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Trustees chair awarded Laetare

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

Patrick McCartan, the chair of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees, will join the company of accomplished Catholics like former President John F. Kennedy and activist Dorothy Day as the 131st recipient of the University's Laetare Medal.

McCartan will receive the medal during the University's undergraduate commencement exercises May 20.

The Laetare Medal — first awarded in 1883 — is typi-

cally regarded as the most prestigious award given to American Catholics. It is modeled as an American compliment to the Golden Rose, a papal award that has existed since the 11th century.

"Notre Dame's auspicious institutional position as it enters a new era owes much to Pat McCartan's strong and sure leadership," University President Father John



McCartan

Jenkins said in a news release. "We hope to convey with this, our highest honor, the gratitude Notre Dame owes him as well."

McCartan has been cited in surveys conducted by The National Law Journal as one of the country's most respected and influential lawyers.

He was elected Board chair and University fellow in 2000 and has served on the Board since 1989. His tenure as chair was highlighted by the election in 2004 and inauguration in 2005 of Jenkins as Notre Dame's 17th president.

McCartan graduated from Notre Dame as an under-

graduate in 1956 and earned a juris doctor degree from Notre Dame Law School in 1959. He served as a law clerk for former Supreme Court Justice Charles Evans Whittaker before becoming a senior partner at Jones Day, an international law firm with 30 offices worldwide.

Among other honors, McCartan has received the Archdiocese of Cleveland's 1994 Archbishop Edward F. Hoban Award and the Anti-Defamation League's 1998 Torch of Liberty Award. He also received an honorary degree from Notre Dame in

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Center receives new grant

Robinson program teaches financial tips

By EVA BINDA
News Writer

The Key Bank Foundation recently awarded a \$20,000 grant to the Robinson Community Learning Center — a substantial gift that the center's director said will help its staff teach young people to make good financial decisions.

The grant will go toward the Robinson Center's Youth Financial Literacy Training Program, which provides "young people in middle and high schools with the tools to think about their own financial success," center director Jay Caponigro said Monday. The Robinson Center, which uses volunteers from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, has been teaching students about financial literacy for the past four years, he said.

Approximately 60 students from the South Bend area will participate in the program, which teaches young people simple skills like managing a checking account and more advanced concepts like investments and returns. The program also instructs students how to use credit cards and manage debt.

"We certainly hope that children understand the value of money," Caponigro said. "We hope that, as they leave the program, they're making choices about how to spend their money that are based on how to make money work for them instead of

see GRANT/page 4

SUB anticipates SNL speaker series

Group hopes to bring Andy Samberg, Colin Quinn, Ana Gasteyer to campus

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Its posters boast of being the "best group on campus," and while this self-proclaimed slogan is entirely unofficial, the Student Union Board might not be all talk. SUB's most recent project is an upcoming "Saturday Night Live" speaker series, which plans to feature three SNL alums talking about their experiences on the long-running sketch comedy show.

"We wanted to have a few of the SNL alums and some of the current

members to come to campus and talk about what it's like to be on the show," SUB Manager Patrick Vassel said.

Although the speakers have not been confirmed, Ideas and Issues committee members said they hope to host Ana Gasteyer, Colin Quinn and Andy Samberg.

"By virtue of their profession, any of the speakers will be entertaining," Vassel said. "We are inviting them more as a speaker series than as a comedy series."

The challenge, he said, is "trying to put together

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SUB brought Ken Jennings, a 74-time "Jeopardy!" winner, to speak to students two years ago. SUB hopes to bring in multiple "SNL" alums this year.

Prayercasts reach students, alums

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

Campus Ministry has taken prayer at Notre Dame into the 21st century with the launch of the ND Prayercast — a Web site where listeners can hear prayers, homilies and music.

The project, created by Folk Choir Director Steven Warner, uses streaming media technology to allow Internet users to listen to a selection of music, Gospel reading and prayer with a Notre Dame flavor.

The Prayercast features musicians from the Folk Choir and homilists like Zahm rector Father Dan Parrish, St. Edward's rector Father Ralph Haag and Campus Ministry director Father Richard Warner.

"All the music is re-recorded for



Zahm freshman Nadeem Haque visits the new ND Prayercast website from his dorm room.

see PODCAST/page 6

New editors assume roles at The Observer

Observer Staff Report

The Observer's new department editors take over their 2007-08 General Board positions today, although two of the editors will not begin until August and three positions are not yet filled, Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna said Monday.

Three of the 14 positions are being filled by those who have previously served in their posts. Kyle West has served as controller since the fall of 2006 and will continue through this semester before becoming business manager next fall.

Joey King will remain as editor of the Viewpoint Department through 2007-08. He has held that post since the spring of 2006.

Dustin Mennella will also serve

as photo editor through 2007-08. Mennella was appointed to the position in the spring of 2006.

The nine new General Board appointments are:

- ◆ Karen Langley, news editor
- ◆ Chris Khorey and Chris Hine, sports editors
- ◆ Tae Andrews, scene editor
- ◆ Katie Kohler, Saint Mary's editor
- ◆ Madeline Nies, graphics editor
- ◆ Jessica Cortez, ad sales manager
- ◆ Kelly Gronli, ad design manager

"All of the editors bring significant talent and experience to their respective positions," Hanna said. "I am confident the

see BOARD/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

Loving the college life

The moment I stepped onto the Notre Dame campus, I fell in love with the school.

Ever since, I've continued to love the school and the people, but until recently, I was not ready to call it my home. Throughout the year I have been one of those students who get so excited to go home for break.

I think, "Wow, I am so excited to go home and see my old friends and family, sleep in my queen sized bed, shower without sandals, eat food outside the dining halls, etc."

Casey Carney

Photographer

But this spring break I realized something. I realized that Notre Dame is my new home, my college friends are my true friends, and, frankly, I really enjoy (and I am now used to) the freedom of college.

My spring break started out awesomely. I went home to Scottsdale, Arizona. My parents picked me up from the airport Friday afternoon, and then I met up with my best friend, and we all went out to dinner.

On Saturday, my mom took me shopping and we got our nails done. I went to a spring training game with my mom and my dog (kind of random I know) on Sunday and then on Monday I went to lunch and did some more shopping with more friends. But by Tuesday I was already bored. Some friends and family went back to work and back to school while others had already drifted so far apart from me.

I've grown so accustomed to the freedom of living on my own (well at least away from my parents). I can do whatever I want, whenever I want, with whomever I want on campus.

At home I'm back under my parents constraints. My parents aren't too strict or anything, but I can't randomly leave at two o'clock in the morning if I feel like it. And I can't come home one night without an explanation if I don't want to give one.

Also, at home my friends aren't always a 10-minute walk from my room like they are at school. It takes a little more planning and driving to hang out with anyone at home. All in all, I really enjoy the freedom and convenience of living on campus.

As spring break comes to an end, I'm ready to head back to my home under the Dome. My week off school has been relaxing, but, like my family and friends in Arizona, I'm ready to get back to work and back to life as I now know it. During this break, I realized Notre Dame is my new home, and my friends at school are my true friends. As ironic as it is, I'm excited to sleep in my twin-sized bunk bed, share a room with my amazing roomies, use the community bathrooms, shower with sandals and most of all, wear a sweatshirt again.

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

Contact Casey Carney at ccarney1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW DID YOU SPEND YOUR SPRING BREAK?



Dan McInnis
junior
Sorin

"I ghost rode the whip."



Dan Rodgers
sophomore
Siegfried

"I went to Rome to chill with my homeboy, Benny XVI."



Dave Tighe
junior
off campus

"I had a day with Mr. Beam and Madame TAAKA."



Elena Brandewie
sophomore
McGlenn

"I went to Immokalee, Florida, and found out why McDonalds is the devil."



Kelsey Young
sophomore
Badin

"Swimming illegally in Mexico. In crocs."



Michael Angulo
sophomore
Alumni

"I used your tuition dollars to hang out with President Bush in the beautiful country of Guatemala."



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Irish guard Russell Carter makes a pass against a Georgetown defender at the Verizon Center in Washington D.C in January. Notre Dame lost that game and lost again to Winthrop 74-64 last week, ending their bid in the NCAA tournament.

IN BRIEF

Notre Dame men's baseball will play Cleveland State at 5:05 p.m. today at Francis Eck Stadium.

Registration for a Summer Session at Notre Dame begins Wednesday. Students interested in taking classes during the summer can register through insideND.

A screening of the film "Sometimes in April" will be held in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium Wednesday at 7 p.m. The screening is sponsored by BERWA, an organization made up of survivors of the 1994 Rwandan genocide and The Kellogg Institute for International Studies.

The Notre Dame Chamber Players will perform with guest violinist Nokuthula Ngwenyama at 8 p.m. on Wednesday in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$10; \$8 for faculty and staff; \$6 for seniors and \$3 for students.

The Ballroom Dance Club invites dancers of all skill levels to join them in 205 Rockne Memorial for a night of mambo and foxtrot from 8 p.m. to 10. The cost for a night of dancing is \$4.

Dennis Jacobs, vice president and associate provost, and William Ramsey, associate professor of philosophy will speak at Theology on Tap Wednesday at 9 p.m. The subject of the Legend's event will be "To Cheat or Not to Cheat? The Academic Honor Code."

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

OFFBEAT

Dead passenger upgraded to first class

LONDON — A first-class passenger on a flight from Delhi to London awoke find the corpse of a woman who had died in the economy cabin being placed in a seat next to him, British Airways said Monday. The economy section of the flight was full, and the cabin crew needed to move the woman and her grieving family out of that compartment to give them some privacy, the airline said.

The first-class passenger, Paul Trinder, told the Sunday Times newspaper that he was sleeping during

a February flight from India and woke up when the crew placed the dead woman in an empty seat near him.

"I didn't have a clue what was going on. The stewards just plonked the body down without saying a thing. I remember looking at this frail, sparrow-like woman and thinking she was very ill," the newspaper quoted Trinder as saying.

Man chases down stolen truck in underwear

EASTVALE, Calif. — The owner of a stolen pickup truck, wearing only his underwear, used his wife's

van to chase down the thief. The 29-year-old man was sipping coffee in his garage before dawn Sunday when his Ford Ranger suddenly started up and roared off.

The man, whose name was withheld, then jumped into his wife's van and, wearing only his underwear, gave chase.

Inside the floor-installer's pickup were his tools.

"He said 'I just couldn't let my truck go because it's my livelihood,'" said Kirk Durbin of the California Highway Patrol.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 47 LOW 35	HIGH 37 LOW 29	HIGH 56 LOW 40	HIGH 65 LOW 42	HIGH 62 LOW 46	HIGH 68 LOW 48

Atlanta 71 / 49 Boston 43 / 31 Chicago 43 / 27 Denver 69 / 38 Houston 76 / 63 Los Angeles 67 / 54 Minneapolis 42 / 19 New York 48 / 37 Philadelphia 54 / 41 Phoenix 85 / 61 Seattle 47 / 40 St. Louis 56 / 41 Tampa 80 / 59 Washington 59 / 39

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Group co-sponsors Midnight Madness event

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) members awarded a \$3,000 co-sponsorship to the prize committee of the College's annual Midnight Madness event at the group's meeting Monday. The committee will use the money to purchase prizes to give out at the event.

Midnight Madness, which will be held Friday, is an all-school event where each class competes in events like tug-of-war and pie eating contests to show school and class spirit.

"Our main goal [for the event this year] is to get more people involved because in years past people felt left out in the games that were going on," said Julie DeMaio, co-chair of the prize committee. "Due to this, we need more prizes."

BOG has awarded co-spon-

sorships to Midnight Madness in the past, although no one at the meeting knew how much was awarded last year.

The prize committee has received donations from the College's Information Technology department and Sodexo Food Services, as well as a class ring from Jostens and various gift certificates from businesses in the community, DeMaio said.

"The problem is that we've gotten five of this and five of that and we'd preferably like to have the same thing for, say, 23 people on the same team," DeMaio said.

Event organizers also hope to feature larger prizes such as a big screen television, prize committee co-chair Cassie Callon said.

"The grab of Midnight Madness is to have big prizes so people will want to come,"

"The grab of Midnight Madness is to have big prizes so people will want to come."

**Cassie Callon
Midnight Madness
prize committee co-chair**

Callon said.

In the course of deliberations about how much to award to the committee, BOG members pointed out that Linda Timm — the former vice president of Student Affairs who donated big-ticket items in past years — was no longer at the College.

"I know Dr. Timm would donate a few big prizes, and those won't be there this year," admissions commissioner Annie Davis said.

In other BOG news:

♦ The Women Honoring Women Dinner will be held on Wednesday. Professors Astrid Henry, Susan Latham and Nancy Turner were nominated for the award, and the recipient will be announced during the dinner.

♦ The Student Academic Council will host a luncheon Monday at 12 p.m. for students and faculty in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall to discuss possible changes to the general education requirements in the curriculum at Saint Mary's.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

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Day 1: Large projects - Tuesday, March 20th

Day 2: Research efforts - Wednesday, March 21st

Day 3: Service learning - Thursday, March 22nd

Each discussion is from 4:30 - 6:30 in 356 Fitzpatrick Hall

Food/Appetizers will be provided

This will be an open, formal discussion between all disciplines within the University where your input **WILL** be heard.

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We look forward to seeing you there!

Write News for The Observer. Call Ken at 631-5323.

SUB

continued from page 1

a unifying theme of speakers that wouldn't be too serious."

"We try to bring people in that change things up a bit," Vassel said. "The SNL idea just came up this semester — there is a lot of diversity there, and it is a show that everybody knows, so everybody rallied around this idea."

In the past SUB has hosted speakers in entertainment, including "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" drummer Max Weinberg and "Family Guy" writer Mark Henry, but this is the first time that SUB has organized a speaker series — a project Vassel said would not have been possible without the help of Student Activities.

"This is a unique project that is largely being made possible by the Student Activities Office," Vassel said. "Normally we wouldn't be able to take this on without Student Activities. We organized it, and they are helping us out with the financial resources."

Vassel said SUB Ideas and

Issues committee programmers Brian Sarnacki and Kerri Keselowsky "put in a lot of hours and research" contacting prospective speakers and working with their agents to determine whether the speakers would be within SUB's budget.

"We wanted to have a few of the SNL alums and some of the current members to come to campus and talk about what it's like to be on the shows."

Patrick Vassel
SUB manager

The cost to bring in speakers with name recognition ranges from \$10,000 to \$30,000 dollars per speaker, Vassel said.

After contacting different agencies, the SUB committee narrowed down the list of speakers it had drafted over winter break to the ones that would fit SUB's budget.

"Once agents give a standard asking fee, we pass it on to our advisor, and a contract is worked out," Sarnacki said.

Sarnacki said SUB plans to make an announcement in the near future indicating when the speaker series will take place. Vassel said SUB also hopes to have one SNL speaker at the beginning of April and another during anTostal.

Bringing celebrities to campus is not always an easy task, he said, since many of the speakers that SUB planned to book for the Speaker Series have busy

schedules.

"Tim Meadows was one of the people at the top of our list, and we were disappointed when his agent called and said he wasn't going to be able to make it," Vassel said. "We plan on being a lot more diligent about this in the future to make sure we don't have another situation like this."

Meadows was scheduled to appear Feb. 28 as the first speaker in the series, but cancelled because he is in the process of filming an upcoming movie.

Despite scheduling conflicts, Vassel said most celebrity speakers are eager to accept the invitation to speak to Notre Dame students about their experiences.

"Generally it doesn't take a lot to get speakers to come to campus. They are generally willing and interested — it just comes down to a matter of their schedules and what they've got going," Vassel said. "In terms of willingness, we receive a very positive response."

Many of the speakers that SUB has hosted in the past have requested campus tours.

"Most speakers that come tend to want to walk around campus, and see the Dome and the Basilica, but beyond that most of the speakers haven't requested anything too unusual," Vassel said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

Grant

continued from page 1

being on the other end of working to make money."

The goal of the program is to help students obtain the skills they will eventually need when they open their own checking accounts, manage a budget and make financial plans, he said.

This grant will be used for instruction purposes and will provide incentives for students to finish the program. Students who stick with the program will proceed to the next level of financial education, the entrepreneurship program, Caponigro said. Some students who are in this program get the chance to go to the National Conference for Teaching Entrepreneurship to get a first-hand look at finance.

"We send up to five students to Wall Street to really understand the world of finance," Caponigro said. "This grant will help with that."

Key Bank awards grants to programs that encourage financial literacy, Caponigro said. He also credited the Gigot Center in the Mendoza School of Business as a "great partner" in providing financial literacy education.

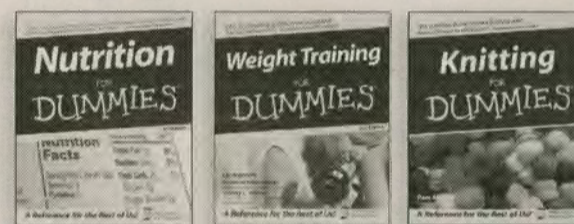
The Robinson Community Learning Center was founded in 2001. Located on North Eddy Street, it coordinates the Youth Justice Project, the violence prevention program Take Ten and adult job-training courses. Since its founding, more than 3,700 participants and 2,000 volunteers have been involved with the Center.

Contact Eva Binda at jbinda@nd.edu

"We hope that, as they leave the program, they're making choices about how to spend their money that are based on how to make money work for them..."

Jay Caponigro
Robinson Community Learning Center director

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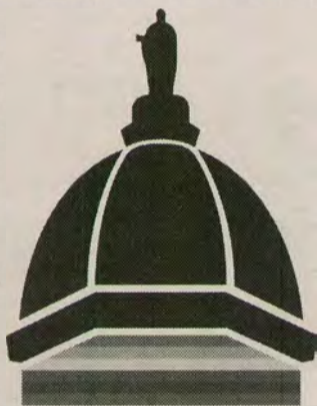
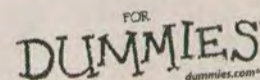


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The Core Council is seeking new undergraduate student members, regardless of sexual orientation.

Applications are available in the Office of Student Affairs (316 Main Building)

or on the Core Council web site

<http://corecouncil.nd.edu/>

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday,

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Office of Student Affairs.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Kidnapped Italian journalist freed

ROME — An Italian journalist held for two weeks in Afghanistan said after his release Monday that he saw his captors cut off the head of one of the two Afghans kidnapped with him and thought he would be next to die.

In an interview with RAI TG3 News, Daniele Mastrogiacomo described a harrowing experience. "I saw him be decapitated," he said.

He said the kidnappers threw the Afghan to his knees and suffocated him in the sand as they cut his head off.

"Then they wiped the knife on his clothes. I was shaking. Obviously I thought 'it's my turn now,'" Mastrogiacomo said.

Mastrogiacomo said he was struck in his back and head with an AK-47 during his capture, but was not hurt at any other time. "If they needed a blanket, they gave me one too. If there was bread to share, they shared it with me, so that was not a problem," he said.

North Korea nuclear talks continue

BEIJING — International nuclear negotiators inched closer Monday toward setting a timetable for North Korea's disarmament after the biggest obstacle hindering discussions was removed — \$25 million in frozen North Korean funds.

Envoys from the two Koreas, the United States, Japan, Russia and host China met to review progress made by five working groups established under a hard-won Feb. 13 agreement.

The deal gives the North 60 days to shut down both its main reactor and a plutonium processing plant, and allow U.N. monitors to verify the closures. In return, the regime is to receive energy and economic assistance and a start toward normalizing relations with the U.S. and Japan.

NATIONAL NEWS

Gitmo terrorist confession released

WASHINGTON — A Yemeni portrayed as an al-Qaida operative and a member of a terrorist family confessed to plotting the bombings of the USS Cole and two U.S. embassies in Africa, killing hundreds, according to a Pentagon transcript of a Guantanamo Bay hearing.

The transcript released Monday was the fourth from the hearings the military is holding in private for 14 "high-value" terror suspects who were kept in secret CIA prisons before they were sent to the U.S. facility in Cuba last fall.

Last week, Waleed bin Attash said he helped plan the 1998 embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania that killed more than 200, according to the transcript.

NY cops plead not guilty in shooting

NEW YORK — Three police officers charged in a 50-bullet barrage that killed an unarmed groom on his wedding day appeared before a judge Monday and had their first encounter since the shooting with the victims and their families.

In a packed, tension-filled courtroom, the three officers stood with their hands clasped during the 20-minute hearing as they pleaded not guilty in the shooting that killed 23-year-old Sean Bell and wounded two of his friends.

LOCAL NEWS

Body found in Purdue utility room

WEST LAFAYETTE — Authorities expect on Tuesday to identify a body that a Purdue University worker found inside a residence hall's utility room, a school spokesman said.

Purdue spokesman Phillip Fiorini said the body was removed Monday afternoon from the high-voltage utility room in Owen Hall a few hours after it was discovered.

The coed residence hall, which houses about 700 students, is near the last reported location of missing Purdue freshman Wade Steffy, 19, who vanished Jan. 13.

Fiorini said the Tippecanoe County coroner's office expects to identify the body on Tuesday.

RUSSIA

Gas explosion kills, injures miners

Siberian coal mine blast traps 50; Putin orders Emergency Situations Minister to act

Associated Press

MOSCOW — A methane gas explosion deep in a Siberian coal mine killed at least 78 people and left another 50 trapped Monday in Russia's worst mining disaster in a decade.

Among the missing were company officials and safety experts who had been inspecting a British-made hazard-monitoring system, said Sergei Cheremnov, a spokesman for the regional government in Kemerovo where the mine is located about 1,850 miles east of Moscow.

A British man and his interpreter were among those killed, he said. It was unclear what the two were doing in the mine.

