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Majors show some gender imbalance

College of Science, architecture school are exceptions

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series on gender representation in Notre Dame's colleges.

By KATE GALES
News Writer

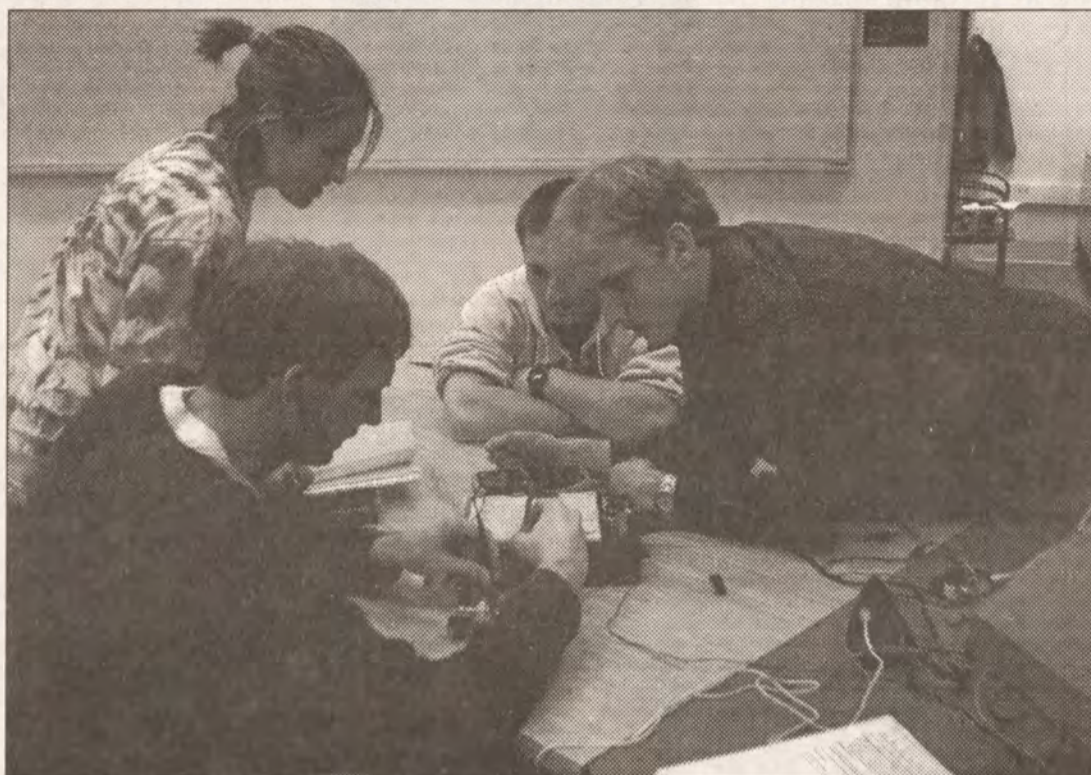
How often does a professor look over his or her 100 students and see 47 women and 53 men?

Not often. Instead, many immediately notice a striking difference in the number of men and women enrolled in a particular class.

None of the University's five undergraduate divisions — the College of Arts and Letters, the College of Science, the College of Engineering, the Mendoza College of Business and the School of Architecture — can claim a gender breakdown exactly proportional to the 4,358 men and 3,813 women making up Notre Dame's undergraduate population, according to the Office of Institutional Research. However, some areas see a more significant sex discrepancy than others. A closer examination of the people behind the statistics generated each semester reveals changing trends in education.

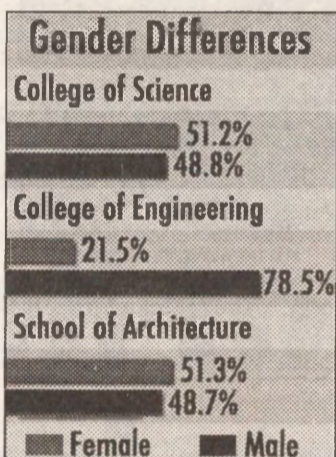
Deans, professors and advisers at Notre Dame have worked to combat stereotypes of a single sex dominating a college or major. Although some generalizations have held true, two areas where there is a significant gen-

see GENDER/page 4



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Senior Electrical Engineering majors Allan Cooke, Jon Hilliard, Matt Connolly and Nicole Wykoff work on their Senior Design project in the Engineering Learning Center. The makeup of their group is close to that of the College, where just over 1 in 5 engineers are female.



Only 21.5 percent of engineers are female

By KATE GALES
News Writer

It's a man's world, and that's exactly what Cathy Pieronek is trying to change.

At Notre Dame, nearly four out of five students enrolled in the College of Engineering are male. Women are a visible and significant minority, comprising only 21.5 percent of the undergraduates enrolled in the col-

lege. "Our biggest goal is keeping the women who already go here interested and making sure the program meets their needs," Pieronek, director of the Women's Engineering Program, said.

The WEP was created in 2002 to better serve the needs of females in the College of Engineering.

see ENGINEER/page 4

Xerox VP to speak at SMC graduation

By ANGELA SAOUD
Saint Mary's Editor

Diane Daly McGarry, the vice president and chief marketing officer at Xerox Corporation, will be the Saint Mary's commencement speaker, College officials announced Friday.

"I'm thrilled, honored and overwhelmed," McGarry, who attended Saint Mary's in the late 1960s, said. "Some of the best experiences of my life were at Saint Mary's, and I'm so looking forward to coming and meeting everyone."



McGarry

Susan Dampier, executive assistant to College President Marilou Eldred, said there are a number of reasons McGarry was chosen.

"She has a wonderful life story," Dampier said. "When she was a student here, she was what we called a staff student worker. She worked everyday at the dining hall, in addition to having two part-time jobs, [as a] gas station

see MCGARRY/page 6

Army ROTC cadets conduct field training in Michigan



MATT BRAMANTI/The Observer

Senior Leon Gil commands during training exercises this weekend at Ft. Custer.

By MATT BRAMANTI
Senior Staff Writer

FT. CUSTER, Mich. — The Fighting Irish Battalion lived up to its name last weekend, as Notre Dame's Army ROTC unit conducted training exercises at Ft. Custer, near Battle Creek, Mich.

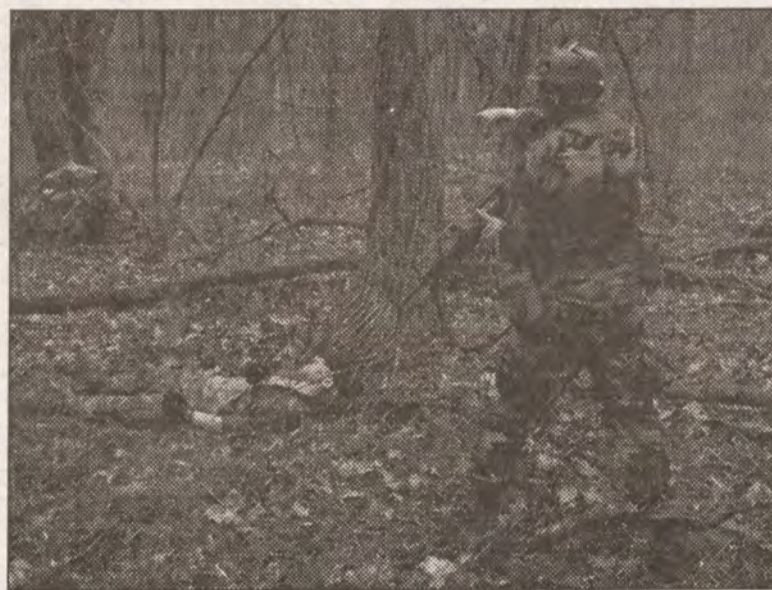
About 85 Notre Dame ROTC students joined more than 200 cadets from Central, Western and Eastern Michigan Universities and the University of Michigan for the weekend-long field training exercise — dubbed "Operation Snow Warrior."

The battalion left Pasquerilla Center Friday afternoon and drove to Ft. Custer. Upon their arrival, the cadets — clad in camouflage fatigues and combat boots — stowed their equipment in barracks that once housed German prisoners of war during World War II. The cadets then assembled behind the base's headquarters building for a regimental activation ceremony, where personnel from all five universities were

put under the command of Lt. Col. Kelly Jordan, Notre Dame professor of military science. After an honor guard unveiled the regimental colors — a gold flag bearing the shield from the Notre Dame seal — Jordan encouraged the cadets to use their time at Ft. Custer effectively. Jordan, a former instructor at West Point who has a Ph.D. in history, compared the weekend's opportunities to the Allied invasion at Normandy in 1944.

"Just like Eisenhower had a 36-hour window on D-Day, you'll have a short window to make the most of your training time here," he said. "We've got a lot of great things for you."

The FTX is intended to prepare students for the Leader Development and Assessment Course, taken during the summer after the cadets' junior year. The LDAC, held at Ft. Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash., is a 32-day course that prepares cadets for careers as Army officers. Cadets — who are commissioned as second lieutenants before graduation from Notre Dame — receive



MATT BRAMANTI/The Observer

A Western Michigan cadet signals to a comrade as he covers for a fallen OpFor soldier during training exercises at Ft. Custer this weekend.

full scholarships in return for a four-year commitment to active duty.

Jordan went on to encourage the senior cadets to prepare their younger colleagues for the rigors of LDAC training and evaluation.

"For you [seniors], this is

your time to pass on your knowledge," Jordan said. "Let's go out there with fire in our eyes and warrior ethos in our hearts."

Following the ceremony, the cadets returned to their barracks.

see ROTC/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Of age

"Score!" The cadet's face lit up as he held up seven-dollar cup of Bud Light. "They said they'd give out free beer for a man in uniform!"

He trotted proudly back up the bleacher steps, showing off his alcoholic badge of appreciation to the 60-odd soldiers who had accompanied him to this Detroit Tigers-Cleveland Indians spring training game in Lakeland, Fla., and urging them to go cash in on the deal for themselves.



Claire Heininger

News Editor

"That is," he added with a smirk, "if you're of age." Sitting three rows down at Joker Merchant Stadium, savoring peanuts with the shells still on and avoiding the swatting arms of would-be foul ball snatchers, his comment snapped me out of my lazy Sunday haze.

Of age. Here were soldiers dotting the third base line grandstand with their black hats, lace-up combat boots and full-length camouflage, worn proudly if damply in the 83-degree sun. Here were soldiers taking a day off from training, from preparing to fight for their country, so they could watch career minor leaguers take a swing at clearing the advertisements — from "Ballpark Franks: A Hot, Steamy Love Affair" to "CBS Fantasy Baseball: We built it, come" — that covered the outfield fences. Here were soldiers shrugging the weight of the most powerful country in the free world off their shoulders, if only for an ugly three-hour, five-error slugfest.

And here was that country telling them they couldn't handle a beer.

These were not indignant 17 year olds begging for booze, nor were they devious 20 year olds wielding shoddy fake ID's to enter an even shoddier bar. These were men and women who wake up before the crack of dawn to train for a war that major politicians are contesting and half of Americans don't believe in. These were dedicated, sacrificing professionals, "of age" to join in heated combat on the battlefield — but underage to take a sip while watching the action on the infield.

Though it didn't seem to concern them at the moment — taunts of "you know I could play third base better than that!" and "balk! balk!" reverberated off the metal stands above me — the biting contradiction of the situation hit me hard.

I was bound for five nights of break in Miami Beach, but the peanuts suddenly made me feel sick to my stomach, and I let the bag crunch under my feet. I doubt the men in uniform knew where they were headed, but for the at least half of them who were clearly under 21 — hell, they didn't even need to shave — it sure wasn't to the concession stand.

"Game time," read the final sign, a cursive "Budweiser" scrawled across six feet of dead center field.

Who, exactly, is responsible enough to play?

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

In Friday's Observer, the editorial "Encourage all prospects to visit" incorrectly stated that U.S. News & World Report ranks dream schools. Princeton Review ranks schools by this criteria. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: SHOULD NOTRE DAME DESIGNATE MORE WEEKENDS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS TO VISIT?

Kevin Walsh
Sophomore
Fisher

"Can we just have more weekends?"

Megan Lee
Sophomore
Welsh Family

"Only if they're hot."

Tom Schreck
Sophomore
Fisher

"Why? Is Notre Dame hurting for students?"

Emily Sladek
Freshman
Pangborn

"Aren't they invited every weekend?"



MATTHEW SMEDBERG/The Observer

Sophomore Claudia Jullao and senior Jessea Campbell participate in a three-legged race during the Lewis Hall Chicken Run Sunday afternoon. The chicken run is Lewis' signature event.

OFFBEAT

Police Investigate nearly 200 Hooters videos

WEST COVINA, Calif. — Nearly 200 women who applied for jobs at a Hooters restaurant were secretly videotaped in a trailer while they undressed to put on a Hooters uniform, police said.

Authorities raided the trailer last month and seized a computer that held 180 digital videos of the women, ages 17-25, Lt. Mark Dettor said.

"None of us suspected we would find that many videos, and we are dealing with victims who are shocked and feel betrayed,"

he said.

Hooters is a national chain known for its scantily clad waitresses, who wear low-cut tank tops and shorts. The restaurant in West Covina, about 18 miles outside of Los Angeles, was scheduled to open in April.

Officials worry as goat farmer's herd grows

CORINTH, Vt. — State officials are investigating a man whose goats and his religious convictions against killing them have collided in a possibly inhumane and definitely stinky way.

There were three goats

on the farm Chris Weathersbee's mother bought seven years ago. Now there are 300 — including 70 living in his house, much of which is covered with a mix of goat droppings and hay.

Authorities last month raided the farm in Corinth, about 20 miles southeast of Montpelier, and seized 44 deemed unhealthy by a veterinarian. State police and the Central Vermont Humane Society are weighing whether to pursue animal cruelty or neglect charges.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Michael O'Sullivan will speak on "Engineering Careers and the Energy Industry" as a part of the Distinguished Lecture Series from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. today in DeBartolo Hall room 101.

Architect and educator Thomas Norman Rajkovich will present a lecture "Climbing Mount Parnassus: Drawing Parallels" from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. today in Bond Hall room 104.

To mark Cesar Chavez Day, a variety of events including the showing of a video, a discussion and a candlelight procession to the grotto will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. today in DeBartolo Hall room 102.







The New Directions in Russian Cinema Film Series will sponsor a showing of the movie "Sideburns" from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. tonight in DeBartolo hall room 120.

The Indian Student Association will present the film "Fire," along with a discussion and Indian food from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. tonight in Montgomery Theatre in LaFortune Student Center.

The Class of 2005 will host Irish Idol 2! tonight from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Legends.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart rector Father Peter Rocca will say Mass in the last homily series tonight from 9 to 10 p.m. in the Alumni Hall Chapel.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
												
	HIGH	61	HIGH	49	HIGH	53	HIGH	46	HIGH	43	HIGH	48
	LOW	38	LOW	38	LOW	40	LOW	29	LOW	32	LOW	35

Atlanta 68 / 50 Boston 46 / 34 Chicago 58 / 37 Denver 63 / 35 Houston 76 / 53 Los Angeles 89 / 57 Minneapolis 40 / 27 New York 52 / 37 Philadelphia 54 / 38 Phoenix 56 / 40 Seattle 70 / 51 St. Louis 65 / 39 Tampa 81 / 58 Washington 55 / 41

Students gather for peace

By KATIE MOUNTS
News Writer

Speakers from the Notre Dame community, across the nation and from abroad gathered to speak at the two-day Notre Dame Peace Conference Friday and Saturday, which organizers called a success even though fewer students than desired attended the event.

One of the most prominent speakers, Juan Mendez, Notre Dame's director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the Notre Dame Law School and adopted "Prisoner of Conscience" of Amnesty International, spoke about the importance of combining concerns for peace with those for human rights.

"Peace, along with the absence of violence and killings, means a redress of human rights violations," he said. He questioned the often lesser priority given to consequences of human rights violations as a part of amnesty agreements.

"The point is to insist on a better peace."

Some of the most popular presentations were a debate on just war, a moderated discussion on America's domestic issues with peace and another discussion on case studies related to the establishment of peace.

Notre Dame seniors Kate Belden and Maureen Fitzpatrick were two of the five presenters for the case studies presentation. They spoke passionately

about conflicts in Burma, an Asian country plagued by civil warfare.

"Kate and I have been consumed with learning more about the situation in Burma," Fitzpatrick said.

The two students are also putting their words into action on campus by trying to establish Notre Dame's own chapter of the Free Burma Coalition. Fitzpatrick thought the conference was a "good opportunity to engage in dialogue about these issues."

"On a campus that's not very politically active," Belden said, "we'll do anything we can to spread the word about the coalition. It's also very encouraging to see the other case studies and see what other people are doing."

Student co-chair Monica JacirZablah said that with the diversity of topics, organizers were able to bring in a wider variety of speaker, including more international applicants, from different fields.

Faculty sponsor Daniel Philpott spoke to the success of the conference.

"It's fabulous," he said. "The students did an incredible job organizing and put an incredible amount of time into it, and it's paying off."

The event's success, however, only came after a tremendous amount of work by the student sponsors.

"It was a lot more work than we expected," JacirZablah said. She said she had to handle "problems that came up with



MATTHEW SMEDBERG/The Observer

Juan Mendez, director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the Law School, delivers the sendoff speech at the Peace Conference Saturday afternoon.

every event" such as making sure the schedule was followed carefully to ensure that all later events were not delayed.

JacirZablah also commented on the lack of political activism and student enthusiasm for peace studies, given the low attendance by Notre Dame students.

Thus, while over 100 people attended this year's conference, more than in past years, organizers were still disappointed that less than two percent of the Notre Dame community attended the widely publicized event.

Contact Katie Mounts at kmounts@nd.edu

Organizers are pleased with Spring Visitation

By AMANDA SHROPSHIRE
News Writer

The excitement of Spring Visitation weekend has come to an end, with the departure of 160 visiting minority students.

This annual event introduces minority students to life at Notre Dame, in hopes that they will choose to attend the University. Spring Visitation weekend began over 20 years and is filled with events that try to relate to the students on many different levels.

Many current Notre Dame students, like juniors Stephanie Marshall and Nicole Rogers, served as hosts.

"The first night my recruit and I toured campus because she wanted to walk around and take pictures," Marshall said. "My recruit went to the BCAC Fashion Show and Latin Expressions without me because I had to work. She seemed to enjoy herself and to be having a lot of fun."

Latin Expressions and the BCAC Fashion Show are the major events that take place during the weekend. To most, these events serve as an introduction to what can happen at Notre Dame.

Rogers said the weekend influenced her decision to choose Notre Dame.

"Spring [Visitation] definitely confirmed my desire to come

to Notre Dame after seeing the people here," said Rogers. "The activities during the weekend are the most exciting because of the minority presence. It is a good recruiting tool to promote diversity."

But the sentiment also exists that the weekend is not an accurate representation of life at Notre Dame.

"I also think it is important for the incoming students to know that Spring [Visitation] weekend does not accurately reflect the complexion of the student body on an everyday basis," Rogers said.

Marshall did not attend Spring Visitation when she was in high school, but said if she had it would have helped her.

"I didn't go to Spring [Visitation]," Marshall said. "I see now that if I had it would have made the transition better in terms of meeting people and making friends."

Several organizers and student hosts said the weekend was a success, producing great events and a weekend of excitement on campus. They added that they heard many positive comments from the prospective students.

"I think she was pretty close to making a decision to come to Notre Dame," Rogers said of her prospect.

Contact Amanda Shropshire at ashrop01@saintmarys.edu

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Engineer

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According to Pieronek, less than 20 percent of the degrees in engineering earned nationwide are earned by women, and less than one in 10 professional engineers are women. This number can be deceptive, however, as women with degrees in engineering are involved with a variety of professions such as patent law and education.

"The first thing is that we're limited by the pool of students who come to us," Pieronek said. "We're limited by choices girls make in junior high. ... [Many] girls aren't exposed to careers [in engineering] early enough to become interested."

In addition to the WEP, the Society of Women Engineers is an active force on campus.

"Part of what we try to do is bring people to campus," Pieronek said. "Our students have a lot of opportunities to meet women connected with engineering."

Freshmen women in the engineering program are assigned a "big sister" by SWE to help them feel comfortable with the primarily male college.

"I think that's a really good idea," said Michelle Hamrah, a freshman enrolled in the College of Engineering. "Sometimes you need to talk to

someone who's more experienced than you to help make decisions and know that you can make it through [the program], even though it's difficult."

The sex discrepancy in engineering is also reflected in the faculty of the College of Engineering — another potential deterrent to female undergraduates. Pieronek said the "lack of professional role models" in both

academia and the work force are a problem with young women's interest in engineering.

According to the November Notre Dame Report, there are only five women on the faculty of the college, in the chemical, civil and computer science and engineering departments. None of the faculty members in aerospace and mechanical engineering or electrical engineering are women.

Dealing with a predominantly male major is a challenge for many female undergraduates.

"Sometimes I think guys in programs don't realize that the young women have different experiences and bring different strengths to projects," Pieronek said.

She notes that men tend to have more experience in computer programming, whereas women often demonstrate sharper communication

skills — perhaps due to choices made in high school curricula.

First-year advisers also pay special attention to women who have expressed an interest in engineering, realizing that the environment, though challenging, is not impossible.

"Engineering isn't harder than pre-professional programs," said Holly Martin, an adviser to first-year students. "It's hard in its own way, but not harder than the other sciences. ... Half of pre-professionals are women, why are they not in engineering?"

To make this goal a reality at Notre Dame, the college has set high goals with regards to recruiting female students and faculty

members, as announced in the college's Engineering Insights newsletter.

"Once you get enough people together, others see success, and you've created an environment to reach more people," Pieronek said. "Keeping students here is the biggest issue."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu.

"We're limited by choices girls make in junior high ... [Many] girls aren't exposed to careers [in engineering] early enough to become interested."

Cathy Pieronek
Women's Engineering
Program Director

"Sometimes you need to talk to someone who's more experienced than you to help make decisions ..."

