

The Observer

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Senator Biden proclaims no 'quick fix' for drug problem

By JOHN O'BRIEN
Assistant News Editor

Senator Joseph Biden, one of the Senate's leading experts on drug legislation, said in a lecture on Monday that neither legalization of drugs nor further erosion of constitutional rights are the solution to the nation's drug problems.

In a lecture entitled "Drugs in America: No quick fix," Biden said that control of America's drug problems will require better education, more treatment programs, and continued "targeted enforcement."

Calling himself a "congenital optimist," Biden said that elim-

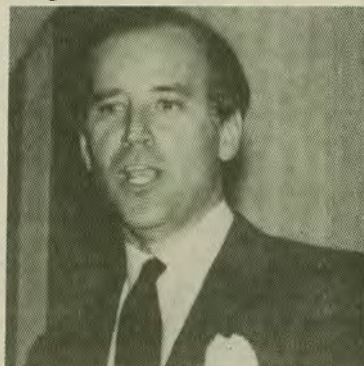
inating the consumption of controlled substances "is not possible...but within the next 5 to 7 years we can bring it under control" with the implication of the programs he proposed.

"I believe we have hit the zenith of the drug problem," Biden said. "I believe the drug epidemic is about to wean, not wax—decrease, not increase."

Biden attacked two popular stances on the drug issue: the idea of legalization of drugs proposed by some politicians and columnists and the prospect of more hard-line measures such as implication of the death penalty in even more cases as well as further restrictions on individual rights favored by

some right-wing legislators.

"I don't believe harsher penalties or legalization are the next stage in the war on drugs," said Biden.



Joseph Biden

Biden said that "legalization of controlled substance is not the only answer," pointing out examples of failed legalization efforts such as Italy's attempt to legalize the personal consumption of drugs. According to Biden's sources, there are now over 100,000 heroine users in Milan alone.

He said that the problem of drugs must be dealt with soon or "I predict our civil liberties and constitutional protection will be increasingly put in jeopardy." He said this will result if the attitude taken by some of his fellow congressmen that "We may have to make some trade-offs between constitutional rights and an effective

effort against drugs."

"The call for legalization as well as the references to suspend civil liberties, are borne out of frustration" with current enforcement efforts, Biden said.

"We have done enough on the enforcement side. Now is the time for us to deal with things that we know work and we haven't tried," Biden said. "Now is the time to get serious about our strategy."

He said that "we should get about the business of dealing at a critical juncture in this drug fight" by following three objectives:

- Maintenance of targeted

see BIDEN / page 4

Violence in India puts death toll at 48 people

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Moslem militants defied curfews Monday and fought soldiers for a second day in an outburst of secessionist violence police say has killed 48 people and injured 400.

Trouble began late Saturday when Moslems protested a police crackdown. Moslem militants want to secede from predominantly Hindu India and either make Kashmir independent or unite the northwestern state with adjacent Pakistan, an Islamic nation.

Only a brief lull during heavy rain Sunday has interrupted the violence. Police said militants and two policemen were killed Monday in Srinagar and four protesters were shot to death in neighboring Anantnag.

"The whole city is up in revolt," said Mohammad Nomani, inspector-general of police in Srinagar. He estimated the number of protesters at 1,500

and said they had at least 1,000 automatic rifles and other weapons.

A senior official in Srinagar said privately the local authorities had asked for more troops "to back up the security forces." Hundreds of soldiers have been sent to Srinagar, a city of 1 million that is the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir state on the Pakistan border.

At least 38 people, most of them protesters, were killed late Saturday night and Sunday. Police said troopers opened fire on curfew violators in at least six places Monday.

Doctors at the Soora Medical Institute said at least 300 people were wounded Monday when soldiers fired on a group of about 5,000. "Most of them had injuries in the upper part of the body," one doctor said, asking that his name not be used.



The Observer/Bill Mowle

Strike up the band

Notre Dame's new band building is almost completed, with only the finishing touches left to be done. The new building is located near the new ROTC building.

Towed automobiles will not hit students in the bankbook

By MONICA YANT
News Writer

Students whose automobiles were towed from the D1 lot behind the University Club Saturday will not be charged for the tickets they received, said Phil Johnson, assistant director of Security.

Twelve cars were towed to the C1-D1 lot near the Alumni-Senior Club because of the need to install a fence which will serve as a new divider between the student lot and faculty and staff lot.

Notifications requesting students to move their cars were placed on the automobiles Thursday, Johnson said.

According to Jim Schilder, student representative to the University ad-hoc committee on parking, the short time span and confusion about where cars should be moved caused a towing situation that could have been avoided.

Schilder said he and other students parking in the first row of the lot received notices. Following the advice on the notice, Schilder moved his car into a row with no notices. Saturday afternoon, however, he found

his car had been towed, and those that had received notification, but had not moved, remained.

"None of the cars in the first row that received the memo was moved, I believe," he said.

Schilder also said that since not all students use their cars daily, the short time allowed for notification was not sufficient.

Although the towed cars were ticketed, Johnson said that those students will receive notification that the tickets were voided.

Johnson stressed that the towing was in no way done because of violation by students. He said that many times construction activity, such as utility work, requires the temporary moving of automobiles.

According to Johnson, the towing company used "would not knowingly move a car in a way that could damage it." If students notice any damage to their automobiles, they should immediately report to Security.

After the towing on Saturday, the fence was installed and the dividing of the lot was completed, he said.

New dept. formed in engineering

By VALLI VAIRAVAN
News Writer

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering will be abolished as of June 30 and the department of Computer Science and Engineering will be formed due to the changing nature of the field.

As a result of the development of the new Computer Science and Engineering Department, the present Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering will change to the Department of Electrical Engineering.

A new center, the Center for Materials Science and Engineering Education and Research will handle the graduate level education and degree programs, according to a press release. The undergraduate program leading to the bachelor of science in materials science and engineering will be discontinued no later than September 30, 1994.

"What we have in essence is a restructuring—a perestroika, if you will—within

the College of Engineering," said Dr. Timothy O'Meara, University provost, in a press release.

"Significant and continuing changes in technology and how it serves society, combined with a shift in the interests of Notre Dame's engineering faculty and our desire to best use the resources of the College and the University, all contributed to this decision, which is overdue," he said.

According to Anthony Michel, dean of the College of Engineering, faculty for the new department will be filled by faculty presently in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Existing vacancies will be used to recruit faculty for Computer Science and Engineering, and 2 to 3 new positions will be opened up for the department. The new department is expected to consist of 12 members.

The degree programs in computer science and computer engineering will be established immediately.

Present freshmen and sophomore engineering students may choose these two areas in which to get a degree, according to Michel.

"The computer engineering degree will follow the traditional requirements that are common to all engineering students. Computer science will be more flexible," said Michel.

No new equipment will be purchased, because existing facilities are available for the new department, Michel indicated.

These changes were brought about by the College of Engineering in accordance with a recommendation set forth in the University's Priorities and Commitments of Excellence Report (PACE).

Only minor adjustments are necessary to the Computer Engineering program in electrical engineering in order to meet the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology requirements, according to a press release.

INSIDE COLUMN

Americans take freedom for granted

Recently, seven Chinese students were arrested in Beijing for unfurling a banner that said, "Why is China so poor?"

Across the Eastern bloc, rallies and protests call out for freedom and an end to harsh Communist rule. They call for freedom of speech and freedom of expression.

Meanwhile, we in the world's oldest existing democracy smile, knowing we don't have to yell, scream or die for our freedom. Those before us already did.

But we smile ignorantly. Looking around, it's easy to see that we have taken our freedom for granted. From the ads that say the sun won't shine until you're holding a Bud, to the essay written solely for the economically advantageous "A," the threat to freedom of expression isn't just in government censorship from, but also from what we do with the freedom we have.

When the New York Times decides that "all the news that's fit to print" cannot offend its readers or must advantageously treat its benefactors, then the news becomes a stacked deck; it's not really telling history but rather acting as a manipulative tool. In today's popular music, musicians who poured out to their emotions to the world are lost.