Up to 200 workers were in the Ulyanovskaya mine when the explosion occurred about 885 feet underground in the coal-rich southern region known as the Kuzbass, emergency and regional officials said. At least 75 people were rescued.

Rescuers were checking a large section of the mine for the missing people and were in contact with some of the surviving miners, officials said. It was unclear if the survivors were in immediate danger.

"Their work is complicated by a great number of obstructions," Eduard Sivtsov, a spokesman for Yuzhkuzbassugol, the company that operates the mine, told NTV.

Russian television broadcast footage of one miner, blackened and semiconscious, lying on a stretcher on his way to a hospital. At least five miners were injured.

President Vladimir Putin ordered Emergency Situations Minister Sergei Shoigu to travel to the area, and the industrial regulatory agency Rostekhnadzor sent investigators.

The mine is located in the city Novokuznetsk, the site of two of the deadliest mine



Medics treat an injured person shown in this Russian television image. Dozens were killed and nearly 200 injured Monday in a Siberian coal mine explosion.

disasters in the past decade. In 2004, a blast at a mine on the outskirts of the city killed 47 workers and in 1997, a methane explosion killed 67.

Russia's mining industry fell into disrepair when government subsidies dried up after the Soviet collapse. At least 30 workers died in Russian mining accidents last year, including 25 killed in a fire at a Siberian gold mine.

In the U.S. last year, 47 workers died in coal mine accidents, including 12 in the Sago Mine accident in West Virginia. It was the U.S. industry's deadliest year since 1995, when 47 were killed.

In recent years, conglomerates like Evraz SA have bought up coal mines and

similar enterprises and consolidated operations, selling raw and semi-processed material to steel smelters, electricity producers and other major industry. Some government officials have accused private companies of cutting corners on safety measures to save money.

Alexander Sergiev, chairman of the Independent Coal Miners' Union, said the Ulyanovskaya mine operated with new equipment, but he said that human and natural factors always created the potential for accidents. He said miners may have encountered a pocket of methane while working and he called for new safety regulations to help prevent such accidents.

"It's necessary, in my view, to pass legislation forbidding

underground coal mining without the required (ventilation) from the surface for methane," he told Ekho Moskvyy radio.

Sergiev also blamed the blast on quota systems that encourage miners to work faster and harvest more coal, potentially leading to carelessness.

The families of the dead will each receive at least \$25,000 in compensation, Kemerovo Gov. Aman Tuleyev was quoted by ITAR-Tass news agency.

Nobody answered repeated calls to Yuzhkuzbassugol. The company, an affiliate of Russian coal and steel company Evraz Group SA, is Russia's leading producer of coking coal, producing 14 million tons in 2005, according to the Evraz Web site.

Senate debates restricting Gonzales

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' hold on his job grew more uncertain Monday as the Senate debated removing his authority to unilaterally name U.S. attorneys and the White House said it merely hoped he would survive the tumult.

Asked if Gonzales had contained the political damage from the firing of eight federal prosecutors, White House spokesman Tony Snow said, "I don't know."

Snow declined to predict how long Gonzales would stay in his job but reiterated President Bush's support of

him.

"No one's prophetic enough to know what the next 21 months hold," Snow said. "We hope he stays."

The Justice Department also planned to turn over to Congress late Monday a couple of thousand pages of new documents related to the firings.

White House counselor Dan Bartlett said that Bush had full confidence in Gonzales and that the attorney general had not offered to resign.

The good news for Gonzales late Monday was that the two most senior Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee, Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Orrin Hatch of Utah, both former chairmen, had not called

for a new attorney general. But neither were they endorsing the embattled Justice chief. Specter said he will reserve judgment until he gets all the facts; Hatch has not given interviews on the subject, his spokesman said.

Either way, Gonzales faces a tough week. The Senate was devoting Monday and Tuesday to debating and voting on rescinding his authority to appoint replacement U.S. attorneys without Senate confirmation.

"We need to close the loophole exploited by the White House and the Department of Justice that facilitated this abuse," Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said opening the debate.

Podcast

continued from page 1

the Prayercast," Steven Warner said. "It's designed to give the feeling that you're alone in a room with a few musicians. It's a very personal feeling, more intimate than a track from a CD."

The idea came to Warner in November as a way to reach out to the increasingly "tech-savvy" body of Notre Dame students and alumni.

"The Church meets people where they are — people working 60 to 80 hours a week in a business or between classes and tests," Steven Warner said. "They need time to pray."

Warner said he is especially concerned with the struggles alumni face in the working world.

"When people leave here, there's a spiritual void," he said. "We're trying to fill it."

The use of this type of technology is new at Notre Dame, Steven Warner said. He credited the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) — and lots of hard work — with helping him turn prayer into something downloadable.

"[Director of Campus Ministry] Father Warner said to get it up and running, so we spent months working with [Information Technology Manager] Vincent Melody at OIT and studying podcast technology," Steven Warner said.

The Prayercast will soon be available through iTunes and will be downloadable to iPods — something the developers had always intended, said Campus Ministry intern Josh Stagni.

"[Our goal] is to have the Prayercast show up on search results when people search for Notre Dame on iTunes," Stagni said.

The voiceovers in the Prayercast are provided by Emmeline Schoen, a 2003 Notre Dame graduate and current employee of Saint Mary's Campus Ministry. She became involved with the Prayercast initiative in part because of her participation with the Folk Choir as an undergraduate.

"It's a new technology, and I think that especially the student population is very attuned to it," Schoen said. "It makes sense to use another avenue to approach and connect with people spiritually."

Students like junior Elizabeth Stewart have generally been responsive to the Prayercast — there have been almost 3,000 hits on the Prayercast Web site since the first broadcast on Ash Wednesday.

"I think it is a great tool [to bring] traditional Catholicism into today's culture," Stewart said. "Integrating technology and faith holds so much potential for reaching a computer-driven society and making prayer available in a whole new context."

Steven Warner said the response from Notre Dame students, alumni and friends has been strong.

"I've gotten e-mails from all over the country — Boston, Toledo, Chicago, D.C. — and a lot of students at Notre Dame," Steven Warner said.

The Prayercast can be found at www.ndprayercast.org by clicking on "Weekly Prayercast." It will play in Quicktime format, but the iTunes-playable version should be available soon.

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwitt1@nd.edu

Search continues for missing Boy Scout

Associated Press

McGRADY, N.C. — Warmer weather raised rescuers' hopes Monday as they searched for a third day for a 12-year-old Boy Scout who disappeared while camping with his troop in the rugged mountains of western North Carolina.

Michael Auberry vanished in the heavily wooded terrain after lunch Saturday with the other Scouts and troop leaders. Searchers found his mess kit late Saturday within a mile of the camp site, but no other sign of him, authorities said.

"We're still confident in call-

ing it a search-and-rescue operation," National Park Service spokeswoman Tina White said.

The boy's father, Kent Auberry, told the News & Record of Greensboro: "Any sign that he's still out there, that he's still fighting, we're clinging to."

Temperatures fell to the 20s before dawn Monday, but sunny skies and temperatures in the 50s prevailed during the day. Overnight weather was expected to be milder, with lows in the 40s, but there was a chance of rain Tuesday.

"The temperatures definitely play a factor. It has been very

cold at night, but this young man was very well dressed. He had a fleece jacket on and another jacket," White said. "We've had people who have been out a week or longer and survived."

About 70 people aided by dogs and a helicopter searched the area's logging roads and trails and scoured off-road regions.

During the night, searchers planned to fly a plane with heat-sensing equipment and have dog teams out, among other efforts, she said. Searchers planned to stick to the trails at night to avoid los-

ing anyone else.

The FBI was among the agencies on the scene, "but we still do not have any indication of foul play or that this young man has been abducted," White said.

The boy's mother, Debbie Hayes, told the Winston-Salem Journal that Michael had only potato chips to eat and no water. She also said he takes Ritalin to control attention-deficit disorder.

Park rangers worked with the boy's family to learn about Michael's wilderness skills and how he might react to the situation, White said.



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Up:	Same:	Down:
2,452	128	812
Composite Volume		3,020,304,212

AMEX	2,111.39	+13.07
NASDAQ	2,394.41	+21.75
NYSE	9,091.00	+107.99
S&P 500	1,402.06	+15.11
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,009.55	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	6,189.40	+58.80

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Exchange Rates	
YEN	117.6200
EURO	0.7516
POUND	0.5141
CANADIAN \$	1.1772

IN BRIEF

Chiquita admits to paying terrorists

WASHINGTON — Banana company Chiquita Brands International admitted in federal court Monday that for years it paid Colombian terrorists to protect its most profitable banana-growing operation.

The company pleaded guilty to one count of doing business with a terrorist organization. The plea is part of a deal with prosecutors that calls for a \$25 million fine and does not identify the several senior executives who approved the illegal protection payments.

The agreement ends a lengthy Justice Department investigation into the company's financial dealings with right-wing paramilitaries and leftist rebels the U.S. government deems terrorist groups.

Prosecutors say the Cincinnati-based company agreed to pay about \$1.7 million between 1997 and 2004 to the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, known as AUC for its Spanish initials.

The AUC has been responsible for some of the worst massacres in Colombia's civil conflict and for a sizable percentage of the country's cocaine exports. The U.S. government designated the AUC a terrorist group in September 2001.

Chiquita has said it was forced to make the payments and was acting only to ensure the safety of its workers.

Prepackaged potato salad recalled

WASHINGTON — DBC Foods Inc. is recalling potato salad sold both prepackaged and at deli counters, because it could be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. *Listeria* is a microorganism that can cause serious or fatal infections in children, the elderly or those with weakened immune systems. It can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women. Healthy adults can experience symptoms including fevers, severe headaches, nausea and diarrhea.

The prepackaged potato salad was sold in 1-pound containers under the labels Midwest Pride, Coborn's and Cash Wise. The containers have lot number 7057018A. The Midwest Pride salad has an expiration date of April 2. The Coborn's and Cash Wise salads have expiration dates of March 9.

The potato salad sold at deli counters, packed to order, was available in 89 stores in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan and Nebraska.

New superjumbo jet reaches U.S.

Plane's wingspan as wide as football field; Airbus has yet to sell model to U.S. carriers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The latest jetliner to claim the title of world's biggest passenger aircraft completed its inaugural flight to the United States on Monday, flying on football field-length wings and a prayer that airlines will want to shell out \$300 million to buy the behemoth double-decker jet.

The four-engine Airbus A380 descended from a sunny sky and touched down at John F. Kennedy International Airport at about 12:10 p.m. EDT, to the cheers of onlookers. As the plane made its way toward the terminal, a pilot waved an American flag. Minutes later, a separate A380 arrived in Los Angeles, with just a crew and no passengers.

The first U.S. flights are a chance for plane builder Airbus and German airline Lufthansa AG to show off the jewel of Airbus' offerings to potential American buyers and to the airports they hope to turn into flight bases for the jet.

The 239-foot-long jet can seat as many as 550 passengers, hold 81,890 gallons of fuel, cruise at 560 mph and fly some 8,000 nautical miles.

Despite the plane's impressive statistics, Airbus has yet to sell any of the planes to U.S. carriers. The A380 comes with a pricetag of about \$300 million, although that figure varies depending on the airline's order, said John Leahy, chief of operations for Airbus.

Leahy called the A380 the flagship jetliner for the 21st century, much like the Boeing 747 was in the last century. Airbus has about 160 global orders from 15 airlines for the new plane, which has already made tests flights in Europe and to Asia.

Waiting in the wings, however, is Boeing Co., which now has competitors to the A380 in early production.



A stairway connects the two decks of the new Airbus A380. One of the superjumbo jets arrived at New York's Kennedy International Airport Monday.

The U.S. flight marked one of the highest-profile maiden trans-Atlantic voyages since 1969, when the Concorde, the world's first and only commercial supersonic transport, arrived at JFK from London. The European-made Concorde was retired from British and French service in 2005.

Airbus has been beset by management and financial problems, including a two-year delay to the A380 that wiped out more than \$6.61 billion in forecast profits. The flight is a chance to prove that the plane will be ready when the first deliveries are made in October.

Airbus is seeking to recoup its losses by cutting

10,000 jobs and spinning off or closing six of its European manufacturing plants. Louis Gallois, co-chief executive of parent company European Aeronautic Defense and Space Co., said Airbus has endured "the worst year" in its history.

Lufthansa chief pilot Juergen Raps, who flew the A380 to New York, said that despite the superjumbo jet's size, it was nimble and responsive.

"If I were to compare it to driving, you would think this would be like driving a truck or a bus," he said inside the plane's cockpit. "It's like driving a Ferrari."

The air show began

early Monday at Frankfurt International Airport when the plane took off as Lufthansa Flight 8940 for the eight-hour trip to Kennedy. Onboard were nearly 500 people, including pilots, Airbus crew members, 23 Lufthansa cabin crew and several hundred passengers, mostly Airbus and Lufthansa employees along with some reporters.

The flight operated as if it were a commercial one with full dining and entertainment services.

A separate inaugural Los Angeles flight originated in Toulouse, France. With only 23 people aboard, an Airbus crew flew the A380 to Los Angeles for airport "compatibility" tests.

FDA looks for pet food contaminant

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As many as one in six animals died in tests of suspect dog and cat food by the manufacturer after complaints the products were poisoning pets around the country, the government said Monday.

A federal investigation is focusing on wheat gluten as the likely source of contamination that sparked a recall last Friday of 60 million cans and pouches of the suspect food, said Stephen F. Sundlof, the Food and Drug Administration's top veterinarian.

The ingredient, a protein source, is commonly used as filler.

Agency investigators are looking at other ingredients as well. The wet-style pet food was made by Menu Foods, an Ontario, Canada-based company.

Menu Foods told the FDA it received the first complaints of kidney failure and deaths among cats and dogs from pet owners on Feb. 20. It began new tests on Feb. 27.

During those tests, the company fed its product to 40 to 50 dogs and cats and seven animals — the mix of species was not immediately known — died, Sundlof said. The contamination appeared more deadly to cats than to dogs, he said.

The recall now covers dog food sold

throughout North America under 51 brands and cat food sold under 40 brands, including Iams, Nutro and Eukanuba. The food was sold under both store and major brand labels at Wal-Mart, Kroger, Safeway and other large retailers.

The FDA has yet to tally how many reports it has received of cats and dogs suffering kidney failure or death. The company has reported just 10 deaths, of nine cats and a single dog.

"We are still trying to find out what the true picture is out there of animals. We're talking about 1 percent of the pet food (supply) and it's really just impossible to extrapolate at this

Laetare

continued from page 1

1999.

The recipient of the Laetare Medal is announced each year on the fourth Sunday of Lent, known as Laetare Sunday in the Catholic Church.

The medal has been awarded annually at Notre

Dame to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

The medal bears the Latin inscription, "Magna est veritas et prevalebit," which translates as, "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail."

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwitt1@nd.edu

Board

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staff assembled will build on the tradition of excellence The Observer has established."

Langley is a junior English major and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy minor who lived in Farley Hall but is studying in Dublin for the year. Langley, a Short Hills, N.J., native who will take over the news editor position in the fall, is a former associate news editor. She started working at The Observer during the fall semester of her freshman year and has since reported on topics including the living wage and academic freedom debates at Notre Dame as well as implications of the amended South Bend disorderly house ordinance.

This spring, Ken Fowler will serve as the managing editor for news, and for the next several weeks, former News Editor Kate Antonacci will be an associate in the department.

Khorey is a junior from Siegfried Hall majoring in history and minoring in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. A native of Grand Rapids, Mich., Khorey previously served as an associate sports editor and has worked for The Observer since the fall of his fresh-

man year. He has covered a variety of beats, including men's basketball, Notre Dame women's soccer and baseball.

Hine is a sophomore history major and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy minor from Scranton, Penn. Hine, who lives in Fisher Hall, started working at The Observer during the fall semester of his freshman year and has covered beats including men's basketball, Notre Dame swimming and Notre Dame women's golf.

Andrews is a junior American Studies major who lives in Stanford Hall. The Niskayuna, N.Y., native started working for The Observer as a Scene writer during the fall semester of his sophomore year.

Kohler, a sophomore political science major who lives in Holy Cross Hall, is a Philadelphia native. She joined The Observer during the fall of her freshman year and has since covered various Saint Mary's events including administrative changes at the College.

Nies is a sophomore marketing and graphic design major from Basking Ridge, N.J., who lives in McGlenn Hall. She worked for The Observer this year as a graphic designer.

Cortez is a junior marketing and Japanese major from Bethlehem, Penn. Cortez lived in Welsh Family

Hall but is currently studying in Japan. She has worked for The Observer as an advertising executive since the fall of her sophomore year. Current Ad Sales Manager Sharon Brown will retain her position through the end of the semester.

Gronli, a junior graphic design major from Deer Park, Ill., lives in Cavanaugh Hall. She has worked for The Observer Ad Design department this past year.

West is a junior accountancy major from Houston, Texas. He lives in Fisher Hall.

Mennella, a junior from Keough Hall, is a civil engineering major and Seattle native. He has worked in the Photo Department since the fall of his freshman year.

King is a mechanical engineering and philosophy major who has worked in the Viewpoint Department since the spring of his freshman year. King came to Notre Dame from London, England, and lives in Siegfried Hall.

Systems Manager Alejandro Gerbaud and Web Administrator Rob Dugas will be retained at their positions this spring until replacements are found.

The Observer is accepting applications for the controller and systems manager positions as well as a new web design manager position. Please direct all inquiries to Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu.

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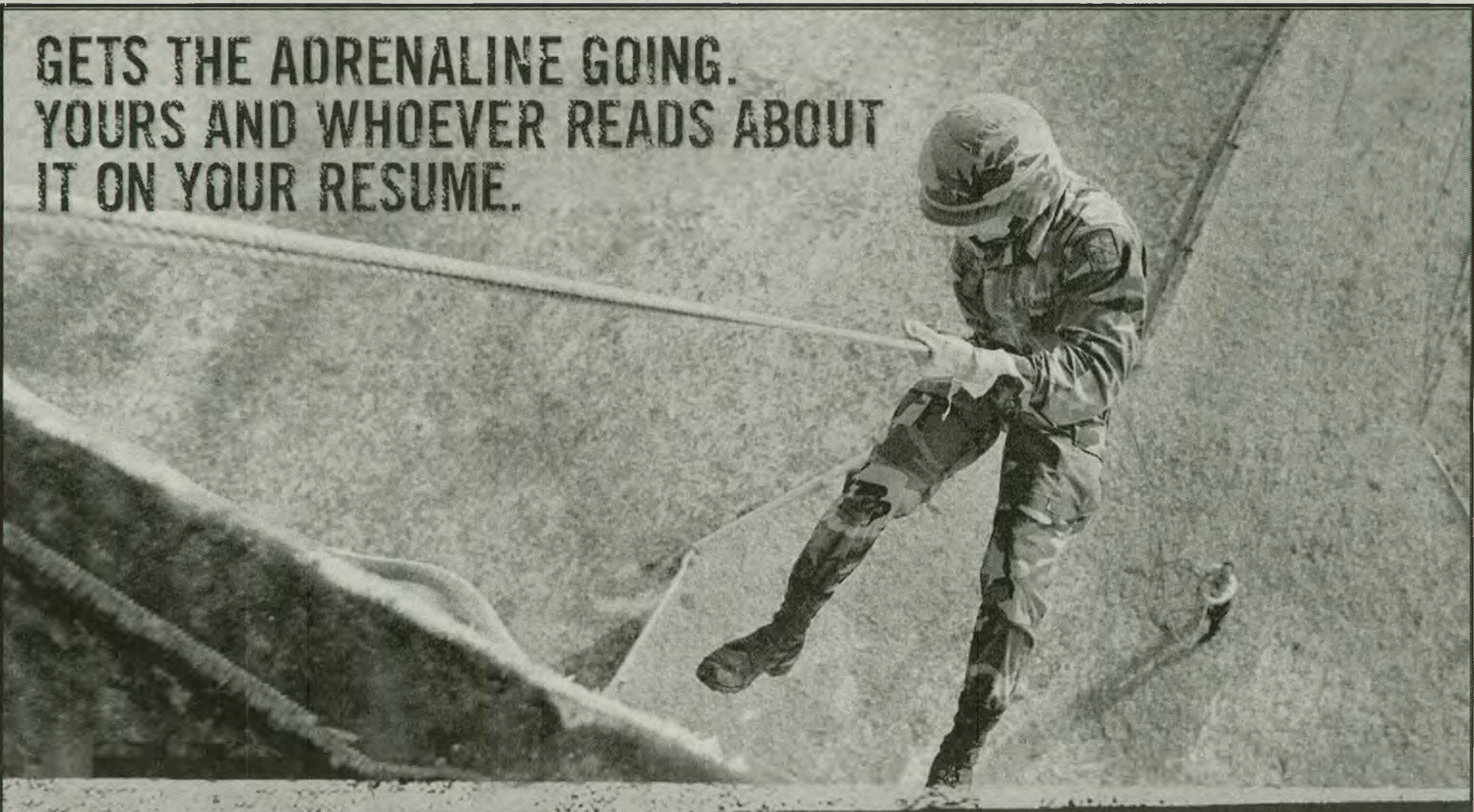
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College alumna discusses human trafficking

Powell describes work with Health and Human Services on international issues to social work majors, additional students

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Saint Mary's 2005 graduate Michelle Powell returned to campus Monday to give a presentation on the role of social workers in human trafficking — a subject she became familiar with through her work with the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

The presentation, entitled "Human Trafficking: The Critical Role of Social Workers in Anti-Trafficking Practices," was attended by about 40 students, faculty and Sisters of the Holy Cross.