Michelle Hamrah
Freshman engineer

Gender

continued from page 1

der balance are the College of Science and the School of Architecture.

Joseph Marino, dean of the College of Science, is optimistic about the fact women are actually the majority in the college he oversees. In science, women hold a slight majority; 51.2 percent of the undergraduates are female.

"You have to believe that if you're seeing high numbers of women in the college, it's a more balanced view of professions and genders," he said.

Within the college, the statistical gender breakdown by major reveals that women dominate biology, the most popular major in the college. Marino attributes this result in part to the pre-professional program, which he estimates is evenly split between the sexes.

"Biology, chemistry and biochemistry attract the most women," Marino said, "partly because of their connection to medicine and jobs in the pharmaceutical industry."

As of fall 2003, biology was by far the most popular major in the College of Science, with 240 students declared in that subject. Of these students, 147, or 61.3 percent, are women — making men a significant minority, as is true in the smaller field of environmental science.

"We're very even as far as boys and girls," said Rachel Byrne, a sophomore biology major. "I picked biology as my

major because I think I want to be a doctor, but I'm not really sure ... it keeps my options open."

However, men hold slight enrollment advantages in biochemistry and environmental geoscience. Also, a significantly higher proportion of physics majors are men — over 80 percent.

Chemistry is split evenly between men and women.

"A lot of [a major choice] has to do with the job market, and where [students] see themselves going," Marino said. "... The number of people at Notre Dame majoring in science is not so far off from other universities."

One thing that he does hope to change is the number of women on the faculty.

"A lot has to do with role models, and how many faculty members are women," he said. "In the College of Science we have a fair number of women [on the faculty]."

Marino believes that Notre Dame compares well to the national average, and possibly surpasses it. However, he observed the numbers "are not nearly enough."

"There are a lot of female TAs," Bridget Gulling, a senior biology major, said. "There are very few female teachers, but they are awesome. A lot of times, their teaching style is a lot easier to understand."

Marino sees the United States as simply "catching up" to educational counterparts in Latin and South America, where women have dominated the sciences for decades.

Although significantly smaller, the School of Architecture is in a similar situation. There are

slightly fewer men than women enrolled in the college, but women are a minority on the faculty.

"It's not something I really worry about," said Father Richard Bullene, assistant chair of architecture. "We seem to have a really good balance, and it seems to fluctuate from class to class."

According to Institutional Research, 94 men and 99 women were architecture majors during the fall semester.

Bullene said that while the overall number of undergraduate students enrolling in architecture has recently decreased by about 10 percent per semester, the loss appears evenly distributed.

"The gender makeup of the class doesn't seem to shift," he said.

Gina Martell, a fifth-year architecture student, agreed that equality has been achieved among students, but added that faculty had a long way to go.

"We're pretty much exactly even," she said. "There are only two female teachers ... but [the faculty is] really aware that needs to be fixed."

She cited the program's intense focus on classical architecture as a potential impediment to hiring a more diverse group of professors.

While the relative lack of female role models in the school does not seem to be an impediment to female student interest, Bullene confirmed the department is looking to diversify.

"Five years ago we were criticized for an underrepresentation of women and minorities," Bullene said, speaking of the review each school of architecture undergoes every five years.

"We're making progress ... It's just very hard to find available candidates, but it is a conscious goal of ours to address."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu.

"You have to believe that if you're seeing high numbers of women in the college, it's a more balanced view of professions and genders."

Joseph Marino
College of Science
Dean

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The Riley Prize in Art History and Criticism

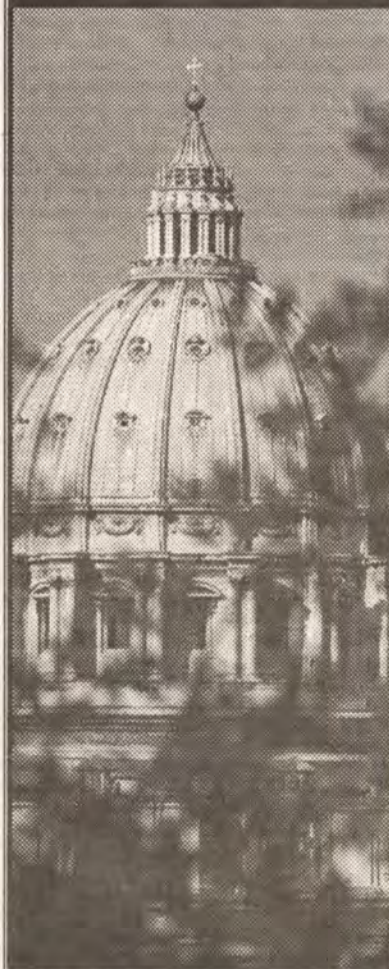


The Department of Art, Art History and Design is pleased to announce its annual competition for the Riley Prize in Art History and Criticism. Current Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit essays on any topic in the history of art or art criticism for consideration in the competition. Essays must deal with the visual arts. They may have been written in conjunction with a course taken at the University, but need not have been.

Rules governing the competition are available in the Art Department Office, 306 Riley Hall.

Two copies of the submission must be delivered to the Art Department Office by 3:00 PM, Monday, April 5 to be eligible.

A student may only submit ONE entry.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Official: Sharon should be indicted

JERUSALEM — Israel's state attorney recommended Sunday that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon be indicted for bribe-taking, officials said, in what is seen as a major — but not final — step toward his possible resignation.

Such an unprecedented indictment of an Israeli prime minister could derail Sharon's proposal to withdraw from much of the Gaza Strip — or entice him to move more quickly on the "disengagement" plan, which has broad support in Israel.

Sharon is meeting with President Bush in two weeks to try to win U.S. backing for a Gaza withdrawal.

In Gaza, the new Hamas leader branded Bush "the enemy of God, the enemy of Islam," but stopped short of threatening to attack U.S. targets in retaliation for last week's assassination by Israel of the Islamic militant group's founder.

Turkey's ruling party sweeps polls

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Turkey's Islamic-rooted governing party swept local elections across the country Sunday, according to early results, giving Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan a major victory.

The results could strengthen Erdogan's hand in pushing for a solution in talks over the divided island of Cyprus. But it could also raise fears of a loosening of secular laws.

Only about 1 percent of the vote had been counted but analysts said the outcome was not likely to change. The results showed Erdogan's Justice and Development Party winning mayoral races in Turkey's largest city, Istanbul, and in the capital, Ankara. It was also doing well in several other cities in the predominantly Muslim but staunchly secular country.

NATIONAL NEWS

I-95 lanes reopen in Connecticut

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Northbound lanes on a stretch of one of the nation's busiest highways reopened Sunday, well ahead of schedule and three days after a fire partially melted an overpass.

Construction workers cheered as a parade of cars, escorted by police, traveled on Interstate 95 for the first time since last week's crash of a tanker truck filled with heating oil.

Minn. official's daughters charged

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Two daughters of Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch were jailed in Chicago, accused of fighting with police after a night of heavy drinking.

Elizabeth and Anne Hatch were celebrating Anne's 21st birthday with friends at a nightclub Friday night when they got into an argument with a man at the bar. They were told to leave because they were intoxicated, Hatch spokeswoman Leslie Sandberg said.

Security guards at the club flagged down police as they threw out the two women, who continued yelling outside, Chicago police spokeswoman JoAnn Taylor said. After police twice told the women to leave, Elizabeth Hatch ran toward the squad car and struck an officer in the face, knocking off the officer's glasses, Taylor said.

LOCAL NEWS

Judge frees identity thief despite plea

LAFAYETTE — A judge freed a Mexican national who admitted she used another person's name and Social Security number to get a job, saying the justice system is not equipped to deal with the large number of such cases.

In ordering unsupervised probation for Mireya Garcia, Judge Don Johnson rejected a probation officer's recommendation that the woman serve four years in prison.

"The state court is not in a position to settle this national social problem," said Johnson, who let Garcia walk out of his Tippecanoe County courtroom Friday. "I'm concerned that we've got tens of thousands of people here under the same circumstances. Are we going to just lock them all up? Our society is hiring these people."

Commissioners press for testimony

Rice says she wants to testify but is constitutionally barred and Bush won't budge

Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — White House allies and Republicans investigating the Sept. 11 attacks pressed Sunday to hear open testimony from national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, with one commissioner calling her refusal a "political blunder of the first order."

Rice said in a TV interview that she wants to testify publicly, but is constitutionally barred from doing so, a senior administration official said Sunday afternoon, before the program aired. Rice also said in the "60 Minutes" interview that she wants to meet with family members of the Sept. 11 victims, to hear their concerns, the official said.

President Bush, spending a long weekend on his Texas ranch, gave no ground, and several aides said he will not change his mind on letting Rice testify. But Bush sent her and other top administration officials out for television interviews to rebut fresh attacks on the way his administration has handled the threat of terrorism.

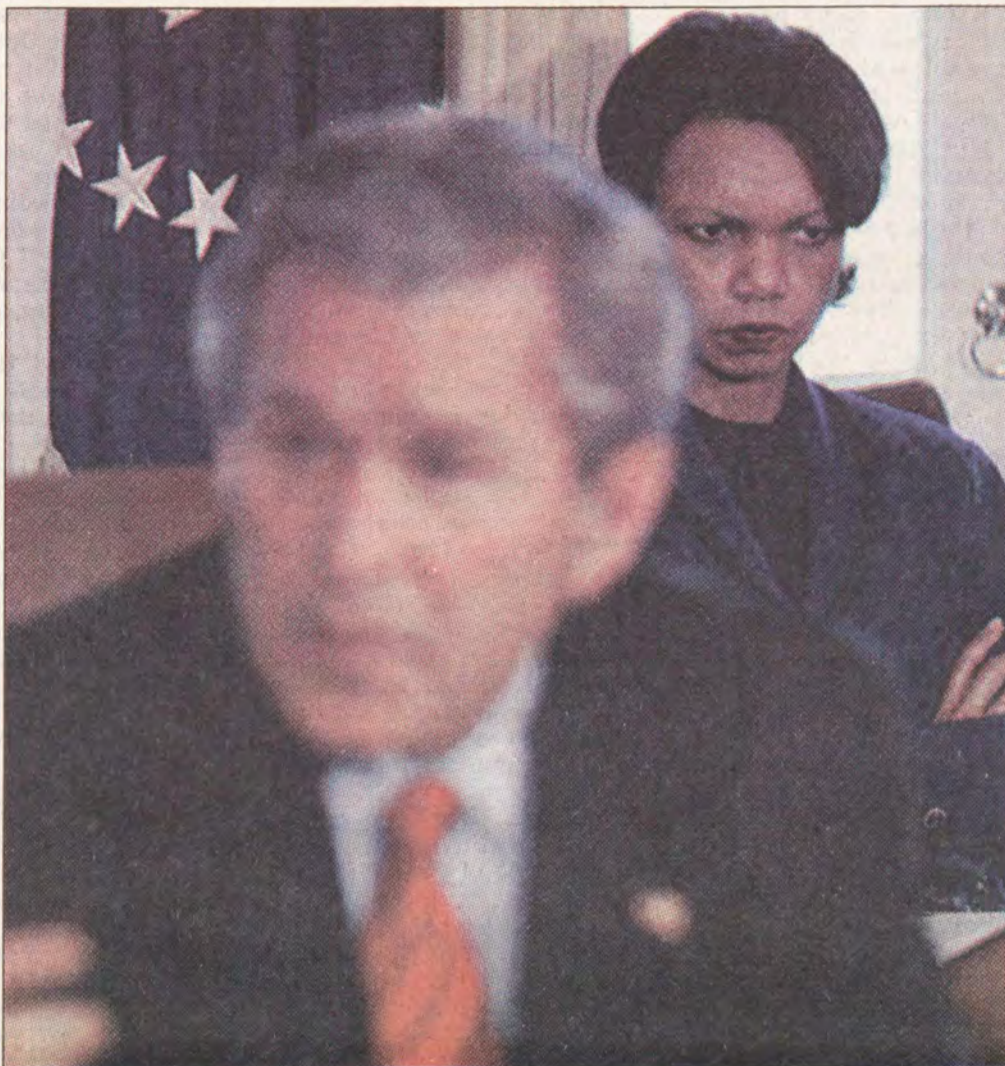
Sharpening his criticism, former counterterrorism chief Richard Clarke said President Clinton was more aggressive than Bush in trying to confront al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden's organization.

"He did something, and President Bush did nothing prior to September 11," Clarke told NBC's "Meet the Press."

"I think they deserve a failing grade for what they did before" Sept. 11, Clarke said of the Bush's administration. "They never got around to doing anything."

Clarke said a sweeping declassification of documents would prove that the Bush administration neglected the threat of terrorism in the nine months leading up to the attacks.

He said he sought declassification of all six hours of his testimony before a con-



National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, right, listens as President Bush speaks to reporters at the end of a Cabinet meeting at the White House Tuesday.

gressional committee two years ago. Some Republicans have said that testimony about Sept. 11 contradicts Clarke's current criticism.

Clarke said he also wanted Rice's previous interview before the independent Sept. 11 commission declassified, along with e-mails between him and Rice, and other documents, including a memo he sent on Jan. 25, 2001 offering a road map to the new Bush administration on how to confront al-Qaida, and the directive that a National Security Council adopted on Sept. 4, 2001.

The material will prove that Bush was "lackadaisi-

cal" about terrorism before the attacks, Clarke said, because "they're basically the same thing. And they wasted months when we could have had some action."

Asked about Clarke's request for the declassification, Secretary of State Colin Powell on CBS' "Face the Nation," said, "My bias will be to provide this information in an unclassified manner not only to the commission, but to the American people."

White House spokesman Jim Morrell said decisions on declassification "will be made in discussion with the 9/11 commission." One senior administration official

said the White House and intelligence community would never agree to release the Sept. 4 national security directive, because it contains sensitive information on sources and methods.

Members of the Sept. 11 commission made clear they will not relent in their pursuit of public testimony from Rice, but said they were not inclined to subpoena her.

The White House has declined to let her appear at the commission's televised hearings, citing the constitutional principle of separation of powers; the panel was created by Congress.

IRAQ

Minister escapes attack, two killed

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Gunmen opened fire Sunday on a convoy carrying Iraq's minister of public works, killing a driver and a bodyguard and injuring two others, the U.S.-led coalition said. The minister, Nisreen Berwari, was unharmed.

In another attack in the same city, Mosul, gunmen killed a Briton and a Canadian who were working as security guards for foreign electrical engineers at a power station. The ambush appeared to be part of a campaign to undermine U.S.-led reconstruction efforts in Iraq.

The attacks highlighted the tenu-

ous security situation in Iraq's third-largest city, once a prime recruiting ground for the officer corps of Saddam Hussein's military.

Berwari was returning to Mosul from a meeting in the city of Dohuk when her convoy was attacked, said Kristi Clemens, a coalition spokeswoman in Baghdad.

Saro Qader, an official with the Kurdistan Democratic Party, described the attack as an "assassination attempt." Berwari is a member of the Kurdish party.

Iraqi police said the attack occurred around 11 a.m. in the al-Karama neighborhood of Mosul. They said the two men who were

killed were both bodyguards, and that Berwari was in another car that was not hit by gunfire.

Berwari, who earned a degree at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1999, is one of five Kurdish ministers in the coalition-appointed interim government. There are 20 other ministers.

Previously, Berwari was development minister in the Kurdistan regional government, and she also served with United Nations organizations in Iraq.

Another female political leader, Aqila al-Hashimi, was assassinated in September.

ROTC

continued from page 1

racks to unpack and review infantry tactics and procedures, then retired to their bunks for some much needed rest. They would need it.

Outside, Bravo Company, 3rd Platoon assembled in formation.

"B-Three, party with me!" the cadets yelled as they snapped to attention.

Platoon leader and junior Shawn Kotoske ordered his troops to don their Kevlar helmets for the march to breakfast.

"This is a combat situation, people," Kotoske joked. "The food will be bad."

The student-soldiers then marched to the mess hall by unit, again sounding off with pride.

"Warrior Forge, here we come!" Bravo Company shouted into the pre-dawn chill, a reference to the Army's nickname for LDAC.

Cadets then filed into the mess hall by squad, and had about five minutes to wolf down a meal of scrambled eggs and sausage, liberally doused with what one cadet called "the Army's favorite condiment" — hot sauce.

Sophomore Avery Mortimer said military food isn't exactly great.

"It's edible," Mortimer laughed. "It keeps you going."

And the cadets certainly kept going. Following breakfast, they traveled to a training area for a land navigation course. Cadets used maps, compasses and protractors to find seven designated points — trees marked by orange signs — scattered throughout the heavily wooded two-square-mile area.

Some cadets, like junior Richard Moss, found it difficult to complete the course in the allotted three hours.

"Yeah, it was tough," an out-of-breath Moss said, arriving at the scorer's table with only seconds remaining on the clock.

The bulk of the weekend, though, was occupied by

cadets practicing situational tactical exercises — known as "sticks lanes." These 90-minute drills test cadets' leadership and tactical acumen in a simulated combat environment. Squads of about 10-12 cadets receive an order, detailing their objective. Objectives vary from lane to lane, but may include attacking an enemy observation post, ambushing hostile forcers or conducting a reconnaissance mission. The opposing force, or OpFor, for the weekend was the fictional Caquetan Army's 81st Rifle Regiment.

Upon receiving the details of their mission, squad leaders briefed their troops, establishing the chain of command, movement routes, rules of engagement and other facets of the missions.

The lanes are meant to accurately simulate combat conditions. Cadets carried real M-16 rifles, specially adapted to fire loud, but harmless, blanks. They wore GI rucksacks, packed with enough gear to simulate a real combat load. They applied camouflage face paint to Army specifications — black on the high areas, green on the low. The frequent chop of National Guard helicopters above added to the realism.

ROTC instructors paid close attention to the squad leaders' instructions, listening for mistakes that inevitably came back to haunt the squad. When one leader failed to plan for the evacuation of wounded troops, an instructor threw an "arty sim" — a pyrotechnic device that simulates the whistle and explosion of incoming artillery fire. He then designated "wounded" soldiers who had to be evacuated, testing the cadets' ability to react to unforeseen circumstances.

As the cadets of Bravo

Company, 2nd Platoon, 1st Squad gathered to plan an ambush of approaching OpFor troops, they got some words of wisdom from Eastern Michigan's Master Sgt. Jay Hudson, a self-described "airborne ranger extraordinaire."

"I want to see aggressiveness and violence of action," Hudson bellowed.

The cadets hid behind a small ridge overlooking a dirt road. When the OpFor troops approached, that violence of action became a reality, as 1st Squad opened fire, immediately "killing" several of the enemy. However, not everything went according to plan. As a squad member tried to drag a "wounded" OpFor soldier out of the road, the enemy leaped up, producing a grenade.

Hudson chided 1st Squad's members for their failure to properly search their wounded prisoners.

"The way we train is the way we're going to fight," Hudson cautioned.

In another lane Sunday morning, the instructor, Capt. Mike Gallagher, warned 1st Squad about the enemy troops' combat readiness.

"Their morale is high," Gallagher warned. "They will fight aggressively if engaged."

As squad leader Kelly Thompson, a Western Michigan student, began moving her troops forward, Gallagher wished them "happy hunting."

And they were successful. When 1st Squad attacked Objective Bayonet — an

OpFor observation post — the cadets routed the enemy in just a few minutes. Two cadets trained with suppressive fire on the OpFor position, pinning down the troops under a hail of simulated automatic-rifle fire.

Moments later, a smoke grenade sent a billowing green plume through the woods, signaling members of 1st Squad to shift their fire, to avoid hitting their own troops.

"Assault through!" Thompson yelled, ordering her cadets to take the objec-

tive. 1st Squad swarmed over the enemy post, "killing" all three OpFor soldiers in a matter of seconds.

"Rough day at the office," Gallagher laughed as a vanquished OpFor soldier fell to the ground.

Senior cadet Devin Miller said cadets should be self-assured if they want to be effective commanders.

"If you don't speak with authority, you've already lost the battle," Miller said. "Confidence in decision-making is the deciding factor."

In addition to imparting tactical knowledge and leadership know-how, the exercises also taught cadets about the laws of war and proper handling of prisoners under the Geneva Conventions. Cadets were instructed how to treat noncombatants, not to fire at unarmed personnel and to evacuate prisoners from combat areas as soon as possible.

Following Sunday's closing ceremony, cadets trucked back to campus, where they spent several hours in the basement of Pasquerilla Center, cleaning their rifles and equipment.

Cadets praised the annual training event, saying it was an opportunity to put classroom concepts into practice.

Junior John Dickson said the weekend's tactical missions strengthened the battalion's knowledge of contemporary warfare.

"It was a lot of good training, and it was pretty fun," Dickson said. "Everyone learned a lot through the STX lanes."

Senior Leon Gil praised the Notre Dame ROTC instructors who planned the event, saying it was run more smoothly than in previous years.

"The new cadre are doing a great job, especially with the freshmen," Gil said.

Noreen Walton, a sophomore at Saint Mary's, said she enjoyed the weekend's events. ROTC cadets from Saint Mary's are combined with Notre Dame students in the battalion.

"It's a great time, and everyone is getting a lot of good experience," Walton said.

Contact Matt Bramanti at mbramant@nd.edu.

McGarry

continued from page 1

attendant and a member of a rock band. She now has an enormous career. She is a wonderful person, a fabulous speaker and the students are going to love her."

After leaving Saint Mary's, "I went from one great brand to another," McGarry said.

She began her career at Xerox in 1973 in Fort Wayne, Ind., after she filled in for a friend who decided not to take the interview with the company. She began at the company as a sales representative. From 1993 to 1998, McGarry served as the first woman president and chief executive officer of Xerox Canada.

Now as the vice president and chief marketing officer, McGarry is in charge of worldwide marketing activities, advertising campaigns and sponsorship. She also oversees external communication, customers and employees.

McGarry will receive an honorary degree at commencement.

