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TCE issue remains under debate

Faculty offers mixed responses about publishing results

By KEVIN ALLEN
News Writer

The Student Government proposal to publish Teacher Course Evaluations is arousing mixed opinions, among faculty members, who think TCE publication may merely serve as a way for students to find easy classes. Some faculty members also worry about professors giving higher grades in exchange for better evaluations and are concerned about the issue of confidentiality of the TCE, which factors into earning promotions and tenure.

One common sentiment among both students and professors is that comprehensive information about professors should be available to students. The disagreement is over how

see TCE/page 4



SOFIA BALLON/The Observer

A student puts a TCE form into a TCE drop box. If proposed changes are approved, TCE results will be published.

Academic Council forms committee to consider proposal

By KEVIN ALLEN
News Writer

In order to better evaluate the issue of publishing Teacher Course Evaluations for student use, the Academic Council has formed an ad hoc committee to evaluate the Student Government proposal.

Jeremy Staley, chairperson of the Academic Committee in the Office of the Student Body President, is chairing the Student Government committee working on the TCE proposal. Staley said the new Academic Council committee has not yet set a date for their first meeting, but he is prepared to present his plans whenever that time

see PROPOSAL/page 4

Club sets for Asian Allure

By KATE GALES
News Writer

The Asian-American Association will present their cultural performance "Asian Allure" at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22 at the Century Center.

Under the direction of AAA President and Asian Allure programs director and stage Manager Ryan Leung, a variety of cultural groups on campus will present an assortment of acts celebrating Asian life.

"Asian Allure showcases Asian culture and beauty through showing different acts from different cultures, tied in with a fashion show [illustrating] Asian beauty and the beauty of diversity."

see ALLURE/page 6

Professor prepares for current events lunch

International relations will be discussed

By MATT BRAMANTI
News Writer

In an effort to promote intellectual discussion on campus, assistant professor of political science Dan Lindley will have lunch with students today to discuss current events in international relations.

The Current Events Table in South Dining Hall will be sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

The lunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in either the northwest corner (right-right) or northeast corner (left-left) of South Dining Hall, depending on the availability of space.

Lindley said that while his immediate goal is to encourage debate of international issues, he has a broader cause in mind.

"My mission is to break down the bubble and to foster intellectual life on campus," Lindley said.

Lindley said he hopes a broad range of students will attend and participate in the discussion.

"You might have a ROTC person sitting next to a Pax

Christi person," he said. "I think that'd be great."

Senior Lauren Fowler was excited about the prospects for discussion.

"Professor Lindley is quite possibly one of the most intelligent professors on campus," she said. "[The lunch] will be quite beneficial to the university."

Topics will include the gamut of international relations, though some domestic issues with an international tint — like the current Miami negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas — will likely be included.

Lindley said he aims to make the lunchtime forums a monthly event, or possibly more frequently.

"We'll have them more often if other faculty members jump on."

He joked that the event was a cost-effective one for the Kroc Institute, which recently received a \$50 million bequest from philanthropist Joan Kroc.

"They spent \$30 on the sign and any faculty member can get free meal tickets from the dean," Lindley quipped.

Contact Matt Bramanti at
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ND students move off-campus

Housing shortage contributes to off-campus popularity

By TERESA FRALISH
Assistant News Editor

As increasing numbers of Notre Dame seniors opt for off-campus housing, the trend of declining amounts of undergraduates living in the residence halls poses a major problem for Notre Dame.

For a University that prides itself on the quality of its residence hall system, the trend toward off campus housing is problematic.

Scott Kachmarik, associate director of residence life, said about 52 percent of current Notre Dame seniors live off campus.

Because on campus housing for Notre Dame currently stands at 101 percent capacity, a certain number of students must live off campus each year to allow the University to meet the demand for housing.

"We need about 1600 students every year to move off campus," Kachmarik said.

Since the freshmen and junior classes are larger than normal, Kachmarik said the housing crunch would likely continue for the next several years.

The University has also seen an increase in the amount of sophomores and juniors who choose to live off campus, Kachmarik said.

Over the past 10 years, the



ADAM MIGLORE/The Observer

Saint Mary's students Tina Robinson (right) and her roommate relax in their living room. Saint Mary's, unlike Notre Dame, has decided to offer on campus apartments to its seniors.

percentage of undergraduate students living on campus has declined 5 percent to its current level of 76 percent, according to the University's strategic plan Web site. Traditionally, about 82 to 83 percent of undergraduates live on campus.

Many students say they simply want the increased freedom of living off campus.

"It's a chance to have your own place," said junior Phil Koesterer, who plans to move off campus next year. "The entire idea for me is getting outside of Notre Dame's juris-

diction."

As part of an attempt to keep more of its seniors on campus, Notre Dame's sister school Saint Mary's has opted to build on campus apartments that are set to open next year with space for 70 occupants. In this decision, Saint Mary's joins a growing number of colleges and universities that have provided on campus apartments for their students.

Students said they are excited about the chance to remain

see HOUSING/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Macaroni and...

Now that football fans everywhere are done cursing or cheering at their TV screens, depending on what they think of mid-majors in NCAA Division 1 football, I think it's high time for a few cheers of "Macaroni!"

Oh, wait, wrong situation. But if you feel compelled enough, and the dining hall food just isn't getting you over the proverbial hump (again), feel free.

Seriously though, football season is starting to get serious.

Ohio State plays Michigan tomorrow, and that's never insignificant.

Growing up an Ohio State fan (and probably still having a little of that in me), it's pretty cool watching scarlet and grey uniforms beat maize and blue uniforms to a pulp.

Maybe this year they could use marshmallows to do so? Those certainly seem to be considered lethal instruments around here...

Nah, I think everything's positively peachy on that front. Now we just need to be ready to buy impressive "ND" labeled styrofoam cups next season, since water bottles are a hazard as well.

I've been hit with several of those over my time here at Notre Dame, so I suppose one could say the issue hits home for me.

Of course, I've waited until the season ended to say any of this, since I'm not a fan of RoboUsher coming to kick me out of the Stadium for supposedly throwing marshmallows — from the sophomore section. What's it take to get a rimshot around here nowadays?

Now, before someone sets their sights on writing me a nice long letter — that's right, hold your horses, Cappy — I really don't care that much about marshmallows or the lack thereof at games, regardless of the reason they're missing.

Unless, of course, they're in the middle of s'mores. Take s'mores away, and then I'll fight.

Ah, who am I kidding? A pile of Honey Maid boxes, Hershey wrappers and Jet-Puff bags tossed on the steps of the Main Building and lit on fire just wouldn't get much done.

Somehow, Save Our S'mores doesn't have much of a ring to it, either — at least one that anyone really important would listen to.

Ooh, I know! I can petition Student Government to get started on the "S'more Saving Committee" now, as opposed to six months after the fact!

Ahhh... I think there's something slightly wrong with my reasoning facilities. Maybe it's just all the ethanol in the air...

Well, time for me to go stick a feather in my cap — you fill in the rest. A sometime columnist I may be, Yankee Doodle I'm not. At least, not if one of the requirements is to "with the girls be handy" — this is Notre Dame, remember?

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



Will Puckett

Production Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS NON-FOOTBALL WEEKEND?



Claire Holpkemler
junior
McGlinn

"If it weren't for papers and illness I'd go to the SOA vigil in Georgia."



Debdeep Jena
faculty
off-campus

"This is my last weekend as a single man."



Diane Duran
freshman
Farley

"Going to Chicago with some friends."



Kunal Saxena
junior
O'Neill

"Chicago maybe."



Rich Whitney
sophomore
Stanford

"Going to Windsor, Canada."



Tim Jaeger
sophomore
Dillon

"Just go have fun."



ADAM MIGLORE/The Observer

Many students took advantage of the somewhat unseasonably warm weather Thursday to spend time outdoors, like these students on South Quad. With temperatures in the mid-60's and sunny skies, frisbees and shorts made rare late-November appearances on campus.

OFFBEAT

Berlin to get talking trash cans

BERLIN — Fed up with garbage-strewn streets? Berlin thinks it has found a solution — trash cans that say thank you.

Starting next spring, the German capital's trash service will build electronics into a handful of the city's 20,000 street-side wastebaskets that will allow them to speak or sing to the public, a spokesman said Thursday.

"We want to encourage people in a nice, funny way to throw their trash in the baskets and not on the street," said the official,

Bernd Mueller. The talking trash cans — powered by solar cells — are meant to show that Berlin is "a modern city with high-tech services, and that it is also very cosmopolitan," he added.

Cops: Bucs fans bought beer in used cups

TAMPA — A concessions worker filled used plastic cups with beer and resold them at Sunday's Tampa Bay Buccaneers game and pocketed \$1,080 in unreported sales, police said.

John Angelus Keene, 68, was charged with felony grand theft, said Tampa police Detective Bill Todd.

Todd said he observed Keene picking up used cups from tables and refilling them without rinsing them at a Bud Light booth near the south end zone of Raymond James Stadium.

"I've never seen anything like it," said Todd, who works stadium security at Buccaneers games. "Naturally, you think of health issues."

Keene was a volunteer with a military retiree group manning the booth, but Todd did not know the exact name of the group.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Author Antonia Logue will be reading from "Say of What You See in the Dark" today from 3 to 4 p.m. in 424 Flanner Hall. Her reading is sponsored by the Keough Institute.

From 8 to 9 p.m. the Moreau Seminary Chapel will host the ND Collegium Musicum, directed by Daniel Stowe, presenting a concert of sacred choral works. Admission to the concert is free.

RecSports is holding extra drop-in badminton hours from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at Rolfs Sports & Recreation Center's Court 2. All are welcome to participate.

"Pirates of the Caribbean" is showing at 8 and 10:30 p.m. tonight courtesy of the Student Union Board. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$3.

Vienna Tang, featured recently on David Letterman's Late Show, will be in concert tonight at Legends. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. with the show beginning at 9 p.m.

Borracho Burrito welcomes off-campus students from 11 to 12:30 tonight for a late-night snack. A discount on food of \$4 will be given to students with ID.

The Class of 2006 is sponsoring a trip to Chicago leaving at 11:30 a.m. Saturday morning and returning that evening. Tickets are available at the LaFortune box office for sophomores only.

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	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 55 LOW 43	HIGH 50 LOW 43	HIGH 62 LOW 50	HIGH 62 LOW 37	HIGH 37 LOW 25	HIGH 40 LOW 22

Atlanta 67 / 58 Boston 57 / 43 Chicago 56 / 37 Denver 65 / 27 Houston 71 / 50 Los Angeles 80 / 57 Minneapolis 51 / 34 New York 63 / 55 Philadelphia 69 / 57 Phoenix 80 / 51 Seattle 56 / 35 St. Louis 65 / 41 Tampa 75 / 69 Washington 70 / 55

CORRECTIONS

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

UNITED KINGDOM

Protestors turn out en masse for Bush visit

Associated Press

LONDON — Tens of thousands of demonstrators marched through the heart of London on Thursday, toppling a 17-foot tall papier mache statue of President Bush and burning his life-size effigy to show their anger for the Iraq war and Prime Minister Tony Blair's support of the invasion.

As Bush and Blair vowed "not to flinch or give way or concede one inch" to terrorism in the wake of deadly bombings against British targets in Turkey, protesters said the close relationship between the two leaders made them deeply uneasy.

"We're angry that Bush appears to be leading our country," said marcher Ted Edwards. "Why Blair is allying himself to Bush I do not know."

Many in the crowd said Thursday's bombings in Istanbul, which killed more than two dozen people, strengthened their resolve to oppose U.S.-British policy in Iraq.

"There have been more and more bombings since the action in Iraq and more terrorism," said Mischa Gorris, a 37-year-old London lawyer. "You will never change the hearts and minds of terrorists by bombing them. This is what you will get."

Amid chants, the blast of foghorns and the beat of drums, protesters marched past the Houses of Parliament and through the heart of government

tal London to Trafalgar Square.

The march took almost two hours to clear its starting point at the University of London. The Stop the War Coalition, which organized the march, said 200,000 people participated; the police estimate was 70,000.

As the work day ended, many people who had not marched joined a rally in Trafalgar Square, where the bronze-painted statue of Bush was toppled to wild applause — a mocking reference to the toppling of Saddam Hussein's statue after coalition troops took control of Baghdad on April 9.

After sundown, protesters burned placards and at least one life-size effigy of Bush. The 17-foot papier mache statue was shredded by organizers and given out to the crowd.

The protests were generally orderly, but as night fell police struggled to contain a few hundred demonstrators who broke away from the Trafalgar Square rally and darted down a nearby street. Officers linked arms surrounding the protesters and arrested several who refused to move off the road.

Other groups headed toward Regent's Park where Bush was hosting a dinner for Queen Elizabeth II at Winfield House, the home of U.S. Ambassador to Britain William Farish.

Police outside the grounds of the mansion handcuffed and searched two men after protesters tried to jump the fence into

the neighboring gardens. The men were bundled into police vans and officers scoured the gardens with flashlights for more possible intruders.

When the queen and the president drove away from the mansion after the dinner, around 15 protesters waiting outside shouted "terrorist!"

Despite the general peacefulness of the demonstrations, police reported two officers had required treatment for injuries.

Opposition to the Iraq war, and Britain's role as the largest partner of the United States, has been strong and vocal in Britain. The largest protest, in February, drew about a million people.

Security, which has been tight for Bush's state visit, was intense on Thursday, with more than 5,000 officers on duty in London. Rows of yellow-jacketed officers lined the march route.

Protests during Bush's visit have been largely trouble-free. Police said about 50 people were arrested on charges that included theft, drunkenness and drug possession.

As marchers chanting "George Bush, terrorist" made their way through a business district, a few scuffled with three Bush supporters holding U.S. flags and a sign saying "support America." Police quickly intervened and hustled the three counter-demonstrators into a nearby building.

"I think it's a disgrace that these people are basically siding



Photo courtesy of Newscom

Many protesters in London wore costumes and held signs intended to ridicule President George Bush and U.S. policies. British police estimated 70,000 people attended the protests.

with Saddam Hussein and al-Qaida," said one of the three, Robert Temple of London. "Where were they when [former Romanian dictator Nicolae] Ceausescu came to town and why aren't they protesting against the people who blew up Turkey today?"

But some protesters said U.S.-British policy in Iraq was helping fuel terrorist attacks.

"It wouldn't have happened without Iraq. ... America is creating their own terrorists," said Ziggy Dlabal, a German sociolo-

gist who lives in London.

Protesters said they were uncomfortable with Blair's relationship with Bush. Some placards referred to Blair as Bush's "poodle."

The protests did not appear to faze the president.

"Freedom is beautiful," Bush said Thursday, adding he was happy to be in a country where people were allowed to speak their minds freely. "All I know is that people in Baghdad weren't allowed to do this until recent history."

What's Your Sleeping IQ?

Marisha Fortner

A test that may be more challenging than you think! Are you getting enough sleep? Does it take you more than 30 minutes to fall asleep at night? Do you wake up frequently or too early or have a hard time going back to sleep? When you awaken, do you feel groggy and lethargic? Do you feel drowsy during the day particularly during a monotonous situation? If you answered "yes" to any of the these questions you may have a sleep debt. A recent NSS "Sleep in America" poll found that 60% of American adults experience sleep problems.

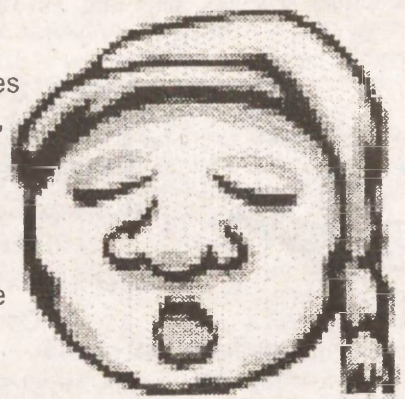
Sleep... it's as fundamental to our health and well being as food, water and air. Sleep deprivation impacts both quality of life and health. In the past 25 years we have added a month to our average work/commute time and in the past century we have reduced our average time asleep by 20 percent. Our bodies have not changed but our society has and we are paying the price. For example, when sleep deprived, we are less alert & irritable. Our productivity is sabotaged because our judgement and ability to concentrate decreases. Did you know that most car accidents occur between 2am-6am?

Feeling fully rested and energized constitutes a good night's sleep. In general, most healthy adults need an average of 8 hours a night but a more demanding day may require as many as 9 hours. So how do you know you're getting enough sleep? We have a **natural clock** that's regulated by an internal biological "clock" that runs on a cycle of about 24 hours. Some people are "owls" or more alert late in the day, others are "larks" or morning people — plan your activities accordingly with your own clock. Most people's clock is set to sleep at night, especially in the early morning hours between midnight and dawn. There is also a natural decline between 1-4pm, reserve this time for less critical activities i.e. checking e-mail, doing laundry, exercising or even taking a nap. A study at Harvard University showed that a 15-20 minute nap reverses information overload. It can also improve alertness and sharpen memory and ease the impact of lost sleep. But, a nap is just a short-term solution and not a substitute for a full night's sleep. Don't nap if you are having trouble falling asleep at night or staying asleep during the night.

What you do during the day may interfere with how well you sleep at night as well.

- Avoid caffeinated beverages for at least six hours before going to bed.
- Avoid alcohol for at least two hours before bedtime.
- Stress... considered to be the number one cause of short-term sleeping difficulties. Learn to manage and cope with stress.
- Eating too much before bed or being hungry can make it difficult to sleep. Keep your last meal light and enjoy a small snack before bedtime.
- Say good-bye to nicotine! Research suggests that it's linked to problems waking up and difficulty falling asleep.
- Exercise regularly, and if possible, in the late afternoon.
- Get up at the same time every day regardless of when you went to sleep & utilize a nap if tired.
- If taking medication, check the label for any sleep side effects.
- Your bed is for sleeping only! No more studying, reading or watching tv before bedtime!

How do I fix a sleep debt? On your next vacation go to bed when you feel tired (even if it's 9pm) and get up whenever you're ready with no alarm clock. Sleep until you are slept out. It may take a few days to get rid of the sleep debt you've accumulated. After you've accomplished this your body will tell you how much sleep you need on a regular basis. If you don't have a vacation coming up, then get up at the same time everyday, even on the weekends and vary the times you go to bed until you've discovered how much sleep is enough for you to feel restored and ready to face the day. Look for our quiz "Sleeping and Driving Don't Mix" in today's Observer. Send your answers to UBWell2@nd.edu by midnight Sunday, November 23 and you'll be entered to win one of three "Health Solutions for Sleep" kit. Don't forget to include your full name, campus phone number and address!



TCE

continued from page 1

to organize that information, and many professors feel the TCE in its current form is not the best way to do that.

Biology professor Martin Tenniswood is in support of the proposal.

"I don't really understand why anyone would be concerned about it being secretive," he said. Tenniswood said the main issue in the debate is how students and administration will use the published TCE results.

The University of Ottawa, where Tenniswood previously taught, has published their equivalent of the TCE for over 50 years. He said the institution even went as far as to post the five highest and lowest evaluations in each department. Those professors posted in the lowest category never allowed themselves to show up there more than once, said Tenniswood.

Clive Neal, associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences, said published TCE's would have two effects: "One, it allows students to avoid a hard class. On the other hand, it holds professors more accountable."

Ava Preacher, assistant dean for the College of Arts and Letters, sat on the Academic Council in the mid-1990s when a similar proposal was written by Student Government. "There is more predilection this time than there was [in the mid-90s] in trying to find a way to get information to students," said Preacher.

Preacher said that for the proposal to be successful, students will need to find a way to distill the TCE's into a digestible format. "It's going to mean a lot of work on the students' part and

on the faculty's part," she said. Preacher noted that publication of such reports at other schools, like Harvard, have been organized by students.

"There is a reasonable hesitation in publishing the TCE's in their present form," she said. "The data in present form can be subjective."

Preacher added that the issue of confidentiality is at the heart of the debate because faculty jobs partially depend on the results of TCE's. "This is a really difficult, complicated issue."

Currently, the TCE results are compiled by the University's Office of Institutional Research and are then given to respective professors, deans, and department chairs. Since students are not allowed to see the compiled results of the TCE's, they must turn to other media for information about professors. Traditional word of mouth is one useful method and another is surfing the Internet. Students can obtain a rudimentary evaluation of some professors through the student-run website NDtoday.com, but the site's professor evaluations are not as comprehensive as the TCE and are not available for all professors.

Jeremy Staley, chairperson of the Academic Committee in the Office of the Student Body President, and the person in charge of the proposal, sees the popularity of NDtoday.com as an indication of the need for students to know about a professor before jumping into a class. He also thinks the University could do better.

"The University could provide something much more complete that could better serve students," he said.

In regard to faculty concerns about TCE publication, Staley believes they have greatly underestimated the quality of students and professors at

Notre Dame.

"The typical student attracted to this university seeks an education of a caliber and comprehensiveness far beyond what any grade-point-average could provide. Instructors who would resort to grade inflation in hopes of higher TCE evaluations would be easily identifiable by administrators," said Staley in his proposal draft for TCE publication.

If the proposal is approved, Student Government plans to publish the TCE results on Irishlink so they would only be available to members of the Notre Dame community. Staley said some schools, such as Brown and Northwestern, publish their teacher evaluations on the Internet for anyone to see.

In addition to the numerical results of the regular TCE questions, the published results will include a space for professors to write any information about themselves that they feel students should know. This could include information about their teaching style, requirements for their courses, or possibly why their TCE's were particularly good or bad and how they will respond to those evaluations.

By allowing professors an opportunity to tell students about themselves, Staley hopes to reassure faculty that TCE publication is a means for producing good matches between students and professors, not GPA boosting. If some professors are still against the idea of TCE publication, Staley said they would be allowed to opt out of the process.