The social work majors and minors who attended were informed of the problems that social workers are faced with when they encounter human trafficking cases. Powell described what social workers

could do if they encountered victims of human trafficking.

"Social workers play an important role [in identifying human trafficking]," Powell said. "It's really hidden, but it's also in plain sight if you know where to look for it."

Powell works with the Department of Health and Human Services to identify human trafficking victims and put them in touch with the United States Conference of

Catholic Bishops, which has outreach services for victims.

Human trafficking is the recruitment, buying, selling or coercing of individuals for a profit, Powell said.

"It's modern-day slavery," she said. "It's also the fastest growing industry in the world, if you want to call it an industry."

Powell began her presentation by clearing up common misconceptions about human trafficking.

She said that while many think trafficking victims fall under the sex trade and forced prostitution, sex trafficking is not the only form of human trafficking that the government recognizes and legislates against.

"It doesn't have to be enforced prostitution or someone forced to make videos," she said. "It could be the migrant farm worker who lives in a house of 20 people and is regularly beaten at night."

Powell also informed the audience that another common misconception about trafficking is that it is inherently trans-national.

"The physical movement of the victim is not a requisite," she said. "Trafficking is not only an international problem. ... It's here too."

Human trafficking is also confused with smuggling, which is always an international problem, Powell said.

"The difference between

smuggling and trafficking is that trafficking victims don't consent [to their treatment], people who are smuggled

and when they get [to the United States] they are free," she said.

She acknowledged that while some people may agree to be brought to the United States, and therefore be considered a smuggled person, they could become a trafficking victim once they get here.

"It's like a surprise ending," she said.

Powell invited Sister Madeline Therese Wilhoit, a Holy Cross sister, to speak to the group as well to address the goal of prevention and how the church is involved.

Wilhoit spent 14 years in Ghana — a country in West Africa — as a missionary and encountered a lot of instances of human trafficking involving women in the poor villages taken to Amsterdam.

"We had the terrible problem in the villages of these nicely dressed business men coming to the

village and telling the women that if they came to Amsterdam, they would be able to work in restaurants and nice places and be able to make money to send back to their families," she said. "When [the women] got to Amsterdam, they were put into illegal labor practices and the sex trade."

The mission with which Wilhoit served visited about 800 to 900 villages to try to warn the women that these men could not be trusted, but some were still taken, she said.

She said that if the women were found after being taken to Amsterdam and returned to Ghana, they often were disowned by their families because they had promised to bring money with them, which they did not have.

Safety is also an issue when victims want to return home after being rescued in America, Powell said.

"They might want to go home, but it might not be safe for them," she said. "Their families may disown them or their families may be threatened."

Human trafficking legislation has gained momentum in the United States, Powell said. The three main goals that the government works toward are protection, prosecution and prevention.

"Our ultimate goal is self-sufficiency for victims," Powell said.

"Social workers play an important role [in identifying human trafficking]. It's really hidden, but it's also in plain sight if you know where to look for it."

Michelle Powell
SMC Alumna

"The difference between smuggling and trafficking, is that trafficking victims don't consent [to their treatment], people who are smuggled consent and when they get [to the United States] they are free."

Michelle Powell
SMC Alumna

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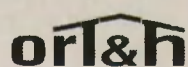
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Tuesday, March 20, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna.

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Onward to victory

Last week I saw the movie "300," a visually stunning epic about a handful of brave Spartans who held a vast Persian army at the pass of Thermopylae long enough for the Greek city-states to mobilize for war, which they ultimately won. Today, the fourth anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom, about 150,000 American service men and women are fighting against radical Islamists in Iraq as part of the larger Global War on Terror. After four years, popular support for the war has fallen and the new Congress is working toward a timetable for withdrawal from the embattled nation.

Though some believe Congress has a mandate to force a withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq, this would be a disastrous policy not only for the Iraqi people but also for the United States. Retired General Barry McCaffrey, a correspondent for NBC, expanded on this point when he wrote, "In less than six months, our 150,000 troops could fight their way along strategic withdrawal corridors back to the sea and the safety provided by the Navy. Several million terrified refugees would follow, the route of our columns marked by the burning pyres of abandoned military supplies demolished by our rear guard. The resulting civil warfare would probably turn Iraq into a humanitarian disaster and might well draw in the Iranians and Syrians." Whichever way you look at it, withdrawal threatens the security of Iraq, the Middle East and the people of the United States.

The 2006 elections brought a number of new members to Congress who advocate a withdrawal from Iraq, and the shift in public opinion against the war has led a number of politicians who initially supported the war to now favor redeployment out of the country. Many members of the 110th Congress owe a great deal to the progressive-socialist anti-war constituency who worked for their election, and they have frequently used two major arguments to justify their commitment to withdrawal. First, some argue that Iraq is in the midst of a civil war, and that Americans should create a timetable for withdrawal to force Iraqis to take care of themselves and to avoid

putting American soldiers between two warring factions. Second, some argue that the absence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq made the war pointless and that no more American troops should die for a misguided war.

The first argument was made by U.S. Representative Joe Donnelly when he said, "At some point the Iraqis have to stand up ... and decide that they don't want any more death and destruction" ("Donnelly shares views on election, Congress," Feb. 21). Donnelly voted against "the surge" in a non-binding resolution on Feb. 14, and in his remarks said, "Our brave troops should not be placed in the middle of an incredibly dangerous civil war." Though Donnelly does not favor withdrawal, I find it absurd when he says that the Iraqi people are not standing up for themselves when Iraqi army and police forces suffer casualties daily, Iraqi politicians face assassination and kidnapping and Iraqi citizens tip off places of foreign terrorists. Iraq does face civil strife, but the current crisis is hardly a civil war.

Even if Iraq is considered to be in civil war, and thus a place unsuitable for American troops, surely Bosnia and Rwanda would have qualified when the left demanded that Americans be put in harm's way in those far-off locales. The same progressives and socialists who demand an immediate end to the mission in Iraq tend to also demand military intervention in Darfur, where the very mission would place American peacekeepers "in the middle of an incredibly dangerous civil war" as Donnelly so eloquently put it. If we left Iraq, we would be abandoning Iraqi Sunnis and Shiites to the same fate as Rwandan Hutus and Tutsis. Removing troops from Iraq, which is unstable due to our actions, because of civil strife is thus unjustifiable if military intervention is deemed appropriate in Sudan and is ongoing in Bosnia.

Some politicians also draw on the lack of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq to support their commitment to withdrawal. For a moment, pretend that in May 2003, U.S. forces discovered three nuclear warheads in Samarra, Iraq. Would this discovery justify the loss of almost 3,000 of our finest citizens to anti-war progressives and socialists? Would the existence of these three devices turn Iraq into a strong, unified state free of al Qaeda? Would Saddam's former nuclear stockpile deter Iran and Syria from their plan to turn Iraq into a client state?

The reasonable answer to all three of these questions is no. We would face exactly the same problems in Iraq that we face today even if Saddam's alleged weapons were found in 2003, and we would have to continue to fight to prevent al Qaeda or Iran and Syria from dominating the country.

It is not the sectarian violence or lack of WMDs that is driving calls for withdrawal, but the ongoing mismanagement of the war and the difficulty of achieving victory. General George S. Patton once said, "Americans love a winner and will not tolerate a loser. Americans play to win all the time. I wouldn't give a hoot in Hell for a man who lost and laughed." During the 2006 election, voters saw President Bush as the man who lost and laughed, determined to stay the course in a losing war, and Americans showed their disdain for that approach through the ballot box.

After Sept. 11, the Bush Administration did not expand the size of the military to meet the needs of a protracted global conflict, and as a result, Operation Iraqi Freedom had inadequate troops from the beginning. Though "the surge" initially appears to be working, the additional troops will not allow our presence to meet the ratio of one soldier for every 20 hostile civilians necessary to successfully combat an insurgency.

Fortunately for our country, there are politicians who are focusing on strengthening our military and winning the war. Senators Joe Lieberman, John McCain and others have called for an increase in the size of the Army and Marines and stronger Congressional oversight for the war to ensure its progress. The progressive-socialist anti-war constituency claims that the 2006 election provided a mandate for withdrawal, but its friends in Congress cannot gain enough votes to cut off funding and end the war. I think it is far more likely that Americans play to win, and want the 110th Congress to lead them to victory where Republicans failed to do so, rather than down the road to ignominy and defeat.

Jonathan Klingler is a senior management consulting major and president emeritus of the Notre Dame College Republicans. He currently resides in Keenan Hall and enjoys Tolstoy and Matlock. He can be contacted via e-mail at jklingl@nd.edu

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



Jonathan
Klingler

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Revolution

Submit a Letter to the Editor or Guest Column to viewpoint.1@nd.edu or online at www.ndsmcobserver.com.

Letters to the Editor should be no more than 350 words in length. Guest Columns should be no longer than 800 words and must include a byline with name, year, and major. All submissions must include the author's name and contact phone number. Submissions must be in by 3:00 p.m. to be considered for publication the next day.

OBSERVER POLL

How far will Notre Dame go in the NCAA hockey tournament?

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

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life to save."

Will Rogers
American comedian

Going green

For Notre Dame, "going green" may entail more than just its usual flooding of the pristine lawns with overactive sprinklers.

The Sustainable Endowments Institute has recently called attention to Notre Dame's forgettable commitment to environmental sustainability in its annual College Sustainability Report Card, in which ND received an embarrassing D-minus in sustainable endowment and campus greening practices ("Institute gives ND poor grade," March 1). Unfortunately, it does not appear that the Institute actually communicated with anyone from Notre Dame knowledgeable about the area of sustainability before completing its analysis.

Some of Notre Dame's top-20 competitors, such as Dartmouth and Stanford, received an A-minus in campus sustainability, the highest grade among all schools considered. A Dartmouth education, while it has about half our student population, has a price tag akin to Notre Dame at \$43,341 with a \$3.092 billion endowment, nearly matching our \$4.4 billion. Given the comparable access to resources, Notre Dame is lagging far behind universities like Dartmouth in its commitment to sound environmental practices. The question then remains: What do these schools have that Notre Dame does not?

Harvard: 16 full-time professionals and 40 part-time student employees working

for a Campus Greening Initiative. Grade received: A-minus.

Undoubtedly, the efforts of the newly reconstituted Notre Dame Energy and Environmental Issues Committee should be recognized, however we certainly cannot boast of an ambitious campus greening initiative like that of Harvard.

Dartmouth: An energy conservation professional who assesses and reduces fossil fuel usage and researches investment in Green Tag Renewable Energy Credits. Grade received: A-minus.

If Notre Dame had a comparable position, perhaps it could initiate participation in the U.S. EPA's Green Power Partnership, which provides universities with the appropriate information and networks necessary for investing in renewable energy. Penn State and Duke are among the Green Power Partnership's top-10 college users of clean energy. We may beat these schools in football, but not in combating climate change.

Williams College: This school decided to splurge an extra 20 cents per person per meal to purchase local, organic foods, resulting in a 30 percent increase in the last few years. Grade received: A-minus.

Williams, a small liberal arts college in Massachusetts, has one-fourth of our student body but only one-third our endowment. You may have seen a few new "Locally Grown" signs in the dining halls but considering Notre Dame's expected 5.5 percent tuition increase next year, why not direct a few extra cents per person toward more sustainably produced and locally

grown foods?

Furthermore, while Notre Dame may have an outstanding architecture school, its own building practices are anything but exemplary in terms of sustainability. Notre Dame has yet to integrate, and in fact has been resistant toward the implementation of, any LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) principles into its extensive construction habits, though not for lack of trying by some. Since our campus seems to be fenced off and under construction once again, what about the plans for the engineering and law school buildings? The new dormitories? Have green building techniques even been considered? If not, it's not hard to imagine the vast amounts of energy which will be required or the volume of waste which will be produced by these buildings. Additionally, our (overworked) Building Services Department may report having recycled 13.7 million pounds of waste in 2006, but where are the outdoor recycling bins on campus?

In considering Notre Dame's extensive environmental shortcomings, it must be said that the report card was not entirely accurate or complete. The University has indeed taken significant strides in promoting responsible environmental practices. For example, Notre Dame students took the lead in implementing the campus-wide recycling program. Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves reconstituted the Energy and Environmental Issues Committee. The presence of The Energy Center on campus, as well as faculty

groups addressing environmental issues are also notable.

Professor Andy Weigert mentioned the importance of mobilizing students on the issue of the environment. There is such a place for students to become involved in the environmental movement at Notre Dame, and it has always welcomed students from a broad range of backgrounds. Notre Dame Students for Environmental Action (SEA) is a vibrant and active part of the Notre Dame community, working on campus, local and national issues. This semester, SEA is focusing on the development of an environmental and conservation fund with the development office, as well as planning a week of action and education leading up to Earth Day in April, with campus and community-wide events. We encourage you to question Notre Dame's environmental policy, to speak up if you are frustrated, to educate yourself and become involved (sea@nd.edu). In the words of Pope John Paul II: "The earth, with all its creatures, and the entire universe call on man to be their voice." Our Notre Dame community cannot fail to be that voice.

Ashley Braun and Morgan Dill are senior environmental science majors and co-presidents of Notre Dame Students for Environmental Action. They can be contacted at abraun3@nd.edu or mdill@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Soulforce deserves fair treatment

The recent visit of Soulforce Equality to Notre Dame was to increase visibility of GLBT issues on Christian campuses. As an Notre Dame alumnus, the restrictive administration policies towards this minority community lead me to refrain from donating money during the annual funding drives. The recent obstacles faced by Soulforce do nothing but firm my resolve. GLBT students, faculty and staff are part of the Notre Dame family, or at least, they feel they are.

But I'm ashamed of Notre Dame's stance, given that they claim to be a frontrunner amongst Catholic colleges. All the while, they are being left behind as other schools practice to move towards equality and fairness. The administration stance negatively affects the bottom line, because in the fallout, GLBT students are turned away from attendance, faculty and staff are turned away from employment and all are barred from full participation in the Notre Dame community. But from my corner of the world, I see that Notre Dame has not only lost out on my donations from this discrimination, but on those of my brother, father, two uncles and a cousin — all Notre Dame grads. Fallout, indeed.

Mitch Seymour
 alumnus
 Mar. 14

Criticism of commencement speaker choice unfounded

When I read that Saint Mary's students were protesting the selection of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito as their commencement speaker, I was surprised. After reading that one of the protesters was emotionally shocked and angered by the decision, I felt confident that, upon reading the rest of the article, I would discover what Alito had done that would make him ill-suited for the role of commencement speaker at a Catholic school, even though he is Catholic.

However, in reading the article, I only found statements indicating that the protesters were in support of the buzzwords that NOW (National Organization for Women) used in its opposition to Alito. Ignoring the fact that NOW is about as credible a source for the left as Pat Robertson is for the right, I think there are some misrepresentations of Alito's record that should be explained to students.

For example, the protesters claim Alito has decided against women's rights on issues of sexual harassment. In *Robinson v. City of Pittsburgh*, the case used by NOW as justification for this complaint, Alito wrote the majority opinion. He merely stated that a higher-ranking officer was not culpable for the sexual harassment committed by a subordinate officer because the higher-ranking officer

did not have supervisory control of that officer. In addition, Alito determined that, in this case, there was insufficient evidence that the offending officer's supervisor had any knowledge of the harassment.

Neither of these rulings appear unreasonable, which is probably why this was the majority opinion. Yet, this ruling was deemed to support sexual harassment. Although Alito holds a different view on these issues than some Saint Mary's students, this difference does not mean that his personal beliefs are in contrast with the core values of Saint Mary's. Rather, it simply means that he interprets the law in a different manner than others.

This perspective does not make Alito a sexual-harassment-loving, woman-hating caveman, or even a poor choice as Saint Mary's commencement speaker. Instead, it simply makes him a federal judge who is forced to make decisions based on laws — rather than emotions, religion or NOW's propaganda.

Will Guappone
 freshman
 Fisher Hall
 Mar. 14

Week of Action events raise Iraq war awareness

This week marks the four year anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. As part of the Progressive Student Alliance's annual Week of Action, two events will be taking place on campus to remember the continuing affects of the war in Iraq.

To remember the human cost of the war in Iraq, an exhibit entitled "Eyes Wide Open" will be in front of O'Shaughnessy Hall on South Quad. The exhibit provides a profound visual representation of the suffering caused by this war.

The second event for today spon-

sored by the Progressive Student Alliance is "The Ground Truth: A Marine's View on Ending the War in Iraq." Former Sergeant Liam Madden of the U.S. Marine Corps will be speaking in room 102 of DeBartolo at 7p.m. He will discuss his experience in Iraq and his current work as a member of Iraq Veterans Against the War. I again encourage you to please come to this event with questions for someone who has personally experienced the war.

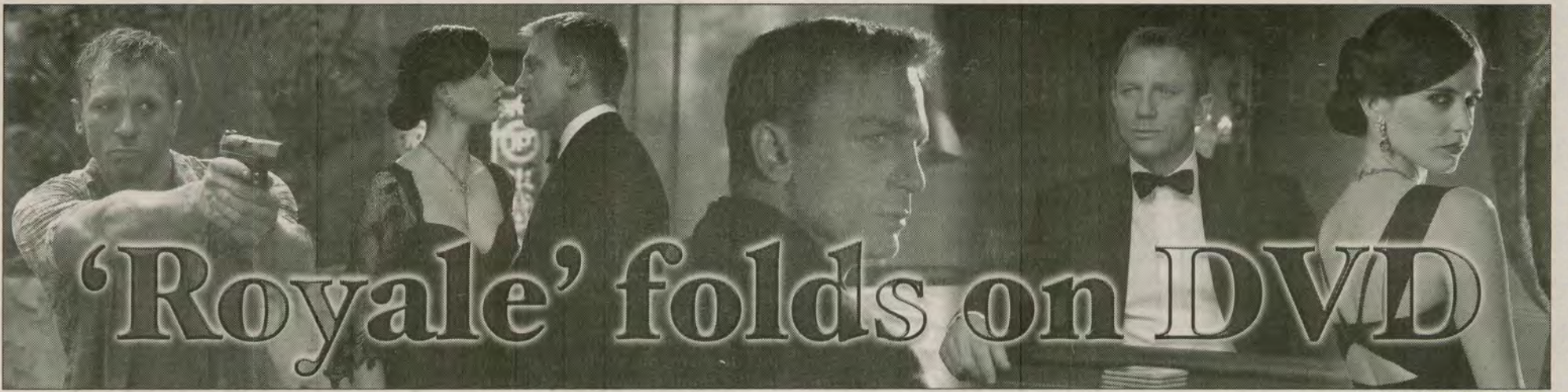
Since the invasion began, over 3,200 American service men and women have been killed and over 17,000

American soldiers have been wounded. A study done by the John Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, using the technique employed to estimate HIV/AIDS in Africa, found that the war in Iraq has killed about 655,000 Iraqis. After four long years of continued violence, we have learned the hard way that freedom does not come through occupation, justice does not follow an unjust war and peace does not come through the barrel of a gun.

When we discuss the war in Iraq, it is imperative that we address the human

face of the war. Whether it is the people of Iraq, the American soldiers still serving, the veterans who come back physically and emotionally affected or the veterans who have begun to speak out against the violence — this war is about people. I encourage you to please come by the "Eyes Wide Open" exhibit and "The Ground Truth" discussion.

Michael Angulo
 sophomore
 Alumni Hall
 Mar. 19



MATT HUDSON/Observer Graphic

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA and BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Critics

Rama: His arsenal includes jet packs and Aston Martins, but James Bond's only essential weapon is his license to kill. Does it ever expire? Not likely, at this rate, since it has helped Her Majesty's most lethal civil servant rack up a kill count on par with a small nation.

Surprisingly, it's taken 46 years and 20 movies for us to finally see what Bond has to do to earn his mighty gift. It's not pretty, and the gritty prologue to "Casino Royale" makes sure we'll never forget his first two kills.

On a snowy night in Prague, Bond sits cloaked in shadow, waiting for his second victim to walk through the door. When he does, a remarkably blunt conversation takes place.

"How did he die?" asks Dryden, a high-ranking British official selling trade secrets.

The cold, icy stare from Daniel Craig's Bond tells us exactly what to expect from the latest man to wear the 007 mantle.

"Your contact? Not well," he says curtly before eliminating Dryden.

With this latest film, director Martin Campbell follows up the success he had with 1995's "GoldenEye" — the last great 007 adventure — by introducing us to the best Bond since Sean Connery left the franchise. Craig's unyielding intensity and physical prowess are on constant display here. Not coincidentally, "Royale" is also blessed with a charismatic and intelligent (two traits that have been in short supply with recent 007 damsels) Bond girl in Vesper Lynd (Eva Green), an imposing villain with Le Chiffre (Mads Mikkelsen) and the strongest plot since Pierce Brosnan's first outing.

With all these elements working in unison, "Casino Royale" will be remembered as the best action film of 2006, easily outstripping the vacuous (but entertaining) "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" and the dull (but heartfelt) "Superman Returns."

Sadly, "Royale" is the latest in a series of high-profile releases with sparse special features for truly memorable movies. Martin Scorsese's "The Departed" and Christopher Nolan's "The Prestige" both offered average

DVDs in their recent releases. Although it's nice to revisit these films so soon after their theatrical debut — supported by strong word of mouth and great critical and popular acclaim, "Casino Royale" lingered in theaters until late December — the DVD debut of "Royale" is a disappointing one.

It comes on a two-disc set labeled as a "special edition," but there's very little to celebrate with this release. The first disc houses the movie and little else. Fortunately, the DVD sports a sharp, vivid video transfer and a booming soundtrack to complement the many impressive set pieces in the film.