"Freedom is just another word for nothing left to lose," sang Janis Joplin. But performers today know there is much to lose: an image, being in the mainstream, and the almighty dollar. Musicians and their producers dwell in studios for long periods of time to figure out what the "hip" sound, style and even the latest political cause is. Then they'll laboriously manipulate the mechanized music to create the music for the masses.

When we limit and suppress ourselves for money or prestige or (possibly the worst,) glory, freedom becomes merely a tool to gain some ulterior goal. Truth and untruth blend together, leaving advantage and disadvantage as the only relevant factors.

Perhaps one of the only places the art of expression can be unpretentious or true to the author is, strangely enough, graffiti. "The words of the prophets are written on the subway walls," unbound by laws, political or grammatical, unbound by ulterior motive, free of the desire for praise, power or paycheck.

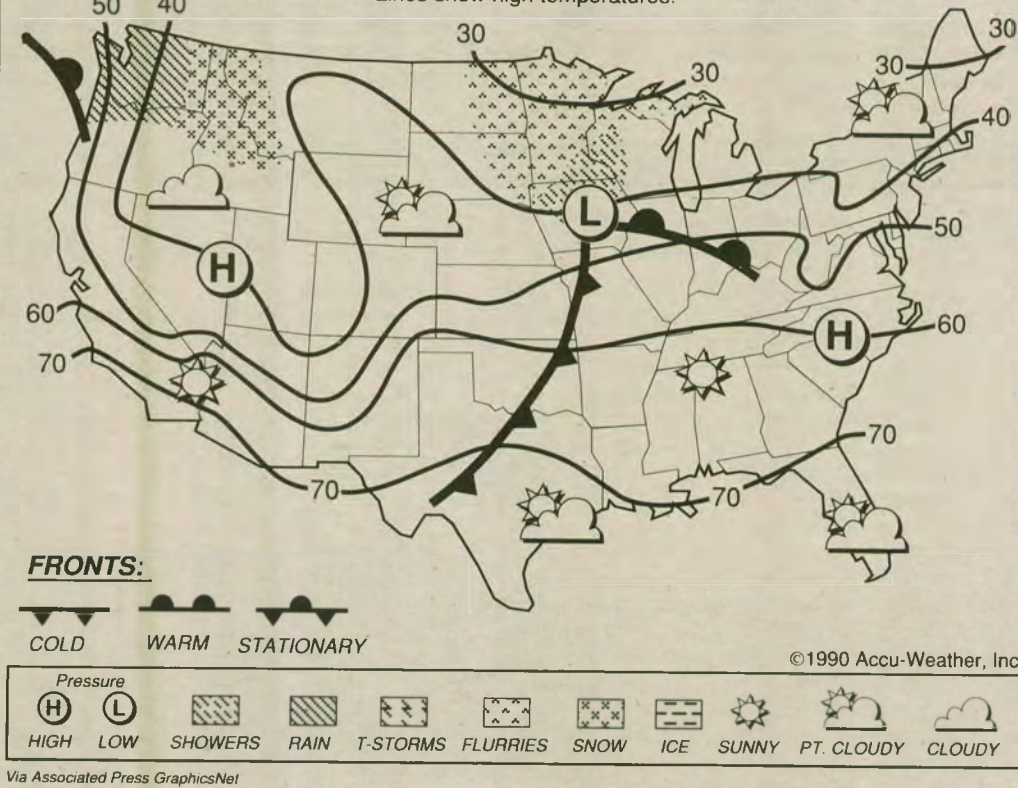
The abuses of our freedom have taught us to distrust politicians from another party. Commercials border on falsehood. Music has developed a just-dance-don't-listen attitude, and almost all news media have been labeled with one political slant or another.

So before we count our blessings of being born into freedom while looking down on those seven poor arrested Chinese students, and before we get too distressed about the log the government placed in their eye, maybe we should remove the skyscraper in our own first. Maybe we should unfurl our own banner asking, "Why are we so rich?"

Joe Moody
News Copy Editor

WEATHER

Forecast for noon, Tuesday, January 23.
Lines show high temperatures.



Yesterday's high: 34
Yesterday's low: 31
Nation's high: 88
(Naples, Fla.)
Nation's low: -16
(Gunnison, CO)

Forecast:
Increasing cloudiness today with a chance of sprinkles late in the day. Highs from the lower to middle 40s. Cloudy tonight with a chance of light rain. Lows in the upper 30s. Mostly cloudy Wednesday with a 40 percent chance of light morning rain. Highs in the lower 40s.

OF INTEREST

Residence hall contracts for the 1990-91 academic year have been sent to the residence halls. In order to be eligible for housing in the fall students must return the contract to the Office of Student Residences prior to 5 p.m., Feb. 2, 1990.

Musicians and vocalists/actors/actresses needed for "Godspell." Farley is beginning to audition for its spring production of the musical "Godspell." Instruments used in the band include guitar, base, piano, flute and percussion. Those interested please contact Amalia at 283-4021. Auditions for the cast will begin on Jan. 31 and will be announced in greater detail.

A summer job fair will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 24 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the CCE. Meet with company representatives to discuss internships or other available opportunities. Students should bring copies of profiles or resumes. Sponsored by Career and Placement Services.

The Pre-Law Society will be having a meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Library Auditorium. Dean McLean of the Notre Dame Law School and an admissions officer from the DePaul Law School will be the guest speakers.

CSC/Maryknoll Mexico Summer Program in Oaxaca: A mandatory meeting for all those interested will be held tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Social Concerns. Questions? Call Dave Krier at 283-1145.

World Awareness Series needs people interested in helping and/or participating in a week focusing on Latin America or Eastern Europe, please contact Gailius Dravgelis at 283-1786 or Maeve O'Donovan at 283-2650.

A phone-a-thon organizational meeting will be held today at 9 p.m. in the Montgomery Theatre, LaFortune. The Phone-a-thon is an annual fundraiser for the Women's Care Center, a pro-life pregnancy help center.

NATIONAL

A leading government researcher expressed concern about the continuation of a study in which more than 300 children with AIDS are not getting the drug AZT, now the only anti-AIDS drug widely believed to be effective in children. Half the kids in the study are getting an unproven drug called intravenous immunoglobulin, or IVIG. Half are getting only a placebo.

The Air Force announced Monday it plans to launch the fifth in a new series of military navigation satellites on Wednesday. The \$65 million Navstar satellite is to join a network of navigation spacecraft that can tell U.S. and allied military forces where they are to within 50 feet anywhere in the world, in any weather.

CAMPUS

The National Association of Students of Catholic Colleges and Universities will hold its first meeting next week at the University of Notre Dame. About 150 representatives from nearly 30 Catholic schools are expected to attend the meeting Feb. 2-4. The association was conceived during discussions held last spring on the South Bend campus among student leaders from Notre Dame, the universities of Dayton and San Francisco, John Carroll University in Cleveland, the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., and Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala.

Father Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C., president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, is the subject of the first in a series of "bio-bibliographies" to be published by Greenwood Press in Westport, Conn. "Theodore M. Hesburgh: A Bio-Bibliography" consists of a short biographical essay on Father Hesburgh by Thomas Stritch, professor emeritus of American studies; a bibliography of major published and unpublished works by Father Hesburgh, as well as selected works about him. The publisher describes the 275-page book as "a useful resource for students and scholars of education, American studies and American religious history."

INDIANA

A 36-year-old man, Thomas Piwkiewicz of Gary, was killed Monday after walking in front of a semi and suffering massive injuries. The incident occurred about 1:30 p.m. on U.S. 35, near the intersection of State Road 25, authorities said. Piwkiewicz was walking along the highway, and for unknown reasons stepped into the path of the truck.

MARKET UPDATE
Closings for January 22, 1990

Up 267	Volume in shares
Unchanged 368	148.38 Million
Down 1,336	
NYSE Index	183.20 ↓ 4.36
S&P Composite	330.77 ↓ 8.77
Dow Jones Industrials	2600.45 ↓ 77.45
Precious Metals	
Gold ↓	\$0.30 to \$410.90 / oz.
Silver ↑	1.0c to \$5.25 / oz.