If nothing else, Staley said he is satisfied with the dialogue motivated by the proposal.

"It's healthy for the University to have this discussion," he said.

Contact Kevin Allen at kallen@nd.edu

Proposal

continued from page 1

comes.

"We believe we have our act together," said Staley. "Since mid-September we've been waiting for these committees to form so we can present our proposal to them."

Staley has studied the TCE process and believes that by publishing them the University will help students create their own education.

"This has the chance to impact every student on campus," Staley said. "It's a big issue because students will be in a little more control over their education."

Staley said he and other Student Government members have also researched TCE publication at other "Top 20" universities.

"This preliminary research can act as a starting block for the Academic Council to further investigate," said Staley. Duke University is one "Top 20" university that has recently begun publishing their teacher evaluations, so Staley believes that may be a good example for Notre Dame to follow.

"Of the [Top] 20, we're sure there are three schools that

do not make that information available to students — Notre Dame is one of those three," said Staley. "The majority of our peers are doing this; why can't Notre Dame do the same thing?"

In mid-September, the Student Government committee began the process of getting TCE's published by presenting their proposal to the University's Academic Council, which is chaired by University President Father Edward Malloy and includes members of the administration, faculty and four

"This preliminary research can act as a starting block for the Academic Council to further investigate."

Jeremy Staley
Academic Division
chair

"The Administration is not blatantly opposed."

Jeremy Staley
Academic Division
chair

students. Staley hopes the proposal will be approved by the end of spring semester at the latest. Ideally, he hopes it will take no more than a couple months. One possibility that could lengthen the process is that faculty are discussing the prospect of overhauling the TCE, which has been used at Notre Dame for over 20 years.

Staley is interested to see who will side with whom, as students, faculty and administration continue to discuss the proposal.

"The Administration is not blatantly opposed," Staley said.

Contact Kevin Allen at kallen@nd.edu



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International Education Week

On the occasion of International Education Week (November 17-21, 2003), the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the Office of International Studies salute our students in languages and literatures, our participants in international study programs, and all of our applicants for international fellowships.

"We are all students of the world we live in, and today, our world is more interdependent than ever before. The challenges we face in areas such as security, democratic development, economics, and health cannot be addressed by any country acting alone. International education — learning about other cultures and languages through study, living overseas, and interacting with people of other countries — promotes the free exchange of ideas, allows us to seek joint solutions to problems, and helps create lasting partnerships to meet our shared concerns." Secretary of State Colin L. Powell.

"Since the inception of International Education Week in November 2000, Americans have experienced several world events that should leave us with little doubt that we are living in an interconnected world. The need for understanding other cultures, languages, and global issues has become increasingly more significant. We should do our very best to give our students the skills they need to be successful global citizens." Secretary of Education Rod Paige.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Chevron workers held hostage

LAGOS, Nigeria — Ethnic militants reportedly armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades were holding 14 ChevronTexaco oil workers hostage aboard two ocean platforms off southeastern Nigeria, company officials said Thursday.

Four other workers were released by their captors late Wednesday, company spokesman Deji Haastrup said. All the captives were Nigerian nationals.

The militants, members of an ethnic Ijaw militant group from the Foropa municipality of southeastern Bayelsa state, used speedboats to capture ChevronTexaco's Middleton and Pennington oil platforms early Wednesday.

Violence continues in Chechnya

VLADIKAVKAZ, Russia — Rebel attacks and land-mine blasts in Chechnya have killed four Russian soldiers, two Chechen policemen, and wounded 17 people in the past 24 hours, an official in the region's Moscow-backed administration said Thursday.

Two girls, aged 14 and 15, were wounded when an explosive went off along the road in Makhkety in the southern Vedeno region, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Interfax-Military News Agency reported the girls were going home from school when a radio-controlled land mine exploded, lashing them with shrapnel and stones. Their condition was not immediately available.

NATIONAL NEWS

Translator pleads innocent

WORCESTER, Mass. — A former Guantanamo Bay translator arrested with classified documents in his luggage pleaded innocent Thursday in a brief appearance in federal court.

Ahmed Fathy Mehalba, who has been in federal custody since his arrest Sept. 29 at Logan International Airport, was charged in a Nov. 12 indictment with gathering, transmitting or losing defense information and making false statements.

Mehalba, 31, was arrested as he arrived at Logan after visiting his native Egypt. The government alleges he lied to federal investigators when he told them he was not carrying any government documents from Guantanamo Bay. Customs agents found 132 compact discs in his luggage, including one that contained hundreds of classified documents labeled "SECRET," authorities said.

Feds charge computer hackers

WASHINGTON — Federal prosecutors have charged more than 125 suspected computer hackers, identity thieves and other cyberspace scammers in a nationwide crackdown on Internet crime, law enforcement officials said Thursday.

Those facing charges include run-of-the-mill counterfeiter and software pirates, as well as a man who illegally tried to sell Congressional Medals of Honor online and another man who hijacked the Web site of the al-Jazeera Arabic language news network to display a patriotic U.S. message.

LOCAL NEWS

Edwards criticizes Bush's policies

INDIANAPOLIS — Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards, on a fund-raising stop in Indiana, said Thursday that President Bush's policies in Iraq are a failure.

The North Carolina senator said the president had alienated other nations by taking unilateral military action in the invasion of Iraq.

"We have to convince both NATO and the United Nations that America is willing to let go of the reigns of power," Edwards said.

"If we lead and bring coalitions together, it makes us more effective in addressing the world's problems."

TURKEY

Blasts kill 27 in nation's capital

Attacks are worst in muslim country's history, Bush vows to stay on course

Associated Press

ISTANBUL — Suspected al-Qaida suicide bombers blew up trucks packed with explosives at the British consulate and a London-based bank Thursday, killing at least 27 people and wounding nearly 450. The twin attacks coincided with President Bush's state visit to Britain.

The blasts, just minutes apart, were the worst terrorist bombings in this Muslim nation's history, and marked the second attacks in Turkey to be blamed on al-Qaida this week. On Saturday, bombers struck two Istanbul synagogues, killing 23 people.

Turkey's security forces were put on highest alert, and the army briefly deployed soldiers in the streets. Arab and other world leaders were swift to condemn the bombings in Turkey, NATO's only Muslim member and a close ally of the United States and Israel.

Among Thursday's dead were Consul-General Roger Short, Britain's top diplomat in Istanbul, and British diplomatic staff member Lisa Hallworth. Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler said two other of the 16 people killed at the consulate were British, and that the death toll was likely to rise.

"Once again we are reminded of the evil these terrorists pose to people everywhere and to our way of life," Prime Minister Tony Blair said in London, with President Bush by his side. "There must be no holding back, no compromise, no hesitation in confronting this menace."

Bush said the bombing showed "utter contempt for innocent life."

"The terrorists hope to intimidate, they hope to demoralize. They are not going to succeed," the



Agence France Presse

Injured people are evacuated from the HSBC bank building after it was rocked by a bomb attack Thursday in Istanbul. British Consul-General Roger Short was among the dead on the deadliest day of terror in Turkey's history.

president said.

U.S. and Turkish officials said the bombings bore the marks of an al-Qaida operation, with near-simultaneous timing and the use of fertilizer-based explosives.

The first pickup truck exploded outside the headquarters of HSBC, the world's second-largest bank, shearing off the white facade of the 18-story building and exposing the gray concrete beneath. Windows were blown out and scraps of white ceiling material dangled, caught on torn electrical wires swaying in the breeze.

About 10 minutes later, a second truck crashed through the gate of the British consulate five miles away in Beyoglu, a historic district popular with tourists. The vehicle looked like a food delivery truck with the explosives in large metal food containers, the Anatolia news agency reported.

The blast destroyed annexes to the main building and tore apart a wall surrounding the consulate's garden. Wounded people covered in dust and blood staggered away from the area. Two women stood outside the consulate

crying and shouting for their relatives.

Shattered glass littered the area.

"Cars were flying, there was blood everywhere," said Mehmet Dag, a delivery man who was just 100 yards from the consulate.

The explosion outside the bank was so strong it scattered body parts and bloodied pieces of charred metal across a four-line highway in front of the building and into a cemetery. A policeman went into the cemetery to collect body parts, including a charred, severed leg that he put inside a plastic bag.

Free trade protesters clash with police

Associated Press

MIAMI — Police in riot gear fired rubber bullets and tear gas and used batons, plastic shields, concussion grenades and stun guns in clashes Thursday with hundreds of demonstrators protesting talks aimed at creating a hemisphere-wide free-trade zone.

At least 36 demonstrators were arrested on charges including aggravated assault, unlawful assembly, resisting arrest, trespassing and burglary.

Police said two officers suffered minor injuries. At least three demonstrators were treated at a hospital for minor injuries.

The clashes took place before and after a march by 8,000 to 10,000

union members.

Officials from 34 nations are taking part in the Free Trade Area of the Americas talks in Miami this week. The goal is to reduce or eliminate trade barriers everywhere in the Western Hemisphere except Cuba.

Before the march, at least 1,000 protesters — many wearing bandanas across their faces, surgical masks and blue batting helmets — approached lines of police blocking downtown streets. Others carried gas masks and tried to pull down security fences with large hooks.

The officers used their batons mostly to push back the protesters but occasionally used them to strike the demonstrators.

After the march, demonstrators set small trash fires in the streets, pushed

up against police lines and hurled water bottles at officers. Police responded with tear gas and rubber bullets.

The protesters threw up barricades of wooden boards, concrete parking blocks, trash bins and other materials.

Police Chief John Timoney said the "rough start" to the day's protests came because police were trying to clear demonstrators who did not have permits to be in the streets.

The clashes delayed for more than an hour the march organized by the nation's major unions, which are also opposed to the proposed trade pact.

The demonstrators say it would take thousands of American jobs to other countries, exploit cheap labor and drain natural resources.

Housing

continued from page 1

on campus but have additional space and freedom. College officials have not yet decided whether the apartments will be governed by the same policies as the residence halls.

Because the College opted to provide the on campus apartment opportunity to its seniors, Saint Mary's will keep at least one more senior on campus. Junior Melissa Montoya said she hopes to live in the new apartments, and would definitely consider moving off campus otherwise.

"We want the experience of living off campus," she said.

Montoya said she does not hope to see the same residence hall policies put in place for the new apartments.

"It's ridiculous to have pari-etals for seniors," she said. "If they want us to act like adults they should treat us as such."

If Notre Dame chose to provide seniors with other on campus housing options besides the residence halls, several students said they would highly consider staying on campus.

"We loved the dorm, but we'd had enough," said Notre Dame senior Megan Horner, who lives at Turtle Creek.

Both Horner and Koesterer

said they might have considered such an option if any on campus apartments were free from Residence Life policies.

In dorms with limited amounts of singles such as Stanford, Lewis and Keenan, students may choose to move off campus to find increased space.

"Some students said if they weren't going to get a single they would be moving off campus," said Mark Thesing, rector of Keenan Hall, which has only four singles.

Thesing said that having seniors, in addition to the resident assistants, choose to stay in Keenan was important for the atmosphere of the dorm.

"I think seniors add a great deal to the life of the dorm," he said.

Students in dorms with more variety in room types said they might be more likely to stay on campus.

"Last year I was in a quint," said junior Rebecca Tapp, who plans to stay on campus her senior year. "We had a really large common room."

Kachmarik said Notre Dame has made some changes to

room configurations to allow students more space. In Farley and Cavanaugh, two triples were converted into doubles. Kachmarik hopes to see more changes, but is faced with a severe housing crunch.

"In order for us to do that, we have to reduce occupancy at a time when demand has never been higher," he said.

Long term, Kachmarik said he believes the University will need to build more dorms to accommodate the numbers of students who want to live on campus.

According to the University's strategic plan Web site, Notre Dame intends to implement a 10 percent bed reduction, build four new residence facilities and consider the possibility of alternative types of senior housing, including co-ed housing, within the next 10 years.

Notre Dame requires all freshmen to live on campus, while students who transfer to Notre Dame or return from a leave of absence are placed on a waiting list.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

"Some students said if they weren't going to get a single they would be moving off campus"

**Mark Thesing
Keenan rector**

Allure

continued from page 1

Leung said.

Troupe ND and the First Class Steppers will also perform on Saturday evening.

"Our mission is to spread diversity on campus. You don't have to be Asian; you just have to love it," Leung said.

The show will include fan dance and modern Korean pop music performed by the Korean Student Association, a traditional dance by the India/Pakistan Association, and performances from the Filipino-American Student Association, the Hawaii and Guam Student Association, the Japan Club and the Vietnamese Student Association.

The Chinese Culture Society plans to perform, and the Asian International Society will retell a famous Chinese fairytale. "This is a new element to the show," Leung said. "We've never done storytelling. [The story is] told in a very enjoyable, creative way and will be enjoyable to the audience."

The show will be told in eight lines. Six are themed around the cities of Hong Kong, Saigon, Manila, Seoul, Bombay and Tokyo. The

show begins in Los Angeles and ends in New York.

Asian Allure has been going on since the mid-1990s, consistently selling out the Washington Hall theatre. This year, the group moved off-campus to the Century Center, which seats 718.

Although Leung expressed concerns that moving the show off-campus would deter some potential audience members, the seven-dollar tickets sold out on Tuesday.

"The show is mainly geared to the Notre Dame community," said Leung, "but we welcome people from South Bend and Michiana. We have people from other colleges coming, such as the University of Michigan and Purdue."

AAA secured the venue of the show and invited clubs around campus to perform said Leung.

"AAA is not exclusive to Asians," Leung said. "We welcome members of all ethnicities and backgrounds and have members who aren't Asian. We're having fun and spreading awareness of Asian culture. This has been our mission statement from the conception of the club."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

"Sleeping and Driving Don't Mix"

Quiz

Answer True or False

1. Coffee overcomes the effects of drowsiness while driving.
2. I can tell when I'm falling asleep.
3. I'm a safe driver so it doesn't matter if I'm sleepy.
4. I can't take naps.
5. I get plenty of sleep.
6. Being sleepy makes you misperceive things.
7. Young people need less sleep.



Information provided by the Sleep Management Foundation

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	9,619.42	-71.04
Up: 1,259	Same: 179	Down: 2,005
Composite Volume: 1,281,735,040		
AMEX	1,067.11	-1.65
NASDAQ	1,881.92	-17.73
NYSE	5,924.78	-42.35
S&P 500	1,033.65	-8.79
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	9,796.09	-69.61
FTSE 100(London)	4,308.00	-19.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.99	-0.25	25.10
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-2.12	-0.69	31.83
JDS UNIPHASE (JDSU)	-1.80	-0.06	3.28
SIRIUS SAT RADIO (SIRI)	-4.04	-0.09	2.02
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-0.50	-0.11	21.94

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-1.20	-0.61	50.19
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.91	-0.81	41.54
5-YEAR NOTE	-2.37	-0.76	31.33
3-MONTH BILL	-0.54	-0.05	9.22

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.21	31.86
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-1.20	393.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.20	85.775

Exchange Rates	
YEN	109.1
EURO	0.8408
POUND	0.5872
CANADIAN \$	1.304

IN BRIEF

Mutual fund faces fraud charges

NEW YORK — The founders of the Pilgrim Baxter mutual fund family were charged with civil fraud Thursday for allegedly making millions of dollars for themselves and friends in an improper trading scheme that hurt other fund shareholders.

Gary Pilgrim and Howard Baxter were accused by the Securities and Exchange Commission and New York's attorney general of defrauding investors by allowing selected customers to make in-and-out trades prohibited by fund policy.

The charges mark the first time that mutual fund leadership has been directly charged in a trading scandal that has rapidly spread across the \$7 trillion industry. Previously, regulators had taken action against two former Putnam Investments portfolio managers, as well as the firm, but Putnam's top executives were not directly accused.

Authorities said it appears Gary Pilgrim benefited the most financially from the trades, while Baxter broke the law by allowing them. One trading arrangement netted more than \$13 million in profits, including \$3.9 million for Pilgrim, according to the SEC complaint.

Employees will receive \$100K

INDIANAPOLIS — Employees of Golden Rule Financial Corp. are expected to receive an average of about \$100,000 from the family-owned company's sale to UnitedHealth Group.

The windfall is the result of an employee stock ownership plan Golden Rule started in 2001 to replace a profit-sharing plan and supplement a 401(k) retirement plan. The Indianapolis Star reported in a story Thursday.

Golden Rule created a trust that borrowed money to buy stock in the privately held company, and gave stock to employees as the loan was paid down. When UnitedHealth closed on the \$500 million cash acquisition Nov. 13, the trust was able to pay off the \$55 million loan and hand out the remaining stock.

The stock was valued at \$71 a share in a December 2002 appraisal and UnitedHealth paid \$133 a share, said Patrick Carr, Golden Rule's chief financial officer.

Stocks drop following attacks

Blasts in Turkey make traders nervous, employment numbers remain strong

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street retreated Thursday as a wave of terrorist attacks continued in Turkey with the bombings of HSBC bank and the British consulate. Upbeat reports on employment and the economy helped limit the market's losses.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell in early trading and then rose as much as 35 points before pulling back again late in the day. Though the economy seems to be improving, analysts say renewed political uncertainty could keep indecisive investors from making major commitments.

"Investors are very nervous about continued terrorist activity, but at the same time, they are showing more confidence in the economy and the equity market," said Peter Dunay, chief market strategist at Wall Street Access. "So we have a little battle of the pros and cons here."

The Dow closed down 71.04, or 0.7 percent, at 9,619.42, having declined in four of the previous five sessions.

The broader market also finished lower. The Nasdaq composite index fell 17.73, or 0.9 percent, to 1,881.92. The Standard & Poor's 500 index declined 8.79, or 0.8 percent, to 1,033.65.

In Turkey, two truck bombs exploded outside London-based HSBC and the British consulate, killing at least 25 people and wounding nearly 400. The explosions, which came during President Bush's trip to Britain, were blamed on the al-Qaida terrorist network.

Until this week, terrorism had receded as a factor in stock trading, but the bombings of two synagogues in Turkey over the weekend and Thursday's attacks reminded markets around the world of the danger that terrorist organiza-



Traders and specialists work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday. Stocks dipped after attacks in Turkey raised security concerns.

tions still pose.

Perhaps adding to the uneasiness on Wall Street was the brief evacuation of the White House after birds or possibly atmosphere disturbances triggered a false radar reading, which initially was thought to be an unauthorized plane flying near the White House.

But the economic news lent support to the market, and enabled the major indexes to move briefly into positive ground.

The Labor Department reported that new jobless claims fell by a seasonally adjusted 15,000 to 355,000. The reading, which beat economists' estimates, marked the seventh straight week

that claims have been below the 400,000 level that is associated with a weak job market.

And the Conference Board said its Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the widely watched economic forecasting gauge, increased 0.4 percent to 113.6 last month compared to a flat reading in September. Analysts were expecting a more modest 0.2 percent rise.

"It's all about the unrest as far as the terrorism," said Todd Clark, head of listed equity trading at Wells Fargo Securities. "It's given people the excuse to stay away."

He added that many investors, nervous that stock valuations might be

a bit high after several months of advances, are being cautious to make sure they can end the year with gains.

"The volume has crept to a standstill," Clark said. "We need to see some kind of a change in terms of macroeconomic numbers or earnings guidance to get people back into the game here."

Schering-Plough Corp. fell 72 cents to \$15.28 after the drug company said its Polish subsidiary is being investigated by federal regulators.

Hewlett-Packard Co. declined 75 cents to \$21.59 even though the computer company posted a doubling of quarterly profits that beat analysts' expectations.

Cell phone companies utilize gimmicks

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Don't leave! Pick me! Cell phone companies are blanketing the market with price cuts, extra minutes, premium services and sleek handsets to lure customers from rivals and make sure their own subscribers don't bolt come Monday.

That is when new federal rules will begin that allow legions of dissatisfied customers and bargain-hunters to switch wireless companies without losing their cell numbers.

Wireless phone companies tried hard to block the rule from taking effect, but are trying to make the

best of it now that it is here, baiting customers with some of the most generous deals ever.

They are offering more minutes and cheaper rates, camera phones and other cutting-edge handsets, as well as enhanced features such as faster Internet connections and walkie-talkie services.

T-Mobile, for example, expanded its free weekend calling feature to include all day Friday, the busiest calling day of the week.

Sprint and Cingular have taken a similar tack, offering to roll back the start time for off-peak calling from 9 p.m. to 7 p.m. The option costs \$5 a month at Sprint, and \$7 at Cingular, which is also offering

500 extra minutes for customers to use if they exceed their monthly allotment.

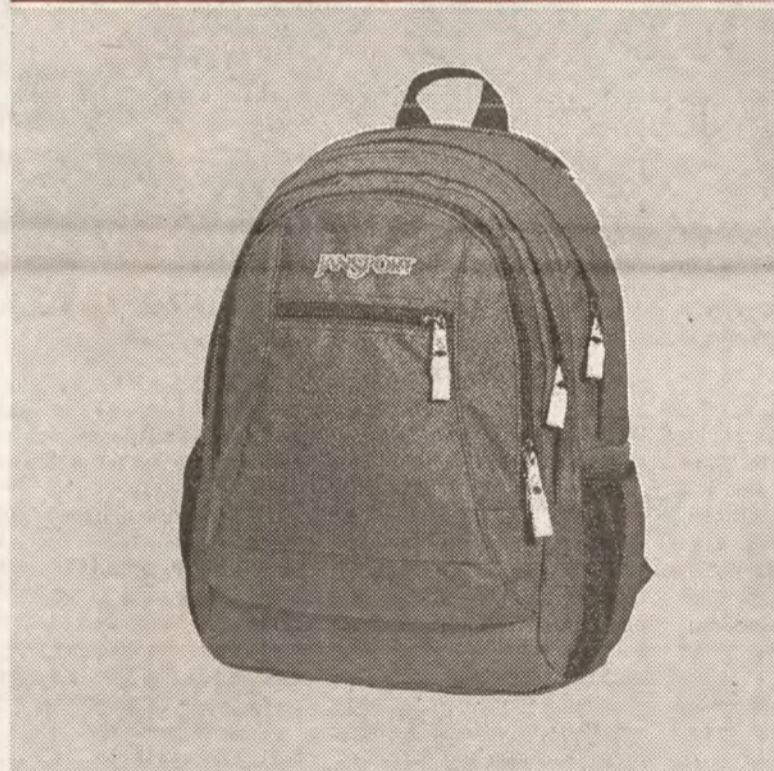
This week, AT&T Wireless unveiled major upgrades in speed and features for its wireless data services. Next, the company plans to cut the charges for calls above a subscriber's monthly allowance to 8 or 9 cents per minute, down from 25 to 40 cents. Previously, it also halved the charge for extra phones on an account to \$9.99 a month.