But while Campbell and Bond producer Michael G. Wilson recorded a stellar, always entertaining commentary track for "GoldenEye," they saw no need — or weren't allowed — to reprise their efforts here. Given the wealth of material to talk about with this film, it's a shame that Sony Pictures didn't seek out another commentary from the pair.

The second disc is not much better, offering only four bonus features that add up to 90 minutes of footage. Of the three documentaries, "Becoming Bond" is the most interesting one. The 26-minute feature has a misleading title as this feature covers more ground than just the selection of Craig for the role. It's an entertaining glimpse into the project's evolution but feels much shorter than its nearly half-hour running time.

The strongest detriment to this "Royale" DVD is that it falls far short of the exhaustive releases that the rest of Craig's counterparts have received. Even "Die Another Day," the disastrous 2002 Brosnan film, has hours of material on its second disc, perhaps underservingly.

Sony Pictures recently reissued all 20 former Bond films on DVD under the banner of "Ultimate Editions." These comprehensive and handsomely packaged releases have added luster to an already impressive Bond legacy that stretches from Connery to Craig.

Craig himself did his part with "Royale," which is easily the finest Bond film in years, perhaps even decades, largely due to his efforts. After acquiring MGM — the company that nourished 007 all these years — it's a shame that Sony hasn't honored Craig and "Royale" with the lavish treatment it so richly deserves.

Brian: "Casino Royale" was one of the biggest hits of 2006, both critically and commercially. It revitalized the Bond franchise and brought a new face to the character in the form of Daniel Craig, whose inspired turn promises to push the series in the right direction. Arriving on DVD in a two-disc special edition, "Casino Royale" will surely be a hit on home video, though the set itself leaves much to be desired.

The film follows Bond, a newly minted 00-agent, who is assigned to compete in a high stakes poker game against the French agent Le Chiffre who is funding terrorists. Along the way, he is introduced to Vesper Lynd, an accountant who introduces herself as "the money."

Appropriately enough, "Casino Royale" is based on the first Bond novel, written by British author Ian Fleming. It adheres more closely to its source material in both tone and characterization than any Bond film since "From Russia With Love," which is a welcome development. Bond is still suave and charismatic, but Craig inflects the character with an edginess and aloofness that suggests deep-rooted psychological problems — these problems manifest themselves in the form of violence, to which Bond seems to take a rather casual approach.

A lot of the trademarks of the franchise — Q, Moneypenny, etc. — are MIA, but they aren't really missed all that much. Craig has such commanding presence as Bond that he controls the film without needing much in the way of support. The support he does get, however, is quite good, especially from the always-game Judi Dench, who reprises her role as M, Bond's superior.

Bond films have a tendency to overstay their welcome, with bloated, excessive running times and an action sequence or two too many. A previous Observer review of the theatrical release noted that "Casino Royale" is also too long. But that comment should be rescinded. While the film is indeed quite long (144 minutes), it's also extremely engaging even in its quietest moments, and the pacing rarely flags.

"Casino Royale" comes to DVD in a widescreen two-disc special edition. There is also a fullscreen edition, which is essentially worthless, since the film makes full use of its long



Cover art courtesy of dvdtown.com

aspect ratio. The picture quality is quite good, with deep and accurate colors. The sound comes in a 5.1 Dolby Digital mix, which is full and immersive — this is a film that has a complex sound mix, and the audio comes through quite nicely.

The special features are sparse — there are three documentaries, only two of which are directly related to "Casino Royale." The first is a 26-minute look at the casting of Daniel Craig as Bond, which compares the actor to previous incarnations. The second is a 23-minute feature on the stunts and how they were performed. Finally, there's a 50-minute documentary on the Bond girls that has previously aired on AMC.

It's unfortunate that "Casino Royale" didn't get a classier release — the two-disc edition feels pretty standard, with none of the typical bells and whistles often associated with a big-time release. It's likely that a better release is somewhere down the road, perhaps when the next Bond film comes out.

Still, it's difficult not to recommend "Casino Royale" on DVD, simply because it's such a great movie. As a revitalizing next step in the Bond evolution, it stands as one of the great films in the franchise — no small feat considering the series' longevity.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumu@nd.edu and Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Daniel Craig arms himself with 007's trademark Walther PPK pistol in his first foray into the dangerous world of British superspy James Bond.

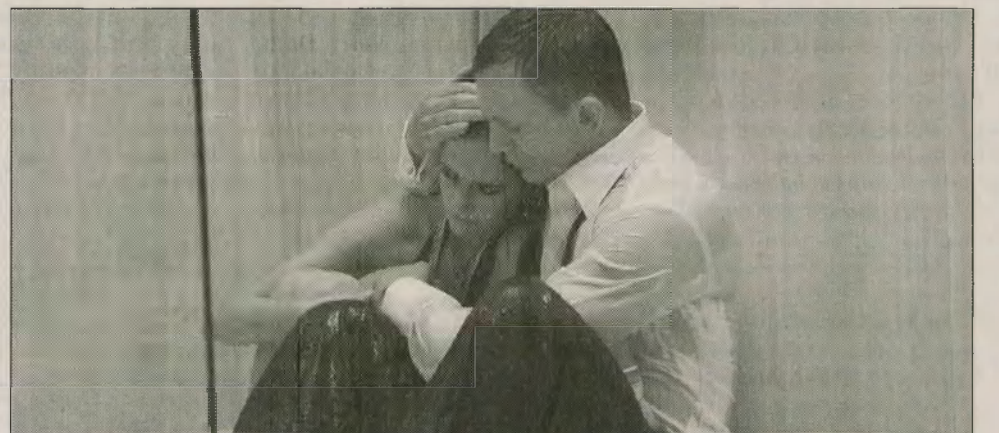


Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Bond comforts Vesper Lynd (Eva Green) after the pair survives a brutal attack from Ugandan warlords in the last Bond flick, "Casino Royale."

IRISH INSIDER

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

THE
OBSERVER

Notre Dame 2, Michigan 1

Jackson's five

Irish coach collects fifth CCHA title while leading Notre Dame to its first ever



Irish left wing Michael Bartlett looks over his shoulder at three Michigan defenders during a Notre Dame power play in the first period of the CCHA championship game Saturday night at Joe Louis Arena. The Irish defeated Michigan 2-1 in thrilling fashion, despite going 0-for-6 on power play attempts.

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

DETROIT — It was a great night for the Irish this St. Patrick's Day when Notre Dame won its first ever CCHA conference championship with a 2-1 victory over Michigan in a hostile Joe Louis Arena.

"It's been a long time coming, and it's something we've talked about since the time we came to Notre Dame," Irish center Jason Paige said. "It's just special to be a part of that."

Senior goaltender Dave Brown made 31 saves, including several big stops in the final two minutes, en route to being named the tournament's MVP. The Michigan goal was only the third that Brown allowed in four playoff games.

Wolverines netminder Billy Sauer also played outstanding between the pipes, with 35 saves, but one miscue in the final period cost him, and the rest of the

Michigan club, a chance at their seventh CCHA title.

With just under 10 minutes remaining in the game, sophomore left wing Garrett Regan skated over the blue line and fired a shot at the net. Sauer was able to make the initial save, but fumbled with the rebound when he tried to sweep it into the far corner. Paige seized the opportunity and slapped the loose puck past him to give the Irish the win.

"It means a lot, but it means a lot more to see our team win," Paige said. "One thing we did tonight in order to win was play as a team."

The Michigan native played after breaking his nose the night before in the semifinal matchup against Lake Superior State.

The Wolverines threatened late in the game when Notre Dame defenseman Tom Sawatske was called for cross-checking, but the No. 1 defense in the country was able to make yet another stand to secure the comeback.

Michigan got out to the early 1-

0 lead by scoring with only five seconds remaining in the opening stanza. After two initial saves by Brown, the puck squirted out to the high slot where left wing Kevin Porter buried a wrist shot in the top corner.

"Goals are precious in a game like this," Michigan coach Red Berenson said. "It was a game that took different directions, and I thought we had some really good chances in the first period, even though we were killing off penalties."

Porter and crew threatened several times throughout the period — they outshot the Irish 11 to nine and produced many more scoring chances.

The majority of those chances came for the Wolverines while on the penalty kill. The Irish power-play unit was swarmed by the aggressive, speedy Michigan forwards at the blue line. They created turnovers which quickly became odd-man rushes on the other end.

Senior forward David Rohlfs

came the closest to capitalizing on these chances when he rang a shot off the post five minutes into the game. Defenseman Jack Johnson also struck iron midway through the third on another short-handed rush for Michigan.

"I like to think of the posts as an extension of my equipment, hopefully they don't really have anything else to shoot at" Brown said.

The near miss brought all 16,481 fans to their feet as most thought the Wolverines had reclaimed the lead with Johnson's blast.

Notre Dame tied the score at 1-1 with four minutes remaining in the second period on Erik Condra's 15th goal of the year. Freshman Kevin Deeth started the play behind the net and shoveled a pass into the slot. The puck redirected off Michigan center T.J. Hensick's skate to Condra, who was waiting in front of the half-empty net.

The Irish dominated most of the second period, outshooting

the Wolverines 15-7 as their physical play began to wear down the faster Michigan club. Notre Dame's superior conditioning and discipline continued to show itself in the third period.

"Throughout the year we've given up goals and been down, but it seems like every time we come back," Condra said. "[Irish coach Jeff Jackson] keeps us calm on the bench, you can't get too high or too low."

Jackson's team controlled the pace of the game throughout the remainder of the contest until the final Michigan spurt.

The victory was Jackson's fifth conference title in his eight years behind a CCHA bench. He won the first four while coaching Lake Superior State in the early '90s. The two weekend victories brought Jackson's CCHA career playoff record to an unprecedented 28-4, two of those losses coming in previous title matches.

Contact Dan Murphy at
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player of the game

Dave Brown

The Irish goalie continued to show why he is a Hobey Baker candidate by shutting down the Wolverines all game long.

stat of the game

31

Saves made by Dave Brown, including five in the final two minutes of the game to secure a victory for the Irish.

play of the game

Jason Paige's game-winning goal

Broken nose and all, Paige grabbed a Garrett Regan rebound and wrapped it around Michigan's Billy Sauer for the eventual clincher.

quote of the game

"It's been a long time coming, and it's something we've talked about since the time we came to Notre Dame."

Jason Paige
Irish center

report card

B+ **Offense:** Two goals is a bit below par for the Irish forwards who are averaging 3.5 per game. However, they battled back and got the job done against a red-hot Billy Sauer.

A- **Defense:** Michigan is one of the most explosive offenses in the nation, and they are bound to get their chances. The Irish did a good job of containing the speedy Wolverines.

A **Goaltending:** Dave Brown bailed the Irish out many times during the contest with 31 huge saves and earned a perfect grade with an MVP performance Saturday.

C- **Power play:** Notre Dame was 0-for-6 on the night and also gave up multiple short-handed rushes. Two shots off the posts on these chances saved this grade from being much lower.

A- **Penalty Kill:** A lack of a power play was made up by the consistently stingy penalty killers, who kept Michigan from scoring on all five attempts — including one in the last two minutes of the game.

A **Coaching:** Saturday night was the official stamp of Jackson's two-year renovation of the Irish hockey program, turning a doormat into a national contender.

3.38 **overall:** A modest grade for a conference championship, but it passes against possibly the most offensively talented teams in the country — a great accomplishment.

Game statistics



player	goals	assists	PIM	shots	+/-
Jack Johnson	0	1	6	4	+1
Chris Summers	0	0	0	2	0
Steve Kampfer	0	0	2	1	-1
Matt Hunwick	0	0	2	0	+1
T.J. Hensick	0	1	2	3	0
Jason Dest	0	0	0	0	-2
Andrew Cogliano	0	0	0	0	0
Travis Turnbull	0	0	0	0	-1
Kevin Porter	1	0	2	4	0
Brian Lebler	0	0	0	3	0
Anthony Ciraulo	0	0	0	0	0
David Rohlf	0	0	0	5	0
Mark Mitera	0	0	0	2	-1
Tim Miller	0	0	0	2	-1
Brandon Naurato	0	0	0	1	-1
Chad Kolarik	0	0	0	5	0
Tim Cook	0	0	0	0	0
Danny Fardig	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1	2	14	32	-5



player	goals	assists	PIM	shots	+/-
Kyle Lawson	0	0	0	1	0
Brett Blatchford	0	1	0	0	+1
Noah Babin	0	0	0	1	0
Josh Sciba	0	0	0	0	0
Ryan Thang	0	1	2	2	+1
Justin White	0	0	0	0	0
Erik Condra	1	0	0	5	+1
Brock Sheahan	0	0	0	1	-1
Evan Rankin	0	0	2	2	+1
Wes O'Neill	0	0	0	2	+1
Tom Sawatske	0	0	2	0	+1
Kevin Deeth	0	1	0	3	+1
Jason Paige	1	0	0	4	+1
Mark Van Guilder	0	0	0	2	-1
Christian Hanson	0	0	0	4	-1
T.J. Jindra	0	0	4	2	0
Michael Bartlett	0	0	0	1	0
Garrett Regan	0	1	0	7	0
TOTALS	2	4	12	37	+5

Brown gives back to his blueliners



Senior defenseman Wes O'Neill and Michigan center Andrew Cogliano battle over a loose puck in front of the Wolverines net during Saturday night's championship in Joe Louis Arena, which the Irish won 2-1.

DETROIT — Notre Dame goaltender Dave Brown lifted the Mason Cup high over his head and then raised his eyes toward the rafters of Joe Louis Arena to give the league championship trophy a kiss. The rest of the Irish clamored to get a closer look and choked back victory sobs in an arena that has seen countless hockey legends weep at the sight of a silver bowl.



Kyle Cassily
Sports Writer

Only minutes before, Notre Dame had won its first-ever CCHA championship with a 2-1 game-for-the-ages victory over Michigan and celebrated by engulfing Brown — and his net — with a human tsunami that sent players, padding and pipes crashing into the boards. Helmets, glove and sticks burst so high out of the tidal wave that they might have brushed the Jumbotron sitting high above the ice in Hockeytown (right wing Evan Rankin still can't find one of his gloves). And in the middle of it all, crushed under a mob of Notre Dame sweaters, huddled a goalie who had just played his heart out in the biggest game of his life.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said after the game that Brown is as good a goaltender as he has ever coached — telling words from a man with two national and five league championships and a tendency to go light on the praise.

The Wolverines and their bullet-train fast offense bombarded Brown with 14 shots in the third period alone, which the senior gloved, blocked or smothered as part of his 31 saves in the game. And the Maize and Blue express charged down the tracks with no greater force than in the final two minutes of the game.

Irish defenseman Tom Sawatske was whistled for a cross-check with 1:53 remaining and the Wolverines threw out CCHA points leader T.J. Hensick's line out onto the ice along with the All-conference first-team defensive tandem of Jack Johnson and Matt Hunwick. All five Michigan players lined up for the power play were NHL draft picks. The Irish don't have five picks on

their entire roster.

Michigan left wing Kevin Porter broke through the Irish penalty kill from the start and backhanded a shot on Brown that the goalie squeezed between his pads, but not before he had to check behind him to see if the puck squeaked through. The Irish kill unit, backed by defensemen Wes O'Neill and Noah Babin, dumped the puck away from Brown and out of the zone several times as the Michigan-dominated crowd of over 16,000 drowned out the Joe.

But each time the Irish cleared the blue line, Hensick bore back into their zone and zeroed in on Brown. With 34 seconds left, Michigan worked the puck in front of Brown's crease, where — down in his butterfly stance — he scrambled to make several saves from point-blank range. Johnson took one last whack at the loose puck, but Brown smothered it, and the Irish got to take their own whacks at him after the buzzer sounded seconds later.

Not only in those helter skelter final minutes, but in a majority of the game, Notre Dame was forced for one of the few times this season to throw much of the burden on Brown, expecting him to emerge from the pile with puck in glove. And he did it again and again.

The senior Hobey Baker finalist entered into showdown after showdown with Hensick and the rest of the quick Michigan forwards, who wheeled past Irish defensemen that were left looking at maize-colored numbers.

Wolverines left wing Chris Summers and Hensick each had a small breakaway in the first period when they burst around the defense on odd-man rushes, but Brown played his angles well and the scoring chances were quickly stuffed. Brown even got a little luck of the Irish — in a game played on St. Patrick's Day — when Johnson dinged a slap shot off the right post six minutes into the third period in a 1-1 tie.

To be bailed out by Brown was a

role reversal of sorts for a Notre Dame defensive unit that allowed only 22.8 shots per game this season. In comparison, another top goalie in the country — New Hampshire's Kevin Regan — faces 32.7 shots per game from the opposition.

Standing on his head, Brown allowed the Irish offense time to pound away at Michigan goalie Billy Sauer, who looked nothing like the goaltender that surrendered 11 goals to Notre Dame in two regular season games.

And then nine minutes into the third period, Irish center Jason Paige capitalized on Sauer's only mistake when the goalie mishandled the puck in front of his own net right onto Paige's stick for the eventual game-winner. The goal was the capper to an Iron Man weekend for the alternate captain.

Paige broke his nose in the first period against Lake Superior State when his loose helmet cage was crushed back into his face — and was back in the game by the third period. The senior center's mug

looked like a bad Impressionist painting for the championship, with two midnight-black eyes and a red gash above the bridge of his nose, but — like Brown and the rest of the Irish — he came up big in arguably the most important Notre Dame hockey game in the program's history — for the time being.

Brown's name has been synonymous with Notre Dame hockey this season behind his stellar statistics and fluid style, but in reality, there has practically been a new hero each game for the Irish.

It was fitting that Brown elevated his game in the league championship to take another turn in the spotlight, and ironic that after the best game of his collegiate career, the masked face of Irish hockey couldn't be seen beneath a pile of champion Blue and Gold.

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

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Coach downs old team to reach championship

Defensemen O'Neill, Sheahan both score goals while shutting out Lake Superior State in semifinals

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

DETROIT — Notre Dame advanced to the CCHA championship with a 3-0 shutout of Lake Superior State — the team with which Irish coach Jeff Jackson first established his coaching credentials — in the league semifinals Friday at Joe Louis Arena.

"I'm awful proud of the fact [Lake Superior State] made it here again. I'll always feel that way," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Because [Lake Superior State] is part of my heritage — my hockey heritage."

The No. 1 and top-seeded Irish (30-6-3) moved on to their second-ever league championship after they defeated eighth-seeded Lake Superior State (21-18-3) with a little offense from the defense.

The Irish got a goal apiece from defensemen Wes O'Neill and Brock Sheahan — and an empty netter from center Christian Hanson — to defeat a Lakers team that was a week removed from a two-game upset of third-seeded Miami in the second round. Notre Dame's defense was forced to beat Lake Superior State goalie Jeff Jakaitis (26 saves) from the point, after the Irish offense was neutralized on every scoring chance deep in the Lakers' zone.

"We're playing teams that keep a lot of people back, and if you don't have your defensemen activate, you're not going to score," Jackson said. "Everybody has got four guys back in the neutral zone, five guys back. So if your defense don't activate, you're not scoring."

On the other end of the ice,

the Irish defense limited Lake Superior State to 17 shots, helping Notre Dame goalie Dave Brown earn his sixth shutout of the year, the 12th of his career — both Notre Dame records — and his first in the playoffs.

Despite facing only nine shots at the end of two periods, Brown was not cold in net when Lake Superior State challenged him with eight third-period shots. The senior Hobey Baker candidate made three consecutive saves with 11 minutes remaining in the game and then smothered a break-away from Lakers left wing Dan Eves to stave off the last Lakers' attacks and preserve the lead.

"David Brown has had one of the best seasons in the country," Jakaitis said. "He's one of the best in the country, the top player in our league."

Irish defenseman Wes O'Neill extended his playoff scoring streak with his goal at 9:46 of the first period on the power play to give Notre Dame the 1-0 lead. O'Neill beat Jakaitis high with a wrist shot from the low left point for his third goal of the season — one in each of this year's three playoff games. The Irish worked the puck around on the man advantage to left wing Mark Van Guilder inside the circle, who then backhanded the puck up to O'Neill for the shot.

"The main difference is just shooting the puck," O'Neill said of his hot stick. "Coach has been on me all year to shoot, shoot, shoot and finally the last couple games, I've been getting a couple more chances than I normally do."

Prior to O'Neill's goal, Jakaitis had stopped 88 of 90 shots faced, dating back to the



Senior defenseman Wes O'Neill and Lake Superior State center Nathan Perkovich battle in front of the Notre Dame net during the 3-0 Irish victory Friday in the CCHA semifinals.

first game of Lake Superior State's series against Miami. He made 81 total saves and allowed two goals in the Lakers two-game sweep of the RedHawks, including 44 stops in Lake Superior State's 2-1 series-clinching win Saturday.

"When you are going up against a good goaltender like Jakaitis, you have to make sure you shut them down, because you may only win one to nothing," Jackson said. "And that is just about what it was."

The Irish out-muscled a smaller Lake Superior State team and cordoned off the slot in their own zone, forcing the Lakers to make low-percentage shots from the outside.

Notre Dame added to

O'Neill's goal when Irish defenseman Brock Sheahan scored his third goal of the year and the second of the playoffs with a one-timer past Jakaitis at 8:46 of the second period for the 2-0 lead. Sheahan one-timed the shot low to Jakaitis' blocker side from the left point after Condra passed the puck out of a scrum in the left corner to the top of the Lakers' zone.

"I couldn't even see where Jakaitis was because of the traffic in front of the net," Sheahan said of his one-timer. "I was trying to shoot blocker side, and it happened to hit that guy off his leg and go blocker side."