Source: AP

ALMANAC

- On January 24:**
- In 1848: James Marshall found gold in Sutter's Mill in California.
 - In 1888: Ernst Heinkel, the builder of the first rocket-powered aircraft, was born.
 - In 1899: The rubber heel was patented by Humphrey O'Sullivan.
 - In 1935: The first beer in cans was sold.
 - In 1986: Voyager II flew past Uranus.

The Observer

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Barry to treatment center, Jackson may replace

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mayor Marion Barry, facing a cocaine possession charge, flew to a Florida treatment center Monday while political operatives back home began looking to Jesse Jackson as an alternative candidate for mayor.

A Jackson associate said, "I know he's getting a lot of pressure to run. I don't know if he's going to."

Speaking only on condition of anonymity, the source said "a lot of the pressure is coming from Marion's people."

City officials confirmed that the mayor left the capital for treatment of an unspecified health problem the day after declaring he would take steps "to heal my body, mind and soul." Barry, who did not specifically refer to a drug or alcohol problem in his Sunday remarks, left his home at dawn Monday accompanied by his wife Effi.

Neither Barry nor his wife would say where they were going, but a top political aide said Barry left for the Hanley-Hazelden Treatment Center in West Palm Beach, Fla.

An aide in the center's admissions office said she could not disclose the identity of persons checking into the facility. She said the center is for the treatment of substance and alcohol abuse, but that some people enter for a determination of whether they have a problem.

Barry's plans to announce his candidacy Sunday for a fourth term as mayor of the nation's capital were abruptly canceled after his arrest Thursday night on a misdemeanor cocaine possession charge. He appeared briefly in court Friday and was ordered to undergo weekly drug testing.

Over 100,000 mourn dead in Baku

MOSCOW (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of wailing, black-clad Azerbaijanis marched through Baku on Monday to mourn people killed when Soviet troops put down a nationalist revolt, and the republic's legislature threatened secession if Moscow did not pull out its soldiers.

In another move in defiance of President Mikhail Gorbachev, local legislators declared Moscow's state of emergency void, and militants vowed to keep up crippling strikes until troops leave.

Also Monday, Communist leaders from Soviet Armenia and Azerbaijan took a tentative step toward ending 10 days of ethnic warfare, agreeing to withdraw armed groups from areas along their border, Tass said. But activists in Armenia and Azerbaijan said they were skeptical the truce would be kept.

The official Soviet news

agency reported 12 more people were killed in ethnic clashes Monday on the border of the two republics, raising the toll since Jan. 13 to 167. Soviet officials said 83 of those were from the Soviet assault on the Azerbaijani capital on Saturday or skirmishes the previous day.

More than 500 have been wounded in the conflicts.

An emergency overnight session of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet legislature demanded the full withdrawal of Soviet troops from the republic, with the exception of border districts with Armenia, said Baku lawyer Viliyad Mamedov, who attended the 11 1/2-hour overnight session.

Lawmakers also demanded the lifting of the curfew and state of emergency in Baku and other areas of Azerbaijan, which Moscow imposed without the approval of Azerbaijani authorities, Mamedov said in a telephone interview.

If those demands are not met, Mamedov said, the legislature will consider voting to secede from the Soviet Union.

At Monday's mass rally in Baku, demonstrators carried posters reading, "Gorbachev is the butcher of the Azerbaijani people," and "Azerbaijanis will not succumb to tanks," said Shain Gajiyev, a Baku journalist.

Witnesses said throngs of mourners numbering as many as 2 million bore coffins of Azerbaijanis killed in the week-end assault down the narrow streets and major thoroughfares to Lenin Square, now renamed Freedom Square in honor of the Azerbaijani nationalist cause.

The mourners, wearing black and carrying black-bordered portraits of some of the victims, then buried the victims at Kirov Park, overlooking the Caspian Sea.

Sexton placed on national college board

Special to The Observer

William Sexton, vice president for University relations at Notre Dame, has been appointed to the development advisory committee of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

Founded in 1921, Washing-

ton, D.C.-based AGB is an international, nonprofit service organization offering a variety of programs to assist trustees, regents, presidents, chancellors, and other higher education officials to achieve their institutional objectives. The development advisory committee administers AGB's programs involving fund-raising strate-

gies and techniques.

Sexton, who has held his current position since 1983, directs the University's activities in development, public relations, community relations and institutional advancement, as well as its alumni association, publications, special events and Notre Dame Magazine.

Under his direction, the University has generated more than \$250 million in cash contributions since 1983 and has secured an additional \$400-plus million in cash and pledges to its current "Strategic Moment" fund-raising campaign. Annual gifts to the University—approximately \$44.9 million in fiscal 1989—and its endowment, currently some \$550 million, both have doubled during Sexton's tenure.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1966, Sexton is an associate professor of management in the College of Business Administration and continues to teach. He holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Ohio State University.

AWWW !!!!

HOW CUTE...

What Happened?

HAPPY 19TH DARIN and DEAN.

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LaRouche convictions upheld

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The tax and mail fraud conspiracy convictions of political extremist Lyndon LaRouche were upheld Monday by a federal appeals court.

A three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals also upheld the convictions of six LaRouche associates in a case that stemmed from more than \$30 million in loans raised by LaRouche's political supporters.

In a unanimous ruling, the appeals panel rejected claims of procedural flaws in the trial of LaRouche, who ran for president in 1980 and 1984 and has endorsed theories of high-level

conspiracy against him by world leaders.

Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, chief attorney for LaRouche's appeal, argued that U.S. District Judge Albert Bryan of Alexandria allowed only 34 days from arraignment to trial and failed to adequately question jurors on how much they knew about the defendant.

But the appeals panel found no abuse of discretion in Bryan's refusal to delay the trial.

"When Judge Bryan denied the defendants' motion for a continuance, he possessed a highly relevant piece of information: The defense waited 18

days to move for a continuance," the panel said. "Defense counsel's prolonged silence leads to the reasonable inference that 34 days was not a clearly insufficient period of time between arraignment and trial."

The panel also said LaRouche's lawyers made no attempt to press potential jurors to determine "individually anyone who had ever heard of LaRouche," although certain jurors who said they were familiar with the case or who had worked in law enforcement or had accounting or tax backgrounds were individually questioned.

from these programs. "We're bound to fail," he said.

"We are going to waste money in our attempts for education and treatment," said Biden. "But that will pale in comparison with the tens of billions of dollars we are wast-

ing now by only attempting to address the problem of enforcement."

"If you define winning as the elimination of the epidemic proportions of the problem, then this is something we can win," he said.

Biden

continued from page 1

enforcement. Biden said we need to "take back our schools, our streets back so mothers can send their kids out the door with the likelihood that they'll make it to school safely."

- Increased drug education. He called for an immediate "significant education program beginning in kindergarten and first grade."

- More treatment programs. "Dr. Bennett (Bush Administration Drug Czar William Bennett) says 'We need stronger enforcement so the casual user will seek treatment.' Hell, the casual user—you've got 90,000 people saying 'Help me' and there's no place for them to go," Biden said. He added that the average waiting list for drug abuse treatment in state programs is nine months.

Biden cautioned against demanding immediate success

Drink and dance and laugh and lie, love,
the reeling midnight through, for tomorrow we
shall die! (But, alas, we never do.)

-Dorothy Parker



Happy 21st
Katie!!

Love and Hugs
your family and
friends

President of MacMillan appointed to ND council

Special to The Observer

William Reilly, Jr., president and chief operating officer of MacMillan, Inc., has been appointed to the advisory council of the University of Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters by University President Father Edward Malloy.

Reilly graduated cum laude from Notre Dame in 1959 and earned an MBA degree from Harvard University in 1964. He has been president of MacMillan, one of the nation's largest textbook publishers, since 1981 after joining the firm as executive vice president in 1980.