Also this week, Sprint launched an aggressively priced walkie-talkie service, an area long dominated by Nextel, which along with Verizon Wireless has generally stood on the sidelines of the marketing frenzy.

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Congress sends Syria legislation to President

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress passed legislation Thursday to impose economic penalties against Syria, reflecting broad agreement among lawmakers that Syria has been a detriment to the fight against terrorism in the Middle East and Iraq.

President Bush is expected to sign the bill even though he is not enthusiastic about such restraints on his foreign policy. The measure requires the president to act if Syria does not make significant steps to reverse its tolerance and support of anti-American forces.

The House voted 408-8 in favor of a Senate-amended version of the legislation that, at the urging of the White House, gives the president greater leeway to waive the punishment on the basis of national security.

"The Syrian regime has the blood of Americans on their hands," said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla. Administration officials agree, she said, that "Syria is on the wrong side of history and now it is time for it to suffer the consequences."

Syria long has been on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism, along with North Korea, Sudan, Cuba, Iran and Libya. But Syria is the only country on that list to have full diplomatic relations with the United States.

Awarding normal relations to Syria never made any sense, said Rep. Eliot Engel, D-N.Y., a

lead sponsor of the bill. Congress is saying to Syria in the legislation that "the time is up ... we are not coddling you any more," Engel said.

U.S. officials acknowledge that Syria, at Washington's prodding, has taken steps to prevent anti-American terrorists and weapons from crossing its border with Iraq. But lawmakers said the Damascus government has fallen short in numerous other areas.

The legislation notes that Syria has provided a safe haven for anti-Israel terrorist groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad and is accused of pursuing the development and production of biological and chemical weapons.

The bill states that Syria must end its support of terrorists, terminate its 27-year military presence in Lebanon, stop efforts to obtain or produce weapons of mass destruction and long-range ballistic missiles and interdict terrorists and weapons from entering Iraq.

If Syria fails to meet those conditions, the president must ban sales of dual-use items, which can have both civilian and military applications.

He also must impose at least two out of a list of six possible penalties: a ban on exports to Syria, prohibition of U.S. businesses' operating in Syria, restrictions on Syrian diplomats in the United States, limits on Syrian airline flights in the United States, reduction of diplomatic contacts or a freeze on Syrian assets in the United States.

Sniper jury sees tapes, car

Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH — Jurors deciding the fate of sniper John Allen Muhammad saw a softer side of the convicted murderer Thursday, watching a home movie in which he plays with his children and encourages them to take their first steps. But prosecutors said "that person no longer exists."

The jury was to begin deliberating Friday on whether Muhammad should live or die for masterminding the Washington-area sniper spree last year. Muhammad was convicted Monday of two murder counts related to the wave of killings that left 10 people dead and three wounded.

The 42-year-old Army veteran appeared glum as he watched the five-minute video Thursday, alternately wearing a frown and hanging his head.

"You can walk. Now go ahead and walk to daddy," he says on the tape as one of his daughters takes her first steps. In another clip, Muhammad says to the girl, "Let me see the teeth" and the girl flashes two baby teeth and a big smile.

But prosecutors said during closing arguments in the trial's penalty phase that evidence about Muhammad once being a good family man is irrelevant stacked against the terror of last year's killing spree.

"That person no longer exists. ... That person was murdered by this individual just as viciously and just as completely as everybody else," Willett said, pointing to Muhammad. "This is not a question of whether there once was a good father, whether there once was a good husband."

The tape was played immediately after Muhammad's sister, Aurolyn Williams, described the difficult circumstances of their early childhood. Their mother died of breast cancer when Muhammad was 3 and was in constant grief because they could not afford pain medication for her.

"She'd lay there and cry and moan. John would sleep in bed with my mom," Williams said. "He loved his mom. That was our backbone. That was all we had. He was like a cat with kittens."

Sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo, 18, is on trial separately in nearby Chesapeake. His attorneys do not dispute that he took part in the sniper attacks, but contend he was brainwashed by Muhammad and is innocent by reason of insanity.

At his trial, 14-year-old Iran Brown testified Thursday that he thought he was going to die when he was hit by a bullet as he arrived at Tasker Middle School in Bowie, Md., on Oct. 7, 2002. Brown, who was 13 at the time, was the only child shot during the spree.

"My aunt drove me to school. I got out of the car, and I got shot," Brown said, speaking in an emotionless monotone.

"I heard a big bang and then I fell to the ground. Then I felt a burn," said Brown.

"I thought I was going to die," he added.

In other testimony, a guard at a Baltimore prison where

Malvo was taken after he was arrested testified that the teenager told him he shot Linda Franklin "because she was standing there, lazy."

"He said he blew her head off," Joseph Stracke said. Malvo is being tried for the Oct. 14, 2002, shooting of Franklin outside a Home Depot in Fairfax.

Stracke also said that Malvo told him he shot Brown to make then-Montgomery County, Md. police Chief Charles Moose upset.

Malvo said the day Brown was shot, he initially intended to shoot a busload of children but the buses pulled in the wrong way at the school, Stracke said.

Stracke also said Malvo told him that Muhammad would give him the go-

ahead on a walkie-talkie before a shot. Malvo said at one time he was going to shoot a pregnant woman in a cemetery in Baltimore but that Muhammad called it off because there was a police helicopter overhead, Stracke said.

Malvo was smiling, proud and polite and spoke very well but "showed no remorse," Stracke said.

Also Thursday, the Malvo jury took a field trip to a jail near the courthouse to look at the 1990 Chevrolet Caprice that Muhammad and Malvo are believed to have been driving during the shootings.

Prosecutors say the car was used as a killing platform, with a back seat that lifted up to allow access to the trunk.

"I fell to the ground ... I thought I was going to die."

**Iran Brown
sniper shooting victim**



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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Friday, November 21, 2003

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Andrew Soukup.

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Megan O'Neil	Matt Lozar
Viewpoint	Joe Hettler
Nicole Clery	Kevin O'Neil
Illustrator	Scene
Vanessa Saenz	Sarah Vabulas

Support women's Bouts

For over 70 years, Notre Dame's Bengal Bouts have represented one of the most unique and admirable charity events in the country and one of the most popular exhibitions at the University.

Bengal Bouts started in 1931 and raises money for the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh. Amateur student boxers compete against each other in different weight classes for a chance to win a boxing title. But not until 1997 were women allowed to train with the men.

Last year, the women were able to host exhibition matches for the first time, although the matches were not scored.

This year, women's boxing separated completely from men's and Thursday, the club culminated eight weeks of training when 38 women boxed in 19 scored exhibition matches that raised money for a new charity.

Officials of Bengals Bouts, RecSports and the members of the men's women's boxing club should be commended for making the women's part of Bengal Bouts a separate function this year. Not only does it give more exposure to the women boxers, it also continues a great tradition of charity work for Notre Dame students as the women will be boxing for a girls sports club in Honduras.

Women have been working in the Bengal Bouts training for nearly a decade and it is only appropriate that they finally have their own charity match. In past years the male competitors have overshadowed the women, but, because of the hard work of the presidents of the club, the women finally received the publicity they deserve as over 400 people watched last night's fights.

Those involved with the event this year should help the women's club continue the development of their own Bengal Bouts in the future. Next year, women should be allowed to contend in matches similar to the men's competition— with weight classes, scored rounds and a tournament-style format, including a winner for each class. That is the natural next step and Bengal Bouts officials, RecSports and presidents of the men's and women's club should make that a reality next year.

Notre Dame has a strong tradition of hosting unique events on its campus — including interhall football, Bookstore Basketball and Bengal Bouts. By having the women's club become separate from the men's, the University is helping make a great tradition that much better.

The Observer Editorial

Remembering President Kennedy's assassination

In the early afternoon of a sunny November Friday, immediately following a typical school lunch featuring tuna boats, I sat in the third seat from the front along the row of windows in my seventh grade classroom. I liked that seat where I could glare out at the railroad tracks beyond the parking lot and the dairy farm on the other side of those tracks. I eagerly awaited for freight trains to roar by so that classes would stop because the noise was deafening. It was a Friday like so many before. It was Nov. 22, 1963.

My seat was located exactly between two large windows. A photograph of President John F. Kennedy hung on the wall between those two windows and directly above my head. I had never thought twice about the president's official portrait for it hung in so many locations in public buildings and throughout Catholic homes. But my teacher in this public junior high school was a Catholic and proud that a Catholic had finally been elected to the highest office in the land.

When Kennedy ran against Richard Nixon in 1960, I was attending the fourth grade. I knew little about politics, but my parents were adamant in their support of Kennedy. My best friend supported Nixon because his parents, both Protestants, favored Nixon. To them, the Catholic Kennedy was as undesirable in office as a Jew or a "Negro," the term they used to identify African Americans in those days.

Kennedy's election was a milestone in American society. The refreshing young family with their infant children occupying the White House contrasted with the aged

Eisenhower couple during the laid back 1950s. John and Jacqueline Kennedy gave hope to the nation, made us feel young and vibrant again in the early 1960s. They brought style and glamour to the White House. They were American role models to emulate who gave us a sense of national pride.

That pride in the president drove my father to drag me to see President Kennedy campaign. On a Saturday in October of 1962, during the height of the Cuban missile crisis which only the White House knew at the time, Kennedy came to the Pittsburgh area to campaign for Democrats running for governor and U.S. Senate. I stood three feet from Kennedy as he sat on the trunk of a convertible during the motorcade. So a year later I was shocked for the first time in my life when I heard of Kennedy's assassination in my classroom.

While I sat wishing I was already in my next period class, my English teacher barged into the room and whispered to my teacher. She, in turn, then shouted as the two ran from the room, "The president and governor of Texas have been shot."

I sat there trying to figure out who was the president of Texas. I had never heard of a president of Texas. I concluded that there was no president of Texas. It never occurred to me that she meant President Kennedy and the governor of Texas.

Both teachers returned with a radio which frantically blurted that President Kennedy had been shot but could not report on his condition. When the class heard of the shooting, my friend, Bruce Engel, who sat across from me in the second row from the windows, looked up at the president's photograph above me and joked, "Oh, you went and got shot." At the time, I could have slapped him.

Other teachers entered our room and

huddled around the small radio. We students sat quietly as we strained to hear the reports. It was only ten minutes later when I heard, "It's official. The President of the United States is dead."

My English teacher ran from the room in tears. The other teachers slowly left in silence. When the bell rang to change classes, I headed down the hall for my English class. Nobody spoke in the hallway. It was like a walk through the Twilight Zone. Students walked in a daze without shouting, without laughter, without poking at each other. Only the shuffling of feet and the creaking of the old wooden hallway floor could be heard.

For me, only once since that Friday 40 years ago has silence so absolutely dominated the day, and that was after the Sept. 11 attacks when federal workers walked from downtown Washington past my home. Before those attacks, the two moments in American history that we marked our whereabouts were the Pearl Harbor attack and Kennedy's assassination. Everyone alive on those days remembers exactly where they were and what they were doing when the news arrived.

Today I am much older than I was on that Friday in junior high school. Our nation is older as well, but not as much in comparison to any individual. And while I continued through high school and Notre Dame and beyond as a young man, I and my fellow Americans lost our youth on Friday, Nov. 22, 1963.

Gary Caruso served as a public and legislative affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hotline@aol.com.

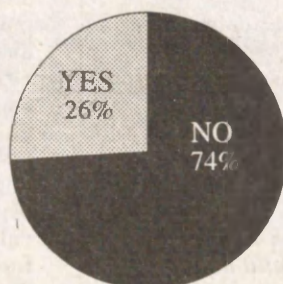
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Gary Caruso

Capitol
Comments

OBSERVER POLL

Should Notre Dame football join a conference or remain independent?



*Poll is based on 345 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Life is short, but truth works far and lives long; let us speak the truth."

Arthur Schopenhauer
German philosopher

Bush inspires mass group therapy

I had the distinct privilege of attending several of the organized protests across London against the visit of President George W. Bush this week. Media projections from both American and British news sources made me expect near-riotous conditions from the overwhelming opposition to Bush's visit.

Bill Rinner

A Voice of Reason

Instead, I witnessed a carnival of protesters participating in an act of self-indulgence.

The right to protest and demonstrate is one of the most crucial liberties ensured by Western democracies, and the events preceding President Bush's visit inspired me to attend the protest to gain a better understanding of European opposition to the leader of the free world. In a jam packed theater at the London School of Economics, I listened to George Galloway, the leading anti-war Member of Parliament, mock the president during a speech to the Stop the War Coalition, then continue to state, "I cannot condemn suicide bombers in Iraq attempting to rid their country of the foreign invaders." My stomach turned as I considered the thousands of Americans placing their lives on the line for their country whether they agree with the president or not, yet I vowed not to be discouraged.

Posters around school advertised a "Stop Bush" party in the Underground Bar — one pound for a pint! I never imagined the limitless social opportunities that existed for those who despise the president before I arrived in London, and the week's events were no exception. The highlight of the party was a heated debate between two individuals who could not decide if Bush was more of a terrorist or a war criminal. He was finally deemed a terrorist because the title of war criminal is more apt for a leader who is democratically elected, of course.

Finally, Bush arrived on Tuesday, and the streets were abuzz with general fervor as the historic three day visit commenced. I ventured out with my head low toward the protesting hot spots, not knowing what to expect. After approaching the crowd with caution, my apprehension allayed when I beheld the scene.

Many of the trademarks of a normal protest were present, from the upside down American flags to the Bush effigies. The most elaborate was a Bush doll gripping a missile in one hand and a flag in the other, complete with a sign reading "Smart bomb for a stupid president."

A bit confused by the seemingly overstated signs that compared Bush to Hitler or painted Cheney with oil

overflowing from his mouth, I politely asked the protesters their humble opinion of my president. Their responses covered a variety of issues, and most of which were as short-sighted and irrational as their signs were untruthful.

When one man with a "No Blood for Oil" shirt voiced his anger against Bush for failing to ratify the Kyoto treaty, I couldn't help but explain how President Clinton put off ratifying it during his term, and Al Gore, author of "Earth in the Balance," probably would not have signed the treaty himself had he won the 2000 election. Before I could continue and explain the treaty's blatant anti-American bias, he jumped on the mention of the 2000 election and spouted off some Michael Moore-inspired rant about how Bush stole the election with his gang of thugs.

Another protester, a woman carrying a copy of "A Terrorist Comes to Town" rallying poster, told me that she thought Bush's administration was composed of neo-Nazis who want to take over the world. And she was serious. I stopped myself before I could respond because a large crowd was forming around a protester with a loudspeaker who drew my attention away.

The crowd was the largest yet, and at that point I realized the massive protest was astoundingly similar to group therapy, with throngs of rabid Bush haters voicing their oft misguided, though not entirely invalid, arguments against the president to welcoming listeners. The act of screaming obscenities against a person completely out of earshot in the midst of a sympathetic audience can be a cathartic experience for someone with pent up rage.

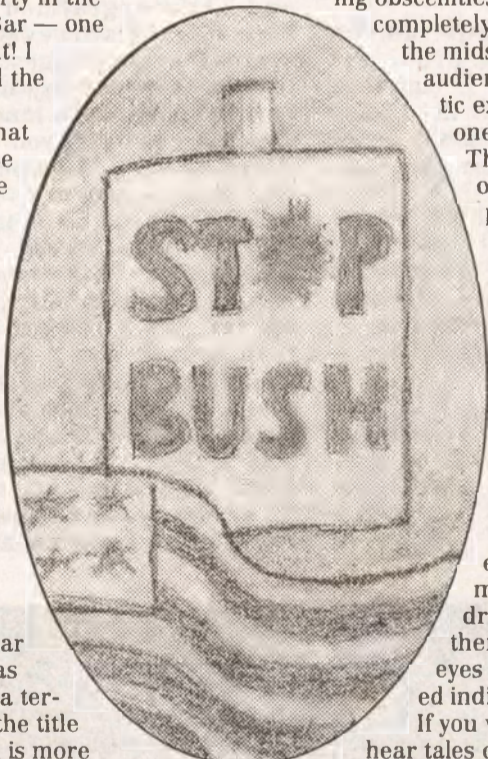
The social dimension of the entire event pervaded the crowd where people could connect through their one shared character trait: hatred for Bush.

The personal benefits of their protest started to make everything from the last week come together, and I almost disregarded the fact that the media attention they draw only makes them look bad in the eyes of a rational-minded individual.

If you watch CNN and hear tales of the noble protesters voicing their utter rage against the Bush juggernaut, you're hearing a skewed version of the actual events that unfolded. Hardly any voices of intellectual honesty existed in the crowd; otherwise, we would hear more praise of Bush for bringing together one of the largest support groups in history in the streets of London.

Bill Rinner is a junior economics major currently attending the London School of Economics. He believes that the most effective protests are for a common goal, not against a common enemy. His column appears every other Friday. He can be reached at wrinner@nd.edu.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Demand for English courses recognized

There seems to be some confusion as to the makeup of the English Department's Spring 2004 curriculum. In an effort to alleviate some of this anxiety for our majors and others, I would like to clarify the situation.

The English Department is offering, in the Spring 2004 semester, the exact same number of required courses for majors we offered in the Spring 2003 semester. We also have available the same number of seats in 300-level courses that satisfy the University literature requirement. As for 400-level electives, this Spring we are, in fact, offering more of them than we did last Spring.

We understand the concern students have regarding the number and availability of courses in English. As demand for English courses grows, not only from the increasing number of majors we have but from the University as a whole, we do all we can to provide the broadest, most accessible curriculum possible.

Stephen Fredman
 Chair
 Department of English
 Nov. 20

A call for equality

On Nov. 18, 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court struck down that state's ban on same-sex marriage, and homosexuals across the nation rejoiced. Gay columnist Andrew Sullivan triumphantly declared, "Thank God Almighty, we are free at last."

Specifically, the Massachusetts Court found the state's current marriage statute inconsistent with the Massachusetts Constitution and has required the state legislature to remedy the situation within 180 days. The legislature has two options: either to enact a changed marriage statute consistent with the Court's ruling, or to amend the Massachusetts Constitution to include a ban on same-sex marriage.

While gay-rights supporters have hailed this decision as a victory, it has nevertheless come under fire by several Christian-conservative groups and prominent Republicans. The Republican governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney, has called for the state legislature to draft an amendment to the state constitution to exclude same-sex marriage, and President George W. Bush declared firmly that "Marriage is a sacred institution between a man and a woman," and vowed to work to protect the "sanctity of marriage."

As a gay Christian Republican, I freely admit that I am at this time conflicted in my loyalties. The party of Lincoln and the emancipation of the slaves has morphed into a party that too often resists change merely for the sake of protecting the status quo. But alas, I am not a one-issue voter and will not let my disagreement with Republicans on gay rights dominate my political judgment.

Cultural attitudes towards homosexuality are undergoing significant change, as society's understanding of it increases. Where most people used to think of homosexuality as a choice, hence the term sexual preference, many now think of it as a natural identity, or sexual orientation. This is no accident. Any homosexual will confidently proclaim that it is not a choice, and several scientific studies all point towards homosexuality as a genetic disposition.

Once the understanding of homosexuality that has forever been in the hearts and minds of homosexuals enters the public consciousness, society's laws will begin to recognize homosexuals as a class of individuals with a common physical trait, and thus subject to equal protection under the decree of the 14th Amendment of the United States

Constitution.

In *Lawrence v. Texas*, a recent Supreme Court decision striking bans on sodomy, and in subsequent cases, our nation's highest court has indeed recognized homosexuals as a group deserving of protection. This realization, taken to its natural conclusions, will inevitably end governmental discrimination against homosexuals, in the same manner that governmental discrimination based on race and sex has also been Constitutionally prohibited. The rights entitled by marriage, whether referred to as marriage or as a civil union, must extend to all.

Opponents of same-sex marriage argue that the sanctity of the institution is endangered by removing the requirement that marriage involve a man and a woman. Yet, they offer no convincing evidence that such will actually be the case; only the most bigoted individual would argue that homosexuals are incapable of the love, respect, loyalty, honesty and other qualities necessary for a successful and fulfilling marriage.

Therefore, they fall back on tradition and religious arguments. Tradition alone is never sufficient reason to resist change. If it were, then blacks would not be free today and women would not be allowed to vote. In regard to religious arguments, nobody is wishing the government to force any religion to accept a different definition of marriage. Rather, they want the government to confer the sole civil rights of the civic institution of marriage equally upon all. Asking the government to define a civic institution based on religious grounds would be an unconstitutional breach of the First Amendment Establishment Clause, and therefore is an improper request.

In *Lawrence*, Justice Antonin Scalia said this nation is becoming entangled in a "culture war," and in a sense he was right. We have the choice today between tolerance and equal treatment and bigotry and discrimination. Ultimately, the challenge facing society is the same challenge that faces each one of us in our hearts and souls, and is best captured in the words of Martin Luther King, Jr.: "The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns those inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers."