The Lakers pulled Jakaitis

with three minutes remaining in the game and Hanson potted a shot into the empty net at 17:33 to pad the Notre Dame lead at 3-0 and earn his sixth goal of the season.

"[The Irish] have a lot of good things going for them right now, and it's not going to slow down," Lakers coach Jim Roque said. "Jeff [Jackson] is going to keep that thing rolling."

Notre Dame reached its first CCHA final in 1982 after it defeated Bowling Green 8-5 in the semis, before falling to Michigan State in the championship.

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Jackson wins second CCHA coach of the year award

Goaltender Dave Brown takes home player of the year honors, becomes Hobey Baker finalist on same night

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

DETROIT — Irish goalie Dave Brown and coach Jeff Jackson were named CCHA player and coach of the year at the league

awards show Thursday night at the Fox Theater in Detroit on the same day Brown was named as one of 10 finalists for the Hobey Baker Award.

It was the second coach of the year award for Jackson, who earned the honor in 1991 with

Lake Superior State, and the first CCHA player of the year award for an Irish player in school history.

The Hobey Baker Committee selected Brown to the group of 10 players under consideration for the highest trophy college hockey has to offer. It will be awarded April 6 at the Frozen Four in St. Louis. A selection committee made up of media, National Hockey League scouts and college hockey coaches will decide the three finalists March 28 for the award show at the Scottrade Center.

Jackson and Brown accepted the league honors back-to-back to close out an awards show that saw Irish freshman Ryan Thang miss out on rookie of the year to Western Michigan's Mark Letestu and defenseman Brock Sheahan lose out on best defensive defenseman to Michigan's Matt Hunwick. Brown was honored for his All-conference first-team selection along with three other Michigan players in the midst of a show that was dominated by Michigan highlight videos and honorifics.

Jackson took to the stage and began his acceptance speech with an update of the Michigan State-Marquette basketball game being played at the same time as the show — an acknowledgement of his school days spent in East Lansing. He then thanked his entire coaching and support staff before recalling a conversation he had with his "best friend," associate head coach Paul Pooley, right after he took the Irish job in May of 2005.

Pooley had asked him a simple question — could the two of them win at Notre Dame? Jackson confidently responded, that yes, with the quality of the Notre Dame student-athlete, they could take the program to the top. He then put the award in perspective with the player's accomplishments, before he called college hockey "the best place to be."

"The infusion of young players that had tremendous seasons, and, as I said, one of the best coaching staffs in the country, gave us the opportunity to build a special season," Jackson said in his speech. "And coach of the year is nothing more than team

of the year, in my opinion."

After the envelope for player of the year was opened and Brown's name was called, a brief highlight video of Brown's season prefaced his speech. Brown then stepped to the podium and pulled a prepared speech from his tuxedo jacket.

"I would not be here without the great support of my teammates, and I would like to recognize the outstanding dedication, commitment and play which all started in the early morning hours of this past June," Brown said. "I would like to personally thank Coach Jackson, who worked so closely with me throughout the past two years and spent countless hours dissecting the craft of goaltending by my side."

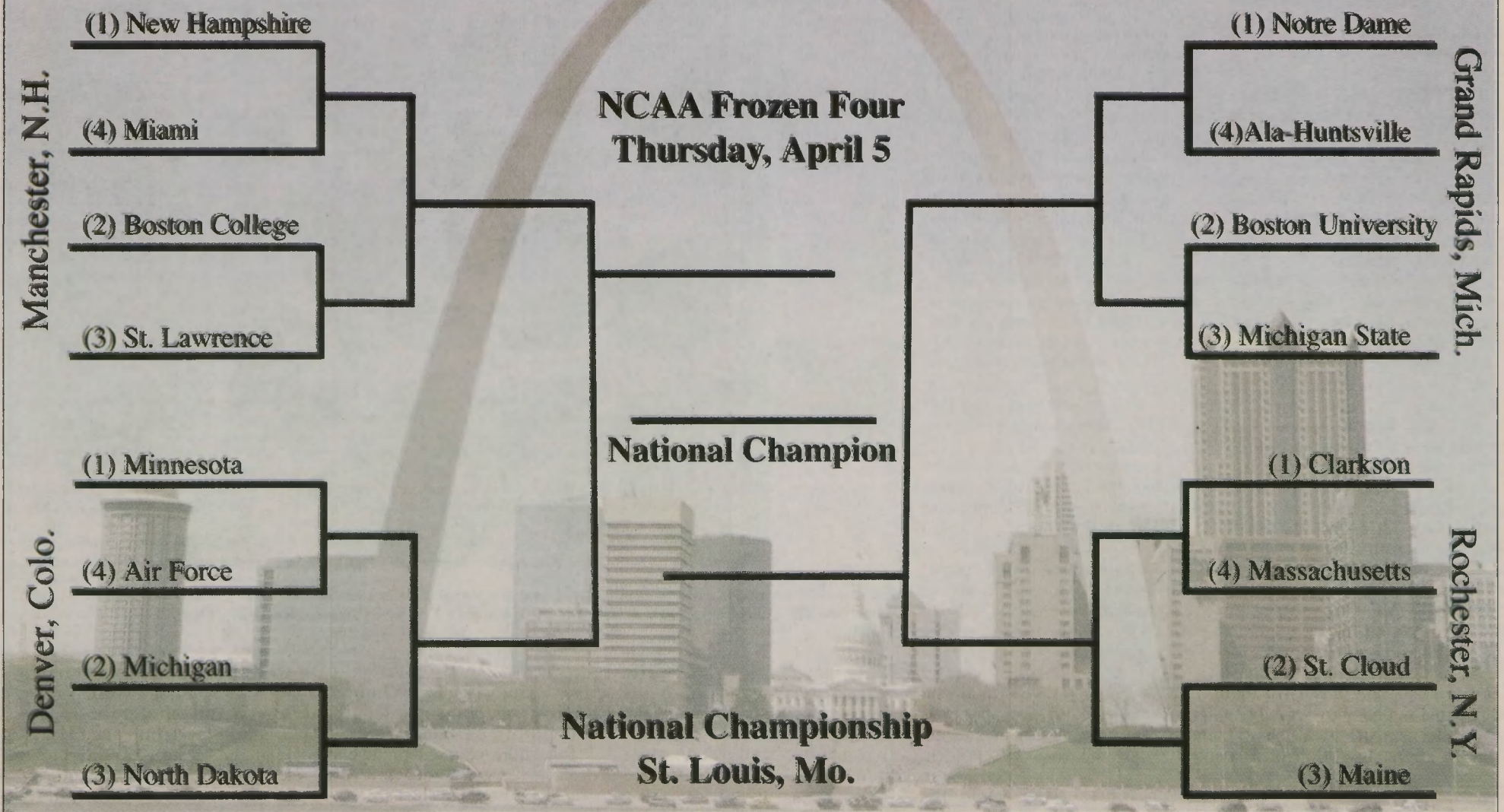
Irish freshmen Kevin Deeth, Kyle Lawson and Thang were given trophies for their selection to the league All-rookie team, and Brown was also named goaltender of the year. Prior to Brown's player of the year selection, only one Irish player had ever been named best in a league in school history, when forward Brian Walsh was named the WCHA's most valuable player in 1977.

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Senior goaltender Dave Brown became the first Irish player to take home the CCHA's player of the year award.

Men's Hockey NCAA Tournament



Irish offense too much for Nanooks in sweep

ND scores 10 goals in 2 games to advance to semifinals in Detroit

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame achieved its pre-season goal of reaching Joe Louis Arena and avenged an opening round loss in last year's playoffs to Alaska with a two-game sweep March 9-10 at the Joyce Center.

The No. 1 Irish advanced to the CCHA semifinals after 7-1 and 3-1 wins over Alaska in the second round of the playoffs, during which Notre Dame never trailed, was not out-shot and dominated man-advantage and man-down situations.

"[Notre Dame] was playing at a hundred miles per hour, and we were at fifty," Alaska coach Tavis MacMillan said. "It's tough to play against a team going twice as fast as you."

The Irish ensured that the ghosts of last season would not resurface when the Nanooks again lumbered into the Joyce Center for a playoff series, scoring five unanswered goals in the opening period of the first game. From there, Alaska managed to close the Irish lead to one goal only one more time, when the Nanooks made it a 2-1 game in the second period of the second game.

Irish right wing Erik Condra continued to create scoring chances and set up open teammates for goals — his hallmark in two seasons at Notre Dame — with five assists in two games.

The scoring was spread evenly throughout the rest of the Irish roster. Left wing Garrett Regan (two goals, one assist), center Jason Paige (one goal, one assist), center Kevin Deeth (one goal, two assists) and left

wing Ryan Thang (one goal, two assists) all contributed to the Irish scoreboard.

The Irish defense stonewalled the Nanooks offense like they have done to the opposition all season, but against Alaska they came alive offensively as well. Defensemen Wes O'Neill, Brock Sheahan and Kyle Lawson each scored at least once on Alaska goalies Wylie Rogers and Chad Johnson in the series.

"It's something we've kind of waited for a lot over the year," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said of the offensive defensemen. "These guys are the backbone of our team, them and [goalie Dave] Brown. They make the difference."

Brown padded his Hobey Baker stats with 37 saves in two games and surrendered one even-strength goal and one power play goal.

Notre Dame 7, Alaska 1

The Irish scored five goals in the opening period to put the Nanooks away before the game began.

O'Neill scored the first goal of the game — and his first of the season — at 3:06 into the first period. O'Neill received a pass in the left side of the high slot from Condra and beat Alaska goalie Rogers over his blocker for the 1-0 lead.

"Everybody joked with me [and] said, 'as soon as the playoffs start you'll start scoring them,'" O'Neill said.

The Irish beat Rogers three more times — on two goals from Regan and one from Sheahan — for the 4-0 lead before the Nanooks goalie was pulled from the game and replaced with Johnson at the 14:25 mark.

Paige then deflected a shot past Johnson only a minute later to welcome the new Alaska goalie to the Irish scoring onslaught and a 5-0 deficit.

"We just wanted to come in and get the forecheck going, and we were lucky to get a couple of bounces there," Regan said. "We were fortunate to get a couple goals early."

The Irish scored once in the second period at 16:14 for the 6-0 lead when Lawson broke down the right side of the ice and beat Johnson high on his glove side — yet another goal that began with a Condra pass. "There was a lot of talk," Condra said of on-ice communication between the Irish. "That's how I found guys open."

Irish left wing Mark Van Guilder gave Notre Dame the 7-0 lead with his power-play goal 58 seconds into the third period. Notre Dame worked the puck around the Nanooks zone several times before center Justin White found Van Guilder alone on the far post for a wide-open goal.

The Irish power play was 2-for-10 in the first game (4-for-16 on the series), while the penalty kill squashed five Alaska man-advantages in the first matchup and killed 10-of-11 penalties for the series.

Alaska scored its only goal of the game to make it 7-1 at the 4:41 mark of the third period. Nanooks defenseman Nathan Fornataro beat Brown high with a slap shot from the point through traffic.

Notre Dame 3, Alaska 1

Alaska came out faster and better able to withstand Notre Dame's attack in the second game, but two late first-period goals were enough to send the Irish to Detroit.

Thang and O'Neill connected on goals 1:23 apart in the last three minutes of the first period to give Notre Dame the 2-0 lead in a physical game played on slow ice.

Thang buried the puck into



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Irish forward Mark Van Guilder skates during Notre Dame's 3-1 win Dec. 2 over Alaska, one of their six wins over the Nanooks this year.

the open left side of the net after Rogers deflected a Deeth shot right onto his stick in the low slot at 17:19. O'Neill then deflected a slap shot from White on the point for his second goal of the year and the series.

"In the last month, [O'Neill] has been dominant," Jackson said. "He's been the player that I think I have always expected of him."

Alaska cut the game to 2-1 at the 10:20 mark of the second period with a goal from center Adam Naglich on the power play. Brown made the save on Naglich's wrist shot, but the puck jolted loose from his pads and bounded into the back of

the net.

"We were able to create more pressure and not allow them to come through the neutral zone so much," MacMillan said.

The Irish got an insurance goal from Deeth at 14:47 in the second period to put the game at 3-1. Defenseman Tom Sawatske ripped a high shot from the point that Deeth tipped out of the air toward the ice and past Rogers.

Both teams settled down to a paced, physical contest for the remaining period before the buzzer sounded and the Irish clinched a trip to Detroit.

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DVD REVIEW

'Robin Hood' fails to state case for animation excellence

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

As the first Disney animated feature to enter production after Walt Disney's 1966 death, "Robin Hood" illustrates perhaps better than any other film where the Disney studio faltered in the wake of its namesake's passing.

Looking back at the company's cartoon canon, it is rather remarkable to think that the loss of a single man could drain a legacy of magic from output collaborated on by hundreds of individuals. But the fact that "Robin Hood" is being released 33 years since it was first in theaters indicates that even if this 1973 feature can't claim the massive followings of either Walt's cherished classics or the late '80s/early '90s Renaissance musicals, it still is appreciated enough to justify a second DVD release — in its "Most Wanted Edition."

"Robin Hood" wasn't considered good enough by the studios to warrant one of the truly spectacular two-disc editions, and has instead been given only a single-disc upgrading. Although it is contained on just a single disc, there are enough

special features to distinguish its earlier DVD release. Most notably it comes with a deleted alternate ending, as well as a 1933 Mickey Mouse cartoon.

"Robin Hood" is an all-animal version of the much-adapted and well-known tale of a noble Englishman who robs from the rich to give to the poor. Robin Hood and Maid Marian are red foxes, Little John is a brown bear, Friar Tuck is a badger, Prince John is a lion, and so on. Though all the creatures are completely anthropomorphized, this production is still one of Disney's few animated features that avoids human characters altogether.

The minstrel rooster Allan-a-dale (who makes this one of the rare narrated Disney animated features) introduces the cast of characters at the start in a melody known as "Whistle-Stop" (sped up, the tune gained exposure as the music behind The Hamster Dance). From here, the movie progresses in a very episodic fashion. Robin Hood and Little John (who is anything but little) are portrayed as a laid-back, well-meaning duo. Their opposition is supplied by unquestionably evil authority figures: the tyrant Prince John and his often tied-up henchman (the snake Sir Hiss), as well as the unforgettable Sheriff of Nottingham.

Robin Hood and Little John don't do their business as Sherwood Forest's redistributors of wealth. The scheming is depicted in a broad and comedic manner and it represents one



Photo courtesy of disney.go.com

After 33 years, Disney re-released "Robin Hood" on a special DVD. Although considered a classic, the film is not one of Disney's most famous.

of several elements calculatedly thrown into the mix. Slapstick-fueled adventure derives from the central acts of acceptable robbery, as does some small-town drama. There is also a group of kid characters and a love story surrounding Maid Marian and Robin Hood. Individually, they all fall short of more inspired treatment seen in other Disney films. Together, the result is reasonably diverting, but mediocre and evidently disjointed.

One of the major highlights of the film is Peter Ustinov's funny embodiment of the thumb-sucking comic villain Prince John. The character is not just goofy and quirky like your typical cartoon comedy's villain; he's genuinely funny enough to produce laughs in adults. While the antagonist's mannerisms are meant almost purely to amuse, "P.J." emerges as the movie's most defined character

and he's just malicious enough to root against.

Most of the other characterizations aren't up to quite the same quality. Robin Hood is sufficiently charming, Maid Marian is a suitable love interest and Sir Hiss is an entertaining sidekick. Beyond that, the ensemble cast operates perfunctorily, with several characters being most identified by what other Disney character shares the same voice actor. Likable though he may be, Little John is essentially Baloo all over again, as Phil Harris' character from "The Jungle Book," who is even closely physically resembled here.

Although not one of Disney's best, it is still most certainly considered a classic, and is enjoyable especially for fans that grew up loving the movie.

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Robin Hood
Most Wanted Edition
Disney

Five clover icons

MOVIE REVIEW

'Silence' frightens not with horror but horrible dialogue

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Writer

"Dead Silence" follows Jamie Ashen, who becomes a widower at the beginning of the film when his wife is mysteriously killed. Jamie is concerned about weird coincidences, which include the arrival of a puppet called Billy, the day of the murder and that Jamie's wife seemed to talk to him moments before he discovered her body, despite the fact that her tongue was cut out.

Ignoring the assertion by Detective Jim Lipton (Donnie Wahlberg) that he's the prime suspect, Ashen returns to his hometown to try to search for answers, where he meets a predictably strange cast of characters — his father Edward (Bob Gunten), who has driven away almost every member of his family; his new stepmother Ella (Amber Valletta), who seems to be the only one capable of putting up with Edward; and undertaker Henry Walker (Michael Fairman), who seems to know the town's dark secret.

Jamie learns the legend of Mary Shaw

(Judith Roberts), a ventriloquist who was suspected of murdering a child who insulted the old woman's ventriloquism routine. The family of the child hunted down Shaw and killed her, cutting out her tongue in the process. Shaw was buried with her 101 puppets, but legend has it that her spirit returns to hunt down those who wronged her.

"Dead Silence" borrows heavily from a plethora of other horror films, including a credit sequence straight from "Se7en." It also has an almost-willful affinity for clichés — characters enter dark crawlspaces, go into creepy bedrooms after hearing strange noises and follow disembodied voices. Just how hard does "Dead Silence" work to get its scares? When a talking clown doll tells Jamie to come closer so it can tell him a secret, Jamie enthusiastically complies.

Actually, the scariest thing about "Dead Silence" is the horrendous dialogue, which sounds like D. Edward Wood Jr. wrote it on a bender. Co-authored by Wan and "Saw" scribe James Whannell, "Dead Silence" only has a few scenes of true dialogue, which are so cliché-ridden that they are laughable rather than scary.

The performances don't do much to help either. Few of the actors really distinguish themselves, especially Kwanten, who is largely forgettable in the lead role. In fact, the only one who has any charisma whatsoever is Donnie



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

"Dead Silence" stars Ryan Kwanten as Jamie Ashen. The movie, released by Universal Studios, centers around the mysterious death of Ashen's wife.

Wahlberg (the former New Kid on the Block, now better known as the less talented and less handsome older brother of Mark) as the cliché tough-as-nails Detective — but even his best lines sound ad-libbed. (When Jamie jumps into his car, Jim reluctantly gives chasing, quipping, "I don't have a full tank of gas!")

Predictably, "Dead Silence" has a plot twist (what horror film doesn't these days?), though here it's unexpected and genuinely chilling, which is a good thing. The whole enterprise is kind of creepy, but in a B-movie type of way. It's hard to tell if the makers of "Dead Silence" took themselves seriously (though they did cast Donnie Wahlberg) because the film definitely has its scary moments and its atmospheric look is surprisingly effective. Wan is, in ways, a better filmmaker than

might be expected, but the horrendous dialogue and plodding plot does him no service here.

"Dead Silence" isn't likely to cause a big splash in the horror film world — in fact, it's already seemed to come and go without much in the way of fanfare — and overall it's a pretty uninspired film. But there are worse ways to kill a couple of hours. It doesn't have an air of self-importance, and it trades gore for atmosphere, which is a welcome change of pace in modern horror. But it's a shame that those ingredients don't elevate "Dead Silence" from anything but a predictable B-film.

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Dead Silence
Universal Studios

Five clover icons

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Laxers go 2-1 over break

No. 6 Irish lose to No. 11 Syracuse after falling behind early

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

No. 6 Notre Dame (5-2) won two crucial away matches over spring break but dropped its Big East opener Sunday against No. 11 Syracuse (4-3) 16-13.

The Irish played from behind most of the game Sunday, as the Orange took a 4-0 lead early in the first half. Senior Meghan Murphy helped Notre Dame back into the game, scoring twice on a run that cut the deficit to 5-4. Sophomore Jillian Byers tied the match at six with two goals, but Syracuse countered to take a 7-6 lead into halftime.

The game remained close in a back and forth second half with the game tied at 13 and just over 10 minutes remaining. But the Irish were shut out down the stretch while the Orange rallied off three straight goals for the win.

"We knew it would be a very competitive game," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It was a must-win game for them and they came through at the fin-

ish."

The Irish were led by junior Caitlin McKinney, who tallied four goals and two assists in the losing effort. Murphy and Byers also contributed strong performances with three goals each.

Syracuse received huge offensive contributions from senior Ashley Pike with five goals and junior Bridget Looney with four. The Orange out-shot the Irish 37-24 on the afternoon.

Coyne said that the Irish will use the loss to help improve.

"This game exposed things we can improve on and will fine-tune before our next few games," she said.

In Notre Dame's first game of the break, the Irish routed Canisius 18-8 on the road. After the Griffins came out to a surprising start, the Irish countered with a nine-goal spurt that put the game out of reach.

Byers and McKinney, both pre-season All-league selections, continued their hot starts in Buffalo. Byers scored six goals and added two assists, and McKinney contributed

three goals and three assists. With the eight points on the game, Byers became the fastest Notre Dame player to reach the 100-point mark for her career, breaking the record set last year by McKinney.

The second game of the break let the Irish enjoy spring break in Florida before a game against No. 18 Yale. Sophomore Erin Goodman had a strong performance in goal, collecting 14 saves in the 9-7 Notre Dame win.

The Irish led 3-2 after a low-scoring first half, and the game remained close until the finish. Goodman's 11 second-half saves were key in the win. McKinney led the way once again, this time with three goals and an assist.

"The Yale game was just a complete team effort, and our best defensive game all season," Coyne said.

Next up for the Irish is a home match against Ohio State on Wednesday. The Buckeyes are 3-1 after an 8-4 win over Davidson on Sunday.