From 1964-1980 he occupied

a variety of executive positions with W.R. Grace & Co., including chief executive officer of Bekaert Tectile division, president of Herman's World of Sporting Goods, president of the Home Center division and corporate vice president.

A native New Yorker, Reilly was granted leave from Grace from 1967-1969 to serve as the City of New York's assistant finance administrator.

Reilly's gift of \$100,000 to Notre Dame in June 1989 established the William F. Reilly, Jr. Scholarships to benefit Hispanic students attending the University.

Career Planning Workshop

David Sikkenga, the recruiter from Electronics Data Systems Corporation, will present the following topics:

**Resume Writing
Interviewing Skills
Professionalism**

Room 122 Hayes-Healy
7 PM Wednesday January 24
All Are Welcome!

Sponsored by the Marketing Club
The Marketing Club Meeting will begin at 6:45
All Club Members and Majors are encouraged to attend.

Campus Ministry and You



New Year Resolutions

A Multiple Choice Offering:

Lose 10 pounds
Gain 10 pounds
Find an original way to ask "How was your Break?"
Find an original way to answer "How was your Break?"
Call Ishmael
Call home before home calls me to find out why I haven't called
Stop smoking and chewing
Grow through lust to love
Give a little, take a little
Don't use any styrofoam, ever, under any circumstances at all
Attend at least one non scheduled, non required lecture
See one serious film at the Snite
Explore with someone some aspect of my spiritual life
Pray with a church community at least twice more than I want to
Do at least one thing different, out of character, each week
Put those empties in the recycle box
Hit the trash can
Exercise at least 20 minutes, three times a week
Say something nice to my roommate, every day
Check my negativity
Smile
Less impulse buying
Differentiate between "need" and "want"
Prioritize
Don't use words like prioritize
Read something I don't have to read
Find a spiritual friend
Make a spiritual friend
Drink responsibly or not at all
Find ways to grow beyond inherited limitations
Develop an attitude of gratitude

Mediate my existence
Get sacramental
Make peace
Volunteer
Make a retreat
Use the campus ministry prayer cards
Be genuine
Let go of something holding me back
Listen
Give away something I couldn't possibly part with
Get some solidarity with the poor
Feed the hungry
Shelter the homeless
Comfort the afflicted
Celebrate, celebrate. Dance to the music.
Develop a global consciousness
Get out of myself
Have a good year



The Observer

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1989-90 General Board

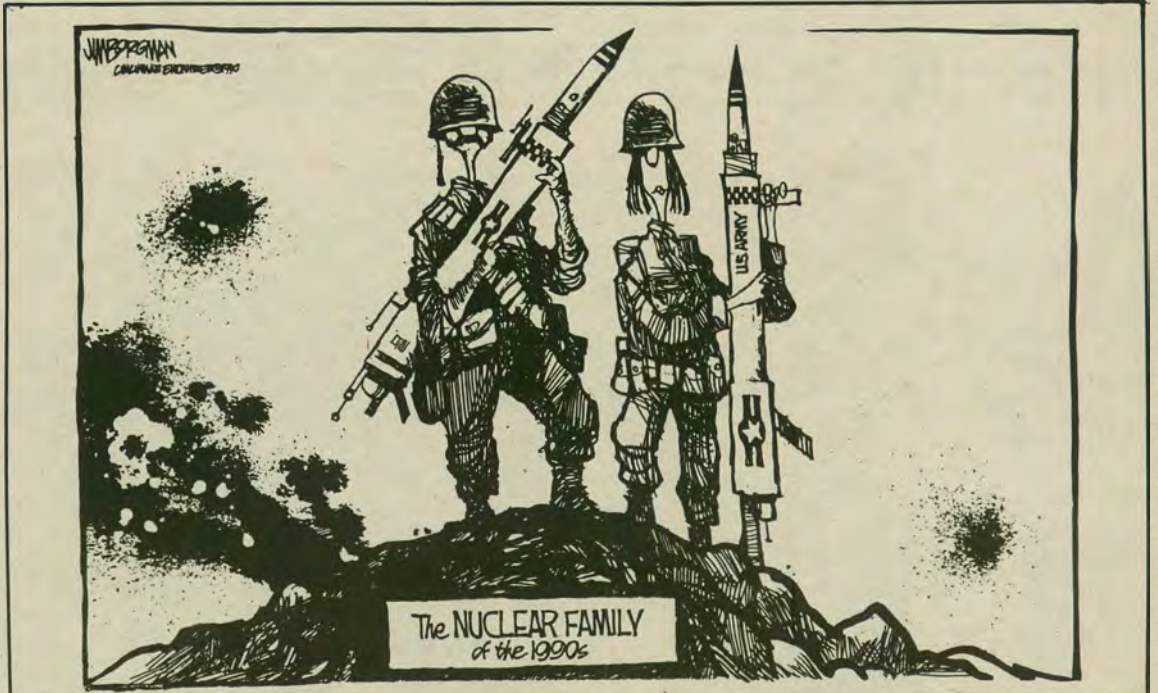
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Church's abortion stand subjugates women

By Kurt Mills

Abortion is a major public issue and the Supreme Court, which just opened a new term, will have the opportunity to significantly change the landscape of abortion and women's rights.

Since Notre Dame is a Catholic affiliated institution, abortion is also a major issue on campus. This illustrates the fact that abortion is, as much as anything else, an issue of religion for those who oppose choice in abortion. Some people would say that religion is not an issue, but the evidence points to the fact that certain people — the anti-choice people — are trying to force their religious views on society as a whole.

The issue comes down to one of who decides and whether or not a major vehicle of op-

pression against women is re-instituted.

The Catholic Church has decreed that life begins at conception and that abortion is immoral. Other religions, including other sects of Christianity, say something very different. The Catholic Church has a right to tell its members whatever it wants; however, it, or any other religious organization, does not have the right to extend this to the general population.

On the subject of oppression, it might be instructive to remind ourselves that the Catholic Church, or more correctly, the church hierarchy, is sexist (women cannot be ordained), homophobic (far from being recognized as a natural expression of love, homosexuality is proclaimed immoral), positively medieval in its outlook on many things, and dominated by men — men, who for all of their proclamations,

cannot break out of their narrow view of the role of women and accept them on an equal footing in the church.

The issue is, indeed, that of who decides. Will it be the Pope who, even more than most men cannot know how it feels to carry a baby (or care for a baby), cannot understand what it feels like to have an unwanted pregnancy, whether from rape, incest, or just the failure of birth control (which the Pope also condemns). Or, will it be the woman, possibly with her lover or at least a caring doctor, but just as likely, alone, scared, and with nothing but herself and her conscience to guide her — a conscience which might derive from religious convictions, or maybe from other, no less worthy, sources.

The so called "pro-lifers" claim that there is violence being done. Indeed, there is. It is violence perpetrated by those

who bomb clinics where abortions take place, those who oppress women in a thousand different ways, and those who would take away from half of humanity the most fundamental freedom of all — the right to absolute control over one's body guided by one's individual conscience.

I will not say that abortion is not a tough issue, it is. However, more than anything else, it is tough on the woman. There have been a number of cases recently where a husband or lover has, through legal means, tried to prevent an abortion from taking place. These men say that the baby is as much theirs as it is the woman's. I wonder how they would feel if they could get pregnant and their wives tried the same thing. I doubt they would agree with their own line of reasoning. In fact what is happening is that, in essence,

these men — not all men, but some — are saying that women are baby factories and, by virtue of the fact that they invested a few minutes to conceive the fetus — whereas the woman has to invest the next nine months of her life — they should be given power over someone else's body. This, to me, is the height of arrogance and, indeed, cruelty and a basic disrespect for individual sovereignty.

One cannot truly have rights in society until society recognizes the right to control one's body. Those Catholics, and others, who believe in women's rights should realize that the most fundamental right of all for women is under attack.

Kurt Mills is a graduate student in the Institute for International Peace Studies.