Lucas Sayre
 senior
 Dillon Hall
 Nov. 20

Entertainment abo

With football home games at a close for the season, it's time to find fun activities to do, but Chicago

By SARAH VABULAS and
SCOTT FONFERKO
Scene Writers

With Irish football home games at a close for the season, you might just be wondering what there is to do on the weekends besides sitting around your dorm room and complaining that there is nothing to do. Well, hit the road! There is an abundance of activities to the west of Notre Dame on I-90.

Downtown Chicago has many things to offer besides fine-dining and world-renowned shopping. Seeing as though South Bend does not draw many popular bands, Chicago is the best place to go to see that desired concert. From now until Christmas break, if you can break away from those books, many popular bands will be appearing across the city.

The House of Blues in Chicago, found near Navy Pier at 329 N. Dearborn, features several concerts and is a great venue for concertgoers and musicians alike. HOB, unless otherwise noted, is an 18 and over venue with general admission and standing room only. Valid identification is required for entry. All tickets can be purchased from Ticketmaster at ticketmaster.com or by phone at 312-559-1212. The phone number is 312-923-2000.

Better Than Ezra, who played at The Show in Aug. 2002, is just one of many popular bands who is scheduled to play at the HOB in upcoming weeks. Tickets for the Nov. 28 9 p.m. show are available for \$22.50. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Umphey's McGee, a band who has quite a future for them, will play at HOB on Nov. 29 at 9 p.m. Umphey's played Legends a couple weeks ago and packed the house. They are definitely worth checking into again. Tickets are \$20 and doors open at 7:30 p.m.

After two killer concerts on Friday and Saturday night, HOB closes the weekend with Something Corporate, a band who is gathering quite the following for themselves. Rx Bandits, Days Away and May will also be performing. This is an all ages show. Tickets are \$16. The show begins at 6:30 p.m. and the doors open at 6 p.m. Default, a hot band wowing audiences across the country, plays on Dec. 1 at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$15. This is an all ages show.

For those of you who still enjoy the high energy, swing-dancing music, Brian Setzer Orchestra will play HOB on Dec. 6 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$45. This is a 21 and over show, presented by VH1. The doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Rounding off the good shows at HOB for the next couple weeks is the hot hard rock band Chevelle. The all ages show is Dec. 17 at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$19.50. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

There are many other concerts around Chicago besides those taking place at The House of Blues. Some of the larger scale shows are at bigger venues to accommodate the desire for tickets.

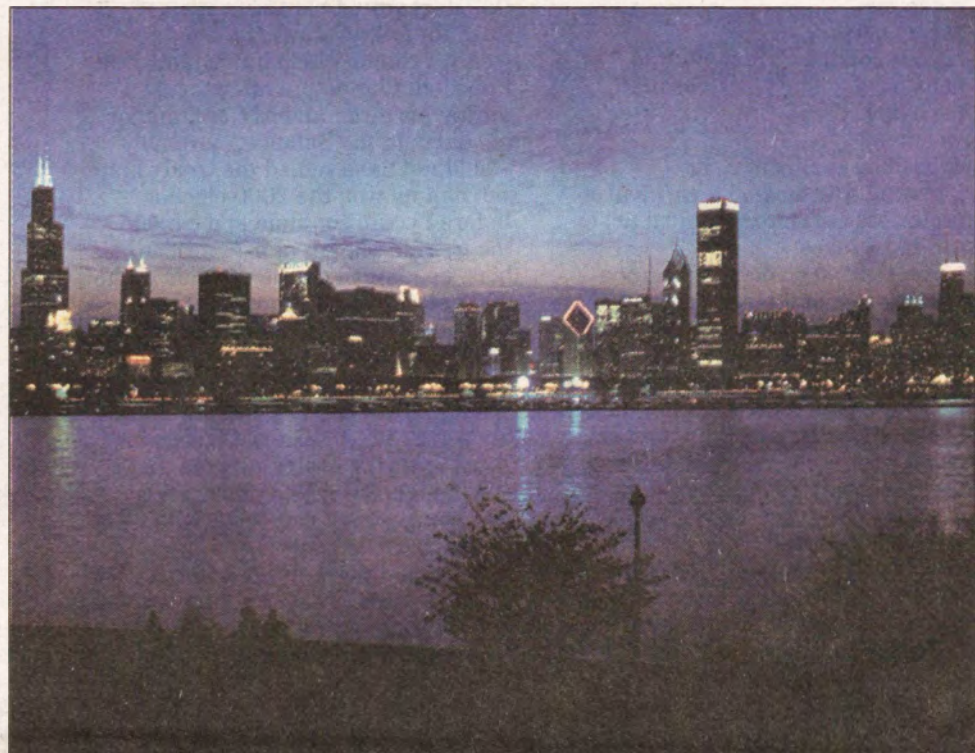
John Mayer, a favorite to so many for his melodic sounds, plays on Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill. Tickets are still available and are \$35.50. Tickets include a 50-cent donation to charity.

Opening for Mayer are The Thorns, a special guest appearance on the tour. Visit johnmayer.com for further information about his tour.

The Deftones play the Aragon Ballroom on Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. Tickets for this show are \$24.50 for general admission. Thursday and Thrice are special guests at the concert. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Popular Radio Station Q101 presents the Twisted 10 show on Dec. 6, featuring Korn, Jane's Addiction, 311, Dashboard Confessional and AFI at the Allstate Arena. The show begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$34.50 and for the assigned seating show.

Also on Dec. 6, for those who may not run with the Twisted 10 show, Lynyrd Skynyrd will play the Star Plaza Theatre in Merrillville, Ind. The



Web photo

Chicago, one of the country's largest cities, offers many activities for people of all ages including renowned museums, concerts and theatre productions.

show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$33 to \$43.

For a change of venue, among other things, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus is currently in Chicago performing at the United Center until Nov. 30. Tickets can be bought at ticketmaster.com and range in price.

While concerts and the circus are always an incredible experience, they are not usually made for dressing up and going out on the town. If that is something you are interested in, Chicago is offering a variety of amazing Broadway Musicals.

"The Producers - the new Mel Brooks Musical" has been sweeping the country with its amazing performances. The musical marvel that started in Chicago makes its triumphant return to the Windy City.

Written by Mel Brooks and directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman, this irreverent musical comedy is the biggest Tony Award winner in Broadway history. It will not be in Chicago much longer, so check it out while you can. It leaves following the closing performance on Nov. 30. Tickets are tough to come by, and can be hefty in price. They range from \$40 to \$80.

Another musical marvel that is sure to please is "The Lion King" performing at the Cadillac Palace. The reviews rant and rave of the entertainment quality of the musical. These tickets, too, are difficult to obtain and can place a burden on your wallet. They range from \$28 to \$125. Although \$125 sounds like a lot of money for a musical, sitting so close to the stage enhances the per-

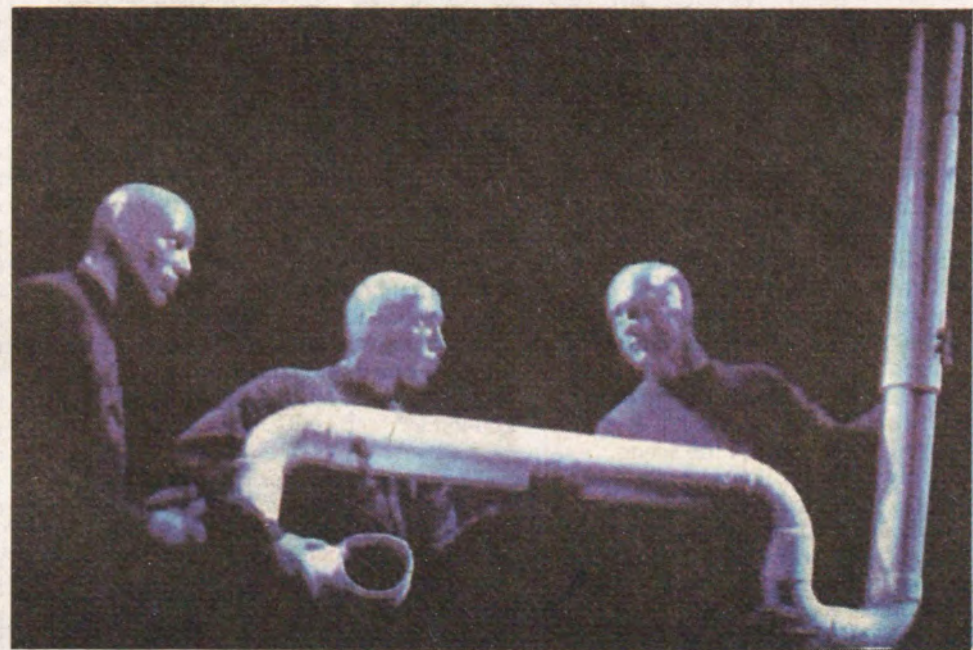


Photo courtesy of blueman.com

The Blue Man Group, a popular show full of music and humor, performs nightly for a packed house at the Briar Street Theatre in downtown Chicago.

Concerts

John Mayer	Nov. 28, 7:30 Allstate Arena
Better Than Ezra	Nov. 28, 9:00 House of Blues
Umphey's McGee	Nov. 29, 9:00 House of Blues
Something Corporate	Nov. 30, 6:30 House of Blues
Deftones	Nov. 30, 7:00 Aragon Ballroom
Default	Dec. 1, 6:15 House of Blues
Evanescence	Dec. 2, 7:30 Assembly Hall
Q101 Twisted 10: Korn, Jane's Addiction, 311	Dec. 6, 6:00 Allstate Arena
Lynyrd Skynyrd	Dec. 6, 8:00 Star Plaza Theatre
Brian Setzer Orchestra	Dec. 6, 9:00 House of Blues
Chevelle	Dec. 17, 6:15 House of Blues

ounds in Chicago

son, weekends may become a time of struggle
o is a place that can please any taste



Photo courtesy of producersonbroadway.com

"The Producers" has been a huge hit across the country and wowed audiences with the spectacular songs and dances.

formance. But the show is very audience friendly, with many appearances by cast members in the aisles. It is a beautiful event and not to be missed. Beware; this magical musical leaves Chicago after Jan. 18, so go while you can.

With Christmas rapidly approaching, there are many traditional events to choose from. One of those is the "Nutcracker" performed by the Joffrey Ballet Company of Chicago. This rendition of the classic is at the Auditorium Theatre and runs from Dec. 5 until Dec. 28. Tickets range from \$13 to \$63. So take a friend or that special someone and get in the Christmas spirit with this classic ballet.

Coming on Dec. 16 is the highly acclaimed "Hairspray" musical. It will be in Chicago until Feb. 15.

Tickets are moving quickly and range from \$40 to \$80. "Hairspray" will be at the Ford Center for the Performing Arts. It is sure to entertain and make you laugh.

While this is simply a brief overview of special events in Chicago in the coming months, it can hardly explain the overwhelming amount of things to do on a daily basis. Blue Man Group performs nightly at the Briar Street Theatre. Visit www.blueman.com for further information about the group.

After all the fun and you feel like enjoying an educational, but entertaining experience, visit one of the many Chicago museums and revisit the days of elementary school, going on field trips and goofing around the museums. There's the Museum of Science and Industry, the Field

Museum, the John G. Shedd Aquarium, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago. All the museums are within an hour and a half driving distance from South Bend.

The Museum of Science and Industry, located on Lakeshore Drive is a museum that encases a full size submarine to a fully intact jet. The museum also has the luxury of an IMAX theater as well. The hours of the Museum of Science and Industry are 9:30 a.m. to 5:50 p.m. everyday except for Christmas Day. The admission charge for the museum itself is \$5.50 for children, \$9 for adults and \$7.50 for seniors. For admission with a ticket to see the IMAX movie the charges are \$10.00 for children, \$15.00 for adults and \$12.50 for seniors.

The Field Museum, slightly smaller than the Museum of Science and Industry, showcases a lot of specified items. It is located north of Soldier Field on Lakeshore Drive. The museum is currently featuring a special about the history of flight. A permanent Egyptian exhibit is encased within a pyramid inside the museum. This museum also includes a full size skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex. The hours for the Field Museum are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The admissions charges for the Field Museum are \$5 for children, \$10 for adults, and \$7.00 for seniors.

The John Shedd Aquarium, which is also located on Lakeshore Drive, is north of Soldier Field and on the east side of the Field Museum. It is one of the most renowned aquariums and is divided into the different waters of the world. The sections include a coral reef, the Pacific Northwest and the Amazon, and each features fish that are indigenous to the specific area. The aquarium also showcases dolphins, beluga or white whales, seals, otters and numerous salt water and freshwater fish.

It also has a center tank that houses a sea turtle and shark. The aquarium's winter hours, Labor Day to Memorial Day, are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends. Hours during summer months, Memorial Day to Labor Day, are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. both weekdays and weekends. Admission charges are \$21 for adults and \$15 for children.

The Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, located in the same vicinity as the Field Museum and Shedd Aquarium, is the first planetarium built in the Western Hemisphere. It's also the only planetarium in the world to feature two full-sized

planetarium theaters. This includes the famous Zeiss Planetarium Projector that is capable of reproducing every aspect of the night sky. The planetarium currently features an exhibit about Ancient Polynesian navigators and the art of steering by the stars to the history of astronomy and the thousand years of discovery. The hours of operation for the Adler Planetarium are 9:30 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. weekdays and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekends. The admission charges are \$11 for children, \$13.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors. Each admission includes a planetarium show.

The Art Institute of Chicago, located on Michigan Ave, is home to a variety of art from different cultures and includes 300,000 works of art from ten different curatorial departments. It even houses 33 paintings by Claude Monet. Two exhibits that are currently featured at the Art Institute are *Manet and the Sea* and *Aerospace design: The Art of Engineering from NASA's Aeronautical research*. The hours for the Art Institute of Chicago are Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The cost of admission is \$10 for adults, \$6.00 for children and seniors and free for children under age 5. Every Tuesday is free due.

So while to boot – all that is, there is still much to do – all that is required is a short drive or a ride on the South Shore Railroad. If none of this suits you, there is always the amazing cuisine found all over Chicago, or a short trip along Michigan Avenue can please even the toughest critic. So when all else fails, go to Chicago.

Contact Sarah Vabulas at vabu4547@saintmarys.edu and Scott Fonferko at sfonferko@hcc-nd.edu



Photo Courtesy of Disney.com

"The Lion King" is currently playing in Chicago for excited sellout audiences.



Photo Courtesy of hairspraythemusical.com

"Hairspray," a Broadway musical hit, comes to Chicago on Dec. 16.

Shows and Musicals	
Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus	Current - Nov. 30 Various Times United Center
Hairspray	Dec. 16 - Feb. 15 Various Times Ford Center for the Performing Arts
The Lion King	Current - Jan. 18 Various Times Cadillac Palace
The Producers	Current - Nov. 30 Various Times Ford Center for the Performing Arts
Joffrey Ballet - The Nutcracker	Dec. 5-28 Various Times Auditorium Theatre

NHL

Recchi's three points lift Flyers to 3-1 win

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Mark Recchi had two power-play goals and an assist, helping the Philadelphia Flyers extend their unbeaten streak to eight games with a 3-1 victory over the Minnesota Wild.

The Flyers, 7-0-1 in their last eight games, are 8-0-2 at home this season.

Alexandre Daigle scored against his former team for the Wild, who shut out the Flyers in consecutive games last February.

Tony Amonte added a goal and assist, and Jeremy Roenick had two assists for Philadelphia. The line of Roenick, Recchi and Amonte has 51 points in 15 games since they were united four games into the season.

Robert Esche stopped 21 shots to record his career-best sixth straight victory.

Just 80 seconds after the Wild tied it at 1 in the second period, the Flyers regained their lead on Amonte's seventh goal. Recchi backhanded a pass toward the net that hit a defenseman and went right to Amonte, who lifted it over goaltender Manny Fernandez.

Recchi made it 3-1 just 66 seconds later with his eighth goal. He took a pass from Amonte and slapped it past Fernandez with 32 seconds left in the period.

Recchi's first goal came 37 seconds into a two-man advantage. The Flyers moved the puck around well as it went from Joni Pitkanen to Kim Johnsson to Roenick, who centered to Recchi for a wrist.

Fernandez made a brilliant save in the third period, stoning Simon Gagne on a short-handed breakaway.

Daigle scored his tying goal on the power play when Sergei Zholtok's slap shot hit his skate and went between Esche's legs.

Senators 6, Hurricanes 1

Marian Hossa had a goal and an assist, and the Ottawa Senators scored five times in the second period en route to a victory over the Carolina

Hurricanes.

Hossa, who leads the Senators with 10 goals and 20 points, assisted on Vaclav Varada's tying goal with 9.6 seconds left in the first. It was Ottawa's first even-strength goal in four games.

Jason Spezza, Radek Bonk, Peter Schaefer, Todd White and Hossa scored in the second as the Senators outshot Carolina 17-4 in the period.

The six goals in the game tied a season high set in a 6-2 win in Montreal on Oct. 25.

Bryan Smolinski and Zdeno Chara each had two assists for Ottawa, which ended a 2-2 homestand. During that stretch, the Senators lost consecutive home games for the first time in two years.

Radim Vrbata scored his first goal in nine games for Carolina, which tied Philadelphia 2-2 on Tuesday and remained winless in three.

Ottawa allowed the first goal for the seventh straight game when Vrbata finished off a two-on-one with Eric Staal 12:38 in.

Staal, a 19-year-old center chosen No. 2 overall in the June draft, broke down the left side and fed a charging Vrbata.

Vrbata drove the slot and put a shot between Patrick Lalime's pads for his third of the season.

The Senators tied it late in the period after Kevin Weekes stopped Hossa's shot. Varada jumped on the rebound and put the puck into an open right side.

Ottawa got the lead early in the second when Spezza took a flip pass from Smolinski and beat Weekes from the slot 1:14 into the period for his fifth goal.

The Senators went up 3-1 when Bonk deflected Wade Redden's point shot on a power play at 9:35.

Ottawa added another goal just 12 seconds later when Schaefer fired a wrist shot from the slot into the top right corner at 9:47. He was set up by Smolinski, who forced a turnover along the right boards in the Hurricanes zone.

White scored his first goal of

the season at 12:39 as defenseman Bruno St. Jacques left him unattended.

Hossa got the Senators' second power-play goal — their 10th in four games — at 16:41.

Lightning 3, Islanders 2

Cory Stillman scored his 10th goal of the season in the third period to help lift the Tampa Bay Lightning over the New York Islanders.

Stillman's goal from the left circle gave Tampa Bay a 3-0 lead 4:27 into the third. Fredrik Modin and Brad Richards had the other Tampa Bay goals.

Arron Asham and Mariusz Czerkawski scored for the Islanders late in the game to make it close. It wasn't enough to keep the Lightning from tying the series between the teams at 22-22-3-1.

Asham brought the Islanders within 3-1 at 14:19 of the third, and Czerkawski made it a one-goal game with 1:24 left.

Modin's backhander put the Lightning ahead at 13:28 of the first. Tampa Bay (10-2-2-1) is 9-0-1 when scoring first. Richards made it 2-0 after a New York turnover at 17:21, scoring his first goal in nine games.

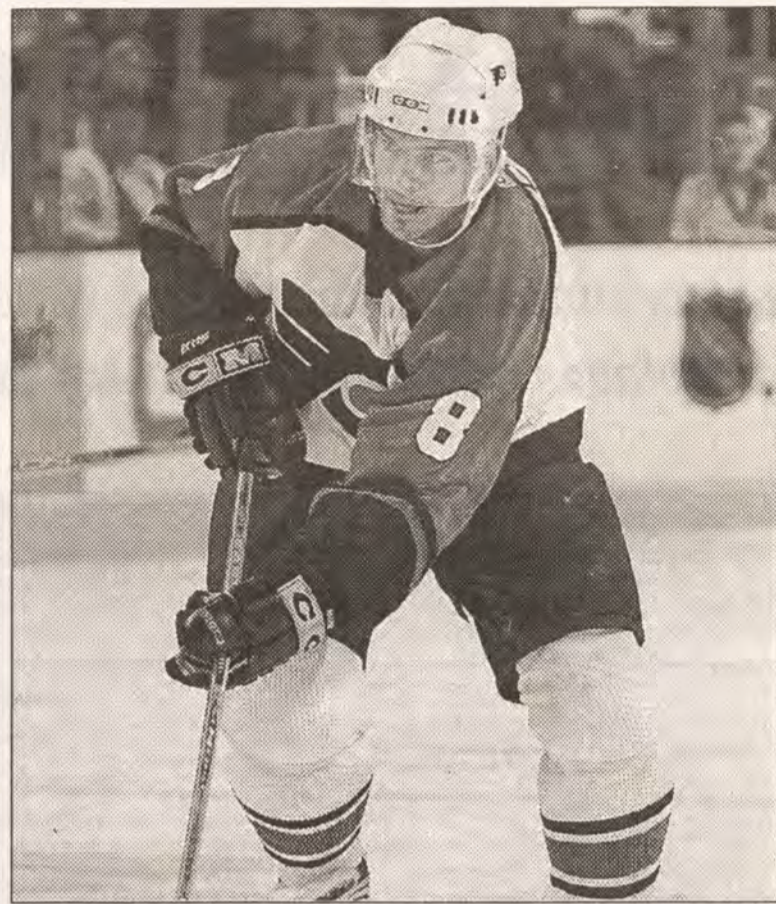
The Islanders recorded the first five shots during the opening 10 minutes of the game, including an in-close backhander by Oleg Kvasha. The New York left wing also hit the post during the stretch.