"It's an overwhelming honor," McGarry said. "I will treasure it, and the fact that it's being given to me by Eldred makes it very special indeed."

McGarry is not only a successful businesswoman, but in the past two years, she has become a breast cancer survivor.

"There have been a lot of difficulties for me to overcome," McGarry said. "But the fact that I might be able to help someone who is going through the same thing with my words is a good feeling."

At commencement, McGarry plans to speak about her life experiences and wants to give her best advice to the class of 2004.

"Don't ever be afraid of your future path," McGarry said. "Many people have plowed the way ahead, and you're going to do the same thing for those that will come behind you. Everyone in the graduating class can make a difference in whatever they choose to do."

Contact Angela Saoud at saou0303@saintmarys.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,212.97	-5.85	
Up: 1,791	Same: 155	Down: 1,499	Composite Volume: 1,318,631,168
AMEX	1,227.60	+5.05	
NASDAQ	1,960.02	-7.15	
NYSE	6,469.57	+5.15	
S&P 500	1,108.06	-1.13	
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	11,770.65	0.00	
FTSE 100(London)	4,357.50	-16.10	
Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+1.73	+0.81	47.70
10-YEAR NOTE	+2.78	+1.04	38.43
5-YEAR NOTE	+4.13	+1.11	27.96
3-MONTH BILL	+0.55	+0.05	9.22
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.22		35.73
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.30		423.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+2.125		108.075
Exchange Rates			
YEN			105.5
EURO			0.8253
POUND			0.5515

IN BRIEF

Strong consumer data continues rally

NEW YORK — Investors, largely pleased with reports on consumer sentiment and spending, sent stocks higher Friday to continue the previous session's rally, at least temporarily fending off the temptation to gather profits.

The University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index rose to 95.8 in March, up from 95.4 in February, according to media reports on the index, which is released to subscribers only. The hike could mean consumers may be willing to spend more, boosting the economy.

Should better economic reports continue to come out regularly, they could spark the rally Wall Street has been waiting for, according to Brian Belski, market strategist at Piper Jaffray.

"The market looks like it wants to rally into earnings and throughout the earnings season, and we could be back to focusing on inherent fundamentals like earnings and valuation," Belski said. "We're in a day-to-day, micro-reactive market that jumps on each little bit of news. If that news continues to be positive, we're in good shape."

Crude gains slightly on gasoline

NEW YORK — Crude oil futures rose modestly Friday in New York as bargain hunting and short-covering stemmed a two-day price drop, sparked by growing fear of a potential glut of world crude oil supplies during the second quarter.

Gasoline futures helped lift crude futures, rising as traders who had bet prices would continue lower found themselves having to cover those bets. A lack of evidence that dwindling gasoline stocks are going to be successfully replenished ahead of the peak-demand U.S. summer driving season added to gasoline's gains after Thursday's sharp drop, traders said.

May light, sweet crude oil futures settled up 22 cents or 0.6 percent at \$35.73 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after touching a high of \$35.82. Earlier in the session, the contract hit an intraday low of \$34.75, dropping below \$35 for the first time since late February.

Crude oil futures fell 4 percent Thursday after White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card said on MSNBC that the White House is trying to convince the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to release more oil to ease high prices.

Officials investigate Lilly marketing

Company says probe is expanding to include drugs Zyprexa and Prozac

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Eli Lilly and Co., already under federal investigation for the way it promoted an osteoporosis drug, said it faces a new federal probe of its marketing practices.

The Indianapolis-based company said it believes the new probe also likely focuses on the osteoporosis drug Evista, as well as Lilly's current top-seller, the antipsychotic drug Zyprexa, and its former blockbuster antidepressant Prozac.

Lilly, one of several drug makers to come under federal scrutiny over marketing issues, said the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania has begun a civil investigation.

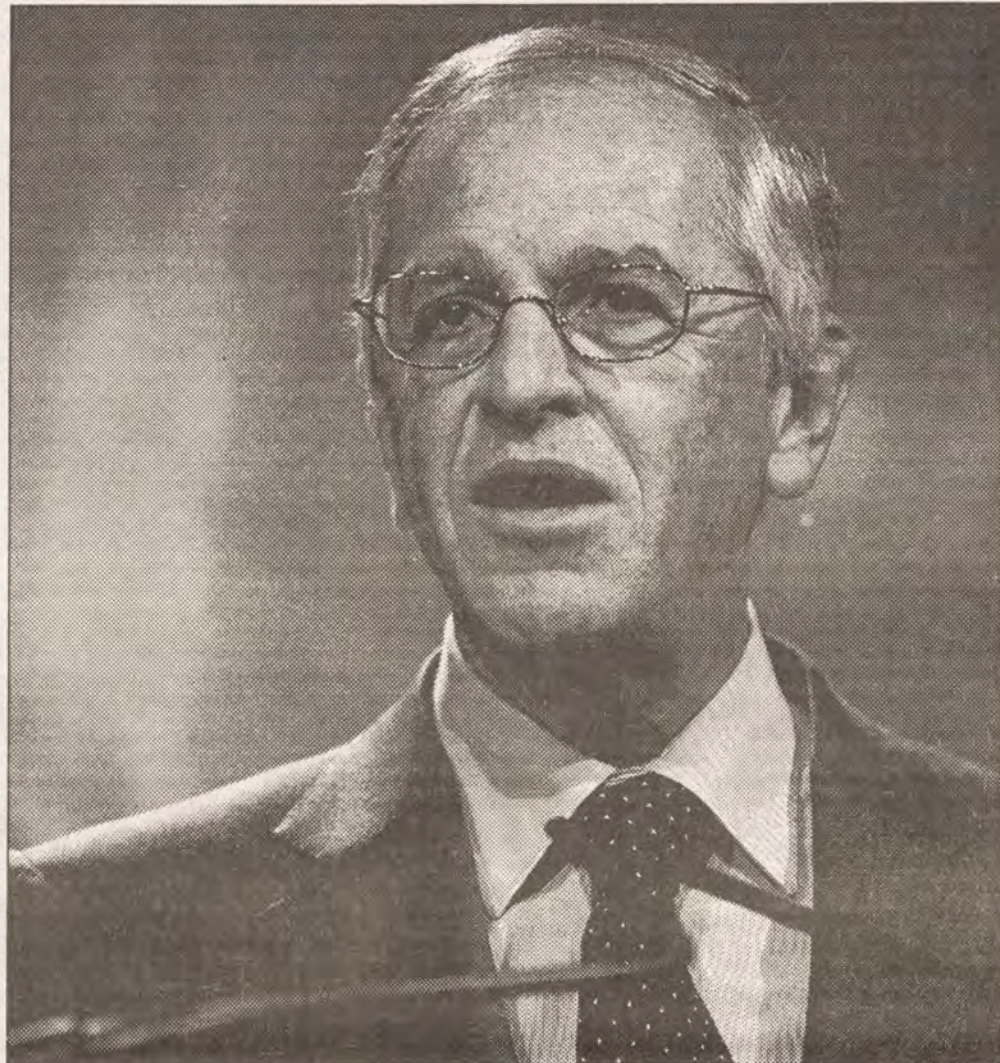
Rich Manieri, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney in Philadelphia, declined to comment.

Lilly spokeswoman Terra Fox said the investigation is separate from an ongoing probe of Evista by the Department of Justice's Office of Consumer Litigation. Lilly had previously disclosed that it received grand jury subpoenas in July 2002 and July 2003 over Evista promotions to consumers and doctors.

Lilly said the outcome of the investigation could hurt the company's financial position. Zyprexa had \$4.3 billion in sales last year, while Prozac sales totaled \$645 million — a sharp decline since the introduction of cheaper generic versions in 2001. Evista sales last year totaled \$922 million.

Lilly shares closed down 99 cents to \$65.50 on the New York Stock Exchange.

The company said in a regulatory filing earlier this month that some of its drugs including Zyprexa could come under investigation. Lilly noted that several



PICTURE DESK

Sidney Taurel, chairman, president and CEO of pharmaceutical Eli Lilly and Company, receives an award for encouraging diversity in this file photo. Lilly's marketing practices are under investigation by federal authorities.

other drug makers had been subpoenaed for records on drugs including neurological medications. Those companies include Wyeth, Forest Laboratories, GlaxoSmithKline and Janssen.

Lilly learned about the new investigation since that filing, Fox said.

Last September, the U.S. Attorney in Philadelphia sued Medco Health Solutions Inc., alleging that the nation's biggest pharmacy benefit-management company violated federal

false-claims laws. Pennsylvania's state attorney general sued 13 major drug makers earlier this month — Lilly was not among them — and accused them of inflating prices.

The previously disclosed investigation of Evista by the U.S. Office of Consumer Litigation began after a competitor complained that Lilly was improperly marketing the osteoporosis drug as a breast cancer preventative — a use for which it did not have Food and Drug Administration approval.

Zyprexa, which now accounts for about a third of Lilly's overall sales, has been prescribed to 12.5 million people since its introduction in 1996 as an alternative to older schizophrenia treatments that tend to have more serious side effects. It is undergoing a patent challenge.

Since losing its own patent protection, Prozac has ceded nearly 80 percent of its sales to generic versions. The drug dropped to about 5 percent of Lilly's total sales last year.

BANKRUPTCY

Top Conseco executives rewarded

Associated Press

CARMEL, Ind. — Top Conseco Inc. executives who helped the insurer emerge from the third-largest bankruptcy in U.S. history were rewarded with nearly \$34 million in compensation last year.

However, they won't realize much of their gains for years because about two-thirds of the compensation is in the form of restricted stock awards that vest over time.

Papers filed last week with the Securities and Exchange Commission show that nearly half of last year's compensation — \$16.7 million — went to William Shea, who took over as Conseco's chief executive following the company's Chapter 11 filing in December 2002.

Shea received \$13.6 million in restricted stock on top of \$1 million in

base salary and \$2 million in bonuses for in total compensation, the company's annual report stated. Shea also got \$68,739 in other compensation.

Most of the compensation for Shea and other top executives came in the form of stock awards for guiding Conseco through Chapter 11 reorganization.

Conseco entered bankruptcy protection in December 2002 and emerged last September. This month, the Carmel-based company reported its first profitable quarter in two years.

"These performance incentives were designed to retain each executive through the difficult emergence period and reward him for completing the reorganization," Conseco spokesman Jim Rosensteel told The Indianapolis Star for a story Friday. "They also reward each executive for continuing to drive long-term performance for

shareholders after emergence."

The compensation paid top officers was more than twice the \$14.8 million Conseco's key executives made in 2002 as the company slid toward bankruptcy. The contracts for Shea and the other two top-paid officers were negotiated last year while the company was in federal bankruptcy court, Rosensteel said.

Chief Financial Officer Eugene M. Bullis made \$8.6 million and 40/86 Advisors Inc. President Eric Johnson made \$3.7 million. The bulk of the compensation was in restricted stock and bonuses.

The restricted stock awards increase in value over time through vesting. For example, an owner might only be able to sell one-third of stock during the first year of ownership, then two-thirds by the second year and all of it once it fully vests in the third year.



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PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 

IRELAND

Smoking ban enforcement begins

Associated Press

DUBLIN — Ireland outlawed smoking in workplaces Monday, imposing the strictest anti-tobacco measure ever adopted by any country on earth — and one certain to change the atmosphere in the country's national institution, the pub.

"I guess I'll be staying home a lot more. It'll be the only place I can have a smoke with my drink," said Sean Hogan, a 46-year-old construction worker, who lit a final melancholy cigarette as the barman at the Brian Boru pub in north Dublin called for last orders Sunday night.

The ban took effect at midnight, shortly after the nation's 10,000 pubs closed.

As of Monday morning, smoking sections in offices, hospitals, universities and restaurants were all closing down. By government order, "no smoking" signs were erected in pubs on their front doors, behind the bars and outside the restrooms — along with warnings that violators could face up to a \$4,000 fine.

The only workplaces exempt from the ban are those that double as residences: hotel rooms, prison cells, psychiatric hospitals and nursing homes. Home-offices, company cars and truckers' cabs are also supposed to become no-smoking zones, although the government has conceded that the law won't be enforceable in such private areas.

Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, a nonsmoker and regular pubgoer, said he envisioned an Ireland where "future generations, thankfully, will never know what it was like to work in an enclosed, smoke-filled environment."

Health Minister Micheal Martin, who spearheaded the initiative, said he expected it would "take six weeks to two months for the ban to settle down." His target, he said, was for more than 90 percent compliance within the year.

Several opinion polls in the past year have indicated most Irish adults — about 30 percent of whom smoke — support the government crusade against tobacco.

"It will be marvelous to have a night out, then not wake up in



Seamus Copeland from Wicklow Town lights his last cigarette in The Marlner Bar in Wicklow, Sunday. Smokers in their local pubs enjoyed final puffs Sunday as Ireland readied to impose the world's most comprehensive ban on tobacco.

the morning with your hair and clothes stinking of smoke," said homemaker Eileen Kennedy, who generally smokes a few cigarettes a week — when she goes out for a drink with her husband.

Martin's anti-smoking campaign — which involves graphic billboards and TV ads showing the damage cigarettes can do to the lungs, heart and brain — has inspired thousands to try to break the habit, seeking advice on nicotine-replacement therapy through a government-run helpline.

"I think, at the end of the day, a person can't argue with the logic of it because we all know cigarettes are bad for us," said cabbie Shay Kearney, a smoker who's thinking of quitting now. "And if it actually encourages people to give up, in the long term, maybe it's a good thing — obviously it's a good thing."

Owners of pubs and hotels warn the ban will alienate many European tourists and force away loyal customers. One pro-smoking pressure group predicts up to 65,000 job losses as pubs and hotels in rural areas are forced to close. But the two major publicans' associations backed off threats to block the ban in court.

Oliver Hughes, who owns a pub in Dublin's Temple Bar tourist quarter, said he expected

European visitors "may find it hard to understand that they can't have a cigarette in Dublin, but if they go to Amsterdam they can have a joint."

But the government's Office of Tobacco Control cites its own polls indicating twice as many people think they will go to the pub more often after the ban than will stay away because of it.

Some pubs plan are developing chic new smoking areas outdoors, using canopies and outdoor gas fires to keep smoking customers comfortable and within the law. Others, particularly in poorly policed rural areas, say they will try to let their smoking regulars keep going and hope that the handful of Dublin-based inspectors enforcing the ban will pass them by.

But most pubs say they simply will order smokers outside onto the sidewalk if they want to light up.

Smokers on Sunday soberly pondered a chilly, windy, wet future trying to keep their cigarettes lit long enough to smoke them.

"The cancer rate might be going down, but bejesus, death by hypothermia will be going up," joked Eamon Clarke, a retired plumber. "I'll have to wear my long johns and two pairs of socks if I want a pint from now on."

AFA cadet remained after rape allegation

Associated Press

DENVER — An Air Force Academy cadet who had been accused of rape and threatened to crash a glider into a classroom building was allowed to remain at the school for several more months, during which he was arrested for sodomizing a woman in a wheelchair and accused of raping another cadet, according to files obtained by The Associated Press.

Even after his arrest in Los Angeles for sodomy, the Air Force got cadet Doncosta Seawell released from custody and took him back to the academy, according to the files. He was accused of rape by a fellow cadet three months later.

"This is outrageous that this guy fell through the cracks of the military justice system, and went on to do such harm to other victims," said Cynthia Stone of the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

Seawell's alleged victims have been among the women who have accused the academy of failing to prosecute sex offenders — claims that helped lead to sweeping changes at the academy and Defense Department investigations of sexual assault cases.

An investigation determined that there had been 142 reports of sexual assault at the academy in the past decade, and some of the victims said they were punished for reporting the assaults.

Seawell, a senior cadet flight instructor and academy boxer, was expelled in October 2002 and a court-martial sentenced him to two years imprisonment for the attack on the civilian woman.

But he first came to the attention of academy investigators two years earlier, when cadet MacKenzie Isackson said he sexually assaulted her. He denied assaulting the woman, and no charges were brought.

The following year, just a month after the Sept. 11 ter-

rorist attacks, the flight instructor threatened to fly a glider into the building that houses academy classrooms, according to the Office of Special Investigations report obtained by The Associated Press under a Freedom of Information request.

He was charged with Conduct Unbecoming an Officer and Gentleman and sent for a mental evaluation, according to the files.

Two months later, on Dec. 28, 2001, he was arrested in Los Angeles for the attack on a woman in a wheelchair, whom he allegedly approached via Internet instant messaging.

It was then that Air Force agents reviewed Seawell's record and found the report of the glider threat, according to the OSI report.

But Seawell remained at the school for six more months, and allegedly approached freshman cadet Kira Mountjoy-Pepka by way of Internet chat.

Mountjoy-Pepka accused Seawell of attacking her in April 2002. In interviews last year on ABC's "20/20" and on Oprah Winfrey's show, Mountjoy-Pepka claimed she was scolded by academy officials for being a "slut."

No charges were filed in her case.

Academy spokesman Johnny Whitaker said privacy rules, as well as the presumption of innocence, may have played a role in Seawell's continued presence at the school.

"We'd have to review the records to see what caused this," he said.

Seawell, meanwhile, is back in the brig on the sodomy charge. He had been released on probation but was jailed again after being arrested for soliciting sex over the Internet from an undercover officer posing as a 14-year-old.

Last week, in an interview with The Gazette of Colorado Springs from a military prison in California, Seawell denied having sexual intercourse with Mountjoy-Pepka, but said they had engaged in sexual activity on several occasions.

Gas prices hit record high with no end in sight

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Gasoline prices across the country climbed another 3 cents in the past two weeks to a record-high average of \$1.80 per gallon for all grades, according to a study released Sunday.

There is little chance of prices falling significantly in the near future, because increased demand will likely result from an improving economy, Memorial Day travel, and even the extra hour of light from daylight savings time, said Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey of 8,000 stations nationwide.

"The demand push this time

of year is adding to supply tightness and therefore price," Lundberg said. "I don't see any recipe for substantial gasoline price cuts anytime soon."

Friday's average price surpassed the record of \$1.77 set in the last Lundberg Survey, conducted March 12. But when adjusted for inflation, pump prices remain well below levels reached in the early 1980s.

Even if the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries decides at its meeting Wednesday to cancel plans to reduce oil production April 1, growing demand makes it unlikely prices will fall much, Lundberg said.

Worldwide demand for crude oil is increasing along with U.S. demand for gasoline, she said.

Gasoline prices are up 29 cents per gallon nationwide since late December, Lundberg said. The national weighted average price of gasoline, including taxes, at self-serve pumps Friday was about \$1.77 per gallon for regular, \$1.87 for midgrade, and \$1.96 for premium.

Gasoline prices usually rise between March and May as refiners temporarily shut down their plants to prepare for the peak summer driving season, when special clean-burning blends of fuel are required.

Adjusted for inflation, the current price fell short of the record set in March 1981, when a gallon of gas cost the equivalent of \$2.85 in today's dollars, Lundberg said.



Jaimie Naeole of Waimanalo, Hawaii, watches the price ring up to \$10.00 at a pump at a gas station in Kaneohe, Hawaii, Sunday, as he filled up his brother's car. Gas prices have reached record highs nationwide, including \$1.98 a gallon for Naeole.

"I don't see any recipe for substantial gasoline price cuts anytime soon."

Trilby Lundberg
Lundberg Survey

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Students suffer the effects of Bush's educational policies

The stately Ionic north portico of the White House is like a broken floodgate. All of President Bush's lies, perhaps, couldn't fit in that one building. And so the deluges of mendacity have cascaded down

Pennsylvania Avenue. Nothing has been spared.

No issue has gone unsullied by the administration's deceit and sophistry — not the environment, labor, Medicare, WMD, nothing. Overlooked and unglamorous, education is without doubt among the most vital of these issues.

Education, after all, is a basic social good. Bush might even concede this much. What he cannot concede on his next "Meet the Press" is that his policies acknowledge this — education's vital importance. Fealty to the market, or the party line, or God knows what, trumps education for Bush. But where Prime Minister Tony Blair faced a firestorm of resistance to university tuition hikes in England, Bush gets a free pass. Tellingly, one charge leveled against Blair's plan is that it will reshape the British system in the image of the American — as costly and inaccessible.

Let's begin with one of the Bush's proudest accomplishments — the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. "Ironical" just doesn't quite convey the scale of inaccuracy of the law's name. This year, the administration is giving \$9.4 billion less than what is needed to fully fund NCLB. Both Education Week and Harvard's Civil Rights Project testify that poor students aren't getting the tutoring promised by NCLB, due to poor implementation and underfunding. Urban minorities, of course, are hit hardest. The de facto title would be No Wealthy White Child Left Behind. Doesn't quite have the same ring.

Wait until the kids grow up. This is the third straight year that Bush either

froze or cut the maximum Pell Grant — quite the volte-face from his old campaign promise to increase the maximum, to help make college more affordable. And last year, Bush sought to eliminate Pell Grants entirely for 84,000 students, slashing aid to thousands more. An amendment backed by Democrats luckily prevented this.

Republicans have exerted curiously special effort in slighting and burdening college students. Ten days ago, to counter GOP misinformation, Rep. George Miller issued a letter to demolish their untruths, point by point.

First he reminded the House that the GOP has "failed to do anything meaningful this Congress" to help students of lesser means afford college. He added to Bush's record, with Pell Grants, that last year's maximum grant, adjusted for inflation, was worth \$500 less than the max in 1975. And he wondered why nothing has come of Bush's promise to help community colleges.

In a March 17 Washington Post article, Miller quoted a line that nicely captures the GOP agenda: "House Republicans are considering legislation aimed at reducing government subsidies for a federally supported student loan program, a step that critics say could lead to sharp increases in the long-term cost of going to college." Finally he drew attention to Republican support for a banking industry-backed plan to eliminate students' ability to lock in low interest rates over the life of their loans. This plan would force the average student borrower to pay more than \$6,600 in extra interest, doubling the cost of loans for millions. There's no room for interpretation here.