LETTERS

Student group enters opening stage

Dear Editor:

This letter expresses the hope for a "new" student organization beginning on campus this semester. The Notre Dame Student Players is an organization devoted to producing musical theater in which the acting, directing, technical work, and production tasks are performed by students.

After some time without a musical theater program at Notre Dame, we are preparing to present the student body with enjoyable, high quality entertainment.

Last year, the Student Players presented "Simon," an original musical which was written by Notre Dame students. Due to

its success, we have decided to produce shows on campus every year, with the help of the SUB performing arts department. Work has already started for our spring production of "The Fantasticks," a well-known and well-loved musical which has been running off-Broadway in New York for 30 years.

However, we need to find people, regardless of experience, who want to be part of this endeavor. In order to present a quality show, we need actors, musicians, administrators (business manager, publicity, etc.), and help in all technical areas: lighting, set construction, props, and costumes.

Interested Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students should



stop by the SUB office on the second floor of LaFortune Student Center before Jan. 30 and complete an interest form. We will then contact you and fill you in on what our plans are for the semester.

Jeff McGarrity
Lisa McMahon
Notre Dame Student Players
Jan. 18, 1990

Caption illustrated journalistic bias

Dear Editor,

This letter refers to a photo published on page 5 of the Jan. 19 edition of The Observer. The caption of said photo read "Meeting the natives."

Given the present political situation now reigning in Panama, the people of the United States, especially the news media, ought to pay more attention to the potentially negative connotations that sloppy journalistic bias may breed. Honestly speaking, there are far more important issues still left to be addressed, that will have more of an impact on the Panamanian people.

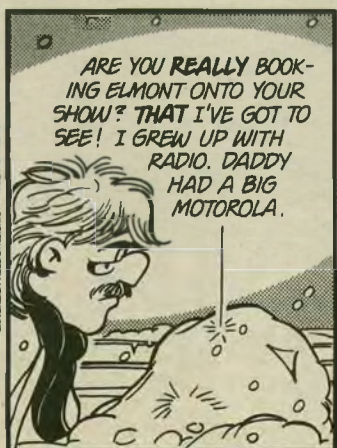
Granted, this caption can be interpreted in several different ways. But why tempt the devil

utilizing a word ("natives") that has pejorative connotations? I don't want to believe the photo editor intended to, in any way, predispose the way the Notre Dame community perceives the people of Panama through this kind of tasteless remark. But as a Central American and especially as a Panamanian, I consider it necessary to speak out, especially in these painful and crucial times.

"Meeting the Panamanians" is a more appropriate caption since those "natives" have a name.

Irene Perurena
Institute for International
Peace Studies
Jan. 19, 1990

DOONESBURY



QUOTE OF THE DAY

'Practical prayer is harder on the soles of your shoes than on the knees of your trousers.'

Austin O'Malley

Horrifying realism in Stone's 'Born on the Fourth of July'



Tom Cruise plays disabled veteran Ron Kovic in Oliver Stone's new movie 'Born on the Fourth of July.' The movie is based on Kovic's book about his life, especially his life during and after the Vietnam War.

JOE BUCOLO
accent writer

Another Vietnam movie? No, not really. "Born on the Fourth of July" is a movie in a category all its own. It is the story of shattered dreams and shattered lives, one of the most intense films ever.

Tom Cruise stars as Ron Kovic in the movie based on the latter's book about his experiences before, during, and after Vietnam. The film is Oliver Stone's latest bout with the struggle and conflict that was Vietnam.

From the movie's first scene, viewers know they are in for an intense film. The first scene presents young Ron and his friends playing war in a forest near their homes. With careful use of photography and music, the scene is chilling. The kids are throwing rocks and stones at one another; this is no children's game, but a haunting foreshadowing of things to come.

The film then follows Ron through high school as he struggles to be the best in everything from relationships to wrestling. As high school ends, Ron decides to join the Marines and fight in Vietnam. He wants to defend his country and reap the glory due to a veteran.

Vietnam becomes a horrifying reality for Ron. He witnesses the murder of innocent people, the wounding of a child, and the utter chaos around him. He is later wounded and is paralyzed from the chest down.

The film then focuses on his struggle to accept he will never walk again and to accept his shattered dreams of what it is to defend our country.

Several aspects of the film stand out, not the least of which is the confusion of Vietnam. No one really knows why America is involved. Choppy photography during the war scenes helps audiences to realize the chaos experienced during the war. The scenes are almost dizzying.

The confusion continues as Ron returns home. People don't treat him nobly. Even his own family rejects him and he finds himself in a world that for him is worse than death.

The film is also loaded with moving scenes. Most agree that the scenes surrounding Ron's return home after Vietnam are the most emotional. The neighbors run over to see Ron; his father breaks down at the sight of Ron in a chair; audience members wonder why they didn't bring any tissue along.

Another memorable scene occurs when Ron and his friends attend the Republican Convention where they are spat upon by Republicans at the meeting. At that point, Ron's convictions have made a complete turnaround as he proclaims his feeling against the war.

There were no winners in Vietnam and Oliver Stone brilliantly drives this message home. Unlike his other films where he takes a side and sticks with it, Stone gives his audience both sides of the coin and lets them judge who—if anyone—in the film makes the right decision.

This is a story of human emotion and Cruise does an outstanding job. His physical changes throughout the film parallel his emotional ones. Whether he's struggling to win a wrestling tourney, fighting to fix a machine in the veteran hospital, or crying as he hears the screaming of a murdered baby in his mind, Cruise captivates his audience and actually becomes Ron Kovic.

"Intense" is the only word to describe "Born on the Fourth of July." From the bloody scenes in the hospitals to the heart-wrenching scenes in Kovic's dead friend's home, the film takes the public on a terrifyingly haunting emotional roller coaster. This year's best picture is "Born on the Fourth of July."

'Glory' depicts race relations in the Civil War

JOE BUCOLO
accent writer

When it comes to wars, one in particular seems to always be the subject of romance and themes of glory—the Civil War. Now, Tri-Star Pictures presents a superb motion picture that explores not only the triumph of the War Between the States, but also its destruction and brutality.

Matthew Broderick ("Ferris Bueller's Day Off") stars in "Glory" as Robert Gould Shaw, a privileged Boston man who goes off to war only to be disillusioned by the savage Battle of Antietam. Upon his return home, Shaw is offered command of the newly formed 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, the Civil War's first black fighting unit.

Realizing the great challenge in his new position, Shaw asks the help of his friend Cabot Forbes (Cary Elwes, "The Princess Bride"). The two begin to gather black recruits and train them for the only war on American soil.

Two black men become very important in Shaw's struggle to

maintain order in the regiment. John Rawlins (Morgan Freeman, "Lean on Me"), a gravedigger Shaw met at Antietam, helps to encourage the men and remind them that they can continue to act like "niggers" or rise to become proud black Americans. Denzel Washington ("Cry Freedom") stars as Trip, a runaway slave who learns to curb his hostility toward white men to serve his country.

The film's excellence stems from the excellence of the actors.

The film is excellent because it presents the regiment's war against not only the Confederates, but the Northern whites who resent giving arms to black soldiers they believe cannot effectively fight.

Viewers see the soldiers march in torn, tattered shoes because the leaders of the infantry insist there are no new

ones to be distributed. In one moving scene as Shaw struggle to force others to take his regiment seriously, he storms a warehouse and demands shoes for his men.

The film cleverly reveals the struggles the black men, ready and willing to fight and die for America, had to endure. On pay day, the regiment discovers that, because they're black, they'll be paid less than white soldiers. The men refuse to accept a lower wage which is based on the belief that they are inferior. Tearing up his check, Shaw says if they won't accept the pay, neither will he.

The film's excellence stems from the excellence of the actors. Broderick is natural and believable in his role and Elwes' character adds a sarcastic and down-to-earth demeanor to the regiment. Washington's portrayal is incredible. Viewers will be deeply moved as they watch Washington endure a brutal whipping. Freeman's performance is also uplifting as he unites the blacks and shows pride in his country.