Most of the offensive activity came in the final period when New York scored twice on 14 shots and Tampa Bay had one goal on 11 shots.

New York goaltender Rick DiPietro finished with 29 saves, including stopping all 13 shots he faced in the scoreless second period.

Nikolai Khabibulin made 26 saves to improve to 8-2-1 for the Lightning, who played for the first time in six days. Other than the All-Star break, Tampa Bay doesn't have more than two days off the rest of the season.

The Islanders had a three-day break before starting a two-



Philadelphia's Mark Recchi eyes the goal last night against Minnesota. Recchi had two power play goals and an assist.

game Florida road trip with a victory over the Panthers on Wednesday night in Sunrise.

Bruins 3, Capitals 2

Mike Knuble had a goal and an assist, and the Boston Bruins stretched their streak without a regulation loss to 11 games by beating the Washington Capitals.

The Bruins, who have won four straight at home, have earned at least one point in every game since they lost to Carolina on Oct. 23 (7-0-1-3).

Washington (5-13-1) is tied with Pittsburgh with an NHL-low 11 points.

After Martin Lapointe gave Boston a 3-1 lead, Sergei Gonchar scored to bring the Capitals within a goal. His slap shot went over goaltender Andrew Raycroft's shoulder with

six minutes remaining.

Jaromir Jagr cut the Bruins' lead to 2-1 with 1:26 remaining in the second period when his shot deflected off a Boston defenseman and into the net.

Knuble put the Bruins (11-2-3-3) ahead 1-0 when he took Hal Gill's pass and beat Olaf Kolzig at 5:17 of the first period. Knuble has a team-high nine goals, and has recorded 10 points in seven games.

The Capitals missed a great opportunity in the closing two minutes of the first period when Jagr was denied four times by Raycroft in a span of about 10 seconds.

Glen Murray gave the Bruins a 2-0 lead when his slap shot trickled in off Kolzig's glove at 13:01 of the first.

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 3 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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If the Browns had a game this weekend, they would be probable

but for Tuesday, they aren't even on the injury report

Muck Fichigan

The Browns can bury the Steelers this weekend

how would that taste

Tapis

I'm writing the final philosophy paper of my undergraduate career this weekend

Good job news with the pullout, I hope it turns out well

DAVIS CUP

Americans blow early lead, trail by one point

International team leads 3 1/2 to 2 1/2

Associated Press

GEORGE, South Africa — Tiger Woods, Davis Love III and the rest of the Americans could not have asked for a better start Thursday in the Presidents Cup.

It was the finish that left them dazed, disappointed and facing another deficit.

"They all want to go kick themselves in the rear end," U.S. captain Jack Nicklaus said after the International team rallied over the final three holes in the final three matches to take a 3 1/2 -2 1/2 lead.

Determined not to fizzle the way they did in Australia five years ago, the Americans were poised to take a commanding lead in the opening session of alternate-shot matches.

Woods and Charles Howell III needed only 15 holes to get their partnership off to a great start. Love and Kenny Perry hit spectacular shots and won easily.

The United States led 2-1, and it was 2-up on the back nine in the other matches.

"It could have been quite ugly," Peter Lonard of Australia said. "Knowing we could be 5-1 down and looking down the barrel of the gun, and we can still pull it out somehow ... that's probably the most important thing."

For the Americans, it all fell apart quickly.

First came the gutsy 6-iron from Masters champion Mike Weir, winning yet another battle of the lefties.

He and Nick Price were 1-down with two holes to play against Phil Mickelson and David Toms, the top American tandem from last year's Ryder Cup.

"We needed something," Weir said.

Facing the par-3 17th with bunkers and rough to the right and a 6-foot trench protecting the left — a difficult shot for left-handers — Mickelson turned away in disgust as his ball sailed well right of the green.

Weir took aim at the flag and Price walked off the tee clapping and shaking his fists. Price converted the birdie, then hit a nice chip to 5 feet that Weir finished off for birdie on the 18th and a 1-up victory.

Then came Adam Scott.

His swing reminds everyone of Woods, and so did the shots he hit on the closing holes.

The clutch birdie putt from 12 feet on No. 16. The tee shot on the difficult 17th that Ernie Els converted for birdie to square the match. From the 18th fairway, Scott hit a 2-iron from 265 yards that covered the flag and left his teammates in awe.

"Only two players can hit that shot," Els said, referring to Scott and Woods.

The ball skipped just over the green, and Els hit a nice chip that was conceded for birdie and a 1-up victory over Justin Leonard and Jim Furyk.

"Ernie told me, 'Just stay on course,'" Scott said. "And we finished strong."

The final blow was Robert Allenby and Stephen Leaney, 2-down against Jay Haas and Fred Funk with three holes to play.

Facing certain defeat, Allenby holed a 15-foot birdie from the fringe to halve the hole and stay alive. Haas' tee shot on No. 17 drifted into the trench, and Funk conceded after his bold play from the gully hit the rock wall and ricocheted over his head.

Haas hit his second shot into rough so thick on the par-5 18th that Funk couldn't reach the green. They lost the hole with a bogey and had to settle



International player Mike Weir clutches his fist after making a putt Thursday at the President's Cup. The International team came back after trailing the American team to lead by one point.

for a halve.

"We pulled the rabbit out of the hat today," International captain Gary Player said.

The good news for Nicklaus? At least he knows his guys came to play.

That wasn't the case in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, where a listless U.S. team fell behind 7-3 after the first two sessions and suffered its worst loss ever in any cup, 20 1/2 -11 1/2.

This time, they played with passion and pulled off some amazing shots.

Perry holed an 80-foot putt on No. 2, up a steep slope with a sharp bend to the right, for a birdie to win the hole.

Love chipped in for birdie on No. 5, hit out of a hazard to salvage a par on the 12th, and chipped over a bunker and into the hole for an eagle on the 16th to close out Lonard and Tim Clark, 4 and 2.

"He hit some unbelievable short-game shots, and it was fun to watch," Perry said.

Woods and Howell never trailed, and kept the momentum when Woods recovered from his drive into a pot bunker by stuffing his wedge into 2 feet for par to halve the hole.

Howell was a model of confidence in his first team competition, paired with the No. 1 player in the world.

"Chuck is a great kid to play with, and I rode him hard today," Woods said.

Howell didn't buy it. "How can you carry Tiger? Are you kidding?" he said. "We both played well."

Ultimately, it wasn't enough. Vijay Singh and Retief Goosen never trailed and won, 3 and 2, against Presidents Cup rookies Jerry Kelly and Chris DiMarco.

Then, they watched the rest of their teammates show plenty of resolve and give the International team an unlikely lead.

"We had a good shot at being

5-1 today," Nicklaus said. "That's disappointing, but that's also very good play on the part of Gary's team."

No one was better than Weir, who kept his team in the match when Price was struggling off the tee.

The most impressive shot of all might have come at No. 6, when Price played an iron off the tee on the 341-yard hole and still hit into a bunker with a steep face, 61 yards from a tiny green guarded by a steep slope.

Weir hit an explosion shot with an 8-iron — a shot no one practices — that banged into the slope and stopped 12 feet away. Instead of going 3-down, Price holed the putt to cut the deficit to one.

"One of the best shots I've hit in a long time," Weir said. "You've just got to trust your imagination."

He and Price were 2-down on two occasions during their match, and kept clawing back.

In the end, the rest of the International team followed their lead.

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— George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), Irish playwright and writer

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- Saturday, Nov 22nd
7:05 PM; Joyce Center Gate 3
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Men's Basketball vs. Northern Illinois

- Monday, Nov 24th
7:30 PM; Joyce Center Gate 10
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NFL

Johnson hired as in-studio guest on pregame show

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Keyshawn Johnson has found another way to spend this Sunday afternoon.

No longer wanted by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Pro Bowl receiver will be an in-studio guest analyst for Fox's weekly NFL pregame show.

The outspoken receiver, deactivated by the Super Bowl champions on Monday, will appear on "Fox NFL Sunday."

"We look forward to having Keyshawn in this weekend to discuss his situation in Tampa Bay and find out what the future holds for him," coordinating producer Scott Ackerson said Thursday.

It was not immediately clear if Johnson would reprise his analyst role in subsequent weeks.

"We've done stuff with Keyshawn in the past, we're doing stuff with him in the present and will likely do stuff with him in the future," Ackerson said. "Let's get through this week and then go from there."

Ackerson said Johnson will play a prominent role in the show, which will feature a segment on Dallas coach Bill Parcells. Johnson played for Parcells with the New York Jets and has often cited him as his favorite coach.

While Johnson will address his situation with the Bucs, Ackerson said "it's more than just having Keyshawn on to talk about being deactivated because I don't think that would be the best use of his skills."

On Monday, the Buccaneers shelved Johnson for the rest of the season, saying he had become disruptive after the defending champs began the season 4-6. Tampa Bay has lost three straight and is in danger of missing the playoffs.

Johnson, in his eighth year out of Southern Cal, was the Bucs' third-leading receiver with 45 catches for 600 yards and three

touchdowns. He wasn't happy with his role in the offense and, last month, told coach Jon Gruden and general manager Rich McKay that he wanted to leave after this season.

Green's fiancée pleads not guilty
William Green's fiancée pleaded innocent Thursday to charges she stabbed the Cleveland Browns running back at their home.

Green was wounded under his left shoulder blade during a fight Wednesday, police said. His lawyer, Brian Downey, said the player was released from the hospital later that night after getting three stitches.

Asia Gray, who has two children with Green, was ordered held on \$18,500 bond. She is charged with assault and domestic violence, and if convicted on both counts could face two to eight years in prison.

"She was in another room when it happened and she called for help," said her attorney, Henry Hilow. "It's also important to note that she took him to the hospital."

Judge Maureen Gravens prohibited her from having any contact with Green.

Just three weeks ago, Green appeared in the same courtroom after he was arrested on charges of drunken driving and marijuana possession. He is under suspension for violating the NFL's substance-abuse program.

Earlier Wednesday, Gray made an emergency call to police saying Green cut himself. Green later told police he was injured when he fell down stairs.

"It's sad that he was involved in a situation like that," Browns coach Butch Davis said. "Certainly his teammates and coaches are glad it was not more severe."

Police responded to the 911 call from Gray, who requested an ambulance for Green. But Gray had taken Green to the hospital by the time the emergency vehicle arrived.

Police wouldn't say what the fight was about or what Green



Keyshawn Johnson stretches for a first down earlier this season. Tampa Bay deactivated Johnson this week and the receiver will be in the Fox booth for a pregame show Sunday.

was stabbed with.

Green was arrested Oct. 27 after police said they spotted him driving erratically. Police said he failed a field sobriety test and a breath test, and had a bag of marijuana in his car.

The NFL suspended Green for four games last week for violating the league's substance-abuse policy. The Browns suspended him for the Nov. 9 game at Kansas City for "conduct detrimental to the team," and the league will count that game as part of its suspension.

Green is not permitted to be at the team's training facility, and the Browns are not allowed to have contact with him.

Browns president Carmen Policy said the team hopes the

league will make an exception and permit the club to help Green deal with his problems.

Vick may miss Titans' game
Falcons quarterback Michael Vick missed practice Thursday and indicated he won't play against the Titans this weekend.

Vick sprained his right ankle in a morning walkthrough Wednesday, when guard Martin Bibla accidentally stepped on his foot. Vick hasn't played in a game since breaking his leg in the pre-season.

"I wanted to come out and try and play this week, get a couple of snaps," Vick said. "But what happened yesterday was something that we all didn't expect. I got a little taste of what it's like to get it touched, and that's a good

thing. Now I know. We'll just see how it plays out."

Vick refused to offer details of how he was hurt, but linebacker Keith Brooking acknowledged that he was blitzing and accidentally pushed Bibla backward. Vick and Bibla were working with the scout team, and Brooking with the first-team defense.

"I can't help it. That's just the way it goes, man," Brooking said.

Added Bibla, "Nobody's going full-tilt, but Keith goes a little harder than usual sometimes. That's just Keith, though."

The Falcons (2-8) have lost eight of their last nine as they prepare to host the Titans (8-2). Doug Johnson will start at quarterback for Atlanta.

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AROUND THE NATION

Men's Basketball Polls

AP		Coaches	
team	rank	team	rank
1	Connecticut (69)	1	Connecticut (25)
2	Duke (1)	2	Duke (3)
3	Michigan State (1)	3	Michigan State (1)
4	Arizona	4	Arizona
5	Missouri	5	Kansas
6	Kansas (1)	6	Missouri
7	Syracuse	7	Syracuse (1)
8	Florida	8	Florida
9	North Carolina	9	Kentucky
10	Kentucky	10	North Carolina (1)
11	Texas	11	Texas
12	Illinois	12	Gonzaga
13	St. Joseph's	13	Illinois
14	Oklahoma	14	Wisconsin
15	Wisconsin	15	Oklahoma
16	Gonzaga	16	Louisville
17	Louisville	17	Stanford
18	Cincinnati	18	St. Joseph's
19	Wake Forest	19	Cincinnati
20	Stanford	19	NOTRE DAME
21	NOTRE DAME	21	Wake Forest
22	Pittsburgh	22	Pittsburgh
23	Marquette	23	Marquette
24	N.C. State	24	Oklahoma State
25	Oklahoma State	25	Maryland

NCAA FOOTBALL



TCU quarterback Brandon Hassell slips away from Southern Mississippi linebacker Michael Boley in the Southern Mississippi's 40-28 win. It was TCU's first loss of the year.

Women's Basketball Polls

AP		Coaches	
team	rank	team	rank
1	Connecticut (46)	1	Connecticut (40)
2	Texas	2	Duke
3	Tennessee	3	Texas
4	Duke	4	Tennessee
5	Purdue	5	Kansas State
6	Stanford	6	Texas Tech
7	Texas Tech	7	Stanford
8	Kansas State	8	Penn State
9	Penn State	9	Purdue
10	Georgia	10	LSU
11	Louisiana Tech	11	Georgia
12	LSU	12	Louisiana Tech
13	Minnesota	13	Minnesota
14	North Carolina	14	North Carolina
15	Bulgers	15	Ohio State
16	Colorado	16	NOTRE DAME
16	Ohio State	17	Rutgers
18	Santa Barbara	18	Santa Barbara
19	Utah	19	Utah
20	NOTRE DAME	20	Colorado
21	Oklahoma	21	Oklahoma
22	Arizona	22	Arizona
23	TCU	23	TCU
24	Oregon	24	Virginia
25	Auburn	25	Auburn

Eye on Irish Opponents

Saturday, Nov. 22, 2003
 WASHINGTON STATE (9-2) at Washington
 Ohio State at MICHIGAN (9-2)
 Penn State at MICHIGAN STATE (7-4)
 PURDUE (8-3) at Indiana
 PITTSBURGH (7-3) at Temple
 UCLA at USC (9-1)
 Central Michigan at NAVY (6-4)
 Utah at BYU (4-7)
 California at STANFORD (4-5)
 West Virginia at SYRACUSE (5-4)

Off

NOTRE DAME (4-8)
 FLORIDA STATE (9-2)

TCU's dream season comes to end with loss

Associated Press

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — TCU in the BCS? Southern Mississippi put an end to any debate by fighting off a frantic comeback attempt by the Horned Frogs.

Dustin Almond threw for 227 yards and three touchdowns and the Golden Eagles capitalized on four turnovers to hand the 10th-ranked Horned Frogs their first loss of the season, 40-28 on Thursday night.

Southern Mississippi (8-3, 7-0) clinched at least a share of the Conference USA title and can win it outright with a victory over East Carolina.

TCU (10-1, 7-1) trailed by 31-6 early in the fourth quarter before scoring three touchdowns in a span of 4:30 with the aid of two straight recovered onside kicks.

Brandon Hassell led the comeback attempt with his passing and running.

He swept around right end for a 1-yard TD with 6:55 left and then threw for the 2-point conversion to cut the lead to 31-28.

Hassell finished 18-for-31 for 260 yards with two interceptions.

Southern Miss kicked a field goal to make it 34-28, then put the game away by forcing TCU's final

turnover of the game.

Greg Brooks got free on a corner blitz and knocked the ball from Hassell. Rod Davis recovered inside the TCU 20 with less than three minutes left and moments later Anthony Harris bulled into the end zone from 2 yards out to make it 40-28 with 1:30 left.

TCU was eighth in the Bowl Championship Series standings this week and needed to stay unbeaten to have any shot of becoming the first school from a non-BCS league to receive an invite to one of the four high-dollar major bowls.

Now, the best the Horned

Frogs can hope for is a piece of the league title and a spot in one of five bowls with C-USA ties.

That's a difference of about \$13 million.

Southern Miss, which has won five straight games, can earn a bid to the Liberty Bowl by beating one-win East Carolina next week.

The win was the Golden Eagles' first ever against a ranked opponent at home, and the fans celebrated by taking down a goal post.

Almond, who has thrown 12 TD passes since regaining the starting job five games ago, was 14-for-23 with an interception.

IN BRIEF

Baseball players appear before grand jury

SAN FRANCISCO — Baseball players became the latest athletes to appear before a grand jury probing a nutritional supplements lab, joining NFL players and track and field stars who in previous weeks testified before the federal panel.

Catchers A.J. Pierzynski and Bobby Estalella and outfielder Armando Rios all appeared before the panel on Thursday.

Pierzynski was traded from the Minnesota Twins to the San Francisco Giants last week. The other two are former Giants — Estalella played with the Colorado Rockies last season and is now a free agent, while Rios is with the Chicago White Sox.

Barry Bonds and Jason Giambi are among the other major league players subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury in upcoming weeks. Bonds' attorney has said his client will appear Dec. 4.

Federal officials have refused to dis-

cuss the grand jury or the scope of its secret proceedings, but two sources familiar with the grand jury have said the probe is focusing on drugs and taxes.

It's not clear what, if any, drug charges might result from the investigation. An appearance before the grand jury, or being subpoenaed to testify, does not mean an athlete is a target of the probe.

An attorney for Victor Conte, founder of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, has said his client is a target of the grand jury investigation. BALCO has supplied some of the nation's top athletes with nutritional supplements.

Rangers' Messier hopes to play in outdoor exhibition

DENVER — New York Rangers forward Mark Messier plans to play in Saturday's exhibition game for former Oilers and Canadiens but needs to get the final word from his coach.

"I'm not sure what Glen's decided," Messier said Thursday.

"Glen's been talking to the league and trying to get some of those things settled, but other than that, I'm pretty optimistic."

Rangers coach Glen Sather declined to comment about the exhibition, saying he was concentrating on New York's game against the Colorado Avalanche on Thursday night.

The game will be played outdoors at Commonwealth Stadium, and Sather will be behind the Edmonton old-timers' bench. After that, the present-day Oilers and Canadiens will face off in the first outdoor regular-season game in NHL history.

The Rangers' schedule could help Messier. After Thursday's game in Denver, the Rangers don't play again until Sunday afternoon, when they host Ottawa.

"We got lucky in that regard," Messier said. "A quick flight up to Edmonton from here, and then we fly home Saturday afternoon. I was really lucky with the schedules, the way they meshed."

around the dial

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Boise State at Fresno State 9 p.m., ESPN2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UMASS at Texas Tech 7 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Minnesota at Cleveland 8 p.m., ESPN
 Chicago at LA Lakers 10:30 p.m., WGN

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Numerous top 25 teams await Irish



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

The Irish are competing at Texas A&M this weekend.

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The women's swimming and diving team looks to make a splash as the No. 19 Irish (4-1) travel to College Station, Texas to compete in the Texas A&M Invitational this weekend.

Notre Dame will have its hands full with a field that features some stiff competition, including the likes of No. 8 SMU, No. 11 UCLA, co-No. 17's Virginia and Texas A&M, No. 20 Florida State and Purdue.

Last Friday, the Irish dominated a triangular meet against Bowling Green and Louisville, 188-90 and 187-89, respectively.

Failing to win only the 200-yard medley relay due to disqualification, the Irish took 15 of the meet's 16 events. Nine different Notre Dame competitors recorded at least one first-

place finish, and four — seniors Lisa Garcia (100 and 200-yard butterfly and 200-yard individual medley) and Meghan Perry-Eaton (one and three-meter diving) and freshmen Katie Carroll (50 and 100-yard freestyle) and Ellen Johnson (200-yard backstroke and 1,000-yard freestyle) — each took at least two events.

While a number of underclassmen, including Carroll and Johnson, among others, have been stellar thus far, head coach Bailey Weathers points to the seniors as the team's leaders both in and out of the pool.

"[The seniors] are a real good group," Weathers said. "They all have been really important to us for a long time."

The Irish return to action next Thursday-Saturday when they host the Notre Dame Invitational.

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SMC BASKETBALL

Tip-Off Classic starts season

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

For the past six weeks the Belles have been doing the little things in practice with hopes of doing big things this season.

This weekend they look to put their practice into play as the Belles open their season in the Tip-Off Classic Tournament. Saint Mary's will play the first game tonight against Hanover College and the second against Franklin College Saturday.

The team emerges this year with nine returning players that add experience and depth to its lineup. With a core of four juniors and one senior, the team has already found the chemistry that it lacked last season.

"We're really coming together as a strong group," Saint Mary's coach Suzanne Bellina said. "We try to cover all the details in practice and I think we've already made big improvements."

The Belles will be helped by the return of junior Emily Creachbaum who was a leading scorer last year in the conference and an all-MIAA performer. Junior Katie Boyce and senior Katie Miller will join Creachbaum as the tri-captains for this year's team.

After a disappointing season last year, the Belles are ready to move up in the conference and establish themselves. They face another tough schedule in the MIAA but the team has a determined outlook this season.

"Last season left a bitter taste in our mouth and we

know what needs to be done to turn things around for us," Bellina said.

