finish what you began so long ago. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional issues will be difficult to avoid and upsetting to deal with. It's best to let others do the talking while you sort out what you must do. End any relationships that aren't working. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pull together all the people whom you feel can contribute to what you want to do. You will be able to shape the ideas you have into something tangible and stabilize your own future. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Everyone who knows you is proud of what you have accomplished. Take your time to enjoy a little peace of mind. Love is in the stars so make a gesture to spend more time with someone and you will get the response you want. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't get angry, get moving. Someone is waiting for you to waffle so he or she can step in and take over. Get your act together and your mind set on making gains. Don't show your weakness. 2 stars

Birthday Baby: You are progressive and a little bit pushy and don't back down when faced with opposition. You are a dreamer but when reality hits, you know what to do.

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

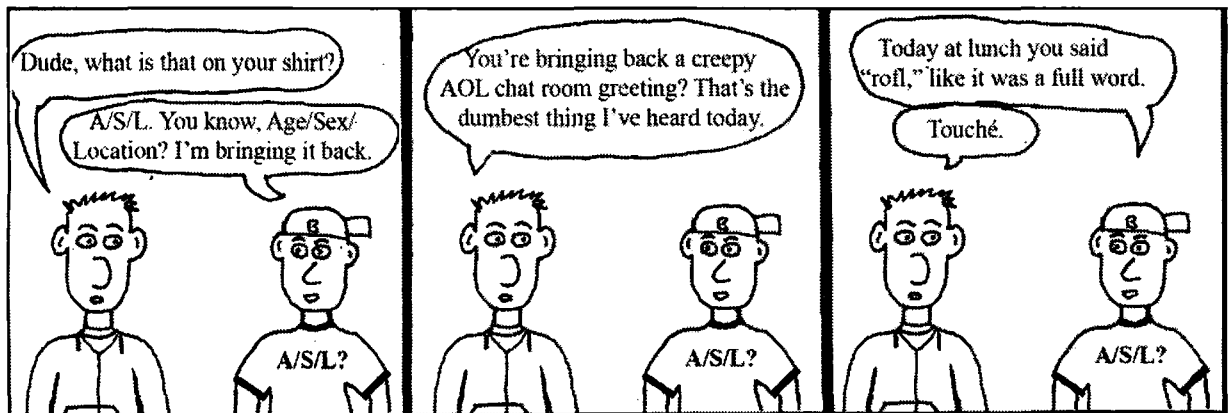
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PATRICK GARTLAND



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRON

JUMBLE

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

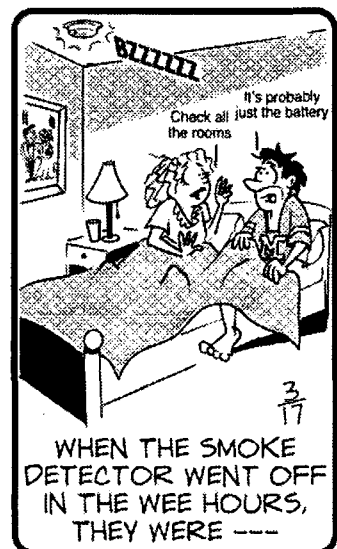
BRILO
YEAPE
YOLDUC
BOAMEA

Print answer here: " " " " " " " " " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: FRANC ANISE MUSKET FIDDLE
Answer: What he ended up with when he bumped the doctor's luxury car — "SIDE EFFECTS"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argiron and Jeff Kaurek