What also sets this movie



Morgan Freeman (fifth from the left), who stars as Rawlins, marches with the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry in 'Glory.'

apart from others is its graphic depiction of the brutality and absurdity of the war. It suggests that the war was a first example of whites fighting so that blacks can be free. War scenes show men being shot and butchered. There is no romanticizing of the war which claimed more American lives than any other war.

"Glory" is a triumph for all involved with it. It serves as an excellent showpiece for Tri-Star, its writers, and producers. In addition, it presents raw moving characterizations and drums home both the destruction of the civil War and the triumph of men who struggle to be treated as equals in a country divided.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Sailing Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in 204 O'Shag. Plans for the 1990 Commodore's Ball will be discussed.

WVFI-AM 640 will hold Sportstalk at 8 a.m. tonight. The subject will be Super Bowl XIV. The number is 239-6400.

Blue and Gold cards are available at the Gate 10 ticket office at the JACC and at tonight's wrestling meet. The card costs \$5 and is good for admission to hockey, wrestling, women's basketball and baseball action.

Bookstore Basketball will have a meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Notre Dame Room of Lafortune for students interested in applying for commissioner.

Call 234-9716 for more information.

Irish Outdoors will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30 in Theodore's. Plans for the upcoming

ski trip will be announced. Call 271-9901 for more information.

Novice crew will meet today in 104 O'Shag for all students interested in rowing this semester. Call 289-2815 for more information.

Taekwondo Club will practice at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the fencing gym of the JACC. Beginners are welcome. Call x1878 for more information.

Hapkido Club meets at 8 p.m. tonight in Room 219 Rockne Gym. Call x3597 for more information. Beginners are welcome.

Sailing Club meets at 6:30 p.m. tonight in 204 O'Shag. Plans for the 1990 Commodore's Ball will be announced.

Wrestlers

continued from page 12

points in each meet.

Without Radenbaugh in the lineup, Notre Dame went 2-4 in dual meets. Radenbaugh returned for last weekend's Nebraska match, but it was not enough to keep the Irish from losing to the nation's fourth-ranked team.

On the California trip, Notre Dame lost 21-15 to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and 27-17 to Fresno State. The Irish had placed ahead of both those schools in the Southern California Invitational.

Notre Dame closed the California stay with a 19-16 victory over Stanford.

After returning to the Mid-

west, the Irish still had to wrestle without Radenbaugh for three matches. In those three matches, the Irish lost 21-13 to sixth-ranked Oklahoma, fell 21-15 to Michigan State, and defeated Missouri 25-15.

Radenbaugh returned for last weekend's match with No. 4 Nebraska, and he posted a 1-1 draw with John Buxton, the 11th-ranked 118-pounder in the nation. It didn't make much of a difference, however, as the Cornhuskers pummeled the Irish 30-8.

Senior Pat Boyd, a defending All-American, is ranked third nationally in the 142-pound division. Boyd has recorded a 20-3 mark this season, and all of his losses have come to wrestlers ranked first in the nation at one point in the year.

If the thought of losing your life doesn't keep you from drinking and driving, imagine losing your license.



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ND swimmers take two over weekend; enjoy new surge

By JANICE ARCHER
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame's men's and women's swim teams got back on the winning track this weekend with impressive victories over Northern Illinois and Cleveland State.

Friday's meet, at Northern Illinois, came down to the final relay for the men, who pulled together to win 151.5-148.5.

"I'm very proud," said Irish coach Tim Welsh. "Not only does it take physical energy to be involved in such a good contest, but great emotional energy is needed in such a close race."

Brian Rini turned in one of the top performances of the meet, with victories in the 100-

yard freestyle (9:49.20) and the 500-yard freestyle (4:46.66). John Godfrey was also impressive, placing first in the 100- and 200-yard backstrokes.

The women's squad also defeated Northern Illinois, the first time in five years, by the score of 166-128. Freshman Tanya Williams led the Irish with three wins in the 200 butterfly, 200 backstroke, and the 200 individual medley. Shana Stephens, Tracie O'Connell and Christine Van Patten each took a first place spot in their events.

Two victories in the three-meter and one-meter diving events proved to be key ones for sophomore Jenny Kipp. She qualified on Friday night for

the Zone Diving Meet that will be held at the University of Michigan on March 9-10. To qualify for the national championships, divers follow a different procedure than swimmers, who qualify by times. Points are given at each diving event, and Kipp has gained enough to compete in the Zone Meet. At this meet, divers vie for spots at the national championships.

The Irish returned to campus for the first of a four-meet homestand against Cleveland State. The men's squad dominated their opponents 143-92. Outstanding performances by Ed Veome helped lead the squad as he notched wins in both the three and one meter

diving events.

Other notable performers included Ed Broderick who won the 200 individual medley with a time of 1:57.56. The skilled team of Godfrey, Tom Penn, Broderick and Jim Birmingham combined to give the Irish the 400-yard medley relay victory (3:35.07).

The women's team improved their record to 7-4 by soundly defeating Cleveland State by the score of 149-85. Eight Notre Dame swimmers were victorious in their events, overpowering the visiting team.

Both teams returned from Northern Illinois very late on Friday night, only to get up early the next day to face Cleveland State.

"It is a very good sign of discipline, morale and team commitment that the teams could come back after that," notes Welsh. "It is an excellent sign that preparations are going well for a championship season."

The Irish will continue their rigorous homestand on Wednesday against Illinois-Chicago, who have never beaten either the men or women's teams.

"I expect the women's meet to be a close one," said Welsh, "but I favor the Irish because of their strength and balance. Our men's team is larger, and can race every event on the program well."

Mongo

continued from page 12

well," McGraw said. "She doesn't mind putting in extra time before practice or staying late after and it shows in her play because she has made great strides since last year."

"She's learning more about shot selection, about what shot is good for her, and is doing a great job inside. I'd like to see her grabbing nine or ten rebounds a game and I know that stat is within her grasp."

Nowlin's presence will be sorely needed tonight as the Irish travel to Dayton to take on the Flyers in the first of two MCC contests scheduled this season.

Fencers

continued from page 12

"as they continue to fare quite well in each competition."

While the aforementioned men's epee and women's and men's foil teams captured first-place honors, the sole letdown of the weekend could perhaps be the inconsistency of the sabre squad. Despite the return of junior All-American Leszek Nowosielski, the Irish sabremen had to settle for third and fourth place split-squad finishes.

After compiling a phenomenal 48-0 record over the first two years, Nowosielski had his first tastes of defeat despite tallying an impressive 12-3 mark. Sophomore Ed Baguer finished 12-5 and James Taliaferro went 14-4, while sabre captain Chris Baguer completed the tournament 10-4 for the second squad.

"We don't really have what I'd call a 'soft spot' in any part of our lineup," said DeCicco. "But on the other end of the spectrum, we don't have the kind of outstanding individuals that I can see vying for the individual gold medals."

The renewed resurgence of the Irish fencers has brought a new and surprising headache for DeCicco: how to keep these kids from riding high on the wave of their new success.

"It'll be a challenge to keep them in the training mode, to keep them anchored to the ground," stated DeCicco.

The Irish fencers will enjoy a two-week reprieve before their next competition on February 10.

Assistant fencing coach Mike Marx recently captured top honors at a USFA circuit event held in Louisville, Kentucky. In doing so, he accrued enough circuit points to qualify as a member of the World Team. Furthermore, Marx jumped up to the number-one national ranking in men's foil.

The Irish have preserved a perfect 4-0 conference record by beating Marquette twice, downing Loyola 85-72 and manhandling Butler (3-1) 74-59.

On paper, it would appear that Dayton, who enters the game 2-2 in conference play, would be the next sacrificial victim for an Irish squad who has been a dominant force since it entered the MCC last season.

But McGraw hesitates to count the Flyers out, especially when playing in their territory.

"They always play us tough no matter what their record is," McGraw said. "We can't look past them because they are a very physical team and they always play well at home."