The Belles will have their share of opportunities to prove themselves this year including a game against national powerhouse Washington University. The challenge is there, and the Belles look ready to take it with experience and confidence on their side this season.

"We have more speed and quickness to the ball this year along with a great group returning," Bellina said. "We're ready to go from worst to first."

St. Mary's will play in the Tip-Off Classic today and Saturday at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Contact Steve Coyer at
scoyer@nd.edu

FENCING

Fencers will compete individually

Irish take a break from team schedule

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

The defending champs aren't sitting on last year's national crown.

The Notre Dame fencing squads hope to build on their successful start last weekend as they clash against national powers Ohio State and Penn State Saturday and Sunday. But for senior Kerry Walton, the big names are just business as usual.

"There's always a little bit [of pressure] but it's been so close the last couple of years that it's always been between us and Penn State," she said. "It's an individual sport and people are always used to other people gunning for them."

However, the teams will not

be competing en masse. The men will split squads on Saturday, sending some fencers south to compete individually in the Ohio State Open. The rest will head east to Penn State also for individual competition in the Max Garret Open.

The women will also be divided. Part of the team will remain here in South Bend to take part in Sunday's Notre Dame Turkey Shoot. In the meantime, the other women fencers will follow the men to match up against Penn State on Sunday. Both women's events are individual competition.

Despite their division, the Irish fencers will face stiff competition at all locations. Penn State finished a very close second to Notre Dame at the national championships last season, and always maintains a perennially powerful program. In Columbus, the men's squad will face the fencers who last year ousted them in the conference semifinals. They prevented Notre Dame from attaining its 19th consecutive combined conference championship.

"Ohio State is growing as our big rival," coach Janusz Bednarski said. "[As the defending champs,] all fencers

want to beat us. It's tough from the beginning."

The stiffness of the competition will be a baptism by fire for both teams. Having suffered heavy losses on the men's and women's sides due to graduation (five total All-

Americans), Coach Janusz Bednarski will look to his young duelists to pick up the slack. "We still have a good team but it's hard to predict because we have a lot of freshmen.

Freshmen are an unknown position until you see them in action."

Youth was served last weekend at Northwestern as the new fencers combined for only one loss. Freshmen sabers Patrick Ghattas and Matthew Stearns were a combined 15-0 while epeeist Aaron Adjemian won all six of his bouts. Fellow freshman foilist Frankie Bonatempo finished 8-0. On the women's side, Valerie Providenza and Angela Vincent added a combined 15-1 record to give the rookies an impressive 44-1 weekend mark. "I'm not worried about anyone," Walton said. "They know what they're doing they really don't need anyone to back them up."

But the leftovers from last year haven't exactly gone stale. Leading the young freshmen are six returning All-Americans, including individual national foil champ Alicja Kryczalo and national epee runner up Michal Sobieraj.

Even though it's early in the season, Bednarski looks for these tournaments to provide invaluable experience to be used later in the season.

"It will be good to check out what we have to be improved and what can be done," he said. "It will be good training for next year's championships."

Contact Matt Mooney at
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The Notre Dame Collegium Musicum
Daniel Stowe, director

Mass

Guillaume de Machaut: Messe de Notre Dame
Igor Stravinsky: Mass

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HOCKEY

Irish open four-game homestand against Lakers

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

If their games from earlier this season are any indication, Notre Dame's series against Lake Superior State could be over quicker than you can say. "He shoots, he scores."

The Irish (5-3-1, 4-3-1 in the CCHA) and the Lakers (4-3-3, 2-3-1) are the first and second least penalized teams in the CCHA, respectively, as well as two of the least penalized teams in the nation. With fewer whistles and stoppages of play, the games are over much faster.

"I think [fewer penalties] are a sign of discipline and I think the way both teams play, that's what we'll have to conquer, is the disciplined play of Lake State," Irish head coach Dave Poulin said. "I think you're going to see a heck of a game; I'd much rather it be 5-on-5 than a special-teams-fest, no question."

The Irish are off to their fastest start since the 1998-99 season, when the team opened the season with a 7-1-1 record. The Lakers have been equally hot, going 2-0-1 in their last three years.

Lake Superior State is a team that has had a history of success in the college hockey world, including winning the national championship in the 1988-89 season. Head coach Frank Anzalone led the team to four NCCA Final Four appearances from the years 1982-1990.

Anzalone then left the college ranks for a professional career, but returned to the Laker bench in the 2001-02 season, in which the Lakers went 8-27-2 - a far cry from their dominant 80's teams. Now in the third year of his second stint with Lake Superior State, the team is starting to show signs of reloading.

Last season, Notre Dame won both matches against Anzalone's Lakers by 3-2 and 6-3 scores. Poulin serves note that this is not the same cellar-dwelling team as Anzalone's teams in 2001 and 2002 were.

"We showed our players film, and it was pretty evident in the film that Lake State is playing pretty well right now," Poulin said. "I think we have a lot of respect for them, and certainly bringing back a coach who had a lot of success has given that team something to feed off."

"They're going to be perhaps even more disciplined and play even harder now that they've actually won a few games here recently."

Notre Dame is coming off a 4-0 exhibition win last Friday against the U.S. Under-18 National Developmental Program. Freshman goalie David Brown collected his unofficial fourth shutout of the season, as the exhibition shutout will not count toward his official statistics.

Poulin said that he will start Brown on Friday against Lake Superior State, and then make

his decision about Saturday's starter after Friday's game.

Notre Dame's series against the Lakers is the first of two straight CCHA series at the Joyce Center for the Irish. Poulin stressed the importance of doing well in these four consecutive home matches, especially having opened the season with six of nine games on the road.

"We have to make this a very difficult building to play in," he said. "We want to make this a building where people look at and say, 'I don't even want to go play there.' The band has been just tremendous at our games - the energy they create is so great and they work so hard at creating noise and being a lively atmosphere."

"I think it should be a great weekend."

Forwards Trent Campbell and Nathan Ward lead the Lakers with seven points each. Like Notre Dame and Brown, the Lakers have a capable freshman netminder in Jeff Jakaitis, who collected his first career shutout last Saturday in a scoreless tie against Bowling Green.

Matt Violin is the other member of the Lake Superior State goaltending tandem and played well against the Irish last year in the 3-2 game, making 47 saves in the Lakers' loss. He currently has a 2-3-2 record with a goals-against average of 2.90 and a .877 save percentage.

Notre Dame faces Lake Superior State at the Joyce Center this weekend. Faceoff is scheduled for 7:35 p.m. tonight and 7:05 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Justin Schuver at jshuver@nd.edu

"We want to make this a building where people look at and say, 'I don't even want to go play there.'"

Dave Poulin
Irish coach



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Irish right win Rob Globke checks a Boston College player in Notre Dame's 1-0 upset win of then-No. 1 Boston College Oct. 24.

Boxing

continued from page 24

dents.

"It was really great," captain Sara Sweeney said. "This was the first time we have been able to do something like this."

The women first started boxing publicly at last year's annual Bengal Bouts, where they had six exhibition fights. However, this started a stir amongst students, faculty and even the media at Notre Dame.

"The public response to that [last year's fights] was amazing," Sweeney said.

This year, the women's boxing club opted to put on their own bouts. With over 400 people in attendance, the bouts brought in almost \$5,000 in donations, T-shirt sales and pledges. This money will be used to cover the expense of the event, and the remainder will go to the sports camp.

"We always knew we would be successful once we got to this point," Sweeney said. "It was an amazing thing to see."

The women credited the event's success to advertising. They made signs, T-shirts and even the local media interviewed the captains. The men's boxing club helped out Thursday

Women's Boxing Charity Bouts: Results

Lizzy Coghill def. Theresa Pagna <i>Farley Hall Off Campus</i>	Jessica Fickey def. Meghan Whealan <i>McGinn Hall McGinn Hall</i>
Marlana Klinger def. Amy Matte <i>Off Campus Pangborn Hall</i>	Courtney Selph def. Taiss Lewis <i>Off Campus Howard Hall</i>
Laura Rinkus def. Lindsay Lutz <i>Off Campus Off Campus</i>	Jessica Brogan def. Melanie Irvine <i>Off Campus Breen-Phillips Hall</i>
Sarah Burgin def. Paige White <i>Pasquerilla West Pangborn Hall</i>	Theresa Welch def. Anne Kwiatt <i>Welsh Family Hall Breen-Phillips Hall</i>
Amanda Borys def. Sara Sweeney <i>Walsh Hall Off Campus</i>	Katy Welzbacher def. Tiffany Roberts <i>Off Campus Lewis Hall</i>
Cat Ruiz def. Erin Brady <i>Pangborn Hall Off Campus</i>	Kelly Anderson def. Katrina Glerum <i>Off Campus Fischer Graduate</i>
Nicole Wykoff def. Courtney Cleary <i>Off Campus Pasquerilla West</i>	Vanessa Saenz def. Bianca Bautista <i>Pangborn Hall Off Campus</i>
Caitlin Burns def. Katherin Exline <i>McGinn Hall Breen-Phillips Hall</i>	Branda Mendizabal def. Erica Jackson <i>Off Campus Pasquerilla East</i>
Stephanie Guerrero def. Jamie Peters <i>Lewis Hall McGinn Hall</i>	Katie Hurley def. Agus Galmarini <i>Off Campus Pangborn Hall</i>
	Sarah Ponko def. Lisa Danielson <i>Off Campus Off Campus</i>

MIKE HARKINS/The Observer

night, performing various tasks at the bouts.

By the end of the bouts, families and faculty alike complimented the boxers on well-fought bouts. The boxers were paired up based on ability and size, in order to provide for fair and exciting bouts.

The night was about the determination of the club to come through with the successful season-ending bouts. The exhibition

ended with two senior captains, Lisa Danielson and Sarah Ponko dueling until the end.

"It finally became a reality," Sweeney said. "We are definitely looking forward to next season, and we hope to build off the success we had tonight."

Sweeney, a senior, and her fellow captains leave the boxing program with a sense of accomplishment.

"It has been more than anything we ever dreamed of," she said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Bball

continued from page 24

some preparation time for that, and we know what to expect."

The game is both teams' third of the season. Valparaiso started the season 0-2 after falling to Villanova and Oregon, while the Irish opened with a split by beating No. 22 Auburn 77-64 and falling to No. 20 Colorado 67-63.

Irish forward Jacqueline Batteast had a solid first two games, scoring 27 against the Tigers and 13 points and 10 rebounds against the Buffalos.

Last season the Crusaders battled the No. 9 Irish, finally losing 74-68 at Valparaiso. Batteast and forward Katy Flecky had 13 points each in that contest. Notre Dame didn't score in the final 4 minutes, 52 seconds of the game and had to make 30 free throws to hang on for the victory.

The last time the two teams met at the Joyce Center, points were at a premium. The Irish downed the Crusaders 42-35 after ending the game on a 7-2 run.

"They're just a solid team. They have really good balance and they play a lot of people," McGraw said. "They work really hard and they're just a smart team and very well coached."

In their first two games, Valparaiso was led by Katie Boone who has averaged 13.0 points a game and hit all four of her 3-point attempts. The Crusaders showed a trend in their first two contests of staying close to their opponent in the first half before getting beaten badly in the second half. Against Villanova, Valparaiso led 32-31

at halftime, but was outscored 37-18 in the second half. The Crusaders were tied with Oregon 23-23 at intermission before losing by 13 points.

Even though Valparaiso also seems to have a poor record when they play

the Irish, including this season, McGraw said she isn't sure why the Irish have struggled so much with them the last several seasons.

"It's a challenge for us to play them every year," McGraw said.

The team is excited for the home opener, especially after playing well in Colorado last weekend.

"They're excited. They're excited just to be in the season. Now we're getting a little taste of what we can do," McGraw said. "It was a great start for us. I thought we made great steps from last season."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

"They're always a tough team to play. For some reason we've always struggled with them."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Recruits

continued from page 24

guys that we wanted, and we did a good job."

The fact that the Irish had such recruiting success in the talent-laden southern states such as Florida and Texas — in this class, Brezovsky, Korpi and Williamson are all from Florida and Langford hails from Texas — points to Notre Dame's emergence on the national collegiate baseball scene. In past years, it has been difficult for northern schools like Notre Dame to out-recruit traditional southern powers such as Florida State, Texas and Rice, but with currently five players on the Irish roster — not including the current recruits — that hail from Florida and Texas, Notre Dame is showing it can compete on this level.

"It's funny how things run in cycles for you, but we have kind of a rich tradition in bringing in kids from Texas and south Florida," Mainieri said. "This particular year, those were the players that we identified, and they

just happened to be in warm weather areas and areas that had been good to us."

Mainieri's continuation of Notre Dame's streak of 15 seasons with 40 wins or more, which is the third longest active streak in the nation, combined with his team's 100 percent graduation rate of four-year players over his nine-year tenure, has attracted some of the top recruits in the nation.

"I think what has happened in recruiting is that the prospects have become so much smarter now in how they analyze their options," Mainieri said. "Getting a quality education, playing in a program that has proven it can get to the College World Series, and

"I have a lot of courage when it comes to playing freshmen."

Paul Mainieri
Irish coach

they see that every one of our players graduates, and then they get a chance to meet our players and they see what a wonderful group of kids they are, and they want to be a part of it."

Also, the baseball facilities near Frank Eck Stadium, considered some of the best indoor facilities in the nation, and the fact that the Irish travel to the south for nearly the first quarter of the season

make the wintry conditions of South Bend not as much of a factor for the recruits in the decision-making process.

"It's amazing how over the last few years, the weather has not been as big of an issue with recruits as it once was," Mainieri said. "If you look at last year's class, [Irish freshman] Jeff Manship was the best player coming out of the state of Texas. So if you can take the best kid out of Texas, I think you can get just about anybody."

The Irish recruited a pair of teammates for the first time during Mainieri's coaching regime in Korpi and Williamson, who were on the same pitching staff at Santaluces High School in Florida. In the 2003 season, Korpi posted a 1.06 ERA and 14.5 strikeouts per nine innings while Williamson notched a 1.35 ERA with 18 strikeouts per nine innings.

The Fort Worth, Texas, native Langford will bring a great deal of versatility to the Irish, as the right hander not only logged a 6-2 record with a 2.25 ERA last year, but also hit .338 while seeing time in the infield.

The fourth pitcher, Gruener, posted a 1.75 ERA and near 9-to-1 strikeout-to-walks ratio as a junior at Life Christian High

BASEBALL CLASS OF 2008 SIGNINGS

Player	Position	Ht./Wt.	Bats	Hometown
Ross Brezovsky	IF	5-10/160	L	Naples, Fla.
David Gruener	LHP	6-1/200		Gig Harbor, Wash.
Wade Korpi	LHP	5-11/180		Lake Worth, Fla.
Tony Langford	RHP/IF	6-0/175	R	Fort Worth, Texas
Brett Lilley	IF	5-9/165	L	North Canton, Ohio
Joey Williamson	RHP	6-2/185		Lantana, Fla.

School in Washington.

The two infielders, Brezovsky and Lilley, will add depth to an Irish infield that could lose a pair of starters after the 2004 season in second baseman Steve Sollmann and shortstop Matt Macri, who may choose to enter professional baseball. Brezovsky batted .425 as a junior and is listed as the 65th best player in Florida by Perfect Game/Baseball America. Lilley was named the top second baseman in the state by The Buckeye Scout.

Mainieri hopes that the recruits will come in ready to contribute in 2004-05, as the Irish stand to lose at least six players to gradua-

tion and possibly more to the draft.

"You always hope that they come ready, but the reality is that some freshmen come more ready than others," he said. "We recruit them because we need them. I have a lot of courage when it comes to playing freshmen."

"I'm always going to play the guys that deserve to play the most whether they're freshmen or seniors. If these guys come in and do a good job and that's where our needs are, they're going to be plugged right in there."

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu

Big East

continued from page 24

Irish lead the nation in blocking, with a 3.73 per game average. Brewster is second in the nation, with 1.79 blocks per game.

"Our block is key to our success," Brown said.

However, that is not all that the Irish bring to the table. They have benefited from the outstanding play of libero Meg Henican and defensive specialist Danielle Herndon.

When Notre Dame puts it all together, they have been a tough team to stop.

"In order for us to be smooth, passing has to be good, setting has to be good, hitters have to be on and they have to be smart," Brown said. "Overall, throughout the season, we've done a lot of good things — it's just a matter of everyone doing their job."

But the Irish know they have room to improve, and they will work on this as they try to repeat as the Big East Tournament Champions.

"We're not looking at the last match," Brown said. "We're taking it a day at a time and looking forward to playing Miami. We feel like we have a good block defense, serving strategy, and we think our offense can do well [against Miami]. They will be hungry and we expect it to be a very competitive match."

Game time is set for 3:30 p.m. in the Joyce Center. At 1 p.m., Pittsburgh will face Villanova in the first semifinal game.

The winners of both games square off at 2 p.m. Sunday for the championship.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY SEEKS COMMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION PROCESS

The University of Notre Dame is seeking comments from students, faculty, staff, alumni and the public in preparation for its periodic evaluation by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The University will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit March 22-24, 2004. The team will renew the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's criteria for accreditation and General Institutional Requirements.

Comments should address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments are not treated as confidential.

Comments should be submitted by Feb. 20 to: Public Comment on the University of Notre Dame Accreditation, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL. 60602.

The Commission does not accept confidential or unsigned comments.

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WOMEN'S BOXING

Dreams become a reality

19 women's boxing bouts go on at JACC Thursday night

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Women's boxing brings a whole new meaning to the term "power hour."

For one hour, each boxer does as many sit-ups, push-ups and jumping jacks as she can. But this time it was different.

Each boxer took pledges from different individuals based on the number of sit-ups, push-ups and jumping jacks they could do within the hour. These pledges were then donated to the Honduras Sports Camp for Girls, which helps encourage women athletics in Honduras. Each boxer raised at least \$50 from pledges.

Thursday night it all came together for this hard-working group of boxers as they were successful in 18 bouts in front of families, faculty and stu-

see BOXING/page 20



Lindsay Lutz (left) punches Laura Rimkus in last night's women's boxing charity bouts. The women's boxing club held 19 matches Thursday night.

ANDY KENNA/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Crusaders should provide good test

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Editor

Valparaiso is 0-2 on the season, which probably means Notre Dame will have its hands full opening the home season tonight at the Joyce Center.

For whatever reason, the Crusaders always play the Irish tough.

"They're always a tough team to play. For some reason we've always struggled with them," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They play great defense. It's the same kind of defense that Colorado played against us, so we at least have

See Also
"McGraw lands top 20 class" page 21

see BBALL/page 20

ND VOLLEYBALL

No. 2 Irish ready to defend title at home

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

They lost the No. 1 seed in this tournament, but the buck stops there.

No. 2 seed Notre Dame (22-4, 11-1) is determined to win the Big East Tournament this weekend, after losing to Pittsburgh (22-4, 11-1) last weekend to tie for the regular season title, and give Pittsburgh the No. 1 seed in this weekend's Big East Tournament.

"[The Big East Tournament Championship] is not the ultimate goal, but it's really important to us and we want to defend the title," coach Debbie Brown said.

The Irish have the firepower to do so, but they face a formidable opponent, in No. 3 seed Miami (22-8, 9-3). The last time these teams matched up, the Irish beat the Hurricanes 3-0 on

College Sports Television at the Joyce Center.

But it won't be as easy this time around.

"The last match against Miami means nothing," Brown said. "It's another match and we have to prove ourselves again."

That win was in front of a record 2,715 fans — the most for a volleyball match not played before a Notre Dame football pep rally. It was also a win in which Miami's star Valeria Tipiana only registered four kills after coming off an injury.

On the other side of the net, the Irish have been led by senior setter Kristen Kinder. She distributes the ball in a potent offense that includes junior Emily Loomis and sophomore middle blockers Lauren Kelbley and Lauren Brewster.

This sophomore duo helps the

see BIG EAST/page 22

BASEBALL

Six sign letters of intent

Mainieri gets four pitchers, two infielders as early signees

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Writer

Irish head coach Paul Mainieri announced Thursday the signing of six high school seniors to letters of intent with Notre Dame during the early signing period.

The group includes four pitchers — right handers Tony Langford and Joey Williamson and lefthanders David Gruener and Wade Korpi — and a pair of infielders in Ross Brezovsky and Brett Lilley.

This recruiting season marked Mainieri's first without former associate head coach and recruiting coordinator Brian O'Connor, who took a head coaching position at Virginia in July. But Mainieri was pleased with the work of his assistants, David Grewe and Terry Rooney, who is in his first year with the Irish after serving as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator at Stetson University.

"David Grewe did an unbelievable job, while basically he was the only one doing the recruiting, at the time when Brian [O'Connor] was deciding whether or not he would go to Virginia," Mainieri said. "Then when Terry Rooney came aboard — people get a chance to meet him and realize he's a very high-energy guy. He loves to recruit and he works hard at it, so when he got here, he hit the ground



Photo courtesy of Brett Lilley

Brett Lilley makes a running throw last year. Lilley was one of six early signees for the Irish.

running. "Between the two of them, we really didn't skip a beat to be honest with you. I feel like we got the

see RECRUITS/page 22

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

HOCKEY
Lake Superior St. at Notre Dame
Tonight, 7:30 p.m.
Irish return home and face the Lakers
page 20

ND WOMEN'S SWIM
Notre Dame at Texas A & M Invitational Today-Sunday
Top competition is in store for Irish.
page 19

SMC BASKETBALL
Tip-Off Classic at Rose-Hulman Today-Saturday
Hanover and Franklin are the first two opponents for the Belles.
page 19

FENCING
Notre Dame Turkey Shoot Sunday, 8 a.m.
With an early start to the season, the Irish compete in individual events.
page 19

NCAA FOOTBALL
Southern Miss 40 TCU 28
The hopes of a BCS berth for TCU come to an end with its first loss on the year.
page 18

NFL
Deactivated Tampa Bay receiver Keyshawn Johnson will serve as an analyst for Fox while not playing in the team's last six games.
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IRISH INSIDER

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THE
OBSERVER



**Countdown
to
Tipoff**

Recent success sets high expectations for Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

When Irish coach Mike Brey first arrived at Notre Dame three years ago, he pulled his players into a meeting and told them he thought he could help them reach the NCAA Tournament — a feat the Irish hadn't accomplished in 11 years.