Vigilant compilers of the Harper's Index add two worrying stats: America's total private-loan debt for college tuition has increased by a factor of four since 1995; and a minimum of seven states will raise tuition by 20 percent or more at least one public university. You needn't be one of the eggheads in sweater vests at the Brookings

Institute to spy a trend here. It's all kinds of wrong. It's in-your-face wrong.

Barbara Ehrenreich in "Class Struggle 101" broke down university financing into a two-pronged approach — raising tuition and lowering staff pay. Notre Dame doesn't stray too far from this approach. The latest tuition hike here at Notre Dame was 6.9 percent. In Latin America, according to a comparative politics professor, students would take to the streets in protest, railing against a patent injustice. Here we've accepted extortion as the norm. And Notre Dame's record with its staff isn't exactly pretty — sending workers home early, not hiring replacements for retiring workers and vigorously fighting unionization.

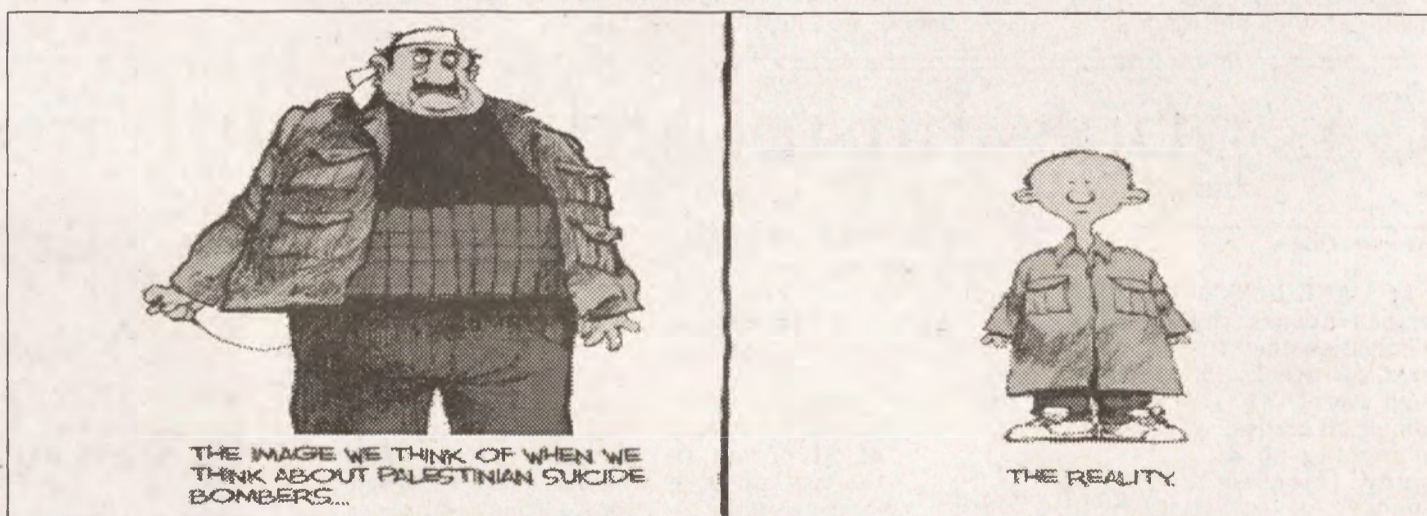
Noted in these pages by Kamaria Porter last week, Harvard's bucking the trend, proffering substantially more aid, for many disposing of tuition altogether. This is on top of such admirable efforts as its successful campaign and sit-in demanding a living wage for Harvard employees. Harvard is blazing the trail to a nobler place, showing schools like ours that there's a better way.

But first this apathetic administration has got to go. For Bush and company, students — especially those from below the upper class — are the last priority. Regardless of what side you're aligned with, free-education radical or concerned moderate, the fact is that Bush has failed students comprehensively. Moreover, he shows no signs of switching directions. Moral epiphanies are as rare as candor in this administration. Along with the rest of the GOP, Bush is dedicated to indifference. We have to dedicate ourselves to ousting him.

Roque Strew is a junior political science major. His column appears every other Monday. He can be contacted at wstrew@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Do you think student government has made significant accomplishments this year, and do you think next year's will do better?

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Let us make our enemies incapable of ever making war again, let us re-educate them ... but first we must educate ourselves."

Ernest Hemingway
American writer

Leave partisan finger-pointing out of Sept. 11

The question "How did the Sept. 11 attacks happen?" is a noble question that deserves an answer if we're ever to stop future attacks.

Sadly, the process was muddled when partisan finger pointing, on both sides, entered into the equation. However, nobody performed more blame-casting than Richard Clarke, former White House counterterrorism adviser, who completely incidentally and not in any way involved with his testimony before the 9/11 Commission, has a new book out, in stores now.

Mike Marchand

Undistinguished
Alumnus

It's far too reductive to dismiss Clarke as merely a disgruntled ex-employee who's seeking vengeance against the administration that demoted him and shut him out of the decision-making process, or a partisan hack out to sell copies of his books. He is both, of course, but he's not merely both. When it comes to counterterrorism, the man does know what he's talking about — he's served under four administrations in positions that are normally cycled out when a new president takes over. And if I'm someone who sincerely wishes to stop terrorism, I'd certainly rather listen to him than some paper-pushing bureaucrat.

But instead of blasting the code of bureaucracy, which is as resistant to change as the other Dick Clark is to the normal human aging process, he instead lashed out against President George W. Bush and his administration. According to Clarke (the counterterrorism guy, not the "\$25,000 Pyramid" guy), the Bush administration "ignored" the threat from al-Qaeda and then, after Sept. 11, focused too much on Iraq at the expense of destroying al-Qaeda.

It would be a spectacular accusation, were it true in the slightest. Perhaps Clarke's "Rockin' New Year" calendar differs from mine, but I could have sworn we invaded Afghanistan to attack al-Qaeda nearly two and a half years before entering Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein. And Clarke feels that the administration "ignored" al-Qaeda during 2001 because they weren't "important enough for him to hold a meeting on the subject, or for him to order his national security advisor to hold a Cabinet-level meeting on the subject." But even though the administration's first Cabinet-level meeting concerning al-Qaeda happened just one week before the Sept. 11 attacks, Bush did in fact order National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice to compose a strategy to confront al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden in April of that year, saying he was tired of "swatting flies." Clarke even admits this in his book.

But that belies the major point — Does Clarke really think that just holding meetings is an effective counterterrorism strategy? According to Clarke's 9/11 Commission testimony (but not his book, in which he blatantly contradicts this statement), there was "no higher priority" than terrorism in the Clinton administration. But during those two terms, the World Trade Center, two American embassies and the U.S.S. Cole were bombed. Clinton's Cabinet must have met a bunch of times. But yet the only counterstrikes were missile attacks at some empty tents and an aspirin factory. The Bush administration might have done nothing to stop al-Qaeda in eight months. But the Clinton administration did practically nothing in eight years, and Clarke was the nation's top counterterrorism official during that time. Perhaps Bush was acting prudently by moving Clarke into a position two steps under Rice.

I am not, by the way, seeking to blame the Clinton administration for Sept. 11 because they stood pat during al-Qaeda's formative years. As I noted above, the fault lies not with any individual politician but with the entire bureaucratic process, where inertia is king, and nobody acts to change anything without sufficient impetus. Everybody mismanaged during the period before Sept. 11, and Clarke admitted as much when he apologized to the victims of Sept. 11 for failing them.

But hindsight is not sufficient enough to start pointing fingers. Partisan hacks want to undo the president's record following Sept. 11 by discrediting his record before it. Fine. So what should Bush have done? Acted preemptively? That seemed to go over real well when we did it last year. What should have been the reason for wiping out al-Qaeda in 2001, actionable intelligence? Gathered by the same people who are now being tarred and feathered for stating that Saddam Hussein had vast caches of weapons of mass destruction?

Bush's detractors want to have it both ways. And nobody saw that coming better than Richard Clarke. In an e-mail to Rice four days after Sept. 11, he said, "When the era of national unity cracks in the near future, it is possible that some will start asking questions like did the White House do a good job of making sure that intelligence about terrorist threats got to FAA and other domestic law enforcement authorities." He then summarized all the ways the administration had tried to secure the nation before Sept. 11.

Clarke can spin his record all he wants. But Clark still did it better on "American Bandstand."

Mike Marchand, class of 2001, laughed his butt off last night at the Capitol Steps show at Lake Michigan College. His e-mail address is marchand.3@alumni.nd.edu. "Undistinguished Alumnus" appears every other Monday.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Does the Bible really condemn homosexuality?

Many Christians unquestioningly accept the claims of their respective churches that homosexual behavior is morally wrong. Many of the major denominations hold such a position, though they proclaim it at different dogmatic levels. Upon closer inspection, however, this condemnation of homosexual behavior is anything but a clear Scriptural directive. A faithful Christian must examine his or her position on this issue with scrutiny and honesty, rather than reflexive agreement with his or her church's stance.

Such a careful analysis, I believe, does not lead to the conclusion that the Bible condemns homosexual behavior. I will not condemn others who reach a different conclusion, as it is ultimately a matter of faith, but I offer this analysis with the sincere hope it be received with an open heart and mind.

Biblical arguments against homosexual behavior are usually based on passages such as Romans 1:26, which condemns "menfolk [who] have given up natural intercourse to be consumed with passion for each other." Other passages echo the same sentiment: Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 call "lying with another man" an "abomination." Deuteronomy 23:17-18, Judges 19 and other passages sometimes are translated to condemn sodomites, but this translation has been questioned, with modern translators preferring "male temple prostitute" to "sodomite."

In all these passages, the biblical reader must consider the underlying theological rule as well as the cultural context. Put simply, what is the reason same-sex behavior was condemned? And what was the society's understanding of homosexuality at the time of the writing of these passages?

A broader examination of the Bible answers the first of these questions. Namely, scripture condemns acts that are inconsistent with the natural order of God's creation. Unsurprisingly, the authors applied this principle to homosexual behavior, for homosexual behavior had long been viewed as a choice to act counter to one's natural, God-given design.

This understanding of homosexuality, as a choice, stood until the 19th and 20th centuries. Now, a growing body of scientific evidence strongly suggests that sexual orientation, including homosexuality, is an orientation, part of the natural, God-given design of each human. Just recently, in 1973, the American Psychiatric Association changed its classification of homosexuality to categorize it as an orientation rather than a disorder.

With this evidence, we see the biblical authors were incorrect to classify homosexual behavior as unnatural. As such, homosexual behavior cannot be said to break a commandment from God, as understood by scripture.

Some argue that because of the fall of humanity in Genesis, humans are naturally inclined to sin, and that many sinful behaviors, such as adultery and alcoholism, stem from natural human inclinations and dispositions.

The critical distinction is that the sinful natures of alcoholism, adultery and other behaviors do not stem from an argument on nature, but rather from the argument that these behaviors violate the divine values of love and respect for self and others. Arguments against homosexual behavior rely

solely on nature, and thus a refutation of the nature argument is a refutation of the entire argument against homosexuality.

Note this analysis does not challenge the divinely-inspired nature of the theological values being espoused by these authors. While many Christians disagree on how literally the Bible should be interpreted, such a question is unnecessary in this framework. Most agree the veracity of the theological instructions contained in the Bible should be paramount.

The cultural and scientific understandings of the time of each scripture's writing must be determined so as to separate God's eternal and unwavering values from those values particular to the given society. Only then can these values be clearly applied to today's society.

The most literal readers of the Bible use this principle to explain why slavery is not condemned in Exodus and other Old Testament books, for example (Exodus 21). They say the institution of slavery did not exist in Old Testament times in the same way

we think of it today. Additionally, they explain that slaves were probably servants under a family in a patriarchal-ordered society, enjoying the benefits of the family structure rather than the inevitable struggle for survival out on one's own.

Whether or not this analysis of Exodus is convincing, it shows that literal Bible readers do indeed consider societal norms and understandings when they attempt to uncover God's truth. To be consistent, they should also apply this technique to the issue of homosexuality.

Furthermore, any biblical argument surrounding homosexuality must consider any possible examples counter to one's current position. David and Jonathan's relationship in Samuel may (although not necessarily) have risen beyond mere friendship. Note 1 Samuel 20:41: "David rose from beside the stone heap and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He bowed three times, and they [he and Jonathan] kissed each other, and wept the more" and 2 Samuel 1:25-26: "How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women."

The above argument cannot be considered authoritative by itself. But may it act as one voice in a much-needed debate. Throughout the debate, remember this — in the hundreds of Jesus's teachings, he never mentioned homosexuality, not once. Therefore, any position on homosexuality, whether for or against, cannot rightfully be elevated to the level of dogma as many Christian churches currently have so done.

Rather, we should consider core lessons such as Genesis 1:27, "So God created humankind in His image, in the image of God he created them," and John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life."

Lucas Sayre
senior
Dillon Hall
March 25



International Festival Week brings two acclaimed foreign films to campus

Films in English increase accessibility of foreign cinema for students

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

The phrase "foreign film" has the ability to quell the desire to see a movie in the hearts of many people. Those two little words can conjure up images of bored French existentialists smoking and discussing the meaninglessness of life, or a group of weepy peasants suffering in some unknown ex-Soviet satellite nation until every one of them dies. Fortunately, these stigmas are beginning to die off as more foreign films, as well as better ones, are coming to the United States, and are being made in English – without subtitles or dubbing. "Fire" and "Whale Rider" are two foreign films made in English that received international acclaim. Such films could help to gradually ease a foreign-film-phobic into the world of international cinema. Both films are being shown at Notre Dame this week as part of the International Festival Week, which runs from March 27 to April 2 and is sponsored by the International Student Services and Activities Office.

"Fire" and "Whale Rider" both offer glimpses into cultures that are vastly different than our own, but the fact that they are in English makes them a little bit more palatable to the average movie goer. Each of the films is an interesting departure from both your typical American movies and the types of movies that you might expect to come out of India or New Zealand.

"Fire"

The Indian film "Fire" follows a newly-married woman Sita (Nandita Das), a naïve and child-like woman who is forced to live with the family of her new bridegroom, Jatin (Jaaved Jaaffery). His family displays little regard for Sita, and she is forced to work long, unacknowledged hours at the family's combination kebab shop and movie rental store. The contempt that the family shows for Sita is not helped by the fact that her husband essentially ignores her, as he is far more interested in his mistress, with whom he spends almost every night. Sita's sister-in-law, Radha (Shabana Azmi), is equally ignored by the family. The two forge a bond while taking care of a demanding and ancient grandmoth-

er who rings a bell every time that she wants anything. Radha's husband Ashok (Kulbushan Kharbanda) has taken a vow of celibacy, found a swami and is frequently gone as he seeks spirituality. In the midst of the empty marriages in which the women find themselves, they fall in love with one another and forge a deeper relationship than that which they experienced with their husbands. Deepa Mehta's film depicting lesbian love created a firestorm of controversy in India, with conservative groups like the Shiv Sena protesting its release and vandalizing theaters that showed the film. Indian censors are known for being tough – cutting things that Americans would consider innocuous, such as kisses – but this movie presented different and more difficult challenges. Many critics believed that this was an inappropriate and inaccurate display of Indian culture, and one critic even responded that the movie should have been about Muslims instead of Hindus, because Hindus did not have lesbians in their culture. The fact that the two women are named after prominent Hindu goddesses only fueled the controversy.

Despite the conflicted reception in the Mehta's homeland, the film went on to win the praise of critics internationally. The movie calls attention to the tension between the traditional lives of Indians clashing with a more liberal, westernized view of culture. The controversy surrounding the release of "Fire" in India is living proof of the very dichotomy between East and West, old and new and conservative and liberal that the film itself deals with. "Fire" plays Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Montgomery Theatre in LaFortune, with a discussion and Indian food to follow the showing.

"Whale Rider"

The New Zealand film "Whale Rider" tells the story of Pai, an 11-year-old girl born into the Maori tribe that traces its ancestry back to Paikea, the Whale Rider, who according to legend escaped death by riding to shore on a whale. Leadership is passed down through the males in the tribe, in concurrence with the legend. This standard of passing on power comes into contention when twins are born into the leader's family, and the male child dies while his sister survives. Koro (Rawiri Paratene), the leader of the

tribe, will not accept his granddaughter Pai (Keisha Castle-Hughes) as the heir to the tribe's leadership because she is female. He is also convinced that the tribe has been experiencing misfortunes ever since Pai's birth, and so he asks the members of his tribe to bring their sons to him in the hope that the future leader of the tribe is among them. Pai must stand up to her grandfather, as well as thousands of years of tribal history, to convince everyone else that she, and not another male, should lead the tribe in the future. She learns tribal rituals without her grandfather's knowledge. She must ultimately prove herself to the tribe, and more importantly her grandfather, to show them that tradition sometimes needs some tweaking in order to be updated for the present.

Castle-Hughes received a great deal of acclaim for her performance as Pai, being chosen as the Chicago Film Critics' Best Actress and nominated for a Screen Actors' Guild award. She was the youngest actress to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actress at the age of 13, losing to Charlize Theron at this year's Oscars. This is great acclaim, considering that Castle-Hughes was discovered at her New Zealand school and had no prior acting experience.

The movie itself won awards as prominent



Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com

"Whale Rider" is a compelling story about a young girl named Pai, played by 13-year-old Keisha Castle-Hughes. She is the youngest actress to be ever nominated for an Academy Award.

as the People's Choice Award at the Toronto Film Festival and the World Cinema Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

The critical acclaim of "Whale Rider" was important for the acceptance of movies from countries that don't produce as many movies, like New Zealand – although "Lord of the Rings" deserves some credit for that feat as well. More importantly, it focused on the daily lives of the Maori, who are an important and often neglected part of that region's heritage. The movie is based on a book of the same name by Witi Ihimaera, a

Maori woman, who was reminded of the Whale Rider legend when she saw a whale spouting in the Hudson River in New York. The film was shot in Whangara, New Zealand, and perhaps the greatest testament to the film's impact and popularity is the fact that tours are now being offered in the area where the movie was shot. "Whale Rider" plays Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in room 117 DeBartolo.

Contact Molly Griffin
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Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com

A bit of India's culture is captured in "Fire," a provocative film about the love formed between two women in an oppressive, patriarchal society that subjects them to servile and disrespected positions.

International Festival Week

Monday	"Fire" film presentation Montgomery Theatre 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday	"Whale Rider" film presentation DeBartolo Hall Room 117 7:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Wednesday	Samba and Forro Dancing Pasquerilla West 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Thursday	International Children's Festival University Village Community Center 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday	African Cultural Night Hesburgh Library Auditorium 6:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday Night Live alumnae crusades against conservative lies

Al Franken's new book uses dry humor to point out numerous discrepancies in politics

By **CLAIRE HAGEN**
Scene Writer

Al Franken became famous as a Saturday Night Live cast member and Emmy-winning writer, playing characters like Stuart Smalley. Since leaving the show, however, he has turned his attention towards politics. He officially came out as a liberal with "Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot" in 1999, and has again used his satirical wit to criticize conservatives and the Republican Party with "Lies, and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them."

Harvard's Kennedy School of Government offered Franken a fellowship in their Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy. Using a Harvard research team, Franken wrote this book. This Harvard fellowship and research team lend credit to the book's accuracy, especially as Franken constantly reveals the lies of conservative writers. Franken also points out that only one mis-

take was found in Rush Limbaugh, and Franken found that mistake himself.

According to Franken, God told him to write "Lies" in response to individuals who claim the media has a liberal bias. Franken works to prove otherwise, attacking conservative media, especially characters like Ann Coulter and Bill O'Reilly, though Franken prefers to call them "Nutcase" and "Bill O'Lie-ly." By pointing out their blatant lies and conservative propaganda, Franken broadens his criticism to the entire Bush administration.

For example, in his chapter entitled "Operation Ignore," Franken addresses both the conservative media's claims that President Bill Clinton was partly to blame for Sept. 11 and that the Bush administration worked to prevent any terrorist attacks. In refuting these claims, Franken first addresses how Clinton's administration had actively fought terrorism, especially from Al Qaeda, and had successfully subverted several attacks. Franken

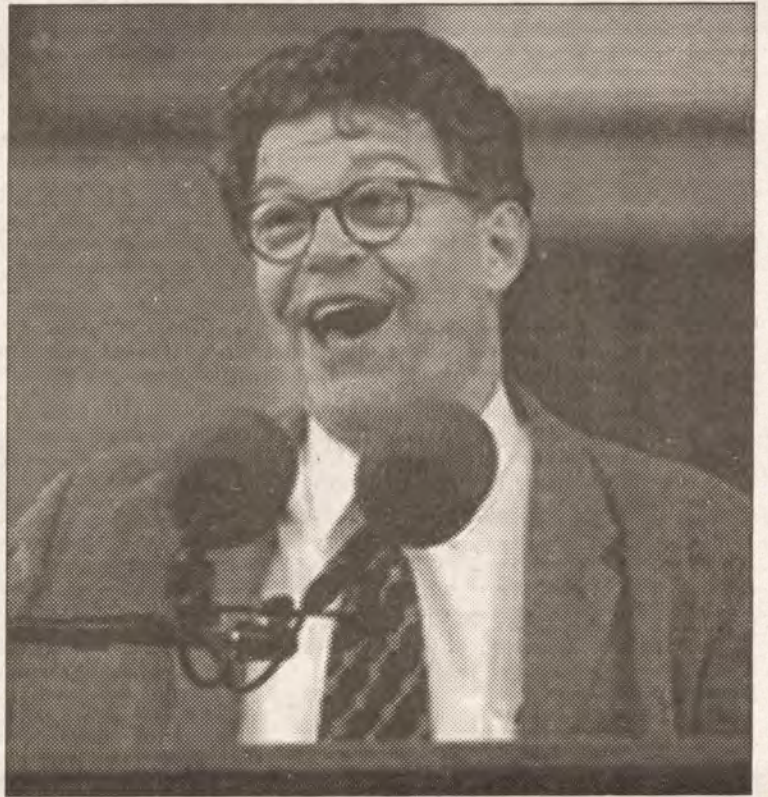


Photo courtesy of www.news.harvard.edu

Since leaving SNL, Al Franken has become more involved in various liberal political issues, including the response to terrorism.

then traces the George W. Bush administration's action from inauguration through September 11, emphasizing not only how little attention the administration paid to terrorism, but also how little Bush worked.