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"The Yale game was just a complete team effort, and our best defensive game all season."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

MEN'S GOLF

Clubbers finish second in California

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Led by senior Cole Isban and freshman Doug Fortner, the Irish turned in a runner-up finish in the Triumph at Pauma Valley in Pauma Valley, Calif., before taking sixth place at the Border Olympics in Laredo, Tex., later in the week.

Fortner finished fourth overall with a one-under par 212 at the Triumph. He then shot an eight-over par 224 at the Border Olympics.

"Doug played very well and upped his game a little," said Isban, a co-captain. "That's what we've been looking for from him."

Isban also turned in two

impressive performances, recording finishes of eighth and fifth overall. At the Border Olympics, his seven-under par 209 tied a 54-hole Notre Dame record. But Isban was disappointed with the overall Irish showing in Laredo. The Irish led midway through the second round before closing out poorly to end with the sixth-place mark.

"It's not exactly what we wanted," he said. "We were playing very well, leading the field, then we fell apart a little."

Before the week, Isban had said the Irish had an opportunity to win one of the tournaments over spring break. He is not satisfied with his team's performance.

"We felt alright about it but, all in all, it was nothing exceptional," he said.

The Irish did, however, post other exceptional individual performances. Senior co-captain Adam Gifford had a career-best showing at the Triumph, finishing in fifth at even-par 213. Sophomore Josh Sandman had his best tournament of the spring season at the Border Olympics, tying for 21st place with an even-par 216.

The Irish next return to the links for the Administaff Augusta State Invitational at Champions Retreat Golf Club in Evans, Ga., March 30-April 1.

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TRACK

Two Irish runners earn All-America honors

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Two of the six Irish runners at the NCAA Indoor Championships March 9 and 10 returned as All-Americans.

Senior 800-meter runner Thomas Chamney earned his third All-America recognition, placing eighth in the finals with a time of 1:50.74 and scoring the lone Irish point of the meet in Fayetteville, Ark. Junior miler Jake Watson placed 10th in the finals with a time of 4:03.97, garnering his first All-America honor.

"He's thrilled," Notre Dame coach Joe Plane said of Watson. "To be one of the top ten in the country is pretty incredible."

The All-America recognition goes to the top eight finishers as well as the top eight U.S. citizens. Although Watson finished 10th, he was the eighth American runner to finish.

"We knew it driving over that if he finished the race he'd be an All-American," Plane said. "In the final there were 11 guys, three of whom were foreigners. There was no way he couldn't be an All-American."

When he earned the honor, Watson joined his older brother Luke, who was a six-time All-American at Notre Dame from 1999 to 2002. This is the first time in Notre Dame's 117-year track and field history that two siblings have each received All-America honors.

Chamney's road to All-America status was a tough one — he battled sickness before and during the meet.

"We think it was the flu," Plane said. "He was definitely, definitely sick. He ran the trials and was on all fours afterwards."

Chamney ran the 800 in 1:49 — an unusual time for him. "For [Chamney], 1:49 is like

you or I going to the cafeteria," Plane said. "He said he was feeling a lot better on Saturday, but you could see by the 500-meter mark he was struggling a little bit."

Both runners have worked hard to achieve the level of success they've enjoyed, but they got there in different ways.

"Chamney's worked hard from the minute he stepped on campus," Plane said. "Watson had a pretty good freshman year, a good half of sophomore year and then the

light just went on." Plane thought the spark could have come from a good performance during Watson's sophomore year.

"Maybe he just had one good race and then thought, 'If I work pretty hard, I could be a great one,'" he said.

The Irish distance medley relay fell just short of earning All-America status along with Chamney and Watson. The team, composed of junior Adam Currie, senior Ryan Postel, junior John Cavanaugh and senior Todd Ptacek, finished ninth with a time of 9:42.13 — just 0.32 seconds behind Texas, which finished eighth.

Ptacek moved from the 1,200-meter segment to the mile segment to replace Watson, and Currie took Ptacek's place in the 1,200-meter segment.

"I wanted to give Watson an opportunity to run totally fresh in the mile," Plane said. "He would have had to run prelims in the mile and then following that was the distance medley. I don't think we lost anything by putting Currie on the front. We may have lost a little bit putting Todd on the back. He's a 4:04 miler, he ran a 4:05. I can't complain, he did a really good job. We just missed by 18 inches getting four more All-Americans."

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"There was no way he couldn't be an All-American"

Joe Plane
Irish coach,
on junior Jake Watson

"Chamney's worked hard since the minute he stepped on campus."

Joe Plane
Irish coach

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AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Toronto	36-31	24-15	5-5
New Jersey	31-36	21-17	4-6
New York	30-36	19-22	5-5
Philadelphia	26-41	15-22	7-3
Boston	20-46	12-26	6-4

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Detroit	42-23	6-5	6-4
Cleveland	41-25	7-5	9-1
Chicago	39-29	9-3	7-3
Indiana	30-35	7-5	1-9
Milwaukee	25-41	1-12	6-4

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Washington	36-28	23-16	5-5
Miami	36-30	20-17	9-1
Orlando	31-37	18-22	3-7
Atlanta	26-41	14-26	4-6
Charlotte	24-43	15-22	2-8

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Utah	43-23	25-12	6-4
Denver	33-31	17-22	7-3
Minnesota	28-37	16-24	3-7
Portland	26-40	16-24	2-8
Seattle	26-40	13-24	4-6

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Phoenix	50-16	25-11	7-3
L.A. Lakers	35-32	21-16	3-7
Golden State	32-36	19-20	6-4
L.A. Clippers	30-36	16-23	3-7
Sacramento	29-37	14-23	5-5

Western Conference, Southwest Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Dallas	54-11	33-8	8-2
San Antonio	46-20	28-11	8-2
Houston	42-25	21-19	7-3
New Orleans	29-37	16-23	2-8
Memphis	17-50	9-29	2-8

NCAA Div. I Women's Tennis Fila/ITA Rankings

	team	points	prev.
1	Stanford	25	1
2	NOTRE DAME	24	2
3	Georgia Tech	23	3
4	Florida	22	4
5	North Carolina	21	7
6	Northwestern	20	6
7	California	19	9
8	USC	18	5
9	Miami	17	8
10	William & Mary	16	12
11	Duke	15	11
12	Clemson	14	13
13	Baylor	13	10
14	VCU	12	14
15	UCLA	11	15

NBA



Miami's leading scorer Dwyane Wade dislocated his shoulder on Feb. 21 but delayed surgery in hopes of rejoining the team this season. The Heat have stayed in the playoff race, but Wade is unsure when he will return.

Fate of Wade's season still unknown

Associated Press

MIAMI — Dwyane Wade sat before a bank of microphones on March 5, saying he would need at least two weeks of rehabilitating his dislocated left shoulder before deciding whether to return to the Miami Heat this season.

It's been two weeks. Still, no one knows for sure when the NBA finals MVP will be back.

And if a timetable exists, Wade isn't saying just yet.

"Physically, I'm doing good," Wade said Monday on a conference call to announce his plan for upgrading his old high school gym at Richards High in Oak Lawn, Ill., a Chicago suburb. "I've been working out every day and doing what

they're telling me to do. So I'm doing all right."

Somewhat surprisingly, so are the Heat — who, even without their leading scorer, have rallied nicely to rise in the Eastern Conference playoff chase.

Miami lost 97-83 to Orlando on Sunday, a defeat that halted winning streaks of nine straight overall and 14 in a row at home — both were the longest current runs in the NBA. But even with that defeat, the Heat have gone 10-3 since Wade got hurt.

"I see him on the court every day," Heat coach Pat Riley said. "He seems to be progressing. They're advancing with their drill work and he's got the heavy ball, how high he can get his arms up and stuff. He feels

stronger, but we won't know for a while when, exactly, the day will come when he'll start to play — so we're not even thinking about it right now."

When Wade got hurt, he had two options: Rehab or surgery.

He chose rehab, with the hopes of returning sometime this season, but with the caveat that season-ending surgery remains a possibility if the shoulder doesn't get strong enough to allow him to play. And after one of his first workouts after the rehab regimen started, he realized how difficult getting ready again will be.

"It was rough, and right then, I thought surgery might not have been that bad," Wade said. "It's hard work, but if I can get back, then it'll be worth it to

me to go through it all."

Wade was averaging 28.8 points when he got hurt, and at the time, the Heat were on the playoff bubble. But now they're firmly in the mix for an Eastern Conference postseason spot, plus have climbed within one game of Washington in the Southeast Division race.

And teammates, while acknowledging they don't know when it will happen, still insist they expect Wade back.

"With our No. 1 option out, Pat asked me to use my experience and get everyone involved," Heat center Shaquille O'Neal said. "We've got a lot of veterans who know what to do when it's time to step up, and when we get our No. 1 option back we'll be ready."

IN BRIEF

21 arrested after high school basketball game

NEW YORK — Fights between fans during a championship high school basketball game at Madison Square Garden turned into a melee that spilled into the streets and subways, drawing police on horseback and in riot gear.

Gunfire was heard as the crowd went from the arena Sunday night to Times Square, but no injuries were reported, police said.

About 21 people, mostly teenagers, were arrested, police said. Some were charged with disorderly conduct or resisting arrest and one was arrested on a riot charge.

A 17-year-old boy was arrested at a subway station on a charge of criminal possession of a weapon. He may have fired the shots, police said.

A WCBS-TV camera crew inside the arena caught images of fights breaking out in the stands, including a girl slapping a boy, who then swung around and hit her. Other boys jumped him, and police broke up the fight.

No criminal charges filed against Simon for on-ice hit

MINEOLA, N.Y. — New York Islander Chris Simon, suspended for a league-record 25 games for a vicious on-ice hit, will not face criminal charges.

Nassau County District Attorney Kathleen Rice said her office considered "the willingness of the potential victim to support a criminal prosecution" and other factors in reaching its decision.

The NHL suspended Simon for his two-handed stick attack to the face of the New York Rangers' Ryan Hollweg during a March 8 game at the Nassau Coliseum.

Hollweg, who needed a few stitches on the chin but was not seriously hurt, met with prosecutors from Rice's office last week but told reporters afterward that he didn't think Simon should be arrested.

"They asked me if I wanted to, but I told them I didn't want to press charges," he said. "I'm not happy about what he did, but I want to focus on making the playoffs. I just want to move on."

Best friends Howland and Dixon to meet in tournament

PITTSBURGH — Ben Howland and Jamie Dixon promised to never schedule this game, even though they always secretly hoped it would happen.

UCLA vs. Pitt, in the NCAA tournament. Head coach vs. former assistant. Best friend vs. best friend. Howland's old team taking on his current team, and possibly the only school he would have left Pitt to coach.

The matchup divides even the two households — Howland's daughter, Meredith, missed Pittsburgh and her friends so much after moving to the West Coast in 2003 that she returned six months later, re-enrolled in Pitt's nursing program, moved in with the Dixons and became a cheerleader.

Because of their friendship, Howland and Dixon always insisted this game would occur only in the NCAA tournament, and now it takes place Thursday night in San Jose, Calif., as part of the West Regional semifinals. In Pittsburgh, it's the game many have waited four years to see.

around the dial

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Notre Dame vs. North Carolina
9:30 p.m., ESPN2

NBA
Denver at New Jersey
7 p.m., TNT

Indiana at Houston
9:30 p.m., TNT

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish prepare for start of league play

Team awaits rematch against conference nemesis Bellarmine

By PAT O'BRIEN
Sports Writer

No. 19 Notre Dame (3-3) kicks off Great Western Lacrosse League (GWLL) play with a home matchup today at 4 p.m. against league newcomer Bellarmine (1-4). The Irish and the Knights met last season in Louisville when Notre Dame prevailed in an 8-2 match.

But Notre Dame enters having dropped three of its last four contests, including losing games to top-15 opponents Cornell and North Carolina. After the tough 13-8 and 11-8 losses, respectively, the Irish handily defeated Drexel before being edged out by Dartmouth, 7-6, this Saturday.

In the contest against Drexel, sophomore attacker Ryan Hoff tied the Notre Dame record of seven goals in a game. Hoff is second this season in total goals, behind senior attacker Brian Hubschmann. Hoff has netted 13, and Hubschmann has 15. Freshman attacker Will Yeatman leads the Irish in total points (20) and assists (11). Junior goaltender Joey Kemp is credited with all six decisions for the Irish. He holds an 8.39 goals-against average and a .561 save percentage.

Hoff, Yeatman, and senior midfielder Bill Liva were the Irish point leaders in the game against North Carolina. Hoff netted two goals while Yeatman recorded a goal and two assists of his own. Liva scored once and added an assist.

In the loss to Dartmouth, Hubschmann paved the way for the Irish with three goals and an assist. Yeatman had another solid day with an assist and

goal, senior attacker John Greaney scored his first goal of the season and junior midfielder Michael Podgajny added a score. Junior attacker Alex Wharton also helped out with two assists. Dartmouth (1-3) was led by Ari Sussman, who netted three goals. Nick Bonacci added two goals and two assists of his own in a game that featured few attempts on the net. Notre Dame edged Dartmouth 25-22 in shots.

Notre Dame will try to bounce back from its spring break valley when the Knights come to town. The Irish look to continue their dominance of the GWLL over the last 12 years. Notre Dame is 46-9 all-time in GWLL play, with nine league titles.

"This is a pretty important game," Hubschmann said. "This starts league play — the five most important games of the season. [Bellarmine] has

many Canadians on their roster, so they play with a different style. It will be a good game to watch."

This game marks the first time since the season opener that the Irish have a chance to play at home. They won their opener against Loyola (Md.) by a tally of 9-7, and hold an eight-game winning streak in South Bend.

"It's nice to be back in front of a home crowd again," Hubschmann said. "I get to sleep in my own bed."

Bellarmino is led by Ray Finnegan, who heads the Knights in the three major offensive categories — Finnegan has 15 points, eight goals, and seven assists. The Knights finished 7-8 last season, and they look to bounce back from a 9-8 loss at No. 18 Brown on March 13.

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SMC GOLF

Golfers place sixth at Myrtle

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Despite coming off a successful training trip, Saint Mary's faltered this weekend in the Fairfield Invitational in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

The Belles finished sixth with a two-round combined total of 834 strokes, or 258 over par, in their first tournament of the spring season.

Junior Katie O'Brien led the Belles, finishing 24th overall with a two-round score of 191. Sophomore Meredith Fantom finished 26th with a 197.

Several variables may have factored into the sixth-place performance.

"I think if you look at all the scores in general from all of the teams, all of the teams shot 10 to 15 percent higher than they normally score," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "We were playing a lot of northern teams so it was everybody's first competitive rounds. Weather was an issue, we had to play in some downpour and some cold weather."

The length of the course not only made it more difficult but also changed the course management strategies the players employed.

"The course played about 6,000 yards, which is about 200 yards longer than we're normally used to playing," Hamilton said. "And then there were a lot of dogleg holes or hazards in the landing area, so you couldn't hit a driver off the tee. That lent itself to having longer approach shots, and we struggled with that a little bit."

Despite the scores, the team displayed some strong aspects of play.

"I felt like we actually struck the ball pretty well," Hamilton said. "We just kind of struggled with the conditions and being our first tournament of the year, we had some first-tee jitters, but I think the ball-striking we did quite well."

The tournament also highlighted the areas of the Belles' game that require improvement, such as mid-range pitches that caused Saint Mary's some trouble.

"We had some issues with our 20, 30 and 40-yard shots, probably because the dormant grass down there makes those shots very hard, but we need to work on those anyway," Hamilton said.

Aside from pitching, Saint Mary's putting was another area that the Belles will seek to improve in the spring season. It may have been related to the short game — Hamilton said the pitches needed to be closer to the pin.

The team that played was a young one — one freshman and four sophomores made the trip. The youth not only put pressure on the inexperienced players themselves, but also on the older players also to pick up their game.

"There were a couple players, who it was really their first time knowing their score was going to count," Hamilton said. "And then the other players, knowing that they had to step up to make up ground, put a little more pressure on them too. Everyone was feeling a little more pressure than normal."

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FENCING

Team will again send 11 to Championships

By **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Writer

Much as it did two seasons ago en route to a national championship, Notre Dame qualified 11 of the maximum 12 fencers to the NCAA Championships, which begin Thursday in Madison, N.J.

The Irish captured two individual titles at the Midwest Regional March 10, with nine additional fencers finishing well enough to qualify for the four-day competition at Drew University.

Sophomore foilist Adi Nott and freshman epeeist Kelley Hurley continued their dominance of their respective weapons, cruising to crowns.

Hurley beat Ohio State's Leslie Lampman 15-5 in the final, while Nott took an individual crown for the second straight week with an 8-6 win over Northwestern's Samantha Nemecek.

Nott credited first-year Irish assistant coach Gia Kvaratskhelia with much of her improvement.

"Since Gia got here, he's really helped a lot with my footwork," she said. "He always makes your legs feel strong the whole [bout]."

Nott will be joined in New Jersey by fellow foilist sophomore Emilie Prot. After an early-season appendectomy, Prot entered the Midwest Regional as the 3-seed but lost in the quarterfinals. In the bracket for fifth place, she won the first bout before storming

back from a 10-7 deficit to beat Ohio State's Holly McKibben 15-12.

"This season was really tough because ... I had my surgery," she said. "[This was] my year to qualify. I had some good bouts, but others were not so nice."

Irish senior Valerie Providenza finished third in the women's sabre, qualifying her for a spot in New Jersey. Sophomore Ashley Serrette finished sixth but earned a berth to the NAAs, as Ohio State had three sabreists in the top five.

On the men's side, Irish sophomore Bill Thanhouser took second in the men's sabre, followed by his teammate, senior Patrick Ghattas, in third. Irish senior Matt Stearns beat fellow senior Ryan Bradley for fifth place, but the two-person limit per team per weapon eliminated Stearns from the national competition.

"We have a really tight team," Thanhouser said. "It really is just luck of the draw what happens."

In men's epee, Notre Dame qualified sophomore Karol Kostka and junior Greg Howard, who finished third and fourth, respectively.

Irish junior Jakub Jedrkowiak, who finished second, and sophomore Mark Kubik, who finished fourth, both qualified in men's foil.

Ohio State also qualified 11, while Columbia, Penn State and St. John's qualified 12 fencers at other regional events.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 2 Irish continue to roll

By **CHRIS HINE**
Sports Writer

Whether they play indoors or outdoors, the results are the same for the Irish.

No. 2 Notre Dame defeated No. 29 BYU 5-2 in an indoor match March 10, then dinged No. 23 Duke 4-3 March 15 and No. 19 Tennessee 6-1 March 16 in a pair of outdoor matches in San Diego, Calif.

"This was a great trip for us," Notre Dame coach Jay Louderback said. "There were two tough things we knew going into [it]. One was the altitude [against BYU] and it was good for us to have to handle that."

"The other was to play our first outdoor matches. We hadn't played any outdoors yet. For us to have to go outdoors for the first time, it was very good for us."

The Irish (15-1) took care of the No. 29 Cougars despite losing the doubles point for just the third time all season. The No. 5 ranked duo of seniors Christian and Catrina Thompson dropped their match against BYU's Anastasia Surkova and Jenny Miccoli 8-3. The Thompsons also lost against Duke's No. 36 pairing of Daniela Bercek and Melissa Mang.

Christian Thompson also dropped all three of her singles matches during the week.

"She had a rough week but played OK, especially against Duke," Louderback said. "She was up and probably should have won."

But Christian Thompson's teammates picked up the slack.



LINDSAY POULIN/The Observer

Senior Catrina Thompson serves in a 5-2 Irish victory over Texas A&M March 3 at the Eck Center.

Junior Brook Buck clinched the win against the Cougars with a 6-4, 6-1 victory over Dolly Chang. Buck captured her three singles matches last week from the No. 6 position to improve her record to 11-1 in dual match play.

Buck's win over Duke's Clelia Deltour played an important part in Notre Dame's victory over the Blue Devils. The Irish captured the doubles point despite the Thompsons' loss at No. 1 and overcame a slow start in the singles as Buck and Catrina Thompson won their matches early to give Notre Dame a 3-1 lead.

"At one point it looked like it was going to be 6-1 us, but the Duke kids fought hard," Louderback said.

Duke (18-7) needed the remaining three matches to win, and it almost got them. No. 108 Mang downed No. 89 Christian Thompson (1-6, 6-4, 7-5) and Duke freshman Amanda Granson defeated Irish sophomore Kelcy Tefft (6-1, 1-6, 6-4) to tie the score at three.

"[Duke] stayed in it and all of

a sudden it was down to one match," Louderback said.

With the match on the line, Notre Dame freshman Cosmina Ciobanu responded. Ciobanu fought back after dropping the first set (2-6) in her match against Blue Devils junior Tory Zawacki to take the second set, 6-2. Then with her match tied 5-5 in the third set and the overall score knotted at three, Ciobanu took the final two games to win the match and give Notre Dame the victory.

"Duke is ranked 23 but they're a top-15 team," Louderback said. "They just haven't played a lot of good teams yet. Their schedule is tougher at the end of the year when they play all of the ACC teams. They'll be a top 15 school. They're very good and for us to go beat them, outdoors — they've been outside some."

Ciobanu improved her dual match record to 16-0 against Tennessee as she defeated Vicky Jones 6-2, 6-0. No. 27 Catrina Thompson also picked up her third match of the week with a 6-0, 6-3 win over Volunteer senior No. 22 Blakeley Griffith. For the season, Catrina Thompson is now 13-3 in dual matches from the No. 1 slot.

"She played very well [against] Griffith. She's a very, very good player," Louderback said.

Up next for Notre Dame is Wisconsin Thursday in Madison.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish see mixed set of results

Nakazaki leads the team in two Spring Break tournaments

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Notre Dame stayed active over spring break.