The Irish will have to concentrate their efforts on 5-10 senior Anette Melvin who is averaging 12.4 points and 5.8 rebounds per game. Melvin is getting some help from 5-11 junior

Kaihra Goodman and 5-11 sophomore Lisa Green, who are averaging 9.6 and 8.9 points per outing, respectively.

Notre Dame will try to counter the Flyers with floor general Karen Robinson, who leads the Irish fast break attack in points and passing. Robinson leads the Irish with 14.4 points per game and has dished out a team-high 59 assists thus far.

Juniors Krissi Davis and Sara Liebscher have added to the

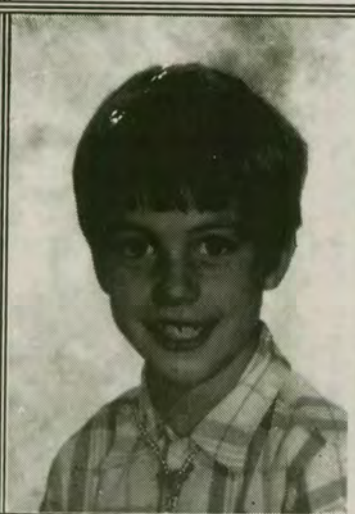
well-balanced attack, adding 10.4 and 8.3 points per game, respectively, while combining for 159 total rebounds.

"I know we're short on players, but the team is handling the adversity extremely well," McGraw said. "We may have a small bench, but no matter how many players I have, we're going to run the break and learn to run it even better."

"Things have been going well so far, now we just have to fine tune our game."

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Attention ND/SMC Pre - Law Society Members

There will be a meeting tonight at
7:00 in the Hesburgh Library
Auditorium. Dean McLean of the ND
Law School and an admissions officer
from De Paul Law School will be the
guest speakers. All are strongly
encouraged to attend.

CAMPUS

Tuesday

4 p.m.: Workshop on Researching Employers at Career & Placement Services Conf. Room by Jeff Rice, Assistant Director, Career & Placement.

6:30 p.m.: Workshop on Effective Interviewing at Hesburgh Library Lounge by Kitty Arnold, Director of Career & Placement. This workshop will cover the types of questions typically asked during an interview.

6:30 p.m.: Film "Dante's Inferno," and "Polidor Shorts" in the Annenberg Auditorium. Sponsored by ND Communication and Theatre.

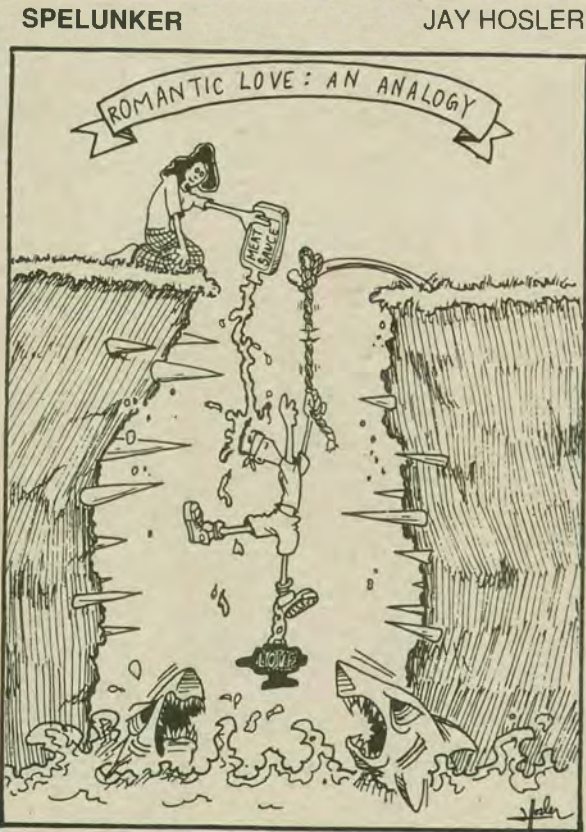
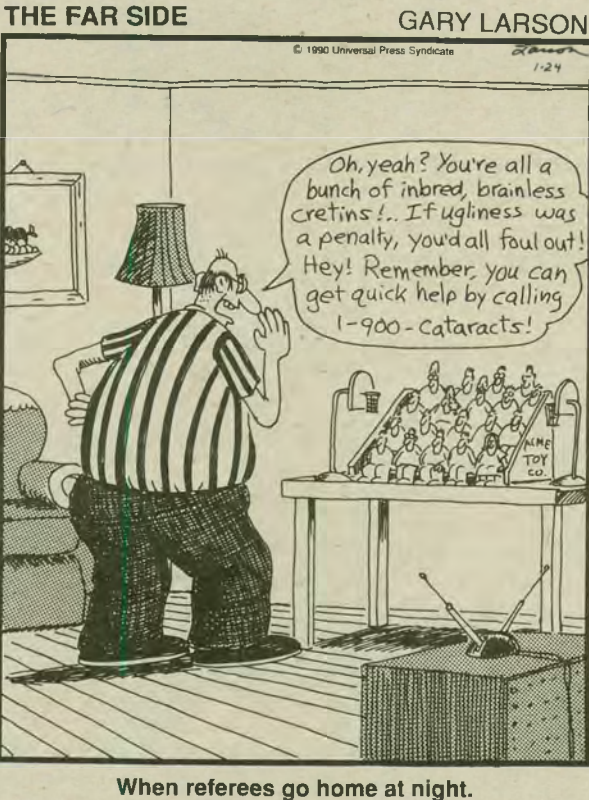
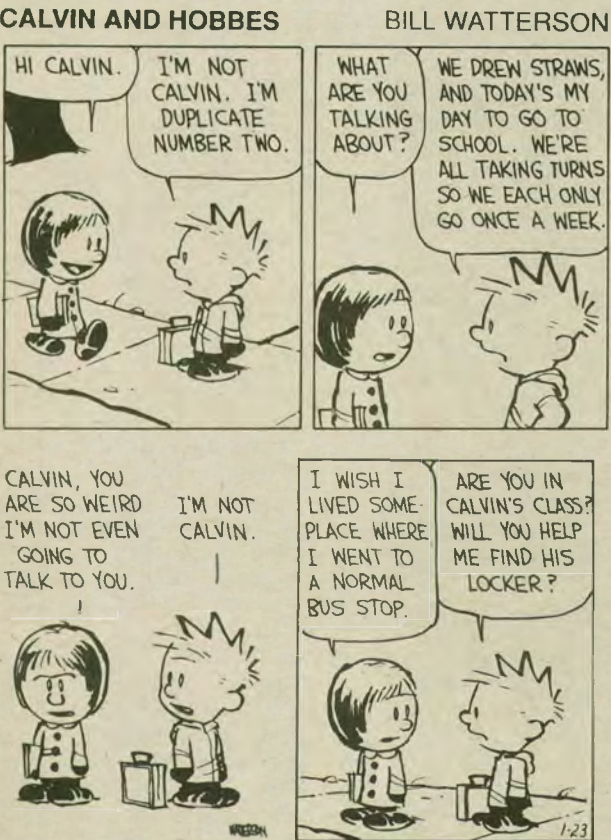
7:30 p.m.: Faculty Senate Meeting in Room 210 Center for Continuing Education.

7:45 p.m.: Film, "Putney Swope" in the Annenberg Auditorium. Sponsored by ND Communication and Theatre. Admission.

9:30 p.m.: Film, "un Chien and Alou," "Meshes of the Afternoon," and "The End" in the Annenberg Auditorium. Sponsored by ND Communication and Theatre. Admission.

Wednesday

12:10 p.m.: Closed Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, Holy Cross House.



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ND fencers flying high; performance 'simply incredible'

By CHRIS FILLIO
Sports Writer

In their first competition of the new semester, the Irish fencing squads asserted themselves in dominating fashion by capturing three of four top-place finishes at two meet events held at Penn State University, one dual meet against Columbia and Duke, and a USFA event.

"We simply took out the brooms this weekend. Sweep, sweep!" said foil captain Joel Clark.