Franken also often adds a creative spark to his satire. To point out the flaws of the "No Child Left Behind Act," Franken writes his own standardized test, which calculates what percentage of children actually have been left behind because of Bush's reluctance to financially support the program. Franken also attacks general conservative ideology with a cartoon about "Supply-Side Jesus", showing how the Lord's teachings would have differed had He been a profit-hungry capitalist.

The book is consistently informative and funny, as Franken takes the reader through his own personal search for weapons of mass destruction, tells about his less-than-friendly encounter with former First Lady Barbara Bush, recounts a trip he took to the ultra-conservative Bob Jones University and freely attacks the long career of Karl Rove, a

Bush strategist. Readers learn a lot about politics and the players who currently dominate it, but the book is never dull. Franken's sharp humor keeps the book light and the reader laughing.

"Lies" has received great reviews by liberals since its publication. However, conservatives probably want to avoid this book, as it blatantly mocks their ideology and leadership throughout. Franken attacks basically every member of the Bush administration and of Fox News. While he does make a point to be accurate and not resort to "lies," as he claims his opposition does, Franken's liberal agenda is clear and pronounced — ultimately limiting his audience.

Overall, the book stands out because Franken blends his researched political statements with his dry humor, making "Lies" a great read, especially in the election year. Luckily, those interested in hearing more of Franken's witty political observations can catch his upcoming show "The O'Franken Factor" (a spin-off show of the ultra-conservative "The O'Reilly Factor") on the new Air America Radio, which will begin March 31. Franken's show will run Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m., and promises to point out and criticize more lies in conservative media and political platforms.

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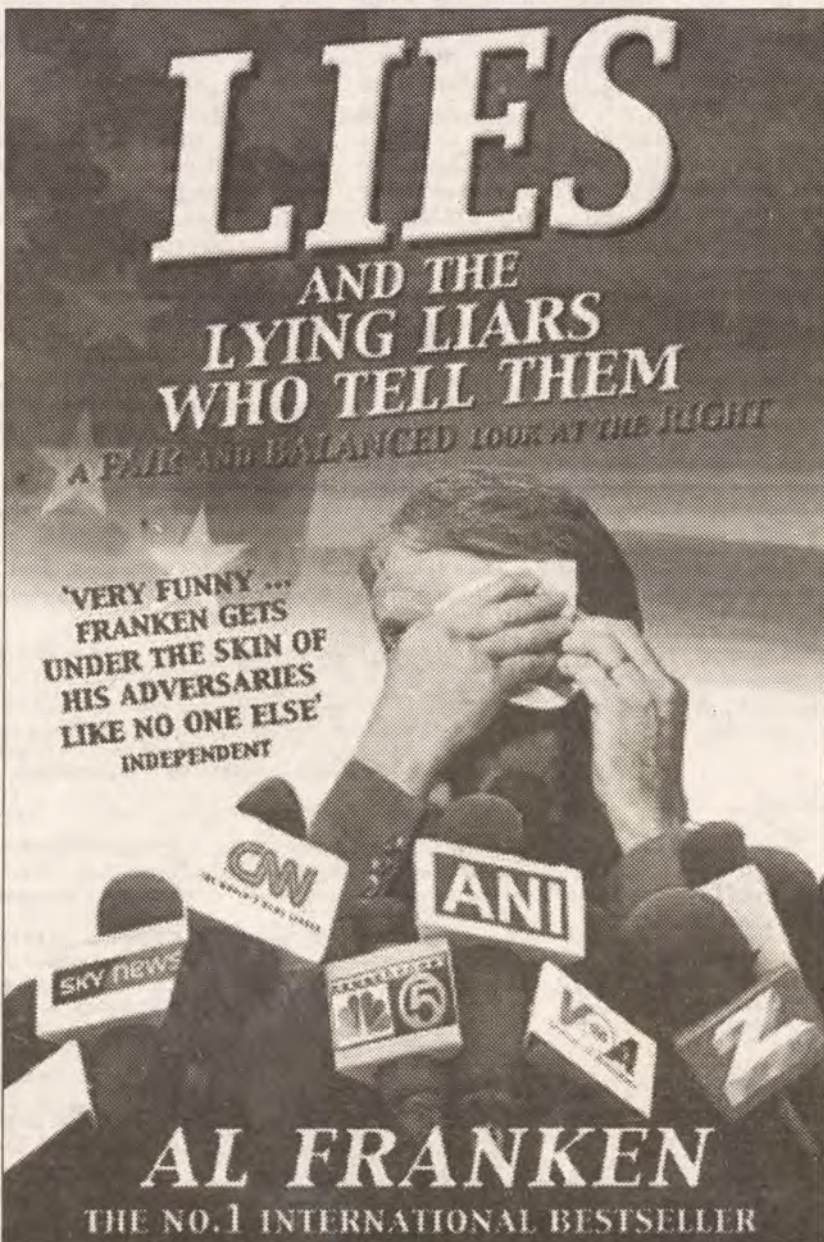


Photo courtesy of www.amazon.com

Franken's latest book takes an in-depth look at the "semi-truths" of different political figures and how they influence the public's views.

NBA

Rockets collect third overtime victory in 4 games

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The Houston Rockets scrambled in the fourth quarter to get to overtime — a place where they have been very comfortable recently.

The Rockets rallied from a nine-point deficit with less than five minutes to go in regulation before beating the Milwaukee Bucks 111-107 for their third overtime win in four games.

"The game is not 48 minutes for us, it is a 53-minute game now," said Yao Ming, who had 27 points, 13 rebounds and five blocks.

In overtime, Milwaukee cut a seven-point lead to 108-107 with six seconds left when Houston's Jim Jackson made two free throws after not being called for an apparent traveling violation on the inbound pass.

Michael Redd then was called for a line violation while inbound and Steve Francis made one free throw for the final margin.

Francis finished with 23 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, while Maurice Taylor and Cuttino Mobley each added 19.

Bucks coach Terry Porter got a technical in overtime while arguing that Yao, who committed five personal fouls, should have been called for fouling Desmond Mason.

"He got more than six fouls tonight," Porter said. "After the fifth, there were four or five that were very obvious."

But the Bucks failed to convert when fouls were called, making just 20 of 34 free throw attempts compared to Houston, which went 39-of-45.

"That might be the tale of the game," Redd said. "They had a decisive free throw advantage over us for most of the game, so that hurt us."

Redd had 36 points and a career-high 14 rebounds for the Bucks while Joe Smith scored a season-high 25 points. Milwaukee was without Keith Van Horn, who sprained his left ankle and bruised his left calf Friday against Chicago.

The Bucks were hoping to rebound after a tough road trip, when they lost three of five. But they lost their fourth straight at home for the first time since February 2000 and missed a chance to tie New Orleans for fourth place in the Eastern Conference.

Milwaukee has a one-game lead over Miami for the fifth

playoff spot.

Pacers 87, Heat 80

Jermaine O'Neal proved his knee was strong enough to carry the Indiana Pacers to victory.

The All-Star forward returned from an injury and had 23 points, 14 rebounds and four blocks to lead the Pacers to an win over the Miami Heat.

"I give a lot of credit to Jermaine O'Neal for stepping in there and playing today," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. "His knee is better but it's still a little sore, and it's tough to come in there after missing a couple of games."

O'Neal made the start for Indiana after missing the past two games with a bruised left knee, injured in a win over the Chicago Bulls last Monday. O'Neal played 35 minutes, scoring 10 points in the third quarter.

"I didn't shoot as well as I wanted," said O'Neal, who finished 8-of-21 from the field. "I think it's rust. Hopefully, it'll come with a day of practice and these two games with Milwaukee."

Caron Butler, Eddie Jones and Dwyane Wade each scored 14 points for the Heat, which had their seven-game winning streak end.

Ron Artest added 18 points and 12 rebounds for the NBA-leading Pacers despite having to leave the game briefly with a sprained right ankle.

Artest was later hit in the face going up for a rebound in a physical game in which the teams combined for 49 fouls, including four technicals and two flagrant. Artest will have his nose examined Monday to see if it's broken.

"They play hard: we go hard," said Artest, who also finished with six steals and four assists. "We just had to keep going to the basket."

"I didn't play the best, but we won."

Miami committed five fouls in the first eight minutes, while the Pacers made their first seven shots from the foul line and finished 34-for-43 for the game. The Heat committed 11 turnovers in the first half, which the Pacers quickly converted into 15 points.

"The fact that they're the most physical defensive team in the league and never foul, that's a helluva team," Miami coach Stan Van Gundy said. "It wasn't me being upset about the fouls called on us. I just thought we

were attacking pretty darned good, too.

"We'll have to look (at the film). Their technique must be great because they lean on you and never foul."

Indiana, which shot 43 percent from the field and 67 percent from 3-point range in the first half, led 50-40 at halftime after leading by as many as 16 points. But the Heat opened the third quarter on a 9-4 run to pull within 54-51 with 6:57 left and held the Pacers to 27 percent shooting in the second half.

Celtics 89, 76ers 65

Philadelphia coach Chris Ford urged his players to keep shooting, and they kept missing.

But by the time the 76ers hit the target consistently, they were too far back and lost to the Boston Celtics while setting franchise records for offensive futility.

"Every timeout I just kept encouraging them, the next one is going to go," Ford said. "You can't be hesitant and not take the open shots."

They had plenty of shots but missed 65. Boston took only 77.

"They looked a little tired," Boston coach John Carroll said. "They missed some good shots early and I think it just kind of fed into what was going on."

Playing for the fifth straight game without injured Allen Iverson, the 76ers set club records for fewest points in a half (23) and in three quarters (41). The 76ers sank nine of 19 shots in the fourth quarter after hitting 15 of 70 before then. They finished at 24-for-89, or 27 percent.

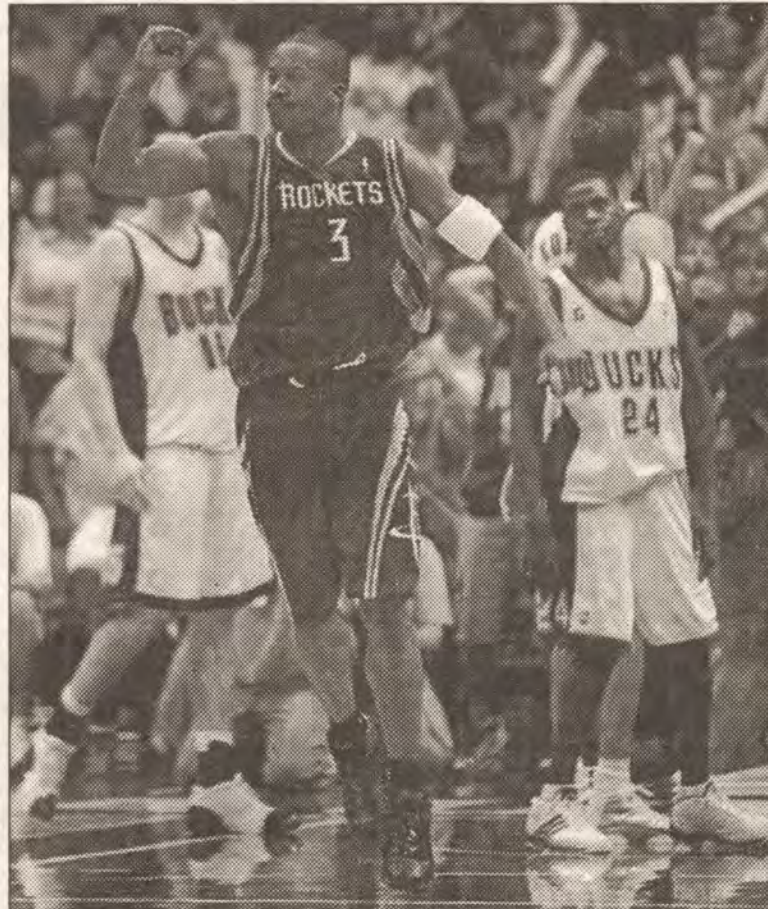
"When you fall so far behind you have to do things differently to break it up," Aaron McKie said. "We didn't figure things out until it was too late."

The Celtics, who moved a half game ahead of Cleveland into eighth place in the Eastern Conference, were led by Mark Blount, Ricky Davis and Jiri Welsch with 13 points each. For Philadelphia, Kenny Thomas had 18 and Kyle Korver 15.

"We missed a lot of wide open shots," Korver said. "Unfortunately, it had to happen tonight (with) as big a game as this is."

The 76ers dropped 2 1/2 games behind Boston in the race for the final playoff spot.

For the second straight game, the Celtics faced a team without two of its best players. They beat New Jersey on Friday night when Jason Kidd and Kenyon



Houston guard Steve Francis celebrates after making a basket to send the game into overtime in the Rockets' 111-107 win.

Martin were sidelined.

The 76ers were 3-1 in their previous four games without Iverson. And Glenn Robinson is on the injured list after right elbow surgery. Together, they average 43 points per game as Philadelphia's top two scorers, more points than the entire team scored in the first three quarters when it trailed 60-41.

The 76ers' previous record for fewest points through three quarters was 42 on Dec. 28, 2002, against Utah.

Mavericks 118, Magic 88

The Dallas Mavericks wanted to end a bad road trip on a good note, but they still felt empty after a 30-point victory over a starless, struggling team.

Dirk Nowitzki's 25 points and nine rebounds led the Dallas Mavericks to a victory over the Orlando Magic, who were without Tracy McGrady and have now lost eight straight.

"It's nice to win, but I wouldn't get too excited about this one," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said.

Dallas enjoyed a solid opener to its five-game East Coast swing, beating the Atlantic-leading New Jersey Nets. But the Mavericks lost at Philadelphia

and Indiana, then dropped a heartbreaker in overtime in Miami.

"It's been a disaster," said Nowitzki, who led six Mavericks in double figures. "We lost a lot of games that we would usually win."

Luckily for the Mavs, the trip ended against a terrible defensive squad missing the NBA's leading scorer. It was a setup for a blowout, and Dallas seized the opportunity.

The Mavericks shot 57 percent, their best since Nov. 11, and their 34 assists were their most in more than two months. Meanwhile, Orlando shot 35 percent and had nine shots blocked.

"At this point, we're looking for anything positive, to be honest," Nelson said. "We really struggled lately, so to have a good defensive and good offensive effort on the same night makes it nice."

Antawn Jamison had 21 points and nine rebounds while Steve Nash added 12 points and 11 assists.

"We have a habit of playing down to the level of our competition," Nash said. "This was by no means a foregone conclusion."

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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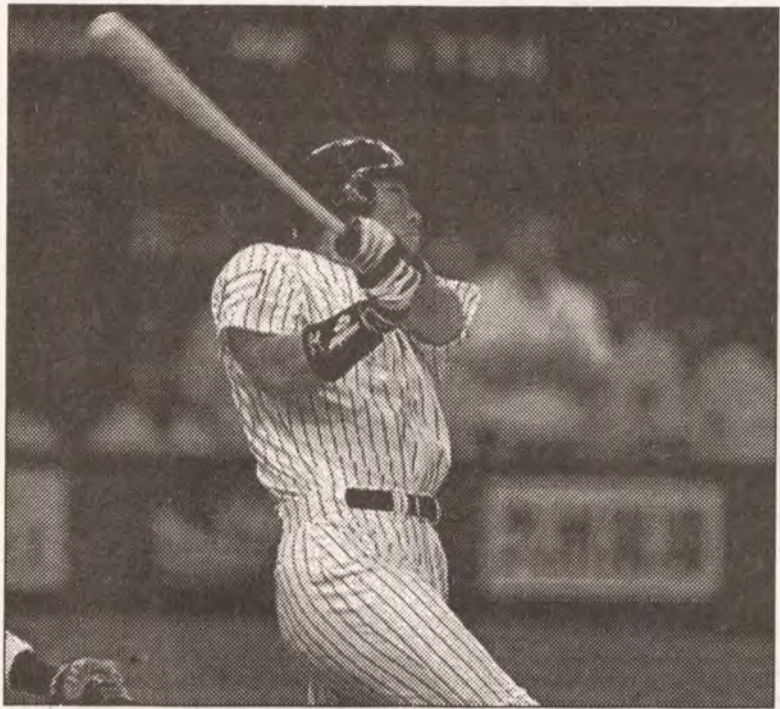
Ya

Lasers

The kid who never smiles

MLB

Matsui homers for Yankees in return to Japan



New York's Hideki Matsui hits a home run in the Yankees' exhibition game with the Yomiuri Giants in Tokyo Sunday.

Associated Press

TOKYO — Over and over, Hideki Matsui kept saying this was just another night. But, of course, it wasn't. It was his first game back in Japan since leaving after the 2002 season.

And when he deposited a hanging curveball into the right-center field seats in the second inning Sunday, the enormously popular player they call Godzilla couldn't reign in his emotions. He cracked a wide smile after he crossed the plate and returned to the New York Yankees' dugout.

Matsui homered in his first at-bat back in Japan, starting an evening when the Yankees showed why they're called the Bronx Bombers back home.

Jorge Posada added a tiebreaking three-run homer and Derek Jeter hit a solo shot, leading the Yankees over the Yomiuri Giants 6-2 in New York's first game in Japan in 49

years.

And after it was over, Matsui walked to a microphone at home plate and addressed the admirers who were so sad to see him depart Yomiuri 15 months ago to sign with the Yankees.

"What I did out there was to show my deepest appreciation for the fans," he explained later through a translator. "Most importantly, however, at the same time I didn't feel melancholy about it. I didn't have any special attachment toward it, looking back at my Yomiuri Giants days. No, that didn't happen. I just wanted to show them my gratitude."

He wants to behave like a "Star Trek" Vulcan, be robotlike and emotionless, focusing deeply on the tasks at hand. Yankees manager Joe Torre calls it "ice water."

"He knows how to rise to the occasion. I really feel that way," Torre said.

While Matsui plays left field for the Yankees and his spot in the batting order changes constantly, with Yomiuri he received Japan's positions of honor — center field and cleanup in the batting order. That's where he played on Sunday night, the next-to-last exhibition for New York before Tuesday's opener against Tampa Bay.

"You're allowed to be bigger than the game tonight," Torre told him.

Matsui already had a clue, thanks to Kenny Lofton, who gave him the heads-up during batting practice. Ever the perfectionist, Matsui shagged fly balls in center field.

"I hadn't played center field in some time now," Matsui said. "I needed to practice, I needed to get a feel for the position again."

With flashbulbs popping and small orange flags with his number "55" waving, Matsui stepped into the batter's box leading off the second inning to cheers of "Go Matsui!" Then, just after he fouled off a 2-2 pitch, the chant changed to, "Home run, home run, Matsui."

In the dugout, Torre said: "Wouldn't this be something if he hits a home here?"

Matsui sure did, on the very next pitch. He took a 63 mph hanging curveball from Hisanori Takahashi, leaned into it and sent it about three-quarters of the way up the bleachers in right-center field.



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AROUND THE NATION

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COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Monday, March 29, 2004

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
New Jersey	42-30	.583	4-6	-
Miami	35-38	.479	8-2	7.5
New York	34-40	.459	5-5	9
Boston	32-40	.444	6-4	10
Philadelphia	31-42	.425	6-4	11.5
Washington	23-49	.319	3-7	19
Orlando	19-56	.253	1-9	24.5

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Indiana	54-19	.740	7-3	-
Detroit	47-27	.635	8-2	7.5
New Orleans	37-36	.507	4-6	17
Milwaukee	36-37	.493	3-7	18
Cleveland	32-40	.444	6-4	21.5
Toronto	30-43	.411	3-7	24
Atlanta	24-49	.329	4-6	30
Chicago	20-53	.274	2-8	34

Western Conference, Midwest Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Minnesota	50-24	.676	5-5	-
San Antonio	48-25	.658	6-4	1.5
Memphis	47-26	.644	8-2	2.5
Dallas	45-28	.616	5-5	4.5
Houston	42-30	.583	6-4	7
Utah	38-35	.521	7-3	11.5
Denver	38-37	.507	4-6	12.5

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Sacramento	51-21	.708	5-5	-
LA Lakers	49-23	.681	8-2	2
Portland	37-35	.514	7-3	14
Seattle	34-39	.466	7-3	17.5
Golden State	31-40	.437	6-4	19.5
LA Clippers	27-47	.366	1-9	25
Phoenix	25-49	.338	4-6	27

Golfweek/Sagarin Men's Golf Polls

	team	rating
1	Florida	69.86
2	Clemson	70.32
3	Georgia	70.56
4	UCLA	70.72
5	Georgia Tech	70.72
6	Oklahoma State	70.85
7	Texas	70.90
8	Arizona State	70.99
9	TCU	71.01
10	Arizona	71.28
11	UNLV	71.31
12	South Carolina	71.31
13	Minnesota	71.34
14	BYU	71.40
15	California	71.41
16	Augusta State	71.46
17	Southern California	71.46
18	New Mexico	71.47
19	Arkansas	71.52
20	Oklahoma	71.53
21	Wake Forest	71.55
22	Kentucky	71.67
23	Kansas	71.76
24	Colorado State	71.78
25	North Carolina	71.81

NCAA BASKETBALL

Duke, Georgia Tech earn Final Four bids

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Too much history. Too much Duke.

The Blue Devils ended Xavier's remarkable run in the NCAA tournament and headed to their 14th Final Four, holding off the Musketeers 66-63 Sunday to win the Atlanta Regional.

Xavier (26-11) had already chopped down the second- and third-seeded teams in the region, but couldn't make it 1-2-3 against Duke (31-5). The Blue Devils will be the only No. 1 seed in San Antonio, advancing to meet Connecticut next Saturday in the national semifinals.