The Irish started slowly at the UNLV Spring Invitational on March 12, finishing the first two rounds in 17th place, but they carded a season-best five-over-par 293 to end in 15th with an overall score of 906 (42-over). No. 14 BYU won the tournament with a 17-under par 847.

Wednesday's team total of 293 matched the program's third-lowest 18-hole score since the second round of the 2004 Big East Tournament.

Senior co-captain Noriko Nakazaki led the Irish with a 44th-place finish with an

overall with a score of 224 (75-73-76). Irish freshman Julie Kim matched sophomore Lisa Maunu's mark of 229 and tied for 65th. Maunu tied freshman Kristin Wetzel with a third-round 72, the team's best mark. Wetzel ended the tournament in a tie for 81st, shooting a 233 (81-80-72). Freshman Annie Brophy shot her best round of the season on Wednesday with a 1-over par 73, leaving her in a tie for 68th with a total of 230 (76-81-73).

Notre Dame then traveled to Texas for the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational in Austin. The Irish started strong in the first round and eventually placed 8th with a mark of 937 (314-315-308). No. 18 Purdue made a late surge and captured the title in Austin with a tournament-best round of four-over-par 292. The Boilermakers' final-round performance erased an 8-stroke deficit.

Despite the team finish,

Nakazaki once again shot well, leading the Irish with a 223 (75-75-73) — good enough for a sixth-place tie. Her three round total marked the fourth time the senior has finished in the top-10 this season.

Brophy finished in a tie for 20th with a 233 (78-79-76), marking her highest overall placing and best 54-hole total of the season. Kim started the tournament with two consecutive rounds of 10-over par 82 but finished with a 77, leaving her with a total of 241 in a tie for 48th.

Wetzel finished the tournament with a score of 242 (80-79-83), placing her in a tie for 54th, while Maunu's mark of 245 (81-82-82) placed her in a tie for 61st.

Notre Dame's heads to Indianapolis for the Indiana Invitational hosted by Crooked Stick on April 9-10.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles dominate on way to early 9-1 mark

By REBECCA SLINGER
Sports Writer

The Belles left no question of their dominance over spring break, beating nine teams and dropping only one game in Ft. Myers over five days.

On their opening day on Sunday, the team beat Montclair State 3-1 and pummeled Mount Ida 13-4. Sophomore pitcher Kristen Amram gave up only two hits, and sophomore Ashley Fusaro hit a home run on her first pitch in the Belles' triumph over Montclair. Junior captain McKenna Corrigan and Laura Helene also scored a run each in the win.

Saint Mary's continued its show of power Monday, posting wins over Curry (21-1) and Nichols (19-0).

Sophomore pitcher Calli Davison gave up only two runs, while sophomore Cathy Kurczak

went 3-for-3 at the plate. Corrigan, Davison, Fusaro, freshman Ashley Peterson and senior Sarah Miesle all contributed with runs against Curry. In their second game, the Belles ripped through Nichols with the aid of pitcher Kristin Amram throwing a five-inning no-hitter, the second of her career.

The Belles followed up the nono with an 8-4 win over New England College. Davison showed she has power not only from the mound but also from behind the plate, going 3-for-4. Amram pitched in the Belles second game on Tuesday, leading the team over Ohio Wesleyan with 14 strikeouts in a 5-0 win.

Saint Mary's dropped its only one game of the week in a 3-2 contest against Illinois College Wednesday. Amram surrendered only three hits but walked six batters, while sophomore Katie Rashid contributed two runs and freshman Maureen Healy went 3-for-4.

Saint Mary's will look to build off its loss to Illinois.

"The Illinois game was a tough loss for us, but a good one," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "We were 6-0, and a lot of the teams were gunning for us. We had a few calls go against us, but the team fought back after each negative situation."

In their second game of the day, the Belles avenged the loss to Illinois by beating Blackburn College in an 8-4 decision. Davison struck out seven, while Fusaro blasted two homers and Peterson added one of her own.

The Belles posted wins over North Park University (6-2) and No. 24 Transylvania (6-1) in their last two games. Davison threw for the win against North Park, finishing the week with a 5-0 record. Kurczak, Rashid and Corrigan all went 2-for-3 with Rashid and Corrigan both added homers. Amram improved her record to 4-1, recording 13 strikeouts against Transylvania.

Sullivan is confident a 9-1 start is just the beginning of the dominance the Belles will show this season.

"They more than met my expectations," she said. "We played our game throughout the entire trip ... which showed how mentally tough we are. After having won those games and dominated some of the teams ... I'm very confident going into our conference season."

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ND SWIMMING

Katie Carroll earns All-America honors

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will be losing one of the program's greatest swimmers, but senior captain Katie Carroll left her coach and teammates with a vintage performance at the NCAA Championships held March 8-10 at the Minnesota Aquatic Center.

Swimming for the final time in her Irish career, Carroll earned All-America honors in the 400-yard IM, honorable mention All-America honors in the 200 butterfly, and she had a hand in all five of Notre Dame's top-20 finishes during the meet.

Carroll garnered her All-America status by finishing seventh with a time of 4:12.47. Carroll's performance in the 400 IM helped her achieve her second career All-American honor. Her first such honor came in 2005 when she finished seventh in the same event.

"It was a good way to go out," Carroll said. "It means I finished swimming my best times. I wanted All-American honors in all three of my races, but it was good to get the honor again after getting it my sophomore year."

Carroll's honorable mention All-America honor came in the 200 butterfly, where she finished No. 12. In the preliminaries, Carroll touched the wall in a school record time of 1:57.58, besting former Irish standout Lisa Garcia's 2002 time of 1:58.39, before Carroll's finals time slowed to 1:58.10.

Overall for the meet, Carroll competed in seven events netting the top-10 finish in the 400 IM, three top-15 finishes and five top-20 finishes. Carroll will now turn her

attention on training for the 2008 Olympics, and she leaves having left her mark on the younger swimmers.

"I hope I was a good leader," Carroll said. "I hope I taught the other girls how to train hard and how to rise to the occasion."

As a team, Notre Dame's performance at the NCAA Championships was full of mixed results. Despite sending the second largest number of participants in the program's history — eight — the Irish fell well short of meeting the program's record for points in the N C A A Championships of 52 set in 2002. This year's squad tallied 25 points

which was good for 27th in the country.

Notable performances included a 34th-place finish in the 200 freestyle by sophomore Christa Riggins. Her time of 1:48.46 was the third-fastest in the program's history. The 800 freestyle relay team of Riggins, Carroll, freshman Megan Farrell and senior Ellen Johnson entered the meet ranked No. 14 nationally and improved upon that ranking, touching the wall with a time 7:14.91 — good for 13th.

Overall, the team's performance was a marked improvement over last year, when the Irish qualified only three women to participate in the meet.

"It was good to have four underclassmen at the meet as it helped them get their feet wet and get used to the experience," Carroll said. "It really gave them a confidence boost to know that they can compete with the best."

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"I hope I was a good leader."

Katie Carroll
Irish senior swimmer

ROWING

Irish perform well against strong squads

No.11 team holds its own in intense week

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

After over a week of intense training, Notre Dame concluded its spring break with strong performances in regattas against No. 9 Tennessee, No. 13 Minnesota, Alabama and Cincinnati.

The Irish, ranked No. 11 by the US Rowing/Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association (CRCA) poll, began their weekend Saturday with races against the Volunteers and Golden Gophers with mixed results.

Notre Dame's varsity-eight boat finished third in two of the three rounds while taking second in the remaining session. Minnesota placed first in all three rounds. In the first round, the Irish clocked a time of 4:57.2, nearly nine seconds behind the Golden Gophers. Notre Dame's best time of the day came in the second round, when the squad clocked in at 4:53.9, finishing just behind Minnesota's time of 4:51.1 and ahead of Tennessee's mark of 4:58.8.

"We had similar results a year ago against these two same schools," Irish coach Martin Stone said. "Both of these teams are very good. I was pleased with our results, and we are coming off of a good week of training."

The most pleasant surprise of the regatta was the performance of the novice-eight boat. Competing in their first collegiate regatta, the members of the novice-eight boat won all three of their races, never allowing Tennessee or Minnesota to finish within five seconds of the lead time. The squad's best performance came in the first round when they finished in 5:07.2.

"We were obviously very pleased with how well our novice-eight crew rowed," Stone said. "I'm not sure we have ever had such strong results from this boat so early in the season. It certainly is something to build on in the upcoming weeks."

In other action on Saturday, Notre Dame's second varsity boat and varsity-four boat both finished third in all of their races.

The Irish saw a marked improvement in their performance Sunday, winning four of five races against Alabama and Cincinnati. Notre Dame's varsity-eight, second varsity-eight, varsity-four and novice-eight all won, with the second novice-eight squad coming in second.

The first varsity-eight boat finished in 6:38.31 — more than 18 seconds ahead of second-place Alabama (6:56.52). Meanwhile, the second varsity-eight crew finished in 6:49.85, with Cincinnati taking second in 7:05.7.

The Irish swept the top two spots in varsity-four action, with the "A" boat clocking in at 7:54.55 and the "B" boat finishing in 8:01.02. The novice-eight boat remained undefeated on the weekend, taking first place with a time of 7:04.22 — more than eight seconds ahead of Alabama (7:15.33).

"I thought we rowed better [Sunday]," Stone said. "We made some adjustments after seeing some things in Saturday races, and we saw some improvement. We still need to work on some things, but it is very early in the season, and we definitely have time to do that."

Notre Dame will compete in its next regatta Saturday when the team travels to Ann Arbor, Mich., to take on No. 14 Michigan State and No. 15 Michigan.

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SMC TENNIS

Belles end at .500 in Orlando

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's started its season off with a .500 performance in Orlando over spring break.

In the season opener for both Franklin & Marshall and Saint Mary's, the Belles claimed victories in both the No. 1 doubles and No. 3 singles spots before losing a 7-2 match. In the singles match, Belles sophomore Mary E. Campbell defeated Erica Wood 3-6, 6-2, 6-0. Saint Mary's also gained a point with senior Kelly McDavitt and freshman Camille Gebert's 9-7 win over Katie Gaskins and Barbara Bee.

Wisconsin-LaCrosse handed the Belles their second straight loss to open the season with another 7-2 match March 12. Wisconsin-LaCrosse swept Saint Mary's in doubles play, but Gebert added a win with a 7-6 (7-4), 6-2 victory over Rachel Benn at No. 2 singles. Freshman Lisa Rubino defeated Erin Fekete 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 at the No. 4 spot.

Later in the day, the Belles handily claimed their first win of the season with an 8-1 beating of Haverford. Saint Mary's took an early lead, winning five of the six singles matches — four of which came in straight sets. The Belles swept doubles action and sealed their victory by taking all three doubles positions with 8-2 victories.

Division II University of Puerto Rico handed Saint Mary's its third loss with an 8-1 decision. Puerto Rico swept the Belles in doubles play, but junior Cassie Quaglia gained the match's lone point with a 0-6, 7-6 (7-5), 10-8 win over Juliana Pollock.

The Belles' second victory was a 6-3 win over Hamilton. Quaglia continued her dominant play with a win over Beth McDonald in straight sets (6-3, 6-1). Saint Mary's went on to win four of the other five singles matches, but won only one of the three doubles matches.

But the Belles success in doubles play proved to be the difference in a 5-4 victory over Bentley March 15. Gebert and McDavitt played well, winning in both their singles and doubles matches. Saint Mary's split the singles matches and took two of the three doubles matches to earn them the close win.

The Belles continued their aggressive play with an assertive 9-0 sweep over Drew a day later. Saint Mary's came into the competition focused and was able to improve its record to 4-3 with the flawless performance.

The Belles' winning streak ended with a 7-2 loss to Skidmore later in the day, leaving them at 4-4 on their spring trip in Orlando. Saint Mary's lost five out of the first six singles matches until senior Grace Gordon defeated Kyra Travis with a 7-6, 3-6, 10-8 decision. Kelly McDavitt and Camille Gebert continued to show their excellent chemistry with yet another doubles win over Danielle Fanher and Kate Hugu, 8-2.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Team captures title on road

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's win Sunday over No. 14 Alabama marked the third championship title for the Irish in the Blue/Gray Classic since 1993.

"I'm really proud of our guys — they played at a very high level over the weekend," Notre Dame coach Bobby Bayliss said. "They did a terrific job of making the transition outdoors."

Heading down to Montgomery, Ala., provided Notre Dame with the opportunity to prepare for the rest of its outdoor season. Before the Blue/Gray Classic, the Irish had played a majority of their matches indoors.

Notre Dame adjusted to the differences of playing outside, but the team still faced challenges, especially in doubles play.

The Irish struggled with doubles in their 4-1 win over No. 26 Tulsa Saturday in the semifinals. Notre Dame lost at both No. 1 and No. 2 doubles to fall behind by one. The No. 13 doubles team of Ryan Keckley and Sheeva Parbhu dropped its match 8-2 at No. 1 doubles to

Tulsa's Arnau Bruges and Federico Soriano. Diego Camacho and Ross Cunningham clinched the doubles point for Tulsa as they cruised past Barry King and Brett Helgeson 8-3 at No. 2 doubles.

But after falling behind in doubles, the Irish rallied and never looked back.

No. 57 Parbhu evened the score by defeating Federico Soriano 6-4, 6-2 at No. 2 singles. Helgeson was not far behind as he took the 7-6, 6-3 win over Ricardo Soriano at No. 3 singles for the go-ahead point.

No. 12 Stephen Bass dropped the opening set to No. 5 Bruges, 6-3, at No. 1 singles, but he quickly rallied to win 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 and give Notre Dame the 3-1 lead.

"[Bass] by nature has been a counter-puncher, and he has slowly added some firepower to his game," Bayliss said. "This was a match in which he really needed to be aggressive and he did just that."

King defeated Will Gray 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 to secure Notre Dame's place in the finals.

The Irish struggled again in doubles play against Alabama in the finals Sunday. Keckley and Parbhu dropped their No. 1

singles match 8-2 to Alabama's Dan Buikema and Mathieu Thibaudeau. The Tide clinched the doubles point when Javier Bes and Sammy Struyf defeated Andrew Roth and Bass 8-4 at No. 3 doubles.

Bayliss said the team likely struggled at doubles since it had to adjust to outdoor courts.

"In moving outside our guys have been a little more vulnerable around the net and it's something that we have got to deal with," he said.

Despite dropping the doubles point for the second day in a row, the Irish were not fazed.

Bass defeated Struyf 6-2, 6-2 and Helgeson defeated Billy Mertz 6-0, 6-0. King defeated Bes 6-3, 6-3 and Roth defeated Dan Buikema 6-2, 6-1 to secure Notre Dame's championship title.

Even though the Irish won the Blue/Gray classic, Bayliss said the team hopes to continue to improve in the weeks ahead. Notre Dame faces an onset of matches against high-ranked opponents like Ohio State and Illinois, and Bayliss said he would like to see a more well-rounded team by then.

"We have to focus on becoming better in all positions," he said. "We can't just maintain what we've done — we need to really improve our skills."

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"We have to focus on becoming better in all positions."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

ND SOFTBALL

Irish struggle behind plate in tournaments

Team drops games at Long Beach tourney and Garman Classic

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Notre Dame had a loaded plate over spring break when it started off the week with a doubleheader March 11 at the Long Beach Invitational. The Irish started the day with a 10-2 victory over Eastern Kentucky, but lost 9-3 to No. 12/16 UCLA in Lakewood, Calif.

Notre Dame jumped out to an early lead over Eastern Kentucky with three runs in the first inning. The Irish executed small-ball play with two bunts to advance runners in the opening frame. With runners on base, junior Katie Laing drove in the final runs of the inning with a two-run double.

Eastern Kentucky closed the lead to one run, but the Irish offense provided enough run support for senior pitcher Kenya Fuemmeler, who improved to 2-4 with four hits allowed, eight strikeouts and one earned run.

Fuemmeler also pitched in

the second half of the doubleheader, in which the Irish squandered an early lead. Both teams traded runs in the first two innings until UCLA put the contest away with insurance runs after the third inning, posting three in the fourth and two in the sixth. Sophomore Brittney Bargar was given the loss against UCLA, with six innings pitched, 11 hits and six strikeouts.

The Irish traveled to Fullerton, Calif., for the Judi Garman Classic March 15 at the Titan Softball Complex, where they fell 3-0 to No. 2/4 Arizona State.

Sun Devils pitcher Katie Burkhart stole the game with her first-ever perfect game. She threw 13 strikeouts in the seven-inning blanking.

Barger dropped her fifth decision but earned her ninth complete game of the season, allowing six hits, two earned runs and eight strikeouts.

On Friday, Notre Dame earned a 4-2 win over Fresno State in the second game of the Judi Garman Classic. Fresno State jumped out to an early lead, but the Irish answered, tying the game up in the first inning with senior Jessica Hufnagle's RBI single.

Barger relieved the senior and earned her first save of the season.

The Irish dropped the second half of the doubleheader with a 4-2 loss to No. 17/16 Louisiana-Lafayette. Bargar gave up three runs in the fourth inning, which proved to be the difference Louisiana-Lafayette needed to hand the sophomore her sixth loss.

Notre Dame then lost its sixth game to a ranked opponent on the season with a 3-0 defeat at the hands of No. 8 Texas. Bargar allowed only three runs on eight hits, but Texas pitcher Megan Denny threw a complete-game one-hitter, earning 13 strikeouts.

Notre Dame ended the Judi Garman Classic with a 8-0 loss to Pacific. The Irish pitching suffered a rocky fourth inning, allowing six runs and handing Fuemmeler the loss. Once again, the Irish bats were silenced by another opposing pitching gem — this time from Chelsea Engle, who allowed four base runners and gave up two hits in five innings.


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Tourney

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minutes or less. But McGraw doesn't think the extra rest will give North Carolina any real advantage.

"I think the way they play they're in really good shape. I think they run with everyone they play," she said. "I don't think that conditioning at this point in the season will be a factor."

Regardless of the extra rest, McGraw understands the threat the Tar Heel's speed creates and understands the danger it poses.

"I don't think you can slow them down," she said. "They've got five people that can really run the floor."

Latta leads the North Carolina offense. She has been instrumental for the Tar Heels throughout her four years in Chapel Hill, scoring 2,225 points — the most in program history. Latta has continued to impress this season and was named first-team all-ACC and the ACC tournament MVP. On the season, Latta has scored 16.4 points and dished out 4.5 assists per game.

The Tar Heels are just as strong inside as outside, behind forward Erlana Larkins

and center LaToya Pringle. Larkins has been effective on the glass at both ends, grabbing five offensive rebounds and five defensive boards per game, while scoring 13 points a night. Pringle has led the Tar Heels defensively with 3.2 blocks per game this season.

Matching up against this strong post presence will be Irish centers Melissa D'Amico and Erica Williamson. The duo has platooned at the post this season, averaging a combined 10.1 points and 11.6 rebounds at center for Notre Dame this season.

One advantage the Irish have inside against the Tar Heels inside is size. Larkins and forward Rashanda McCants are both only 6-foot-1, while Pringle is 6-foot-3. For the Irish, D'Amico is 6-foot-5, Williamson is 6-foot-4 and starting forward Crystal Erwin is 6-foot-2.

"They have some big bodies that set a lot of screens for them. They have a little more bulk than we do," Tar Heels coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "But we put a lot of people in there, and we're pretty athletic so it should be a good matchup."

Even though McGraw claims that Notre Dame's post speed does not match up well with North Carolina, Williamson remains undeterred.

"As athletic as their players are, it's just going to be about how much we can bring our own game, our A game, and how much we can get in their heads," she said. "I don't think we're gonna be scared of them — it's just gonna be a very emotional game."

Williamson is one third of Notre Dame's freshmen-only bench, joined by guards Melissa Lechlitner and Ashley Barlow. This trio has shined so far this season and Notre Dame's first round win over California was no exception. Williamson provided a defensive spark inside for the Irish, Barlow hustled on the glass to grab 10 boards and Lechlitner showed her experience by sinking crucial free throws at the end of the game.

"I think the more experience we had during this season is going to be more of a factor [than high school experience]," Lechlitner said. "We have played a lot of ranked teams, and we have a lot of experience beating those ranked teams this season."

The last major test for the Irish was Sunday's first-round game.

With half a second remaining and Notre Dame leading California 60-59, Lechlitner stepped up to seal the victory by sinking both ends of a one-and-one.

"I knew I had just missed so, I was a little upset with myself but I knew I was gonna make the next two so I wasn't really worried about it," the freshman said. "I just wanted to step up and knock them down."

After Lechlitner's free throws, there was not enough time for a final desperation shot for the Golden Bears, giving the Irish the win.

Notre Dame was confident down the stretch and nailed key shots to stay ahead of California. Irish guard Tulyah Gaines pushed the Irish ahead with a pair of free throws with 17 seconds remaining to give the Irish a four-point lead. But the Golden Bears fought back when guard Lauren Greif made all three of her free throws to bring her team to within a point with only seven seconds left.

The Irish moved the ball up the court quickly, keeping the ball carrier away from California defenders and avoiding any fouls. Despite the Golden Bears' best efforts, they could not foul the Irish until it was too late.

Despite the close finish, the Irish led for the first three quarters of the game by as many as 11 points, until Golden Bears forward Krista Foster hit one of her two 3-pointers to give California a

46-45 lead.

In the second half, Foster was key to the Golden Bears' comeback, grabbing six boards and playing tough defense to force stops.

"She's like a spark, she's always created that role for us, being that sixth man and being that spark off the bench," Golden Bears head coach Joanne Boyle said. "She's owned it, and that's what we need."