Indeed, the performance serves notice to the rest of the collegiate elite that the Irish are a force to be reckoned with. Included in the weekend tally were victories by the men's

sabre and foil teams against defending national champion Columbia, and an incredible 9-0 whitewashing by the women's squad against number-two seeded Temple.

"We certainly did better than we had anticipated," said Irish head coach Mike DeCicco, who received several favorable impressions from opposing coaches. "Anyone who looks at these results, especially against Duke and Columbia, has to be happy with what was accomplished. Initially I was concerned about the six week lay-off. But I guess the kids took care of that concern."

If any group could conceivably be singled out, it would have been the female foilists this weekend. While their per-

formance was astounding in itself, the women as a whole appear to be asserting themselves as a strong team, and not just one or two good individuals.

Previously, DeCicco stated that it would be critical for the women to accomplish just that over the course of the season.

"The women's team this weekend was simply incredible," said assistant coach Mike Marx. "They could have won the national championship with a performance like that!"

Other coaches and players agreed with Marx's sentiment.

"We were such a team," stated sophomore Heidi Piper, who went 14-1 on the weekend. "It was just amazing the way it all came together."

In what has become a com-

mon phenomenon, senior captain Anne Barreda led the charge with a 17-2 finish. Senior Kristin Kralicek and junior Lynn Kadri were equally impressive at 13-4 and 14-5, respectively.

"I think our women's team is a little closer to where we want them to be than any other squad we have," said DeCicco. "And if anyone in the country expects to win the individual gold medal, they're going to have to contend with Anne Barreda first."

Continuing the Irish dominance was the men's foil team behind the impetus of junior Phil Leary, who set the pace with a 14-3 mark. Senior Derek Holeman went 13-6, while freshman Noel Young finished

at 14-4 on the day.

"I think we've finally proven that we can rally in a big way on the road," said foil captain Joel "the Slayer" Clark, whose 14-2 mark and 78-9 career record may well support his self-proclaimed nickname.

The top finisher for the men's epee squad was once again David Calderhead at 16-5 for the weekend, while sophomore Jubba Beshin was 15-6. In addition, both Mark Gugel (3-6) and Geoff Pechinsky (4-6) are making a strong bid for notice as third man in epee, picking up key victories along the way.

"Mark and Geoff are certainly trying to make things tough for me as a coach," said DeCicco.

see FENCERS / page 10

Mongo bashing boards Young center increases role on team

By MOLLY MAHONEY
Assistant Sports Editor

She is one of only two players over 6 feet tall left on the injury-plagued Notre Dame women's basketball team. She and her seven remaining teammates must play a rag-tag team of managers and graduate assistants just to complete daily drills in practice. And to make matters worse, her friends—not her enemies—affectionately refer to her as 'Mongo' on a regular basis.

But Margaret Nowlin doesn't complain.

She enjoys the challenge of being a small 6-foot-1 center often dwarfed by her competitors and thinks facing Sandy Botham—a former Irish basketball player and present graduate assistant—is a great learning experience.

And, you guessed it, she likes being called Mongo.

"I've tried to be optimistic about everything that has happened to us this season," Nowlin said. "The loss of so many players has helped make us really close and I can't complain about playing someone as good as Sandy everyday because she's pushing me to improve."

"It's hard going into the

game knowing I've got to hold my own against bigger players and that we're going to be in trouble if I foul and don't play well. But I try not to think about that and just play hard."

Nowlin, a sophomore from St. Paul, Minn., has been a consistent force for the Irish (9-5) offensively, shooting almost 50 percent from the field to tally 10.2 points per game, while netting 71 percent of her free throws.

With a nickname like Mongo, it only follows that Nowlin has owned the boards for the Irish thus far, pulling down 7.6 rebounds per game. But rebounding is one facet of her game Nowlin hopes to improve.

"I know coach wants me to be a better rebounder, especially on the offensive end of the floor," Nowlin said. "And I definitely want to concentrate on my defense and convert on all the good passes I've been getting lately."

Nowlin has never been one to shy away from hard work—one thing which Irish head coach Muffet McGraw likes to see in her young center.

"Margaret's strength is that she is a smart player, but she has a very good work ethic as

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The Observer / Steve Moskop

Notre Dame sophomore Margaret "Mongo" Nowlin takes the ball to the hoop earlier this season against Tennessee.

Ferris St. up next for wrestlers

By STEVE MEGARGEE
Associate Sports Editor

Looking to return to the winning ways it enjoyed before the winter holidays, the Notre Dame wrestling team hosts Ferris State tonight at 7:30 in the Joyce ACC.

When students left campus, the wrestlers were ranked 15th in the nation. The Irish opened a West Coast trip in early January by winning the 11-team Southern California Invitational. Since then, it's been mostly downhill for the Irish.

Notre Dame has won just two of its last seven dual meets, falling to 3-5 on the season. The Irish lost two of three matches in California, and has since gone 1-3 against midwestern teams.

Part of the problem for the Irish was the absence of senior Andy Radenbaugh. The 118-pounder, who boasts an 11-2 record this season, was unable to make his weight for five matches, including all the California dual meets. Radenbaugh's absence meant a forfeit in the 118-pound draw, which gave the opposition a free six

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Irish 'back against the wall' at 8-6; Denver on the line

The dream is threatening to turn into a nightmare for the Notre Dame men's basketball team.

The route to Denver, site of this year's Final Four, has taken detours in such cities as Milwaukee, Omaha, Philadelphia and Indianapolis. Six losses in 14 games have resulted in discontent among the Irish faithful.

Last weekend, the Irish traveled to New Orleans for a showdown with 13th-ranked Louisiana State. A victory would have ended the six-game road swing on a winning note and also attracted national attention.

But the Tigers overpowered the Irish on the inside, with workhorses Stanley Roberts and Shaquille O'Neal combining for 35 points and 22 rebounds. Notre Dame struggled on the offensive end, connecting on just 34 percent of its shots. The result was an 87-64 loss.

Even Notre Dame coach Digger Phelps is the first to say it would be easy for people to criticize, easy to point fingers at possible reasons for the problems surrounding this team.



GREG GUFFEY
Assistant Sports Editor

But Phelps also knows that approach will not result in any additions to the win column. He knows there is a lot of basketball left in this season, a lot of trips before the pairings are set in the Rocky Mountains.

"The most important thing for us is to play and snap out of this thing and get it going," Phelps said. "I don't think you can pinpoint a 'why.' I think the thing to do with these kids is to give them confidence and then stick with it."

Notre Dame took a 5-3 ledger on the road at the beginning of 1990. The Irish went 3-3 on that trip, losing to Creighton, La Salle and LSU.

They showed flashes of great play in all three games, but could not sustain that play for the entire contests. That's something that troubles Phelps because he knows what could have happened if they had put together consistent 40-minute games, especially against the Tigers.

"We did some good things," he said. "But there are things that we're doing that we shouldn't be doing. At times, we're not making the right decisions at the right time. We got embarrassed by the end score (at LSU). Now maybe we'll get mad."

"The showtime is over. We're back to the wall. We're 8-6. Now let's just go out and do it."

The Irish will get the chance to do that Wednesday

night against Wichita State in the first of a three-game homestand. They meet Miami (Fla.) on Saturday and then Dayton next Tuesday.

"It's easy to be critical and easy to second-guess," Phelps said. "Hopefully the students will give this team support like it did for the UCLA game (an 86-84 victory). It's important not to get down on us. We have eight games left at home, and the student body can win those games for us."

Notre Dame has 14 games remaining and several name teams on the schedule, including Duke, Syracuse, Georgia Tech, Missouri and Kentucky. Add to that list two games against De Paul and contests with Marquette, Dayton, SMU and Houston and the Irish have their work cut out for them.

But this is one task that is not impossible. This team has shown how good it can be, evidenced by last season's NCAA tourney games against Vanderbilt and Georgetown.

"We're looking for the combination to click," Phelps said. "The most important thing is knowing what we can do and can be. They've been there before. It's just getting it back. This is a good team."

And the next month—maybe even the next two weeks—will tell just how good this Notre Dame team is.