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

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Staying home

After Big East loss, squad to host UAB in first round of NIT

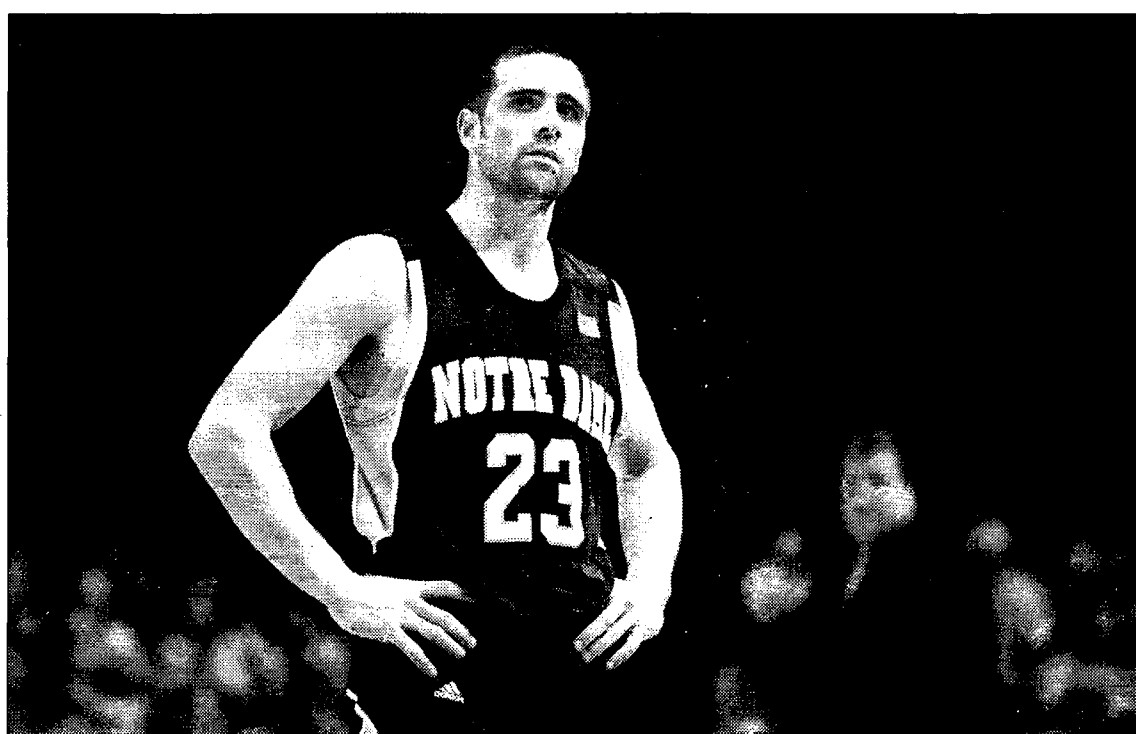
By CHRIS HINE
Senior Staff Writer

It's been six days since Notre Dame NCAA Tournament hopes expired when the clock hit zero in its Big East tournament loss to West Virginia.

Following the game, Notre Dame's players coped with the thought that such a promising season in November — when Notre Dame was ranked No. 9 in the country — would likely end in the National Invitational Tournament (NIT).

That thought became a harsh reality on Sunday, when Notre Dame learned it would host Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) in the opening round of the NIT

see NIT/page 21



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

An emotional Kyle McAlamey leaves the court after fouling out in the final minutes of Notre Dame's 74-62 loss to West Virginia in the second round of the Big East tournament Wednesday, March 11.

BASEBALL

Irish win 7 of 9 on Texas trip

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

With conference play just four days away, Notre Dame seems to be hitting its stride at the right time — and the Irish have their best record after 15 games in five years to show for it.

The Irish (10-5) won seven of nine games on their Spring Break trip to Texas, falling only to No. 7 Rice and Illinois State while topping Oral Roberts, Washington State and Trinity (Texas) in single games. Notre Dame also swept two-game sets with Grambling State and Texas Pan-American.

"Anytime you can go on the road and win seven of nine,

see TEXAS/page 21

MEN'S LACROSSE

ND moves up to No. 3 with wins over UNC, Bucknell

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

When Notre Dame took the field last Sunday, Mar. 8, against North Carolina, the Irish were ranked No. 7 in the country. Now? Notre Dame has moved up to No. 3 after wins over the then-No. 3 Tar Heels and Bucknell during spring break.

While Notre Dame coach Kevin Corrigan said he was pleased with

the week, he didn't want to blow the North Carolina win out of proportion, and that it was too early in the season to take rankings very seriously.

"It's a nice win," he said. "Whether Carolina's a top-three team or not, I don't know. They were No. 3 in the country at that time, and that's great, but right now it's a little bit more of a beauty contest than a true test of who's No. 3."

The win over the Tar Heels (6-2)

tied for the highest-ranked team Notre Dame (5-0) has ever defeated. The Irish beat No. 3 Johns Hopkins in the 2001 NCAA quarterfinals.

Defense was the story of the day for Notre Dame. Despite trailing 4-3 at halftime, the Irish held the Tar Heels scoreless during the third quarter, and goals from junior attack Neal Hicks and senior attack Ryan Hoff gave Notre Dame a 5-4 which lead that it would not relinquish. Hoff would score two more

goals on the day, good for his first hat trick of the season.