The seventh-seeded Musketeers had never been this far in the tournament, and it showed in the closing minutes against postseason-hardened Duke.

With the score tied at 56, Chris Duhon drove to the basket and missed, but Luol Deng grabbed the offensive rebound and passed out to J.J. Redick, who swished the 3-pointer that put the Blue Devils ahead for good with 2:55 remaining.

Xavier couldn't overcome the loss of Anthony Myles, its best inside player, who fouled out with 12 1/2 minutes remaining after scoring 16 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. His absence was especially telling at the end.

After Redick's trey, 6-foot-1 Dedrick Finn drove the lane, only to have his shot swatted away by 6-9 Shelden Williams. Duhon sped the other way and missed again, but Deng tapped in the rebound to give the Blue Devils a five-point lead with 1:55 to go.

Justin Doellman finally scored for the Musketeers, their first basket in nearly 4 1/2 minutes, but Duke closed it out at the free throw line. Redick hit a pair. So did Duhon, the only prominent holdover from Duke's last national championship team in 2001.

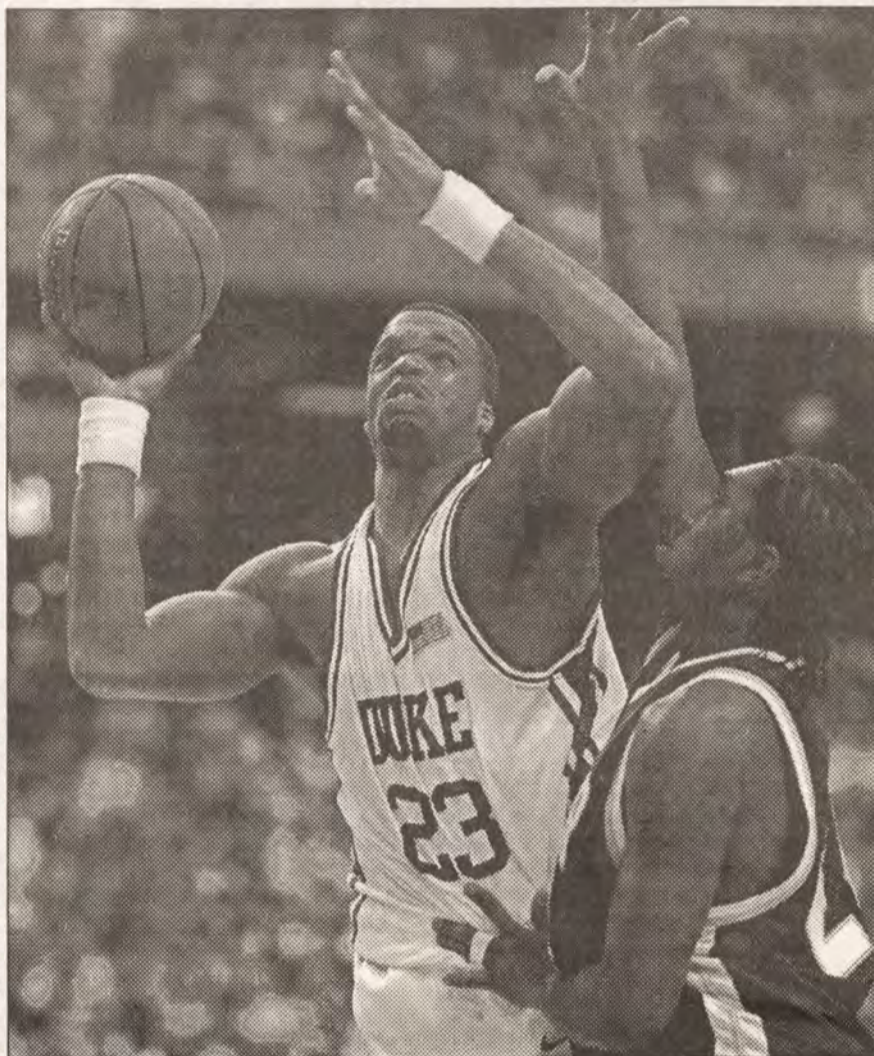
The Blue Devils lost the last two years in the regional semifinals. They didn't slip up this time.

Deng had 19 points and was named the MVP of the regional. Williams also came up big, scoring 12 points to go along with 13 rebounds.

Lionel Chalmers led Xavier with 17 points.

Georgia Tech 79, Kansas 71

When the final buzzer sounded, the entire Georgia Tech team rushed



Duke's Shelden Williams puts up a shot against Xavier's Anthony Miles as Duke outlasted Xavier 66-63 Sunday in Atlanta.

together to pile into a group hug on the floor.

How fitting.

With top scorer B.J. Elder hobbled by a badly sprained ankle, someone else had to step up. Jarrett Jack and the rest of the Yellow Jackets did better than that, beating Kansas in overtime to advance to their first Final Four since 1990.

"A lot was on the line," said Jack, who scored eight of his career-high 29 points in overtime. "B.J. being out, we all knew we had to step up. I just really got it going and kept attacking until the game was over."

No team had more tight games on its road to the Final Four than the third-seeded Yellow Jackets. Their first three games in the St. Louis Regional were decided by a total of

13 points.

But Georgia Tech (27-9) has been unflappable all season, beating Connecticut when the Huskies were ranked No. 1 and winning at Duke and Wake Forest. So facing the favored Jayhawks, even without Elder, was no big deal. Even when the game went to overtime.

After little Will Bynum hit a big 3-pointer to break a 71-all tie, Jack went 4-for-4 from the line in the last 47 seconds to seal the win.

Jack finished 8-of-12 from the floor, and had nine rebounds and six assists. Luke Schenscher added 15 points and Clarence Moore matched his season high with 14 for the Yellow Jackets. As the final seconds ticked off the clock, coach Paul Hewitt threw his hands in the air in triumph.

IN BRIEF

Adam Scott wins Player's Championship

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — The guy who swings like Tiger Woods nearly finished like Greg Norman.

Ultimately, all that mattered to Adam Scott on Sunday was making a 10-foot bogey putt on the final hole to win The Players Championship, making the 23-year-old Australian the youngest champion of golf's richest tournament.

Scott turned a command performance into a comedy on the treacherous 18th hole at Sawgrass. From the middle of the fairway, with a two-shot lead, he pulled his approach into the water and looked as if he had thrown it all away.

Needing to make bogey to avoid a playoff with Padraig Harrington, Scott finished with a putt that was true from the time it left his blade. Scott thrust his fist into the air twice, and threw his cap down in relief.

He closed with a 2-under 70, winning \$1.44 million from the record \$8 million purse.

Angels' pitcher hospitalized

Anaheim Angels reliever Brendan Donnelly has been hospitalized because of severe nosebleeds while recovering from being hit in the face by a fly ball.

Donnelly returned to a Scottsdale hospital late Saturday and underwent a third surgery on his fractured nose, which was broken in 20 places on March 9 while he shagged flies during batting practice.

"They told me I lost half the blood in my body," Donnelly said Saturday, adding that he'd lost seven pints of blood. "I didn't realize how serious it was."

Said Angels shortstop David Eckstein: "We're concerned with his safety. It's dangerous to lose that much blood."

Donnelly will start the season on

the disabled list, the team said Sunday. He will remain in the hospital three or four days.

O'Neal returns to Pacers' lineup

INDIANAPOLIS — Jermaine O'Neal returned to the Indiana Pacers starting lineup Sunday after missing the past two games with a bruised left knee.

O'Neal is averaging a team-leading 20.3 points, 10.1 rebounds and 2.65 blocks a game for the Pacers (53-19), who were playing Miami (35-37).

The All-Star forward injured his knee in win over the Chicago Bulls last Monday. He collided with Bulls guard Ronald Dupree while trying to set a pick on the baseline and immediately crumpled to the floor.

Al Harrington, who is averaging a career-best 13.1 points and 6.4 rebounds, had started in place of O'Neal. The Pacers are 4-0 this season without O'Neal.

around the dial

NHL

Wild at Red Wings, 7 p.m., ESPN2

MLB

Cubs(ss) vs. Padres, 1 p.m., FOXCH
Angels vs. Cubs(ss), 3 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Bulls at Heat, 7:30 p.m., FOXCH

TENNIS

Nasdaq-100 Open, 1 p.m., ESPN

TENNIS

Federer knocked off by Spanish teenager

Associated Press

KEY BISCAVNE, Fla. — Under siege from a 17-year-old Spaniard, Roger Federer waited for his opponent to show some nerves and make a few mistakes.

It never happened. Rafael Nadal coolly closed out the biggest victory of his young life Sunday night by beating the top-ranked Federer 6-3, 6-3 in the third round of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

Federer, the reigning Wimbledon and Australian Open champion, lost for only the second time in 25 matches this year. The loss was an upset but no fluke: Nadal has been touted as a future top-10 player and showed shot-making skills worthy of the hype.

The big-swinging left-hander from Mallorca won 36 of 48 points on his serve and never faced a break point. He hit winners from both sides, won 13 points at the net and closed out one game with a crosscourt drop shot that brought a roar from the crowd.

The youngest player in the 96-man field, Nadal improved to 3-1 against top 10 opponents. He also has beaten Carlos Moya and Albert Costa.

In women's play, top-seeded Serena Williams cleared another hurdle in her comeback from an eight-month layoff by beating Elena Likhovtseva 6-1, 4-6, 6-3.

Williams was playing for just the second time since undergoing knee surgery last August, and she survived some shaky moments and erratic groundstrokes. She won the first five games but

committed 34 unforced errors — plus several foot faults — and needed five match points to secure the victory.

"I never felt as if I was going to lose," Williams said. "I just felt ... when was I going to win?"

Her path to the final became easier when fourth-seeded Jennifer Capriati lost to No. 25 Eleni Daniilidou, 6-2, 6-4.

"From the beginning I missed some easy shots, and I got negative after that," Capriati said.

She was the runner-up in Key Biscayne each of the past three years, losing in the final to a Williams each time: Serena in 2002 and 2003, and Venus in 2001.

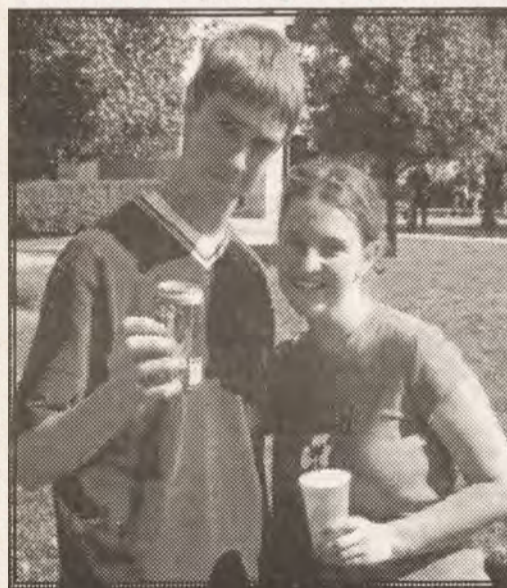
Williams' next opponent will be 16-year-old Russian Maria Sharapova, who beat No. 13 Anna Smashnova-Pistolesi 7-5, 6-2.

Three-time champion Venus Williams struggled early but played a flawless tiebreaker and beat No. 27 Daniela Hantuchova 7-6 (0), 6-2. Williams, seeded second in the tournament, could meet her younger sister in the final Saturday.

Also reaching the fourth round were lucky loser Gisela Dulko of Argentina and Jill Craybas of the United States, who upset No. 7 Vera Zvonareva 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

In other men's play, former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt lost to Andrei Pavel 6-4, 7-5. Hewitt had 10 double-faults, including three in the final game.

Todd Martin advanced, but fellow American Robby Ginepri was eliminated by Nicolas Kiefer 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-4.



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NHL

Devils edge out Islanders 3-2

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New Jersey Devils narrowed their focus and took a step toward catching the Atlantic Division-leading Philadelphia Flyers.

"We just have to win these final hockey games," said Scott Gomez who assisted on all three goals Sunday night in the Devils' 3-2 win over the New York Islanders. "We're not worrying about Philly. To be honest, I think that's what got us in trouble in the past. We got three games left and then the real dance starts, so we want to be going at full steam."

Patrik Elias had a goal and two assists, and Scott Niedermayer and Brian Gionta also scored for the Devils who moved within two points of the Flyers. Martin Brodeur made 12 saves to post his 36th win.

"We've got three games and we just have to keep winning," Elias said. "We'll know soon how it turns out."

Dave Scatchard and Mark Parrish scored for New York, which dropped its second straight game during the weekend. The Islanders failed to reduce their magic number of four points needed to clinch the Eastern Conference's final playoff spot over Buffalo.

"You don't want to be looking over your shoulder," Parrish said. "You want to be looking ahead to the playoffs. At this point in the season, you can't help but look at the standings and who's behind you and who's in front of you."

Niedermayer opened the scoring at 6:26 as Elias and Islanders forward Mattias Weinhandl bumped into New York goaltender Rick DiPietro. That left Niedermayer with a wide-open net and marked the second straight game DiPietro was victimized that way on the first goal. He was down on the ice when Allan Roarke gave the Hurricanes the early lead Saturday in Carolina's 3-2 victory.

The Islanders, outplayed most of the first period, pulled even when Scatchard beat Brodeur from the right boards for a short-handed goal with 38.2 seconds remaining.

Elias and Gionta scored in the second period to give the Devils a 3-1 lead.

Elias scored on a backhand at 5:13. A video replay confirmed that the puck trickled over the goal line before DiPietro could clamp a pad on it.

Gionta deflected Gomez's shot in with 2:07 remaining.

Parrish wasted little time in the third, deflecting Kenny Jonsson's point shot past Brodeur 43 seconds in, cutting the Devils' lead to 3-2.

New Jersey allowed only three more shots the rest of the way.

"We had a tough weekend," Islanders coach Steve Stirling said. "We played hard tonight but you can't fall behind with a third goal at the end of the second period. We had a huge mountain to climb."

Blues 3, Blackhawks 1

The St. Louis Blues' five-on-three power-play unit is working just fine.

Keith Tkachuk, Petr Cajanek and Brian Savage each had goals while St. Louis had a two-man advantage in the first period, leading the Blues to a victory



AP Photo

New York's Mark Parrish tries to get out of the way of the puck in front of Devils goalie Martin Brodeur in the first period Sunday.

ry over the Chicago Blackhawks.

"When you have five-on-threes, the odds are you're going to score," Savage said. "We've got a lot of snipers on this team. We moved the puck around well. We got a lot of shots from the slot."

St. Louis remained in seventh place in the Western Conference, two points ahead of Nashville and Edmonton, which played Phoenix later Sunday.

Doug Weight and Scott Mellanby had two assists for St. Louis, which also beat the Blackhawks on Saturday at home.

Chicago drew six consecutive penalties in the first period, giving the Blues 10:48 of power-play time. St. Louis had a man-advantage for 7:26 straight — including 3:25 when they skated five-on-three.

Chicago coach Brian Sutter didn't think his team deserved all the penalties.

"The referees had a determining factor in the outcome of the game. We play good in physical games," Sutter said. "It's frustrating to our players when other people are involved in the outcome of the game besides the people who are playing it."

The Blues took exception to the five stick-related fouls the Blackhawks committed in the period.

"It happens when you take stick infractions," Tkachuk said.

Down 3-1 after one period, Chicago came out firing in the second period, with Scott Thornton scoring at 1:52.

The Blackhawks outshot the Blues 18-5 in the second period and 13-5 in the third.

"You sit back and that is what is going to happen," Blues defenseman Chris Pronger said. "You give them confidence. We should be trying to finish them."

Tkachuk capitalized 11 seconds into the first two-man advantage, taking a pass in the slot from Doug Weight and lifting a shot above the left arm of goalie Adam Munro.

Cajanek made it 2-0 at 10:05. Brian Savage fanned on a shot from the slot, and Cajanek gained control of the puck at the side of the net and scored.

"It was another whiff," Savage said. "I got the second one, though."

Wild 2, Mighty Ducks 1

Though Gaborik's season will still be considered a disappointment, he's trying hard to finish strong.

Gaborik netted the go-ahead goal in the third period against Minnesota nemesis Jean-Sebastien Giguere, giving the Wild a victory over the Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

Dwayne Roloson made 18 saves, and rookie Rickard Wallin had a goal for Minnesota, which scored on Giguere for just the fourth time in eight games — including last year's Western Conference finals.

"Obviously we have been having a lot of trouble to score against him," Gaborik said. "It was good to get a couple goals."

Good for Gaborik, especially, who shares the team goal lead with Alexandre Daigle with 16. An All-Star last year who was the third-highest scorer in the NHL playoffs, Gaborik missed the first 12 games of this season during a contract dispute. He has been off his game for much of the time since.

"He's feeling much better," coach Jacques Lemaire said. "He's just starting to feel good about himself and feel confident."

Niclas Havelid scored for the Mighty Ducks, whose recent dominance of the Wild ended. Anaheim followed its four-game sweep in last year's playoffs by going 2-0-1 in the first three games this season.

"That's been the story of the season, losing close ones," captain Steve Rucchin said. "That's what happens when you refuse to work. ... When you don't come prepared on a nightly basis, it's tough. The guys on the ice haven't gotten the job done. It's no one's fault except ourselves."

After their improbable meeting in last year's playoffs, both the Wild and Mighty Ducks have fallen hard. They enter the final week of the regular season with nothing on the line other than draft position and auditions for future playing time.

ROWING

ND faces tough competition

By CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG
Sports Writer

The Irish had a strong showing in Ann Arbor, Mich. Saturday, boasting a varsity four win and a varsity eight second-place finish behind rowing powerhouse Michigan.

In addition to racing the No. 2 Wolverines, Notre Dame rowed against Clemson, No. 8 Michigan State and Eastern Michigan. Though the Irish were unranked in pre-season polls, they demonstrated that they have the talent and drive to compete with the best.

In Notre Dame's first varsity four race, a dominant start led coxswain Kathy Long, Katie O'Hara, Danielle Stealy, Pam Jefson and Kristen Mizzi to triumph over their highly-ranked competitors. The Irish finished in 7 minutes 14.8 seconds — three seconds ahead of the Spartan boat.

"We knew going into the race that Clemson, Michigan and especially Michigan State would be really fast off the starting line and in order to win, we would have to have a great start," Jefson said. "We simply had an explosive start off the line which forced the other teams to try and catch up the whole race."

"We are a strong enough boat, and that early lead put us in a great position to win the race," Jefson said. "We raced Michigan State two weeks ago

and knew that they have a great finishing sprint, which is why our early lead was necessary for a victory."

The Wolverines fell to third in 7:19.9, while the Tigers followed in 7:36.1 and Eastern Michigan took last in 8:02.0. Though the rowers were overwhelmingly pleased with the team's performance, they are training to excel both in practice and future competition.

"... That early lead put us in a great position to win the race."

Pam Jefson
Irish rower

"We definitely have some technical work to do, but its really promising knowing that with some changes to our strokes we can really make this boat go even faster," Stealy

said.

Notre Dame's second varsity four boat of coxswain Caitlin Rackish, Kristen Hinkel, Meredith Thornburgh, Alyssa Close and Colleen Larson finished in third with a 7:36.9 finish, behind Michigan's winning time of 7:17.3 and Michigan State's second place time of 7:23.7.

The Irish varsity eight boat also had a stellar performance, as the Wolverines narrowly beat them. Though Notre Dame's coxswain Maureen Gibbons, Natalie Ladine, Alice Bartek, Meghan Boyle, Rachel Polinski, Melissa Felker, Katie Chenoweth, Danielle Protasewich and Jacqueline Hazen secured a lead 1,000 meters in to the race, Michigan's boat had a strong finish.

Notre Dame crossed the fin-

ish line in 6:25.0, less than five seconds behind Michigan. Clemson took third in 6:34.3, while Eastern Michigan finished in 6:40.2.

In the second varsity eight race, Michigan won in 6:35.0, and with a time of 6:48.0, Clemson took second. Coxswain Kacy McCaffrey, Jessica Guzik, Kathleen Welsh, Kati Sedun, Jenna Redgate, Elizabeth Specht, Andrea Doud, Ashley St. Pierre and Megan Sanders led Notre Dame to third place in 6:49.7.

In the third varsity four race, Notre Dame raced two boats. The Irish 'A' crew of coxswain Shannon Lettieri, Sarah Keefer, Ann Mulligan, Courtney Quinn and Tricia David had a second place finish in 7:39.8, behind the Wolverines who won in 7:30.0. The Spartans took third, and the novice 'B' crew of coxswain Maria Romano, Audrey deGuire, Alice Cooper, Samantha Glass and Kaitlin Sharkey finished fourth in 7:52.1.

Though the races were difficult this weekend, the Irish have confidence that they will continue to be strong opponents.

"The competition was very tough, but we showed that our team can race well with some of the best in the country," Long said. "Our determination to prove ourselves helped lead us to victory. We will continue to work hard and develop."

Notre Dame returns to water next weekend at the San Diego Crew Classic.

Contact Christine Armstrong at carmstro@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Keckley helps seal victory at Ball State

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Talent. Poise. Youth.

No, it's not the Miss Teen USA pageant, it's the bottom of the men's tennis lineup. Three freshmen and a sophomore came through for the Irish Saturday, rallying from a defeat in doubles and the sickness of two top players to win the match 4-3 against Ball State.

"A lot of credit goes to a lot of young guys today," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said.

The underclassmen have added depth to an experienced Irish lineup and have contributed to the 12-7 record of the team.

"Ryan Keckley clinched the match and deserves an awful lot of credit," Bayliss said of the freshman, who plays at No. 5 singles. "He really played well under pressure."

The Irish dropped the initial point of the match, with only ailing Luis Haddock and Matthew Scott able to claim victory at No. 2.

"We did not play a very good doubles point," Bayliss said. "I wasn't very excited about our level. ... I felt we could win the doubles point and I still think we probably should have."