Even after California grabbed a two-point lead with a jumper from forward Devane Hampton, Notre Dame stayed focus and fought back. The Irish quickly went on a 10-1 run to stretch the lead back to 58-51, keyed by a jumper from guard Charel Allen to give Notre Dame a two-possession lead at 56-51.

Two days later, the Irish have a new challenge. Regardless of North Carolina's speed or ranking, the Irish are confident they can compete against Dallas' top seed.

"We just have to play our best and play our hardest," Barlow said. "I think if we come out and play the way we know how we can play we can do anything. As long as the team believes we can accomplish anything."

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NCAA

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conference, are the lowest-ranked in the RPI of the sixteen Tournament teams. The Golden Gophers — who were placed in a tough Denver bracket — were matched up against Air Force to keep the Falcons closer to home in Colorado.

Notre Dame has yet to play Alabama-Huntsville, but it did get a close look at them during the Lightning College Hockey Classic in Tampa, Fla. when the Chargers lost 7-5 to Air Force in the first round and then beat Army 2-1 in a consolation game the next day. The only other common opponent the two teams have faced is Robert Morris. Notre Dame split a two-game series with the Eagles in January, while the Chargers beat Robert Morris in a 5-4 overtime thriller to clinch their Tournament berth.

"When I found out that Alabama came back and won

that game, I was impressed," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

Jackson said his team is excited about its draw, but is making sure it does not overlook any opponents.

"College hockey is college hockey and weird stuff can happen on any night," senior defenseman Noah Babin said. "Everybody is the same amount of threat, so you just have to take people out one by one."

If Notre Dame defeats Alabama-Huntsville, they will face off with the Boston University-Michigan State winner for a shot to play in the Frozen Four April 5 in St. Louis.

The Spartans, who finished third in the CCHA tournament, split a home-and-home series with the Irish earlier in the season. Notre Dame won the first game 4-0 at home,

but Michigan State came back with a 2-0 shutout on its own ice the following night.

"That was then, and this is now — we've learned to play a little bit more consistent on the road," Jackson said in reference to the 2-0 loss at Munn Arena.

Michigan State was the only team this season to shut out the Irish offense.

Boston University is also a strong defensive team and has made it this far using the same winning formulas as the Irish. The Terriers have jockeyed with Notre Dame all year for the No. 1 defense in the country. Senior goalie John Curry is a Hobey Baker finalist like Irish goalie Dave Brown and has a goals-against average of 1.92.

"They're a concern like any other team, but right now we are looking at the game we play on Friday, and the other game will take care of itself," Jindra said.

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Florida

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Notre Dame then went 3-1 in Florida Gulf Coast University's Saint Patrick's Week Classic in Fort Myers to close out its trip.

The Irish batted .303 and averaged seven runs per game for the trip, with a pair of freshmen leading the way.

"[Infielder] A.J. Pollock had an outstanding trip, especially at the plate," Schrage said. "[Catcher] Ryan Smith had a great trip behind the plate and with the bat."

The freshman duo was No. 1 and No. 2 on the team in batting average for the trip. Pollock hit .419, and Smith posted a .381 mark.

Senior centerfielder Danny Dressman also had a solid trip, hitting .367 with six RBIs, including two in an 11-4 rout of Dayton. A seventh-inning walk in that game also gave Dressman a streak of eight times on base over a two-game span.

The Irish pitching staff compiled a 2.88 ERA for the trip, holding opponents to a .239 batting average and posting a 2-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio. Sophomore righthander David Phelps ran his record to 3-1, giving up just four hits in seven

innings in a 12-1 win over New York Tech.

Despite the offensive surge and continued consistent pitching, Notre Dame's early-season defensive woes continued in Florida. The Irish fell 5-3 to Florida Gulf Coast after errors caused them to squander the lead they held in the fourth inning — the fourth time this season unearned runs gave Notre Dame's opponent the win.

"In general, the most disappointing aspect [of the season] has been our defense," Schrage said. "We've spent a lot of time on it. We have moved some guys around [from position to position] and maybe they aren't very comfortable yet but it's been disappointing."

Even though Notre Dame struggled in Florida, Schrage was confident his team is on its way to success.

"We got a lot accomplished and found out a lot more about ourselves [in Florida]," Schrage said. "We've had a great record at Frank Eck in the past and it will be fun getting back."

Notre Dame returns to South Bend today to take on Cleveland State at 5:05 for the beginning of a seven-game homestand.

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Notre Dame forward Rob Kurz, left, shoots against Winthrop's Phillip Williams in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Friday.

Eagles

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this game, let's make them come back to it," Brey said.

Sixth-seeded Notre Dame stormed back. The Irish switched to a full court press — which had served them well in the first half — and held Winthrop without a field goal for more than eight minutes.

"I guess there was a leprechaun guarding the rim," Marshall said.

Brey said the press focused his team and threw Winthrop of its rhythm.

"Once we switched to the press, we changed the atmosphere a little bit and got our energy back," he said.

During the Eagles drought, Notre Dame went on a 22-3 run to pull within one at 57-56. With 2:20 left in the game, the Irish took a 63-62 lead on a hook shot by forward Luke Harangody.

But that was the last lead the

Irish would see.

The Eagles jumped right back out in front on two of center Craig Bradshaw's 24 points, then got a three from guard Chris Gaynor to take a four point advantage and hit their free throws in the final minute to preserve the win.

Brey said Winthrop's experience — the Eagles featured three seniors and two juniors in the starting lineup — won out in the end.

"They looked like the men and we looked like a younger group," he said.

Bradshaw dominated inside on both ends of the floor, adding six rebounds and four assists to his

team-high point total. The senior from New Zealand also held Harangody to just four points on 2-for-6 shooting.

Eagles guard Torrell Martin added a double-double, scoring 20 points and dragging down 11 rebounds.

Senior guard Colin Falls led the

Irish with 14 points despite shooting 6-for-16 from the floor and just 2-for-10 from behind the 3-point arc.

As a team, Notre Dame made only four of its 22 three-point attempts.

"We got some pretty good looks, especially Colin, and we'll take that most games because usually we'll make them," Brey said. "But they were defending us pretty well. They reacted very quickly defensively."

The Irish also struggled at the free throw line, going just 4-for-13.

Junior forward Rob Kurz, the only one of Notre Dame's three captains that will return next season, said once the shock of the loss wears off, the Irish will look back on this year — which included their first trip to the NCAAs since 2003 — as a success.

"Our goal this season was to get back to the NCAA Tournament," he said. "We definitely have something to build on."

The Irish finished the season with a 24-8 record.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Luck

continued from page 24

patience to attack Notre Dame's 2-3 zone, and when they did find open shots, those shots would not fall. Notre Dame's full court pressure, which it used early in the game and then to erase a 20-point second half deficit did not force bunches of turnovers, but it did slow down the Eagles and disrupt the pace of their offense. But the Irish stayed in the press late in the game and Winthrop was suddenly able to break it with more ease and get down the floor quicker on Notre Dame's increasingly fatigued legs. Maybe the Irish coaching staff feared an onslaught like the one in the beginning of the half.

When the Irish took off the defensive pressure early in the second half, the Eagles made a big run. Winthrop hit 10 of their first 12 shots and opened up the 20-point advantage on the Irish.

The Irish went back to the press and battled back, but Winthrop center Craig Bradshaw made sure Notre Dame went home. Whether he posted up or came off screens on the inside, Bradshaw had 16-second half points.

Still, a little tough luck impeded the Irish comeback.

It was tough luck when the officials missed a moving screen set on Irish forward Rob Kurz, then proceeded to call a touch foul on him for his fifth as Bradshaw laid it in for a three-point play. Kurz, who was Notre Dame's main post threat all day, had to take his 13 points and ten rebounds to the bench with 3:58 left.

Winthrop seemingly got to every loose ball and received most of the controversial calls down the stretch. The officials whistled the Irish for a number

of loose ball fouls, but the Irish benefited from the officiating as well.

But when you are trying to come back from 20 points down in the second half, it helps to get a majority of these calls.

In the end, however, it was not the officiating that cost Notre Dame the game.

The stat sheet still says the Irish were 4-of-22 from beyond the arc and 4-of-13 from the charity stripe. Irish guards Russell Carter and Colin Falls could not ignite Notre Dame, shooting a combined 2-of-16 from three-point land in their final game for the Irish. Carter could not find his stroke all afternoon, while Winthrop guard Michael Jenkins frustrated Falls and made him rush his shot coming off of screens.

It is true that Winthrop shot an equally abysmal 10-of-19 from the free throw line, but the Eagles had that spurt at the beginning of the second half that gave them the lead. The Irish never had that burst of brilliant shooting when it seems as though they can defeat any team in the country. It came against Georgetown in the first half last Friday, and against Syracuse — twice — but not against Winthrop.

The old cliché says, "You live by the three, you die by the three." But the Irish nearly proved even if you live by it, you can sometimes live without it. If the Irish "lived" with just one or two more threes falling, they could have advanced to the next round. Instead, Carter and Falls will not play another minute in a Notre Dame uniform and the Irish have to sit through another off-season wondering what could have been.


Tough luck.

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

Contact Chris Hine at

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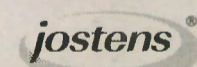


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#19 MEN'S LACROSSE

TUESDAY, MARCH 20
VS. BELLARMINE
4:00PM


LOFTUS SPORTS COMPLEX

BASEBALL

Season Opener

vs. Cleveland State
Tues. March 20 @ 5:05pm

vs. W. Michigan
Weds. March 21 @ 5:05pm
Eck Stadium



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CROISSANTWORLD

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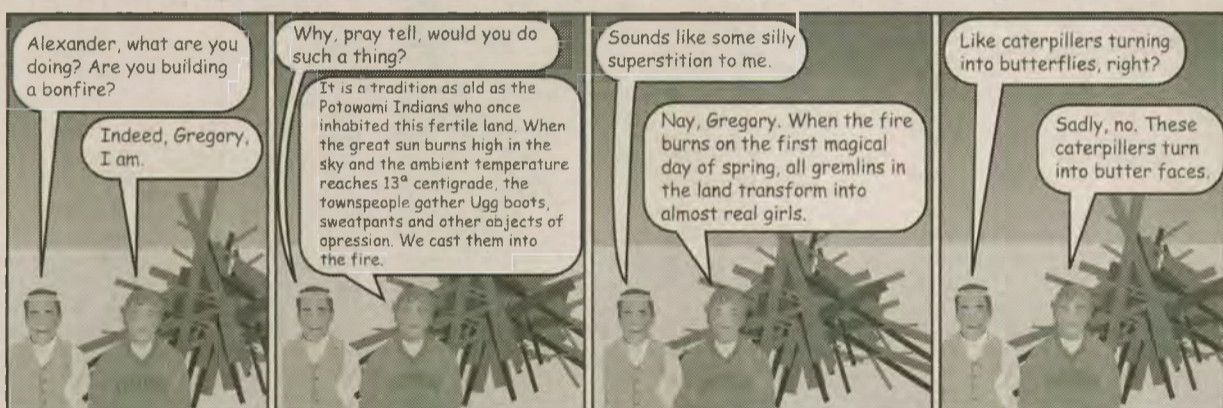
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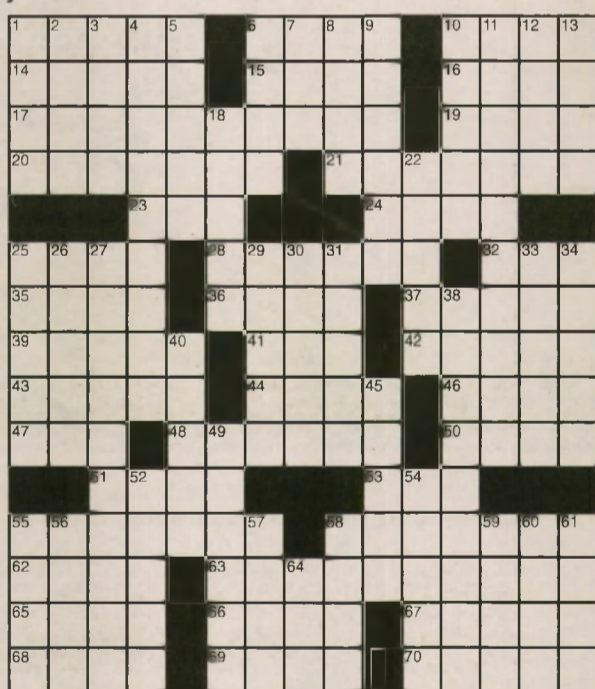
LIAM MORAN



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS: 1 Computer character set, for short; 6 Fruity alcoholic brand; 10 Alternative to whole or 2%; 14 Bombs with bogus offers, say; 15 Land of Esau's descendants; 16 Office missive; 17 Booze; 19 John, in Russia; 20 Followers of appetizers; 21 Comic's gimmick; 23 Sport (vehicle); 24 Chemistry Nobel Otto; 25 Hopalong Cassidy player William; 28 Sparked, as curiosity; 32 Vampire's form; 35 Offshoot of the Winnebago tribe; 36 Sandwich go-with; 37 Princess' accessory; 39 Ignores; 41 Isn't anymore; 42 How much music is sold nowadays; 43 Stearns & Foster competitor; 44 Mars' Greek counterpart; 46 Horn sound; 47 "___ you kidding?"; 48 Suffered defeat at the hands of; 50 Professor 'iggins; 51 Ballerina's garb; 53 Yalta conf. attendee; 55 Church candle lighter; 58 Some cowboys; 62 Bearded animal; 63 Czar's treasure; 65 Yalta conf. locale; 66 Airs; 67 Not exactly a brainiac; 68 Soul singer James; 69 Preacher's reading; 70 Uncool sorts; DOWN: 1 Tennis's Arthur; 2 Approximately 1,600 feet, for the Brooklyn Bridge; 3 Skipper: Abbr.; 4 Not wise; 5 "The best ___ to come"; 6 Chief Olympian; 7 Mean Amin; 8 Soft shoes, informally; 9 Mustachioed Don of classic films; 10 Most common U.S. surname; 11 "Apollo 13" co-star; 12 Colorful computer; 13 "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" figure; 18 Wranglers, e.g.; 22 "It ___ Be You"; 25 ___ nova; 26 Not this or that



Puzzle by Stella Daily and Bruce Venzke

- 27 Comment to a goner; 29 Offshoot of the Winnebagos; 30 Milk purchase; 31 In a lather; 33 Fervency; 34 Yummy; 38 Serve as a mediator; 40 Like most potato chips; 45 Up to now; 49 Costume; 52 Hardly a moderate; 54 Started eating; 55 Malarial symptom; 56 How much to pay; 57 Life of Riley; 58 Lady's escort; 59 Crown prince, e.g.; 60 Prayer start; 61 Some NCO's; 64 Go a few rounds

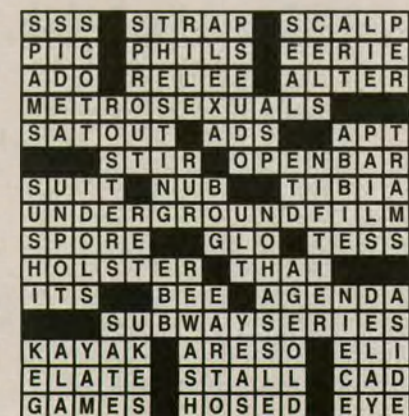
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

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BOANT

SICCEN

FRAGEO

www.jumble.com

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

A: " " IT

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JUICE ADAGE UPKEEP PACKET

Answer: What Dad looked forward to when Junior finished piano practice - PIECE PEACE



WHAT A SCULPTOR DOES TO CREATE A STATUE FROM A STONE SLAB.

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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Bruce Willis, 52; Glenn Close, 60; Ursula Andress, 71; Phyllis Newman, 74

Happy Birthday: Change will continue to map out your future. You may feel like it's time to slow down, settle down or just stop but you must go a little further in order to reach your destiny.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): If it has to do with business or learning, hop to it and go the distance. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Just when you think you have a handle on your life, someone you least expect will pull the rug out from underneath you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): As long as you aren't too quick to judge or react, things will fall into place. Don't put up with something you don't approve of.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You don't have to give in to emotional blackmail or create a melodrama to get what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may feel good about the way things are going but you have to seal-the-deal. Follow through, stay on top of things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A little less work will save you a lot of grief when it comes to your personal life. Take time out to let the people in your life who truly count know you are there for them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be drawn to someone today who will get your mind working creatively. You can jump-start a project you have only dreamed about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): As long as you don't take someone else's word or ideas over your own, you will be fine. Trust in your own judgment for a change.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may think you have everything in order but watch out if you haven't been completely upfront. Emotional matters must be resolved or you will end up losing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let love cloud your vision. You can't afford to make a mistake. Change will be necessary but it's the decisions you make and the direction you go that will carve your future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Aggression is not the answer. Hold your temper and let others make mistakes. Take a wait-and-see attitude.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be feeling a little emotional or overwhelmed by everything going on around you. Try not to show your dismay but instead, rise to the occasion.

Birthday Baby: You have a heart of gold and the wisdom of someone who has already experienced life. You are insightful, proactive and compassionate.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvise.com for fun, eugentialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

After topping Cal, Irish get Tar Heels in NCAAs

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — The last time the Irish took the floor, they jumped out to a 12-2 lead over eighth-seeded California and held on for a 62-59 win in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. This time, it

won't be so easy.

Notre Dame (20-11, 10-6 Big East) continues its tournament run today against North Carolina (31-3, 11-3 ACC) — the top seed of the Dallas region — at 9:30 p.m. in the Petersen Events Center in Pittsburgh.

The Irish have played one of the toughest schedules in the

country this season, facing seven ranked teams and 12 Tournament teams. But even though the Irish have played two other one-seeds this season (a 78-54 loss at Tennessee Dec. 30 and a 64-47 loss at Connecticut Jan. 27), Irish coach Muffet McGraw still feels that they have yet to play as complete a team as North

Carolina.

"[Tar Heels senior] Ivory Latta is an outstanding point guard. She's somebody that we haven't really seen anybody like her," McGraw said. "But certainly [earlier Irish opponents] Rutgers and Connecticut both have the type of players that North Carolina has."

North Carolina handily won

its first round game against 16-seed Prairie View A&M Sunday, taking a 20-point lead in the first four minutes en route to a 95-38 win. The Tar Heels not only won with ease, but also saved their starters' legs for the second round. Every Tar Heel played for 21

see TOURNEY/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Quiet exit

Carter, Falls can't complete comeback against Winthrop

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

SPOKANE, Wash. — No. 16 Notre Dame erased a 20-point second half deficit but couldn't finish off the comeback and fell 74-64 to No. 21 Winthrop in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Friday at Veterans Memorial Arena in Spokane, Wash.

"It's a big win for our program, for our conference, and for the state of South Carolina," Eagles coach Gregg Marshall said.

The win was Winthrop's first all-time NCAA Tournament victory, and the first for the Big South conference.

After leading 32-28 at halftime, the 11th-seeded Eagles (29-4) exploded out of the locker room, making 10 out of their first 12 shots in the second half and going on a 22-6 run to take a 54-34 lead with 13:15 to go.

"They stepped up on defense," said Irish point guard Tory Jackson, who scored nine points. "We got frustrated and it started to go downhill."

Down by 20, Irish coach Mike Brey called a timeout.

"I told the guys, 'CBS has left

see EAGLES/page 22



Irish forward Rob Kurz, left, is boxed in by Winthrop center Craig Bradsham in the Eagles' 76-64 win over the Irish in the first round of the NCAA tournament Friday.

What it came down to was pretty simple

SPOKANE, Wash. — "Tough luck."

That's what Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said Friday afternoon to his players after a shot went in and out. It

meant Brey approved of the shot selection, but the shot just did not fall.

Brey shouted that from the sidelines countless times in Notre Dame's 74-64

loss to Winthrop in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Friday.

The bedrock of the Irish offense, perimeter shooting, failed Notre Dame to the tune of 4-of-22 from three-point land and an abominable 4-of-13 from the free throw line. If before the game, someone told any objective commentator these would be Notre Dame's numbers from the floor, they would have to pick against the Irish and say they would not even be close against the more athletic Winthrop.

But the Eagles had some "tough luck" of their own. In the first half, Winthrop lacked the



Chris Hine
Sports Editor

see LUCK/page 22

HOCKEY

Icers sent to Grand Rapids

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The celebration did not last long for Notre Dame.

Less than 24 hours after the Irish raised their championship banner in Detroit, the team was already back in South Bend,

See Also
Irish Insider for coverage of Notre Dame's CCHA title

preparing for its first-round opponent in the regionals of the NCAA Tournament this weekend.

The team met Sunday afternoon to watch the selection show live as a group, where they learned that they would be facing off with the Alabama-Huntsville Chargers in the Grand Rapids, Mich., regional Friday at 5 p.m. The Irish were selected as one of four No. 1 seeds and the No. 2 overall team in the tournament behind Minnesota —

and will be joined by Boston University and Michigan State in the region's other first round game.

"It's one of those situations where at this time of the year it doesn't really matter, but it is nice to be able to stay in the Midwest," senior captain T.J. Jindra said.

The Chargers, who received an automatic bid to the tournament after winning the College Hockey America

see NCAA/page 21

BASEBALL

Team rallies to finish with four wins in Fla.

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After two frustrating shutout losses in the three-game Clearwater Invitational, Notre Dame used its momentum from a 10-inning, 11-8 victory over Webber International March 12 to win four of its last five spring break contests in the Sunshine State.

"We really tried to build off of that good win [against Webber International]," Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage said.

Notre Dame (8-9) put up four runs in the ninth to force the extra inning after three straight Irish batters stayed alive facing two-out, two-strike situations.

see FLORIDA/page 21