"I thought we played pretty good team defense the whole day," Corrigan said.

Senior Scott Rodgers made 16 saves between the pipes, and was named Great Western Lacrosse League player of the week.

"Scott's been terrific," Corrigan said. "He really has been. No surprise for us, but I couldn't be happier for him because of how hard he's

worked and how patient he's been playing behind Joey Kemp for three years, and I couldn't be happier for our team because there's no position more important than your goal."

Despite the win, Corrigan said his squad still had room to improve on offense.

"Offensively, we didn't play as well," he said. "We made some plays, which is always important,

see UNC/page 21

HOCKEY

Team advances in CCHA

Pearce's back-to-back shutouts pave road to CCHA semis in Detroit

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

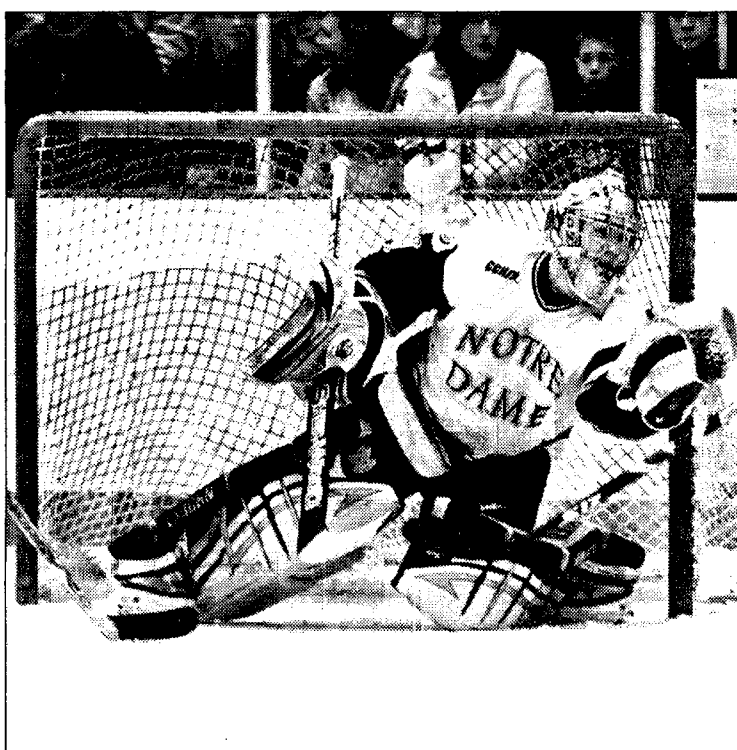
And the Irish just keep rolling.

Senior goaltender Jordan Pearce and No. 2 Notre Dame shut out Nebraska-Omaha on consecutive nights at the Joyce Center to advance to the CCHA tournament's semifinals for the third straight time.

"That's been one of our objectives all year," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "To get to Detroit is a big accomplishment for this team. We had a good season, but the real hockey starts now."

Notre Dame (29-5-3, 21-4-3-3 CCHA) earned the tournament's top seed by winning the regular season title, and the Irish continued their dominance over CCHA com-

see CCHA/page 22



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish senior goalie Jordan Pearce makes a save during Friday night's 5-0 win over Nebraska-Omaha.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame to take on Minnesota in NCAAs

Team earns 7-seed, faces Gophers in Joyce Center Sunday

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

It took a long wait and a lower seed than expected, but the Irish are in the NCAA Tournament.

Notre Dame got the No. 7 seed in the Trenton, N.J. regional and will face No. 10 seed Minnesota in the first round Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

The players and coaches gathered at coach Muffet McGraw's house to watch the selection show, televised on ESPN, and had to wait for the second-to-last game in the last bracket before hearing their name

called.

"You kind of know that you're going to be in, based on the way you've played and the way people talk you up, but when there's only four spots left, we're getting a little nervous," junior guard Melissa Lechlitner said. "Me and [sophomore forward] Becca [Bruzewski] were like, 'Oh my gosh, what if we didn't get in?' It was a little scary."

The Irish (22-8) got the No. 5 seed in the Big East tournament last weekend, earned a first-round bye and defeated St. John's in the second round before falling in the quarterfinals to Villanova.

"I really thought we'd be a four, five or six and when that had all come out I couldn't remember whether the seven seed had already appeared or

see SELECTION/page 22