Now, Brey looks back on those days and laughs at how the expectations have changed.

Gone is the satisfaction with merely qualifying for the NCAA Tournament. Gone, too, is content with winning a tournament team before folding up against a more established power.

Even if the Irish, who host Northern Illinois in their season opener Monday, duplicate their Sweet 16 appearance of last year this March, the feat might just warrant a shrug of the shoulders in the Joyce Center basketball offices.

"Last year, we went to the Sweet 16. I think we should think nothing short of the Final Four [this year]," junior co-captain Jordan Cornette said. "We're thinking big dreams, and we want to go as far as possible."

Each year, Notre Dame has steadily improved its postseason success. In Brey's first year, the Irish made the NCAA Tournament and won the opening round game. In his second year, the Irish pushed top-seeded Duke to the brink before falling in the second round. Last year, Notre Dame made the Sweet 16 before Arizona blew an awe-struck Irish

team out.

With each year, Notre Dame gains more experience, and its players appear less likely to pause in wonderment when they pass an old milestone.

"What excites me is to hear our veterans talk about bigger things, playing deeper [in March]," Brey said. "That's not pipe dreams anymore. Those guys can really talk about this with the experience that they've had."

The centerpiece of Notre Dame's team is point guard Chris Thomas, who turned down the NBA for another year in college. His backcourt mate, sophomore Chris Quinn, could, at best, help give the Irish one of the nation's top

backcourts at best and, at that, a tandem that could wreak havoc on opposing defenses.

"It's hard for teams to guard two-point guards, especially Chris," Thomas said. "He can shoot, he can pass, he can handle the ball just as good as any point guard in

the country."

Notre Dame has typically beaten teams before by shooting them to death. Defense, on the other hand, is another question mark. And after Notre Dame's overtime win in a Nov. 14 exhibition, Brey seemed almost resigned toward the fact that the Irish would have to outscore teams to win.

But Brey knows the Irish will need defense to face their tough schedule. It's no surprise that the Irish, who finished third in the Big East West Division last year, will face another tough conference



BUG DAVISSON/The Observer

Chris Thomas brings the ball up the court against the Illinois All Stars. Thomas and the Irish have high expectations after making it to the Sweet 16 last year.

slate this year. The league re-aligned to form one massive 14-team division, and the Irish will play every team at least once. The three teams it plays twice are defending champion Syracuse, preseason No. 1 Connecticut and perennial power Pittsburgh.

There are other questions marks too, like Notre Dame's relative lack of depth, that won't be answered until the season starts Monday. And the Irish won't find out who will replace graduates Matt Carroll and Dan Miller's remarkable point production until they tip off against Northern Illinois.

But Brey and the Irish truly believe

they will continue their improvement as a program. The Irish believe they are one of the nation's elite programs, and this season, they'll look to demonstrate it.

"I'm really excited about who we have back," Brey said. "When we think about this team all practices, the six returning guys, that if we had to toss it up tonight in a Big East game, I would feel pretty good about it."

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Striving for new heights

Eleven factors will lend the Irish to their fourth straight year of measurable improvements under the watchful eye of head coach Mike Brey

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Every year of the Mike Brey era, the Notre Dame basketball program has made small but measurable improvements. Here are 11 key factors if the Irish want to see a fourth straight year of improvement.

Chris Thomas' maturity

When Chris Thomas withdrew from the NBA Draft in June, scouts told Brey the Irish would be getting a much more polished point guard. Now that Thomas is one of Notre Dame's veterans, the Irish will be looking to him for leadership both on and off the court.

Last year, Notre Dame's success was often equated to Thomas' success. When Thomas was on, the Irish were on. When he was off, the Irish struggled. That can't happen this year.

In the early-season exhibition games, Thomas has still demonstrated the flashy playmaking ability that made him so good to begin with, but he also showed that he can take care of the basketball better. No longer does Thomas appear as eager to force things on the offensive end.

If Notre Dame's top weapon has matured as much as the scouts say he has, then the Irish will be a formidable force indeed.



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Chris Thomas shoots in a preseason Irish win against Hoop Group.

The Thomas-Quinn backcourt

Just how good can this backcourt be? Very, very good.

Both Thomas and Chris Quinn have the ability to launch 3-pointers at will and both have shown they are adept at running the point. Where the genius of this pairing comes into play is when Thomas and Quinn rotate primary ball-handling duties during a game. Not only will it confuse defenses, but it will take the pressure off both guards who will likely be playing over 35 minutes every game.

The point guard job will still be Thomas', but the presence of the equally-adept ball-handling Quinn in the backcourt will only help make this duo one of the best in the nation.

Torin Francis' improvement

In a rookie campaign that saw Francis earn all-Big East Rookie team honors, the then-freshman could either dominate in the paint or struggle against mediocre competition. While he improved as the season progressed and was a fierce presence in the postseason, Francis knew he had to bulk up to establish consistency.

That's why Francis walks around this year saying that he can't make the same mistakes he made as a freshman. And for Notre Dame's sake, he can't.

The Irish need to establish Francis as a scoring option early in each game, for it

will free up Notre Dame's deadly 3-point shooters. Francis himself has to demonstrate that he can be a solid defensive stopper as well as a reliable scoring threat to help the Irish as the season wears on.

Torrian Jones' emergence

For three years, Jones has passively played the role of the perfect teammate, deferring to more experienced players and coming in games when the Irish needed a spark only his athleticism could provide. But at the same time, Jones was one of the most vocal players in the locker room.

This year, Jones finally gets to play the extended minutes he always wanted, but never complained for. He'll be expected to somehow replace Dan Miller as a potent defensive stopper while relying on his athleticism to penetrate opposing defenses to score and rebound.

Jones has tremendous potential, and the Irish need him to live up to that potential. He's still a role player who knows he's not the No. 1 scoring option, but he's also going to get plenty of playing time.

Jordan Cornette's versatility

It would have been easy to be shocked that Cornette made four 3-pointers in an exhibition game when he made just six all last season. But while Brey jokingly says that Cornette isn't as good a 3-point shooter as he thinks, the junior forward gives the Irish a weapon that can be exploited in multiple ways.

First, Cornette is one of the team's most fundamentally sound players, with good footwork that often enables him to shut down his assignment each night. Second, he is effective at scoring both inside and outside. Third, his size quickness makes him difficult to guard, while at the same time, Cornette can match up well against a variety of opponents.

Cornette typically starts out each season with a bang - he had 19 blocks in Notre Dame's first two games last year - and on an Irish squad that struggles to play defense, the junior will be perfect as a stopper.

Depth at guard

The Irish have Thomas, Quinn and Jones. After that, they're hurting for reliable options.

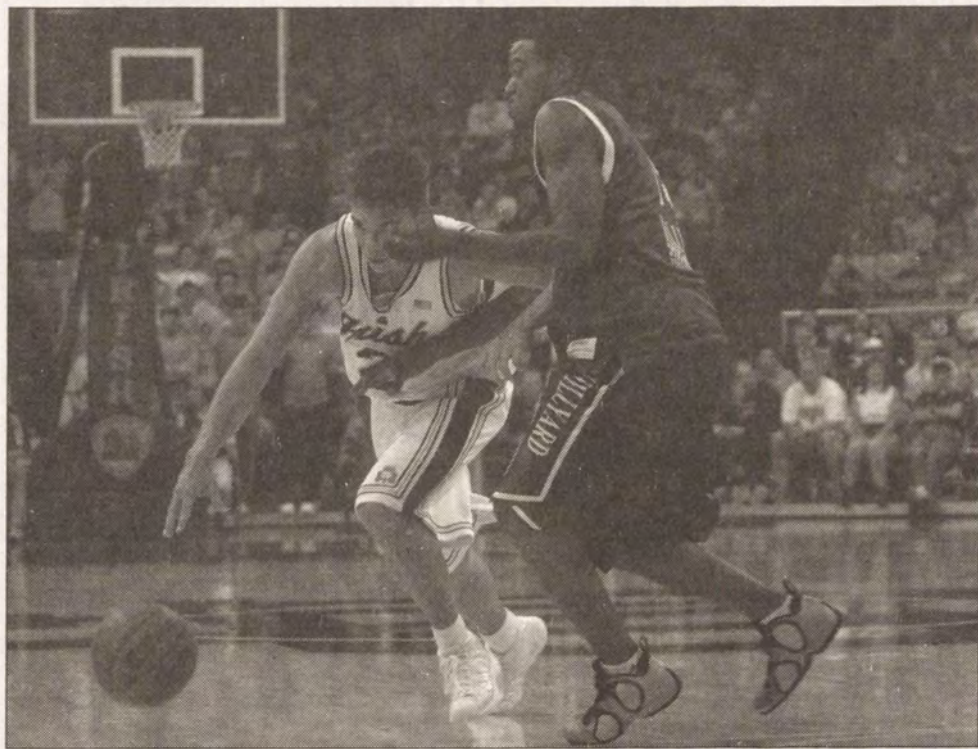
Highly-touted sharpshooter Colin Falls has looked shaky in exhibition games, but the veterans on the team say he earned their confidence over the summer. Russell Carter has the ability to put points on the board in a hurry, but his defensive ineptitude will probably limit his minutes as the season begins.

Notre Dame's top guards can match up well against any other guard group in the nation. But if the Irish get into foul trouble or somebody goes down with an injury, Brey will probably have a tough time - at least early on - going to one of his freshmen. That's why the early season-games are so vital toward helping Falls and Carter gain experience.



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Jordan Cornette looks to play a large role for this year's Irish.



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

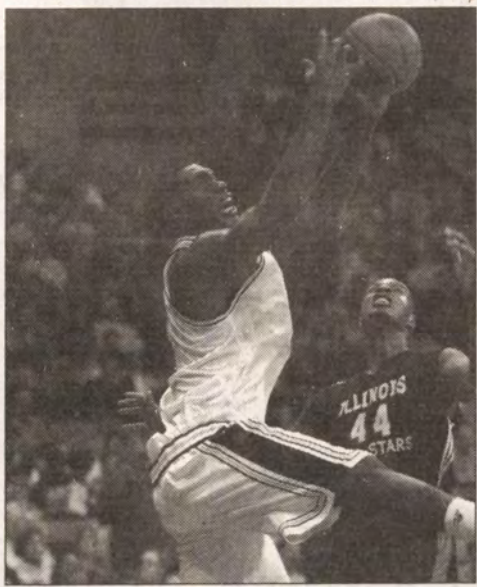
Chris Quinn drives against a Hoop Group defender. Quinn and Chris Thomas look to be a volatile backcourt duo for the Irish this season.

The big-man rotation

Who Brey plays in the middle will depend on who the Irish face. Francis and Cornette will undoubtedly see significant playing time, as will the team's biggest player, Tom Timmermans. And if needed, Jones can guard another team's big man.

But Brey has been pleasantly surprised by Rick Cornett's improvement in early-season practices, and wants to find a spot for Cornett in the rotation. While he lacks Timmerman's size, he gives the Irish a more reliable scoring threat down low and is a fierce rebounder.

Brey typically uses an eight-man rotation, which means some of the big men are going to see cutbacks in playing time. But which ones?



BUG DAVISSON/The Observer

Torin Francis grabs a rebound.

Early start

Notre Dame started formal practices the first week of September, before the Irish had even played a football game. They practiced 10 times before a foreign tour to Barbados, and will have had a full month between their foreign tour and their first game.

Is the early start, combined with a grueling schedule, too much? Nobody will know until February rolls around if early-season workouts will lead to late-season fatigue.

The non-conference gauntlet

Brey is a firm believer in scheduling tough teams to boost Notre Dame's all-important RPI rating, which is partially based on strength of schedule and is one of the factors the NCAA Tournament selection

committee uses to select the field of 64. But the Irish face one heck of a stretch that could hurt them if they don't win enough.

In addition to the traditionally difficult Big East conference schedule - where the Irish face all teams at least once - Notre Dame plays perennial powers Marquette, Indiana, Kentucky and UCLA. Plus, the Kentucky and UCLA games come right in the middle of Notre Dame's conference schedule. On the other hand, Notre Dame faced a tough slate last December of three consecutive top 10 teams - and beat them all.

Time will tell if the tough schedule will help or hurt Notre Dame.

February blues

Since Brey has been the head coach, the Irish have typically stumbled their way toward the finish line each season. In its last six games of the regular season, Notre Dame teams have gone 3-3 the last three years, and the Irish are a combined 17-11 in February and early March (as compared to 48-20 the rest of the season).

The schedule makes this February particularly tough, too. The Irish have away games at Boston College, defending champ Syracuse, preseason No. 1 Connecticut and UCLA, plus home games against Providence, Pittsburgh and Connecticut. The "easy" game? Seton Hall, which was picked to finish sixth in a preseason poll. All the other Big East teams the Irish play in February were predicted to finish higher.

The value of defense

Notre Dame uses a 25-letter alphabet that begins with A, B, C and E. That's right, no D.

Brey seemed almost resigned to having to out-shoot teams to win games, like the Irish have traditionally done in the past. And while the Irish have the offensive talent to run away from other teams, they run into problems when their shots are falling.

That's because Notre Dame is a lackluster defensive unit. Aside from Cornette and Jones, easily the team's top defenders, the Irish are often more focused on scoring than stopping.

The Irish must commit themselves toward establishing a dominating defensive presence, especially in close games. Then, and only then, will they advance deep into the NCAA Tournament.

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MEN'S OUTLOOK

GREG BOSL

6'1" GUARD
No. 55 — JR

High school senior statistics

Points	10.0
Rebounds	5.0
Assists	6.0




A walk-on who was added to the team to push Notre Dame's guards in practice, Bosl probably won't see much playing time this year. His brother, Mike, played for Villanova in 1998-99.

RUSSELL CARTER

6'4" GUARD
No. 43 — FR

High school senior statistics

Points	30.0
Rebounds	11.2
Assists	3.4



A talented athlete who can only be described as a work in progress, Carter can score in a hurry. But he struggles so much on defense that he might not see significant minutes until his defense improves.

RICK CORNETT

6'8" FORWARD
No. 11 — SO

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	5.1
Points	2.5
Rebounds	1.1
Blocks	0.3




Cornett barely saw playing time last year, but this season he has made tremendous strides and could crack the Irish rotation. Notre Dame will need his size once Big East play begins.

JORDAN CORNETTE

6'9" FORWARD
No. 21 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	19.4
Points	3.0
Rebounds	4.2
Blocks	2.2




As much as the rangy forward may like to hoist 3-pointers, Cornette's greatest asset to the Irish is a dominating defensive presence. He's quick enough to defend guards and tall enough to swat big men.

COLIN FALLS

6'4" GUARD
No. 15 — FR

High school senior statistics

Points	25.0
Rebounds	7.0
Assists	4.0



Falls committed to Notre Dame with the idea that he could eventually replace Matt Carroll as Notre Dame's premier sharpshooter. He has already earned the trust of the Irish veterans and will play often.

TORIN FRANCIS

6'11" FORWARD
No. 34 — SO

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	28.6
Points	11.1
Rebounds	8.4
Blocks	1.8




As Notre Dame's primary offensive weapon down low, Francis knows he has to eliminate the mistakes that plagued him last season. But this all-Big East rookie team member bulked up and improved in the off-season.

OMARI ISREAL

6'8" FORWARD
No. 5 — FR

High school senior statistics

Points	18.5
Rebounds	9.0
Blocks	3.0




Isreal's senior year of high school was cut short by an ACL injury in January that required surgery and may keep him sidelined this year. He was the first four-year starter in his high school's history.

TORRIAN JONES

6'4" GUARD
No. 20 — SR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	18.6
Points	4.9
Rebounds	3.3
Assists	1.3



The vocal Jones has patiently bided his time on the bench for the chance to emerge this year. The athletic guard scores by slashing to the basket, and his penetrating ability will generate shots on the perimeter.

DENNIS LATIMORE

6'8" FORWARD
No. 41 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	12.0
Points	3.2
Rebounds	3.1
Blocks	0.3




Latimore transferred from Arizona in the spring, and NCAA rules require him to spend a year on the sidelines. He'll be most helpful in practice helping develop Notre Dame's big men.

CHRIS QUINN

6'2" GUARD
No. 2 — SO

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	15.3
Points	3.9
Rebounds	1.6
Assists	1.5




A solid, dependable guard who has deadly range from the perimeter, Quinn will be able to take ballhandling duties away from Thomas. He's not flashy, but he takes care of the ball and gets the job done.

CHRIS THOMAS

6'1" GUARD
No. 1 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	36.7
Points	18.7
Rebounds	4.0
Assists	6.9




The lynchpin of Notre Dame's team, Thomas flirted with the NBA before returning for his junior year. Scouts say he's more mature but still has all the flash that made him a unanimous preseason all-Big East selection.

TOM TIMMERMANS

6'11" CENTER
No. 50 — SR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	12.6
Points	3.3
Rebounds	2.8
Blocks	0.1



The biggest player on Notre Dame's team, Timmerman's isn't expected to do much more than bang around in the middle. But he's also developed more finesse around the basket to make him an offensive option.

THE SCHEDULE

Nov. 24 Northern Illinois	Marquette Marquette is Notre Dame's first true test of the season. Although the Golden Eagles lost Dwayne Wade to the NBA, this historical rival and Final Four team will push the Irish.
Nov. 29 Mount St. Mary's	Indiana After a year off, the Notre Dame-Indiana rivalry resumes at the Joyce Center. The Irish haven't won this game since 1994.
Dec. 1 at Marquette	Syracuse The Irish get to take on the defending champs on national TV, their fourth of 11 scheduled TV games. In these two teams, Jay's 17 meetings, Syracuse holds a 10-2 edge.
Dec. 6 Central Michigan	Kentucky Notre Dame has been beaten handsily by the Wildcats the last three years, and the Irish haven't beaten Kentucky since 1990.
Dec. 10 Indiana	Pittsburgh How's this for a home stand—the Irish play Pittsburgh on Saturday.
Dec. 14 at DePaul	Connecticut ...and then take on the preseason No. 1 Huskies two days later.
Dec. 21 American	UCLA Although these two teams haven't played since 1995, there is plenty of history in this matchup. Notre Dame ended UCLA's NCAA-record winning streak of 88 games at the Joyce Center in 1974.
Dec. 23 Quinnipiac	Georgetown Georgetown isn't expected to be that good this year, but the Hoyas and Irish have played six overtime periods in their last three meetings.
Dec. 28 Morehead State	
Jan. 7 West Virginia	
Jan. 10 at Villanova	
Jan. 12 at Pittsburgh	
Jan. 17 Syracuse	
Jan. 20 at Virginia Tech	
Jan. 25 Kentucky	
Jan. 28 Miami	
Jan. 31 Rutgers	
Feb. 4 at Boston College	
Feb. 7 Pittsburgh	
Feb. 9 Connecticut	
Feb. 14 Seton Hall	
Feb. 16 at Syracuse	
Feb. 21 at Connecticut	
Feb. 24 Providence	
Feb. 28 at UCLA	
Mar. 4 Georgetown	
Mar. 6 at St. John's	
Mar. 10-13 Big East Tourney	
Mar. 18 NCAA Tourney Begins	

BIG EAST PRESEASON RANKINGS

This preseason No. 1 team is loaded and Emeka Okafor is easily one of the best big players in the nation.	CONNECTICUT	The defending champs may have lost Carmelo Anthony, but they're still among the Big East's elite.
There's not much you can do if the teams ranked ahead of you finished last season and started this one No. 1.	SYRACUSE	Sharpshooter Julius Page will lead the Panthers' attempt to repeat as Big East tournament champions.
The Friars have the potential to be one of the most surprising teams in the Big East this season.	NOTRE DAME	Andre Barrett leads a resurgent Seton Hall squad bent on making the NCAA Tournament.
Notre Dame hasn't beaten Villanova since 1984, including eight straight losses to the Wildcats in the Big East.	PITTSBURGH	Although the Irish have won the last four meetings, Craig Smith is one of the nation's most underrated players.
The Irish haven't lost to West Virginia, usually one of the Big East's cellar-dwellers at home since 1987.	PROVIDENCE	The Red Storm have fallen on hard times, but they did knock off Notre Dame in the Big East tourney last March.
Let's hear it for Darius Rice, the nephew of the famous wide receiver. And that's all Miami has going for it.	SETON HALL	
Rutgers' home court is one of the toughest places to play, but the Scarlet Knights won't give fans much to cheer about.	VILLANOVA	
	BOSTON COLLEGE	
	WEST VIRGINIA	
	ST. JOHN'S	
	MIAMI	The Hoyas lost a ton of talent, but two of their last three games against the Irish went at least to double overtime.
	GEORGETOWN	
	RUTGERS	Yikes. When the Hokies roll into town, it's usually a win for the other team. How soon do they go to the ACC?
	VIRGINIA TECH	

WOMEN'S OUTLOOK

JACQUELINE BATTEAST

6'2" FORWARD
No. 21 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	31.9
Points	13.9
Rebounds	8.3
Assists	2.5



A second-team all-Big East selection last season, Batteast has been one of the team's best scorers and rebounders during her first two years. This season, the junior looks to improve her consistency for the Irish.