Scott was forced to remove himself from the singles lineup after the doubles matches. Haddock, ranked 80th in the nation, played but was visibly under the weather.

"He really sort of faded after the second set," Bayliss said. "That was disappointing for him, I'm sure, but he gave us a great effort."

Brent D'Amico moved to the No. 2 spot, but lost in two close sets.

Luckily, the bottom of the Irish lineup was a solid foundation for

the victory.

Bayliss was full of praise for Steven Bass, normally a No. 4 player who has seen considerable time at No. 3. Against the Cardinals, he won 6-1, 6-1 at that position.

"Steven Bass played unbelievably well in singles," Bayliss said.

Bass is on a hot streak, winning 10 of his last 12 matches and improving to 14-4 in the dual-match season. He is 20-6 overall in his first season at Notre Dame.

"He has a hard time normally finishing someone off early, and he did a great job with Patrick Thompson, who usually plays No. 2," Bayliss said.

Barry King and Eric Langenkamp won in straight sets at No. 4 and No. 6, respectively.

"What is probably good to see is the ability to rally while we're down a point," Bayliss said.

The Irish go on the road again for a Sunday match against Virginia Tech.

NOTRE DAME 4, BALL STATE 3 at the MUNCIE YMCA INDOOR TENNIS COURTS

SINGLES

No. 1: Matt Baccarani (BSU) d. No. 80 Luis Haddock (ND) 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.
No. 2: Matt Laramore (BSU) d. Brent D'Amico (ND) 7-6 (8-6), 6-3.
No. 3: Stephen Bass (ND) d. Patrick Thompson (BSU) 6-1, 6-1.
No. 4: Barry King (ND) d. Michael Heule (BSU) 6-2, 6-4.
No. 5: Ryan Keckley (ND) d. Paul Newman (BSU) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.
No. 6: Eric Langenkamp (ND) d. Brad Rhodes (BSU) 6-0, 7-6 (7-5).

DOUBLES

No. 1: Baccarani/Thompson (BSU) d. D'Amico/Keckley (ND) 9-7.
No. 2: Haddock/Scott (ND) d. Laramore/Rhodes (BSU) 8-6.
No. 3: Newman/Klint Knable (BSU) d. S. Bass/Eric Langenkamp (ND) 8-3.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Hot Irish remain undefeated

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

To say that the Irish are off to a good start would be an understatement.

Improving its season mark to a perfect 7-0 (2-0 in Big East) and stretching its overall win streak to a school record 11 games, No. 3 Notre Dame knocked off a pair of Big East rivals over the weekend, defeating Virginia Tech (3-3) Friday before thumping Boston College (4-3) Sunday.

While several individual players have stood out thus far this season — attack/middle Meredith Simon, attack Abby Owen and goalkeeper Carol Dixon were all recognized as Big East Player of the Week at one point — Irish coach Tracy Coyne points to true teamwork with a touch senior leadership as the ingredient of the squad's success.

"We're really a team," Coyne said. "Different people are stepping up at different points to make things happen. The seniors have a lot of pride and determination, they're focused and they've done a great job leading the team."

That teamwork was on display once again Friday afternoon.

Attack Jackie Bowers netted a career-high five goals and four other Irish players recorded at least a pair of scores as Notre Dame finally put away a pesky Virginia Tech squad with a 5-0 second-half run en route to an 18-11 victory.

Falling behind 25 seconds into the contest, the Irish posted the next four goals for a 4-1 lead a little over four minutes into the game. While the Hokies managed to answer back with a pair of their own, pulling within one at 4-3 with 22:35 remaining in the first half, the Irish netted four of the next five goals to head into the half with an 8-4 advantage.

Virginia Tech once again struck first to open the second half as the Hokies' Kate Threadgold picked up her third goal of the afternoon to bring Virginia Tech within a trio of tallies.

Three goals would prove to be as close as the Hokies would get, however. The Irish scored each of the game's next five goals to build a 13-5 lead and secure their sixth victory of the season.

In addition to Bowers' five goals, Simon picked up four tallies and Owen had three goals, while both attack

Lauren Fischer and middle/attack Crysti Foote netted a pair of their own.

Sunday, the Irish rode three separate five-goal runs to a 17-7 throttling of the Eagles.

After jumping out to a 5-0 lead behind a pair of goals from both Owen and Foote and a tally from Fischer with 23:46 left in the first half, the Irish yielded a pair of Eagles scores before rallying for yet another five-goal streak to build a 10-3 halftime lead and effectively seal the contest.

The barrage continued in the second half as Notre Dame rattled off seven of the contest's next eight goals to take a 17-4 advantage with 12:32 left.

Simon and Owen continued their season-long dominance as Simon found the back of the net on four occasions for the second time in three days and Owen recorded two goals and an assist.

In addition, Foote scored four goals and Fischer picked up a score and three assists in the victory.

Notre Dame returns to action next Saturday when the Irish travel to Storrs, Conn. to take on the Huskies in Big East play.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

Saint Mary's College Presents

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish capture Hoosier Classic with 3 wins at IU

By HEATHER
VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

When Irish coach Deanna Gumpf and Western Kentucky coach Leslie Phelan decided not to play the championship game of the Hoosier Classic, no one was too upset.

"We were definitely happy to come home," Irish left fielder Nicole deFau said.

Notre Dame (23-9) came home after winning the Hoosier Classic because they beat Western Kentucky (21-8) earlier Sunday morning.

The tournament started Saturday morning when the Irish faced off against Saint Louis (9-21). Notre Dame was led by Meagan Ruthrauff who hit her sixth home run of the year, a three-run bomb to put the Irish ahead 3-0 in the fifth. She drove in Stephanie Brown,

who singled to leftfield, and deFau, who was hit by a pitch.

After the Billikens tied it up, Liz Hartmann hit a solo homer in the sixth to put the Irish ahead for good 4-3.

Pitcher Steffany Stenglein earned the win for Notre Dame, her fourth in a row and eighth of the season. She gave up just three hits, while striking out eight. But it was a team effort for the Irish.

"We did a good job hitting the ball," deFau said. "Our pitchers really did a good job shutting the teams down."

Later Saturday, Notre Dame went head-to-head with the tournament host, Indiana (17-17).

Heather Booth, who pitched the Irish to a win, led the Irish in the contest. She gave up just two hits, and despite only striking out one, allowed no runs. The Irish defense supported her the entire game.

"Defensively, we've been playing very well," deFau said.

Meanwhile, the Hoosiers were getting little support from their defense. After a Ruthrauff home run in the second, Notre Dame hit safely just two times over the next four innings.

But in the top of the seventh, the Irish broke it open. Sara Schoonaert earned a leadoff walk and Nicole Wicks bunted her to second. Brown then struck out, but reached on a dropped third strike, on which Schoonaert moved to third. DeFau drew a walk, and Megan Ciolli nailed a single, scoring both runners, to put the Irish up 4-0.

After two games Saturday, the Irish were back in action bright and early Sunday morn-

ing at 9:30 a.m. when they faced the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers.

This game proved to be a duel between Booth and Western Kentucky's Adrienne Lathrop. Booth struck out 10, her fourth time in double digit strikeout totals this season.

Notre Dame took the lead in the fourth inning on a Ciolli solo home run. The Irish added to the lead in the sixth when deFau hit a double to the right-centerfield gap and scored on a Ruthrauff double.

But Western Kentucky came up in the bottom of the seventh with a rally that almost tied the game. After a one-out double and a walk, the tying run was at first. A ground ball to

Schoonaert allowed one run to score as her throw was wide, but that was all Western Kentucky would get.

Booth stepped up and struck out the last batter to end the game.

The win catapulted the Irish into the championship game. However, since they would have to play Western Kentucky again, and because the game wouldn't have started until around 4:30 p.m., the teams decided not to play the game.

"We were definitely happy to come home," deFau said.

The Irish returned with a tournament championship, after winning some close games.

"They weren't the prettiest wins, but the bottom line is we scored more runs," deFau said. "We got the job done."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

"Our pitchers really did a good job shutting the teams down."

Nicole deFau
Irish left fielder

SMC SOFTBALL

MIAA powerhouse Alma sweeps Belles

By JUSTIN STETZ
Sports Writer

Over the weekend, Saint Mary's played host to MIAA power Alma College (20-2). Last year the Scots shutout the Belles in both games after jumping out to early leads.

Going into this game, the Belles had lost the last seven and were seeking a much needed win. Unfortunately for the Belles, it wasn't their day.

"We knew that Alma was going to be not only our toughest competition in the conference, but two of our hardest games this season, seeing as how they are ranked 11th in the nation," Saint Mary's outfielder Erin Sullivan said. "We knew that we needed to not make any errors and just capitalize on their mistakes."

"Also, our intensity and focus was key. We knew that we needed to jump on them early and not dig ourselves a hole."

In game one of the double-header, the Scots started strong by singling to the left side in the first inning. Followed by a bunt and another single, the Scots scored their first run.

In the second, Alma College struck again with a hit to left field. The runner on first then advanced to second on a sacrifice, and the next hitter reached safely on an error, helping Alma score their second run. However, the Scots were not done yet.

The runner on first stole second and finally scored on another error giving Alma a 3-0 lead in the top of the inning.

In the third, Saint Mary's gave up another run when Laura Rochon of Alma College led off with a home run to left field.

The last two of the Scots' six runs came in the fifth inning when Rochon and Megan Knochel scored on an Eileen Butler single.

The Belles were only able to manage just two hits, the first coming from Angie Ellison in the

second inning when she singled to left center and the second occurring in the seventh inning when Katrina Tebbe singled up the middle.

The second game of the day was a much closer battle, but the outcome resulted in another loss for the Belles. In this game, Kate Sajewich took the mound for the Belles and held the Scots scoreless through the first three innings.

In the fourth inning, however, the Scots reached first on an error and Rochon hurt the Belles again when she singled to shortstop and later stole second. The next batter doubled and both runs scored putting Alma up 2-0.

In the fifth, the Scots scored their third and final run, which began with a Lindsay Powers single. A double to left center then followed, scoring the run.

For Saint Mary's, the only run they scored all day came in the sixth inning when Marnie Walsh doubled and scored on a single by Laura Helene. The Belles were able to collect six hits in the contest compared to Alma's seven, but were not able to capitalize when it mattered the most.

Saint Mary's threatened in the seventh when Sullivan started the inning off with a single to left center and Jean Downes doubled, but the next two batters struck out ending the Belles' chances of making a comeback.

This week's losses make the Belles 5-11 on the season as they prepare to take on Tri-State University at home today at 3 p.m. The Thunder are 5-8-1 on the season.

"The only thing we need to do differently is be more aggressive with our bats," Sullivan said. "We are focused on scoring first. We played a great second game defensively on Saturday, and if we bring the same intensity and drive to win, we will take two tomorrow."

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Third

continued from page 24

points.

After catching the Irish Friday, Ohio State used the start of the men's competition Saturday to open the floodgates. The combination of a struggling Irish men's team — too few star performances and too — much talent from Ohio State doomed the Notre Dame efforts from the start.

"I said that there could be ups and downs, and we were in down," Bednarski said. "With a young team, with emotions, with pressure, it happens, and unfortunately it was really hard to stop it."

By the end of the day, Ohio State broke away from the pack to hold a comfortable 159-132 lead over Notre Dame. With just three round-robin rotations left for the men, the only issue that remained in doubt was which team would finish second.

The Irish, with one short of the maximum 12 participants, could not compensate for the loss of top foilist Derek Snyder to injury. Snyder broke his hand last week in practice and did not fence in the national championships. Frankie Bontempo, who replaced Snyder as an alternate, finished the tournament with a disappointing 7-16 record.

Bednarski knew his team would be fighting an uphill battle from the start.

"It's very hard with one less fencer and the replacement of Derek Snyder," he said, "but [the result] is not what we really wanted."

Bontempo, a freshman, was

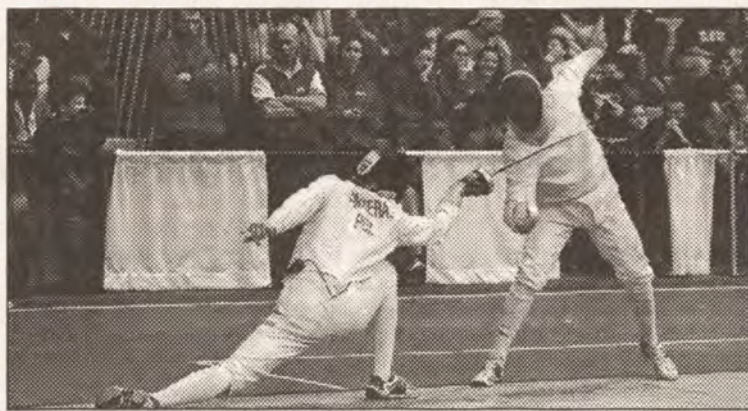


Photo courtesy of Notre Dame Sports Information

Michal Sobleraj duals for the bronze in the epee at the NCAA Championships. He was the only Irish male to medal.

part of a young group that struggled while experiencing the national championship environment for the first time. The freshman sabre duo of Patrick Ghattas and Matthew Stearns, who combined for a sparkling 71-13 record during the regular season, could only muster an even 23-23 record over the weekend. Ghattas failed to post a victory (0-4) against either Ohio State or Penn State.

"I've never fenced a competition like this where it's just one big round of pools," Ghattas said. "I've never had so many difficult bouts back-to-back-to-back. I'm taking it as a learning experience."

The one youthful exception on the women's side was freshman sabre Valerie Providenza who finished with an 18-5 record in the round-robin event and won the individual national title.

However, like Ghattas and Stearns, fellow freshman saber Angela Vincent did not fare as well. Vincent, noticeably tired and still feeling the effects of an illness that hospitalized her two

weeks ago, finished the tournament with a disappointing 8-15 mark.

But Providenza was not the only one to claim individual accolades.

Alicja Kryczalo won the foil national title for the third time in as many years, making her only the second woman ever to win three or more national titles. She defeated teammate Andrea Ament for the championship. Kryczalo said it was a different experience, facing a teammate in competition.

"We know each other very well because we are fencing each other every day in practice," she said. "There's not so much competitiveness, so probably we don't enjoy it so much."

Also taking runner-up honors was epeeist Kerry Walton, who won the 2002 national championship.

Michal Sobleraj, the 2003 runner-up, was the only men's fencer to medal, taking a third place bronze.

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FENCING

Irish are ready for next title run

WALTHAM, Mass. — Former Ohio State football coach Woody Hayes once said about his great football teams: "We don't rebuild. We reload."

While the Notre Dame fencing team is undoubtedly happy that coach Janusz Bednarski does not share many of Hayes' more "colorful" personality traits — Bednarski only strikes a player when he takes part in fencing practices — they should also be happy to know that he does share Hayes' approach regarding "next year."

The Magnificent Seven that composed this year's freshman class (38.9 average wins) are proof positive that Bednarski can recruit with the best of them. His personable demeanor and Santa Claus-like physique make him likeable for all ages.

But don't let his jolliness fool you. He has worked hard to keep Notre Dame atop the fencing world, encumbered by the University's well-documented academic hurdles and all the hours of paperwork that accompany bringing in overseas recruits.

Even though he could only perform so much magic, and his team did not successfully defend its title this year, it is only a matter of time before the Irish fencers are again being fitted for national title

rings. Ohio State had best bask in its glory this year, because the fencing spotlight will shift back to South Bend starting as early as next year.

Of the 11 competitors the Irish brought to Waltham, Mass., for the national title meet, they will lose only one to graduation — fifth-year senior Forest Walton. His spot will be taken by Derek Snyder — the strongest men's foilist who sat out the championships with a broken hand.

Headlining the returnees is the unstoppable "A-Team" of rising senior foilists Alicja Kryczalo and Andrea Ament. The only reason Ament did not win national titles this year and in 2002 was because Kryczalo beat her en route to an unheard-of three consecutive foil national championships.

National epee runner-up Kerry Walton will return for a fifth-year of eligibility. The explosive sabre quartet of Patrick Ghattas, Matt Stearns, Angela Vincent and national champion Valerie Providenza, will only be sophomores. All this, and letters-of-intent are yet to be signed.

Granted, this year was difficult. As perhaps the only group on campus that holds itself to a higher standard than the football team, it was painful to watch this year's fencing team struggle through the growing pains of trying to defend a national title with seven new faces.

The entire year was a bap-

tism by fire. Many of the freshmen did not have the advantage of easing their way in where they could hide their mistakes behind older, more experienced fencers. Ghattas and Stearns were number one and two respectively on the sabre depth chart, without the benefit of having a senior advisor like Destanie Milo was to Providenza and Vincent.

But whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger. And since there hasn't been any tragic, untimely casualties during the season, it's a safe bet to say the fencing community is seeing only the tip of the iceberg of what this team can do.

The freshmen need to remember what this past weekend felt like. They need to remember the pain of watching another team celebrate a national title. They need to look up and see the bright No. 1 now missing from the night sky. They are now the seasoned veterans, and no one is going to hold their weapon for them.

But if they learn from this, the Irish can plan on putting down their weapons, because their hands will be occupied holding a team national championship trophy instead.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish perform strong at weekend meets

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Two separate meets yielded two strong performances as the Notre Dame track and field team competed in its first full weekend of outdoor competition.

Most of the distance runners and sprinters traveled to Palo Alto, Calif., to participate in the Stanford Invitational, while the remainder of the team stayed closer to home and took part in the Purdue Invite.

Selim Nurudeen and Kristen Dodd set the pace for the Irish at Stanford as they were among eight team members to qualify for the Big East Championships. Nurudeen ran the 110-meter hurdles in 14.0 seconds to finish in fifth place. His time also qualified him for the NCAA regional meet later in the season. Dodd ran a 12.14-second 100-meter dash to finish in 10th place. Her teammate Ayesha Boyd finished just behind Dodd with a time of 12.35.

With his time of 22.01 in the 200-meter dash, Ryan Postel finished seventh in his section. Postel's sprinter teammate Trevor McClain-Duer finished in second place in his section of the 400-meter dash in a time of 48.21.

In the women's 400-meter hurdles, Tiffany Gunn was successful as she took fifth place overall with a time of 1:52.

The other Big East qualifiers from the Stanford Invitational were Jean Marinangeli, Sean O'Donnell and Kaleb Van Ort. Marinangeli took 29th place in the women's 10,000 meters in 36:14.66 while Van Ort placed 33rd in the men's 10,000 meters with a time of

29:40.85. O'Donnell was a 13th place finisher in the 5,000 meters, as he posted a time of 14:25.66.

The Irish athletes who participated in the Purdue Invite had a successful weekend as those at Stanford with 24 top-5 finishes in the meet. Nine participants qualified for the Big East Championships.

The Irish were led by first-place finishers in Mark Barber, Derek Goquen and Petra Dankova. Barber won the 400-meter hurdles in 53.38 while his teammate Roberto Garcia finished a close third in 55.58. Dankova triple-jumped a distance of 12.02 meters while Goquen tossed the javelin 59.01 meters. The men's 400-meter relay team, led by Barber, ran a first place time of 42.59.

A handful of Irish field athletes qualified for the Big East Championships with discus and weight throwers Chip Roberts and Juan Alba leading the way. Alba placed second in the discus event as well as sixth in the hammer throw, while Roberts finished third in the discus and seventh in the hammer throw. Jason Davis also qualified for the conference meet in the hammer throw with a toss of 49.00 meters.

The final Irish athletes to qualify for the Big East Championships were Ryan Johns, Jennifer Kearney and Megan Horn. Johns finished third in the men's 3000-meter steeplechase, while Kearney took second in the women's high jump. Horn qualified in two events, as she placed third and 11th in the discus and hammer throw, respectively.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

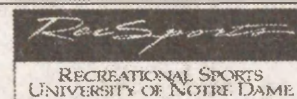
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NCAA's

continued from page 24

tending in net. Irish goalie Morgan Cey tied a career high with 40 saves in the loss, while his Minnesota counterpart Kellen Briggs needed to make only 20 saves.

"They're definitely a little deeper team than we were," Cey said. "We tried to weather the storm there for a while, but we still gave them all they could handle, and I think we're going to be a better team for it, next year."

Minnesota's stay in the NCAA tournament only lasted one more game, though, as the Gophers lost to Minnesota-Duluth 3-1 Sunday for the chance to go to the Frozen Four in Boston. Minnesota-Duluth defeated Michigan State 5-0 in the game following Notre Dame-Minnesota Saturday.

The Irish finish their season with a 20-15-4 overall record, for a .571 winning percentage and the best record yet under Poulin, who has coached the team for nine seasons.

Notre Dame's seniors played an especially key role in the team's success this season, and the loss in the first round was a bittersweet pill for the upperclassmen to swallow.

"I think this team has really improved tremendously since when the other seniors and I came as freshmen," captain Aaron Gill said. "One goal of this senior class was that we wanted to put the Notre Dame hockey name out there and on the map."

"This school's not really known for its hockey, and we've had a bit of success the past few years, so hopefully the younger guys will help take this program even further in the future."

Notre Dame got on the

board early Saturday, as less than a minute into the first period the Irish took advantage of a 2-on-1 opportunity on Minnesota goalie Kellen Briggs. Gill took the puck up the left side of the ice and made a perfect feed to Cory McLean, who was left alone in the slot to fire a low wrister past Briggs.

The Irish increased their lead to two just before the end of the first period, scoring on the power play with just 41 seconds left in the set. Notre Dame took a hard shot from the right point, and Briggs gave up a rebound to the middle of the ice. Several players went for the puck, but it was Gill who eventually deflected it past Briggs, who was down on the ice.

Minnesota didn't waste anytime coming back, scoring just 26 seconds into the second period to cut the Irish lead in half. Matt Koalska skated down the right side of the ice, past several Notre Dame defenders, and made a quick cut back to the middle to flip the puck past Cey.

The Golden Gophers then used their power play, which has connected at a 26.2 percent clip so far this season, to tie the game at 9:13 of the period. Chris Harrington shot the puck from the blue line, and it deflected off Danny Irmen, who was perched at the left side of the net.