TERESA BORTON

6'3" CENTER
No. 12 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	24.3
Points	8.0
Rebounds	5.0
Assists	.9



Borton had offseason heel surgery, but should be full go soon. She had a solid sophomore campaign and started every game last year for the Irish. Borton plays good defense and give the team an offensive spark at times.

MEGAN DUFFY

5'7" GUARD
No. 13 — SO

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	23.4
Points	3.0
Rebounds	1.9
Assists	2.28



Duffy played well as a freshman, but should break out into a star player this season. She's a great floor general and has already established herself as a leader on the court in just one year of playing college ball.

CRYSTAL ERWIN

6'2" FORWARD
No. 34 — FR
High school senior statistics

Points	21.2
Rebounds	10.2
Blocks	3.1



Erwin will give the Irish a very physical player that will bang around in the post. She plays aggressive, however, which makes her prone to major foul trouble at times. Yet she'll be a solid role player off the bench.

KATY FLECKY

6'2" FORWARD
No. 33 — JR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	23.3
Points	7.0
Rebounds	4.1
Assists	1.5



An aggressive player, Flecky was called "the X factor" this season by coach McGraw because she could be the biggest difference-maker. The team will look to Flecky to become a bigger outside presence in 2003.

BREONA GRAY

5'9" GUARD
No. 32 — FR

High school senior statistics

Points	17.0
Rebounds	6.8



Gray is a very good defender and will be primarily used in that role during the 2003 season. She's also a solid athlete who can play intense for long stretches after starring on the high school track team.

MONIQUE HERNANDEZ

5'9" GUARD
No. 23 — SR

2001-02 Statistics

Minutes	6.9
Points	0.2
Rebounds	0.5
Assists	0.6



Hernandez is back with the Irish after not playing last season. She should be a key role player and see significant minutes in '03. Her experience will be an asset for the younger players.

JENEKA JOYCE

5'9" GUARD
No. 5 — SR

2001-02 Statistics

Minutes	16.6
Points	3.4
Rebounds	1.5
Assists	1.2



Joyce sat out last season with a variety of injuries and has struggled to be healthy for any extended period of time during her career. She can become a very formidable 3-point shooter if she can stay on the court.

COURTNEY LaVERE

6'3" FORWARD
No. 41 — SO

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	22.6
Points	12.3
Rebounds	5.6
Assists	0.7



LaVere is one of the best young forwards in the Big East after claiming All-Rookie honors last season. She emerged late last season as a reliable scorer and rebounder who can dominate a game at anytime.

SUSIE POWERS

5'11" GUARD
No. 3 — FR

High school statistics

Points	15.7
Assists	6.8



Powers connected on over 42 percent of her 3-point attempts in high school and will become outside threat for the Irish. She could see some minutes at shooting guard, but is versatile enough to play three positions.

LE'TANIA SEVERE

5'8" GUARD
No. 4 — SR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	30.6
Points	7.3
Rebounds	3.7
Assists	3.8



Severe returns to become a two-time captain and will be the leader of the Irish. She runs the offense well and can score if given the chance. Severe brings leadership and will be the glue for the 2003 team.

ANNE WEESE

5'8" GUARD
No. 44 — SR

2002-03 Statistics

Minutes	1.4
Points	0.1
Rebounds	0.4
Assists	0.0



Weese spent two years at a highly-competitive community college before walking onto Notre Dame's team as a junior. She will be a bench leader for the team, lending advice to the young girls.

THE SCHEDULE

- Nov. 21 Valparaiso
- Nov. 26 at Michigan St.
- Nov. 30 at Tennessee
- Dec. 4 Wisconsin
- Dec. 7 at Washington
- Dec. 13 Dayton
- Dec. 22 USC
- Dec. 29 at Colorado St.
- Jan. 1 Marquette
- Jan. 4 at Purdue
- Jan. 7 at Georgetown
- Jan. 10 Virginia Tech
- Jan. 13 Connecticut
- Jan. 17 at West Virginia
- Jan. 21 at Syracuse
- Jan. 24 Villanova
- Jan. 28 at Miami
- Jan. 31 Boston College
- Feb. 4 Georgetown
- Feb. 8 at Seton Hall
- Feb. 14 Providence
- Feb. 17 at St. John's
- Feb. 21 at Pittsburgh
- Feb. 25 Miami
- Feb. 28 at Rutgers
- Mar. 2 Syracuse
- Mar. 6-9 Big East Tourney
- Mar. 21 NCAA Tourney Begins

Tennessee
The Lady Vols are a constant threat in the NCAA Final Four. This season is head coach Pat Summitt's 30th year.

Purdue
Seniors Shereka Wright and Erika Valek look to lead the Boilermakers this season. This game will be a rematch of the 2001 National Championship game.

Virginia Tech
A rough conference opponent for the Irish, the Hokies return 10 letter winners and three starters.

Connecticut
The reigning champs always pose a formidable challenge for the Irish. All-American candidate Diana Taurasi leads the way.

Boston College
Boston College comes off their most successful season in program history. The Eagles defeated the Irish last year, 76-48.

Rutgers
The Irish face the Scarlet Knights on the road, in the last weekend before the Big East Championship. The Irish will be looking to avenge last season's home loss.

BIG EAST PRESEASON RANKINGS

CONNECTICUT	The Huskies have the last two national titles and went 37-1 last season. They are the team to beat again in 2003.
RUTGERS	The Scarlet Knights return four starters, including star player Cappie Pondexter after finishing 21-8 last season.
NOTRE DAME	The Hokies went 22-10 and made the second round of the NCAA tourney last season. They return three starters.
VIRGINIA TECH	Miami went 18-13 and made the NCAA tournament in 2002-03 and look to improve after losing just one starter.
BOSTON COLLEGE	The Eagles went 22-9 and made it to Sweet 16. They should have another good season in 2003-04.
MIAMI	The Mountaineers were 15-13 last season, but might improve with the return of four starters for the 2003-04 campaign.
VILLANOVA	The Pirates went 14-15 last season and lose three players from that team. They will struggle again in a tough conference.
WEST VIRGINIA	The Panthers lose four starters from last season's 12-16 team. Inexperience could make it a long year for the team.
GEORGETOWN	The Hoyas have starplayer Shereka Wright back after going 15-14 last season. They should be better than past teams.
SETON HALL	Syracuse returns all five starters from last season's 10-18 team. They will be more experienced, but will struggle.
SYRACUSE	A more experienced Red Storm team returns all five starters, but will still be weak in the Big East.
PITTSBURGH	
ST. JOHN'S	
PROVIDENCE	

Leading by example

Two-time captain brings leadership, great floor skills to Irish team

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Editor

Muffet McGraw thinks Le'Tania Severe is more than just a good basketball player. That label doesn't do the senior guard justice.

"I just love her," McGraw said, "because she comes in every day with a big smile on her face, no matter how much stress she's under. Things can go wrong in your life, but she always sees the silver lining. She's somebody that is inspira-

tional to me, and to all the players that know her."

Severe attributes her positive attitude to the way she was raised. She said her family always believed that it is

important to make the best of any situation.

"Throughout life not everything goes as smoothly as you expect," Severe said. "Within my family we've always tried to have a positive attitude so that's how I try and come into practice. Everyone has their other things going on that may make them a little upset before practice so I try and bring a mile and cheer people up a little bit. I understand we have other issues besides basketball."

Severe's personality and basketball skills set her up to become just the 15th two-year captain in Irish women's basketball history this season. She is the lone captain on the team after being a co-captain last season.

"It's a great honor to be captain two years in a row," Severe said.

McGraw said the senior deserves being a two-time captain because of her desire to win every time she steps on the court.

"She just wants to win and she'll do whatever it takes," McGraw said. "If that means she doesn't score, then she doesn't score. She just defends and rebounds, whatever we have to do, she's going to do it."

Teammate and fellow guard Megan Duffy said Severe has been a model for the other players to follow during her career.

"Le probably brings the most intensity to out team," Duffy said. "She's always working hard. She's more of a leader by example and she comes to practice every day ready to work and she also a good example off the court as well."

Severe had to step into a leadership role earlier in her career than other players

because of how young the Irish were during her sophomore season.

"Being a point guard you take on a lot of the leadership role," Severe said. "Sophomore year was when I started to become a leader on the team because we had a lot of freshmen and I was kind of like an upperclassman. Since then on, everyone's been very helpful and they to me a lot of times during games and practice for leadership."

Severe has been a mainstay on the women's basketball

team for four years now, coming to Notre Dame from Pembroke Pines, Fla. She was a standout point guard on her Fort Lauderdale team and averaged 12.7 points, 5.1 rebounds, 6.1 assists

and 4.4 steals her senior year. After being recruited by Florida State, Miami and Tulane Severe chose the Irish for several reasons.

"When it came down to it, Notre Dame had the best athletic and academic reputation," Severe said.

Her career started with a national championship in the 2000-01 season. While she never started a game that year, Severe did play in 22 contests and that experience has continued to help her, even into her senior season.

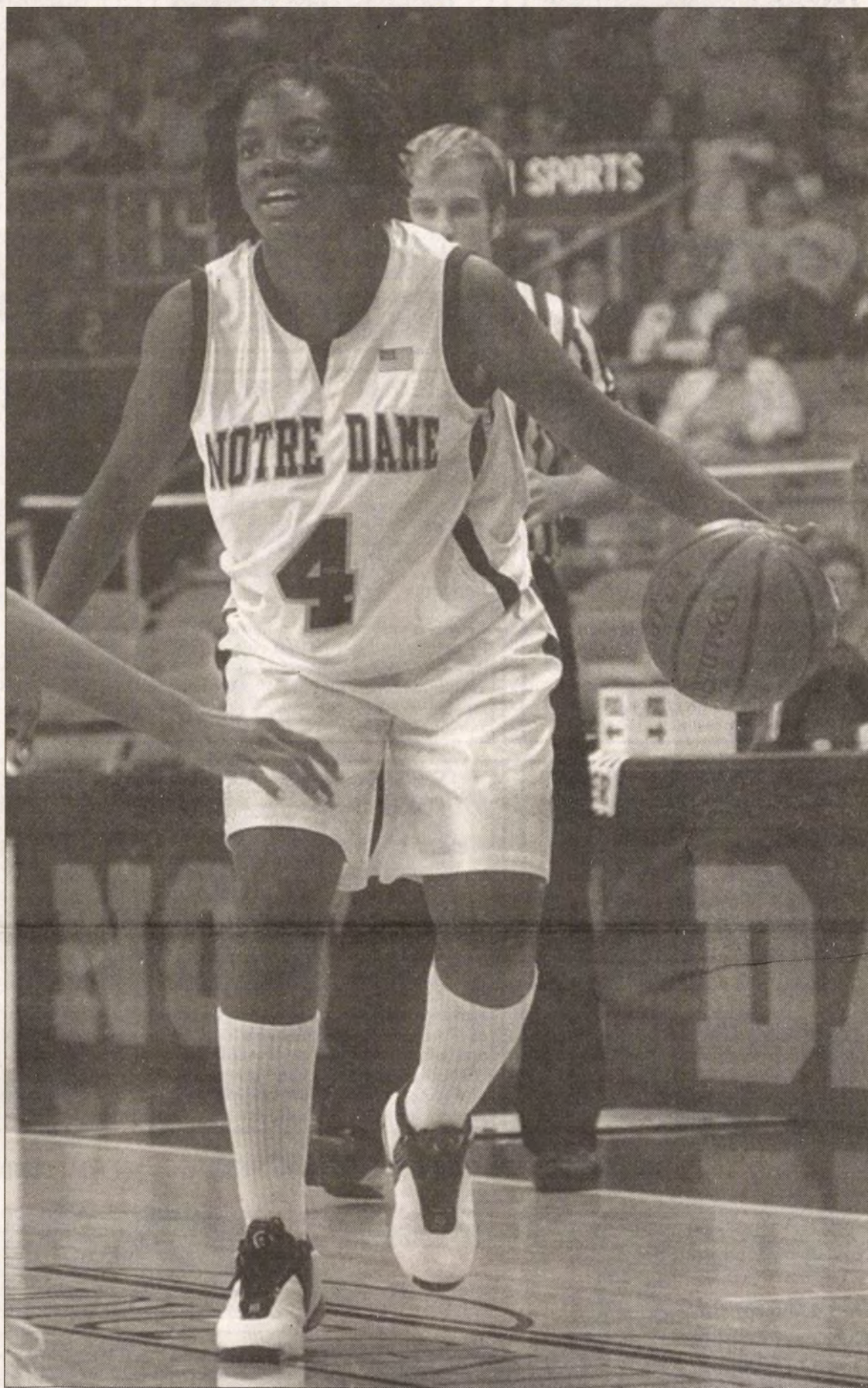
"It was a great experience, especially to just come in and play behind a player like Niele Ivey," Severe said. "She taught me how to be a leader and how to give 100 percent every day. She always came in ready to practice and that's something I took from that year. I've tried to help the younger players every year to instill that [work ethic] into them every day."

In her sophomore season, Severe saw significantly more playing time, starting in 24 of the team's 30 games and averaging 6.6 points and leading the team with 4.9 assists per game.

Her junior year was even better as Severe started in all 32 games for Notre Dame and upped her points average to 7.3 and led the team again with 3.8 assists. She also added 2.15 steals.

Her best game that season helped send Notre Dame to the Sweet 16. The Irish played Kansas State in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on the Wildcats home court. Kansas State had won 22 games in a row and was 29-4 entering their game against Notre Dame.

But the Wildcats hadn't counted on Severe playing so exceptionally, as the then-jun-



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Le'Tania Severe brings the ball up the court against the Northwest All Stars in an Irish exhibition win Nov. 2. Severe, a two-time captain, provides the Irish with strong leadership.

ior scorched Kansas State for 17 points, eight rebounds and four assists, while playing all 40 minutes, in the Irish 59-53 victory.

This season

After winning the national title as a freshman, Severe has played on two other good, but not great, Irish teams. Notre Dame went 20-10 and lost in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in 2001-02 and followed that with a 21-10 record and a Sweet Sixteen appearance last season.

But this season, in her final year, Severe said she believes the team can move even further into the tournament.

"I think this team has a lot of potential," Severe said. "We're way ahead of where we were at this time the [last] two years. We're getting better every day and I'm happy with the way the team looks. I think

we're going to do great things."

The Irish opened their season with a victory over then-No. 22 Arizona 77-64, before losing in overtime with then-No. 20 Colorado on the road. But both McGraw and Severe said the team has played well in both games.

Despite playing in the tough Big East conference, the team should challenge for a conference title with a very talented returning squad. McGraw said those returning players will be playing not only for themselves, but also to help Severe

end her career as a winner.

"I think people generally like her because she such a great person," McGraw said. "She's an easy person for the team to follow and she does things the way you're supposed to do it. She wants to go out a

winner and the team would love to do that for her."

"She is the hardest worker every day," McGraw said. "She gives a 110 percent in the games and she never takes a minute off."

Le'Tania Severe
Irish guard

"Throughout life not everything goes as smoothly as you expect ... I understand we have other issues besides basketball."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

Junior trio will be deciding factor for '03-'04 Irish

Irish must rely on Batteast, Borton and Flecky to make the difference for this year's squad

During her team's championship run in 2001, Irish coach Muffet McGraw recruited the future of Notre Dame women's basketball, knowing her team would need a couple of years to rebuild before challenging for another title.



Joe Hettler

Sports Editor

Two years later, McGraw knows the next two seasons present that championship opportunity.

Jacqueline Batteast, Katy Flecky and Teresa Borton are the three remaining members of that recruiting class, and all three have played well in their first two seasons for the Irish.

But before, Notre Dame didn't have a true chance to win a title.

The immediate post-Ruth Riley era was a time to rebuild for future championship chances. The team was inexperienced for the most part, and the pressure wasn't as high.

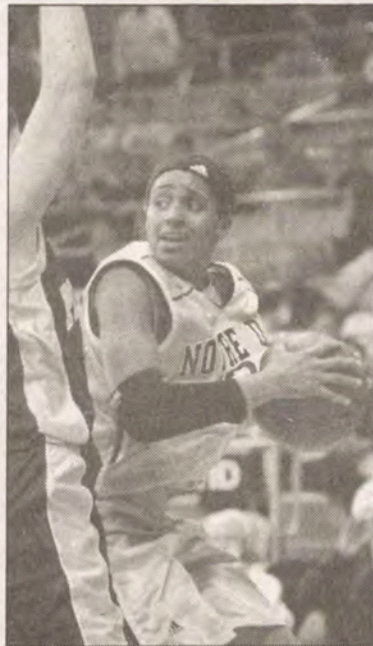
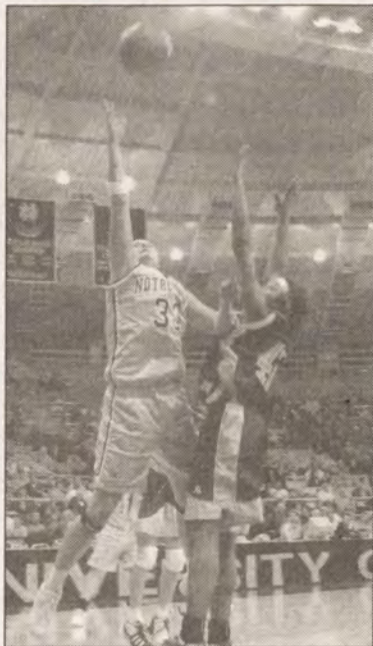
Unlike 2001, when Notre Dame was expected to not just compete with but beat the Connecticut and Purdue's of the basketball world, the expectations were lowered in the following two years, as they should have been. Staying within striking distance until half-time was considered a pretty good game against tougher foes, and that's mainly what Notre Dame did against top teams. They would battle for a half before losing by 15 to 20 points.

Batteast, Flecky and Borton played well during those times. They improved throughout their first two seasons and showed greatness at times. Batteast was named Big East Rookie of the Year during her freshman campaign and received numerous

other accolades since then. Flecky and Borton have been major contributors, and both have been instrumental in the success Notre Dame had in

the past two seasons.

But McGraw isn't asking those three to be role players or even have solid seasons in 2003-04. She needs the trio to break out and dominant in the Big East



ANDY KENNA/The Observer

Juniors Katy Flecky (left), Jacqueline Batteast (center) and Teresa Borton have all played well in their first two years. This season, those three will be needed to make even bigger contributions.

and NCAA Tournament.

Batteast must find consistency after having an up-and-down sophomore year. Borton needs to stay injury-free and be an everyday scoring threat after averaging eight points a game last season.

And Flecky must make the greatest improvements, because she will switch from playing more inside to becoming one of the team's most important outside threats, with the loss of Alicia Ratay to graduation last season. Ratay ended her career with the highest career 3-point-shooting percentage of all-

time.

How those three improve will determine how far this Notre Dame team goes in the 2003-04 season. They have the other pieces in place — a solid senior leader in La'Tania Severe, two outstanding sophomores in Megan Duffy and Courtney LaVere and an impressive freshman class with three possibly immediate contributors.

The X factor will be the three juniors and their ability to move from good players to every-game difference-makers. McGraw saw that kind of talent in the trio over two years ago

when she recruited them to be a part of Notre Dame's future.

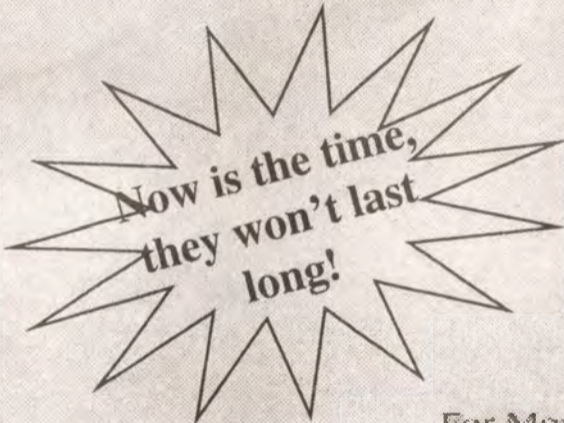
Two years later, the future is now and the hopes of another national championship run rests in the collective hands of three junior players who can make this team better than simply a good women's basketball team.

They can make them a great one.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

The X factor will be the three juniors and their ability to move from good players to every-game difference-makers.

Lafayette Square Townhomes



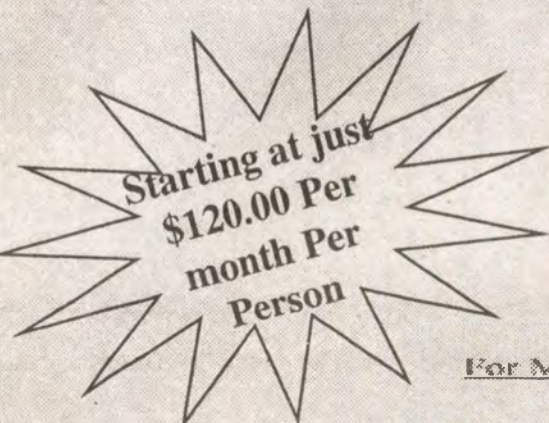
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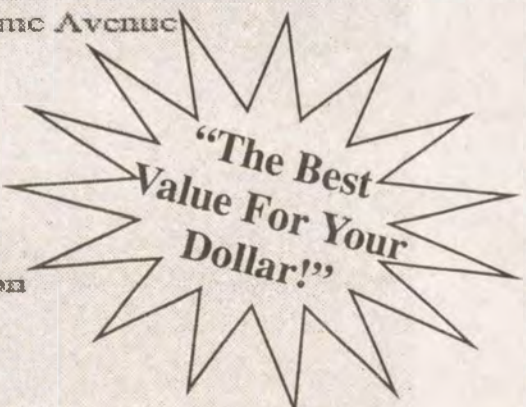
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