With less than five minutes left in the period and the teams skating four-on-four, Notre Dame almost managed to get the lead back. Matt Amado broke in alone on Briggs, but the Minnesota goalie stopped the breakaway attempt, and Michael Bartlett shot the rebound high over the net.

Immediately after that good Irish scoring chance, Thomas Vanek took advantage of sloppiness in the Irish defensive

zone. Two Notre Dame defenders collided with each other, and Vanek swooped in and was able to poke the puck between Cey's pads.

"I thought there were a couple significant turning points in the game," Poulin said. "At 2-2, I felt that we were in pretty good shape. Then, Matt Amado gets a breakaway and then there's a scramble play in our own end and Vanek is able to put it home."

"That was potentially a two-goal swing."

The Golden Gophers scored an insurance goal in the third period, as Vanek beat Cey with a wraparound goal just inside the left post at 11:52 of the period.

Troy Riddle iced the game with an empty net goal with 35 seconds remaining, after Notre Dame had pulled Cey out of the net for an extra attacker.

MINNESOTA 5, NOTRE DAME 2 at the VAN ANDEL ARENA

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
MINNESOTA	0	3	2	5
NOTRE DAME	2	0	0	2

SCORING SUMMARY

First Period
ND — Cory McLean (Aaron Gill, Mike Walsh), 0:54.
ND — Gill (Walsh, Rob Globke), 19:19 PP.

Second Period
UM — Matt Koalska (Thomas Vanek, Chris Harrington), 0:26.
UM — Danny Irmen (Harrington, Gino Guyer), 9:13
UM — Vanek (unassisted), 12:21.

Third Period
UM — Vanek (Koalska, Keith Ballard), 11:52.
UM — Troy Riddle (unassisted), 19:24 EN.

Shots on goal: Notre Dame 22, Minnesota 45. Power plays: Notre Dame 1-of-5, Minnesota 1-of-5. Goalies: Morgan Cey 40 saves out of 44 shots (ND), Kellen Briggs 20 saves out of 22 shots (UM).

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MEN'S HOCKEY

2004 Irish reset bar for future ND programs

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Looking at Notre Dame coach Dave Poulin's face after his team's 5-2 loss against Minnesota Saturday in the first round



Justin Schuver

Associate
Sports Editor

of the NCAA Championships, you didn't see regret or worry on his face.

Even though the Irish are losing five seniors who played key roles on the team this

season, you could almost imagine that Poulin was humming Frank Sinatra's "The Best is Yet to Come" in the back of his mind.

"Obviously we've got a great senior class this year, and we had three very good defensemen in Neil Komadoski, Brett Lebda and Tom Galvin," he said. "But I think we're also bringing three good ones in [as freshmen] next year."

"But you don't look at freshmen to replace seniors. We also need our underclassmen to step up for us next year. Some of our guys in-house are going to have to play a bigger role next year."

Several members of Notre Dame's incoming freshman class were recruited by other big-name programs such as Boston College and Michigan, and Poulin and the head

coaching staff are continuing to fight recruiting battles over other big-name prospects in hopes of taking Notre Dame's program to an even higher level.

Last year, the Irish signed the No. 2 recruiting class in the country according to RedLine Report, an independent scouting review out of Lake Placid, N.Y.

Those freshmen played a pivotal role in Notre Dame's success this year, whether it was Wes O'Neill playing solid defense in his own end, or David Brown making an unbelievable kick save, or Jason Paige scoring a key goal at a key time.

In fact, Poulin has only continued a trend that has occurred all through his nine-year tenure with the team — the ability to sign talented players who can contribute not only at the college level but in the professional ranks as well.

Forward Ben Simon (1996-2000) and defenseman Mark Eaton (1997-98) are currently on NHL rosters with Atlanta and Nashville, respectively.

Senior forward Rob Globke made Irish history when he was selected in the second round of the 2002 NHL Entry Draft by the Florida Panthers. That record might be matched or bettered by this year's freshmen, particularly O'Neill, who was ranked No. 1 in the Central Scouting Midseason Draft Report among college

defensemen.

Throw in the fact the Irish have arguably the best returning goaltending tandem in the NCAA's with current junior Morgan Cey and Brown, and the pieces are in place for Notre Dame to make another run at the NCAA's next year.

Poulin was not the only coach who commented on the growth of Notre Dame's program at the press conference Saturday, however. Also making a statement was Minnesota coach Don Lucia, who was a teammate with Poulin while at Notre Dame.

"Dave [Poulin] is a good friend, and he and his staff have done a great job with that program," Lucia said. "Now the one thing is that if they could get a facility, I think you'd really see the program take another step. I think that's the one improvement Notre Dame can make for that program."

"It's good for college hockey to have a big name school in Notre Dame that makes it to the NCAA tournament, and hopefully they can get that facility and take that next big step."

The Joyce Center was built almost 40 years ago, with the official dedication taking place during the week of Dec. 1-7, 1968. Hockey seems almost like an afterthought, with the Irish playing in a makeshift rink with temporary bleachers and lousy sightlines.

With a rink that makes hockey seem underappreciated, it wouldn't be too surprising to wonder if a lot of big-name recruits look at Notre Dame and

decide that the school also sees hockey as an afterthought.

Brand-new facilities at schools such as North Dakota and Ohio State have helped to bring those programs to new heights. Ralph Engelstad, who has made a fortune in the casino business, helped finance North Dakota's new arena, which opened in 2001 and includes an eight-screen video scoreboard, adjacent Olympic-sized practice rink and a padded leather seat for every spectator.

The Irish certainly have the alumni and administration who could help finance a new arena — even if it's not one on such a grandiose scale as North Dakota's. There's little doubt that such a construction project could help Poulin and his staff bring in even more talented recruits that could eventually help Notre Dame match the depth and skill of the big-name programs today such as Minnesota.

After all, it's hard to discount Lucia's opinion. The guy has won two consecutive national championships.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu.



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Batteast

continued from page 24

All-American Kelly Mazzante from burying a baseline jumper that gave the Nittany Lions the lead and no matter how hard they tried, Notre Dame just didn't have enough at the end to overtake No. 5 Penn State.

While they may have struck out of the tournament, at least the Irish went down swinging.

They turned the ball over just 10 times — a far cry from their season average of 18.

They contained Mazzante for much of the game, holding her to just 6-of-16 shooting.

They shut down Tanisha Wright, who got into early foul trouble and scored just six points after scoring 28 in Penn State's second-round win over Virginia Tech.

They hung with one of the best teams in the country despite Megan Duffy, Teresa Borton and Jeneka Joyce combining for just seven points, and no player besides Batteast scoring in double figures.

So how did the Irish not get blown out of the water?

For starters, seniors Le'Tania Severe and Joyce played courageously. The scrappy Severe ran the point for much of the game, had six steals and hustled all over the floor. Joyce logged a season-high 30 minutes despite tender ankles and played impressive defense, moving fluidly in Notre Dame's 2-3 zone to cover the many Penn State scoring threats.

Batteast again showed the nation that she is as good as anyone, putting up another dou-

ble-double with 22 points and 12 rebounds.

McGraw made key substitutions, playing lesser-used Crystal Erwin and Katy Flecky in critical times, and the two responded.

And the team played its best defense of the season, holding the high-scoring Nittany Lions to just 55 points and 37.5 percent shooting.

But in the NCAA tournament, those little missed opportunities are more critical, the mistakes become more magnified and the slip-ups are more costly. Notre Dame played well, but they also let some chances go.

If the Irish had made one or both of their 3-point attempts when they led by five just four minutes into the second half, it might have been a different game.

And had Notre Dame sank more than just 9-of-15 free throws, they might have put more pressure on the Nittany Lions at the end of the game.

But ...

It doesn't matter now. The game is over, the outcome etched in the history books. All Notre Dame can do now is be proud of its effort.

The returning Notre Dame players have an entire off-season to wonder what could have been. An entire off-season to remember this gut-retching defeat.

An entire off-season to use this loss to motivate themselves for next season.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Green doesn't bring Irish luck in Sweet 16

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

HARTFORD — Notre Dame decided to wear green jerseys for its matchup with Penn State Saturday afternoon. According to coach Muffet McGraw, the team made the decision to wear the jerseys Friday night, as they brought both their regular navy jerseys and the green ones.

"We hadn't had much success in the blue ones, so we thought we'd switch colors and see how that worked," McGraw said.

Breona Gray added to the green with her green headband, and Katy Flecky and Anne Weese sported high green socks.

The last time the Irish sported green was last year in the Big East quarterfinals in Piscataway, N. J. In that game, the Irish lost to Villanova 50-39. In 2002, Notre Dame wore the green against Tennessee in its NCAA second round game, and lost big — 89-50.

The Irish are 3-0 at home, 0-2 on the road and 3-1 in the NCAA tournament wearing the green. Their last win in green came during their national championship season in 2001, when they defeated Alcorn State 98-49 at home in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The first time the women's basketball wore green was in 1999, when they defeated Notre Carolina Dec. 4, at the Wachovia Invitational in Richmond, Va.

Coming to play

Jacqueline Batteast ended her junior season on a high note, unlike last year. Batteast finished with three straight double-doubles in all three NCAA tournament games. Before this year, she had only scored in double digits in one NCAA tournament game. Batteast finished with averages of 22 points and 11.7 rebounds in the three games.

"I'm so proud of [Batteast]," McGraw said. "I think she had a great tournament. She has really had a fantastic year."

Saturday's double-double was the 13th of the season for Batteast, and the 32nd of her career.

The two seniors

Senior Jeneka Joyce logged a season-high 30 minutes Saturday afternoon. She was 1-for-4 from the field, good for three points. She also had two rebounds. Going into the game, she was averaging just 14 minutes per game in 26 appearances. Her previous high for minutes this season was 25, against Pittsburgh Feb. 21 and Southwest Missouri State in the NCAA first round, a game that went to overtime. Joyce netted 16 points against the Panthers and six against the Lady Bears.

Meanwhile, senior starter Monique Hernandez played just five minutes, after averaging 15.9 coming into the game.

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McGraw

continued from page 24

The game went back and forth, with the lead switching hands 10 times. And with 57 seconds remaining and the game tied at 49, the Irish had their chance. But honorable mention All-American forward Jacqueline Batteast missed a jump shot, and Courtney LaVere missed a jumper of her own. Penn State All-American Kelly Mazzante hit a baseline jumper with 46 seconds to play, and Penn State was on their way to the Elite Eight.

Batteast finished with 22 points (8-for-22 from the field) and 12 rebounds for the Irish, who donned green jerseys for the first, and last, time this season.

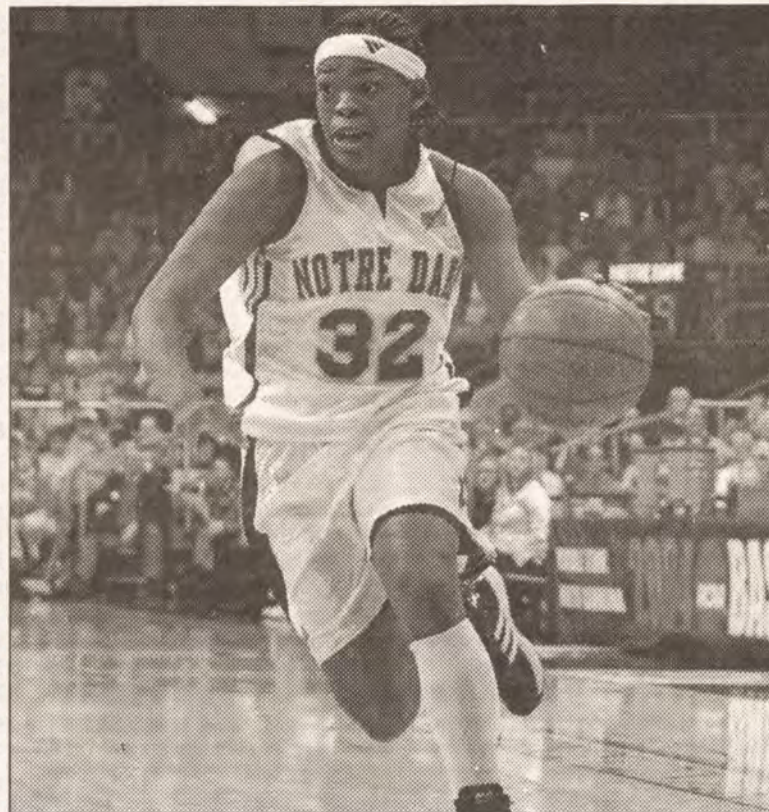
And the Irish responded to the change in uniform by playing outstanding basketball the entire way. They turned the ball over just four times in the first half and 10 times in the game — a season-low. But when Notre Dame did turn it over, Penn State made them pay — cashing in 17 points off turnovers.

"It seemed like all of our turnovers really hurt us," McGraw said. "We really had some bad ones, but when you look at the number 10, that's really great for us."

After starting off slow, the Irish settled down to go ahead 14-13 on a Katy Flecky 3-pointer with 8:45 to play in the first half. The game went back and forth until halftime, with Notre Dame holding as much as a five-point lead, before the Nittany Lions hit a pair of threes to go up 23-22 at the half.

In the second half, it was much of the same, as the Irish played outstanding zone defense. They forced the guard-oriented Nittany Lions out of their comfort zone, forcing 14 turnovers by keeping the guards well behind the three-point line.

"[The zone] certainly did what we wanted it to do," McGraw said. "They're a very good team;



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Guard Breona Gray drives towards the basket against Middle Tennessee State in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

they shoot a lot of threes. We've played pretty good defense since the Big East season began, so that was a great effort, and it's pretty much what we've been doing."

The Notre Dame defense gave the No. 1 seed all they could handle. Mazzante was held to 17 points on just 6-for-16 shooting. But senior Jessica Brungo stepped up instead. She had a season-high 20 points on 8-for-19 shooting.

"I can only sit here and say positive things about the way the University of Notre Dame's team played," Penn State coach Rene Portland said. "They came in here with a great game plan to stop us. They gave us a hard time defensively."

The Irish set themselves up for the win, but with 32 seconds left and down 51-49, senior Le'Tania Severe tried to enter the ball into Batteast, but Mazzante leapt up and grabbed the pass. The Irish then fouled Reicina Russell, who missed the front end of a one-

and-one, but the Irish were unable to corral the rebound. Notre Dame was then down by four with 28 seconds to play and did not score the rest of the way.

"Aside from the ball not going in the basket for us, I think we played about as well as we can play, and I'm proud of that to finish on that note," McGraw said.

Severe finished with nine points, five rebounds and six steals. She had more steals than the entire Penn State team. Meanwhile, LaVere added eight points on 4-for-14 shooting. As a team the Irish shot 32.2 percent from the field, compared to Penn State's 37.5 percent. But for Notre Dame, it was arguably the best game they played all season, especially on the road.

"We came a long way since we were 7-6," McGraw said. "We'll be back next year."

Notes:

◆With the loss, Notre Dame has yet to win in the Hartford Civic Center in four appearances. Their last loss came in the Big East Quarterfinals to Rutgers Mar. 3, 61-55.

◆Muffet McGraw was familiar with Penn State head coach Rene Portland and assistant Annie Troyan. Portland coached McGraw at Saint Joseph's during her senior year, when they attained a No. 3 national ranking. Troyan, meanwhile, played for McGraw at Archbishop Carroll High School in Radnor, Penn., when McGraw took over after graduating from Saint Joseph's.

**PENN STATE 55,
NOTRE DAME 49
at the HARTFORD CIVIC
CENTER**

NOTRE DAME (21-11, 12-4)

Batteast 8-22 6-7 22, LaVere 4-14 0-2 8, Severe 3-9 3-4 9, Duffy 0-2 0-0 0, Hernandez 0-1 0-0 0, Powers 0-0 0-0 0, Joyce 1-4, 0-0 3, Borton 2-2 0-2 4, Flecky 1-4 0-0 3, Erwin 0-1 0-0 0.

PENN STATE (28-5, 15-1)

Brungo 8-19 3-3 20, Russell 0-2 0-1 0, Mazzante 6-16 2-4 17, Strom 2-6 4-4 10, Wright 2-4 2-2 6, Brendan 0-0 0-0 0, Croser 0-0 0-0 0, Brown 0-1 2-2 2, Schwab 0-0 0-0 0, Harris 0-0 0-0 0.

	1st	2nd	Total
PENN STATE	23	32	55
NOTRE DAME	22	27	49

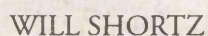
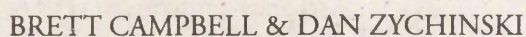
3-point goals: 2-12 (Joyce 1-3, Flecky 1-3, Batteast 0-2, LaVere 0-2, Duffy 0-1, Hernandez 0-1), Penn State 6-21 (Mazzante 3-8, Strom 2-6, Brungo 1-7). Fouled out: Severe (ND). Rebounds: Notre Dame 36 (Batteast 12), Penn State 38 (Russell 10). Assists: Notre Dame 9 (Erwin 3), Penn State 11 (Strom 6). Total fouls: Notre Dame 14, Penn State 13.



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Jacqueline Batteast waves to the crowd after the Irish defeated Middle Tennessee State last week.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu.

HENRI ARNOLD
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So close, yet...

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Guard Megan Duffy looks to pass against Middle Tennessee State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The Irish lost to Penn State in the regional semifinals last Saturday.

Irish fall just short in 55-49 Sweet 16 loss to No. 1 seed Penn State in regional semifinal

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

HARTFORD, Conn. — They played the defense, got the rebounds and played hard for 39 minutes, but when it came down to the last minute, the tank was empty and the Irish — green jerseys and all — were going home.

Despite a valiant effort, fifth-seeded Notre Dame (21-11) was unable to knock off top-seeded Penn State (28-5) in a 55-49 loss in the NCAA Regional semifinal game.

"I was really proud of our team," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I thought we competed, I thought we battled."

see MCGRAW/page 22

It's time for Irish to move on after tough second round loss

HARTFORD, Conn. — The "ifs, ands and buts" are meaningless now.

No matter what could have happened in Notre Dame's regional semifinal game against top-seeded Penn State, the Irish still lost 55-49, and their season is still over for good.

But instead of dwelling on the fact the team had chances, the Irish must look forward, proud of the way they took one of the best all-around teams in the nation to the last minute and nearly pulled off the upset.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw couldn't have asked for a better scenario — the game tied with less than a minute left and the ball resting in the hands of Notre Dame's best player, forward Jacqueline Batteast.

The Irish had worked their way through 39-plus grueling minutes of basketball to reach this pivotal point. Penn State's boisterous student section, which had harassed Notre Dame all afternoon, stood in concerned silence as Batteast took the ball and began her shot.

But the shot wouldn't fall for Batteast, the Irish couldn't stop

see BATTEAST/page 22



Joe Hettler

Sports Writer

HOCKEY

Notre Dame falls to Minnesota 5-2 in first round of NCAA's



Irish players celebrate a victory over Michigan earlier this season. The Irish were defeated by No. 1 Minnesota 5-2 Saturday.

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Golden Gophers showed the Irish they still have a bit of growing up to do before they can compete with hockey's big boys in the NCAA championships.

The No. 4 seed Irish took an early 2-0 lead into the intermission of the first period, but could not stave off Minnesota's powerful offense in the next 40 minutes, eventually falling to the No. 1 seed Golden

Gophers by a score of 5-2.

"I'm proud of the way our guys played," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "We played hard, but came up a little bit short, obviously. It's a great step for our program."

"For the seniors, I appreciate the path that they have taken to get us here. For the underclassmen, it's a new level now that they have the chance to improve upon."

The score might have been much worse if Notre Dame had not received great goal-

see NCAA'S/page 21



Alicja Kryczalo duals teammate Andrea Ament in the NCAA championship final for the foil. Kryczalo won her third national title.

FENCING

Fencers fall to 3rd at NCAAs

Kryczalo wins third consecutive national title in women's foil

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

WALTHAM, Mass. — The Notre Dame fencing team could hear the footsteps growing closer all season long. And at the NCAA Championships at Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., they were finally passed.

The upstart Ohio State Buckeyes ran away with the 2004 national title, dethroning the defending national champion Irish Sunday with a total team

score of 194 points. And in the end, the Irish were passed again, failing to hold off a late-charging Penn State team (160 points) to finish third overall with 153 points. St. John's finished fourth, with a 149 score.

Foilist Forest Walton, who hails from nearby Londonderry, N. H., said the third place result was not something the team expected.

"We're all kind of surprised," he said.

The four-day event did not go according to Notre Dame's plan. After the first day of competition

Thursday, Irish coach Janusz Bednarski wanted his fencers to extend their four-point lead to provide a cushion for the attrition-plagued men's team. But the women could not hold on to the lead, much less maintain it. The slim 63-59 lead the Irish held over Ohio State slowly evaporated throughout the day, and when the last point was scored Friday, the Irish trailed the Buckeyes by one, 97-96.

The Irish men would only contribute a paltry 57 additional

see THIRD/page 20

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND SOFTBALL

ND wins Hoosier Classic at Indiana University with victories over Saint Louis (4-3), Indiana (4-0) and Western Kentucky (2-1).

page 19

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles fail to avenge 2003 sweep by Alma, as the Scots take a pair of games from Saint Mary's Saturday. The Belles only managed 1 run in the 2 games.

page 19

ROWING

The Irish rowers face a challenging field that includes No. 2 Michigan and No. 8 Michigan. The Irish won one race.

page 18

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

No. 3 Notre Dame remained undefeated on the year with a pair of Big East victories over Virginia Tech (13-5) and Boston College (17-7).

page 18

MEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame 4, Ball State 3

The Irish got key victories from Ryan Kéckley, Stephen Bass and Barry King to salvage a win over Ball State.

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MLB

Yankees outfielder Hideki Matsui hit a home run in his return to Japan as the Yankees beat the Yomiuri Giants in an exhibition game in Tokyo.

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